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AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE BASIC QUESTIONNAIRE

Suggestions of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to revise the General Terminology Section of the Basic Questionnaire (T/1010)

1. Education should be classified as far as possible by level as follows:
 - (a) Education preceding the first level, which provides education for children who are not old enough to enter a school at the first level (e.g., at nursery school, kindergarten, infant school).
 - (b) Education at the first level, of which the main function is to provide basic instruction in the tools of learning (e.g., at elementary school, primary school).
 - (c) Education at the second level, based upon at least four years previous instruction at the first level, and providing general or specialized instruction, or both (e.g., at middle school, secondary school, high school, vocational school, teacher-training school at this level).
 - (d) Education at the third level, which requires, as a minimum condition of admission, the successful completion of education at the second level, or evidence of the attainment of an equivalent level of knowledge (e.g., at university, teachers college, higher professional school).
2. Education, which is not usually classified by level, should be placed under one of the following headings:
 - (a) Special education, covering all general or vocational education given to children who are physically handicapped, mentally handicapped, socially maladjusted or are in other special categories.
 - (b) Other education.

3. Where possible, education of the second level should be subdivided by type as follows:

(a) General education, which does not aim at preparing the pupils directly for a given trade or occupation. Where appropriate, general education should be further subdivided as follows:

(i) lower stage, in which general instruction is given, with orientation of pupils according to interests and aptitudes (e.g., at junior middle school, junior secondary school, junior high school), education at this stage may lead to various types of instruction at a higher stage;

(ii) higher stage, in which some differentiation is provided in the types of instruction according to the interests and aptitudes of the pupils (e.g., at senior middle school, senior secondary school, senior high school).

(b) Vocational education, which aims at preparing the pupils directly for a trade or occupation other than teaching. Where appropriate, vocational educational education should be further subdivided as follows:

(i) education which is mainly practical;

(ii) education which is mainly technical and scientific.

(c) Teacher training, which aims at preparing the pupils directly for teaching.

4. Education at the third level should, as far as possible, be classified by type as follows:

(a) education at universities and equivalent institutions leading to an academic degree;

(b) teacher education at non-university institutions;

(c) other education at non-university institutions.
