

and the end of July 1994. By consulting the Organization's key partners, established in accordance with Article VII of its Constitution, we hope to identify, in a concrete manner, the needs and priorities of each Member State as expressed by its government and intellectual community. The dates of these meetings may be found in Annex I to this letter. I should be grateful if you would take the necessary steps to ensure that your National Commission can prepare for the consultation to be held in your region or subregion and thus make its valuable contribution.

In addition to the representatives of the National Commissions and the heads of UNESCO field offices and units, I also intend to invite to these meetings the members of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-First Century and of the World Commission on Culture and Development from the region or subregion concerned to enable them to take part in the discussions that will undoubtedly bear on the subjects debated in those two Commissions and to inform the National Commissions about their work. Systematic exchanges of information between regions and subregions will, of course, be organized on the outcome of the different meetings.

I have great expectations of this kind of consultation and of the direct contact that should thus be established between the Member States, through their National Commissions, and the Secretariat. A working document, which may be found in Annex II, has been prepared to assist in the preparations for these meetings. The document, which is intentionally brief, takes the form of a 'table of contents'; its main purpose is to stimulate ideas and present various hypotheses. It should enable the Member States to state their views on the six-year Plan and the Draft Programme and Budget for 1996-1997 as clearly as possible.

As well as making its contribution during the meeting of the National Commissions, each Member State may, if it so wishes, send me in writing its observations and proposals on both the Plan document and the Draft Programme and Budget for 1996-1997, to reach me by *31 July 1994 at the latest*.

I have, in fact, to submit to the Executive Board at its 145th session, in October 1994, a report setting out the conclusions of the consultations carried out in the first half of 1994, together with proposals relating to both the content and the form of the two documents. The Draft Plan and the Draft Programme and Budget will then be prepared on the basis of the guidelines provided by the Executive Board for consideration by the General Conference at its twenty-eighth session in October 1995.

Accept, Madam/Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

*Enclosures: 2*

Federico Mayor  
Director-General