

12. New tasks and challenges ahead include the preparation of and follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) and of the World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva, 2003; and Tunis, 2005); the preparation and implementation of national EFA plans and overall coordination of the EFA initiative, to which UNESCO is expected to make a substantive contribution. Further work is also planned in the field of standard-setting concerning underwater heritage, intangible heritage, bioethics and the promotion and use of multilingualism and universal access to cyberspace and mainstreaming of human rights in UNESCO's programmes as a follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, 2001).

*Bearing in mind the necessity for streamlining and focusing efforts and resources on a limited number of objectives, would you favour the prioritization of such activities and contributions, and if yes, how would you propose to do it? Are there any other specific subjects/topics or issues which you believe the Organization should be addressing on a priority basis and which UNESCO would be best placed to explore?*

*What new issues could be contemplated or reinforced in which UNESCO has a comparative advantage in the multilateral context and in which it could play a constructive role?*

*Are there any activities, issues/themes which you consider should be dropped/abandoned in view of their limited impact or their marginal relevance for the Organization's mandate?*

13. Beginning with document 31 C/4, a new approach has been introduced, abandoning the concept of priority themes and groups and replacing it with the **mainstreaming** approach. Accordingly, the needs of Africa, the least developed countries (LDCs), women and youth are now to be mainstreamed throughout all programmes in the C/5 documents, throughout the period 2002-2007. This implies that the demands emanating from these groups must be addressed by all sectors in all their programmes. In addition, throughout all UNESCO's efforts, there will be a special focus on the needs of **disadvantaged and excluded groups** and the most vulnerable segments of society. Likewise, the Organization is committed to promote a culture of peace, especially in the context of its role as lead agency for the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for Children of the World (2001-2010) and in the follow-up to 31 C/Resolution 39 of the General Conference.