

Final Report

Second Conference of Ministers of Education of European Member States

Bucharest

26 November -

3 December 1973

Unesco

Part V

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Item 8 of the Agenda

WIDENED CONCEPT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Recommendation No. I/1

The Conference,

1. Recommends that the concept of higher education should be widened on the basis of the principles set out below:
 - (a) General economic and cultural development will lead to an increased demand for higher education, as the result of the growth of the secondary school system. The development of higher education must be regarded in the context of the educational system as a whole;
 - (b) In view of these circumstances, and with regard to the important rôle of higher education in a social and democratic context, a widened access to higher education appears to be an inevitable consequence. Existing barriers have to be removed and, in principle, every type of secondary school training or corresponding experience acquired in working life should qualify for higher education. With these perspectives it is self-evident that the concept of higher education must be regarded as much wider than the traditional one;
 - (c) The system of higher education should be organized in such a way that it can fill all the needs for specialized training and education at the tertiary level. In order to be able to fill these needs higher education may have to be reformed in the following respects:
 - (i) higher education should be regarded as a whole and different kinds of higher education should be planned for together, in the context of the planning of the entire educational system;
 - (ii) the quantitative aspects - the dimensions of the various types of higher education - have to be balanced. Planning in this area should take into consideration both the needs of the individual and requirements for qualified personnel in order to establish the proper interrelationship between the right to education and the right to work;
 - (iii) the distribution of higher educational establishments geographically and otherwise should be organized in such a way that it serves to overcome the socio-economic and geographical obstacles to access to higher education;
 - (d) Once the unifying principle of life-long education is accepted, the most suitable ways should be studied of making it a normal part of university activity, in harmony with family and social life and, in many cases, with working life itself;

Recommendations

2. Recommends to Member States and especially to universities that they ensure genuine vertical integration of the school system and open the doors of universities to all categories of people, requiring of candidates an appropriate level of knowledge and taking into account their general intellectual ability;
3. Recommends to universities that they pay more attention to the social, economic and other spheres of life and also engage in closer mutual co-operation so as to try to further develop a co-ordinated system of life-long education and to co-operate in establishing criteria for evaluation of life-long education.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by Spain, Sweden and Yugoslavia.)

DEMOCRATIZATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Recommendation No. I/2

The Conference,

I

Maintaining that further democratization of higher education is one of the primary conditions of socio-economic development,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of national minorities where they exist to access on equal terms to education, higher education included,

Calls upon all Member States to eliminate from higher education, where they still exist, all forms of discrimination relating to race, sex, age, language, religion, political opinions, social background and economic status;

II

Considering that many countries have already introduced criteria, which may or may not incorporate testing procedures, for admission to university, and that others are studying the possibility of introducing them,

Considering that where such criteria or testing procedures are introduced, care must be taken to avoid discrimination, on grounds of social origin or on any other grounds, while ensuring that candidates have the necessary aptitudes for university education,

Considering that the introduction of such criteria and tests presupposes a detailed analysis, both as regards the various arguments for or against introduction and as regards the suitability of the requirements specified and the particular methods employed,

Recommends that Unesco continue its studies on this question and make its findings available to Member States so as to help them with regard to the introduction and evaluation of their own methods and criteria;

III

Noting that personal inclinations in regard to choice of profession are not sufficiently attuned to the needs of society,

1. Recommends to Member States that they further develop the system of harmonizing the interests of individuals and society, especially by organized vocational guidance and co-operation between universities and secondary schools in carrying out communal activities, particularly in the economic field;
2. Requests Unesco to undertake studies with a view to:
 - (a) determining the factors of qualitative and quantitative planning that will make it possible to meet the needs of the economically active population;
 - (b) evaluating the effectiveness of the various types of "open university",

- (c) examining ways of promoting European co-operation concerning the forms of out-of-school education equivalent, at all levels, to the traditional forms.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by Belgium, Spain and Yugoslavia.)

GUIDANCE

Recommendation No. I/3

The Conference,

Considering that the overall demand for post-secondary education, the growth of which has been particularly strong in the last decade, is likely to continue in most countries,

Considering that the development of the economies of the countries of Europe entails growing and increasingly diversified requirements in respect of highly qualified personnel,

Considering that the purpose of European systems of post-secondary education is to provide students with training suited both to their abilities and to the needs of the community,

1. Recommends that Member States pay heed to improving the effectiveness of post-secondary education, and that to this end they should:
 - (a) facilitate the guidance of students by establishing information, counselling and guidance procedures throughout the educational process, particularly at the level of admission to post-secondary education and in the first years of that education;
 - (b) make provision, whilst taking into account the development of life-long education, for the organization of diversified courses of study geared to national requirements in respect of professional and sub-professional personnel;
 - (c) facilitate mobility between short and long post-secondary courses by establishing appropriate structures and procedures;
2. Invites Member States to recognize the principle of complementarity and parity of esteem between university education and other forms of higher education and, to this end, adopt measures that should seek, more especially:
 - (a) to encourage better guidance of students towards the forms of higher education which suit them best;
 - (b) to facilitate the transfer of students during their studies by providing "bridges" between the different forms of post-secondary education.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by Belgium, France and Italy.)

LIFE-LONG EDUCATION

Recommendation No. I/4

The Conference,

Noting that the economic development of European countries entails growing and diversified needs for highly qualified and specialized personnel,

Recalling that students, in order to take their place in working life, need to be provided beforehand with a general education which fits them to adapt themselves to the demands of scientific, technological and economic development,

Recommendations

Believing that it is necessary for each country to pursue, in accordance with its own needs, the action already undertaken in respect of continuing education, without, however, relaxing the effort that has still to be made with regard to initial post-secondary education,

Considering, furthermore, that it must be possible for national degrees and diplomas awarded in respect of post-secondary studies of a continuing kind to be accepted on the same basis as those awarded in respect of the initial studies undertaken with a view to the pursuit of higher studies,

Recommends that Member States:

1. Pursue their efforts in respect of continuing education;
2. Ensure that the ongoing activities or any further activities undertaken do not lead to any lowering of the level of initial higher studies;
3. Ensure that continuing education provides all citizens with real possibilities for cultural and professional advancement;
4. Give regard, in the planning of their educational systems, to the desirability of organizing the studies in such a way that it will be possible and natural for the individual to change between studies and work, and hence to give special attention to the following:
 - (a) the pupil leaving upper secondary school should have a real choice between going on with his studies and entering working life. The studies at secondary school level therefore should be organized so that every pupil irrespective of his line of study, gets both preparation for further studies and occupational training;
 - (b) the rules of qualification and selection for higher education must be chosen so as to give adult students real possibilities to gain admission to different higher education programmes, on the same basis as pupils coming directly from the secondary school. Working-life experience and other activities promoting the individual's abilities and broadening his frame of reference should therefore be taken into consideration in the rules for admission to higher studies;
 - (c) the content, organization and methods of higher education should be adapted to the needs, expectations and general conditions of students who have occupational experience and are older, and live in other social circumstances, than the traditional student. In deciding the location of educational facilities, and choosing the forms for dispensing education, respect therefore must be paid to the needs of individuals who are physically tied down for occupational or family reasons. As to pedagogical methods, consideration should be given to the experience and the special qualifications of every individual student;
 - (d) even assuming their educational needs can be met to a certain extent by part-time studies and by new forms for dispensing instruction - involving a novel type of teacher-student relationship - it is still essential to create the necessary social and economic conditions to enable adult students to take part also in full-time studies. The system for student aid must thus be devised with regard to the special needs of students with occupational and family responsibilities of different kinds. Furthermore, the rules and practices of labour relations should be changed so as to give employees, in certain conditions, the right to study leave and subsequent reinstatement in their jobs;

Recommends the Director-General:

1. To convene at a suitable time, and, at university level, a meeting of experts to study the best way of making life-long education a normal part of university activity;
2. To give consideration, in the light of the results of this meeting, to the desirability of placing this question on the agenda of the third Conference of Ministers of Education of European Member States.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by France, Spain and Sweden.)

CREATION OF INSTITUTIONS

Recommendation No. I/5

The Conference,

Deeming it very important, for increasing the efficacy of European higher education, to elaborate and disseminate new educational methods and techniques, instruments and pedagogical methods related to them and hoping at the same time that results achieved in this field will help the higher education of non-European countries as well,

1. Recommends that European Member States establish institutions and develop those already existing, with the aim of propagating the use of modern educational instruments and methods related to them in higher education, as well as for the development of educational research, the testing of new educational methods and techniques and the pre-service and in-service training of teachers. These institutions, partly bilaterally and partly through the regional centres supported by Unesco and sub-regional centres and institutions, should continue and strengthen the exchange of information, the joint elaboration of research topics and the promotion of the exchange of individuals and instruments;
2. Requests the Director-General
 - (a) to arrange for the collection of descriptions and samples of instruments tested in higher education and descriptions of the methods related to them, so that in the regional centres supported by Unesco these could be regularly displayed to enable these regional centres to give representatives of higher education of non-European Member States the possibility of studying and utilizing the material in question;
 - (b) to convene a meeting of experts in 1975 or 1976 dealing with innovations in educational technology at the higher education level.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by Hungary and Yugoslavia and was prepared in its final version by a working group which also included Spain.)

HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH, TRAINING AND PRODUCTION

Recommendation No. I/6

The Conference,

I

Believing that higher education is both an essential element in the moulding of the individual character and a preparation for an occupation, but considering that the human factor is of prime importance in the development of society,

Recommends that Member States and universities develop further all those mechanisms which link universities with economic and other communal activities, so as to intensify the rôle of higher education as a factor working for social integration, enabling it to exert an influence and assume responsibilities in socio-economic development, and also make it possible for economic and other communal activities to influence directly the content and functioning of higher education;

II

Considering that the educational process cannot be democratized or modernized without greater co-operation from students who are the raison d'être of higher education as a whole,

Recommendations

Recommends:

1. That universities develop further such methods of instruction as will transform studies into a process of research and learning in which there will be direct co-operation between students and teachers;
2. That Member States should develop further, in the field of higher education, those mechanisms which will enable students to play their rightful part in the educational process of which they are the raison d'être.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Yugoslavia.)

EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE

Recommendation No. I/7

The Conference,

Considering that the right to education and work is a human right within the spirit of the United Nations Convention of 16 December 1966,

Recommends that the Director-General take the necessary steps to:

- (a) promote the education of young people in a spirit of peace and mutual understanding among the nations, as an important contribution to the further easing of tension and to co-operation in Europe and throughout the world;
- (b) encourage the exchange of experience between European Member States on the question of the application of the equal right to education;
- (c) intensify exchanges of experience on life-long education and the interrelationship between higher education and continuing in-service training;
- (d) encourage the exchange of experience and scientific research on the research function in the higher education system and on the interrelationship between research, the instruction process and study.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by the German Democratic Republic.)

UTILIZATION OF COMPUTERS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Recommendation No. I/8

The Conference,

Noting the usefulness of computers in university administration and in the relations between universities and with government authorities,

Recommends that Member States consider the possibility of taking steps to encourage universities to adopt computers as essential administrative tools, and requests the Director-General to have relevant studies undertaken on this subject.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Italy.)

II. Item 9 of the AgendaPRINCIPLES AND METHODS OF EUROPEAN CO-OPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Recommendation No. II/1

The Conference,

Having noted the progress made by the European countries since the first Conference of Ministers of Education of European Member States, held in Vienna in 1967,

Noting that this progress has in particular taken the form of growing democratization of higher education, which has also played a more substantial part in the development of science and culture,

Having taken cognizance of the conclusions and recommendations of the Conference of Ministers of the European Member States Responsible for Science Policy (Paris, 1970) and of the intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Europe (Helsinki, 1972),

Welcoming the support given by Unesco to the regional co-operation upon which European Member States have embarked,

Considering that higher education, whose functions touch upon education, science and culture, is an all-important area of European co-operation,

Considering that the co-operation undertaken in this field by States and institutions of higher education should respect the principles of sovereignty, national independence, equality of rights, non-interference in internal affairs, and mutual benefit,

Considering further that this co-operation should also be designed and developed simultaneously in different forms, at different levels and with a variable number of interested parties in accordance with the specific purposes of each programme,

1. Recommends that Member States

- (a) promote and encourage activities to develop European co-operation in the field of higher education, taking account of the work already performed by existing organizations, national and international, governmental and non-governmental;
- (b) for this purpose, encourage the conclusion between institutions of higher education of agreements relating in particular to the circulation of information concerning educational innovations, current research and its findings, to exchanges of teachers and students and to the implementation of joint research projects;
- (c) give special attention to the establishment and development of courses and research on European civilizations and languages;

2. Recommends the Director-General:

- (a) to continue and intensify his contribution to the progress of relations and exchanges with respect to higher education in Europe;
- (b) to increase, taking into account the resources at his disposal and particularly the existence of the European Centre for Higher Education, Bucharest, his activities in the field of documentation and exchanges of information on the organization, functioning and development of the higher educational systems of Member States.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by France.)

Recommendations

Recommendation No. II/2

The Conference,

Considering that education, and especially higher education, science and technology are playing an ever greater part in the economic, social and cultural development of peoples,

Highly appreciating the usefulness of international co-operation in promoting the adjustment of education to the present needs of society and the advancement of science, culture and information,

Convinced of the importance of broad co-operation in the field of education, based on respect for the principles of independence and national sovereignty, of equality of rights for all peoples, of non-interference in their internal affairs and of mutual advantage;

Considering that such co-operation can make a substantial contribution towards achieving an atmosphere of détente, understanding and peace and towards building security in Europe,

Recalling resolution S. 6 on European co-operation adopted at the seventeenth session of the General Conference of Unesco (Paris, 1972),

Considering also that European co-operation in the above-mentioned fields is an integral part of international collaboration and that it is necessary that it should favour relations of co-operation between Europe and the other regions of the world,

1. Recommends the European Member States:

to promote exchanges of experience, information and documentary material and to encourage direct contacts between universities and exchanges of teachers, research workers and students, as well as meetings of specialists in the field of education;

2. Recommends Unesco:

to develop and diversify its programme of European co-operation in higher education in the light of the conclusions and recommendations of the present Conference;

to make wider use of the opportunities provided by the European Centre for Higher Education in its capacity as a specialized body in order to promote multilateral co-operation in the field of higher education;

to give its support to the implementation of the projects drawn up on the subject by the European Member States and by the National Commissions for Unesco;

to stimulate the activities of the centres of excellence in Europe and to promote their inclusion in the programmes of bilateral and multilateral scientific co-operation;

to support the organization of another meeting of rectors of European universities.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Romania.)

Recommendation No. II/3

The Conference,

Recalling recommendation No. 15 adopted by the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Europe held in Helsinki in June 1972,

Recalling that in that recommendation the European Member States of Unesco expressed the opinion that studies carried out jointly by a group of States were one of the best ways of stimulating progress at the national level and at the same time of furthering closer co-operation between Member States,

Recommends that the method outlined in the above-mentioned recommendation be applied also in European co-operation in the field of higher education.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Sweden.)

TEACHING AIDS

Recommendation No. II/4

The Conference,

Recognizing the considerable part played in the educational process by teaching aids (special exhibits, scientific films, etc.),

Mindful of the fact that many institutions of higher education have a surplus of some teaching aids (exhibits) and lack other teaching aids which are hard to obtain locally,

Considering resolutions 2.212 and 2.221 adopted by the General Conference of Unesco at its seventeenth session,

Mindful of the opinion expressed regarding the need to organize the exchange of teaching aids (exhibits) among institutions of higher education,

1. Recommends Member States of Unesco to take steps to develop the exchange of textbooks and their translation, and the exchange of visual teaching aids (exhibits) among the institutions of higher education of different countries;
2. Recommends the Director-General to prepare information on the possibility of extending the exchange of visual teaching aids (exhibits) among the institutions of higher education of different countries.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Poland.)

THE STUDY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Recommendation No. II/5

The Conference,

Recognizing that the study of the languages and cultures of European peoples offers great potentialities for the training of pupils and students in a humanist spirit, widely open to the cultural values of mankind,

Considering, at the same time, that foreign languages are indispensable means of information in science and technology,

Taking into account the resolution adopted by the General Conference of Unesco at its seventeenth session inviting the Member States to develop and diversify bilateral and multilateral co-operation in education, science, culture and communication, observing the principles of international law and the provisions of the cultural and scientific agreements, and also to promote exchanges in each of these domains,

1. Recommends the Member States:
 - (a) to find suitable ways of promoting the study of widely spoken and less widely spoken foreign languages, with a view to contributing to a better mutual knowledge of the European peoples, their history, culture and traditions;
 - (b) to provide, in intergovernmental cultural agreements and inter-university conventions, for exchanges of foreign-language teachers as well as the setting up of university departments for the study of the culture and civilization of the peoples concerned;

Recommendations

- (c) to promote, on a mutual basis, the exchange of books and periodicals between university libraries due attention being given to scientific, technical, literary and art information and the culture and civilization of the peoples concerned;

2. Recommends the Director-General:

to promote the exchange of information on modern methods and techniques facilitating the acquisition of foreign languages in schools and universities, making use to this end of the services of the European Centre for Higher Education.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Romania.)

POST-GRADUATE STUDIES

Recommendation No. II/6

The Conference,

Mindful of the special role and importance of post-graduate studies in an educational system based on the principle of life-long education,

Considering that post-graduate studies provide wide opportunities for practical European co-operation,

Considering resolutions 1. 321r 1. 3S1, 2.212 and 2.221 adopted by the General Conference of Unesco at its seventeenth session,

Recognizing the need to develop post-graduate studies, as one of the factors exercising a very great influence on the economy of all countries, including developing countries,

Taking into account the tasks of the European Centre for Higher Education in Bucharest,

Mindful of the opinions expressed by Member States and the initiatives they have taken in connexion with the need to develop post-graduate studies,

1. Recommends that universities improve co-operation in this field by arranging exchanges of research workers, teachers and students;
2. Recommends the Director-General to consider the desirability of convening a meeting of experts for the purpose of organizing the pooling of research into the systems, methods and programmes of post-graduate studies and, if need be, make a proposal to the General Conference in this sense.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by Poland and Yugoslavia.)

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

Recommendation No. II/ 7

The Conference,

Considering that the establishment of the United Nations University is a great achievement in international co-operation in education,

Invites Member States and interested European universities to collaborate closely in the preparatory organization and the functioning of the university, as regards both the university centre and the institutions incorporated into and associated with it.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Yugoslavia.)

UNIVERSITY SCIENTIFIC CO-OPERATION

Recommendation No. II/8

The Conference,

Recognizing that higher education in the European countries provides important human and material research potentialities,

Taking account of the existing traditions of higher education in European countries including the experience accumulated in co-operation between scientists and scholars,

Convinced of the need to concentrate research efforts on themes of major importance, in the interest of the general progress of science and the economic and cultural development of all the peoples of the continent of Europe;

Recognizing the role played by scientific research in enriching the content of and improving the entire educational process, also emphasized in the conclusions of the Conference of Ministers of the European Member States Responsible for Science Policy (Paris, 1970),

Taking into consideration the contribution that scientific co-operation can make to the furtherance of détente and the building of security in Europe,

1. Recommends the Member States to encourage and support the new and continuing activities undertaken by higher educational establishments with a view to developing co-operation in fundamental research on matters of common interest, such as information science and modelling systems, the molecular sciences and the protection of the environment;
2. Recommends Unesco to assist and support Member States in identifying the fields of common interest and defining the forms and methods of university scientific co-operation, and also in launching such concrete projects as are agreed upon by the countries concerned.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Romania.)

EDUCATION FOR PEACE, INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION

Recommendation No. II/9

The Conference,

Considering that education for international peace, understanding and co-operation on a broad and effective scale is possible only if teachers receive adequate information and training on the theoretical principles of this education, as on questions relating to its content and methods,

Recalling the objectives and tasks laid down in Unesco's Constitution in regard to education for international peace, understanding and co-operation, as well as resolution 8 adopted at the sixteenth session of the General Conference, paragraph II. 13 of which invites the Director-General "to . . . strengthen Unesco's action for peace, particularly as regards:

training of teachers in the spirit of respect for human rights, peace and international co-operation;

education of youth for international understanding and effective participation in the achievement of the objectives of peace of the Organization";

Furthermore recalling the Recommendation of the International Experts' Meeting held on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the programme of Unesco Associated Schools (Canada, Lévis, 29 September - 7 October 1973) according to which it would be important to include universities and higher teacher-training institutes in the programme of education for international peace and understanding, carried out at Associated Schools on a lower level,

Recommendations

1. Recommends to the Member States that after sufficient study of the question, and taking into consideration the most promising experience obtained during the past 20 years at Associated Schools, they should introduce instruction in the principles and substance of human rights and education for international peace, understanding and co-operation as an integral part of teacher training at universities and other higher educational establishments;
2. Urges the European Member States to eliminate, where necessary, from school textbooks and other teaching material the ideas of hatred and enmity between peoples and the tendentious interpretation of history and culture, so that the young people of these countries may, from childhood, be brought up in a spirit of peace and respect for other peoples;
3. Recommends that Member States support activities concerning the education of student youth in the spirit of high ethical values and the ideals of peace and mutual respect and understanding between peoples;
4. Requests the Director-General to devote greater attention in Unesco's programme to the problems of educating the young people of European countries in a spirit of peace and friendship between peoples.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by Hungary, Romania, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.)

Recommendation No. II/10

The Conference,

1. Recommends the European Member States of Unesco, actuated by a humanitarian concern for the fate and future of the rising generation and taking account of the increasing relaxation of international tension throughout Europe, to encourage by all possible means the activities of young people:

in the interests of peace and international understanding,

in defence of human rights and social justice,

in the fight against all forms of exploitation and oppression;
2. Urges the European Member States of Unesco to display a constant concern for reinforcing their young people's moral, aesthetic and physical education.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.)

COMPARABILITY OF STUDIES AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

Recommendation No. II/11

The Conference,

Believing that a rapid solution to the problem of the equivalence and mutual recognition of university diplomas and degrees would create an effective basis for developing contacts and exchanges in the field of education,

Considering that it is essential to apply resolution 1. 241 adopted by the sixteenth session and resolution 1. 321 (c) adopted by the seventeenth session of the General Conference of Unesco concerning the need to extend the activities aimed at ensuring the comparability and equivalence of university diplomas and degrees and to promote bilateral and regional agreements in this field,

Considering that a solution to the problem of equivalence and mutual recognition of university diplomas and degrees between the countries of Europe would help towards a speedy solution of this same problem on a world scale,

Considering that for many years a number of international, governmental and other organizations have been endeavouring to solve the problems arising from the fact that no equivalence exists in degrees and diplomas,

1. Urges European Member States to encourage the conclusion of bilateral agreements concerning the equivalence and mutual recognition of university diplomas and degrees, particularly between countries with differing social and economic systems;
2. Invites the Director-general
 - (a) to assist in preparing agreements concerning the comparability and equivalence of studies, degrees and diplomas, taking account of the development of bilateral and multilateral links between European countries;
 - (b) to propose measures to the General Conference with a view to speeding the preparation of a regional convention between European countries on the equivalence of university studies and mutual recognition of university diplomas and degrees;
 - (c) to convene a meeting of experts for this purpose in 1975, subject to the approval of the General Conference.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by Belgium, France and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.)

MOBILITY OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Recommendation No. II/12

The Conference,

Considering that it seems appropriate to increase the international mobility of the various categories engaged in higher education,

Considering that some countries have recently modified their own laws in order to fulfil this aim and now provide for mutual recognition of the equivalence of studies and for the admission of foreign citizens as university teachers,

1. Recommends Member States to adopt these rules on a wide scale in order to increase, as much as possible, mobility in the academic as in the professional field;
2. Invites the Director-General to study possible measures towards this end.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Italy.)

ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Recommendation No. II/13

The Conference,

Considering that the contribution made by the industrialized countries to assistance to the developing countries should be increased in the fields of competence of the Organization,

Recommendations

Recommends Member States:

1. To further increase their assistance to the developing countries, particularly with a view to training their own teachers and help them set up and develop their own systems of higher education, taking into account the traditions, cultural characteristics, circumstances and specific needs of each country;
2. Should a "numerous clausus" system be already in operation or should such a system be introduced in future in their countries, to take steps to prevent, as far as possible, the application of this measure interfering with the admission to institutions of higher education in their countries of students from the developing countries.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by Belgium, Romania and Yugoslavia.)

INTER-UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Recommendation No. II/14

The Conference,

Considering the great importance of professional contacts between universities in increasing the effectiveness of European higher education, and in order to develop such contacts,

1. Recommends that faculties, institutes, chairs and departments responsible for teaching the same subjects in the universities of European Member States develop closer co-operation with one another in the following fields:
 - (a) teaching material;
 - (b) educational media;
 - (c) educational subject-matter;
 - (d) the organized exchange of lecturers, research workers and students;
2. Requests the Director-General to collect the available information on these questions in order to facilitate closer co-operation and in this way make possible direct contacts between institutes.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Hungary.)

Recommendation No. II/15

The Conference,

Considering that it would be useful to develop further forms of inter-university co-operation in Europe,

Recommends European universities, the governments of European States and the Director-General of Unesco to encourage the setting up of an association of European universities, an associate member of the International Association of Universities;

Expresses the hope that the structures already in existence will be used for this purpose;

Expresses the hope that, in order to achieve this object, advantage will be taken of the meeting of European rectors which is to be held in Bologna in September 1974 in connexion with the ninth centenary of Bologna University, and to which the Rector of the University would like to invite all the universities of the European Member States of Unesco, and also the International Association of Universities.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation jointly submitted by France, Italy, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia.)

BILATERAL GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Recommendation No. II/16

The Conference,

Considering that, to increase the effectiveness of European higher education, it is very important that ministries responsible for higher education should develop direct bilateral relations,

Recommends that Member States study ways of developing direct bilateral contacts in the field of higher education in order to promote co-operation between the ministries concerned, in regard to:

- (a) the organization of higher education;
- (b) the establishment of new types of higher educational institutions satisfying present-day needs;
- (c) the exchange of experience on questions relating to the content, management and financing of higher education; and
- (d) the ministries' proper rôle in fostering relations between institutions of higher education, including problems arising from organized exchanges of individuals.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by ,Hungary.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Recommendation No. II/17

The Conference,

Reaffirming Unesco's universal mission to serve peace, security, international understanding and development in the fields of education, science, culture and communication,

Appreciating Unesco's contribution to the progress made by European States in regional co-operation,

Considering that the European Centre for Higher Education, the status and duties of which were laid down by the General Conference of Unesco at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, is significantly helping the European higher education systems to get to know each other better,

Believing that such mutual knowledge is a prerequisite for the development of exchanges and, in particular, for the desirable mobility of teachers and of all those undergoing pre-service or in-service training,

Considering that the growing diversity and complexity of higher education., the numerous options available and the dissimilarity of the courses leading up to it raise difficulties of communication between the higher education systems of Member States that are detrimental to development of their co-operation,

1. Requests the Director and the Advisory Committee of the Centre, in 'preparing the forthcoming programme:
 - (a) to orientate the activities of the Centre towards the regular and periodic gathering of statistical data, sets of regulations and any other information concerning systems and institutions of higher education in European Member States, with special reference to the organization of studies, degrees and diplomas, reforms in hand or already carried out, the research undertaken and the quantitative and qualitative planning of higher education;
 - (b) to ensure that this information is processed in such a way as to make it homogeneous and comparable, thereby enabling the interested parties to make use of it (for drawing up an international terminology, standardization of statistical bases, periodic revision of nomenclature);

Recommendations

- (c) to distribute this documentation to all interested parties in what are from a scientific and technical point of view the most advanced forms currently developed;
- (d) to identify for the benefit of all interested parties the lessons to be learned from the quantitative and qualitative trends emerging therefrom;

2. Recommends that the following study topics be included in the future activities of the Centre:

- (a) a prognostic analysis of the qualitative and structural changes in European post-secondary education systems;
- (b) study of systems of post-secondary education in the light of the concept of life-long education;
- (c) the planning of higher education;
- (d) studies of the role of research and higher education in furthering international understanding and peaceful co-operation;

3. Further recommends that the Centre pay due heed to the documents available and the work undertaken by Member States and sub-regional organizations.

(This recommendation is based on draft recommendations submitted by Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia.)

CO-OPERATION WITH SUB-REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Recommendation No. II/ 18

The Conference,

Noting that European university co-operation depends not only on Unesco, but also on sub-regional inter-governmental organizations which work in collaboration with Unesco itself,

Considering that it is in the interests of the more effective development of such co-operation not only to promote mutual knowledge of programmes but also to take every opportunity for active-collaboration between Unesco and such organizations,

- 1. Recommends Member States, when taking part in drawing up programmes in the competent organs, to take account of the work already accomplished and the further possibilities offered by the various organizations, with a view to taking the fullest advantage of such possibilities and taking care to avoid dispersal of effort;
- 2. Invites the Director-General to ensure that the relationship of collaboration with the organizations in question, while respecting their full independence, proceeds in a spirit of active co-operation and economy of efforts.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Italy.)

EUROPE IN CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF UNESCO'S COMPETENCE

Recommendation No. II/ 19

The Conference,

Acknowledging the importance of the activities undertaken by Unesco at European level in the fields of education, the sciences and culture,

Considering the need to develop European co-operation in the field of higher education, as indeed in the other fields of Unesco's competence,

Convinced of the value and utility of the experience acquired by the organizations of the United Nations family in the establishment and implementation of integrated programmes of regional co-operation;

Considering the importance which attaches to the integration of Unesco's various activities into a European regional programme,

Reaffirms the determination of the European Member States to promote closer collaboration in the field of higher education and other related activities of concern to Unesco and periodically to evaluate the results obtained;

Recommends to the European Member States that they:

1. Continue to keep under close examination the various possibilities of strengthening this collaboration, particularly by working out appropriate institutional arrangements;
2. Give favourable consideration to the convening - under Unesco's auspices - of periodic conferences of representatives of the European Member States to discuss matters of European co-operation in all fields within the competence of the Organization and to propose specific programmes for strengthening this co-operation. Such conferences would be held in the capitals of European-countries chosen on the basis of a rotation system, and would be financed from the Regular Budget of Unesco;

Expresses the hope that the Director-General will be in a position, taking into account the progress of the discussions between the Member States concerned in regard to the strengthening of European co-operation, to submit appropriate proposals to this effect to the General Conference of the Organization at its eighteenth session.

(This recommendation is based on a draft recommendation submitted by Romania.)