One caution, however: we must limit ourselves to a reasonable number of transverse projects -- two or three maximum (especially since the present project will doubtless be carried on beyond the present C/5), and they must be clearly identified with the Organization's fields of competence. Otherwise, the current image of scattered resources will be confirmed and will be very detrimental to UNESCO's image over-all.

2.2 How many Major Programme Areas should be kept?

We believe that the current number of Major Programme Areas is a faithful reflection of the work of the Organization, and we favour the maintenance of five major programme areas.

We do not believe it is necessary to retain the numerous subheadings under these Major Programme Areas. It would be sufficient to entitle them as follows:

Major Programme Area I:

Education

Major Programme Area II:

Science

Major Programme Area III:

Culture
Communication, Information and Informatics

Major Programme Area IV: Major Programme Area V:

Social and Human Sciences

It must be remembered that the Second Medium-Term Plan (1984-1989) included 14 Major Programmes, and that the agreement reached by Member States over the years is a sign of real progress.

2.3 Should the present three-tier arrangement be maintained?

We believe that the three-tier arrangement should be maintained -- major programme areas, programmes and sub-programmes -- as this structure allows for an easier reading of a very dense text.

These reference points (or others if the Secretariat wishes to propose them) are indispensable to users both within and without UNESCO. The three tiers are not readily found when leafing through the 27 C/5; the Secretariat should take the necessary steps to render them more visible in the 28 C/5.

2.4 Should transverse themes and programmes be maintained or integrated within Major Programme Areas?

Canada feels it would be a step backwards to integrate the Transverse Themes within the Major Programme Areas. Given its preference for making a composite structure official (we feel that this type of structure was set up when the interdisciplinary/inter-agency project was approved), Canada wonders how we could possibly cease to maintain one of the tangible manifestations of interdisciplinarity/intersectorality, i.e. the Transverse Themes on Women and Youth.