

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/35/592/Add.7
10 December 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-fifth session
Agenda item 61

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Report of the Second Committee (Part VIII)

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Committee continued its consideration of the item at its 41st and 45th to 49th meetings, on 11 and 20 November, and 2, 4 and 9 December 1980. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/35/SR.41 and 45-49). Action on subitem (i) is discussed in section II below.

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries
(subitem (i))

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/35/L.52 and A/C.2/35/L.107

2. At the 41st meeting, on 11 November, the representative of Venezuela introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/35/L.52), entitled "Technical co-operation among developing countries", on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77. The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1/

"Recalling also its resolution 34/117 of 14 December 1979, in which it approved the substantive and organizational arrangements for the first High-level Meeting on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries,

"Having examined the report of the High-level Meeting on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries on its first session, 2/

"Noting decision 80/46 of 30 June 1980 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on technical co-operation among developing countries, 3/

"1. Takes note of the report of the first High-level Meeting on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries;

"2. Decides to rename the High-level Meeting as the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, performing the functions outlined in recommendation 37 and other relevant recommendations of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries;

"3. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to convene the meeting of the Committee from 1 to 8 June 1981 under the same organizational and procedural arrangements as were made for the first High-level Meeting;

"4. Urges all States to take immediate steps to implement the agreements reached by the first High-level Meeting;

"5. Invites all participants in the United Nations Development Programme to undertake the necessary preparations for the meeting of the Committee in 1981 and to be represented at it at a high level;

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and Corrigendum), chap. I.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/35/39).

3/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 12 (E/1980/42/Rev.1), chap. XI.

"6. Requests the executive heads of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations development system, including the regional commissions, in close co-operation with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to contribute to the preparation of the meeting of the High-level Committee in 1981 and participate actively in it."

3. At the 45th meeting, on 20 November, Mr. J. L. Villa, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/35/L.107), which was submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.52.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.107 (see para. 19).

5. In the light of the adoption of the draft resolution, draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.52 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

6. A statement was made by the representative of Czechoslovakia (also on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (see A/C.2/35/SR.45).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.68 and Rev.1

7. At the 41st meeting, on 11 November, the representative of Venezuela introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/35/L.68), entitled "Economic co-operation among developing countries", on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77. The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, on development and international economic co-operation,

"Recalling also its resolutions 3177 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, 3241 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, 3442 (XXX), of 9 December 1975, 31/119 of 16 December 1976, 32/180 of 19 December 1977, 33/195 of 29 January 1979, and 34/202 of 19 December 1979, as well as resolution 127 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 4/ on economic co-operation among developing countries,

4/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fifth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.II.D.14), part I, sect. A.

"Noting further the decisions taken by the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Mexico City from 13 to 22 September 1976, 5/

"Recalling the decisions taken by the Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 6 to 16 February 1979, at which the Arusha Programme for Collective Self-Reliance and Framework for Negotiations 6/ was adopted,

"Recalling also the decisions taken by the non-aligned countries on economic co-operation among developing countries, particularly the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation, adopted at the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 16 to 19 August 1976, 7/ and resolution 7, containing policy guidelines on the reinforcement of collective self-reliance between developing countries, adopted at the Sixth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana from 3 and 9 September 1979, 8/

"Noting the recommendations on support measures adopted by the Preparatory Meeting of Governmental Experts of Developing Countries, held at Geneva from 17 March to 8 April 1980, and the results of the First Special Session of the Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Geneva from 23 June to 2 July 1980, 9/

"Noting also the decisions taken at the Fourth Regular Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1980, 10/

"1. Welcomes the initiative taken by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 to convene a conference of developing countries at a high level in 1981 in order to intensify and ensure the implementation of various programmes and decisions on economic co-operation among developing countries in a concrete and coherent manner;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts in support of economic co-operation among developing countries, including - as and when

5/ Official Records of the Trade and Development Board, Sixteenth Session, Second Part, Annexes (TD/B/628).

6/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fifth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.II.D.14), annex VI.

7/ See A/31/197, annex III.

8/ See A/34/542, annex.

9/ TD/B/C.7/L.10 and Add.1.

10/ A/35/506.

requested - the provision of the necessary Secretariat services and other suitable arrangements to facilitate the holding of meetings by the developing countries devoted to the preparation of the conference referred to above and the work of the conference itself;

"3. Takes note of the report of the First Special Session of the Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries; 6/

"4. Endorses the recommendations on support measures adopted at the Preparatory Meeting of Governmental Experts of Developing Countries;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within the framework of its mandate, to provide the necessary assistance to the developing countries in implementing the recommendations adopted at the Preparatory Meeting of Governmental Experts of Developing Countries."

8. At the 46th meeting, on 20 November, the representative of Venezuela introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/35/L.68/Rev.1), on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77, which contained the following changes:

(a) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the first line was revised to read as follows:

"Recalling further" instead of "Recalling";

(b) A new sixth preambular paragraph was added, which read as follows:

"Reaffirming that in the context of international economic co-operation the achievement of the goals of greater economic co-operation among developing countries will make an important contribution to the establishment of the new international economic order,";

(c) The third operative paragraph became the second and was revised to read as follows:

2. "Takes note of the report of the First Special Session of the Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries and of the recommendations on support measures adopted at the Preparatory Meeting of Governmental Experts of Developing Countries,";

(d) The fifth operative paragraph became the third and was revised to read as follows:

3. "Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within the framework of his mandate, to provide the necessary assistance in support of relevant programmes of economic co-operation among developing countries,";

(e) A new fourth operative paragraph was added, which read as follows:

4. "Urges all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in accordance with established procedures and practices, to support measures of economic co-operation among developing countries, including, as requested, the continued provision of the necessary Secretariat support services and other suitable arrangements to facilitate the holding of meetings by the developing countries in pursuance of the objectives of economic co-operation among developing countries."

9. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, Australia, Japan, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Luxembourg (on behalf of the States members of the European Economic Community) and Venezuela (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77.

10. After further discussion of draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.68/Rev.1, the representative of Venezuela orally introduced a draft decision, entitled "Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries", on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77. He suggested that the Committee should take action on the draft decision rather than on draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.68/Rev.1. The draft decision read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirms the validity of the following paragraph adopted by consensus in General Assembly resolutions 31/119 of 16 December 1976, 32/180 of 19 December 1977, 33/195 of 29 January 1979 and 34/202 of 19 December 1979 as well as resolution 127 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, on economic development among developing countries,

"Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with their established procedures and practices, to support measures of economic co-operation among developing countries, including, as and when requested, the continued provision of the necessary secretariat support services and other suitable arrangements to facilitate the holding of meetings by the developing countries in pursuance of the objectives of economic co-operation among developing countries."

11. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to defer decision on this matter to a subsequent meeting.

12. At the 47th meeting, on 2 December, the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.68/Rev.1 and the draft decision orally introduced by Venezuela informed the Committee that they did not wish to submit those proposals to a vote.

13. In the light of the statement made by Venezuela, the Committee decided to incorporate those proposals in its report. A statement was made by the representative of Venezuela.

C. Draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.125

14. At the 47th meeting, on 2 December, the representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/35/L.125) entitled "Special operation to overcome the critical economic situation of many developing countries", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the suggestions made by the Secretary-General in his address to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1980 for overcoming the critical economic situation of many developing countries, 11/

"Recalling further its resolution S-11/3, of 15 September 1980,

"Taking note of the note of the Secretary-General entitled 'Suggestions to overcome the critical economic situation of many developing countries', 12/

"1. Decides to launch a special operation in 1981 to alleviate the balance-of-payment problems arising from the critical economic situation of many developing countries. Such operation should consist of, inter alia, additional Official Development Assistance, and an increase in the lending capacity of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank for the benefit of developing countries;

"2. Requests, to this end, the Secretary-General to estimate the magnitude of the balance-of-payments deficit of each developing country in 1981;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to make arrangements, in consultation with Member States, to convene, as early as possible in 1981, a pledging conference with the objective of obtaining the additional resources, needed to carry out the special operation;

"4. Agrees that the implementation of the Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981) for the Least Developed Countries, as approved in resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, will not in any way be delayed or diminished in scope and volume as a result of this special operation;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to establish an account through which contributions by donor countries should be channelled and monitored;

"6. Urges the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to take

11/ E/1980/SR.24; see also A/35/3/Add.2, paras. 7-28.

12/ A/35/608.

appropriate steps for the implementation of the special operation to overcome the critical economic situation of many developing countries;

"7. Decides to review the progress made in the implementation of this resolution at its thirty-sixth session."

15. A statement by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.125 was circulated in document A/C.2/35/L.126.

16. At the 49th meeting, on 9 December, the representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.125, made a statement concerning the consultations held on the draft resolution and informed the Committee that they would not seek a vote on the draft resolution at this session of the General Assembly.

17. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to incorporate the text of the draft resolution in its report to the General Assembly.

18. At its 49th meeting, on 9 December, the Committee took note of the note by the Secretary-General entitled "Suggestions to overcome the critical economic situation of many developing countries" (A/35/608) (see para. 20).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

19. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Technical co-operation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, 13/

Recalling also its resolution 34/117 of 14 December 1979, in which it

13/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

approved the substantive and organizational arrangements for the first high-level meeting on the review of technical co-operation among developing countries,

Having examined the report of the High-level Meeting on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries on its first session, 14/

Noting decision 80/46 of 30 June 1980 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on technical co-operation among developing countries, 15/

1. Takes note of the report of the High-level Meeting on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries on its first session;

2. Decides to change the name of the High-level Meeting to High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, with the same functions and frame of reference as those outlined in recommendation 37 and other relevant recommendations of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries;

3. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to convene the next session of the Committee from 1 to 8 June 1981 under the same organizational and procedural arrangements as were made for the session of the High-level Meeting;

4. Urges all States to take immediate steps to implement the agreements reached by the High-level Meeting at its first session;

5. Invites all participants in the United Nations Development Programme to undertake the necessary preparations for the session of the Committee in 1981 and to be represented at a high level;

6. Requests the executive heads of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations development system, including the regional commissions, in close co-operation with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to contribute to the preparation of the session of the Committee in 1981 and to participate actively therein.

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20. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

14/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/35/39 and Corr.1).

15/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 12 (E/1980/42/Rev.1), chap. XI.

Suggestions to overcome the critical economic situation
of many developing countries

The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on suggestions to overcome the critical economic situation of many developing countries. 16/
