

its sixteenth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*15th plenary meeting
24 May 1989*

1989/26. Contribution of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986 on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990,

Recalling its resolution 1988/1 of 5 February 1988 and its decision 1988/161 of 27 July 1988,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on investment of transnational corporations in Africa,⁴⁹ submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-third session in the context of the mid-term review of the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Bearing in mind the fact that transnational corporations can contribute to Africa's economic recovery and development through increased direct investment in productive sectors of African economies,

Recognizing that investment by transnational corporations in Africa would constitute a significant source of non-debt-creating resource flows to Africa,

Noting with concern that the share of investments made by transnational corporations in developing countries has been substantially declining in general and in Africa in particular,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report containing, *inter alia*, recommendations on alternative strategies that would create a mutually beneficial framework and lead to concrete measures to encourage transnational corporations to respond positively to improvements in the investment climate in Africa and thereby promote economic growth and self-sustaining socio-economic development, in accordance with the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa, adopted in 1980,⁵⁰ especially in those sectors in which transnational corporations can make a major contribution through capital mobilization, technical expertise, transfer of technology and market access;

2. *Invites* the home countries of transnational corporations, as a complement to measures taken by developing countries themselves, to encourage investment by such corporations in all developing countries, particularly those in Africa, and, to that end, to consider providing, *inter alia*, financial and fiscal incentives, including tax-sparing;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize resources for increased support of technical assistance requirements of African countries, at the national, subregional and regional levels, to enable them to increase their capacities to deal with transnational corporations, so as to take advantage of investment opportunities through transnational corporations;

⁴⁹A/43/500/Add.2.

⁵⁰A/S-11/14, annex 1.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to upgrade the report prepared for the mid-term review of the implementation of the Programme of Action,⁴⁹ to provide detailed and comprehensive coverage of foreign direct investment in Africa on a sector-by-sector basis and to report thereon to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its sixteenth session.

*15th plenary meeting
24 May 1989*

1989/27. Activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia, in particular resolution 1988/56 of 27 July 1988, in which it urged all transnational corporations to stop immediately all forms of collaboration with the racist minority régime in South Africa and called for specific actions by Member States and transnational corporations to end such collaboration,

Noting with grave concern the brutal perpetuation of the inhuman system of *apartheid* in South Africa and the continued denial of the civil and political rights of the majority of the population in that country,

Bearing in mind the fact that continued investments, trade, technological co-operation and other covert or overt activities by transnational corporations inside and outside South Africa provide sustenance to *apartheid*,

Noting the current efforts to implement Security Council resolution 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978 and attain the independence of Namibia,

Having examined the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia and collaboration of such corporations with the racist minority régime in that area⁵¹ and on the responsibilities of home countries with respect to the transnational corporations operating in South Africa and Namibia in violation of the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations,⁵²

1. *Reiterates* its abhorrence of *apartheid*, which is a crime against humanity, and condemns the South African régime for its perpetuation of *apartheid*, for its continued oppression of the majority of the people of South Africa and for its acts of military and economic destabilization against the neighbouring independent States;

2. *Condemns* those transnational corporations that continue to collaborate with the racist minority régime in South Africa in defiance of United Nations resolutions and international public opinion and, in many cases, in violation of measures adopted by their home countries;

3. *Welcomes* as an initial step the measures taken by some Governments to impose restrictions on investments, bank loans and other economic activities in South Africa, as well as the divestment by some transnational corporations of their equity investments in South Africa;

4. *Deeply regrets* that the measures taken so far fall short of the comprehensive and mandatory

⁵¹E/C.10/1989/8 and Corr.1.

⁵²E/C.10/1989/9.

sanctions against the racist régime in South Africa called for in relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

5. *Calls upon* the Governments of home countries of transnational corporations to implement fully the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/56, and to consider adopting further measures to prohibit all forms of collaboration by transnational corporations with the racist minority régime in South Africa, including not only direct investments, but also services, non-equity forms of business arrangements, technology licensing, distribution and franchising agreements and other such activities;

6. *Urges* all transnational corporations to stop immediately any operations in South Africa and all forms of trade and economic links with the racist minority régime;

7. *Calls upon* all multilateral financial and development institutions to cease immediately any kind of support or other form of collaboration with the racist régime in South Africa;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite the implementation of paragraph 9 of Council resolution 1988/56 and to report on the results thereof to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its sixteenth session;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue the useful work of collecting and disseminating information on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and in Namibia until the attainment of its independence, including the compiling of a list of transnational corporations still conducting operations there;

(b) To prepare studies on the level and forms of operations by transnational corporations in South Africa and in Namibia until the attainment of its independence, including their non-equity business arrangements and their involvement in particular sectors of the South African and Namibian economies, and an updated study on the responsibilities of home countries with respect to the transnational corporations operating in South Africa and Namibia in violation of the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations;

(c) To report annually to the Commission on Transnational Corporations, the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council on the implementation of the present resolution.

*15th plenary meeting
24 May 1989*

1989/28. Role of transnational banks in developing countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 43/198 of 20 December 1988 entitled "External debt crisis and development: towards a durable solution of the debt problems",

Recalling its resolution 1988/58 of 27 July 1988 on strengthening the role of the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in support of developing countries,

Reaffirming the importance of continuing the consideration by the Commission on Transnational

Corporations of issues related to the activities of transnational banks,

Taking into account the linkage existing between the activities of transnational banks on the one hand, and the financial flow of resources to, and the external indebtedness of, the developing countries on the other,

Taking into account also the role of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in the context of the interrelatedness of the activities and policies of all relevant actors in the field of external indebtedness,

Taking into account further the contribution transnational banks can make to a solution of the external debt problems of developing countries and certain other countries with serious debt-servicing problems,

Requests the Secretary-General to prepare for submission to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its sixteenth session a report on the present and potential activities of transnational banks related to the external indebtedness of developing countries and certain other countries with serious debt-servicing problems, taking into account the recent proposals that emphasize, *inter alia*, reduction of the stock and service of commercial debt.

*15th plenary meeting
24 May 1989*

1989/29. Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the decision of the Secretary-General to deploy on a full-time basis a senior-level officer, preferably a woman, within existing resources, in a position designated as the focal point within the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat to monitor and facilitate the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat,

Noting the absence of the progress report requested by the General Assembly in resolution 43/224 C of 21 December 1988,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 43/101 of 8 December 1988 on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 43/103 of 8 December 1988 and 43/224 C of 21 December 1988 on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat, and 43/226 of 21 December 1988 on the United Nations common system, and all of their relevant provisions, as well as other related resolutions and decisions and their relevant provisions,

Recalling also the priorities identified by the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat in its fourth report,⁵³

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts and to consider additional measures to increase the number of women in posts subject to geographical distribution, particularly in senior policy-making and decision-making posts, with a view to achieving an overall participation rate of 30 per cent of the total by 1990;

2. *Also requests* that such additional measures meet the goal of ensuring equitable representation of women from developing countries;

⁵³A/C.5/43/14, annex 1