

Canada is in a particularly good position to appreciate the value of this proposal because our society is a mosaic made up of people who have come from other lands and who have remained, free to pursue their lives wherever they wish. We have drawn our cultural values from a wide variety of other places, but principally from Europe. We feel that we have been immensely enriched by the interplay of human and cultural resources which have been brought to us and by having had access to the widest possible range of information and ideas. We therefore believe that in today's rapidly shrinking world this is indeed the direction in which we all should proceed.

Because of the nature of the Canadian population, which is made up in large part of persons whose roots lie in Europe and some of whose relatives still reside there, a particularly important element in this proposed item is that relating to the reunification or regular meeting of members of families. We are realistic enough to realize that this is not an easy problem and there will be legal and other considerations which will have to be taken into account. Any measures taken will obviously have to be by mutual agreement of the participating states but it should be emphasized that in this area we believe that the greatest possible weight should be given to humanitarian considerations.

As for the other elements in the proposed responsibilities of the committee, these have been expounded with considerable eloquence by my Danish colleague. It remains only for me to say that we think there are benefits to be had for all states participating here, including Canada, from a broadening of educational and cultural exchanges and from a wider flow of information. Great changes are taking place in the cultural and educational environment of all of us and our people have to face challenges to personal values posed by the conditions of modern life. To do this, a broader content in the area of cultural relations is needed: this is recognized in the document which you have before you. It is our intention that in the consideration of these wider relationships Canada will play a part because of its interest in continuing the cultural inter-relationships with Europe which have characterized and enriched its past growth.

The scientific and technological revolution and the flood of information which is being made available, together with many other economic and social factors call for new approaches in education. It is our hope that a wide field for collaboration can be found in this area, particularly in exchanges of experience in teaching methods and in the improvement of opportunities for study or research abroad.

Cultural and educational exchanges will be enhanced in their effectiveness if a greater flow of information between our countries can be stimulated. We have at our disposal the most advanced means of transmitting ideas and information and we must take advantage of these more and more to extend the understanding of one another without which our mutual cultural development will not achieve its potential.

Mr. Chairman, in seconding these proposals put forward by our Danish colleague, we express the hope that all others here will approach this matter in an open-minded way. Our interest is not in engaging in propaganda; we have no interest in levelling accusations, creating insecurity or undermining confidence. Our interest is in creating greater confidence, in seeing that realistic and significant steps are taken in the progressive