EDK Schweizerische Konferenz der kantonalen Erziehungsdirektoren
CDIP Conférence suisse des directeurs cantonaux de l'instruction publique
CDPE Conferenza svizzera dei direttori cantonali della pubblica educazione
CDEP Conferenza svizra dals directurs chantunals da l'educaziun publica
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Statement on Racism in Schools

from June 6, 1991

The Swiss Conference of Cantonal Directors of Education (Schweizerische Konferenz der kantonalen Erziehungsdirektoren EDK) welcomes Switzerland's signing of the United Nations declaration on "removing every form of racial discrimination".

The worldwide problem of respecting human rights as well as living together with people from other countries and cultures in Switzerland are challenges for our educational institutions.

The principles outlined in the "EDK Guidelines for Schooling Foreign Children and Young People" generally apply in our schools:

- full integration of foreign children and young people
- high regard and positive consideration for the different cultures of these people

Beyond this, the school is to educate children and young people at all levels to respect their fellow human beings, show tolerance for other religious, ethnic and social groups, among others, and strive for peace among peoples everywhere. Teaching and education must bring about an understanding for blatant and hidden forms of racism and combat these so that encounters with foreign people and groups are free of fear and open.

These principles should particularly be heeded during teacher training and ongoing education courses as well as during the preparation of curricula and teaching materials.

Plenary Session from June 6, 1991