



THE SAN SALVADOR APPEAL

When he inaugurated the National Forum of Reflection on Peace Education and Culture, sponsored by UNESCO and other institutions of the United Nations system, in the capital of the Republic of El Salvador the Director-General of the Organization, Federico Mayor, set in motion a group of activities which — if fully and properly implemented — could set an example for the building of a CULTURE OF PEACE in the world. The Director-General therefore wishes to notify the international community of:

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‘I hereby appeal to all Heads of State and Government, to Ministers and senior officials responsible for Culture, Education and Development, to Mayors of cities, towns and villages, to thinkers, scientists and teachers — above all, perhaps to the men and women whose work in teaching makes them the chief moulders of our conduct — to all those who take on responsibilities in the running of civil society, to members of religious communities, to parents and to the young of the whole world:

To promote the apprenticeship and practice of the Culture of Peace, both in the formal and non-formal education process and in all the activities of daily life;

To build and strengthen democracy, a political system resting upon the exercise of freedom of expression, upon participation and upon peaceful civic relations for negotiation, concerted action and the equitable settlement of the conflicts that arise in any human and social relationship;

To strive towards a form of human development which, with the collaboration of the entire population, has proper regard for the social capabilities and the intellectual, more and physical potential of all members of society;

To give pride of place to cultural contacts, exchanges and creativity, at national and international level, as a means of encouraging recognition of and respect for *others* and the ways in which they differ from oneself;

To strengthen international co-operation to remove the socio-economic causes of armed conflicts and wars, thereby permitting the building of a better world for humankind as a whole.

In 1994, on the initiative of its Executive Board, UNESCO is to initiate a programme of action on the Culture of Peace at world level. Its viability and relevance will depend upon the determination of all the peoples of the world and, more specifically, of those to whom this appeal is directed. If we all work to-ether we shall at last be able to build a world of peace.’

San Salvador, 28 April 1993

This information is provided by

UNESCO
Culture of Peace Programme
7, Place de Fontenoy
75352 PARIS 07 SP
FRANCE
Tel (+33.1) 45.68.12.19
Fax (+33.1) 45.68.55.57