

for education and cultural activities." This definition has a clear advantage over the traditional definition in that it affirms the multi-dimensional nature of human needs in particular and the developmental process in general.

Fortunately, the days are rapidly disappearing when a country is deemed to be "developed" or "developing" solely on the basis of its economic or technological attainment. In today's world, development is a far more complex notion, embracing not only the economic and technological, but the political, the social, the cultural and the spiritual as well. There is a growing awareness that countries which are "underdeveloped" or "developing" from an economic or technological point of view are often highly developed from a social, spiritual, cultural or human point of view. As this happens, there is a much deeper appreciation of the high level of attainment of countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America. Not only is a significant part of the world's precious heritage contained in these countries, but also these countries are responsible for an expanding portion of the current creative output of mankind. As awareness of the past and present achievements of these nations increases, the thirst for more contact with them intensifies, thereby reinforcing the desire of people in all parts of the world to share the universal legacy of music, plays, art, drama, stories, ideas and historical monuments. It is now an established fact that this can only happen through many more bilateral and multilateral exchanges among all the nations of the world. In this way, cultural relations make a fundamental contribution to the quality of life of all people - making it fuller and richer than it would otherwise be. In addition, they contribute much to enhanced knowledge of world conditions and heightened understanding among peoples.

At the same time that cultural relations contribute to the quality of life and world knowledge and understanding, so they help to eradicate fear and suspicion - the kind of fear and suspicion that results from an inability to comprehend the values and symbols of other peoples. Throughout history, fear has often been used as a device to subdue and enslave people. As a result of the communications revolution and the steady emergence of an interdependent world, for the first time in human history it is possible to erase the fear and suspicion which emanates from lack of comprehension of human differences. For these differences should not breed fear, suspicion and mistrust. On the contrary, they should breed inspiration and excitement and elevated human consciousness. In this way, cultural contact among nations promotes peace, security and friendship throughout the world.

Spreading peace, security and friendship throughout the world is essential whenever there are major shifts in the balance of power. It is impossible for such shifts to take place without instabilities and uncertainties. When economic and political relations are in considerable flux - as they are at present - cultural relations can provide a strong stabilizing influence. In effect, they can counteract and cushion the shocks that result from erratic swings in the pendulum of power. A comprehensive program of exchanges between countries involving artists, academics, scholars, athletes, scientists and architects can provide the bonds which are needed to keep countries together when other forces may be operating to split them apart.

There are numerous economic and political benefits to be derived from cultural relations - benefits which stand well beyond the stabilizing effects of artistic, academic, athletic and scientific exchanges. Such benefits are reinforcing and cumulative, thereby having a favourable impact on economic and political development.