

20 Proclamation of World Science Day for Peace and Development¹

The General Conference,

Having examined document 31 C/56,

Considering that science affects peace and development, and must be used for peaceful and sustainable societies,

Recalling UNESCO's ethical mission to achieve harmonious and peaceful development,

Recognizing that the need for a new commitment between science and society has been established in the Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge, and in the Science Agenda – Framework for Action of the World Conference on Science (Budapest, 1999),

Recalling 162 EX/Decision 3.3.3 concerning the feasibility of celebrating a world science day for peace and development,

1. *Endorses* the view that such a celebration would be an asset for the Organization's image and visibility, particularly in the context of the follow-up to the World Conference on Science;
2. *Shares* the conclusions of the study that the celebration of a world science day for peace and development is both feasible and highly desirable;
3. *Decides* to proclaim 10 November each year as World Science Day for Peace and Development;
4. *Invites* the Director-General to:
 - (i) develop the second option examined in the feasibility study;
 - (ii) contribute to the establishment and implementation of the World Science Day for Peace and Development;
 - (iii) support recognized national, regional and international activities undertaken as part of this annual celebration;
 - (iv) encourage Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, universities, research institutions, learned societies, professional associations and schools to take an active part in the event.

21 Major Programme III: Social and human sciences¹

The General Conference

A. Under Programme III.1 "Ethics of science and technology"

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General:

- (a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:
 - (i) extend the ethical reflection carried out by UNESCO, in particular in the framework of the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST), in order to respond to the crucial challenges raised by the advance of science and technology, in particular as highlighted by the World Conference on Science;
 - (ii) ensure UNESCO's advisory role to Member States in the field of the ethics of science and technology by promoting "good practices" worldwide, by encouraging the inclusion of ethical guiding principles in policy formulation, and by reinforcing capacity-building through international networks;
 - (iii) reinforce UNESCO's role as an international intellectual forum for ethical reflection on the life sciences and health, in particular through the International Bioethics Committee (IBC) and the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC);
 - (iv) ensure the follow-up to the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights through the promotion and dissemination of its contents and a reinforcement of its impact, and to explore the possibility of preparing an international instrument on genetic data;
 - (v) promote education and the dissemination of information concerning all aspects of the ethics of science and technology, in particular bioethics, to scientific circles, universities, decision-makers, the media, the general public and specific target groups, in particular young scientists;
 - (vi) foster international cooperation in the human sciences and philosophy, *inter alia*, through closer cooperation with the International Council for Philosophy and

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission III at the 19th plenary meeting, on 2 November 2001.