

CONTINUED UNITED STATES MEMBERSHIP IN UNESCO

- WHEREAS, the United States was a founding member of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; and
- WHEREAS, UNESCO's programs are vital to the international flow of publications and information, to Universal Bibliographical Control, to international copyright, to the worldwide promotion of books, libraries, publishing and literacy; and
- WHEREAS, the American Library Association has been a longstanding member of the United States National Commission for UNESCO; and
- WHEREAS, ALA has a strong and continuing concern for the issues of press freedoms which are addressed in the UNESCO forum; and
- WHEREAS, the United States National Commission for UNESCO, on the basis of an extensive study of the views of the American Library Association and other U.S. non-governmental organizations qualified to evaluate the UNESCO program, affirmed on December 16, 1983, that continued United States membership in UNESCO is in the national interest;
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the American Library Association deeply regrets the decision of the President of the United States, on recommendation of the Secretary of State, to issue notice of the intention of the United States to withdraw from membership in UNESCO effective December 31, 1984; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the American Library Association calls upon the Secretary of State and the Director-General of UNESCO to initiate prompt, serious and productive negotiations leading to timely and satisfactory resolution of differences in order to preserve the many positive benefits of continuing U.S. participation in UNESCO; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State and the Director-General of UNESCO and other appropriate bodies.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
Washington, D. C.
January 11, 1984
(Council Document #21)