

E. Unique nature of UNESCO within the United Nations System

1. *The UNESCO Constitution*

First and foremost, the new Plan must be based on the UNESCO Constitution and make specific reference to it when referring to elements that are specific to the Organization. Without quoting it in its entirety, the Plan should recall UNESCO's mission of "intellectual and moral solidarity of humanity" (see Introduction to the UNESCO Constitution).

It must be remembered that UNESCO has the following specialized instruments: education; science; culture; communication, information and informatics; and social and human sciences. The Plan must quote all five areas, and not just the first three or four as it has traditionally done.

2. *Loss of UNESCO's monopoly in its fields of competence*

For a series of reasons that could be enumerated in the new Plan, UNESCO is no longer the only international body looking at education, science, culture, communication and social and human sciences.

The when and how of this situation should be briefly analyzed, pointing out the advantages and disadvantages of this development and describing the situations of competition and complementarity that are thus created. We cannot ignore the increasingly important position held by the World Bank in matters of education or by the Council of Europe in culture, to cite but two examples. Otherwise, the Organization gives the impression that it is disregarding reality.

3. *Mechanisms of co-operation between UNESCO, other members of the United Nations System, and other multilateral organizations*

Once the new landscape of UNESCO's own fields of competence has been mentioned, it would be useful to provide a brief description of the existing mechanisms of co-operation (such as the Director-General's participation in meetings called regularly by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, attended by the Directors of the specialized agencies and programmes of the system). It is not enough to summarize the usual generalities in the Plan that can be found in UNESCO documentation (which constantly mentions a fruitful collaboration); we need to provide specific details on these procedures.

Readers of the new Plan do not want to hear formulaic expressions; they want an explanation of the way we operate with the UNDP, the UNEP, the World Bank, the Council of Europe, etc.