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WORLD CAMPAIGN FOR UNIVERSAL LITERACY*

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In resolution 1937 (XVIII), the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Managing Director of the Special Fund, the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board, and the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and its affiliates, to explore ways and means of supporting national efforts for the eradication of illiteracy through a world campaign and any other measures, if appropriate, of international co-operation and assistance, both non-financial and financial.
2. At its thirty-seventh session, the Economic and Social Council had before it a communication on this subject from the Director-General of UNESCO^{1/} which is now also available to Members of the General Assembly. A set of conclusions, annexed to this communication and endorsed by the Executive Board of UNESCO, embody the main lines of an experimental mass literacy programme at present being considered by the UNESCO General Conference and designed to pave the way for the eventual launching of a world campaign. In its resolution 1032 (XXXVII), the Council recommended that the General Assembly should give sympathetic consideration to this proposal in the light of the recommendations which the Secretary-General will be presenting in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 1937 (XVIII). An account of the Council's deliberations on this question will be found in chapter VIII, section IV, of its annual report.^{2/}

* Item 42 of the provisional agenda.

^{1/} E/3927.

^{2/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/5803).

3. The Secretary-General's report with regard to the world campaign on universal literacy will be made available to delegations in the near future.
