UNESCO preparatory meet starts today

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BANGALORE: The preparatory symposium to the June 1999 UNESCO's world conference on science will begin in the city from Wednesday.

Titled “Science and society: a new social contract,” the three-day symposium will review the fields and practices of sciences in terms of social orientation and relevance.

Director of the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) Roddam Narasimha told reporters on Tuesday that the it would seek to contribute to the developments of a new social contract for natural sciences that will in turn enable enriching the quality of life of people in the 21st century.

The Bangalore symposium will submit recommendations and suggest amendments to UNESCO's draft declaration on science and the use of scientific knowledge to be adopted at the July conference, scheduled to be held at Budapest, Hungary. “It will serve as a forum for scholars and researchers from social and natural sciences. Besides, it will provide a long-term strategic framework,” Prof Narasimha said.