

UNITED NATIONS

NATIONS UNIES

ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCILCONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL

UNRESTRICTED

E/1373/Rev.1

22 July 1949

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Dual Distribution

Ninth Session

Item 9

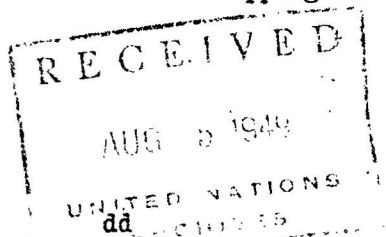
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Communication from the Food and Agriculture Organization.

Excerpt from the Report of the Council of FAO on Technical assistance.

"The Council devoted close attention to the subject of Technical Assistance for Economic Development. It had before it the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on Technical Assistance prepared for submission to ECOSOC by the Secretary General of UN in consultation with the Director-General of the Specialized Agencies and the report of the Director-General on a Supplementary Technical Assistance Program of FAO. It also heard a statement on the procedures of the Working Party set up by ACC for the preparation of the report to ECOSOC on which the Deputy Director-General and other FAO officials played a substantial role.

In the discussion on the reports it became clear that members of the Council attached the highest importance to the proposals for increased technical assistance to underdeveloped countries and considered that the proposals put forward were likely greatly to increase FAO's ability to assist its member countries. The Council recognized the importance of provision for cooperation between all the international agencies concerned in a broad integrated program of technical assistance for economic development in which agriculture, nutrition, forestry, fisheries and social welfare must form important parts. The Council also calls attention to need for full cooperation of FAO's activities with bilateral schemes to ensure the avoidance of overlapping and duplication.



It was recognized that the FAO supplementary Technical Assistance Program was a description of the fields in which FAO could render technical assistance together with tentative estimates of cost rather than a definitive program of specific projects in particular regions or countries.

It was agreed that such an approach was inevitable at the present stage of the evolution of the general plans. A number of proposals were made regarding fields of activity appropriate for FAO, and emphasis was laid on the need for the closest cooperation with the UN and the other specialized agencies concerned.

The Council adopted the following resolutions:-

The Council

Having considered the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on Technical Assistance for Economic Development, prepared in accordance with the resolution of ECOSOC of March 4th, 1949, and the Director-General's proposals regarding FAO's participation therein,

Regards the proposals for an extended program of technical assistance as being of the greatest importance for the attainment of the purposes of the Nations as set out in the U.N. Charter, and in the preamble of the Constitution of FAO,

Approves the principle of full participation by FAO in the proposed extended program of technical assistance,

Attaches great importance to the development of the technical aid program in such a way as to ensure the utmost possible co-operation and coordination between the various Agencies and Governments concerned, and

Requests the Director-General to bring this resolution to the attention of ECOSOC at its 9th Session.

In its consideration of the proposals, the Council attached special importance to the longer term projects to be carried out by FAO individually or in association with the UN or other specialized agencies,

such as the development of extension services, improvement of statistics, resource-surveys, training of technicians, migration, but they urge that priority should be given to undertakings which result in the early increase in food supplies such as production programs and improved farming methods, control of animal and plant diseases and reduction of waste on farms, in stores and in distribution.

The Council adopted the following resolution :

The Council

Requests the Director-General to circulate the report on a Supplementary Technical Program (CL 6/9) to Member Governments together with the Council's comments, to place the subject of technical assistance on the Agenda of the Regional Conferences, together with suitable documentation,

Recommends that the Director-General should avail himself of the widest possible expert advice on methods which have been proved valuable in the development of under-developed areas, and that he should consult those countries which have had special experience in this field, either by consulting individual experts or groups of experts concerned, with the object of completing a report for submission to the Conference at the next session, comprising

- (a) a survey of the diverse forms and techniques in which technical assistance can be given, and
- (b) an examination of the resources available for specialized advice upon which calls might be made,

and further recommends that the Director-General should take such action as he deems desirable to ascertain from the Governments of the member countries their preliminary views regarding the most urgent needs for technical assistance.

The Council also adopted the following resolution :

The Council

Recommends that the Conference at its regular session should

examine the revised proposals of the Director-General as a basis for decisions regarding the supplementary budget required for technical assistance,

Requests the Director-General to maintain continued close consultation with the UN and the specialized agencies concerned and, in consultation with the Council, to take whatever action may be required to bring the technical assistance program into operation at the earliest practicable date".