

# The International Charter on Geographical Education

Source: CGE IGU, 1992

## Preface

**The Commission on Geographical Education of the International Geographical Union:**

**Convinced** that geographical education is indispensable to the development of responsible and active citizens in the present and future world,

**Conscious** that geography can be an informing, enabling and stimulating subject at all levels in education, and contributes to a lifelong enjoyment and understanding of our world,

**Aware** that students require increasing international competence in order to ensure effective cooperation on a broad range of economic, political, cultural and environmental issues in a shrinking world,

**Concerned** that geographical education is neglected in some parts of the world, and lacks structure and coherence in others,

**Ready** to assist colleagues in counteracting geographical literacy in all countries of the world,

**Supporting**, the principles set out in:

- the Charter of the United Nations;
- the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- the Constitution of UNESCO; the UNESCO Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace;
- the Declaration on the Rights of the Child; and
- many national curricula and statements on geographical education,

**Recommends this International Charter on Geographical Education to all people of the world.**

## **Attitudes and Values conducive to**

- interest in their surroundings and in the variety of natural and human characteristics on the surface of the Earth;
- appreciation for the beauty of the physical world, on the one hand, and of the different living conditions of people, on the other;
- concern for the quality and planning of the environment and human habitat for future generations;
- understanding the significance of attitudes and values in decision making;
- readiness to use geographical knowledge and skills adequately and responsibly in private, professional and public life;
- respect for the rights of all people to equality;
- dedication to seeking solutions to local, regional, national and international problems on the basis of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.