

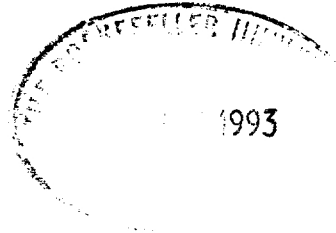


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reference: DG/2.3/1834



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- 4 OCT 1993

Dear Dr Lederberg,

Like many others, I am very much preoccupied by the growing isolation of scientists who come from developing countries, Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, and whose intellectual contacts with the world scientific community have been severed.

Modern communication technology could allow us to alleviate this problem. I am thinking about the feasibility of establishing a UNESCO scientific channel. Using satellites, it would deliver the lectures and other communications prepared by world-renowned scientists to universities all over the world, but particularly to those in developing countries, Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. I believe that such a delivery system, if mounted quickly, could be of great importance to the future of world science.

I would be most grateful to receive your comments and advice about pursuing this idea. What kind of structure, what body might determine the channel's programming? What are the possible sources of funding (this is not that cheap an exercise)? And whatever else would be useful to discuss.

With thanks in advance for your consideration, I am

Yours sincerely,

Federico Mayor

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