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part in the work of many committees responsible for the preparation of policy and decision-making. One such body, the Cultural Cooperation Committee, concerns itself with non-formal education and development activities relating to social change, unemployment and care of the elderly. Social welfare provisions at various administrative levels, the role of the family in the community and the problem of poverty are discussed in the Social Policy Committee. The European Committee on Migration, which coordinates policy on migrants, also deals with the social aspects of the treatment of refugees.

The Council of Europe has two separate institutes dealing with youth policy, the European Youth Centre and the European Youth Fund, both of which organise exchanges, symposia, seminars and courses for the officials of youth organisations. The Steering Committee on Youth is currently drafting part of an agreement on a European youth card. Besides promoting participation in sport, the Sports Committee is active in such related areas as prevention of the use of steroids and football vandalism, sponsoring and sports for the handicapped. Representatives of various disciplines work closely together in the Committee on the Care of the Handicapped.

#### 4.3 CSCE

In 1991 a CSCE symposium was held in Cracow on the preservation of the European cultural heritage. Reflecting the changed situation in Europe, the discussions progressed with virtually none of the political confrontation which characterised the cultural forum in Budapest in 1985. It brought together many experts in such fields as the conservation of monuments and historic buildings, archaeology, museums and archives. The Netherlands' approach to its cultural heritage as set out in the Delta Plan attracted a great deal of interest.

The CSCE has played an important part in the changes in Central and Eastern Europe. However, the time would seem to have come for it to relinquish its role in the processes now set in motion to the existing governmental and non-governmental organisations.

#### 4.4 UN specialised agencies

UNESCO's importance as an international organisation for multicultural relations is underscored by its designation by the UN as a «leading agency» for the implementation of the World Decade for Culture and Development (WDCD) from 1988 to 1997. After a few turbulent years which resulted inter alia in the withdrawal of the United States and the United Kingdom, tranquillity returned to the organisation with the appointment of Director-General Mayor, who has succeeded in restoring some of its lost prestige.

The Netherlands government supports the Director-General's efforts to introduce institutional and programmatic reforms. Proposals for a new Executive Board structure were adopted at UNESCO's 26th General Conference. They are designed to effect improvements in the financial and administrative structure and to increase the efficiency of the organisation as a whole without diminishing its intellectual role. At the conference the Netherlands was elected to the Board for a term of four years and will thus be able to make an active contribution to the effectuation of the proposals.