

Centre des Sciences humaines, Côte d'Ivoire

Au cours de l'année 1963 et au début de 1964, les activités du Centre des Sciences humaines en Côte d'Ivoire se poursuivent de façon régulière, malgré quelques difficultés d'ordre matériel. Faute de moyens et de personnel technique indispensable notamment pour la conservation matérielle des très nombreuses collections du Musée d'Abidjan, certaines réalisations du programme prévu ont dû être reportées à plus tard. Néanmoins, les enquêtes commencées depuis de longues années se poursuivent, et certains sujets ont déjà été rédigés sous une forme définitive, et sont prêts à publication.

Une étude consacrée au problème du séparatisme religieux en Afrique noire et en particulier en Côte d'Ivoire, se trouve justement sous presse sous la signature de B. Holas. D'autres suivront au cours de cette année ou de l'année suivante. Un album illustré d'arts ivoiriens est également en préparation.

Les enquêtes régionales ont permis de constituer de dossiers importants qui se trouvent actuellement à l'état de dépouillement: il s'agit des groupes ethniques bété, gagou et sénoufo.

The Unesco East-West Major Project

In 1956 the General Conference decided in favour of the implementation, for a ten-year period, of a Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values. An account of the fifth session of the Advisory Council for the Major Project, held in Paris from 9 to 13 September 1963, is given in the *Unesco Chronicle* (vol. ix, November 1963). As far as Africa was concerned, it was stated that 'it has hardly been possible as yet to achieve the objectives of the Major Project. To avoid harmful maladjustment in the appreciation of African values and of their relationship to those of other civilizations, however, "due allowance must be made for difference in the level of cultural facilities"'. The committee recognized that the "fundamental problems in connexion with the execution of the Major Project were the re-evaluation of the African cultures and the appreciation of their infinite diversity". In response to the wish expressed by Africans, it asked the Organization to pay special attention to those problems in connexion with its programme for the study, preservation and presentation of African cultures'.

The First Conference of African National Commissions for Unesco

THE First Regional Conference of African National Commissions for Unesco was held in Kampala, Uganda, from 9 to 14 September 1963. It was attended by the representatives of National Commissions in twenty-three countries while five other African States sent observers. Four Commissions were established to study the main items on the agenda: the role and resources of National Commissions, the implementation of the Addis Ababa plan for educational development and the recommendations of the Tananarive Conference on the Development of Higher Education in Africa, Unesco's programmes for the application of science and technology for the benefit of the less developed areas, and the preservation and development of African cultures. Alluding to the cultural problems of these countries, the Director-General mentioned the assistance being provided by the Organization for Institutes of African Studies and the part it had played in the establishment of the International Congress of Africanists. 'Without intervening directly in the elaboration of the very substance of culture—for that is not its function—Unesco is promoting all forms of action which will enable that culture to find expression and to develop: museums and libraries, exhibitions and publications, conferences and round tables.'

Proceeding from the principle that 'the peoples of Africa cannot worthily occupy their