

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/6188

18 December 1965

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

Twentieth session  
Agenda item 12

## REPORTS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Second CommitteeRapporteur: Mr. A. RAMAHOLIMIHASO (Madagascar)

1. At its 1336th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1965, the General Assembly allocated to the Second Committee certain parts of agenda item 12 entitled "Reports of the Economic and Social Council".<sup>1/</sup> The parts of the two reports allocated to the Second Committee were as follows:

- (i) With regard to the report to the nineteenth session: chapters I-VI, VII (sections I, II, III [except para. 346], IV and V), VIII (sections III and IV) and X (sections II and VIII);
- (ii) With regard to the report to the twentieth session: chapter I-XI, XII (section II) and XIV (sections II, IV, VI and VII).

2. The Committee considered these parts of the reports of the Council throughout the course of its meetings, and particularly in conjunction with other agenda items dealing with the subject-matter contained therein. The Committee also had before it, during its consideration of agenda items 37 and 52, the report of the Economic and Social Council on the first part of its resumed thirty-ninth session.<sup>2/</sup>

3. Finally, the Committee received in connexion with item 12 three draft resolutions which are dealt with in section I-III below.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/5803); *ibid.*, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/6003).

2/ *Ibid.*, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 3A (A/6003/Add.1).

## I. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

4. At the 976th meeting, the Committee had before it a draft resolution submitted by Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Ceylon, Denmark, Ghana, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Mexico, Nepal, the Netherlands, Romania and the United Arab Republic (A/C.2/L.797), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its conviction, which was greatly strengthened by the results of the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of the Less Developed Areas, that science and technology can make an outstanding contribution to the achievement of the aims of the Development Decade and the aspirations of the peoples of the developing countries,

"Recalling its resolution 1944 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963 concerning international co-operation in the application of science and technology to economic and social development,

"Noting with appreciation the comprehensive response made by the Advisory Committee to the request in its resolution 1944 (XVIII) that the Advisory Committee examine, in keeping with its terms of reference, the possibility of establishing a programme of international co-operation in science and technology for economic and social development, with special reference to the study of the problems of the developing countries and the exploration of suitable solutions,

"1. Takes note with satisfaction that the Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1083 (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965, has warmly commended the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development for its second report, has approved the plans of the Advisory Committee for the next phase of its work, and has transmitted the second report (E/4026) to the General Assembly as an exposition of the steps that must be taken to achieve the objectives envisaged in its resolution 1944 (XVIII);

"2. Endorses the views of the Advisory Committee that:

"(a) It would not only be possible, but highly desirable, to develop a world programme of the kind envisaged in resolution 1944 (XVIII) in the sense of a planned international campaign to strengthen existing programmes and to add appropriate new arrangements to round out the total effort;

"(b) The Economic and Social Council itself should be the appropriate body, under the authority of the General Assembly, to initiate and guide the programme through its links with the various members of the United Nations family (including the regional economic commissions), with non-governmental organizations, and with Governments;

"3. Commends the comprehensive proposals and suggestions, made by the Advisory Committee in part IV of its second report, to the attention of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, all organizations of the United Nations family concerned with the application of science and technology to development, and all similarly interested non-governmental organizations;

"4. Invites the Advisory Committee, as its programme of work evolves, to continue to examine in more detail the needs and possibilities and, where appropriate, the role of the organizations of the United Nations family in relation to:

"(a) The establishment of national policies for the application of science and technology to development by developing countries not yet possessing them;

"(b) The establishment and/or the strengthening of institutions for scientific and technological research in the developing countries, and of co-operative arrangements among such institutions, especially on a regional basis;

"(c) The more extensive undertaking by appropriate institutions in the highly developed countries of research on problems of special concern to the developing countries;

"(d) The encouragement of co-operative links between universities, research institutes and laboratories in the highly developed countries and those in the developing countries."

This draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Australia and considered at the 976th, 990th and 1020th meetings.

5. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland proposed the following amendments (A/C.2/L.802) to the fourteen-Power draft resolution:

(a) In operative paragraph 2 (b) the words "inter-governmental and" would be inserted before the words "non-governmental organizations";

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the words "inter-governmental and" would be inserted before the words "non-governmental organizations". These amendments were subsequently withdrawn.

6. At the 990th meeting, the sponsors, who were now joined by France, Iran and Senegal, submitted a revision of their draft resolution (A/C.2/L.797/Rev.1 and Corr.1 (Spanish only)), which incorporated the following changes:

(a) The latter part of the first paragraph of the preamble, "that science and technology... of the developing countries", would be changed to read "that science and technology can make an outstanding contribution to the economic and social development of the developing countries,";

(b) In the third paragraph of the preamble, the word "its" would be changed to read "General Assembly";

(c) The first part of operative paragraph 1 "Takes note... for its second report" would be replaced by "Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1083 (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965, in which the Council has warmly commended the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development for its second report,";

(d) Operative paragraph 2 would be replaced by:

"2. Also endorses the views of the Advisory Committee that:

"(a) It would not only be possible, but highly desirable, to develop a programme of the kind envisaged in resolution 1944 (XVIII) to strengthen existing programmes, to add appropriate new arrangements to round out the total effort, and designed to draw the attention of world opinion to the work of the Advisory Committee;

"(b) The Economic and Social Council itself should be the appropriate body, under the authority of the General Assembly, to initiate and guide the programme, through its links with the various United Nations organs (including the regional economic commissions), and non-governmental organizations, and through the co-operation of the States Members of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the IAEA;"

(e) The first part of operative paragraph 4 and sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (d) would be changed to read as follows:

"4. Invites the Advisory Committee, as its programme of work evolves, and in the light of its second report, to continue to examine in more detail the needs and possibilities and, where appropriate, the role of the United Nations family in relation to:

"(a) The establishment of national policies for the application of science and technology to development by developing countries;

"(b) The establishment or strengthening of institutions for scientific and technological research in the developing countries, and of co-operative arrangements among such institutions, especially on a regional basis, with a view to the widest dissemination of the possibilities of applying scientific and technical knowledge to development;

"(d) The encouragement of co-operative links between universities, research institutes, laboratories and similar institutions in the highly developed countries and those in the developing countries."

7. The Committee then voted on the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.797/Rev.1 and Corr.1 (Spanish only)) and approved it unanimously. At the 1020th meeting the Committee accepted without objection a suggestion by the sponsors that the words "with the various United Nations organizations (including the regional economic commissions) ...", in operative paragraph 2 (b), should be revised to read: "with the organizations in the United Nations family, the regional economic commissions..." (for the final text, see paragraph 15 below, draft resolution I.

## II. DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

8. At the 994th meeting, the Committee had before it a draft resolution submitted by Algeria, Australia, Austria, Chile, France, Iran, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, Romania, Somalia, Sudan, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia (A/C.2/L.820 and Corr.1 (English only)); which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Bearing in mind the efforts made by all countries, and particularly the developing countries, to hasten the process of their economic and social development,

"Considering that the broadening of man's horizons and his access to all the conquests of science, technology and culture constitute one of the chief needs of the modern world,

"Expressing the conviction that in order to hasten economic and social progress of the developing countries it is necessary to intensify measures for the utilization of human resources to the full and especially for the training of national personnel, with due regard for the national plans of each country and their present and long-term requirements for qualified personnel at all levels and in all important sectors of activity,

"Recalling its resolution 1515 (XV) in which it notes the importance of proper regard for the human and social aspects of economic development, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1090 A (XXXIX) in which it requests the competent organs of the United Nations to take concerted steps to prepare programmes of action for promoting training and utilization of human resources in the developing countries,

"Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX) under which the organs of the United Nations family have been asked, inter alia, to determine how they can make their maximum contribution both individually and by concerted action to the goals of the United Nations Development Decade,

"Having regard to the increasing variety of the activities undertaken by organizations of the United Nations family in the sphere of training and utilization of human resources as an essential factor of economic growth,

"Having regard also to the need to concert efforts in that direction and to the concern of Member States for the fulfilment by the Economic and Social Council of its functions under the United Nations Charter,

"1. Welcomes Economic and Social Council resolution 1090 A (XXXIX), in which the Secretary-General is requested to submit to the Council, at its forty-third session, a report on measures calculated to intensify concerted action by the United Nations and its specialized agencies with regard to the training of national personnel for the economic and social development of the developing countries;

"2. Invites the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to bear these problems in mind when they come to review future programmes of action, in accordance with the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX);

"3. Requests the Secretary-General

"(a) To take whatever measures he considers necessary so that the discussion of his report envisaged in Economic and Social Council resolution 1090 A (XXXIX) may culminate in a comprehensive evaluation of the experience gained so far by the United Nations family in the development of human resources;

"(b) To make all necessary arrangements for a thorough discussion of this problem, with the participation of the specialized agencies concerned, in particular the ILO, UNESCO, WHO, FAO, and the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, at the forty-third session of the Economic and Social Council."

This draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Romania and considered at the 994th meeting.

9. The Committee approved the sixteen-Power draft resolution by acclamation (see paragraph 15 below, draft resolution II).

### III. UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE

10. At the 1003rd meeting, the Committee had before it a draft resolution submitted by Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Cameroon, Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (A/C.2/L.832) which read as follows:

/...

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the high hopes with which the Development Decade was launched at the sixteenth session of the General Assembly as the first world-wide effort of all peoples to give substance, within a reasonable span of time, to the solemn undertaking embodied in the Charter of the United Nations to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

"Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1079 (XXXIX), which took note with satisfaction of the Secretary-General's intention to set up a group of experts in development planning, who should, inter alia, consider and evaluate the programmes and activities of the organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies relating to economic programming and planning,

"Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX), which requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to review their work programmes and to explore the possibility of formulating future programmes of action and, if possible, to make projections over the next five years with a view to identifying areas in which their organizations can make their maximum contribution both individually and by concerted action to the goals of the United Nations Development Decade,

"Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX) concerning the United Nations Development Decade,

"Bearing in mind that in the proceedings of the thirty-ninth session of the Economic and Social Council, as reflected in resolution 1089 (XXXIX), it was recognized that the gap between the standards of living in the developed and developing countries has widened instead of narrowing and that a series of indicators show slow progress towards the goals laid down for the Decade,

"Bearing in mind that the developing countries have increasingly tended in recent years to establish specific targets in the various economic and social fields by means of national development plans,

"Considering that this action has not yet been accompanied to an adequate extent by action at the international level and that the Development Decade therefore lacks a set of specific and realistic goals and objectives, which would permit satisfactory co-ordination of the action programmes of the United Nations family of organizations and would at the same time allow more effective co-operation with Governments and allow more rational use to be made of their efforts and available funds,

"Considering that this set of specific and realistic goals and objectives in the economic and social fields constitutes one basis for the economic security of the developing countries, which is conceived of as the combination

of the policies, actions and resources which ensure to the State the conditions for its free economic development and which is accordingly not only important for each State individually but is also essential to the balance of international peace and security,

"Bearing in mind, lastly, that the determination of these goals and objectives will make it possible to evolve suitable standards for assessing the progress of the United Nations Development Decade more effectively than has hitherto been possible and thus do more to accelerate the advancement and safeguard the economic security of the developing countries,

"Convinced that the attainment of the objectives of the United Nations Development Decade depends on the willingness to join in a common effort and on the better organization of this effort, so that the resources available may be brought to bear with maximum effectiveness on the bottle-necks which block more rapid development,

"1. Reaffirms the urgent necessity of attaining the over-all objectives set for the Development Decade in General Assembly resolution 1710 (XVI) for each developing country to achieve 'a substantial increase in the rate of growth, with each country setting its own target, taking as the objective a minimum annual rate of growth of aggregate national income of 5 per cent at the end of the Decade';

"2. Resolves to request the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the regional economic commissions:

"(a) To report jointly on the goals and objectives which have been established by the United Nations family of organizations;

"(b) To make every effort, within the possibilities of their regular budgets, and of appropriate funds in trust, to establish such goals and objectives in appropriate fields where they have not yet been precisely defined;

"(c) To explore, as the work of the group of experts in development planning referred to in Economic and Social Council resolution 1079 (XXXIX) progresses, the possibility of establishing a more comprehensive and coherent set of goals and objectives, so that a balance-sheet of the United Nations Development Decade and subsequent periods may be prepared and a method devised for the systematic evaluation of progress and prospects;

"(d) To review their plans and programmes in the light of the above-mentioned criteria in order that appropriate international action may be taken in support of efforts at the national and regional levels;



"(e) To submit a progress report to the forty-first session of the Economic and Social Council, together with the report on the review of work programmes requested by the Council in operative paragraph 2 of its resolution 1089 (XXXIX);

"(f) To transmit these reports with the comments and recommendations of the Council to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session."

This draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Argentina and considered at the 1003rd and 1004th meetings.

11. The sponsors, who were now joined by Ghana, India and Morocco, submitted a revised text of their draft resolution (A/C.2/L.832/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1) at the 1004th meeting. The revised draft resolution included the following changes:

(a) The fourth paragraph of the preamble was deleted and replaced by the following:

"Taking into account the various recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development related to the goals of the Development Decade,";

(b) In the fifth paragraph of the preamble, the words "and the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations Development Decade at midpoint" were inserted after the phrase "as reflected in resolution 1089 (XXXIX)";

(c) The phrase "corresponding to the needs of the developing countries" was inserted after the words "realistic goals and objectives" in the seventh paragraph of the preamble;

(d) The eighth paragraph of the preamble was revised to read as follows:

"Considering that such a set of specific and realistic goals and objectives in the economic and social fields constitutes a basis for the economic security of the developing countries, which goals and objectives can be meaningful only if they are combined with policies, actions and resources designed to ensure to Member States conditions for their free economic development and which are accordingly not only important for each State individually but essential to world peace and prosperity,";

(e) In the ninth paragraph of the preamble, the word "lastly" was deleted, and the words "thus do more to" were replaced by the words "thereby further";

(f) In the tenth paragraph of the preamble, the clause "so that the resources available may be brought to bear with maximum effectiveness on the bottle-necks which block more rapid development" was replaced by the following: "so that the

resources available may be brought to bear most effectively in order to eliminate the bottle-necks and thus to achieve rapid development,";

(g) The introductory part of operative paragraph 2 was revised to read:

"Requests the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the regional economic commissions:";

(h) In operative paragraph 2 (d) the word "criteria" was replaced by the words "goals and objectives";

(i) Sub-paragraphs (e) and (f) were deleted from operative paragraph 2 and incorporated in a new operative paragraph 3, which read as follows:

"3. Requests the Secretary-General:

"(a) To submit a progress report to the forty-first session of the Economic and Social Council, together with the report on the review of work programmes requested by the Council in operative paragraph 2 of its resolution 1089 (XXXIX);

"(b) To transmit these reports with the comments and recommendations of the Council to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session.".

12. At the same meeting, Austria, Ethiopia, Guinea, Iran, Syria and the United Arab Republic became sponsors of the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.832/Rev.1/Add.1).

13. The representative of Pakistan, speaking on behalf of the sponsors, stated that in the latter part of the seventh paragraph of the preamble, the words "which would permit satisfactory co-ordination... of their efforts and available funds" should be replaced by: "which would permit satisfactory co-ordination of the action programmes of the United Nations family of organizations and allow more rational use to be made of their efforts and available funds, which would at the same time allow more effective co-operation with Governments,".

14. The Committee then approved by acclamation the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.832/Rev.1) with the foregoing change (see paragraph 15 below, draft resolution III).

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

15. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Science and technology

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its conviction, which was greatly strengthened by the results of the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of the Less Developed Areas, that science and technology can make an outstanding contribution to the economic and social development of the developing countries,

Recalling its resolution 1944 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963 concerning international co-operation in the application of science and technology to economic and social development,

Noting with appreciation the comprehensive response made by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development to the request in General Assembly resolution 1944 (XVIII) that the Advisory Committee examine, in keeping with its terms of reference, the possibility of establishing a programme of international co-operation in science and technology for economic and social development, with special reference to the study of the problems of the developing countries and the exploration of suitable solutions,

1. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1083 (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965, in which the Council has warmly commended the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development for its second report, has approved the plans of the Advisory Committee for the next phase of its work, and transmitted to the General Assembly the second report<sup>1/</sup> as an exposition of the steps that must be taken to achieve the objectives envisaged in its resolution 1944 (XVIII);

2. Also endorses the views of the Advisory Committee that:

(a) It would not only be possible, but highly desirable, to develop a programme of the kind envisaged in resolution 1944 (XVIII) to strengthen existing programmes, to add appropriate new arrangements to round out the total effort, and designed to draw the attention of world opinion to the work of the Advisory Committee;

(b) The Economic and Social Council itself should be the appropriate body, under the authority of the General Assembly, to initiate and guide the programme, through its links with organizations in the United Nations family, the regional economic commissions and non-governmental organizations, and through the co-operation of the States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

3. Commends the comprehensive proposals and suggestions, made by the Advisory Committee in part IV of its second report, to the attention of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and as the International Atomic Energy Agency, all organizations of the United Nations family concerned with the application of science and technology to development and to all similarly interested non-governmental organizations;

4. Invites the Advisory Committee, as its programme of work evolves and in the light of its second report, to continue to examine in more detail the needs and possibilities and, where appropriate, the role of the United Nations family in relation to:

(a) The establishment of national policies for the application of science and technology to development by developing countries;

(b) The establishment or strengthening of institutions for scientific and technological research in the developing countries, and of co-operative arrangements among such institutions, especially on a regional basis, with a view to the widest dissemination of the possibilities of applying scientific and technical knowledge to development;

(c) The more extensive undertaking by appropriate institutions in the highly developed countries, of research on problems of special concern to the developing countries;

(d) The encouragement of co-operative links between universities, research institutes, laboratories and similar institutions in the highly developed countries and those in the developing countries.

## DRAFT RESOLUTION II

### Development and utilization of human resources

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the efforts made by all countries, and particularly the developing countries, to hasten the process of their economic and social development,

Considering that the broadening of man's horizons and his access to all the conquests of science, technology and culture constitute one of the chief needs of the modern world,

Expressing the conviction that in order to hasten the economic and social progress of the developing countries it is necessary to intensify measures for the utilization of human resources to the full and especially for the training of national personnel, with due regard for the national plans of each country and their present and long-term requirements for qualified personnel at all levels and in all important sectors of activity,

Recalling its resolution 1515 (XV) of 15 December 1960 in which it noted the importance of proper regard for the human and social aspects of economic development, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1090 A (XXXIX) of 31 July 1965 in which it requested the competent organs of the United Nations to take concerted steps to prepare programmes of action for promoting training and utilization of human resources in the developing countries,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX) of 31 July 1965 under which the organs of the United Nations family have been asked, inter alia, to determine how they can make their maximum contribution both individually and by concerted action to the goals of the United Nations Development Decade,

Having regard to the increasing variety of the activities undertaken by organizations of the United Nations family in the sphere of training and utilization of human resources as an essential factor of economic growth,

Having regard also to the need to concert efforts in that direction and to the concern of Member States for the fulfilment by the Economic and Social Council of its functions under the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Welcomes Economic and Social Council resolution 1090 A (XXXIX), in which the Secretary-General is requested to submit to the Council, at its forty-third session, a report on measures calculated to intensify concerted action by the United Nations and the specialized agencies with regard to the training of national personnel for the economic and social development of the developing countries;

2. Invites the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to bear these problems in mind when they come to review future programmes of action, in accordance with the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX);

3. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To take whatever measures he considers necessary so that the discussion of his report envisaged in Economic and Social Council resolution 1090 A (XXXIX) may culminate in a comprehensive evaluation of the experience gained so far by the United Nations family in the development of human resources;

(b) To make all necessary arrangements for a thorough discussion of this problem, with the participation of the specialized agencies concerned, in particular the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, at the forty-third session of the Economic and Social Council.

### DRAFT RESOLUTION III

#### United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Recalling the high hopes with which the United Nations Development Decade was launched at the sixteenth session of the General Assembly as the first world-wide effort of all peoples to give substance, within a reasonable span of time, to the solemn undertaking, embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1079 (XXXIX) of 28 July 1965 in which the Council took note with satisfaction of the Secretary-General's

intention to set up a group of experts in development planning, who should, inter alia, consider and evaluate the programmes and activities of the organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies relating to economic programming and planning,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX) of 31 July 1965, in which the Council requests the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to review their work programmes and to explore the possibility of formulating future programmes of action and, if possible, to make projections over the next five years with a view to identifying areas in which their organizations can make their maximum contribution, both individually and by concerted action, to the goals of the United Nations Development Decade,

Taking into account the various recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development related to the goals of the United Nations Development Decade,

Bearing in mind that in the proceedings of the thirty-ninth session of the Economic and Social Council, as reflected in resolution 1089 (XXXIX) and in the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations Development Decade at midpoint,<sup>1/</sup> it was recognized that the gap between the standards of living in the developed and developing countries has widened instead of narrowing and that a series of indicators show slow progress towards the goals laid down for the Decade,

Bearing in mind that in recent years the developing countries have increasingly tended to establish specific targets in the various economic and social fields by means of national development plans,

Considering that this action has not yet been accompanied to an adequate extent by action at the international level and that the United Nations Development Decade therefore lacks a set of specific and realistic goals and objectives, corresponding to the needs of the developing countries, which would permit satisfactory co-ordination of the action programmes of the United Nations family of organizations and allow more rational use to be made of their efforts and available funds, which would, at the same time, allow more effective co-operation with Governments,

Considering that such a set of specific and realistic goals and objectives in the economic and social fields constitutes a basis for the economic security of the developing countries, which goals and objectives can be meaningful only if they are combined with policies, actions and resources designed to ensure to Member States conditions for their free economic development and which are accordingly not only important for each State individually but essential to world peace and prosperity,

Bearing in mind that the determination of these goals and objectives will make it possible to evolve suitable standards for assessing the progress of the United Nations Development Decade more effectively than has hitherto been possible and thereby further accelerate the advancement and safeguard the economic security of the developing countries,

Convinced that the attainment of the objectives of the United Nations Development Decade depends on the willingness to join in a common effort and on the better organization of this effort, so that the resources available may be brought to bear most effectively in order to eliminate the bottle-necks and thus to achieve rapid development,

1. Reaffirms the urgent necessity of attaining the over-all objectives, set for the United Nations Development Decade in General Assembly resolution 1710 (XVI), for each developing country to achieve a substantial increase in the rate of growth, with each country setting its own target, taking as the objective a minimum annual rate of growth of aggregate national income of 5 per cent at the end of the Decade;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the regional economic commissions:

(a) To report jointly on the goals and objectives which have been established by the United Nations family of organizations;

(b) To make every effort, within the possibilities of their regular budgets, and of appropriate funds in trust, to establish such goals and objectives in appropriate fields where they have not yet been precisely defined;

(c) To explore, as the work of the group of experts in development planning referred to in Economic and Social Council resolution 1079 (XXXIX) progresses, the possibility of establishing a more comprehensive and coherent set of goals and



objectives, so that a balance-sheet of the United Nations Development Decade and subsequent periods may be prepared and a method devised for the systematic evaluation of progress and prospects;

(d) To review their plans and programmes in the light of the above-mentioned goals and objectives in order that appropriate international action may be taken in support of efforts at the national and regional levels;

3. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To submit a progress report to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-first session, together with the report on the review of work programmes requested by the Council in operative paragraph 2 of its resolution 1089 (XXXIX);

(b) To transmit these reports, together with the comments and recommendations of the Council, to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session.

-----