

MINISTRY PAPER NO. 48

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
Organization - Membership of Jamaica

I have the honour to inform the House that, on behalf of the Government of Jamaica, I have informed the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization that Jamaica accepts the Constitution of the Organization. The Acting Jamaican High Commissioner in London has been authorised to sign the Constitution on behalf of Jamaica.

2. The Organization was established on the 4th of November, 1946, when twenty signatories to its Constitution had deposited their Instruments of Acceptance with the Government of the United Kingdom.

3. The purpose of the Organization is to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations.

4. As a non-self governing territory, Jamaica, with Barbados, Dominica, Grenada and Trinidad (called the British Caribbean group) was admitted to UNESCO as an associate member by the General Conference at its session in Montevideo on the 13th of November, 1954. This arrangement was superseded when the Federal Government became an associate member in 1958. The position now is that the associate membership of the Federal Government lapsed automatically on the dissolution of the Federation on the 31st of May, 1962.

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5. The scale of contributions for full Member States is normally calculated on the basis of the scale of contributions to the United Nations, suitably adjusted to take account of the difference in membership of the two Organizations. It is not possible to estimate accurately the amount of the annual contribution for full membership which Jamaica may be expected to pay, but this should be of the order of 0.04% of the Organization's budget, which, in relation to the 1962 budget of (U.S.) \$16,497,846.00, is approximately £2,300. In addition, Jamaica will be expected to contribute some £400 to the Working Capital Fund, making a total contribution of £2,700 in the first year. Provision for this amount has been included in the First Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure, 1962/63, under Head 42 "Ministry of Development and Welfare".

6. Jamaica has been invited to participate in the Twelfth Session of the General Conference of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which will open at its Headquarters in Paris on Friday the 9th of November. The Honourable E. L. Allen, the Minister of Education, will attend as Jamaica's sole representative, and it is hoped that the necessary formalities for joining the Organization will be completed in time for the Minister to attend as a full member, and not as an observer.

Alexander Bustamante
Prime Minister
and Minister of External Affairs

3rd November, 1962.

M.E.A. 69/01