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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 already been agreed in principle, should be speeded up for implementation in accordance with the relevant resolutions "to have a number of sub-regional offices with equally wide ranging responsibility", he said in an exclusive interview with BSS.

Dr Khan who left here Friday for home after attending the first half of the on-going Executive Board meeting of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation 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 member, 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 begin 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 meeting 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 General during his visit to Bangladesh last year.