



United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization

Executive Board

EX

**Hundred and forty-first Session**

141 EX/30  
PARIS, 7 May 1993  
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**Item 9.2 of the provisional agenda**

**Proposals by Member States for the  
celebration of anniversaries in 1994-1995**

**Summary**

Pursuant to decision 9.1 adopted by the Executive Board at its 132nd session, the Director-General submits to the Executive Board proposals by Member States for the celebration of anniversaries in 1994-1995.

Decision required: paragraph 31.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. Following consideration at its 132nd session of the Director-General's report entitled 'Guidelines for the commemoration of anniversaries' (132 EX/29), the Executive Board decided 'to consider, at its first session in the second year of each biennium, the proposals of Member States transmitted to it by the Director-General, in order to propose to the General Conference a list of commemorations with which the Organization should be associated in the following biennium'. (132 EX/Decision 9.1).

2. Pursuant to that decision, the Deputy Director-General for Programme, by circular letter CL/3308 of 3 December 1992, invited the National Commissions to send him for the 1994-1995 biennium proposals for the commemoration of anniversaries of great personalities and historic events with which the Organization should be associated.

3. By 31 March 1993, replies had been received from 17 Member States, broken down as follows:

Europe	9
Asia and the Pacific	5
Latin America and the Caribbean	1
Arab States	1
Africa	1

4. It appears from the replies received that certain Member States are not yet altogether familiar with the new procedure for the submission of proposed commemorations as approved by the Executive Board at its 132nd session. In many instances, the submission model appended to the circular was returned incomplete or the entries were too concise. The information provided did not in some cases make it possible to gauge the worldwide, or at least regional, significance of the anniversaries proposed.

5. The Executive Board is required to consider only the list of anniversaries with which the Organization might be associated. The selection criteria for such anniversaries, as approved by the Executive Board, are as follows:

- (i) the anniversary should, as a general rule, be a centenary or a multiple thereof; exceptions might however be made having regard to the special characteristics of some Member States (States having a predominantly oral tradition, or newly formed States), provided that the anniversary attests sufficient historical perspective or depth of vision;
- (ii) there should be an indisputable link with the Organization's programmes and objectives in the fields of education, science, culture or communication, particularly with regard to the ideals pursued by UNESCO of knowledge and mutual understanding among nations;
- (iii) the anniversary should concern personalities or events of worldwide or at least regional significance;

- (iv) it should be the occasion for events already planned in the State or States making the proposal'.

6. It is on the basis of those criteria that, having considered the requests received from 17 States by 31 March 1993, the Director-General makes the following observations:

- (i) the requests of three States (Belgium, Czech Republic and Ukraine) are not appropriate for the list of anniversaries with which the Organization might be associated;
- (ii) the requests of two States (Greece and Philippines) are still the subject of consultations with the national authorities concerned in order to obtain further information;
- (iii) four States (Germany, Bulgaria, Russia and Ukraine) sent the additional information requested after 31 March and in consequence the proposals are still under review.

Recalling that the procedure for the celebration of commemorations stipulates that the 'celebrations decided on should be such that UNESCO, by being associated with them, can draw from them moral benefit and prestige throughout the world, while developing mutual knowledge among Member States', the Director-General submits the following eight requests to the Executive Board.

## **II. REQUESTS BY MEMBER STATES CONSIDERED ADMISSIBLE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

### **1. Six-hundredth anniversary of the death of the Turkish astronomer Ulugh Beg**

7. In a letter to the Deputy Director-General for Programme dated 29 January 1993, Mr Pulat Tacar, Permanent Delegate of Turkey, proposed that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration, on 22 March 1994, of the six-hundredth anniversary of the death of Ulugh Beg. This celebrated astronomer was born in 1394 in the village of Soltaniyeh, which formed part of Iranian territory at the time.

8. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board concerning anniversaries with whose celebration UNESCO may be associated:

- (i) It is a multiple of a centenary.
- (ii) Ulugh Beg was an astronomer, theologian, poet and historian who made Samarkand the last great centre of civilization of the mediaeval Islamic Orient.
- (iii) He was the founder of the Observatory of Samarkand, where the celebrated 'Astronomical tables of Ulugh Beg' were produced.
- (iv) Turkey is planning a number of national and international events, including lectures, seminars, publications and radio and television programmes.

9. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1994 with the commemoration of the six-hundredth anniversary of the death of Ulugh Beg, in particular by organizing a symposium whose proceedings would be published in the *UNESCO Courier*.

## **2. Tricentenary of the birth of Voltaire**

10. In a letter to the Deputy Director for Programme dated 22 January 1993, Mr Georges Poussin, Secretary-General of the French National Commission, requested that UNESCO be associated with the celebration, on 21 November 1994, of the tricentenary of the birth of Voltaire (the pseudonym of François Arouet). The work of this great French writer is so closely identified with the century in which he lived that it is commonly called the 'age of Voltaire'.

11. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of so eminent a figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session for anniversaries with whose celebration UNESCO may be associated:

- (i) The anniversary is a multiple of a centenary.
- (ii) As the 'last of the happy writers', as Roland Barthes called him, Voltaire made an outstanding contribution to most branches of literature of the eighteenth century (epic, tragedy, philosophical poetry, the novel, etc.).
- (iii) He was regarded as a polymath and waged a fierce campaign for justice and tolerance, in particular through his *Dictionnaire philosophique* and his *Traité sur la Tolérance*.
- (iv) On the occasion of this anniversary, France is organizing the following events: an exhibition at the Paris Mint, and a symposium, on the initiative of the Oxford Voltaire Foundation, to be held in Oxford and in Paris and Versailles.

12. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1994 with the celebration of the tricentenary of the birth of Voltaire, in collaboration with the French Ministries of Culture and Education.

## **3. Six-hundredth anniversary of Seoul as a capital city**

13. In a letter to the Deputy Director-General for Programme dated 12 February 1993, Mr Sang-Seek Park, Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Korea, requested that UNESCO be associated with the celebration, on 29 November 1994, of the six-hundredth anniversary of Seoul as that country's capital.

14. The Director-General considers that this historic event meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session for anniversaries with whose celebration UNESCO may be associated:

- (i) It is a multiple of a centenary.
- (ii) Known as Hanyang at the time it was made capital of the Korean peninsula, Seoul, which means 'capital' in the Korean language, has a tradition dating back 5,000 years.

- (iii) Seoul was the host city of the Olympic Games in 1988, and although it has become one of the largest modern cities of Asia, it is endeavouring to preserve its cultural heritage and is still one of the very few metropolises where urban development and nature are in harmony.
- (iv) With a view to the celebration of this anniversary, whose theme will be 'the New Seoul', the Republic of Korea is planning numerous activities, such as exhibitions on the cultural heritage, lectures on culture and the environment and a symposium on the theme of 'Urban Culture for Societal Development in the Urbanized World'.

15. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1994 with the celebration of the six-hundredth anniversary of Seoul as a capital city.

#### **4. Centenary of the death of Louis Pasteur**

16. In a letter to the Director-General dated 27 April 1992, Mr J.P. Angremy, Permanent Delegate of France, proposed that France be associated with the commemoration, on 28 September 1995, of the centenary of the death of Louis Pasteur and that the year be proclaimed 'Pasteur Year' by the United Nations.

17. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board concerning anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO may be associated:

- (i) It is a centenary.
- (ii) Pasteur was a chemist and biologist who was regarded as 'the most perfect gentleman the world of science has ever known'.
- (iii) He is recognized the world over as having been an exceptional benefactor of humanity, on account of his outstanding work in microbiology, immunology, chemistry and fermentation techniques.
- (iv) The Institut Pasteur has set up a Committee of Patrons to commemorate this anniversary. France is organizing a great many activities, in particular in some of the country's town halls, including exhibitions, round-table meetings, the nationwide issue of a commemorative stamp and a medal, a visit to the 'route Pasteur', etc.

18. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration, in 1995, of the centenary of the death of Louis Pasteur. He will approach the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having 1995 proclaimed 'Pasteur Year' and may, in particular, invite other organizations of the United Nations system, such as WHO and FAO, to participate in the anniversary.

#### **5. Centenary of the death of José Julián Martí y Pérez**

19. In a letter to the Deputy Director-General for Programme dated 19 February 1993, Ms María Josefa Vilaboy Morales, Permanent Secretary of the Cuban Commission for UNESCO, proposed that the Organization be associated with the commemoration of the centenary of the death of the Cuban patriot and writer José Julián Martí y Pérez, on 19 May 1995.

20. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria established by the Executive Board for anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO may be associated:

- (i) It is a centenary.
- (ii) José Julián Martí y Pérez, who is considered to be one of the founders of Cuban independence, was also a man of culture and a great Latin American thinker. To him we owe the *Manifiesto de Monte Cristi*, which to some extent paved the way ideologically for the war of independence in Cuba.
- (iii) His works and ideas played a fundamental part in the shaping of the Hispano-American consciousness and in the liberation of Latin America.
- (iv) Cuba is organizing various cultural events to commemorate this anniversary, including lectures, publications and symposia.

21. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1995 with the commemoration of the centenary of the death of José Julián Martí y Pérez.

## **6. Centenary of the birth of Pitter Premysl**

22. In a letter to the Deputy Director-General for Programme dated 29 January, Mr Karel Komarek, acting Chargé d'affaires at the Czech Delegation to UNESCO, requested that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration of the centenary of the birth of Pitter Premysl on 21 June 1995.

23. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent person meets the criteria set out by the Executive Board at its 132nd session concerning anniversaries with which UNESCO may be associated:

- (i) It is a centenary.
- (ii) The educator Pitter Premysl distinguished himself particularly for his humanitarian work on behalf of children during and after the Second World War. He has often been compared to Albert Schweitzer.
- (iii) Through his educational work and his publications, he propagated the lofty ideas of humanism and a universal code of ethics.
- (iv) The Czech Republic is planning to organize lectures and international exhibitions of children's drawings. It will be assigning a budget of US \$15,000 for these events.

24. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO associate itself with the centenary of the birth of Pitter Premysl.

## **7. Hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the Kazakh poet Abai Kunanbayev**

25. In a letter to the Director-General dated 13 November 1992, Mr Nursultan A. Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, proposed that UNESCO be associated with the hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the poet Abai Kunanbayev, founder of modern Kazakh literature.

26. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria established by the Executive Board for anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO may be associated:

- (i) An exception may be made to the rule that the anniversary should be a centenary or a multiple thereof, since the request originates with a young Member State having a predominantly oral tradition.
- (ii) Abai Kunanbayev was an enlightened and popular poet and a great humanist, a philosopher, translator and composer, who, through his works, greatly assisted the education of young Kazakhs and their accession to world culture.
- (iii) The admirers of the poet Abai today are the greatest defenders of human rights in the name of humanism and justice.
- (iv) The Republic of Kazakhstan is planning to build a scientific and cultural complex and to organize various events: a round table on the poet, an exhibition on traditional art, lectures and film shows.

27. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration of the hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the poet Aba Kunanbayev in 1995.

#### **8. Four-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Saib Tabrizi (Mirza Muhammad Ali)**

28. In a letter to the Director-General dated 18 February 1993, Mr Hassan Sadough Vanini, Permanent Delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran, requested UNESCO to associate itself with the commemoration in 1995 of the four-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Saib Tabrizi, who was born in 1016 A.H.

29. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent person meets the criteria set out by the Executive Board at its 132nd session for anniversaries with whose celebration UNESCO may be associated:

- (i) It is a centenary.
- (ii) Saib Tabrizi was a great master of Persian poetry and also a patron of the arts: many talented young poets studied under him. He is considered to be a sage, whose verses have become proverbs in the Persian oral tradition.
- (iii) He is the greatest classical Persian poet after Hafiz; he greatly influenced poets in Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan and the Indian subcontinent.
- (iv) The Islamic Republic of Iran is planning various events and activities at national and regional level, including lectures, exhibitions, publications and audio-visual programmes.

30. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO associate itself with the commemoration of the four-hundredth anniversary of the Persian poet Saib Tabrizi in 1995, specifically by publishing an article on the poet and his work in the *UNESCO Courier*.

### III. DRAFT DECISION

31. At the close of its discussions the Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision as follows:

The Executive Board,

1. Having considered the report by the Director-General entitled 'Proposals by Member States for the celebration of anniversaries in 1994-1995' contained in document 141 EX/30,
2. Noting that, according to the procedure for the selection of anniversaries with which the Organization should be associated, adopted at its 132nd session (132 EX/Decision 9.1), Member States' proposals should be sent to the Director-General at least one year before the biennium in which the commemorations are to be held,
3. Recommends to the General Conference:
  - (a) that UNESCO associate itself with the following commemorations in 1994-1995:
    - (i) six-hundredth anniversary of the death of the Turkish astronomer Ulugh Beg;
    - (ii) tricentenary of the birth of the French writer Voltaire;
    - (iii) six-hundredth anniversary of Seoul as a capital city;
    - (iv) centenary of the death of the French scientist Louis Pasteur;
    - (v) centenary of the death of the Cuban José Julián Martí y Pérez;
    - (vi) centenary of the birth of the Czech educator Pitter Premysl;
    - (vii) hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the Kazakh poet Abai Kunanbayev;
    - (viii) four-hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Persian poet Saib Tabrizi (Mirza Muhammad Ali);
  - (b) that the Organization's contribution to these commemorations be financed under the Participation Programme, in accordance with the rules governing that programme;
  - (c) that the list of anniversaries with whose celebration UNESCO will be associated in 1994-1995 be hereby closed.





United Nations Educational,  
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EX

**Hundred and forty-first Session**

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**Item 9.2 of the agenda**

**Proposals by Member States for the  
celebration of anniversaries in 1994-1995**

**Summary**

In this addendum, the Director-General submits to the Executive Board proposals received from Member States since the preparation of document 141 EX/30.

-7 JUIN 1993

**Requests by Member States received after  
31 March 1993 and considered admissible  
by the Director-General**

**Centenary of the birth of Pyotr Leonidovich Kapitsa**

1. In a letter to the Secretariat dated 31 March 1993, the Permanent Delegation of the Russian Federation requested that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration, on 9 July 1994, of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Pyotr Leonidovich Kapitsa.
2. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session for anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO could be associated:
  - (i) It is a centenary.
  - (ii) He was a Russian physicist, known for his research on magnetism and low-temperature physics, who invented a device for liquefying hydrogen and helium.
  - (iii) He was the first foreigner to become a member of the Royal Society, in 1929. The Mond Laboratory was specially built for him at Cambridge in 1930. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1978.
3. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1994 with the commemoration of the centenary of the birth of Pyotr Leonidovich Kapitsa.

**Centenary of the death of the German physicist Hermann von Helmholtz**

4. In a letter to the Director of the Office of Public Information dated 23 March 1993, Mr Traugott Schöfthaler, Deputy Secretary-General of the German National Commission, requested that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration of the centenary of the death of Hermann von Helmholtz, on 8 September 1994.
5. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session for anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO could be associated:
  - (i) It is a centenary.
  - (ii) A physicist and physiologist, his work on optics, electricity and acoustics made him a great nineteenth-century scientist.
  - (iii) His contribution in many fields (physics, mechanics, acoustics, the study of Faraday's laws on electrolysis, optics, fundamentals of geometry, physiological studies on visual and auditory sensations) was of universal significance.
  - (iv) Germany plans for at least one association, the Gesellschaft Deutscher Naturforscher und Ärzte (German Association of natural science and medical specialists), to commemorate this anniversary, which will be widely publicized by the media.

6. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1994 with the commemoration of the centenary of the death of Hermann von Helmholtz.

#### **Centenary of the birth of Alexander Dovzhenko**

7. In a letter to the Director of the Office of Public Information dated 6 April 1993, Mr Volodymyr Skofenko, Vice-President of the Ukrainian National Commission, requested that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration, on 10 September 1994, of the centenary of the birth of Alexander Dovzhenko.

8. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session for anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO could be associated:

- (i) It is a centenary.
- (ii) Film-maker, producer of one of the first Soviet talking films, he was awarded several national and international prizes. Above all, he trained several generations of Ukrainian film-makers.
- (iii) He made an important contribution to the development of the film industry at international level. His films are on the syllabus of many film institutes and training centres, especially in the countries of Eastern Europe.
- (iv) The Ukrainian Government is to organize a film festival, lectures, publications and audio-visual programmes to commemorate this anniversary.

9. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1993 with the commemoration of the centenary of the birth of Alexander Dovzhenko.

#### **Hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi**

10. In a letter to the Director-General dated 10 May 1993, Mr Natarajan Krishnan, the Executive Board member from India, proposed that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration of the hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the birth of Mohandas Karamchand (Mahatma) Gandhi, on 2 October 1994.

11. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board concerning anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO could be associated:

- (i) In view of the many examples of violence and intolerance in the world an exception could be made to the rule stipulating that the anniversary must be a centenary or a multiple thereof, as this celebration would honour an apostle of non-violence with a philosophy of exceptional depth.
- (ii) A visionary head of State, freedom fighter in his own country and abroad, and tireless advocate of justice and human rights, Mahatma Gandhi in the course of his life took up some of the most difficult political, economic and social challenges by, indefatigably, applying a strategy of non-violent action.

- (iii) The life of Mahatma Gandhi, nourished by a great spirituality, is a powerful example of a culture of peace, both instituted and lived, a source of inspiration for those who seek peaceful solutions to conflicts in today's world.
- (iv) India is proposing to establish a national committee in order to draw up a programme of activities. It seeks UNESCO's co-operation, among other things, in the organization of an international seminar on Gandhian thought, the release of a commemorative coin, and the translation of Gandhi's selected writings to the Organization's official languages.

12. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1994 with the commemoration of the hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the birth of Mohandas Karamchand (Mahatma) Gandhi.

#### **Two-hundredth anniversary of the death of Hryhoryi Skovoroda**

13. In a letter to the Director of the Office of Public Information dated 6 April 1993, Mr Volodymyr Skofenko, Vice-President of the Ukrainian National Commission, requested that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the death of Hryhoryi Skovoroda on 9 November 1994.

14. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board for anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO could be associated:

- (i) It is a multiple of a centenary.
- (ii) Skovoroda, an educator, based his entire teaching work on the development of individual creativity. The metaphors contained in his fables and poems have been widely taken up in Ukrainian literature.
- (iii) This philosopher, poet, musician and educator who was so firmly attached to the traditions of his national culture is widely known throughout the Slav world.
- (iv) The Ukrainian Government is to organize seminars, lectures and arts festivals devoted to the work of Skovoroda.

15. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1994 with the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the death of Hryhoryi Skovoroda.

#### **Four-hundredth anniversary of the death of the Flemish geographer Gerhard Mercator**

16. In a letter to the Director of the Office of Public Information dated 23 March 1993 Mr Traugott Schöfthaler, Deputy Secretary-General of the German National Commission, requested that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration of the four-hundredth anniversary of the death of Gerhard Mercator on 2 December 1994.

17. The Director-General considers that this commemoration meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board for anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO could be associated:

- (i) It is the multiple of a centenary.
- (ii) The mathematician and geographer Gerhard Mercator was the founder of modern mathematical geography and the inventor of the projection bearing his name.
- (iii) Geographical charts intended primarily for navigators, and the publication of a major geographical opus have made his work known the world over.
- (iv) Geographical associations and societies, both in Belgium and Germany, will commemorate this anniversary.

18. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1994 with the commemoration of the four-hundredth anniversary of the death of Gerhard Mercator.

#### **Hundredth anniversary of the deciphering of the inscriptions of Orkhon and Ienisseï**

19. In a letter to the Director-General dated 18 March 1993, Mr Firidoun Djalilov, Education Minister of the Azerbaijani Republic, requested that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration in 1994 of the hundredth anniversary of the deciphering of the inscriptions of Orkhon and Ienisseï.

20. The Director-General considers that this historic event meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session for UNESCO's association in its commemoration:

- (i) It is a centenary celebration.
- (ii) The inscriptions of Orkhon and Ienisseï, the most ancient of which date back to the sixth century of our era, are the first evidence of the Turkish language to have survived to the present day. Deciphered by the Danish linguist V. Thomsen, they were read for the first time by the Russian Turcologist Radlov in 1894 and are considered to be part of the cultural heritage of Turkish-speaking peoples the world over.
- (iii) These inscriptions provide the historical, biographical, legal and religious information which made it possible to define the forms of ancient Turkish culture that existed in central Asia and eastern Europe.

21. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated in 1994 with the commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the deciphering of the inscriptions of Orkhon and Ienisseï.

#### **Four-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Bohdan Khmelnytskyi**

22. In a letter to the Acting Director of the Office of Public Information dated 6 April 1993 Mr Volodymyr Skofenko, Vice-President of the Ukrainian National Commission, proposed that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration, in December 1995, of the four-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Bohdan Khmelnytskyi.

23. The Director-General considers that this anniversary of an eminent figure meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board at its 132nd session for anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO could be associated:

- (i) It is a multiple of a centenary.
- (ii) An eminent historical figure and a diplomat, he was the symbol of Ukrainian independence and helped to establish the Ukrainian State.
- (iii) He played an extremely important role in the history and culture of the Slav peoples.
- (iv) The Ukrainian Government has established an organizing committee for this commemoration, which is planning various activities: conferences, exhibitions, publications, radio and television programmes.

24. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration, in 1995, of the four-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Bohdan Khmelnytskyi.

**Five-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Muhammed ibn Süleyman Fuzuli**

25. In a letter to the Deputy Director-General for Programme dated 29 January 1993, Mr Pulat Tacar, Permanent Delegate of Turkey, proposed that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration, in 1995, of the five-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Fuzuli (Muhammed ibn Süleyman) in 1995.

26. The Director-General considers that this anniversary meets the criteria laid down by the Executive Board for anniversaries with whose commemoration UNESCO could be associated:

- (i) It is a multiple of a centenary.
- (ii) A major figure of the classical school of Turkish literature, Fuzuli was a very prolific author. His poetry was written in the Azeri, Arabic and Persian languages.
- (iii) Fuzuli's fame extends over a large geocultural area, including the Islamic world where his famous love story of Leyla and Mecnim is very popular.
- (iv) Turkey intends to organize various cultural events at both the national and international levels: lectures, seminars, exhibitions, publications and radio and television broadcasts.

27. The Director-General proposes that UNESCO be associated with the commemoration, in 1995, of the five-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Fuzuli (Muhammed ibn Süleyman).

28. Accordingly, if the Executive Board approves these requests, the following will need to be added to subparagraph 3(a) of paragraph 31 of document 141 EX/30:

hundredth anniversary of the birth of Pyotr Leonidovich Kapitsa;

hundredth anniversary of the death of Hermann von Helmholtz;

hundredth anniversary of the birth of Alexander Dovzhenko;

hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi;

two-hundredth anniversary of the death of Hryhoryi Skovoroda;

four-hundredth anniversary of the death of Gerhard Mercator;

hundredth anniversary of the deciphering of the inscriptions of Orkhon and Ienisseï;

four-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Bohdan Khmelnytskyi;

five-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Fuzuli.

### **Corrigendum**

29. In addition, as a result of a clerical error, there is a mistake in the first request contained in Section II of document 141 EX/30. Instead of 'Six-hundredth anniversary of the *death* of the Turkish astronomer Ulugh Beg', it should read 'Six-hundredth anniversary of the *birth* of the Turkish astronomer Ulugh Beg'. This correction also affects paragraphs 7 and 9, and subparagraph 3(a)(i) of paragraph 31 of document 141 EX/30.

30. The last sentence of paragraph 7 of document 141 EX/30 should also be reworded as follows: 'This celebrated astronomer was born in 1394 in the village of Soltaniyeh in Iran'.