

It would also be useful to provide an idea of the results UNESCO anticipates from these collaborative efforts. The Plan should not be a place for voicing well-meaning platitudes, but for a statement of facts based on experience.

4. UNESCO's contribution to major intergovernmental conferences

Is it really necessary for UNESCO to take part in every intergovernmental conference called by the United Nations or another partner? Canada thinks not. UNESCO has neither the staff nor the resources that are required for such activities. This is why it too often gives the impression of spreading itself too thin, which leads some Member States to question its effectiveness.

F. Missions (Paragraphs 6 to 12) and functions (Paragraph 31) of UNESCO

1. Proposal to combine missions and functions in the new Plan

In the Director General's Working Document, the missions and functions of the Organization are not grouped together. Because the functions are in many ways the procedures for implementing the missions, the text of the Plan would be clearer if the two were combined.

2. UNESCO's Missions (paragraphs 6 to 12)

2.1 Emphasizing UNESCO's priority missions

The Medium-Term Plan should focus its action on its priority missions. As the Director-General wrote in his preliminary proposals for the Programme and Budget for 1994-1995 (27 C/5), UNESCO "will be stronger because it will concentrate on its priority missions." We were firmly in support of this proposal. We believe it is still pertinent, and we are raising it ourselves this year.

2.2 Clarifying and explaining UNESCO's intellectual role

UNESCO's intellectual role should be explored in the new Plan. We should not merely mention it as though it were a given. The world does not necessarily grasp the scope and impact of this role on the activities and the future of societies. We should try to explain how intellectual exchanges (exchanges of ideas and reflections) contribute to the development, progress and well-being of human beings individually and collectively, and ultimately to peace, the Organization's ultimate goal. In the past decade, this intellectual role has been challenged as an economic/technical approach has been favoured by governments and others; today, we see that attitudes are more open to intellectual values. Medium-term planning must take this into account and take advantage of it by explaining and illustrating the intellectual role in clear terms. We agree with the Director-General that the intellectual role "is the defining feature of our Organization and constitutes its