

**UNESCO**  
**Records of the General Conference**  
**Fourteenth Session Paris, 1966**  
**Resolutions**  
**S. 27-28**

**1.441 Literacy**

*The General Conference*

I

*Considering* that illiteracy is a bottleneck retarding social and economic development,  
*Reaffirming* the recommendations made by the World Congress of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy held in Teheran in September 1965,  
*Recalling* the efforts of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, and of Member States,  
to eradicate illiteracy,  
*Taking note*, with gratitude, of the generous initiative of H.I.M. the Shahinshah of Iran on behalf of world literacy, and further noting with gratitude the similar generous action taken by Mali, Tunisia, Ivory Coast and Morocco,  
*Recognizing* the need for a concerted and vigorous international effort to promote world literacy,

1. *Invites*, consequently, in the name of human solidarity, Member States, non-governmental organizations, foundations, and private enterprises to do everything possible to give financial, technical, moral and any other appropriate forms of support for international action against illiteracy under the auspices of Unesco, in order, as soon as possible, to eliminate illiteracy throughout the world;

II

*Considering* that the World Congress of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy, held in Teheran in 1965, recommended, that 8 September, the historic date of the inauguration by the Shahinshah of Iran, be proclaimed International Literacy Day and be observed by all countries of the world; that on that day all information media be used in all countries for the attack on illiteracy and that the results of all literacy programmes be disseminated at national and international levels; and that International Literacy Day be observed on 8 September each year from 1966 onwards',  
*Recalling* the resolution adopted on this subject by the Executive Board at its 73 rd session (73 EX/Decisions, 3, Section III),  
*Noting* with satisfaction that several Member States have taken action on their own initiative in pursuance of the Teheran Recommendation and celebrated International Literacy Day on 8 September 1966,