Role of UNESCO in Developing Library Services.

Mr. Basawaraj Malipatil, Dr Ambedkar

Librarian

First Grade College Rangampet, Tq-Shorapur, Dist- Yadagir. 585220. Karnataka State. India.

ABSTRACT: UNESCO was founded in 1946 by an inter-governmental agency belonging to the United Nations system. Among many subjects implied in the title, it deals with library Documentation information archives Book production copyright and similar other things. These subjects are handled at the UNESCO headquarters by different units. However in 1976 two main division namely that of Documentation and information which has been responsible for carrying out the UNISIST programme were combined to establish a new division known as the General information programme (PGI). The operational

Keywords : UNESCO, Library, Services, Activities, countries.

I. INTRODUCTION

Information services within UNESCO such as Documentation systems Division including computerised Documentation services UNESCO library and UNESCO archives are administratively separated from the PGI. It is learnt that very recently the PGI and the operational services divisions have been grouped together as general information services under a unified command.

II. OBJECTIVES

The objectives are contributing to the world peace security and international understanding by promoting education science and culture among the nations of the world; fostering respect for justice rule of the law and basic freedoms for all people giving momentum to developmental activities in the member-states through operational assistance. The UNESCO seeks to create a new world order by realizing its objectives.

III. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

It has at present 157 members and one associate member in the organization with its headquarters situated in Paris. The organization consists of a general conference an Executive Board a secretariat co-operating Bodies and Regional offices.

a) Activities

UNESCO activities in developing library documentation and information activities are grouped into following directions:

Principles and structure of Documentation library and archives services: UNESCO through its various principles has contributed a lot to documentation library and various principles has UNESCO public library manifesto gave a new image and wide scope to public libraries. It influenced the development of public libraries in many member states and underdeveloped countries and recognized the role of libraries in educating communities. UNESCO also concerned itself with school libraries and educational documentation services both as an essential aid to education and an ideal means of establishing the learning and reading habit among different groups of people. Concerning the university the special libraries UNESCO initiated several activities like seminars technical assistance missions grants publications etc to improve the services of libraries in member states. UNESCO's contribution to the development of scientific and technical documentation centers helped member countries to overcome problems of information explosion and paved the way for the increase of S & T research. UNESCO also recommended to member countries the selling up of a national system (NATIS) which helped to lay the foundation of national regional and international cooperation in information services.

1. Internationalization of Documentation library and archival services: UNESCO has contributed to a great extent in the internationalization of documentation library and archival services at national regional an international levels it helped in the free flow of information and documentation embodying the product of the human intellect. Its periodic associations with international non-governmental organisations like FID, IFLA, and ICA have enabled it to extend its programme of activities many international seminars workshops conferences courses have been organized throughout the world.

2. Professional Training: through the initiative of UNESCO the international institute for Educational planning started teaching its regular students on the planning of library service.

UNESCO's action in this field takes the form of meetings of experts specialized courses the setting up of regional training centres like those in Dakar (Senegal) Kampala (Uganda) legon (Ghana) and Kingston (Jamaica) and schools of librarianship the sending of experts and consultants to member-states the granting of fellowships and the organizing of courses for teachers in schools for librarians and archivists. These programmes have contributed to the improvement of the courses given in these schools and to the opening of additional schools and have helped in creating awareness of the fact that the improvement of library services is hampered if governments do not give priority to the training of librarians documentalists and archivists. UNESCO also considered that the professional training of librarians and specialists in the information sciences would be incomplete unless interest in research was stimulated as part of such training so that trainees would have a wider-outlook and real professional aptitude. For this purpose the organization helped to set up library research centres one in the school of librarianship of the university of Dakar and one in the Department of information sciences of the faculty of Arts at the university of Buenos Aires.

It also supported several training programmes library schools international summer schools etc. To create well trained library personnel.

3.   Establishment of public university and national libraries: the UNESCO championed the cause of public library movement in the third world. Its faith in public libraries as means of continuing education and cradle of democracies providing objective knowledge and information without any restrictions is reflected in its publication UNESCO public library manifesto (1949, revised in 1972 and 1994). It established pilot public libraries in Enugu (Nigeria) Medellin (Columbia) and new Delhi (India) . it conducted several regional seminars at Brazil Lebanon, Nigeria, and India with the support of the member –states on the theme of public libraries including the regional seminar on library Development in Asia' in 1960.

4.   UNISIST and NATIS: NATIS, the concept of a national information and library system and UNISIST the concept of an international system for the transfer of information together constitute

UNESCO's greatest contribution in the field with which helping to place documentation library and archives services upon national regional and international foundations become possible\. The goals scope and purposes of NATIS and UNISIST had been approved by the UNESCO General conference at different sessions and the principles underlying them were the organization's response to the growing complex and pressing problem of how to bring the bibliographical and documentary resources of mankind within the reach of everyone all over the world without limitations of any kind.

5.   NWICO (new world information and communication order): the UNESCO is helping the developing countries to strengthen their communication system by its programmes of new world information and communication order (NWICO) and the inter-government programmes for the development of communication (IPDC). With and intention of promoting regional co-operation, better understanding and socio-economic development in Asia and the pacific regions UNESCO established in 1984 a Regional network for Exchange of information and Experience in sciences and Technology in Asia and the pacific (ASTINFO), later in 1986 another network call Asia- pacific information network in social sciences (APINESS) was established.

6. ISORID (international information systems in Research in Documentation): UNESCO has also established an international information system on research in Documentation (ISORID) for collecting and dissemination of information on research activities in documentation libraries and archives conducted at different institutions all over the world. The establishment of clearing house for handling information on science and information policies of the countries of the world under the programme of science and Technology policies information Exchange system (SPINES) has also been developed. It also developed databases and information system such as the Data Retrieval system for Documentation in the social and human sciences (DARE) and the international Bureau of Educational documentations and information system (IBEDOC).

i)   **Book promotion :** A familiar problem in most of the developing countries is lack of books in their vernacular languages UNESCO has organized a number of regional meetings to study this problem and as a result regional book promotion centres have come up with the participation of member states.

ii)   **Publications:**   the following are a few important publications of the UNESCO:

1. Copyright Bulletin (Quarterly)
2. Impact of science on society (Quarterly)
3. UNESCO courier (Monthly)
4. UNESCO journal of information science librarianship and archives administration (Quarterly) [Formerly UNESCO Bulletin for libraries]
5. UNISIST news letter (Quarterly)
6. World Guide to library schools and Training course's in Documentation 1981
7. UNESCO chronicle (Monthly)

An far as UNESCO contribution in Indian context is concerned India has been a member for the UNESCO from the very beginning the Delhi public library was established in India with its assistance only UNESCO helped us a lot by undertaking many projects in our country conducting training programmes seminars and providing technical expertise.

While the Indian national commission for UNESCO is the official agency the NISSAT (national information system for science and Technology) in the DSIR (Department of scientific and industrial Research) is the focal point for UNISIST/PGI (General information programme for UNESCO and is also the coordinating centre for ASTINFO programme.

UNESCO is also supporting APINESS programme for which NASSDOC (of ICSSR) is the focal point. India had also organized a few conferences and Regional seminars of UNESCO important among them are:

- Ninth General conference (Delhi) (1956)
- Regional seminar on Book Distribution promotion and Market research (Delhi) (1959)
- Regional seminar on libraries in south-Asia (1960)
- Metropolitan libraries seminar (Delhi) (1973)
- Seminar on Handling and Retrieval of chemical information (Delhi) (1986)

IV. CONCLUSION

Concluding it is seen that the efforts of UNESCO have increased considerably in promoting international co-operation and more stress is also given in the application o computers and communication technologies in the development of information systems. The other activities of UNESCO aim at improving national and regional programmes such as training seminars refresher courses in service training to managers etc.

REFERENCES

[1]. B L Ullman (2015). The Public Library of Renaissance Florence. American Council of Societies, USA. ISBN : 9781597405126.
[2]. John Wiley and Sons Ltd (2017). Inventory of Social Science Informatiom and Documentation Service. UNESCO. ISBN : 9780631189657.
[3]. Louis Shores (1973). The Library and Society. Journal of Library History, Philosophy and Comparative Librarianship. University of Texas Press. Pp 143-149.
[4]. David Baker and Wendy Evans (2011). Libraries and Society Role, Responsibility and Future in an Age of change. ISBN : 978-1-84334-131-4.
[5]. Y Masuda (1983). The Role of the Library in the Information Society. The Electronic Library. Emerald Publishing Limited. Vol.01, Issue 02. Pp 143-147.