

## **Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education**

### **3rd session - Roma, Italy, 8-13 October 1962**

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#### **Resolution on educational problems of common concern to European countries (N°1)**

##### THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

CONSIDERING the importance of a supply of accurate, up-to-date information concerning common problems facing the educational authorities of European countries, as a fundamental basis for any international co-operation on educational matters, and the importance of disposing of adequate documentation services,

CONSIDERING the necessity for any published material of this kind to be made subject to periodic review and correction,

EXPRESS warm appreciation to the two authors of the first report on these problems within the European Conference of Ministers of Education, MM. Thomas and Majault, appreciating the difficulties of shortage of time and supply of information with which they have been faced in the preparation of their work,

RECOMMEND that the report should be published by the end of 1962 and given the widest possible distribution,

REQUEST to this end, that delegations to the Third Conference of Ministers of Education ensure that the national liaison officials of the Council of Europe Committee for General and Technical Education are responsible for communication to the authors of any corrections to the present text by 1 December 1962.

RECOMMEND that the published report should be put at the disposal of the Educational Committee of the Council of Europe and should provide elements for their programmes of work,

REQUEST the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to examine the possibility of financing the printed publication,

STRESS further the importance of continuing such studies in the future, in particular as regards the comparative study of teaching methods,

POINT OUT the desirability for all such studies of the existence of a dictionary of educational terms used in European countries.

### **Resolution on teaching of modern languages (N°2)**

#### THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

WELCOME the progress achieved since the Hamburg meeting and desire that the action undertaken be continued;

CONSIDER in particular that ways and means should be devised of extending the teaching of modern languages to the greatest extent possible to children and adults to whom it is not yet given, and

DECIDE, in view of the vital part to be played in this extension of modern language teaching by good oral methods, to ensure that the necessary conditions exist for the effective carrying out of such teaching. One of the most important of these conditions is the limitation of the size of classes;

DECIDE further to take all possible steps to ensure that in universities and teachers' colleges future teachers at any school level will receive adequate training in the methodology of modern language teaching and to facilitate arrangements by which language specialists may spend reasonable periods abroad,

AGREE to promote the in-service training of qualified teachers especially through courses run in conjunction with teachers' associations, at which courses the teachers would be introduced:

- (a) to the results of the work of universities and research institutes on the spoken forms of language and the language used in specialised subjects;
- (b) to new methods of teaching modern languages, for example, audio-visual methods;

AGREE further to endeavour to promote research and experiments designed to enable teachers not yet qualified for language teaching to obtain the necessary training, so that the extension of modern language teaching can be carried out as soon as possible.

ARE IN FAVOUR of international co-operation designed to establish, on a comparable basis, and through national research teams, basic vocabularies and fundamental grammatical structures in the European languages.

### **Resolution on continued education (N°3)**

## THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

TAKE NOTE that, following the resolution on enquiries into continued education adopted in Hamburg, a first attempt has been made within the Conference of European Ministers, to ascertain achievements in the field of continued education in the various countries,

CONSIDER that very special attention should be given

- to initiatives already taken in recent years as regards the raising of the school leaving age,
- to experiences and achievements in the organisation of suitable forms of continued education intended for young people who do not pursue their education by full time attendance at an educational institution, and
- to the organisation and content of appropriate curricula,

POINT OUT that the preliminary comparative study (Min. Ed/Rome (62) 15) shows that possible solutions to various aspects of the question raised should be a subject for investigation within the framework of the Council of Europe by the Committee for General and Technical Education and the Committee for Out-of-School Education.

### **Resolution on use of television in education (N°4)**

## THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

RECALLING that at their Hamburg Conference they stressed the desirability of enquiries within the framework of the Council of Europe into the use of television in adult education and requested that a progress report be made,

RECALLING that, since a meeting of educational and cultural television and film experts was organised under the auspices of the Council of Europe in May 1962, the question, together with some collected material, was communicated by the Senior Officials Committee to these experts and was taken into account in the drawing up of a Council of Europe programme of television, film and audio-visual projects for 1963

TAKE NOTE of the progress achieved so far in the Council of Europe and other international organisations in these spheres, as outlined in Doc. Min. Ed/Rome (62) 12,

STRESS the importance they attach to the development of the various means of "tele-teaching", in particular to the use of television in all types of education, and the ever increasing importance of using modern aids in teaching and in the permanent education of adults,

REQUEST the Council of Europe to pursue the proposed programme,

RECOMMEND that the question of audio-visual aids, and in particular television, be included on the agenda of their 1964 Conference when they hope that substantial progress may be reported.

## **Resolution on educational documentation (N°5)**

THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

STRESSING that intergovernmental co-operation in the fields of education and research is only possible on the basis of an organised exchange of information,

AWARE that such co-operation is an important aim of the cultural work of the Council of Europe,

RECOMMEND that the Directorate of Education and of Cultural and Scientific Affairs of the Council be given the appropriate means to establish the Documentation Centre which is needed for the successful pursuit of this activity and which will also enable it to render important services to the individual member States and States which have acceded to the Cultural Convention.

## **Resolution on educational and scientific activities carried out within the framework of various international organisations (N°6)**

THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

REAFFIRMING the principles set out in the Hamburg Resolution on the educational and scientific activities carried out within the framework of various international organisations,

TAKING NOTE of the work accomplished by the Committee of Senior Officials with the valuable aid of the Secretariat of the Council of Europe and the co-operation of the various international organisations concerned;

NOTING that problems of education and scientific research, are given priority attention, not only by international organisations of which they are the main concern, but also by organisations of an economic and technological character;

CONSIDER that the reports submitted to them (Min. Ed/Rome (62) 1, 2 and 3) make an important contribution to the clear understanding of international co-operation in these fields, of its progress and of its shortcomings, and consider that work of this nature, whether bearing on the field as a whole or on specific sectors, should be continued with the assistance of all the intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations

WELCOME the progress already achieved, which has clarified and rationalised the work of the organisations, has increased co-operation between their secretariats, facilitated their contacts with the national authorities concerned and strengthened co-ordination between the responsible Ministers in each country;

ASSERT, nevertheless, that this progress is still insufficient in view of the urgency of the measures that have to be taken, both on the national and on the European level, to concentrate available energies and resources on the most important sectors and to define in each of these

sectors, at the appropriate level of government responsibility, the tasks to be assigned to the various existing organisations.

CONVINCED of the fundamental importance of investment in education and science for the growth and general development of the peoples;

AWARE of the rapid evolution of living and working conditions in European societies, which demands a constant re-adaptation of the material and intellectual resources devoted to the training of youth and to permanent education in all their countries;

RECOGNISE the need, through increased co-operation, to find a solution to the urgent educational problems of European interest which arise in the areas of Europe in process of rapid development;

AWARE of the responsibilities of the European countries to non European. countries in process of development, particularly in the field of education;

AFFIRM that a well thought-out policy of investment in education and science and permanent re-adaptation to objectives in constant evolution cannot be confined to the national framework and that active co-operation among the nations of Europe has become indispensable for them, all;

EMPHASISE that this policy demands increased educational research and the compilation and distribution of the fullest documentary material kept constantly up to date and that its aim should be to solve the essential problems with which they are faced and which they have examined during their Conference.

### **Resolution on arrangements for standing co-operation between the Ministers of Education (N°7)**

#### THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

HAVING EXAMINED the report on arrangements for standing co-operation between them, submitted under reference CME/HF (62) 13 in pursuance of the Resolution on this subject (ESC (61) 21) taken at the Conference of Ministers at Hamburg in April 1961,

I

REAFFIRMING their desire to meet periodically in the future,

FORMULATE the aims of their Conference as follows:

- (a) to keep one another informed of common problems in their field which, in their opinion, have a character transcending the national framework;
- (b) to assist each other in the realisation of their education plans;
- (c) to deliberate with a view to proposing joint activities to be undertaken on the European level

in education, science and culture within the framework of the international organisations interested in these problems;

(d) to discuss general policy or future activities on the national or international level in respect of the programmes of the Council of Europe and other international organisations in the educational, scientific or cultural fields;

(e) to co-ordinate the use of their resources and bring to bear their concerted authority for the purpose of implementing the programme established by the various international organisations for educational, scientific and cultural co-operation in Europe;

DECIDE that their Conferences should be held from time to time on an autonomous ad hoc basis.

## II

(1) HAVING NOTED, with keen interest, the decision taken by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, on 16 December 1961, to set up in that organisation a Council for Cultural Co-operation.

HAVING FURTHER NOTED the institution, within the said Council at its first meeting in January 1962, of three permanent committees, the Committee for Higher Education and Research, the Committee for General and Technical Education and the Committee for Out-of-School Education, with the task of studying, at the level of the most senior officials responsible for these sectors, co-operation between member countries of the Council of Europe or countries parties to the European Cultural Convention;

CONSIDERING that, if the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe is prepared to make available to the Council sufficient highly qualified staff and adequate funds, the new establishment set up in January 1962 could assure the formulation and implementation of a programme for European scientific and cultural co-operation in keeping with the present requirements,

ASSUMING that the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe will continue to authorise the Secretariat of the Council to serve as the Secretariat of that Conference,

PROPOSE to address to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe those proposals in their recommendations which call for study and, if appropriate, for their implementation within the 'framework of the Council of Europe, and request that he report at their next Conference on the action taken on these recommendations by the Council of Europe.

(2) REAFFIRMING the principles contained in the Resolutions, adopted by the Conference which met at Hamburg in April 1961 (ESC (61) 27), on educational and scientific activities carried out within the framework of various intergovernmental organisations and, more particularly, the role they intend to play in formulating and carrying out these programmes and activities,

PROPOSE to call the attention of their respective governments to the recommendations adopted at their Conference in respect of the educational and scientific activities carried on within the framework of these organisations. Should the Ministers representing the member States of any of these organisations so desire, the recommendations may also be addressed to the Secretary General of the organisation or organisations concerned.

(3) CONSIDERING that part of their recommendations may only require action at the national level,

PROPOSE, when appropriate, to follow up these recommendations in their respective countries.

(4) CONSIDERING, finally, that their systematic co-operation strengthened by periodic conferences, is destined to play an ever more important part in the national and international policies of their governments,

PROPOSE to bring all the recommendations adopted at their conferences to the attention of their governments.

### III

DESIROUS of ensuring that appropriate action be taken on their recommendations and that all their conferences achieve the greatest possible effectiveness,

COUNTING on the Council of Europe and on the other intergovernmental organisations concerned for the continued administrative and technical assistance and the collaboration which they have given in the past,

DECIDE that the Committee of Senior Officials of their Ministries should meet periodically between their conferences and that its tasks should be to:

- (a) ensure that their recommendations are addressed to the bodies for which they are intended and take any decisions in this respect which they may have left to its discretion;
- (b) make periodical reviews of action taken on their recommendations, in liaison with the intergovernmental organisations concerned;
- (c) receive from national authorities, between conferences, interim reports on the implementation of their recommendations;
- (d) prepare the next conference.

### **Resolution on role of the humanities (N°8)**

#### THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

AWARE of the importance of the question of the humanities for education and culture,

WELCOME the exchange of views which took place on this subject during the Third Conference and reserve the possibility of resuming the discussion at a future conference in the light of a

study of the question which they suggest that the Secretary General of the Council of Europe should entrust to the appropriate bodies,

EXPRESS the wish that all education programmes accord sufficient place to the humanities, in the widest sense of the term.

### **Resolution on investment in education (N°9)**

#### THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

CONSIDERING that the main objective of all educational policy must be to make it possible for all children and young people to fulfil their potentialities and attain the fullest human development,

HAVING EXAMINED with the greatest interest the report by Dr. King, which includes a list of the measures which have been taken or are being taken to increase co-operation between the European countries for the purpose of evaluating their needs and estimating the investment necessary to meet the rapidly increasing requirements of the expansion of education, considered not only as an essential element of national consumption, but also as a key factor in the growth of production;

CONVINCED of the need for new and decisive progress in the educational equipment of all their countries, in keeping with the implications of the decision taken in November 1961 by the Council of Ministers of the OECD to adopt 50% at the target rate for the growth of the GNP by 1970 for the OECD region as a whole;

CONSIDERING that expenditure on education is not only designed for the functioning of a public service but is increasingly acquiring the nature of an investment which would result in increasing the national income;

REQUEST that expenditure on education and research be considered in relation to national income and so be financed by means similar to those used for important public works;

PROPOSE to set up the necessary machinery for evaluating medium and long term national requirements within the European context and with due regard to their obligations vis-à-vis the newly developing countries and to fix targets for the expansion of the educational apparatus based on estimates established in conjunction with all the ministries and organisations concerned;

EXPRESS the wish that these targets and the means chosen to achieve them be brought to the notice of parents, the young and the public at large by all available information media, so as to obtain their support and wholehearted assistance;

EXPRESS the further wish that the work undertaken in this field by the OECD be actively carried on, that co-operation between the European countries in the pursuit of these objectives be facilitated by the process of collation and comparison furthered by that organisation, and that, in



conjunction with the other organisations concerned, notably the Council of Europe, it inform subsequent Conferences of European Ministers of Education of the difficulties encountered and the results achieved.

**Resolution on European science policy constituting a reply to the Council of Europe (N°10) ▲**

THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

APPRECIATING the interest in intergovernmental co-operation for the working out of a science policy evidenced by Resolution 320 of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe,

AWARE that work fundamental to the formulation of such a policy is in progress in other international organisations, notably the OECD,

RECOMMEND that a decision with regard to the proposal of convening a Conference of Ministers to discuss this matter as well as the question of the framework to be chosen for it, be postponed until the OECD work referred to above has been concluded and studied.