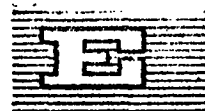


UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



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Item 18

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (SEVENTH SESSION)

Observations of Specialized Agencies on the Draft
International Covenant on Human Rights

The following is the text of the communication, dated 20 July 1951, received from the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization:

"Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you, with the request that it be placed before the Economic and Social Council at its thirteenth session, the following resolution on the draft International Covenant on Human Rights, which was adopted by the General Conference of Unesco on 10 July 1951:

'THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,

After consideration of the report of the Director-General concerning the inclusion of economic, social and cultural rights into a Draft International Covenant on Human Rights (6C/PRG/18 Add.1),

Approves the action taken by the Director-General to give effect to Resolution 9.22 adopted at the Fifth Session, and in particular the collaboration of the Secretariat of Unesco with the Commission on Human Rights in the preparation of provisions of the Draft Covenant concerning the right to education and the right to culture;

Mr. Trygve Lie,
Secretary-General,
United Nations,
NEW YORK.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,

Having furthermore examined the request transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations which invites Unesco to present its observations upon the Draft Covenant adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its Seventh Session (6C/PRG/18 Add.2);

Considering that the Constitution of Unesco places upon the Organization special responsibility for the advancement of education, science and culture and that it is therefore incumbent on the Organization to collaborate closely with the United Nations in order to define and put into operation the right to education and the right to culture;

Considering that the Draft Covenant adopted by the Commission on Human Rights refers to matters of the utmost importance to Unesco;

Considering that the General Conference at its present session, unfortunately, has not had sufficient time to study, as their importance warrants, the various aspects of the provisions adopted by the Commission, and that while expressing general approval of the principles underlying these provisions, the Conference cannot at present supply the comments required by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

Declares itself prepared to assume, as regards the implementation of the right to education and the right to culture, the responsibilities which would devolve upon the Specialized Agencies under Chapter V of the Draft Covenant adopted by the Commission on Human Rights;

Instructs the Director-General to communicate to Member States the text of the Draft Covenant on Human Rights and to invite them to submit to him, within three months, their observations upon the provisions concerning the right to education and the right to culture and their implementation;

Instructs the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board the observations transmitted by Member States on this subject;

Invites the Executive Board to formulate, in the light of these consultations, observations which the Director-General might be called upon to make in the name

of Unesco upon the Draft Covenant to the next session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and at any subsequent meeting of the appropriate organs of the United Nations;

Invites the Director-General to report to the Seventh Session of the General Conference upon the progress made towards the adoption of the International Covenant on Human Rights, and to present to the Conference a study of the measures which it may be necessary to adopt to enable Unesco to participate fully in the implementation of the right to education and the right to culture as defined in the Covenant;

Invites the Director-General to communicate the text of the present resolution to the Economic and Social Council.'

In conformity with the last paragraph of the resolution, I request you to be good enough to place this letter before the Economic and Social Council."

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(signed) Jaime Torres Bodet
Director-General