

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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## Secretariat Memorandum

### on project III.132 - Documentation

#### I. Introductory note

The wish to define more closely the characteristics of the cultural policy of the responsible public and private bodies and persons, to better know its results and the obstacles to be overcome, to draw greater profit from public expenditure on culture and compile an objective survey of the men and materials needed by it, has given rise to research and studies which have enabled cultural policy to be based on more solid foundations.

The efforts thus made by university centres (sociology, economy or cultural pedagogy) in most CCC member countries have resulted in a mass of valuable documentation.

Two assertions can be made:

- a. no organisation, whether national or international, has to date succeeded in cataloguing this mass of publications;

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- b. while it is no longer necessary to prove the convergency of research, it is still highly difficult to arrange for effective communication of information and this leads to a waste of men and money since failure to co-ordinate research leads to a duplication of efforts.

Moreover, information in the cultural field cannot remain purely national: as problems and questions are similar, the contribution of foreign experiences and research cannot be overlooked.

## II. Objective

As the general objective is to permit programming and furnish data and guidance for decision-taking, the project will aim at promoting the pooling between European countries of information on studies capable of providing a scientific basis for cultural development policy, by means of a permanent exchange system functioning according to the principle of EUDISED in the education field.

To achieve this exchange of information it is first necessary to compile a common documentary language to enable the various research and documentation centres to pool their documentary resources.

Subsequently, a liaison bulletin in which abstracts and studies will be published on the basis of the common language will be a means of arousing the awareness of the institutions concerned and of inciting them to take an active part in the co-ordinating of research.

## III. Phased programme of future work

### a. Present state of the work

In 1973, a list of key words in French for cultural development was compiled by the Conseil International de la Langue française with the help of a grant from the CCC.

It was proposed to compile a similar list in English in 1974.

However, it appears that in implementing its project the Council of Europe may be able to profit from the important work carried out by the French Ministry for Cultural Affairs with a view to the preparation of a "thesaurus of cultural development". By now the greater part of the work in French has been completed, including:

- a list of descriptors (alphabetical list with reference words and a "permuted" list - ie a list permuting in alphabetical order the significant components of the compound terms);
- a structuration by "semantic fields" or units of meaning, which is as logical and homogeneous as possible;
- a lexicon defining the terms which are open to ambiguity.

b. Operations proposed

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Instead of compiling a list of English key words, the following measures would be taken:

- i. an English language documentalist would be asked to compile a list of the most characteristic descriptors on the basis of pertinent English documents relating to cultural development, in consultation with the experts engaged in compiling the French thesaurus;
- ii. an English expert would be asked to translate the terms of the French thesaurus which do not pose problems;
- iii. the above-mentioned work would be assembled and compared.

Financing

i.	Fee of the English documentalist compiling the list of descriptors.	7,000 FF
	Fee and travel and subsistence expenses of the French expert providing liaison with the French thesaurus	3,000 FF
ii.	Fee of the English expert translating the terms of the French thesaurus (in consultation with the above-mentioned French expert)	2,000 FF
iii.	Travel and subsistence expenses of the English documentalist and the French expert (2 missions of 2 days)	1,500 FF
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- i. The French and English lists would then be paralleled and harmonised;
- ii. 2 or 3 "pilot countries" would write abstracts in their language, in the manner in which the French abstracts are written, based on the bilingual list which would thus be tested;
- iii. compiling of "permuted" and "structured" bilingual lists (bilingual thesaurus);
- iv. submission of the bilingual thesaurus lists to a meeting of directors of cultural development research with a view to establishing a network of correspondents with them.

Financing

i.	Contracts with the French and English teams: 2,000 FF x 2	4,000 FF
	Co-ordinator's fee	2,000 FF
	Meeting of experts (Paris)	5,000 FF
ii.	Contracts for the preparing of abstracts: 1,000 FF x 3	3,000 FF
iii.	Co-ordinator's fee	10,000 FF
	Contracts with French and English teams: 5,000 FF x 2	10,000 FF
	Meeting and/or contact missions	9,000 FF
		<u>43,000 FF</u>

Subsequent planning (1976-77 ?)

- i. Establishing of an international network of correspondents and production of an experimental number of the liaison bulletin based on the abstracts prepared in 1975 by the "pilot countries";
- ii. Publishing of a first multilingual thesaurus (French, English and in the language of each of the 3 "pilot countries");
- iii. Starting of the international network; preparation of abstracts;
- iv. Study of the difficulties of adapting the thesaurus and gathering of criticisms and suggestions with a view to preparing a revised edition of the thesaurus.

Financing

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ii.	Fees of 3 experts: 5,000 FF x 3	15,000 FF
	Co-ordinator's fee	10,000 FF
	Fees for the preparing of abstracts	20,000 FF
	Meeting of correspondents	20,000 FF
iv.	Co-ordinator's fee	10,000 FF
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		75,000 FF

Estimated overall cost of the project: 141,500 FF (1973-77 ?)

The Council of Europe could effect substantial savings if certain governments were to take an active part, for example in the context of a special project, from the outset of the 1974/75 phase (preparing of abstracts by 2 or 3 "pilot countries") but more especially during the subsequent phase (establishing of the international network of correspondents and preparation of abstracts for the liaison bulletin).