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Discussions at the Singapore conference centered mainly on the need for the regeneration and improvement of education to keep pace with burgeoning quantity; the adaptation of content and curricula to rapidly changing conditions and particularly to the needs of development; ways of increasing the volume of international aid and, above all, of ensuring its selective and rational use.

Other aspects of educational development which the delegates examined in detail were the strengthening of scientific and technical education; the need for more and better rural education; the modernization of teacher training; the issues of educational planning, management and administration; the wider use of new educational methods and techniques; out-of-school education (youth and adult education and literacy). In fact, more or less the whole spectrum of education came under discussion.

As the final report adopted by the conference emphasizes: " Because of the rapid demographic expansion and severe financial restraints, the changing objectives of education, the explosion of knowledge and social transformation, new educational concepts and technology, the kind of progress aimed at will not, and cannot, be achieved through piecemeal measures or through partial innovations, however significant or bold." What is needed is a global re-thinking of the educational systems of Asia in order to adapt them to the present function of education in today's world and to the varied conditions prevailing in many countries of the region.

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