



General Conference
32nd session, Paris 2003

32 C

32 C/73
14 October 2003
Original: English

REPORT OF COMMISSION III

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ANNEX

INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to 29 C/Resolution 87 (paras. 1.21 and 1.22) the Executive Board, at its 166th session, recommended to the General Conference the nomination of Mr Tapio Markkanen (Finland) for the office of Chairperson of Commission III. At the second plenary meeting, on 29 September 2003, Mr Tapio Markkanen was elected Chairperson of Commission III.

2. At its first meeting, on 3 October 2003 the Commission approved the proposals submitted by the Nominations Committee for the offices of Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur. The following were elected by acclamation:

Vice-Chairpersons: Professor Umar Anggara Jenie (Indonesia)
Dr Maria Clemencia Lopez (Venezuela)
Dr Georges Tohme (Lebanon)
Mr Alfred Van Kent (Namibia)

Rapporteur: Mr Alexandru Mironov (Romania)

3. The Commission then unanimously adopted the timetable of work submitted in document 32 C/COM.III/1 and Add.

4. The Commission devoted 10 meetings, between 3 and 11 October 2003 to the examination of the items on its agenda. The agenda was structured into three parts: Part I focused on the Draft Programme and Budget for 2006-2007 (33 C/5); Part II related to Major Programme II (Natural sciences); and Part III was dedicated to Major Programme III (Social and human sciences).

5. The Commission adopted its report at its eleventh meeting on 11 October 2003.

6. Mr Victor Pochat, Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) gave a statement on behalf of the Chairpersons of the five international scientific programmes (IOC, IGCP, IHP, MAB and MOST). The Joint Communication of the Chairpersons of the five scientific programmes to the Director-General and the 32nd session of the General Conference is attached as an Annex to this report.

PART I PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2006-2007

Debate 1:

Item 3.1 – Preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2006-2007

7. The Commission examined the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2006-2007 (33 C/5) at its first meeting held on 3 October 2003.

8. The representatives of 27 Member States took the floor. The substantive part of the discussion is summarized in Part V of this report .

Draft resolutions which may be adopted *in extenso* by the General Conference

9. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the draft resolution 32 C/COM.I.II.III.IV.V/DR.1 (submitted by Australia, Barbados, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua

New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, and supported by Bahamas, Comoros, Dominica, Guyana, Seychelles and Trinidad and Tobago):

The General Conference,

Recalling the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Barbados in April-May 1994,

Recognizing that, within the context of the challenges of development, Small Island Developing States experience specific problems arising from small size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, vulnerability to climate change and climate variability, fragile ecosystems, constraints on transport and communication, isolation from markets, vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks, limited internal markets, lack and depletion of natural resources, limited freshwater supply, heavy dependence on imports, waste management challenges, erosion of social and cultural values, and issues related to migration and social transformations,

Recognizing the great cultural diversity of small island states, including the multi-dimensional connections that link islands with each other and with the rest of the world,

Being aware of the significant efforts of Small Island Developing States to achieve sustainable development and the need to continue to enhance their capacities to participate effectively in the multilateral financial and trading system,

Recalling that UNESCO has had projects specifically focused on small islands for more than 30 years, with one house-wide review being prepared for the Barbados 1994 Conference, in the form of the 131-page “Island Agenda – An Overview of UNESCO’s Work on Island Environments, Territories and Societies”,

Recalling also the more recent measures taken by UNESCO to work closely with its Small Island Developing Member Countries and Associate Members in optimizing benefits from the programmes and projects of the Organization, including the cross-cutting themes of eradicating poverty and promoting information and communication technologies,

Recalling in this respect the steps taken by UNESCO to promote intersectoral, interregional cooperation in fields related to sustainable development in coastal areas and small islands, such as the establishment by the General Conference at its 28th session in 1995 of the Coastal Regions and Small Islands (CSI) platform,

Taking into account the consultation processes carried out by UNESCO during the period 1997-1999, including “Focus on the Pacific”, “Focus on the Caribbean” and “Indian Ocean Forum 2000”,

Recalling the discussions and decision by the Executive Board at its 159th session in May 2000 on the implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (159 EX/Decision 7.1.1),

Taking note of the particular emphasis given to Small Island Developing States in the Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, and the call for the United Nations General Assembly to

consider convening an international meeting for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action,

Noting the decision of the United Nations General Assembly in resolution A/57/262 to convene an international meeting in 2004 in Mauritius, including a high-level segment, for a full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Noting also the invitation extended by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development at its eleventh session (CSD-11) (New York, 28 April-9 May 2003) to the international community, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental bodies to support regional initiatives and to collaborate closely in partnership with the regional organizations and institutions to expedite preparations for the review,

Noting furthermore the invitation of CSD-11 to the international donor and development community and international organizations to provide information, on or before 31 January 2004, on their activities in support of the Barbados Programme of Action on the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States, as well as on recommendations for further action in support of the full implementation of the Programme of Action,

Welcoming the initial steps taken by UNESCO to respond to these invitations, including the identification of a UNESCO Focal Point for the Barbados+10 process and the participation of UNESCO in the Inter-Agency Task Force on Barbados+10 and the preparations for the Mauritius meeting of 2004, as well as the house-wide efforts to set up an interactive website designed to facilitate public access to information on the Organization's wide-ranging work related to sustainable living in Small Island Developing States,

Recalling the strong emphasis placed on the importance of the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States at the Ninth Consultation of National Commissions for UNESCO, Nadi, Fiji, from 7 to 11 July 2003,

1. Urges Member States and Associate Members to:

- (a) participate actively in the preparation, convening and follow-up of the international meeting in Mauritius in August-September 2004, designed to provide for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
- (b) mobilize UNESCO's programmes and networks in their respective countries and regions, in order to further promote the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, including the use of existing media and new information and communication technologies to nurture stakeholder dialogue, regional and inter-regional understanding, and cohesive action;

2. Urges non-governmental organizations in official relations with UNESCO to:

- (a) work in close partnership with government and other stakeholders for the preparation of the Mauritius meeting and its follow-up;
- (b) become actively involved in the civil society component of the international meeting in Mauritius and its preparatory process at national, regional and international levels;

3. Invites the Director-General to:

- (a) continue to undertake concrete measures for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action in the context of UNESCO's programmes and projects, giving special attention to the synergies of various kinds of interaction and cooperation – within and between societal sectors, within and between disciplines, within and between various stakeholder groups (government, civil society, youth, private sector, research and education communities), within and between regions, within and between institutions and organizations at various levels (local, national, subregional, regional, international);
- (b) contribute to the full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, including appropriate efforts to compile, synthesize and diffuse experience on UNESCO's past, ongoing and future contribution to sustainable development in Small Island Developing States;
- (c) report to the Executive Board at its 169th session on the status of and preparations for the international meeting in Mauritius (August-September 2004) and its expected outcomes;
- (d) report to the General Conference at its 33rd session (2005) on the outcomes of and follow-up to the international meeting in Mauritius (August-September 2004), including suggestions for subsequent biennia and the preparation of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34 C/4).

PART II MAJOR PROGRAMME II – NATURAL SCIENCES

Debate 2

Item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2004-2005

10. At its second, third and fourth meetings, the Commission examined item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2004-2005, Major Programme II – Natural sciences.

11. The representatives of 80 Member States and two non-governmental organizations took the floor.

Draft resolutions proposed in document 32 C/5

12. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02110 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme II.1 (Science, environment and sustainable development), Subprogramme II.1.1 (Water interactions: systems at risk and social challenges), as amended by:

- (i) the following draft resolutions:

32 C/DR.13¹ (submitted by Belarus, Ukraine) for paragraph (a)(i);

¹ The Commission agreed on this draft resolution as amended in the light of the comments made by the Director-General contained in paragraph 1 of document 32 C/8 COM.III, taking into account oral comments on this matter by the representative of the Director-General and the Joint Communication of the Chairpersons of the five Scientific Programmes to the Director-General and the 32nd session of the General Conference.

32 C/DR.33² (submitted by Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, supported by Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan) for paragraph (a)(iv), as amended;

32 C/DR.52 (submitted by Egypt) for paragraph (a)(iv), as amended.

13. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Authorizes the Director-General

(a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:

- (i) fulfil the biennial objectives set for the principal priority of the Natural Sciences Sector, water and associated ecosystems, in the framework of the sixth phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), by investigating jointly with the other scientific programmes and sectors of UNESCO the means of minimizing threats to vulnerable water resource systems, including emergency situations, taking into account the social challenges and interactions, and developing integrated catchments or watershed approaches to land and water and marshland management which emphasize sustainability and security in line with WSSD recommendations and relevant MDGs. The interdisciplinary approach as initiated during the biennium 2002-2003 (31 C/5) will be further developed;
- (ii) improve the understanding of the physical and geo-biochemical processes that affect water resource systems; strengthen the research and capacity-building networks in the field, in cooperation with Member States, regional bodies, field offices and other partners; develop improved techniques, indicators and databases for water resource assessment at different scales;
- (iii) formulate policy recommendations for water resource management for human needs as emphasized by WSSD and required for the attainment of pertinent MDGs; and provide leadership in the implementation of the United Nations system-wide World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP);
- (iv) develop an enhanced understanding and awareness of vulnerabilities and causes of water conflicts, and develop cooperative approaches and tools to assist in preventing or reducing them through successful water resource management approaches;

(b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$8,909,500 for programme costs and \$83,000 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

14. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02120 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme II.1 (Science, environment and sustainable development), Subprogramme II.1.2 (Ecological sciences: developing stewardship by people for nature), as amended by the amendment recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraph 59 of document 32 C/6. The resolution reads as follows:

² The Commission agreed on this draft resolution as amended in the light of the comments made by the Director-General contained in paragraph 4 of document 32 C/8 COM.III.

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement, in particular through the Man and the Biosphere Programme, the following plan of action in order to:
 - (i) enable Member States, using the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, to apply the ecosystem approach for the integrated management of land, water and biodiversity and promote conservation and sustainable use in an equitable manner;
 - (ii) build institutional and personal capacities for promoting adaptive management and quality economies for the sustainable use of land, water and biodiversity, to improve human-environment interactions;
 - (iii) enhance the scientific and sociocultural basis for an integrated approach to conservation and sustainable management of land, water and biodiversity, including through interprogramme collaboration;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$2,972,000 for programme costs, and \$41,200 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

15. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02130 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme II.1 (Science, environment and sustainable development), Subprogramme II.1.3 (Earth sciences – improving the understanding of the solid Earth and enhancing disaster prevention), as amended by:

- (i) draft resolution 32 C/DR.36 (submitted by India) for paragraph (a)(iii);
- (ii) the amendments recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraphs 60, 61 and 62 of document 32 C/6.

16. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) improve and provide expertise in earth sciences through the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) and using geo-environmental and hydro-geological knowledge and knowledge related to other emerging scientific disciplines as an entry point for societal and political dialogue in a series of multidisciplinary initiatives, including groundwater and related ecosystem management, with special emphasis on mobilizing intellectual resources in developing countries, as well as to support existing initiatives for the promotion of geological heritage in broad cooperation with Member States;
 - (ii) develop partnerships in earth observation from space for environmental monitoring, natural resource modelling and planning of sustainable development policies; enhance institutional and human capacities of Member States in earth sciences, relevant space technology in priority programmes of Major

Programme II and information technology and their applications through postgraduate and teacher-training training courses, specialized workshops and multimedia educational materials, with emphasis on North-South and South-South cooperation;

- (iii) contribute more to building a “culture of prevention” facing natural and environmental disasters as a contribution to improving human security within the framework of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), with emphasis on improving public awareness-raising, preventive actions, as well as encouraging disaster preparedness through risk evaluation and knowledge-building;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$1,355,500 for programme costs, and \$18,800 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

17. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02140 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme II.1 (Science, environment and sustainable development), Subprogramme II.1.4 (Towards sustainable living in small islands and in coastal regions), as amended by the amendment recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraph 63 of document 32 C/6. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) assist the 40 Small Island Member States and Associate Members in maximizing benefits from the Organization’s projects and programmes, especially in the follow-up to the 2004 United Nations meeting on Small Island Developing States (Barbados+10);
 - (ii) provide assistance to SIDS in the preparation of the Barbados+10 meeting and to do so also by drawing on the Coastal Regions and Small Islands Platform (CSI) and related successful projects like Small Islands Voice and LINKS”;
 - (iii) advance ways and means for managing conflicts over coastal resources in small islands and continental regions, through field testing of wise practice agreements and global, internet-based discussions on ethical codes of practice;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$800,000 for programme costs and \$11,100 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

18. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02150 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme II.1 (Science, environment and sustainable development), Subprogramme II.1.5 (UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission). The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:

- (i) improve scientific knowledge and understanding of oceanic and coastal processes with a view to assisting Member States in the design and implementation of sustainable policies for the ocean and coastal zones, through the organization and coordination of major scientific programmes, responding to the mandate of UNCLOS, Chapter 17 of Agenda 21/UNCED, the Barbados Plan of Action for Small Island Developing States, the Plan of Implementation of WSSD, the Global Conventions of Climate Change and Biodiversity, the relevant Millennium Development Goals and the regional conventions and programmes;
 - (ii) organize the collection of ocean and coastal observations, the modelling and the production of forecasts needed for the management and sustainable development of the open and coastal ocean as well as the hinterland, particularly by implementing the Global Ocean Observing System and its related pilot projects and regional components, and by increasing the capacities and participation and full involvement of developing countries;
 - (iii) further develop the capability of Member States to use ocean data, particularly through the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) system through the development of “Ocean Data and Information Networks” (ODIN) in the different regions, following the model already being implemented in Africa (ODINAFRICA) and Latin America (ODINCARSA), in accordance with the existing United Nations conventions and UNESCO’s approach on data and information;
 - (iv) continue the follow-up to the Pan-African Conference on Sustainable Integrated Coastal Management (PACSICOM) through the development and implementation of regional coastal management projects contributing to the operational phase of the African Process in the framework of the environment component of NEPAD;
 - (v) answer the call to the IOC contained in the Plan of Implementation of WSSD to support the development of permanent capacities in ocean sciences, services and observations by Member States of IOC, particularly through WSSD Type II Partnerships on Oceans where IOC is identified as a partner;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$4,743,900 for programme costs, and \$51,900 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

19. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02210 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme II.2 (Capacity-building in science and technology for development), Subprogramme II.2.1 (Capacity-building in the basic and engineering sciences), as amended by:

- (i) the following draft resolutions:

32 C/DR.25³ (submitted by United Republic of Tanzania, supported by Seychelles, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Swaziland, Uganda, Namibia, Burundi) for paragraph (a);

32 C/DR.32⁴ (submitted by Russian Federation, supported by Bulgaria, Ukraine, Georgia, Hungary, Azerbaijan) for paragraph (a);

³ The Commission agreed on this draft resolution as amended in the light of the comments made by the Director-General contained in paragraph 15 of document 32 C/8 COM.III.

32 C/DR.44 (submitted by Nigeria) for paragraph (a) as amended orally by the United States of America;

- (ii) the amendment recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraph 64 of document 32 C/6.

20. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the following plan of action in order to:
 - (i) pursue UNESCO's contribution to the follow-up to the World Conference on Science (WCS) through innovative approaches, initiatives and opportunities and cross disciplinary partnerships focusing on identification and introduction of new specific regional and subregional strategies geared to scientific development;
 - (ii) help reinforce national and regional capacities in mathematics, physics, chemistry, and related interdisciplinary fields by strengthening cooperation with competent international and regional networks and centres, and national specialized scientific bodies and institutions, paying particular attention to developing countries;
 - (iii) take measures to reinforce intergovernmental cooperation in strengthening national capacities in the basic sciences and science education through establishing an International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP) focused on major region-specific actions involving network of national, regional and international centres of excellence or benchmark centres in the basic sciences;
 - (iv) foster the building up and development of the Centre on Synchrotron Light for Experimental Science and its Applications in the Middle East (SESAME) and promote the science programme of the Centre and its international partnership;
 - (v) promote the development of research capacities in molecular and cellular biology and biotechnologies through networking and strengthening international cooperation with competent non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, networks and centres; contribute to the promotion of scientific research and the dissemination of its results aimed at a prevention of HIV/AIDS transmission;
 - (vi) assist in building human and institutional capacities in engineering science and technology and promote technological asset management as a contribution to the culture of maintenance, in cooperation with relevant academic and professional networks and competent governmental and non-governmental engineering organizations;
 - (vii) assist capacity-building at Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), being the focal point of the African Regional Project on Culture of Maintenance;

- (viii) promote the use of sustainable and renewable energies through the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, by fostering human resources development with emphasis on improving the living conditions in rural areas of poor countries, especially in Africa, and by assisting Member States in developing pilot projects on the use of renewable energies;
 - (ix) promote education and capacity-building in science and technology for policy makers, curricula planners, specialists and teachers in Member States through training and relevant documentation, networking, pilot projects, teachers awards, newsletters and database as well as promote public awareness and understanding of science and technology in partnership with science journalists and science museums;
 - (x) UNESCO will promote the full participation of women and girls in all aspects of science and technology, notably by encouraging networks of women scientists and engineers;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$5,755,300 for programme costs, and \$79,800 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

21. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02220 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme II.2 (Capacity-building in science and technology for development), Subprogramme II.2.2 (Science and technology policies for sustainable development), as amended by:

- (i) the following draft resolutions:
 - 32 C/DR.29⁵ (submitted by Cuba) for paragraph (a);
 - 32 C/DR.54⁶ (submitted by Islamic Republic of Iran, supported by Afghanistan, Pakistan) for paragraph (a)(iv);
- (ii) the amendment recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraph 66 of document 32 C/6.

22. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the following plan of action in order to:
 - (i) contribute to the advancement of epistemology as the body of knowledge on which science policy is based, in particular ethics of science and technology across disciplines and cultures, economics of research and innovation, legislation in science and technology, with integration of gender issues, through public debates, studies, research networks and standard-setting activities;

⁵ The Commission agreed on this draft resolution as amended in the light of the comments made by the Director-General contained in paragraph 23 of document 32 C/8 COM.III.

⁶ The Commission agreed on this draft resolution as amended in the light of the comments made by the Director-General contained in paragraph 22 of document 32 C/8 COM.III.

- (ii) develop decision-making instruments, methodologies, guidelines and norms for science policy, in particular for surveying national scientific potential, for programming and budgeting research and development projects, for technology forecasting, assessment and regulation, and for exchanging information and data required for science policy-making;
 - (iii) conduct analysis of national science and innovation systems (organized set of interrelated inputs, activities, outputs and processes contributing to science and technology development) in order to compare experience from different economic and cultural settings, to propose best practices and to reinforce and reform such systems;
 - (iv) provide advisory services to interested Member States (in particular African Member States, least developed countries, small island states and economies in transition) for the formulation and implementation of science and technology policies at the national and subregional and regional levels, with a view to increasing and mobilizing scientific and technological resources in the service of the advancement of knowledge and in support of sustainable development and peace;
 - (v) give intellectual and financial support for the holding of a meeting between representatives of the scientific community of Latin America and the Caribbean in Havana, in the second half of 2004, pursuant to the agreements of the World Conference on Science (Budapest, 1999) and the Conference on Small Island States (Barbados, 1994);
 - (vi) Promote the active participation of women in science and technology, and ensure that the gender issue is taken into consideration in the design of national science and technology policies;
 - (vii) Promote the participation of citizens in science development and policy and the empowerment of civil society through a better understanding by the public of scientific work, scientific discoveries and technological innovations, and through the enactment of a new commitment for science in order to increase public support to civil research and ensure societal relevance of science and technology, in particular for poverty reduction, sustainable development and peace;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$1,090,300 for programme costs and \$15,100 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

23. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 02500 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme II (Projects relating to cross-cutting themes). The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action to execute to completion the projects related to the two cross-cutting themes Eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, and The contribution of information and communication technologies to the development of education, science and culture and the construction of a knowledge society;

- (b) to evaluate and monitor the implementation, as well as assess the impact of the various projects;
- (c) to ensure intersectoral cooperation within UNESCO and coordination with other United Nations agencies and funds in order to enhance the coherence and learning process in the execution of approved projects;
- (d) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$1,710,000 for programme costs.

Recommendations of the Commission concerning other draft resolutions not retained for adoption *in extenso*

24. The Commission informs the General Conference that the draft resolutions listed below were not retained for inclusion *in extenso* in the records of the General Conference.

Having examined **32 C/DR.18** (submitted by Kenya, supported by Eritrea, Malawi, Congo), concerning paragraph 02210, proposing to insert an item aiming to make reference to UNESCO Chairs and further requesting to allocate US \$50,000 to the UNESCO Chair at Moi University in Kenya to undertake surveys of IT requirements and to generate US \$19,950,000 in extrabudgetary funding to strengthen cooperative activities in the field of basic and applied sciences, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide that the concerns expressed by this draft resolution are already addressed in paragraph 02210 of document 32 C/5 and that the financial aspects of this request should to the extent possible be accommodated within the work plans of the subprogramme “Capacity-building in the basic and engineering sciences” and that additional substantial support be mobilized from extrabudgetary or other sources.

Having examined **32 C/DR.19** (submitted by Kenya, supported by United Republic of Tanzania), concerning paragraph 02110, proposing the insertion of a text to include cultural and socio-economic factors and the use of Integrated Information System, and requesting additional financial resources (regular programme: \$40,000; extrabudgetary sources: \$60,000) for the development of an integrated information system for water resources on the Lake Victoria basin in the East African Region, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide that the concerns expressed by the draft resolution are already addressed in document 32 C/5 (paras. 02112 and 02113) and that seed money to convene a planning meeting to formulate a project proposal for mobilization of extrabudgetary funding should be provided through the Nairobi Office.

Having examined **32 C/DR.27** (submitted by Senegal, Nigeria, supported by Chile), concerning paragraph 02210 and proposing an item which makes reference to UNESCO’s contribution to the implementation of the NEPAD initiative and to the need for supporting the development of national energy strategies and pilot renewable energy projects, in order to (a) sensitize Member States and international financial institutions to the strategic importance of renewable energies and World Solar Programme 1996-2005, especially in the context of sustainable development and eradication of poverty, and requesting that an amount of US \$3,000,000 be provided from both regular programme budget and extrabudgetary resources to launch initial pilot activities in 2004-2005, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide that the concerns expressed in this draft resolution are already addressed and that seed money be provided under the flagship project “Promotion of sustainable and renewable energies for development”, and that additional extrabudgetary resources be mobilized for the implementation of the project.

Having examined **32 C/DR.30** (submitted by Ukraine, supported by Belarus, Azerbaijan, Latvia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Poland), concerning paragraph 02210 and proposing an addition to reflect the setting up of an open-ended Virtual Campus of e-learning centres, science-technology and engineering universities of the Central and Eastern European countries, and further requesting an amount of US \$45,000 for the launching of this activity, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide that the requested money under paragraph 02221 “MLA 1: Capacity-building and management of science, technology and innovation policies” be allocated to prepare a feasibility study.

Having examined **32 C/DR.64** (submitted by Sudan, supported by Egypt), concerning paragraph 02110, proposing the insertion of an additional operative subparagraph which would allow extension of the zone of intervention of institutions that promote the understanding of sustainable land and water use through training of their staff on modern techniques of developing multimedia based course ware to be offered through distant learning systems, and further requesting an amount of US \$80,000 to support this activity, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide that the proposal of this draft resolution is already reflected in paragraph 02113 of document 32 C/5 and that funding for related activities should be accommodated to the extent possible in the regular budget work plans.

Having examined **32 C/DR.65** (submitted by Sudan, supported by Egypt), concerning paragraph 02120, requesting support to Member States to apply the ecosystem approach and promote conservation and sustainable use in an equitable manner including the socio-economic aspects to develop plans and policies for management of wetlands and water resources in Biosphere Reserves through collaboration and integration of IHP and MAB Programmes and further proposing the allocation of US \$200,000 from extrabudgetary sources for the purpose of holding a regional symposium in Khartoum in 2004 in collaboration with the UNESCO Chair for Women, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide that the idea of the draft resolution already exists through the joint MAB/IHP collaboration and that a regional symposium in Khartoum could be organized by raising extrabudgetary funds.

Having examined **32 C/DR.72** (submitted by Botswana, Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, supported by Rwanda, Brazil, Cameroon, Papua New Guinea, Burundi, Nigeria, Benin, Samoa, Senegal, Côte d’Ivoire, Morocco, Ethiopia, Czech Republic, Mali, Netherlands, Belgium, United States of America, Switzerland, Congo, Comoros, Myanmar, Cuba, Canada, Gabon), requesting the inclusion in document 32 C/5 of a new Subprogramme II.1.6 Sustainable integrated management and development of arid and semi-arid regions of southern Africa (SIMDAS), to support development of activities in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) as a follow-up to the WSSD (Johannesburg, 2002) and the third World Water Forum in Kyoto, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide that resources in the order of US \$200,000 be earmarked for SIMDAS in the work plans and proposes that this activity be included as a regional flagship programme, identified in a separate box, in document 32 C/5 Approved relating to the joint Main Line of Action “land-water interactions: towards sustainable development” (para. 02114). The Commission also recommends that UNESCO should seek to ensure that the SIMDAS project receive visibility in various fora, including NEPAD, and to mobilize extrabudgetary funding to support the initiative.

Draft resolutions not retained

25. The Commission informs the General Conference that the draft resolutions listed below were not retained:

- 32 C/DR.15 (submitted by France)
- 32 C/DR.17 (submitted by Kenya)
- 32 C/DR.37 (submitted by India)
- 32 C/DR.41 (submitted by Sudan, supported by Egypt)
- 32 C/DR.47 (submitted by Egypt)
- 32 C/DR.48 (submitted by Egypt)
- 32 C/DR.50 (submitted by Egypt)
- 32 C/DR.53 (submitted by Egypt)
- 32 C/DR.71 (submitted by Kenya)

Total budgetary provision for Major Programme II

26. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it approve the budget provision of \$58,231,700 in paragraph 02001 Add. in document 32 C/5 Add. under the real growth scenario for Major Programme II, it being understood that this amount is subject to adjustment in the light of the joint meeting of the programme commissions and the Administrative Commission and the decision taken by the General Conference on the budget ceiling.

Recommendations of the Executive Board contained in document 32 C/6

27. The Commission recommended to the General Conference that it approve the recommendations of the Executive Board contained in paragraphs 56 to 66 of document 32 C/6 and invite the Director-General to take them into account in the preparation of document 32 C/5 Approved.

Recommendations relating to specific items

Debate 3

Item 7.3 – Draft amendment to the Statutes of the International Geological Correlation Programme

28. During its fourth meeting, the Commission examined item 7.3 (Draft amendment to the Statutes of the International Geological Correlation Programme). The representatives of six Member States took the floor on this item.

29. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 7 of document 32 C/47. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 17 C/Resolution 2.313 which it adopted at its 17th session (1972) launching the International Geological Correlation Programme,
2. Having examined document 32 C/47,

3. Noting the change that has occurred in the aims of the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP) in order to adapt them to the needs of society,
4. Endorses the recommendation of the Director-General, based on that of the IGCP Scientific Board, to change the name of the programme to “International Geoscience Programme”, while retaining its historical, well-known acronym “IGCP”,
5. Decides to modify the Statutes of the Scientific Board of IGCP accordingly.

Debate 4

Item 5.23 – UNESCO’s support for the Earth Charter

Item 5.24 – Proclamation of 2005 “International Year of Physics”

30. During its fourth meeting, the Commission examined items 5.23 (UNESCO’s support for the Earth Charter) and 5.24 (Proclamation of 2005 “International Year of Physics”). The representatives of nine Member States took the floor on these items.

Item 5.23 – UNESCO’s support for the Earth Charter

31. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the draft resolution 32 C/COM.III/DR.1 (submitted by Jordan, supported by Costa Rica) as amended orally by Jordan. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Considering that:

- Over the decade of the 1990s, there has been a worldwide, multicultural, multisectoral consultation process for the creation of an instrument that contains the shared values, principles and ethics that can guide our efforts towards a sustainable future,
- Today, the international community has the Earth Charter as an instrument, which contains fundamental principles for building a just, sustainable and peaceful global society,
- The Earth Charter sets forth an integrated approach to addressing our interrelated problems the world community faces. This ethical framework involves respect and responsibility for the community of life, ecological integrity, social and economic justice and equity, democracy, alleviation of poverty, non-violence and peace,
- The Earth Charter is part of a continuing process generated by the United Nations Brundtland Commission’s (1987) call for a new code of ethics for sustainable development, and the unfinished issue of the Rio Earth Summit, which attempted adoption of an ethical framework for sustainability, and
- UNESCO is a Task Manager in the United Nations system of Chapters 15 (Science) and 36 (Education) of Agenda 21,

Resolves to:

1. Recognize the Earth Charter as an important ethical framework for sustainable development, and acknowledge its ethical principles, its objectives and its contents, as an expression that coincides with the vision that UNESCO has with regard to their new Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007;
2. Affirm our intention, as Member States, to utilize the Earth Charter as an educational instrument, particularly in the framework of the United Nations Decade for Education for Sustainable Development;
3. Invite the UNESCO General Conference to analyse with the UNESCO Director-General how to reinforce, in a practical way, the vision and principles of the Earth Charter in UNESCO programmes.

Item 5.24 – Proclamation of 2005 “International Year of Physics”

32. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the draft resolution 32 C/COM.III/DR.2 Rev. (submitted by Brazil, France, Portugal, supported by Italy). The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recognizing that physics provides a significant basis for the development of understanding of nature,

Stressing that education in physics provides women and men with the tools to build the scientific infrastructure essential for development,

Considering that research in physics and its applications have been and continue to be a major driving force to scientific and technological development, and remain a vital factor in addressing the challenges of the twenty-first century,

Being aware that the year 2005 marks the one hundredth anniversary of a series of great scientific advances by Albert Einstein,

Welcomes the resolution of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP), at the initiative of the European Physical Society, to declare the year 2005 the International Year of Physics and carry out, within this framework, activities to promote physics at all levels worldwide;

Decides to support the initiative of the International Year of Physics 2005;

Invites the Director-General to request the United Nations General Assembly to declare 2005 the International Year of Physics.

Debate 5

Item 5.21 – Creation of an International Basic Sciences Programme

Item 5.22 – Establishment of an International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures in Yazd (Islamic Republic of Iran)

33. During its fifth meeting, the Commission examined items 5.21 (Creation of an International Basic Sciences Programme) and 5.22 (Establishment of an International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures in Yazd (Islamic Republic of Iran)).

34. The representatives of 26 Member States and one non-governmental organization took the floor on these items.

Item 5.21 – Creation of an International Basic Sciences Programme

35. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 6 of document 32 C/66. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

1. Having examined the proposal by the Director-General on the establishment of an IBSP, submitted in document 32 C/66,
2. Recognizing that today, more than ever, there is a pressing need for determined action to allow basic science to enhance and exercise its creative power in response to the needs of all societies,
3. Stressing that the goals of an international basic sciences programme (IBSP) and the worldwide effort it entails are consonant with the strategic objectives in science, as set out in the Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007, and with the Organization's unique mandate for the basic sciences within the United Nations system,
4. Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Executive Board in 167 EX/Decision 3.4.2,
5. Endorses the proposal on the establishment of an IBSP within existing budgetary provisions;
6. Invites Member States to inform the Director-General of relevant national and regional institutions and projects in the basic sciences and science education that they would suggest be implicated in the framework of a proposed IBSP;
7. Invites the Director-General to take such measures as will be necessary for the implementation of the present General Conference resolution, as well as the Executive Board decisions as regards an IBSP, and to submit a progress report on an IBSP and how it relates to present programmes in the basic sciences, accompanied by draft statutes for an IBSP Scientific Board (in category V of the applicable Regulations for meetings) to the Executive Board at its 169th session.

Item 5.22 – Establishment of an International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures in Yazd (Islamic Republic of Iran)

36. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 6 of document 32 C/67 Rev. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 21 C/Resolution 40.1, 165 EX/Decision 5.4 and 167 EX/Decision 3.4.4,
2. Further recalling paragraphs 29 and 33 of the Science Agenda – Framework for Action adopted by the World Conference on Science in Budapest in June 1999, as well as the favourable opinion expressed in paragraph 91 of the Final Report of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) published in June 2002 and endorsed by the IHP Bureau in June 2003,
3. Having examined document 32 C/67 Rev. and its Annex,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish an International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in line with the existing principles and guidelines (21 C/36) and the proposed strategy for this category of institutes and centres (165 EX/20 and 167 EX/16);
5. Approves the establishment of the International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures in Yazd, Islamic Republic of Iran, under the auspices of UNESCO, and authorizes the Director-General to negotiate and sign an appropriate agreement, it being understood that the obligations of UNESCO shall not be more than those indicated in the proposed draft agreement in the annex of document 32 C/67 Rev.

PART III MAJOR PROGRAMME III – SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Debate 6

Item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2004-2005

37. At its fifth, sixth and seventh meetings, the Commission examined item 4.2 – Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2004-2005. Major Programme III (Social and Human Sciences).

38. The representatives of 57 Member States and of two non-governmental organizations took the floor.

Draft resolutions proposed in document 32 C/5

39. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that, taking into account the draft resolution proposed in paragraph 59 of this report, it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 03100 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme III.1 (Ethics of science and technology, with emphasis on bioethics), as amended by:

- (i) the following draft resolutions:
 - 32 C/DR.49 (submitted by Egypt) for paragraph (a);
 - 32 C/DR.51 (submitted by Egypt) for paragraph (a)(i);
- (ii) the amendments recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraph 68 of document 32 C/6.

40. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) confirm the position that UNESCO occupies as lead agency in the field of bioethics at the international level, by pursuing its mission as an intellectual forum – in particular through its International Bioethics Committee (IBC) and its Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC) – and by improving coordination among the various international, regional and national organizations and institutions concerned;
 - (ii) strengthen its standard-setting action to define a common ethical framework in bioethics, by ensuring follow-up to the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, encouraging the incorporation of its principles into national legislation, disseminating and publicizing the International Declaration on Genetic Data, and initiating the drafting of universal standards on bioethics;
 - (iii) ensure that UNESCO promotes and develops its advisory and mediation role among Member States in the field of bioethics, by endeavouring to formulate and implement appropriate strategies for the promotion and development of bioethical reflection at the regional and subregional levels, and work to build national capacities, in particular through regional information and documentation networks and centres;
 - (iv) pursue the reflection carried out by UNESCO on the basic ethical questions raised by scientific and technological progress so as to consolidate its role as an ethical, intellectual, international and interdisciplinary forum, through the work of the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST), in cooperation with the scientific programmes and sectors of the Organization, in the fields of outer space, sustainable environment (including fresh water and energy) and the information society, with particular emphasis on the follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) and the Third World Water Forum (Kyoto, 2003);
 - (v) reinforce the consultative role of COMEST and the standard-setting action of the Organization by encouraging the elaboration and the promotion of principles and good practice in the domain of scientific ethics and studying the possibility of preparing international agreements on the basis of the work and recommendations of COMEST under the auspices of UNESCO;

- (vi) involve the private sector in the work of COMEST, foster international cooperation with the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations, and intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and promote the reinforcement of national capacities by studying possible mechanisms and scenarios in the domain of scientific ethics which could serve as guidelines for the Member States;
 - (vii) enhance the visibility of COMEST by developing an innovative and appropriate communication strategy, including also publications and websites, to make society as a whole more aware of its work, by informing public opinion and the scientific and intellectual communities and involving the press and media in that effort;
 - (viii) promote – both in the area of bioethics and in fields dealt with by COMEST – education-, research- and information-related activities, with a view to fostering the debate on ethics and responsibility at various levels, including the education system, scientific circles and their young scientists in particular, decision-makers and the media;
 - (ix) study and evaluate the ethical commitment of research projects scheduled for financing by UNESCO before their adoption for implementation;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$3,173,500 for programme costs and \$77,300 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

41. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 03200 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme III.2 (Promotion of human rights and the fight against discrimination), as amended by:

- (i) the following draft resolutions:
 - 32 C/DR.45 (submitted by Nigeria) for paragraph (a)
 - 32 C/DR.58⁷ (submitted by Islamic Republic of Iran) for paragraph (a) (i)
 - 32 C/DR.74 (submitted by Italy), as amended orally by Italy
- (ii) the amendments recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraph 69 of document 32 C/6.

42. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) increase UNESCO's contribution to the advancement of the promotion of the Rule of the Law and the promotion and protection of all human rights, in accordance with the principle of their indivisibility, interrelation, interdependence and equal importance, notably by generating and sharing knowledge about human

⁷ The Commission agreed on this draft resolution as amended in the light of the comments made by the Director-General contained in paragraph 28 of document 32 C/8 COM.III.

rights, focusing on those within UNESCO's competence and in particular on economic, social and cultural rights, as well as on extreme poverty as a violation of human rights, in conformity with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights (1993), the United Nations Millennium Declaration (2000) and the overall UNESCO strategy on human rights;

- (ii) Strengthen UNESCO's contribution to the promotion of democracy and deepening of human rights in newly democratizing Member States by generating and sharing knowledge on the challenges of democratic consolidation research on the experiences and best practices gained in mature/consolidated democracies;
 - (iii) strengthen UNESCO's contribution to the promotion of gender equality and the human rights of women in Member States, notably through knowledge sharing, research and analysis of socio-economic issues and structures, and in conformity with the strategic objectives outlined in the Beijing Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women, and in support of the Millennium Development Goal of promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women;
 - (iv) reinforce and renew the action of UNESCO against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, through the development of research on various manifestations of racism and discrimination, in particular the new forms of discrimination and exclusion related to the progress of science, technology and globalization, knowledge sharing of best practices and policies to raise awareness, to combat and prevent this scourge, and ensure an active contribution of the Organization to the follow up of the Declaration and Programme of the World Conference against Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, South Africa, 2001);
 - (v) contribute, in close cooperation with the Education Sector, to the further development of the concept of quality education (see para. 01114 above) with particular focus on human rights education and related curricula reform and textbook revision as well as involvement of the Associated Schools Project (ASP) network;
- (b) to promote human rights and to fight against all forms of discrimination by:
- supporting all initiatives aiming to the advancement of the promotion of all human rights assumed in conformity with all relevant international instruments (i.e. Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, United Nations Millennium Declaration 2000);
 - appointing the Social and Human Sciences Sector as the focal point and coordinator of the most relevant activities in this field, finalized to eliminate all forms of discrimination connected with gender and with medical situations;
 - improving the dissemination of knowledge of human rights around the world as the best way to favour the comprehension of individuals and people and eliminate such discriminations;

- (c) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$2,151,100 for programme costs and \$33,500 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

43. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 03300 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme III.3 – (Foresight, philosophy, human sciences and human security) – as amended by the amendments recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraphs 70 and 71 of document 32 C/6. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) strengthen the capacities of the Organization and the Member States for anticipation and monitoring in UNESCO's fields of competence, in particular through the production and dissemination of the UNESCO World Report;
 - (ii) promote future-oriented thinking and debate, strengthening UNESCO's function as a forum of anticipation by holding the "Twenty-first Century Talks" and the "Twenty-first Century Dialogues";
 - (iii) promote greater awareness among the public and decision-makers of the major challenges of the future, of future-oriented thinking and of strategies which are identified in particular in the World Report, through cooperation with the media and a policy of disseminating the main outcomes of activities undertaken in the field of anticipation and foresight;
 - (iv) promote the role played by philosophy and the human sciences in analysing the transformations affecting today's societies and the impact of these changes on modes and tools of reflection, and encourage the growth of philosophy education, in particular by marking Philosophy Day in schools;
 - (v) foster international cooperation in the field of the human sciences and philosophy, in particular through strengthened cooperation with the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (ICPHS) and with the International Centre for Human Sciences, Byblos (Lebanon), endeavouring, in conjunction with the latter, to promote comparative research on the relations between democracy, development and culture;
 - (vi) contribute, in UNESCO's fields of competence, to peace-building, human security, human and sustainable development and democratic principles, as UNESCO should by virtue of its role as lead agency in the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010), in particular through:
 - the elaboration of integrated regional and subregional frameworks for the promotion of human security and peace, including reflection on the historical, social, economic and cultural factors at the roots of new forms of violence, such as terrorism, and on their consequences, as well as dissemination of the results of such reflection;

- implementation of the relevant parts of the corresponding Programme of Action for the International Decade which are explicitly addressed to UNESCO;

- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$3,832,500 for programme costs and \$37,200 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

44. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 03400 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme III.4 (Management of Social Transformations: MOST – Phase II), as amended by:

- (i) draft resolution 32 C/DR.46 (submitted by Islamic Republic of Iran) for paragraph (a)(iii);
- (ii) the amendment recommended by the Executive Board contained in paragraph 72 of document 32 C/6.

45. The resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director General

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) Contribute to the sustainability of social transformations, through re-focusing the international social science research programme MOST on the use of social sciences in evidence-based policy-making; through improved cooperation with competent international NGOs, in particular the International Social Sciences Council (ISSC), and other regional, subregional and national social science networks; through further developing university action and capacity-building by strengthened UNITWIN networks/UNESCO Chairs in interdisciplinary areas of high complexity; and through sharing high-quality social science research results with a maximum of users, by publication of the International Social Science Journal in six languages;
 - (ii) elaborate a framework for policy development on international migration on the basis of scientific research and collect and disseminate best practices concerning the situation of migrants in society;
 - (iii) within the framework of the social sustainability of cities, develop a new strategy for urban development based on interaction and cooperation among researchers, public authorities and civil society, through comparative research, training and pilot projects that foster new bonds with the policy-making sphere, especially in developing countries and countries in transition;
- (b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$3,038,400 for programme costs and \$50,200 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

46. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution proposed in paragraph 03500 of document 32 C/5 concerning Programme III (Projects relating to cross-cutting themes), as follows:

The General Conference

Authorizes the Director-General

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action to execute to completion the projects related to the two cross-cutting themes Eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, and The contribution of information and communication technologies to the development of education, science and culture and the construction of a knowledge society;
- (b) to evaluate and monitor the implementation, as well as assess the impact of the various projects;
- (c) to ensure intersectoral cooperation within UNESCO and coordination with other United Nations agencies and funds in order to enhance the coherence and learning process in the execution of approved projects;
- (d) to allocate for this purpose an amount of \$2,600,000 for programme costs.

Recommendations of the Commission concerning other draft resolutions not retained for adoption *in extenso*

47. The Commission informs the General Conference that the draft resolutions listed below were not retained for inclusion in extenso in the records of the General Conference.

Having examined **32 C/DR.20** (submitted by Kenya, supported by Dominica), concerning paragraph 03100 and proposing to add a reference to UNESCO Chairs in Bioethics and requesting a sum of US \$40,000 under the regular budget and a sum of US \$80,000 from extrabudgetary funds to allow the UNESCO Chair on Bioethics at Egerton University to establish a subregional bioethics documentation centre, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide that this action be implemented in 2005-2006 on the basis of appropriate strategies for the promotion and development of bioethical reflection at the regional and subregional levels on the understanding that concerns about UNESCO Chairs in Bioethics are already taken into account in the implementation of document 32 C/5.

Having examined **32 C/DR.28** (submitted by Costa Rica), concerning paragraph 03200 and aiming to make specific reference to the protection of, and education for, democracy, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide that, since the proposal seeks mainly to promote education for democracy at primary and secondary levels of education, the concerns expressed are already reflected in Subprogramme I.1.1 under Main Line of Action 4, entitled “Improving the Quality of Education”, which places emphasis on the promotion of education for justice, liberty and peace, including human rights education, as indispensable features of quality education (para. 01114). The Commission also recommends that the strategy for this MLA be reworded accordingly.

Having examined **32 C/DR.73** (submitted by Italy), as amended orally by Italy, concerning paragraphs 03015 and 03016, the Commission recommends that the General Conference decide to replace the wording in these paragraphs “of leading international NGOs and networks” by “of international NGOs and networks with particular attention to those already involved in the promotion of women, for example, the programme ‘Women, Science and Development – IPAZIA’ connected to the ‘objectives of training (resolution 67/2001)’, which was accorded such attention at the Budapest World Conference”.

Total budgetary provision for Major Programme III

48. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it approve the budget provision of \$33,336,900 in paragraph 03001 Add. in document 32 C/5 Add. under the real growth scenario for Major Programme III, it being understood that this amount is subject to adjustment in the light of the joint meeting of the programme commissions and the Administrative Commission and the decision taken by the General Conference on the budget ceiling.

Recommendations of the Executive Board contained in document 32 C/6

49. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it approve the recommendations of the Executive Board contained in paragraphs 67 and 72 of document 32 C/6 and invites the Director-General to take them into account in the preparation of document 32 C/5 Approved.

Recommendations relating to specific items

Debate 7

Item 5.1 – Development of an integrated strategy to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Item 5.15 – Draft UNESCO strategy on human rights

50. During its seventh and eighth meetings, the Commission examined items 5.1 (Development of an integrated strategy to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance) and 5.15 (Draft UNESCO strategy on human rights). The representatives of 43 Member States and one observer took the floor.

Item 5.1 – Development of an integrated strategy to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

51. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 26 of document 32 C/13. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, South Africa, 31 August-8 September 2001),

Referring to resolution 56/266 of 27 March 2002 in which the United Nations General Assembly endorsed “the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action” and invited “specialized agencies and related organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen and adjust, within their respective mandates, their activities, programmes and medium-term strategies to take into account the follow-up to the Conference”,

Recalling also 164 EX/Decision 3.4.2 of the Executive Board adopted in April 2002 inviting “the Director-General to develop ... an integrated strategy to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in UNESCO’s fields of competence”,

Considering that fresh impetus must be lent to UNESCO's efforts to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, in close cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

Having taken cognizance of document 32 C/13 entitled Development of an integrated strategy to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

1. Approves the strategy submitted;
2. Invites Member States to take an active part in implementing the proposed strategy by initiating concrete projects based on the thematic choices and the regional priorities identified;
3. Invites the Director-General still further to strengthen cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights by developing and undertaking joint projects to combat racism, discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, and by disseminating widely the results of that work to the Member States;
4. Also invites the Director-General to give most particular attention to the Slave Route project in connection with the implementation of the present strategy and, above all, with the celebration in 2004 of the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition;
5. Further invites the Director-General to increase cooperation with regional intergovernmental organizations with a view to preparing didactic and promotional materials facilitating implementation of the priorities defined in the integrated strategy at regional and national level, among them the countering of anti-Semitism and Islamophobia;
6. Appeals to the non-governmental organizations working with UNESCO to amplify their efforts to promote the values of peace, non-discrimination, tolerance and non-violence among different population groups and, above all, among young people;
7. Finally invites the Director-General, as a result of the discussions on documents 32 C/13 and 32 C/57, to report, if necessary, to the 170th session of the Executive Board about revised implementation measures started for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Item 5.15 Draft UNESCO strategy on human rights

52. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 46 of document 32 C/57 as amended orally by Germany. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Reaffirming the principles of universality, indivisibility, interrelation, interdependence and equal importance of all human rights laid down in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993,

Recognizing that the present challenges to the enjoyment of human rights require a coherent and coordinated response by the United Nations system as a whole,

Taking note of the role entrusted to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to coordinate all human rights activities within the United Nations system,

Taking into consideration the United Nations Secretary-General's Reform Programme (A/51/950), the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (United Nations General Assembly resolution 55/2),

Recalling the provisions of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007 (31 C/4),

Bearing in mind UNESCO's commitment to human rights and the need to enhance UNESCO's contribution to the advancement of all human rights for all, women and men, in particular the rights within its competence,

Welcoming measures to mainstream human rights into all UNESCO's programmes and to reinforce internal coordination in the field of human rights, both at Headquarters and in the field,

Having examined document 32 C/57,

1. Authorizes the Director-General, in the context of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007 (31 C/4), to take all necessary measures to implement the UNESCO strategy on human rights, and to pursue its integration into all UNESCO's activities, in conformity with the United Nations Secretary-General's appeal to mainstream human rights within the United Nations system;
2. Invites the Director-General to strengthen to that end cooperation with governments, parliaments, National Commissions for UNESCO, civil society and the academic community in Member States;
3. Calls upon the Director-General to further strengthen coordination and cooperation in the field of human rights with United Nations bodies, programmes and specialized agencies, with regional intergovernmental organizations, as well as with nongovernmental organizations;
4. Encourages the Director-General to strengthen UNESCO's cooperation with OHCHR based on the Memorandum of Understanding signed in February 2003;
5. Invites the Director-General to seek, as appropriate, all financial means to implement the UNESCO strategy on human rights and to increase UNESCO's contribution to the advancement of human rights.
6. Further invites the Director-General, as a result of the discussions on documents 32 C/13 and 32 C/57, to report, if necessary, to the 170th session of the Executive Board about revised implementation measures started for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Debate 8

Item 5.7 – José Martí Project for World Solidarity

Item 5.16 – Proclamation of an international year of global consciousness and the ethics of dialogue among peoples

53. During its eighth meeting, the Commission examined items 5.7 (José Martí Project for World Solidarity) and 5.16 (Proclamation of an international year of global consciousness and the ethics of dialogue among peoples). The representatives of 15 Member States took the floor.

Item 5.7 – José Martí Project for World Solidarity

54. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the draft resolution 32 C/COM.III/DR.3 (submitted by Cuba):

The General Conference,

Recalling that, the UNESCO General Conference, at its 31st session, associated itself with the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of José Martí, apostle of independence and national hero of Cuba, on account of the contribution of his work and thought to the finest creations of humanity,

Recalling that, in pursuance of the foregoing, the International Conference for World Balance was held in Havana in January 2003 under the auspices of UNESCO,

Recalling also that, on that occasion, a considerable number of participants consisting of notable thinkers and humanists from Latin America and the Caribbean and other regions of the world decided to establish a steering committee for the José Martí Project for World Solidarity in order to create a new forum for dialogue that would contribute to the attainment of UNESCO's principles and objectives,

Bearing in mind José Martí's contribution to the cause of liberty, justice, respect for human dignity and solidarity between people and peace between nations through his work as an educator, journalist, writer, diplomat and political leader,

Emphasizing that for José Martí human identity goes beyond such circumstantial factors as nationality, race, skin colour, gender or social background and that it is diversity that shapes the unity of the universe,

Inspired by the ideals of UNESCO and José Martí's vision in which each person's homeland is the whole of humanity, human society is to be organized with and for the good of all and its main law must be respect for the full dignity of the individual,

Convinced that, in the current world where globalization affects all aspects of human activity, respect for the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations is essential as the basis for international cooperation and the promotion of security, peace and the welfare of peoples,

Welcomes the establishment of the José Martí Project for World Solidarity, whose objectives would be to publicize the life and work of this great humanist and promote a range of activities that would help to ensure that the current process of globalization is based on ethical

principles of solidarity that promote the welfare and development of humanity and the protection of the planet that provides its habitat;

Decides to support the organization of an international forum on the Project to be held in Havana in 2005 under the auspices of UNESCO on the theme “With all and for the good of all”, in conformity with the objectives of Major Programme III.3 of the 2004-2005 biennium.

Item 5.16 – Proclamation of an international year of global consciousness and the ethics of dialogue among peoples

55. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in Annex II of document 32 C/63. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Referring to the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which proclaims that peace must be founded upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind,

Taking into account United Nations General Assembly resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001 proclaiming the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations, and the goals and principles therein contained,

Noting the active efforts and valuable contribution of many Member States of UNESCO to the development of dialogue among civilizations and the strengthening of peace and mutual understanding among peoples,

Aspiring to act jointly with other States for the sake of peace, security and stability at the global and regional levels,

Recognizing that the world is confronted with tremendous challenges to its security when the stability of States is undermined by terrorism, extremism and aggressive separatism, and when emerging conflicts frequently lead to overt armed confrontation on the part of the State,

Expressing alarm that outbreaks of violence in various regions engender speculation about the “clash of civilizations”, that the world is seen as divided into opposing cultures, ideologies and religious outlooks,

Recalling that true dialogue among civilizations, which is a prerequisite for the harmonious development of the world, is only possible in an atmosphere of absolute respect in which the fundamental and universal values of human existence are put into practice,

Emphasizing the contribution of world religions to the furtherance of human civilization through the eternal values of goodness and high moral standards,

Voicing the conviction that the processes of globalization have reached such a level and force that, in order to ensure their further development, there is a need for generally recognized conceptual support in order to avert adverse consequences for all humankind,

1. Proposes that the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaim 2006 the Year of Global Consciousness and the Ethics of Dialogue among Peoples;

2. Proposes that Member States and international and non-governmental organizations prepare proposals for measures to be implemented within the framework of the aforesaid Year with the aim of helping to develop dialogue among cultures and civilizations, shape the global consciousness, and develop the ethics of international dialogue;
3. Invites the Director-General:
 - (a) to prepare, on the basis of the proposals of Member States, a draft programme of action for the Year of Global Consciousness and the Ethics of Dialogue among Peoples;
 - (b) to submit that draft programme to the General Conference at its 33rd session, together with a report on the results of the preparatory work;
4. Decides to include an item on the celebration of such a Year in the agenda of the 33rd session.

Debate 9

Item 5.6 – Report by the Director-General on the work done by the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST) since its second session and proposal for evaluating the impact of its activities

Item 5.14 – Report by the Director-General on the possibility of elaborating universal norms on bioethics

Item 8.1 – Overall report on, and evaluation of, the implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights

56. During its eighth and ninth meetings, the Commission examined items 5.6 (Report by the Director-General on the work done by the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST) since its second session and proposal for evaluating the impact of its activities), 5.14 (Report by the Director-General on the possibility of elaborating universal norms on bioethics) and 8.1 (Overall report on, and evaluation of, the implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights).

57. The representatives of 23 Member States, one observer and representatives of two non-governmental organizations took the floor.

Item 5.6 – Report by the Director-General on the work done by the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST) since its second session and proposal for evaluating the impact of its activities

58. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 22 of documents 32 C/18 and 32 C/18 Corr. and as amended orally by Germany. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

1. Having examined document 32 C/18,

2. Appreciates COMEST's role in stimulating reflection on the ethics of science and technology;
3. Takes note with interest of COMEST's recommendations on the ethics of outer space, fresh water and energy;
4. Welcomes the new strategic objectives that it has set itself on training in ethics;
5. Supports the continuation of COMEST's work on the information society and the development of more global thinking on the ethics of the environment, on the work already carried out on the ethics of freshwater and energy;
6. Urges Member States and the organizations and institutions concerned to promote and intensify reflection on the ethics of the sciences, in particular through the establishment of national committees on scientific ethics;
7. Invites the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 169th session a study on the evaluation of the impact of COMEST, in accordance with the proposals made in document 32 C/18;
8. Also invites the Director-General to convey to the Chairperson of COMEST the terms of this resolution, together with observations and proposals made in this connection by Member States at the 32nd session of the General Conference.

Item 5.14 – Report by the Director-General on the possibility of elaborating universal norms on bioethics

59. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 52 of document 32 C/59 as amended orally by Germany, Italy and Japan. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Bearing in mind the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights (1997),

Recalling 31 C/Resolution 22,

Recalling also strategic objective 4 in document 31 C/4 relating to the sciences,

Reaffirming the importance of UNESCO's ethical mission, in accordance with its Constitution, and the rightful role of the Organization in defining and promoting a common ethical standard-setting framework in the field of bioethics,

Bearing in mind also the Communiqué of the Round Table of Ministers of Science on "Bioethics: International Implications" (Paris, 22-23 October 2001), inviting the Organization to examine the possibility of developing, starting from the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, a universal instrument on bioethics,

Having examined document 32 C/59 entitled "Report by the Director-General on the possibility of elaborating universal norms on bioethics",

1. Congratulates the International Bioethics Committee (IBC) and the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC) on the quality of the work carried out regarding the possibility of drawing up a universal instrument on bioethics;
2. Considers that it is opportune and desirable to set universal standards in the field of bioethics with due regard for human dignity and human rights and freedoms, in the spirit of cultural pluralism inherent in bioethics;
3. Invites the Director-General to continue preparatory work on a declaration on universal norms on bioethics, immediately with consultations with Member States, the other international organizations concerned and relevant national bodies, and to submit a draft declaration to it at its 33rd session;
4. Further invites the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 169th session proposals regarding the timetable and methods of work for drawing up the declaration envisaged, including intergovernmental meetings (Cat. II).

Item 8.1 – Overall report on, and evaluation of, the implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights

60. The Commission recommends to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 44 of document 32 C/23. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights (1997),

Bearing in mind 30 C/Resolution 23 entitled “Implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights”,

Bearing also in mind the Communiqué of the Round Table of Ministers of Science on “Bioethics: International Implications” (Paris, 22-23 October 2001),

Having examined document 32 C/23 entitled “Overall report on, and evaluation of, the implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights”,

1. Thanks the Director-General for the activities undertaken in connection with implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights;
2. Congratulates most particularly the Director-General on the establishment of the Inter-Agency Committee on Bioethics;
3. Encourages the Director-General to continue to establish and/or strengthen regional bioethics information and documentation networks and centres and to define appropriate strategies for the promotion and development of bioethical reflection at the regional and subregional levels;
4. Invites the Director-General to continue to evaluate the impact of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights and to submit an outline plan of action to this effect to the Executive Board at its 168th session.

Debate 10

Item 8.7 – Draft International Declaration on Human Genetic Data

61. During its ninth meeting, the Commission examined item 8.7 (Draft International Declaration on Human Genetic Data). The representatives of 34 Member States took the floor.

62. The Commission decided, unanimously and by acclamation, to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 13 of document 32 C/29 Add. Rev., as amended orally by the United Kingdom, including the Draft International Declaration on Human Genetic Data, contained in Section II of document 32 C/29 Add.2. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Considering the International Declaration on Human Genetic Data adopted on ... October 2003,

1. Calls upon Member States:

- (a) to take all appropriate measures, whether of a legislative, administrative or other character, to give effect to the principles set out in this Declaration, in accordance with the international law of human rights; such measures should be supported by action in the sphere of education, training and public information;
- (b) to notify the Director-General regularly of any pertinent information on steps taken by them to implement the principles set forth in the Declaration, pursuant to Article 25 thereof;
- (c) to promote ethics education and training at appropriate levels, and to encourage programmes for information and the circulation of knowledge concerning human genetic data;

2. Invites the Director-General:

- (d) to take appropriate steps to ensure the follow-up to the Declaration, including its dissemination and translation into a large number of languages;
- (e) to take the necessary steps to enable the International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO (IBC) and the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC) to contribute appropriately to the implementation of the Declaration and dissemination of the principles set forth therein;
- (f) to report to the General Conference at its 33rd session on the implementation of this resolution.

Annex

INTERNATIONAL DECLARATION ON HUMAN GENETIC DATA

The General Conference,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948, the two International United Nations Covenants on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and on Civil and Political Rights of 16 December 1966, the International United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination of 21 December 1965, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 18 December 1979, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 20 November 1989, the United Nations Economic and Social Council Resolutions 2001/39 on Genetic Privacy and Non-Discrimination of 26 July 2001 and 2003/232 on Genetic Privacy and Non-Discrimination of 22 July 2003, the ILO Convention (No. 111) concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation of 25 June 1958, the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of 2 November 2001, the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement (TRIPs) annexed to the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization, which entered into force on 1 January 1995, the Doha Declaration on the TRIPs Agreement and Public Health of 14 November 2001, the other international human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system,

Recalling more particularly the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights which it adopted, unanimously and by acclamation, on 11 November 1997 and which was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly on 9 December 1998, and the Guidelines for the implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights which it endorsed on 16 November 1999 by 30 C/Resolution 23,

Welcoming the broad public interest worldwide in the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, the firm support it has received from the international community and its impact in Member States drawing upon it for their legislation, regulations, norms and standards, and ethical codes of conduct and guidelines,

Bearing in mind the international and regional instruments, national laws, regulations and ethical texts relating to the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and to respect for human dignity as regards the collection, processing, use and storage of scientific data, as well as of medical data and personal data,

Recognizing that genetic information is part of the overall spectrum of medical data and that the information content of any medical data, including genetic data and proteomic data, is highly contextual and dependent on the particular circumstances,

Also recognizing that human genetic data have a special status on account of their sensitive nature since they can be predictive of genetic predispositions concerning individuals and that the power of predictability can be stronger than assessed at the time of deriving the data; they may have a significant impact on the family, including offspring, extending over generations, and in some instances on the whole group; they may contain information the significance of which is not necessarily known at the time of the collection of biological samples; and they may have cultural significance for persons or groups,

Emphasizing that all medical data, including genetic data and proteomic data, regardless of their apparent information content, should be treated with the same high standards of confidentiality,

Noting the increasing importance of human genetic data for economic and commercial purposes,

Having regard to the special needs and vulnerabilities of developing countries and the need to reinforce international cooperation in the field of human genetics,

Considering that the collection, processing, use and storage of human genetic data are of paramount importance for the progress of life sciences and medicine, for their applications, and for the use of such data for non-medical purposes,

Also considering that the growing amount of personal data collected makes genuine irretrievability increasingly difficult,

Aware that the collection, processing, use and storage of human genetic data have potential risks for the exercise and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and respect for human dignity,

Noting that the interests and welfare of the individual should have priority over the rights and interests of society and research,

Reaffirming the principles established in the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights and the principles of equality, justice, solidarity and responsibility as well as respect for human dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly freedom of thought and expression, including freedom of research and privacy and security of person, which must underlie the collection, processing, use and storage of human genetic data,

Proclaims the principles that follow and adopts the present Declaration.

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1: Aims and scope

(a) The aims of this Declaration are: to ensure the respect of human dignity and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the collection, processing, use and storage of human genetic data, human proteomic data and of the biological samples from which they are derived, referred to hereinafter as “biological samples”, in keeping with the requirements of equality, justice and solidarity, while giving due consideration to freedom of thought and expression, including freedom of research; to set out the principles which should guide States in the formulation of their legislation and their policies on these issues; and to form the basis for guidelines of good practices in these areas for concerned institutions and individuals.

(b) Any collection, processing, use and storage of human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples, shall be consistent with the international law of human rights.

(c) The provisions of this Declaration apply to the collection, processing, use and storage of human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples, except in the investigation, detection and prosecution of criminal offences and in parentage testing that are subject to domestic law that is consistent with the international law of human rights.

Article 2: Use of terms

For the purposes of this Declaration, the terms used have the following meanings:

- (i) *Human genetic data*: Information about heritable characteristics of individuals obtained by analysis of nucleic acids or by other scientific analysis;
- (ii) *Human proteomic data*: Information pertaining to an individual's proteins including their expression, modification and interaction;
- (iii) *Consent*: Any freely given specific, informed and express agreement of an individual to his or her genetic data being collected, processed, used and stored;
- (iv) *Biological samples*: Any sample of biological material (for example blood, skin and bone cells or blood plasma) in which nucleic acids are present and which contains the characteristic genetic make-up of an individual;
- (v) *Population-based genetic study*: A study which aims at understanding the nature and extent of genetic variation among a population or individuals within a group or between individuals across different groups;
- (vi) *Behavioural genetic study*: A study that aims at establishing possible connections between genetic characteristics and behaviour;
- (vii) *Invasive procedure*: Biological sampling using a method involving intrusion into the human body, such as obtaining a blood sample by using a needle and syringe;
- (viii) *Non-invasive procedure*: Biological sampling using a method which does not involve intrusion into the human body, such as oral smears;
- (ix) *Data linked to an identifiable person*: Data that contain information, such as name, birth date and address, by which the person from whom the data were derived can be identified;
- (x) *Data unlinked to an identifiable person*: Data that are not linked to an identifiable person, through the replacement of, or separation from, all identifying information about that person by use of a code;
- (xi) *Data irretrievably unlinked to an identifiable person*: Data that cannot be linked to an identifiable person, through destruction of the link to any identifying information about the person who provided the sample;
- (xii) *Genetic testing*: A procedure to detect the presence or absence of, or change in, a particular gene or chromosome, including an indirect test for a gene product or other specific metabolite that is primarily indicative of a specific genetic change;
- (xiii) *Genetic screening*: Large-scale systematic genetic testing offered in a programme to a population or subsection thereof intended to detect genetic characteristics in asymptomatic people;
- (xiv) *Genetic counselling*: A procedure to explain the possible implications of the findings of genetic testing or screening, its advantages and risks and where

applicable to assist the individual in the long-term handling of the consequences. It takes place before and after genetic testing and screening;

- (xv) *Cross-matching*: Matching of information about an individual or a group contained in various data files set up for different purposes.

Article 3: Person's identity

Each individual has a characteristic genetic make-up. Nevertheless, a person's identity should not be reduced to genetic characteristics, since it involves complex educational, environmental and personal factors and emotional, social, spiritual and cultural bonds with others and implies a dimension of freedom.

Article 4: Special status

- (a) Human genetic data have a special status because:
 - (i) they can be predictive of genetic predispositions concerning individuals;
 - (ii) they may have a significant impact on the family, including offspring, extending over generations, and in some instances on the whole group to which the person concerned belongs;
 - (iii) they may contain information the significance of which is not necessarily known at the time of the collection of the biological samples;
 - (iv) they may have cultural significance for persons or groups.
- (b) Due consideration should be given to the sensitivity of human genetic data and an appropriate level of protection for these data and biological samples should be established.

Article 5: Purposes

Human genetic data and human proteomic data may be collected, processed, used and stored only for the purposes of:

- (i) diagnosis and health care, including screening and predictive testing;
- (ii) medical and other scientific research, including epidemiological, especially population-based genetic studies, as well as anthropological or archaeological studies, collectively referred to hereinafter as "medical and scientific research";
- (iii) forensic medicine and civil, criminal and other legal proceedings, taking into account the provisions of Article 1(c);
- (iv) or any other purpose consistent with the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, and the international law of human rights.

Article 6: Procedures

- (a) It is ethically imperative that human genetic data and human proteomic data be collected, processed, used and stored on the basis of transparent and ethically acceptable procedures. States should endeavour to involve society at large in the decision-making process concerning broad policies for the collection, processing, use and storage of human

genetic data and human proteomic data and the evaluation of their management, in particular in the case of population-based genetic studies. This decision-making process, which may benefit from international experience, should ensure the free expression of various viewpoints.

(b) Independent, multidisciplinary and pluralist ethics committees should be promoted and established at national, regional, local or institutional levels, in accordance with the provisions of Article 16 of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights. Where appropriate, ethics committees at national level should be consulted with regard to the establishment of standards, regulations and guidelines for the collection, processing, use and storage of human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples. They should also be consulted concerning matters where there is no domestic law. Ethics committees at institutional or local levels should be consulted with regard to their application to specific research projects.

(c) When the collection, processing, use and storage of human genetic data, human proteomic data or biological samples are carried out in two or more States, the ethics committees in the States concerned, where appropriate, should be consulted and the review of these questions at the appropriate level should be based on the principles set out in this Declaration and on the ethical and legal standards adopted by the States concerned.

(d) It is ethically imperative that clear, balanced adequate and appropriate information shall be provided to the person whose prior, free, informed and express consent is sought. Such information shall, alongside with providing other necessary details, specify the purpose for which human genetic data and human proteomic data are being derived from biological samples, and are used and stored. This information should indicate, if necessary, risks and consequences. This information should also indicate that the person concerned can withdraw his or her consent, without coercion, and which should entail neither a disadvantage nor a penalty for the person concerned.

Article 7: Non-discrimination and non-stigmatization

(a) Every effort should be made to ensure that human genetic data and human proteomic data are not used for purposes that discriminate in a way that is intended to infringe, or has the effect of infringing human rights, fundamental freedoms or human dignity of an individual or for purposes that lead to the stigmatization of an individual, a family, or a group or communities.

(b) In this regard, appropriate attention should be paid to the findings of population-based genetic studies and behavioural genetic studies and their interpretations.

B. COLLECTION

Article 8: Consent

(a) Prior, free, informed and express consent, without inducement by financial or other personal gain, should be obtained for the collection of human genetic data, human proteomic data or biological samples, whether through invasive or non-invasive procedures, and for their subsequent processing, use and storage, whether carried out by public or private institutions. Limitations on this principle of consent should only be prescribed for compelling reasons by domestic law, consistent with the international law of human rights.

(b) When, in accordance with domestic law, a person is incapable of giving informed consent, authorization should be obtained from the legal representative, in accordance with domestic law. The legal representative should have regard to the best interest of the person concerned.

(c) An adult not able to consent should as far as possible take part in the authorization procedure. The opinion of a minor should be taken into consideration as an increasingly determining factor in proportion to age and degree of maturity.

(d) In diagnosis and health care, genetic screening and testing of minors and adults not able to consent will normally only be ethically acceptable when it has important implications for the health of the person and has regard to his or her best interest.

Article 9: Withdrawal of consent

(a) When human genetic data, human proteomic data or biological samples are collected for medical and scientific research purposes, consent may be withdrawn by the person concerned unless such data are irretrievably unlinked to an identifiable person. In accordance with the provisions of Article 6(d), withdrawal of consent should entail neither a disadvantage nor a penalty for the person concerned.

(b) When a person withdraws consent, the person's genetic data, proteomic data and biological samples should no longer be used unless they are irretrievably unlinked to the person concerned.

(c) If not irretrievably unlinked, the data and biological samples should be dealt with in accordance with the wishes of the person. If the person's wishes cannot be determined or are not feasible or are unsafe, the data and biological samples should either be irretrievably unlinked or destroyed.

Article 10: The right to decide whether or not to be informed about research results

When human genetic data, human proteomic data or biological samples are collected for medical and scientific research purposes, the information provided at the time of consent should indicate that the person concerned has the right to decide whether or not to be informed of the results. This does not apply to research on data irretrievably unlinked to identifiable persons or to data that do not lead to individual findings concerning the persons who have participated in such a research. Where appropriate, the right not to be informed should be extended to identified relatives who may be affected by the results.

Article 11: Genetic counselling

It is ethically imperative that when genetic testing that may have significant implications for a person's health is being considered, genetic counselling should be made available in an appropriate manner. Genetic counselling should be non-directive, culturally adapted and consistent with the best interest of the person concerned.

Article 12: Collection of biological samples for forensic medicine or in civil, criminal and other legal proceedings

When human genetic data or human proteomic data are collected for the purposes of forensic medicine or in civil, criminal and other legal proceedings, including parentage testing, the

collection of biological samples, *in vivo* or post-mortem, should be made only in accordance with domestic law, consistent with the international law of human rights.

C. PROCESSING

Article 13: Access

No one should be denied access to his or her own genetic data or proteomic data unless such data are irretrievably unlinked from that person as the identifiable source or unless domestic law limits such access in the interest of public health, public order or national security.

Article 14: Privacy and Confidentiality

(a) States should endeavour to protect the privacy of individuals and the confidentiality of human genetic data linked to an identifiable person, a family or, where appropriate, a group, in accordance with domestic law consistent with the international law of human rights.

(b) Human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples linked to an identifiable person should not be disclosed or made accessible to third parties, in particular, employers, insurance companies, educational institutions and the family, except for an important public interest reason in cases restrictively provided for by domestic law that is consistent with the international law of human rights or where the prior, free, informed and express consent of the person concerned has been obtained provided that such consent is in accordance with domestic law and the international law of human rights. The privacy of an individual participating in a study using human genetic data, proteomic data or biological samples should be protected and the data should be treated as confidential.

(c) Human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples collected for the purposes of scientific research should not normally be linked to an identifiable person. Even when such data or biological samples are unlinked to an identifiable person, the necessary precautions should be taken to ensure the security of the data or biological samples.

(d) Human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples collected for medical and scientific research purposes, can remain linked to an identifiable person, only if necessary to carry out the research and provided that the privacy of the individual and the confidentiality of the data or biological samples concerned is protected in accordance with domestic law.

(e) Human genetic data and human proteomic data should not be kept in a form which allows the data subject to be identified for any longer than is necessary for achieving the purposes for which they were collected or subsequently processed.

Article 15: Accuracy, reliability, quality and security

The persons and entities responsible for the processing of human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples should take the necessary measures to ensure the accuracy, reliability, quality and security of the human genetic data and the processing of biological samples. They should exercise rigour, caution, honesty and integrity in the processing and interpretation of human genetic data, human proteomic data or biological samples, in view of their ethical, legal and social implications.

D. USE

Article 16: Change of purpose

(a) Human genetic data, human proteomic data and the biological samples collected for one of the purposes set out in Article 5 should not be used for a different purpose that is incompatible with the original consent, unless the prior, free, informed and express consent of the person concerned is obtained according to the provisions of Article 8(a) or unless the proposed use, decided by domestic law, corresponds to an important public interest reason and is consistent with the international law of human rights. If the person concerned lacks the capacity to consent, the provisions of Article 8(b) and (c) should apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(b) When the prior, free, informed and express consent cannot be obtained or in the case of data irretrievably unlinked to an identifiable person, human genetic data may be used in accordance with domestic law or in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(b).

Article 17: Stored biological samples

(a) Stored biological samples collected for purposes other than set out in Article 5 may be used to produce human genetic data or human proteomic data with the prior, free, informed and express consent of the person concerned. However, domestic law may provide that if such data have significance for medical and scientific research purposes e.g. epidemiological studies, or public health purposes, they may be used for those purposes, following the consultation procedures set out in Article 6(b).

(b) The provisions of Article 12 should apply *mutatis mutandis* to stored biological samples used to produce human genetic data for forensic medicine.

Article 18: Circulation and international cooperation

(a) States should regulate, in accordance with their domestic law and international agreements, the cross-border flow of human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples, so as to foster international medical and scientific cooperation and ensure fair access to this data. Such a system should seek to ensure that the receiving party provides adequate protection in accordance with the principles set out in this Declaration.

(b) States should make every effort, with due and appropriate regard for the principles set out in this Declaration, to continue fostering the international dissemination of scientific knowledge concerning human genetic data and human proteomic data and, in that regard, to foster scientific and cultural cooperation, particularly between industrialized and developing countries.

(c) Researchers should endeavour to establish cooperative relationships, based on mutual respect with regard to scientific and ethical matters and, subject to the provisions of Article 14, should encourage the free circulation of human genetic data and human proteomic data, in order to foster the sharing of scientific knowledge, provided that the principles set out in this Declaration are observed by the parties concerned. Towards this goal, they should also endeavour to publish in due course the results of their research.

Article 19: Sharing of benefits

(a) In accordance with domestic law or policy and international agreements, benefits resulting from the use of human genetic data, human proteomic data or biological samples

collected for medical and scientific research should be shared with the society as a whole and the international community. In giving effect to these principles, benefits may take any of the following forms:

- (i) special assistance to the persons and groups that have taken part in the research;
- (ii) access to medical care;
- (iii) provision of new diagnostics, facilities for new treatments or drugs stemming from the research;
- (iv) support for health services;
- (v) capacity-building facilities for research purposes;
- (vi) development and strengthening of the capacity of developing countries to collect and process human genetic data, taking into consideration their specific problems;
- (vii) any other form consistent with the principles set out in this Declaration.

(b) Limitations in this respect could be provided by domestic law and international agreements.

E. STORAGE

Article 20: Monitoring and management framework

States may consider establishing a framework for the monitoring and management of human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples based on the principles of independence, multidisciplinary, pluralism and transparency as well as the principles set out in this Declaration. This framework could also deal with the nature and purposes of the storage of these data.

Article 21: Destruction

(a) The provisions of Article 9 apply *mutatis mutandis* in the case of stored human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples.

(b) Human genetic data, human proteomic data and the biological samples collected from a suspect in the course of a criminal investigation should be destroyed when they are no longer necessary, unless otherwise provided for by domestic law consistent with the international law of human rights.

(c) Human genetic data, human proteomic data and biological samples should be available for forensic purposes and civil proceedings only for as long as they are necessary for those proceedings, unless otherwise provided for by domestic law consistent with the international law of human rights.

Article 22: Cross-matching

Consent should be essential for cross-matching of human genetic data, human proteomic data or biological samples stored for diagnostic and health care purposes and for medical and other

scientific research purposes, unless otherwise provided for by domestic law for compelling reasons and consistent with the international law of human rights.

F. PROMOTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Article 23: Implementation

(a) States should take all appropriate measures, whether of a legislative, administrative or other character, to give effect to the principles set out in this Declaration, in accordance with the international law of human rights. Such measures should be supported by action in the sphere of education, training and public information.

(b) In the framework of international cooperation, States should endeavour to enter into bilateral and multilateral agreements enabling developing countries to build up their capacity to participate in generating and sharing of scientific knowledge concerning human genetic data and of the related know-how.

Article 24: Ethics education, training and information

In order to promote the principles set out in this Declaration, States should endeavour to foster all forms of ethics education and training at all levels as well as to encourage information and knowledge dissemination programmes about human genetic data. These measures should aim at specific audiences, in particular researchers and members of ethics committees, or be addressed to the public at large. In this regard, States should encourage the participation of international and regional intergovernmental organizations and international, regional and national non-governmental organizations in this endeavour.

Article 25: Roles of the International Bioethics Committee (IBC) and the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC)

The International Bioethics Committee (IBC) and the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC) shall contribute to the implementation of this Declaration and the dissemination of the principles set out therein. On a collaborative basis, the two Committees should be responsible for its monitoring and for the evaluation of its implementation, *inter alia*, on the basis of reports provided by States. The two Committees should be responsible in particular for the formulation of any opinion or proposal likely to further the effectiveness of this Declaration. They should make recommendations in accordance with UNESCO's statutory procedures, addressed to the General Conference.

Article 26: Follow-up action by UNESCO

UNESCO shall take appropriate action to follow up this Declaration so as to foster progress of the life sciences and their applications through technologies, based on respect for human dignity and the exercise and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Article 27: Denial of acts contrary to human rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity

Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any claim to engage in any activity or to perform any act contrary to human rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity, including, in particular, the principles set out in this Declaration.

PART IV NOTING OF REPORTS OF IGCP, MAB, IHP, IOC, MOST, IBC AND IGBC

63. Having examined the reports of IGCP (32 C/REP/11), MAB (32 C/REP/10), IHP (32 C/REP/12), IOC (32 C/REP/9), MOST (32 C/REP/18), IBC and IGBC (32 C/REP/13), the Commission recommends to the General Conference that it take note of these reports.

PART V DEBATE ON THE PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2006-2007 (ITEM 3.1, MAJOR PROGRAMME II, NATURAL SCIENCES AND MAJOR PROGRAMME III, SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES)

64. At its first meeting, the Commission examined the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 2006-2007 (33 C/5) following its introduction by Mr Hans d'Orville, Director of the Bureau of Strategic Planning (BSP). The Commission was invited to deliberate about various aspects of the preparation of the subsequent Draft Programme and Budget for 2006-2007 (33 C/5) with a view to providing future-oriented indications concerning its preparation, in particular as regards programme priorities and orientations and their relations with the outcomes articulated in the Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007 (31 C/4) but also with respect to programme issues.

65. In particular, the Commission was invited, in the light of the results achieved during the 2002-2003 biennium, and the proposals contained in draft document 32 C/5, to comment on issues such as the relevance of document 31 C/4's strategic objectives by programme area and of the two cross-cutting themes defined in document 31 C/4 for future action during the period 2006-2007; UNESCO's contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in cooperation with the United Nations system and other partners; the definition of principal and other priorities for each of the two major programmes before the Commission; the identification of areas for future intersectoral activities and modalities for their implementation; and the need to ensure the mainstreaming of the needs of Africa, the least developed countries, women and youth in all programme activities.

66. Representatives of 27 Member States took part in the debate. They unanimously reaffirmed the importance of the key role of sciences in addressing fundamental issues such as sustainable development, environmental conservation, capacity-building, conflict prevention and eradication of poverty, with the social and human sciences providing the ethical context for improving the human condition. In this context, the need for ensuring a better articulation between the natural sciences and social and human sciences in addressing the ethical aspects of science and technology was emphasized. The desirability of having a single consolidated science programme was mentioned. The need for an active cooperation between the five intergovernmental and scientific programmes IHP, MAB, IGCP, IOC and MOST was also highlighted.

67. Delegates considered that, as described in the Medium-Term Strategy, the quest for a people-centred development should remain a central guiding principle and an overarching goal for UNESCO's activities in both the natural and the social and human sciences. The need for a balanced understanding of "development" involving both "human security" and "environmental aspects" and taking into account societal and economics aspects was raised by a number of delegates. All speakers agreed that UNESCO should continue to give priority attention to the implementation of the recommendations stemming from the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002). Several delegates recalling the relation between science and society also underlined the need to pursue follow-up activities to the World Conference on Science (Budapest, 1999) as a main concern.

68. While supporting the present orientations of the natural sciences programme, including the environmental science programmes, the debates highlighted the following elements for priority attention in document 33 C/5: water for human needs and activities to promote water-related conflict prevention; geology in the service of society; the oceans; biosphere reserves for sustainable development; analysing the impact of climate change on societies; research on HIV/AIDS; promoting education in science and technology; the potential of ICTs in enhancing international scientific cooperation and promoting an effective dissemination and sharing of scientific knowledge (which was also mentioned as an area for possible intersectoral cooperation).

69. Commission III considered that in document 33 C/5 increased emphasis should be given to capacity-building in all science-related fields in future programmes. In particular efforts should be made to help Member States ascertain and better address the problem of “brain drain”. Delegates warmly welcomed the creation of the International Basic Sciences Programme (IBSP) which, in their view, will offer a unique framework for promoting international cooperation. Several speakers underlined the key contribution science programmes can make to poverty eradication, conflict prevention, conflict resolution and reconstruction efforts, and emphasized the need for appropriate strategies in that regard.

70. Delegates also stressed that UNESCO should seek to develop further international cooperation, including coordination of efforts within the United Nations system, as well as with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, such as ICSU, and the private sector.

71. Concerning the social and human sciences, delegates reaffirmed the relevance of current priorities accorded to ethics of science and technology, with emphasis on bioethics for document 33 C/5. Several delegates commended the important work done by the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST) by developing norms and principles for decision-makers and by promoting educational approaches to inform public opinion on the implications of scientific and technological progress. They considered that this work should continue in the 2006-2007 biennium. One delegate proposed to merge COMEST and the International Bioethics Committee (IBC) into a single body.

72. Poverty eradication, sustainable development and conflict resolution are three critical areas where UNESCO should seek to develop intersectoral approaches in document 33 C/5, involving not only natural and social and human sciences, but also other programme areas and education, culture, and communication and information. As pointed out by a number of speakers, UNESCO’s comparative advantage lies in its intersectorality. They considered, therefore, that it would be an interesting challenge for document 33 C/5 to address the development issues of the Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) in education, the sciences, culture, communication and information in an interdisciplinary and holistic manner. The same type of approaches should be applied in support to other regional initiatives such as NEPAD, or the reconstruction of scientific cooperation in South-East Europe, coordinated by UNESCO’s Venice Office.

73. General support was given to the continuation of the mainstreaming approaches applied to activities pertaining to Africa, least developed countries, women and youth. Several speakers considered that increased attention should be given in the next Programme and Budget to women’s participation in and contribution to sciences as an urgent matter. The importance of clarifying the language and indicators being used to promote gender equality in science was also stressed.

74. A number of delegates considered that document 33 C/5 should have the same format and structure as documents 31 C/5 and 32 C/5. The modality of the cross-cutting projects pertaining to the two cross-cutting themes should also be pursued, but reviewed. Several speakers welcomed the advances in concentration and rationalization of UNESCO’s programme. They supported the

continued emphasis on programme concentration and on results-based programming in document 33 C/5. The necessity to further decentralize funds to cluster offices was also underlined. Finally, some delegations stressed the need to give more emphasis to action-oriented programmes together with provisions for accountability.

ANNEX

JOINT COMMUNICATION OF THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE FIVE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND THE 32nd SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP)
International Hydrological Programme (IHP)
Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme
Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme

Fifth meeting of the Steering Group of the five Chairpersons
(Paris, 30 September-1 October 2003)

The role of the Steering Group of the Chairpersons of the five scientific programmes is to guide collaboration and synergy among the five intergovernmental and international scientific programmes.

The Steering Group, at its fifth meeting on 30 September and 1 October 2003, affirms UNESCO's unique position for helping governments to address today's complex environment and development issues.

The Steering Group acknowledges that the outcomes of the WSSD and related Millennium Development Goals continue to provide a strategic vision for the five scientific programmes, and this has been reflected in document 32 C/5. The five programmes are united by the common theme of sustainability.

While the setting of priorities has affected the level of support for the different programmes, the Steering Group was pleased to note progress in increasing interaction among programmes, for example in relation to the management of the Volga-Caspian region, biodiversity and remote sensing.

Some lessons have been drawn from this experience.

Added value of collaboration

The Steering Group stresses that within the United Nations, the five UNESCO scientific programmes provide the basic scientific underpinning for understanding global change and feeding into policy decision-making on sustainable development. Collaboration among the five programmes is a considerable asset to implement issue-driven research within a context of rapid socio-economic and cultural change, and thus is central to the concerns of Member States.

Linking with policy-making

The Steering Group emphasizes the need for more policy-driven research and monitoring in the different programmes. This has two dimensions: research informing policy and policy-orienting research. The use of indicators, the establishment of monitoring systems and performing assessments, are essential for measuring the major trends, and providing feedback to policy-makers on the effectiveness of their decisions.

Mechanisms and inducements

The Steering Group is of the view that collaboration between the five science programmes and genuine multidisciplinary engagement will be optimized only if appropriate mechanisms are established that will serve as an inducement. This may involve consideration of partial joint financing.

This leads to the question of **governance**.

The Steering Group considers that the expertise of the intergovernmental councils guides and should continue to guide the scientific contents and the operational structures at various levels of each programme. These are reflected in the draft C/5 document. The role of the secretariats for facilitating the implementation of the programmes and their interaction is reaffirmed.

The Steering Group enumerated several **substantive items for collaboration** in the short and medium term:

1. The need for UNESCO, in cooperation with ICSU, and other United Nations programmes and agencies, to provide a framework for the data management components of the Earth Observation Systems. This will open many opportunities, for example in coupling these systems with socio-economic parameters and data sets, in reaffirming government implications in these systems, and in helping to translate their results more directly into government policy.
2. Joint activities in specific geographic regions, where possible benefiting from the MAB World Network of Biosphere Reserves. Examples mentioned included threatened wetlands such as the Polessia region in Eastern Europe, plus the possibility of joint action in the Caribbean, in West African coastal areas, and in drylands.
3. The endorsement and participation of the five programmes in the proposed UNESCO-IUGS International Year of Planet Earth (2005-2007). The desirability of joint action in relation to the International Polar Year (2007-2008) was also identified.
4. Capacity-building, in the context of the United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development, for which UNESCO is the lead agency, was stressed.

Chairpersons:

Edward Derbyshire, former Chair IGCP

Victor Pochat, Chair IHP

David Pugh, Chair IOC

Driss Fassi, Chair MAB

Arie de Ruijter, MOST