



Asian Pacific Federation of Unesco Clubs and Associations

Co National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan
 Co Shinjuku Centre Bld. 38F, (P.O.Box 4004), 25-1, Nishi-shinjuku 1, Shinjuku-ku, TOKYO 163, Japan
 Telephone: Tokyo 03-340-3921 Fax: Tokyo 03-340-3928
 Cable Address UNESCOFED Tokyo



Reference:

UNESCO TOKYO FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL LITERACY YEAR

- Date September 5, 1989
- Place Yomiuri Hall, Tokyo, Japan
- Organizer National Federation of Unesco Associations in Japan
 Asian Federation of Unesco Clubs and Associations
 The Yomiuri Shimbun
- Supporter Ministry of Education, Japan
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
 Japanese National Commission for Unesco
 United Nations Information Center
 Commemorative Association for Japan World Expo '70
- Co-operation
 Unesco
 World Federation of Unesco Clubs, Centers and
 Associations
 Asian Cultural Center for Unesco
- Panelist Prof. Paulo Freire
 Educationalist of Brazil
 Winner of Unesco Peace Education Award 1986
 Chief jury of Unesco International Literacy Prize
- Mrs. Prateep Ungsontham Hata
 Secretary General of the Duang Prateep Foundation
 in Thailand
 Winner of Magsaysay Award of the Philippines 1982
- Mrs. Anne Willings-Grinda
 Deputy Chief of the Division for National Commission,
 Unesco Clubs and Foundation, Unesco, Paris
- Prof. Jun Nishikawa
 Professor of Waseda University, Tokyo
 Vice-Representative, Japan Committee for Negros
 Campaign
- Moderator Fr. Anselmo Mataix, S.J.
 Director of Institute for the Study of Social Justice,
 Sophia University, Tokyo
- Audience 750



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Reference:

U.S.S.R.

and Associations)
Mr. Oleg S Beglov
(Executive Secretary of Soviet
Federation of Unesco Clubs)

Observers

Mrs. Freire
Mr. Tatsuya Hata
Miss Rakhshanda Sheikh (Gujranwala Unesco Club)
Mr. Abdul Majeed Verka (Mayor of Kamohe city, Paksitan)



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Reference:

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NGO ACTION PLANS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LITERACY YEAR SUMMARY REPORT

Date: 7 ~ 9 September, 1989

Venue: Aomori Kosei-Nenkin Kaikan, Aomori-city, Japan

Subject: The Operation of Unesco Co-Action Learning Centres in the World

Organizers: National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan
Asian and Pacific Federation of Unesco Clubs and Associations
Aomori-ken Unesco Association

Background of the conference:

There are currently 960 million illiterate people (over 15 years old) among the world's adult population of 4 billion. Since its foundation in 1946, Unesco has contributed for the betterment of the literacy rate, giving literacy programmes major emphasis. Based on the achievement of Unesco, and considering the International Literacy Year of 1990 which was proclaimed by the United Nations according to the proposal of Unesco as a starting point, we have started to formulate a concrete plan of action.

When Mr. Michael Jackson, a world super-star, visited Japan in 1987 on his Japanese Tour, he approved the request of the National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (the NFUAJ) to provide his personal belongings for auction. Moreover, he willingly consented to issue of Gold Michael Jackson Coin Medals for the Unesco Co-operative Action Programme. The contributions raised through his cooperation were to be utilized for literacy projects conducted by Unesco.

The NFUAJ started to devise a plan to reflect Mr. Jackson's intention fully. It was decided to establish "Unesco Co-Action Learning Centres" where illiterate children and adults can study in cooperation with the solid talent in the recipient projects.

Also, the NFUAJ started nationwide literacy campaign from May 1989 in cooperation with Yomiuri Shimbun Newspaper for the purpose of fundraising as well as for a better understanding of the meaning and object of the International Literacy Year among the Japanese people.



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Purpose of the Conference:

The purpose of the conference was to recognize the present fact, that one out of four people in the world is illiterate as a major global problem, and to provide the representatives of "Unesco Co-Action Learning Centres" with opportunities to meet together and share their experiences and views on executing NGO Action Plans for promoting effective operation of "Unesco Co-Action Learning Centres" and to build up a world network.

Participants: 31 participants from 16 countries including 2 representatives from Unesco and UNRWA (List included)
200 Japanese observers

Summary Report:

A key note lecture was given by Dr. Paulo Freire under the title of "Literacy as the Fundamental Human Right" following the opening ceremony. Activities reports were made on 11 Unesco Co-Action Learning Centres including UNRWA, two donor countries' NGOs and 5 Unesco Clubs.

Two moderators and three resource persons including a representative of Unesco organized the conference. Reflecting the subjects raised from the representatives of Unesco Co-Action Learning Centres as well as Unesco Club representatives, active discussions were held on the two subjects of "Development and Literacy" and "Problems to execute literacy programmes".

As a result of the exchange of information among the participants, "NGO Action Plans for the International Literacy Year" were adopted unanimously.



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Reference:

"LITERACY AS THE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT"

Speech by Dr. Paulo Freire

In the human act of education, whether at school or in the home, there is always someone who teaches and someone who is taught. The purpose of educator must be clear. If we look at history, education, particularly in the Third World, has been used as a means to dominate. One may ask whether education is a means towards liberation or to domination of human beings. In this sense, there is a highly political side to education.

Education is the process of learning. The human qualities and cultural backgrounds of those who educate and those who learn must be respected. The teacher who ignores a student who makes a foolish question is not qualified to teach. A teacher is like a midwife who must bring out the best qualities in each student. Education should not be simply the transfer of technical knowledge it must bring about human development. In this sense, the act of education is accompanied by pain, but is at the same time beautiful.

As current director of education for the city of Sao Paulo, I am working for the children living in the streets who are denied the right to education. We are now getting ready to literacy classes in 2,000 locations with 30,000 teachers. Though I am now 67 years old, this exciting work makes me feel 25.

Illiterates are not people who are incapable of reading and writing. Literacy is said to be a basic human right, but illiterates are denied many other rights as well. It is essential that illiterates "read the world" before they "read words". In this way, they will become aware of their own situation.

In this world, many people are oppressed, discriminated against, and exploited. But through the act of literacy, they are gaining an awareness of reality and standing up to change this world in which exploitation is a matter of course. This struggle is an act of true love for human beings.



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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NGO ACTION PLANS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LITERACY YEAR

Key note lecturer

Dr. Paulo Freire

Representatives of Unesco Co-Action Learning Centres

Africa

Senegal

Club Unesco "Martin Luther King"

Mr. Jean-Jacques Ngor Sene

Arab region

United Nations Relief and Works Agency
for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)

Miss Yasuko Tsujioka

Latin America

Bolivia

Centro de Voluntariado de Promocion Social

Mr. Paul Aranibar Carrasco

Asia

Bangladesh

SOJAG (Somaj-O-Jati Gathan)

Mr. Abdul Matin

India

Indian National Federation of Unesco Clubs
and Associations

Fr. Lawrence D'Souza S.J.

Nepal

Tulsi Meher Mahila Ashram, Unesco Club

Mr. Rudra Lal Mulmi

Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka Prison Department inmates
UNESCO CLUB

Mr. W.A.F. Luxman

Philippines

Negros Educational Helping Activities

Rev. Melecio E. Parcon, Jr.

Pakistan

Pakistan National Institute for the Deaf
Children in Rural Areas
(Unesco Club of Gujranwala)

Mr. Riaz Ahmed Sheikh

Thailand

Prateep Foundation

Mrs. Prateep Ungsontham Hata

Japan

Shapla Neer

Mr. Toyokazu Nakata

(=Citizens' Committee in Japan
for Overseas Support)



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Donor NGOs

Netherlands Unesco Centre

Ms. Mathilde Catharina Guurink

Enfants Refugies du Monde

Mrs. Nicole Dagnino

Resource Person

Unesco

Mrs. Anne Willings-Grinda

Chairman of Board of Directors of NFUAJ
President of AFUCA

Mr. Ohtori Kurino

Executive Director of Asian Cultural
Center for Unesco

Mr. Taichi Sasaoka

Moderator

Executive Director of Japan Educational
Exchange Baba Foundation

Mr. Akio Nakajima

Member of Board of Directors of the NFUAJ
Treasurer of World Federation of Unesco
Clubs, Centres and Associations

Mr. Noriaki Sagara

Asian and Pacific Federation of Unesco Clubs and Associations

Honorary President Malaysia

Mr. R. Gunasingam

President

Mr. Ohtori Kurino

Vice President

Mr. Cho Sung-ok
(President of Korean
Federation of Unesco
Associations and Clubs)

Vice President

Mr. Prapat Saengwanit
(President of Unesco Clubs in
Thailand)

Executive Board Members
Secretary General

Mrs. Tamaki Ubana

Other Participants
India

Mr. Dharendra Bhatnager
(Executive Member of
Confederation of Unesco Clubs)



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Reference:

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NGO ACTION PLANS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LITERACY YEAR (1990)

ACTION PLANS

We,

Having gathered in Aomori (Japan) to attend the International Conference on NGO Action Plans for the International Literacy Year on 7 and 8 September 1989 convened by National Federation of Unesco Associations in Japan;

Deeply concerned by the fact that more than a hundred million children in the present world do not have access to school education, and one out of four of the adult population are neither able to read nor write;

Highly appreciating the plan set forth by Unesco aiming at completely eradicating illiteracy and universalizing primary education in the world by the year 2000, starting from the International Literacy Year 1990, with the firm conviction that the promotion of literacy and basic education is indispensable for securing human dignity and fundamental human rights, as well as for social, economic and cultural development of the world community;

Expecting that, with Unesco's assistance, its Member States, Unesco clubs, centers and associations, and interational governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned will make every effort to achieve the afore-mentioned targets;

Having discussed numerous problems encountered, possible solutions in implementing literacy activities, and the roles to be played by Unesco clubs, centers and associations, and other NGOs in this domain;



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Fully supporting Unesco's programme "Education for all by the year 2000";

Convinced that the movement aiming at the establishment of the "Unesco Co-Action Learning Centers" launched as a joint effort of Unesco clubs, centers and associations, Unesco Co-Action Recipients and related NGOs will contribute to increase the ratio of literates as well as improve the quality of life of the people in developing countries;

Strongly recognizing the necessity to exchange information regarding the present situation of illiteracy and literacy activities in the world;

Realizing the importance of mutual co-operation among Unesco clubs, centers and associations, and various NGOs involved in literacy activities, through the network of the World Federation of Unesco Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA);

Convinced that co-operation with the "International Task Force on Literacy" (ITFL) established in order to encourage active participation of NGOs in literacy activities, is very effective;

Expressing the hope that Unesco, governments and National Commissions for Unesco, will offer their utmost support and assistance in the light of long-term strategies to those non-governmental activities in the field of literacy;

Also recognizing the importance of the media in disseminating the literacy programmes and activities;

Particularly hoping that the co-operation and assistance of the Japanese government and its National Commission for Unesco to the National Federation



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of Unesco Associations in Japan (NFUAJ), which is expected to play an important role in this field, will be further developed;

Hereby adopt the following action plans:

- (1) Unesco clubs, centers and associations, Unesco Co-Action Recipients and related NGOs should take initiatives for the establishment of as many Unesco Co-Action Learning Centers as possible in the world by the year 2000;
- (2) For this purpose, Unesco clubs, centers and associations, and other related NGOs of the industrialized countries will make efforts to secure funds through Unesco Co-Action Programme, and also assist those Centers by taking various measures including organization of workshops and seminars to train literacy professionals and offering opportunities of the study and research with the assistance of Unesco, and the development of literacy materials in co-operation with the Asian Cultural Centre for Unesco (ACCU) and other organizations concerned;
- (3) The executing bodies of the Learning Centers will make efforts to utilize their Centers for the benefit of people in their learning for the development of their community as well as for the enhancement of the spirit of self-reliance.