

The General Conference

The General Conference is the policy-making body of UNESCO and meets every two years to plan the programme and budget for the ensuing two-year period; to fill vacancies on the Executive Board; to consider such matters as amendments to the constitution and rules of procedure, relations between UNESCO and other governmental and non-governmental agencies; and generally to conduct the business, and to review the wide range of activities of an organization the purpose of which, is: "to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law, for human rights and fundamental freedoms".

The tenth session was attended by representatives from 79 of the Organization's 81 member states, including Ghana and the Federation of Malaya which participated for the first time as full members. Four of the six Associate Members were represented, including the new federation of The West Indies, Kuwait, Nigeria and the Trust Territory of Somaliland. In addition there were observers from non-member states, the United Nations and the other Specialized Agencies, from inter-governmental organizations such as the International Bureau of Education, the Organization of American States, the Council of Europe and from the non-governmental organizations having consultative status with UNESCO.

Mr. Jean Berthoin, Minister of Education of France and leader of the French Delegation, was elected President of the session by acclamation. Other Conference chairmen appointed were: Programme Commission, Dr. Clarence Beeby, New Zealand; Administrative Commission, Mr. Jean Beaugniet, Belgium; Credentials Committee, Mr. O. Fuentes Pantoja, Chile; Headquarters Committee, Dr. C. Parra Perez, Venezuela; Legal Committee, Professor G. C. Chatterjee, India; Nominations Committee, Professor N. V. Massaquoi, Liberia; Reports Committee, Professor B. Tuncel, Turkey.

Election of Director-General and Executive Board

Among the major decisions of the session was the appointment, for a six-year term, of Dr. Vittorino Veronese of Italy as the new Director-General of the Organization to succeed Dr. Luther Evans of the United States of America. Dr. Evans' letter of resignation was accepted by the General Conference with unanimous expressions of appreciation for his unflagging zeal throughout his term of office in promoting the purposes of UNESCO.

To fill the 12 vacant seats on the 24 member Executive Board, the General Conference re-elected for a second term Mohamed Awad, of the United Arab Republic, Paulo E. DeBerredo Carnero of Brazil, Jose R. Martinez Cobo of Ecuador, Sir Ben Bowen Thomas of the United Kingdom and R. Soebroeto of Indonesia; new members elected were Julien Cain of France, Hilding Eek of Sweden, Mohammed El Fassi of Morocco, Pedro de Alba of Mexico, S. M. Sharif of Pakistan, Mrs. Geronima Pecson of the Philippines and Bedrettin Tuncel of Turkey.

Conference Decisions

Important decisions of the Conference included the approval, by a vote of 46 to 9 with 2 abstentions, of a budget of \$24,970,463, an increase of more