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## UNESCO sub-regional office likely in Dhaka

PARIS, May 19.—Minister for Education Dr. Abdul Ma-jeed Khan has expressed confidence that the UNESCO proposal for the establishment of sub-regional office for South Asia would "receive" serious consideration in the organi-sation's next budget document.

The proposal, which had al-ready been agreed in principle, should be speeded up for im-plementation in accordance with the relevant resolutions 'to have a number of sub-regi-onal offices with equally wide ranging responsibility', he said in an exclusive interview with BSS.

Dr Khan who left here Friday for home after attend-ing the first half of the on going Executive Board meet-ing of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organi-sation said that proposed sub-regional office for South Asia was expected to be set up in Dhaka. Besides Bangladesh, it would cover other countries including India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bhutan.

The Minister, a Board mem-ber, addressed the meeting of the Paris based UN body on

May 11. He told BSS that the UNESCO regional conference for Asia and the Pacific would be held in Dhaka in December this year. During his stay here he had signed a protocol with the UNESCO for the proposed regional conference scheduled to being in December, he added.

The meeting of Executive Board the highest decision making body of the UNESCO, would continue till May 23.

Dr Khan said, in the meet-ing plans and programmes were discussed to launch an 'international campaign for the restoration and preservation' of the Paharpur Buddhist monastery and the Shat Gom-buz mosque in Bagerhat.

The decision to launch such a campaign was announced by the UNESCO Secretary Gene-ral during his visit to Bangla-desh last year.