

United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization

Executive Board

e X



**Hundred and forty-seventh Session**

147 EX/47  
PARIS, 29 September 1995  
Original French

Item 8.7 of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSALS BY MEMBER STATES FOR THE CELEBRATION  
OF ANNIVERSARIES WITH WHICH UNESCO SHOULD BE ASSOCIATED  
IN 1996-1997**

**SUMMARY**

Pursuant to 146 EX/Decision 9.2, paragraph 4, the Director-General submits to the Executive Board proposals received from Member States since the 146th session.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. Following consideration at its 146th session of the Member States' proposals transmitted to it by the Director-General (146 EX/45 and Add. and Corr.), the Executive Board decided to keep the list of anniversaries with which UNESCO should be associated open until its 147th session.
2. Having examined the requests received from Member States, the Director-General transmits the following 12 requests to the Executive Board for consideration.

## II. MEMBER STATES' REQUESTS CONSIDERED ADMISSIBLE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

### 1. Two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Tadeusz Kosciuszko

3. In a letter to the Director-General dated 11 July 1995, Ms Jolanta Rostworowska, Permanent Delegate of **Poland** to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary, on 4 **February 1996**, of the birth of Tadeusz Kosciuszko.
4. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:
  - (i) in a world plagued by intolerance, an exception may be made to the rule stipulating that the anniversary must be a centenary or a multiple thereof, in honour of the man who abolished serfdom in Poland;
  - (ii) a Polish officer and patriot, Tadeusz Kosciuszko was distinguished by his democratic ideals and proclaimed the 'Manifesto of Polaniec', a charter that partly abolished serfdom in Poland;
  - (iii) the 'peasant general' was also an international figure - the Assembly made him an honorary French citizen - and he freed the slaves on his property in the United States;
  - (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Polish authorities are planning to organize a series of events, including an international seminar of historians.

5. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the anniversary, in 1996, of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Tadeusz Kosciuszko.

### 2. Centenary of the birth of Jozef Czapski

6. In a letter to the Director-General dated 11 July 1995, Ms Jolanta Rostworowska, Permanent Delegate of Poland to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the centenary, on 3 April 1996, of the birth of Jozef Czapski.
7. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

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- (i) it is a centenary;
- (ii) a painter, writer, journalist art critic and humanist Jozef Czapski was a fervent defender of human rights and tolerance among peoples;
- (iii) in both his artistic works and his writings, he denounced totalitarianism and enhanced the dignity of human beings by reminding them of their responsibility for the destiny of the free world;
- (iv) a harbinger of a community approach to Europe, he was recognized not only in his own country but also in other European countries. His convictions, aspirations and spiritual values continue to influence the development of the international community.

8. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in 1996, of the birth of Jozef Czapski.

### 3. Centenary of the birth of Jan Papanek

9. In a letter to the Director-General dated 3 July 1995, Ms Viera Polakovicova, Deputy Permanent Delegate of the Slovak Republic to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the centenary, on 24 October 1996, of the birth of Jan Papanek.

10. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a centenary;
- (ii) a diplomat who upheld democracy and human rights and a trusted assistant of Dr Milan R. Stefanik, one of the founders of the former Czechoslovakia, Jan Papanek formed part, as Secretary-General of the Czechoslovak delegation to the San Francisco Conference, of the group of 14 diplomats which prepared the final version of the Charter of the United Nations;
- (iii) he became Czechoslovakia's first permanent representative to the United Nations in New York and then set up the American Fund for Refugees from Czechoslovakia with the support of Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt and was elected Executive Director of the International League for Human Rights;
- (iv) the authorities of the Slovak Republic are planning to organize exhibitions and a series of conferences on Jan Papanek within the framework of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and UNESCO; they are also considering the publication of books.

11. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in 1996, of the birth of Jan Papanek.

### 4. Centenary of the birth of Nima Yushij

12. In a letter to the Director-General dated 25 July 1995, Dr A. Zargar, Secretary-General of the **Iranian** National Commission for UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be

associated with the celebration of the centenary, on **11 November 1996**, of the birth of Nima Yushij (Ali Esfandiari).

13. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a centenary;
- (ii) in Iran, where classical poetry, with its rich store of treasures, has been the most prestigious form of expression for more than 1,000 years, Nima Yushij had the great merit of creating a new kind of poetry that departed from the rigorous and well-established rules of a universally recognized classicism;
- (iii) appealing for modernity, he had the courage to break with classical constraints to open up new poetic horizons as regards both form and content; going beyond lyricism, he brought out the social commitment of the poet, combating poverty and injustice and upholding freedom;
- (iv) his example has been followed for 50 years and several generations of young poets have subscribed to his goal of human fulfilment through poetry;
- (v) the Iranian authorities, his supporters and other Persian-speaking countries (Afghanistan and Tajikistan) are planning to hold meetings of young poets to make their poetic innovation, following the example of Nima Yushij, better known.

14. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in 1996, of the birth of Nima Yushij.

## **5. Centenary of the birth of Tsanko Ivanov Lavrenov**

15. In a letter to the Director-General dated 30 March 1995, Mr Christo Gueorguiev, Secretary-General of the Bulgarian National Commission for UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the centenary, on **24 November 1996**, of the birth of Tsanko Ivanov Lavrenov.

16. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a centenary;
- (ii) an eminent painter specializing in icons and miniatures of the Bulgarian Renaissance, Tsanko Ivanov Lavrenov was indisputably an innovator in his technique and style of painting, through his harmonious use of bright colours and light and his attention to detail;
- (iii) his works reflect the immortal themes of ancient architecture and folklore, giving particular importance to monasteries; recognized worldwide thanks to exhibitions of his work in various European capitals and in the United States, he has had a great influence on Bulgarian, European and world art;
- (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Bulgarian authorities are planning to organize various events, in particular exhibitions and television programmed.

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17. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO reassociated with the celebration of the centenary, in 1996, of the birth of Tsanko Ivanov Lavrenov.

#### 6. Four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Petro Mohyla



18. In a letter to the Director-General dated 12 May 1995, Mr Y. Kochubey, Permanent Delegate of **Ukraine** to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the four hundredth anniversary, on **31 December 1996**, of the birth of Petro Mohyla.



19. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a centenary;
- (ii) an ecclesiastic and enlightened man of culture, Petro Mohyla contributed to the development of his country's socio-cultural identity, of literacy teaching and of higher education;
- (iii) his works also contributed in their time to the development of theological and philosophical thought in the Ukraine; he left his mark on the history of culture in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe;
- (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Ukrainian authorities are planning to organize a series of events including exhibitions, conferences and the issue of a medal.

20. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the four hundredth anniversary, in 1996, of the birth of Petro Mohyla.

#### 7. Six hundredth anniversary of the birth of Mohammad Jami

21. In a letter to the Director-General dated 1 February 1995, Dr A. Zargar, Secretary-General of the **Iranian** National Commission for UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the six hundredth anniversary, in **1996**, of the birth of Mohammad Jami.

22. After having received additional information, the Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a multiple of a centenary;
- (ii) considered to be the last of the great mystic poets, Mohammad Jami was, despite political and religious conflicts, respected and admired by all for his personality and spiritual influence; although he wrote a great deal of prose, he is known above all for his didactic poetic works on moral and philosophical subjects, written in a new style which was flowing, graceful and very distinguished;
- (iii) he enjoyed great popularity in the Ottoman lands and his fame even reached India; his literary works established a link between Iran and the outside world; the famous collection 'Le fou d'Elsa' was written by Louis Aragon, a French surrealist poet, under his influence;

(iv) in addition to displaying the most noble moral qualities, much of his lyrical poetry contains evocations and expositions of pantheist mysticism which bear comparison with those of the greatest Sufi poets;

(v) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Iranian authorities are planning to organize an international congress.

23. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the six hundredth anniversary, in 1996, of the birth of Mohammad Jami.

#### **8. Nine hundredth anniversary of the death of Omar Khayyam**

24. In a letter to the Director-General dated 1 February 1995, Dr A. Zargar, Secretary-General of the Iranian National Commission for UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the nine hundredth anniversary, in 1996, of the death of Omar Khayyam.

25. After having received additional information, the Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

(i) it is a multiple of a centenary;

(ii) scholar, mathematician, physicist and poet, Omar Khayyam is one of the scholars and thinkers who have played an important role in the intellectual and scientific development of humanity and have helped to create links among human beings;

(iii) he is considered by G. Sarton to be 'one of the greatest mathematicians of the Middle Ages'; his treatise on algebra is a masterly work, and has been translated into French and English; Omar Khayyam was also an authority on astronomy and, heading a team of astronomers, instituted a new era by introducing a leap year every four years in the old Persian calendar;

(iv) through adaptations of his poetic works by Edward Fitzgerald, he became the best known Iranian poet. An Omar Khayyam Institute was founded in London and later in the United States;

(v) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Iranian authorities are planning to organize an international congress on the thought and vision of this world-famous scholar.

26. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the nine hundredth anniversary, in 1996, of the death of Omar Khayyam.

#### **9. Centenary of the death of Dr Jose Rizal**

27. In a letter to the Director-General dated 10 August 1995, Ms Lourdes R. Quisumbing, Secretary-General of the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the centenary, 'in 1996, of the death of Dr Jose Rizal.

28. The Director-General considers that this historic event meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

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- (i) it is a centenary;
- (ii) a national hero of the Philippines, humanist and poet, Jose Rizal worked for reform through his writings and political activity and his name became the rallying cry during the Philippines' struggle for independence;
- (iii) a unique personality, he tried to transform traditionalist resistance to change in order to introduce a more modern conception of life in his country; a contemporary of Mahatma Gandhi and Sun Yat-sen, he is considered to be one of the most illustrious sons of the modern Philippines and one of the great men of culture of South-East Asia.

29. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in 1996, of the death of Dr Jose Rizal.

**10. Four hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the publication of the first work in the Lithuanian language - 'Common Words in the Catechism' by Martinas Mazvydas**

30. In a letter to the Director-General dated 17 July 1995, Ms Ugné Karvelis, Permanent Delegate of Lithuania to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the four hundred and fiftieth anniversary, on **8 January 1997**, of the publication of the first work written in Lithuanian.

31. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) in view of the historical and cultural importance of this event, an exception maybe made to the rule stipulating that the anniversary must be a centenary or a multiple thereof;
- (ii) the first written expression of the Lithuanian language, one of the most ancient languages of Europe, this work was a literacy textbook for the Lithuanian people and contributed to their development;
- (iii) apart from its national scope, this event was of capital importance for the other Baltic countries, Latvia and Estonia, where the first publications in the national languages closely followed the publication of Martinas Mazvydas' work;
- (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Lithuanian authorities are planning to organize various cultural events, including conferences and exhibitions, and the construction of a monument in memory of the author.

32. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the four hundred and fiftieth anniversary, in 1997, of the publication of the first work in the Lithuanian language - 'Common Words in the Catechism' by Martinas Mazvydas

**11. One thousand five hundredth anniversary of the birth of Imru' al-Qais**

33. In a letter to the Director-General dated 28 March 1995, Mr Mohammed Ghassan Al-Halabi, President of the Syrian National Commission for UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the one thousand five hundredth anniversary, in 1997, of the birth of Imru' al-Qais.

34. After having received additional information, the Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a multiple of a centenary;
- (ii) a famous Arab poet, Imru' al-Qais was the master, leader and standard-bearer of oriental poets;
- (iii) his great work, the 'Diwan', is distinguished by the ingenuity of its metaphors combined with its use of traditional poetical themes;
- (iv) the work of Imru' al-Qais, which has been translated into several languages, forms part of the world literary and poetic heritage.

35. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the one thousand five hundredth anniversary, in 1997, of the birth of Imru' al-Qais.

## **12. Seven hundredth anniversary of the birth of Salâh ad-Dîn as-Safadî**

36. In a letter to the Director-General dated 28 March 1995, Mr Mohammed Ghassan Al-Halabi, President of the Syrian National Commission for UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the seven hundredth anniversary, in 1997, of the birth of Salâh ad-Dîn as-Safadî.

37. After having received additional information, the Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a multiple of a centenary;
- (ii) a historian, poet, writer and artist, Salâh ad-Dîn as-Safadî the author of more than 200 works, including biographies of great figures;
- (iii) he made a substantial contribution to the cultural development of his country and that of other Arab countries.

38. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the seven hundredth anniversary, in 1997, of the birth of Salâh ad-Dîn-Safadî.

## **III. DRAFT DECISION**

39. At the close of its discussion the Executive Board may wish to recommend to the General Conference:

- (a) that UNESCO associate itself with the following 12 celebrations in 1996-1997, in addition to the 25 already recommended at its 146th session: .
  - (i) Two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the "Polish patriot Tadeusz Kosciuszko;
  - (ii) Centenary of the birth of the Polish writer Jozef Czapski;



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- (iii) Centenary of the birth of the diplomat of the Slovak Republic Jan Papanek;
  - (iv) Centenary of the birth of the Iranian poet Nima Yushij;
  - (v) Centenary of the birth of the Bulgarian painter Tsanko Ivanov Lavrenov;
  - (vi) Four hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Ukrainian man of culture Petro Mohyla;
  - (vii) Six hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Iranian poet Mohammad Jami;
  - (viii) Nine hundredth anniversary of the death of the Iranian scholar Omar Khayyam;
  - (ix) Centenary of the death of the Philippine humanist Dr Jose Rizal;
  - (x) Four hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the publication of the first work in the Lithuanian language - 'Common Words in the Catechism' by Martinas Mazvydas;
  - (xi) One thousand five hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Arab poet Imru' al-Qais;
  - (xii) Seven hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Arab historian Salâh ad-Dîn as-Safadî;
- (b) that the Organization's contribution to these celebrations be financed in the usual way under the Participation Programme for 1996-1997, in accordance with the rules governing that programme.

United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization

Executive Board

e X

**Hundred and forty-seventh Session**

147 EX/47 Add.  
PARIS, 9 October 1995  
Original: French

Item 8.7 of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSALS BY MEMBER STATES FOR THE CELEBRATION  
OF ANNIVERSARIES WITH WHICH UNESCO SHOULD BE ASSOCIATED  
IN 1996-1997**

**SUMMARY**

In this addendum the Director-General submits to the Executive Board proposals received from Member States or considered since the drawing up of document 147 EX/47.

### **Centenary of the death of José Asunción Silva**

1. In a letter to the Director-General dated 4 September 1995, Ms Natalia Martin-Leyes Barvo, Secretary-General of the **Colombian** National Commission for UNESCO requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the centenary on **24 May 1996**, of the death of José Asunción Silva.
2. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:
  - (i) it is a centenary;
  - (ii) a poet and writer, José Asunción Silva revolutionized poetry in the Spanish language, along with other modern Latin American poets such as Ruben Dario, Manuel Gutiérrez Najera, Salvador Diaz Miron, José Martí and Julian del Casal;
  - (iii) through his work he exerted great influence on several generations of Colombian and other Latin American writers;
  - (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Colombian authorities are planning to organize an exhibition and a poetry competition.
3. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in 1996, of the death of José Asunción Silva.

### **Hundred-and-thirtieth anniversary of the birth of Nico Piroshmanishvili**

4. In a letter to the Director-General dated 6 September 1995, Mr Gotcha Tchogovadze, Permanent Delegate of Georgia to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration, in September/October 1996, of the hundred-and-thirtieth anniversary of the birth of Nico Piroshmanishvili.
5. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:
  - (i) in view of the outstanding personality of this artist, an exception may perhaps be made to the rule to the effect that the anniversary should be a centenary or multiple of a centenary;
  - (ii) a self-taught painter, nicknamed, the 'dauber', he developed with time into an original artist possessing a highly personal pictorial style, using pure colours with great taste and skill;
  - (iii) true to his origins, he drew on his talent to immortalize in his works the customs and social climate of his country, but he also had a spontaneous and innocent vision of the world, depicting unknown countries with a subtle sense of reality, which won him world renown;

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- (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Georgian authorities are planning to organize a series of events including an exhibition, a conference and the issuing of stamps and medals.

6. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the hundred-and-thirtieth anniversary, in 1996, of the birth of Nico Pirosmanishvili,

#### Centenary of the birth of Tristan Tzara

7. In a letter to the Director-General dated 1 September 1993, Mr Dan Haulica, Permanent Delegate of **Romania** to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in **1996**, of the birth of Tristan Tzara.

8. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a centenary;
- (ii) a French-speaking Romanian poet hostile to all forms of literary or artistic pretension, Tristan Tzara, was the founder of the Dada movement, which was a violent reaction by young European intellectuals to a devastating and futile war;
- (iii) having become a symbol of what at the time was the courage needed to break with the artistic, moral and religious values of Western society, Tristan Tzara, with his friends Breton, Eluard, Soupault and others, embarked upon a quest for authenticity and absolute freedom. His movement paved the way for other innovative movements such as surrealism.

9. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in 1996, of the birth of Tristan Tzara.

#### Eleven hundredth anniversary of the settlement of the Hungarians in Central Europe

10. In a letter to the Director-General dated 21 June 1995, Mr Pal Pataki, Permanent Delegate of **Hungary** to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the eleven hundredth anniversary, in **1996**, of the settlement of the Hungarians in Central Europe.

11. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a multiple of a centenary;
- (ii) when the Hungarians (Magyar), originally a nomadic people, crossed the Carpathians to the Middle Danube basin, they had to adapt to a new way of life, mingle with and merge with the people inhabiting the region;
- (iii) after settling, the Hungarians were able to go onto found their State and thus to become integrated into Europe and develop their education and culture, benefiting from their relations with other cultures;

- (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Hungarian authorities are planning to organize various events such as exhibitions, one of which will be devoted to the history of Hungary at the National Museum, together with international symposia.

12. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the eleven hundredth anniversary, in 1996, of the settlement of the Hungarians in Central Europe.

**Five hundredth anniversary of the publication in Russia  
of the first State Code of Laws, the Sudebnik**

13. In a letter to the Director-General dated 11 September 1995, Mr Mikhail Fedotov, Permanent Delegate of the **Russian Federation** to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration, in **September 1997**, of the five hundredth anniversary of the publication in Russia of the first State Code of Laws, the Sudebnik.

14. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a multiple of a centenary;
- (ii) published in the reign of Ivan III, the Sudebnik - the first Code of Laws in Europe - contributed to the stabilization of Russia;
- (iii) after being translated into Latin at the beginning of the sixteenth century, it served as a model in other countries of the region;
- (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the authorities of the Russian Federation are planning to organize an international scientific conference in Moscow, as well as exhibitions of archives and historic objects.

15. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the five hundredth anniversary, in 1997, of the publication in Russia of the first Code of Laws, the Sudebnik.

**Five hundredth anniversary of the construction of the Neamt monastery**

16. In a letter to the Director-General dated 1 September 1995, Mr Dan Haulica, Permanent Delegate of **Romania** to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the five hundredth anniversary, in **1997**, of the construction of the Neamt monastery.

17. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an historic event meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a multiple of a centenary;
- (ii) this monastery, which was built by Stephan the Great, became in the fifteenth century the most important centre of Moldavian culture whose influence reached to the furthest bounds of the Orthodox world;
- (iii) over and above the quality of its architecture and decoration, the monument was a meeting-place for the arts, a centre whose cultural influence extended as far as the

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works of Dostoevsky and other literary writings, making it an essential benchmark for cultural identity.

18. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the five hundredth anniversary, in 1997, of the construction of the Neamt monastery.

#### **Centenary of the death of Gamal ad-Din al-Afghani**

19. In a letter to the Director-General dated 4 September 1995, Mr Mohsen Tawfik, Permanent Delegate of **Egypt**, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in **1997**, of the death of Gamal ad-Din al-Afghani.

20. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a centenary;
- (ii) a man of culture and a specialist in medieval Muslim philosophy, Gamal ad-Din al-Afghani was, in the nineteenth century, one of the pioneers of the political and intellectual development of the Islamic world;
- (iii) a writer of renown, he exercised through his works great influence on Egyptian education and culture;
- (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Egyptian authorities are planning to organize a symposium together with radio and television programmed on the life of the philosopher.

21. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in 1997, of the death of Gamal ad-Din al-Afghani.

#### **Centenary of the birth of Said Mahmud**

22. In a letter to the Director-General dated 4 September 1995, Mr Mohsen Tawfik, Permanent Delegate of **Egypt**, requested that the Organization should be associated with the celebration, in **1997**, of the centenary of the birth of Said Mahmud.

23. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, enabling UNESCO to be associated with it:

- (i) it is a centenary;
- (ii) an Arab painter who pioneered a distinctive new style of modern painting, Said Mahmud exhibited his works not only in his own country but also in other regions of the world;
- (iii) an artist of renown, he exercised great influence on the cultural life of the Arab world and enabled other regions of the world to discover contemporary Egyptian painting;

- (iv) on the occasion of this anniversary, the Egyptian authorities are planning to organize various events including exhibitions and competitions of young painters. They will endeavour to bring together the artist's works scattered among private collectors in a students' centre.

24. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the celebration of the centenary, in 1997, of the birth of Said Mahmud.

25. Accordingly, should the Executive Board approve these requests, the following should be added to paragraph 39(a) of document 147 EX/47:

Centenary of the death of the Colombian poet José Asunción Silva;

Hundred-and-thirtieth anniversary of the birth of the Georgian painter Nico Piroshmanishvili;

Centenary of the birth of the Romanian poet Tristan Tzara;

Eleven hundredth anniversary of the settlement of the Hungarians in Central Europe;

Five hundredth anniversary of the publication in Russia of the first State Code of Laws, the Sudebnik;

Five hundredth anniversary of the construction of the Neamt monastery;

Centenary of the death of Gamal ad-Din al-Afghani;

Centenary of the birth of Said Mahmud.

United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization

Executive Board

e X

**Hundred and forty-seventh Session**

147 EX/47 Corr.  
PARIS, 6 October 1995  
Original: French

Item 8.7 of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSALS BY MEMBER STATES FOR THE CELEBRATION  
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**CORRIGENDUM**

Paragraph 18 of document 147 EX/47 should read as follows:

18. In a letter to the Director-General dated 12 May 1995, Mr Y. Kochubey, Permanent Delegate of Ukraine to UNESCO, requested that the Organization should be associated, **in December 1996**, with the celebration of the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Petro Mohyla.

Paragraph 19(i) of document 147 EX/47 should read as follows:

- (i) it is a **multiple** of a centenary;