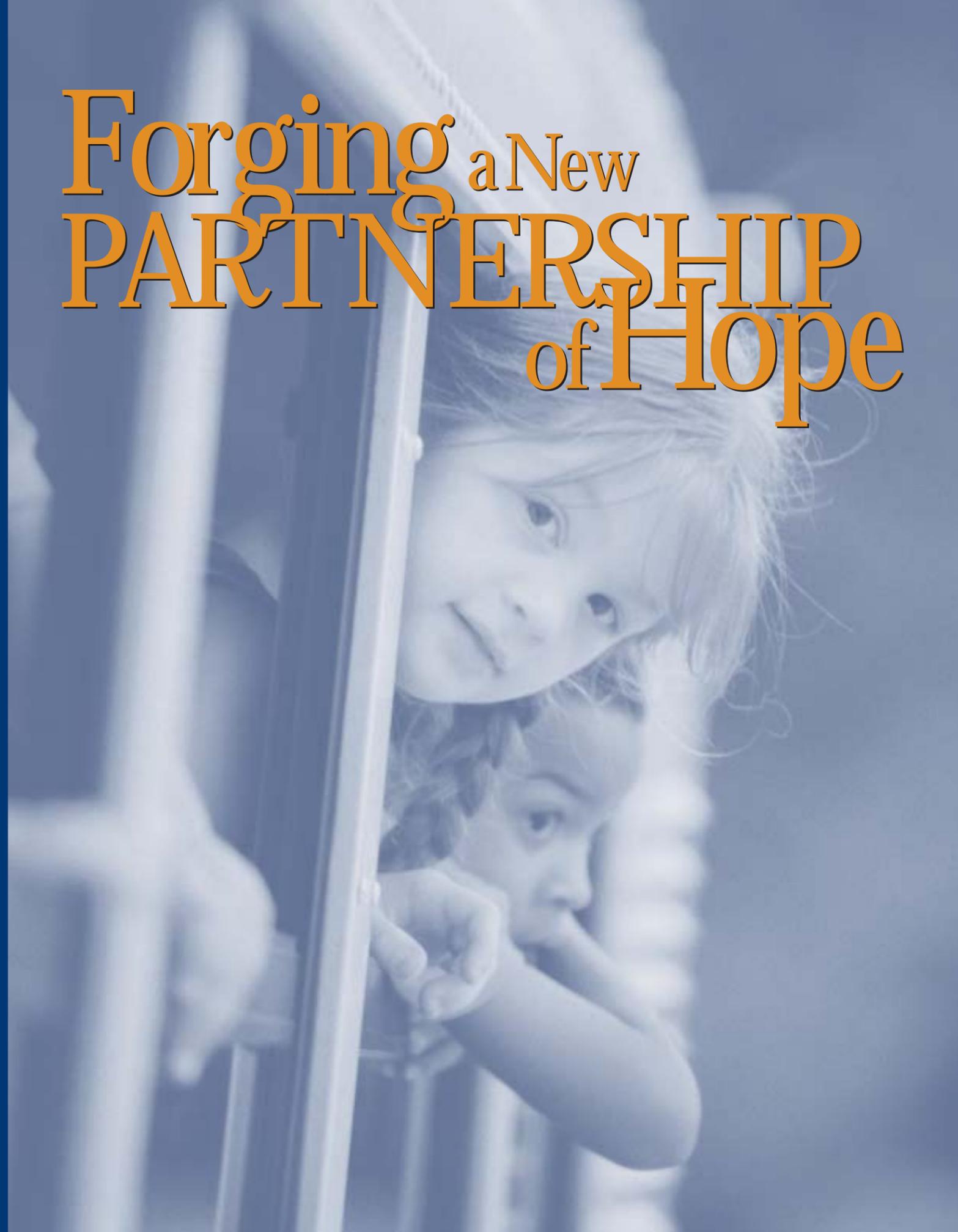
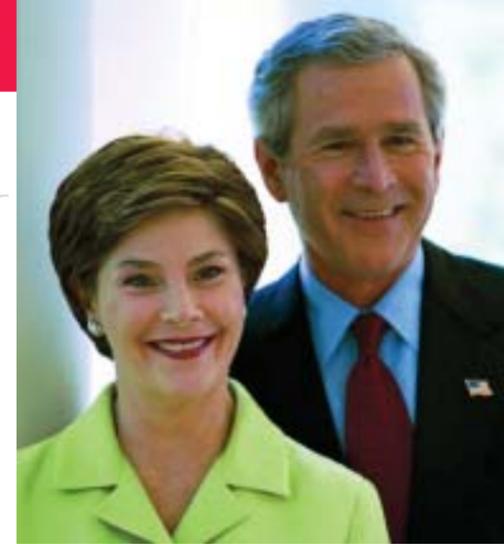


Forging a New PARTNERSHIP of Hope



QUALITY

EDUCATION



President Bush and I are pleased that the flag of the United States will soon fly beside the flags of the other UNESCO member countries. Our country returns as a full and enthusiastic participant in UNESCO's important mission to promote education, peace and freedom.

We applaud UNESCO's efforts to ensure that every child in every nation has access to a high-quality education and that no child is left behind.

As a former public school teacher and librarian, I know from experience and from scientific research that the best way to begin is by making sure that every child has the necessary skills to learn to read. In the United States, we have asked some of our best teachers and researchers to help us achieve this goal, and we look forward to exchanging ideas about what works with our fellow UNESCO members. Together we can help create a more hopeful, peaceful and prosperous future for children throughout the world.

In every country and culture, literacy means hope and opportunity, and I am delighted to serve as United Nations' Honorary Ambassador for the Decade of Literacy.

President Bush and I send our warmest greetings as we join this important effort to advance human rights, tolerance and learning.

Laura Bush

**Laura Bush,
First Lady of the United States of America**

Working Together *in a* SPIRIT of COOPERATION *and* HOPE



“ *As a symbol of our commitment to human dignity, the United States will return to UNESCO...
and participate fully in its mission to advance human rights and tolerance and learning.* ”
President George W. Bush, September 12, 2002



In 1945 members of the United Nations founded the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to strengthen education worldwide, prepare children for the responsibilities of citizenship, promote respect for human rights and freedom of expression, advance scientific progress and conserve cultural treasures.

In the spirit of a renewed commitment to these principles, the United States returns as a full member of UNESCO for the first time since 1984. President Bush's decision to rejoin UNESCO signals that the United States is ready to share our resources and our expertise to help accomplish these goals.

SPIRIT

Working To EDUCATE Every Child with NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND



EDUCATE

Education reshapes communities, fosters democracy and strengthens economies. Strong schools that emphasize basic skills and broad knowledge enable nations to prosper and the ideals of liberty to flourish.

UNESCO's commitment to strengthening education worldwide is shared by the United States, which has increased our emphasis on academic achievement in our public schools – particularly in reading, math and science.

In 2001, faced with unsatisfactory student achievement and a learning gap between low-income students and their more affluent peers, President Bush rallied the country's leadership to change the way we educate our children. In every school, we are insisting on high standards, high expectations, accountability for results and classroom instruction that is based on what science tells us works best to help children learn.

Our goal is for every child in our schools to succeed, and sound research tells us to start by teaching children early in their lives the skill upon which all other learning is based: **reading.**

“
*We must devote ourselves to making education a universal reality now.
Far too many have waited too long for this day to come.*

U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige

ADVANCING Literacy *and* LEARNING



A child who can read is a child who can succeed in school and in life and can pass on a love of learning to future generations. Research tells us that learning begins at birth. Children whose parents or caretakers talk, read and sing to them have a clear learning advantage later on. Children brought up in language-rich environments are prepared to enter school ready to read and to learn.

We are showing our teachers and parents the most effective ways to help children learn to read. And we are providing historic levels of funding to help schools educate every child.

As we work to improve our schools at home, we are mindful of the great challenges faced by other countries – particularly developing nations. Despite advances in many parts of the world, UNESCO research shows that major problems continue:

- **More than 100 million children are without access to schools.**
- **Nearly 1 in 7 adults – 861 million people around the world – cannot read.**
- **One-half of the world's population today lives on less than \$2 a day.**
- **For billions of people, poverty is spreading, and per capita income is falling.**
- **In many countries, the scourge of HIV/AIDS is decimating the ranks of teachers.**

The enormity of the challenge is clear and so is the solution. The greatest force for progress is education. That is why this year the United States is investing \$333 million in primary, secondary and college education in developing nations. And our new Millennium Challenge Account increases our overall development assistance by 50 percent.

In cooperation with UNESCO, the United States can do more to help improve the chances for children in other nations. In her role as Honorary Ambassador, Mrs. Bush will help raise awareness and mobilize support for the goal of bringing the life-saving gift of literacy to more children, women and men around the world.

EXPANDING *the* Circle of DEVELOPMENT



President Bush, in creating the Millennium Challenge Account, has called for a "new compact for development" to increase accountability for rich and poor nations alike, by linking greater contributions by developed nations to greater responsibility of developing nations.

The United States wants all nations to make progress. One example is a new U.S. initiative to strengthen countries on the continent of Africa, including:

- **Development and expansion of literacy programs;**
- **A historic commitment to provide \$15 billion to combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic, including a \$500 million International Mother and Child HIV Prevention**

initiative to prevent the spread of this disease from mother to child and to improve health care delivery in Africa and the Caribbean; and

- **The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which provides tariff-free and quota-free access for most African exports to the U.S. markets.**

The efforts under way in Afghanistan are another example. There, America's private and public sectors are working to boost food supplies; build and supply schools; rebuild critical infrastructure such as hospitals, water wells, radio transmitters and roads; revive agriculture; and improve health care.

“*All fathers and mothers, in all societies, want their children to be educated, and live free from poverty and violence....No nation owns these aspirations, and no nation is exempt from them.*”

President George W. Bush

Working together, America's public and private sectors are empowering families and communities with every shipment of seeds and agricultural supplies, every vaccination drive, every load of wheat for the Afghan women's bakeries and every teacher training program.

Hundreds of thousands of children in the United States have raised millions of dollars to buy school supplies for Afghan children and to help provide clean drinking water, medical materials, tents, tarps, winter clothing, kitchen utensils and blankets.

In response to the *Friendship through Education* initiative unveiled in 2001 by President Bush and U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige, American students have shared their thoughts, their dreams and their culture with students in Afghanistan as well as in other countries in the Middle East and Asia.

In all, the United States government provides more than \$20 billion in overseas assistance each year. This funding is complemented by more than \$34.6 billion in international humanitarian and emergency aid donated by the American private sector – foundations, corporations, universities and individuals.

Ours is a small world, and our futures are inextricably linked. The United States shares with other UNESCO members the will to help children and families in all nations achieve their greatest potential.

OUR RETURN TO UNESCO
PROVIDES THE UNITED
STATES THE OPPORTUNITY TO
EXPAND OUR COMMITMENT
TO UNIVERSAL EDUCATION

BY HELPING TO:

*Establish new literacy programs
and strengthen international
education efforts;*

*Ensure that both girls and boys
receive a high-quality education;*

*Rebuild schools in
post-conflict nations;*

*Encourage better education data
collection in developing nations;*

*Strengthen the quality of
textbooks and curricula;*

Promote civic education; and

*Promote science, math and
engineering education.*



REBUILDING EDUCATION IN POST-CONFLICT NATIONS

Ensuring a high-quality education for every child is perhaps most difficult in nations emerging from war and civil strife. In these chaotic situations, the basic components of education – schools, teachers, textbooks and materials – are often inadequate or missing altogether. In cooperation with members of UNESCO, the United States will work to rebuild schools in conflict regions so that new generations of children can be educated and have hope for the future.

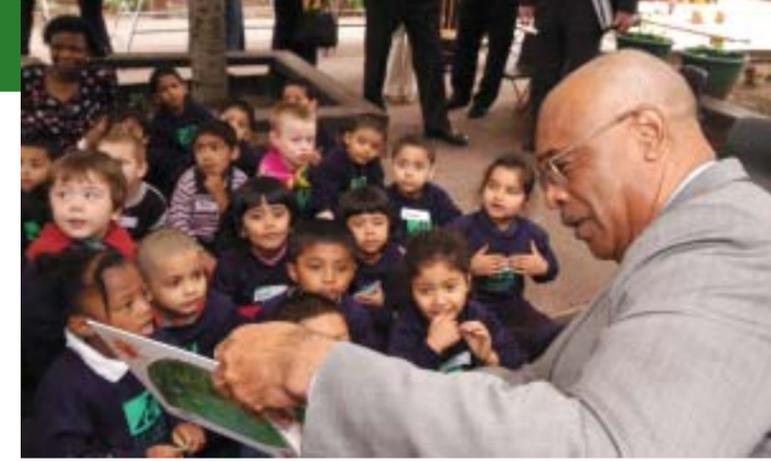
PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF TEACHERS

In every society, a good curriculum and accountability for results are critical to achieving educational excellence. Even more important are effective and caring teachers.

Fortunately, scientific research tells us what it takes to teach effectively. How much teachers know determines how well students learn.

Throughout the world – especially in hard-to-serve areas – the shortage of well-prepared teachers has become a crisis. Countries heavily affected by the scourge of AIDS have lost a whole generation of educators, and countries emerging from conflict also have difficulty attracting and retaining talent.

BY PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY
READING INSTRUCTION EARLY,
RECRUITING HIGHLY
QUALIFIED TEACHERS,
SETTING HIGH STANDARDS AND
INSISTING ON RESULTS,
WE PREPARE CHILDREN
TODAY TO TAKE
THEIR PLACES AS
LEADERS TOMORROW.



The United States will assist UNESCO in its mission to recruit qualified teachers for underserved areas of the world. As part of this effort, we will expand upon our Centers of Excellence in Teacher Training established in Latin America to help prepare a new generation of educators through intensive teacher development and other support. Because very few programs exist to train teachers in the science of how children learn to read, improved reading instruction is a main focus at the Centers of Excellence.

RALLYING HIGHER EDUCATION TO A HIGHER CALLING

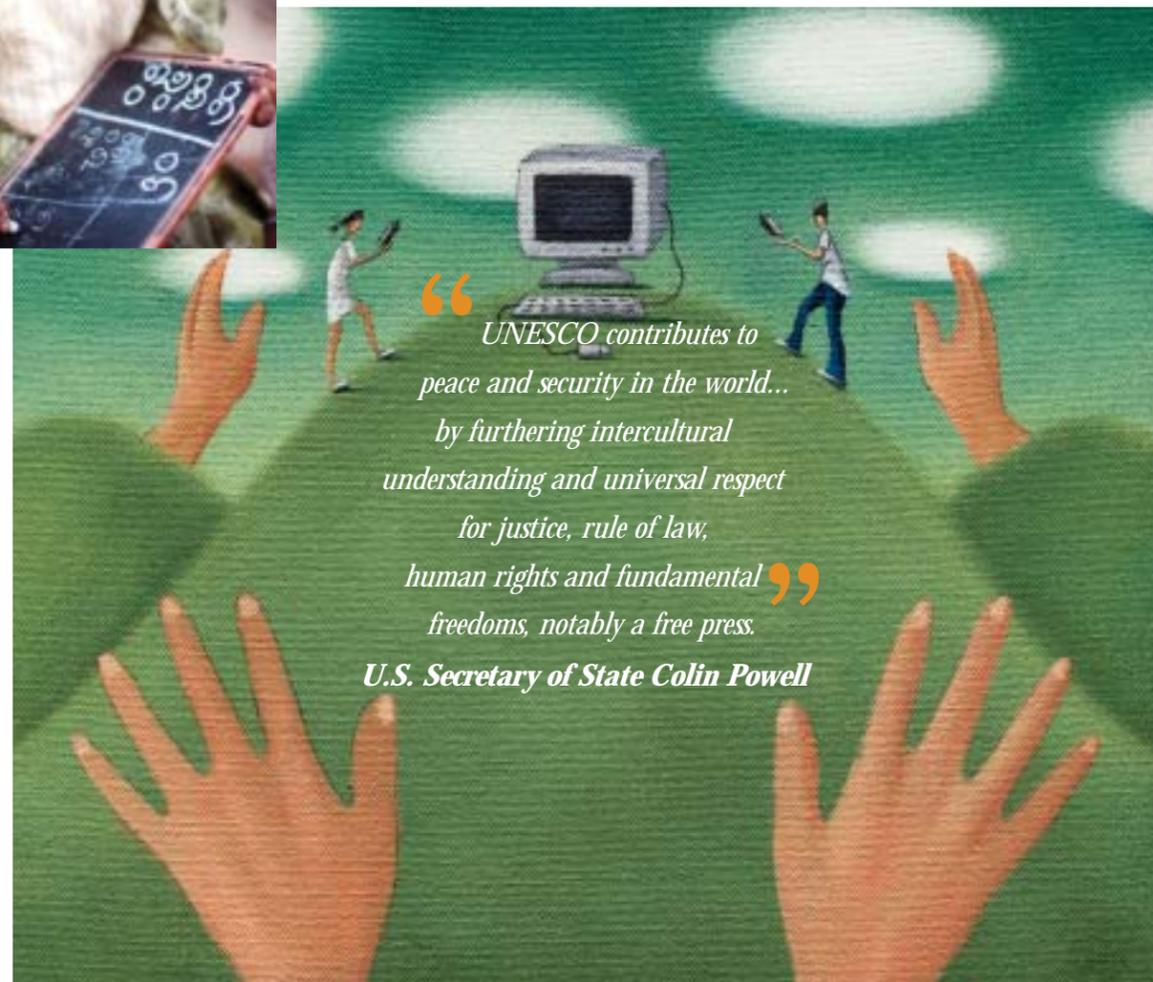
In cooperation with UNESCO, the United States will encourage more U.S. colleges, universities and other institutions of higher learning to apply their latest research to real-world challenges. By forming partnerships with institutions in other countries, particularly in the developing world, they can help address such critical problems as clean water shortages and the AIDS pandemic, as well as help establish the rule of law in post-conflict nations, jump-start economic growth and ensure education for all the world's citizens.

The United States will support the formation of these partnerships, expanding the good work already under way through the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education, as well as through many nongovernmental organizations and philanthropic foundations.

EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT GO HAND-IN-HAND.
BETTER SCHOOLS PRODUCE BETTER-SKILLED WORKERS.
BETTER-SKILLED WORKERS STRENGTHEN LOCAL ECONOMIES.
STRONGER ECONOMIES IMPROVE OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE.

DEVELOPMENT

Promoting DEMOCRACY *and the* Marketplace of IDEAS



UNESCO and the United States share a belief that a free, robust press and universal access to books, information and the world of ideas are essential for sustaining democracy and protecting human rights. Yet an estimated 80 percent of the world's population lacks access to even basic telecommunications.

Innovation and technological invention have helped expand the United States' economy and increase our standard of living. Today, technology development and individual enterprise are the critical drivers of economic growth, both in the United States and around the world.

New technologies are revolutionizing the way we learn, work and play, all while improving our quality of life. As the birthplace of the Internet and home to many information technology companies, the United States, through UNESCO, will expand its commitment to:

- **Promote freedom of the press and the rights of professional journalists and media outlets; and**
- **Increase public access to communication and information technology.**

DEMOCRACY

The United States welcomes the opportunity to work through UNESCO in closing the digital divide so that every nation can become a full participant in the information and technology revolution.



Meeting *the* Scientific CHALLENGES of the 21st CENTURY



“*The issue of climate change respects no borders... Climate change, with its potential to impact every corner of the globe, is an issue that must be addressed by the world.*”

“*My administration will establish the U.S. Climate Research Initiative to study areas of uncertainty and identify priority areas, where investments can make a difference.*”

“*We'll also provide resources to build climate observation systems in developing countries and encourage other developed nations to match our American commitment.*”

President George W. Bush, June 11, 2001



Science and engineering have always flourished across national borders, and the pace of research in the 21st century is unprecedented. UNESCO is working to ensure that all countries can benefit from science and technology through education, direct assistance and collaborative partnerships, such as:

- **Earthquake research;**
- **Safeguarding of coastal resources and small island ecosystems;**
- **The SESAME synchrotron project;**
- **Fresh-water management;**
- **Mineral and energy research; and**
- **Environmental engineering.**

Over the years, UNESCO has played a significant role in international science cooperation, and U.S. scientists have continued to participate in a wide range of UNESCO's core science programs.

Understanding future projections of climate change is critically dependent on the implementation of global observing systems. With strong backing from the United States, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), is facilitating the collaboration among nations to implement the oceanic observations that will help us better understand the role oceans play in influencing the world's climate.

Through the science research of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the United States will collaborate with members of UNESCO to:

- **Monitor natural hazards;**
- **Assist in the conservation of world heritage sites;**
- **Exchange ideas about space communications technologies that have proven effective in providing health, education and cultural services to remote areas; and**
- **Encourage primary and secondary students to join those from more than 100 nations to gather environmental data at world heritage sites as part of NASA's GLOBE program.**

The United States looks forward to strengthening our collaboration with scientists and engineers worldwide. Working together through UNESCO, we can highlight the importance of science, mathematics and engineering in education as we meet the scientific challenges not only for today but also for the future.

CHALLENGES

Encouraging CULTURAL Conservation *and* CELEBRATING World Heritage



Cultural life in the United States flourishes in myriad environments from the smallest community organizations to large urban institutions, from libraries and museums to schools and universities, from historical societies and national parks to theaters and concert halls. Our cultural forms find their origins in many places around the globe. A strength of our country is the diverse range of cultural expressions. U.S. artists, scholars, librarians, historians and others are eager to share their knowledge and learn from colleagues abroad.

UNESCO's focus on cultural heritage is of special interest to a number of U.S. organizations -- such as the Smithsonian Institution and the National Endowment for the Arts -- that offer programs to promote greater awareness and appreciation of diverse cultures, within our borders and beyond. Deeper understanding and respect for cultural heritage help to build a stronger foundation for cooperative work and productive enterprise among nations. Within the UNESCO framework, the United States hopes to participate in crafting new efforts to nurture cultural heritage and to learn from successful practices in other countries.

Throughout the years as a UNESCO observer, the United States has actively implemented the 1970 UNESCO Convention against illicit trafficking of cultural objects, and the 1972 World Heritage Convention, which the United States played a key role in drafting.

Today, the United States shares with UNESCO common goals of supporting cultural preservation, museum exhibitions, library and archival resources, humanities research, archaeology and endangered languages. In cooperation with other members of UNESCO, the United States will work to:

- **Preserve cultural artifacts and manuscripts in developing countries where such treasures are otherwise unprotected;**
- **Expand cooperative efforts in cultural preservation, research, archaeology, museum exhibitions, endangered languages, folklore and the creative arts;**
- **Collaborate with other member states on ways to reduce the incentive for pillage of archaeological and ethnological materials, an activity that permanently erases chapters of the history of mankind.**

CELEBRATE

Advancing EDUCATION FREEDOM *and* HOPE



HOPE

Education is a powerful antidote to poverty and injustice. Through education girls and boys will come to know a world of understanding and tolerance and will imagine a hopeful future.

In an address before the United Nations on September 12, 2002, President Bush set the United States on the path to join the member nations of UNESCO in advancing education, freedom and hope.

Under the energetic leadership of Director General Koïchiro Matsuura, progress has been made toward the vitally important goals the founders envisioned more than half a century ago in the UNESCO Constitution that called for:

- **Advancing mutual knowledge and understanding;**
- **Giving fresh impulse to education and to the spread of culture;**
- **Preparing the children of the world for the responsibilities of freedom; and**
- **Assuring the conservation and protection of the world's inheritance of books, works of art, and monuments of history and science.**

The United States is committed to working through UNESCO to achieve our shared vision of a better world where all children and families have the opportunity to learn, to prosper and to face a brighter future with dignity and hope.



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