



General Assembly
Economic and Social Council

Distr.
General

A/41/374 ✓
E/1986/109
27 May 1986

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Forty-first session

Item 82 (a) of the preliminary list*

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT;

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED
NATIONS SYSTEM

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Second regular session of 1986

Item 19 of the provisional
agenda**

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR
DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE
UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly in its resolution 40/211 of 17 December 1985 invited the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system, where possible, to provide the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1986 and the General Assembly at its forty-first session at the time of the 1986 comprehensive policy review of operational activities, their views on the system-wide policy issues affecting operational activities identified by the Assembly in its resolutions 38/171 of 19 December 1983 and 40/211. As indicated in paragraph 3 of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General for the 1986 policy review of operational activities (A/41/350-E/1986/108), information provided by organizations in response to the invitation of the General Assembly is given in the annex to the present note.
2. On 20 December 1985 the Director-General informed organizations of the system of the General Assembly's invitation and requested executive heads to bring it to the attention of their governing bodies.

* A/41/50/Rev.1.

** E/1986/100.

3. As of 16 May 1986 10 organizations had responded. Two organizations (United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)) indicated that their respective governing bodies would meet only in 1987 and would therefore not be in a position to indicate their views to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in 1986. Four organizations (International Labour Organisation (ILO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)) stated that the views of their governing bodies would be available in time for the forty-first session of the General Assembly.

4. Attached herewith are the replies received to date from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and International Telecommunication Union (ITU). Information from the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will be circulated as addenda to this note.

ANNEX

Information provided by organizations of the United Nations system

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

[21 March 1986]

At its thirty-second session, the Trade and Development Board adopted decision 330 (XXXI1) on operational activities for development:

The Trade and Development Board

1. Requests the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to invite member States to comment upon the policy issues as reflected in document TD/B/L.792; 1/
2. Requests further the UNCTAD secretariat to compile these comments and forward them to the Economic and Social Council at its second session of 1986, together with comments on the subject made during the thirty-second session of the Board.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

[10 April 1986]

1. The Plenipotentiary Conference of ITU held at Nairobi in 1982 reviewed the basis and decided on certain reinforcement of the work of the Union with regard to technical co-operation in the field of telecommunications. Different aspects of this task of the Union for the coming years are covered in numerous resolutions of the Nairobi Conference.
2. A significant decision taken by the Conference in 1982 was the establishment of the Independent Commission for World-wide Telecommunications Development, which was required to identify the most successful methods of transfer of resources and to define new methods of co-operation and propose innovative means for stimulating the accelerated development of telecommunications through the use of appropriate and proven technology.
3. The Report of the Independent Commission for World-wide Telecommunications Development, presented in January 1985, contained many recommendations, of which one related to the establishment of a Centre for Telecommunication Development. The Administrative Council of the Union, at its fortieth session in 1985,

1/ On 15 April 1986 the Secretary-General of UNCTAD sent a note verbale to Governments of States members of UNCTAD requesting views that Governments might wish to present on the policy issues as reflected in document TD/B/L.792 entitled "System-wide policy issues affecting operational activities".

considered this report and accepted the recommendation. The Council decided that the Centre would be set up at Geneva within the framework of ITU and supported by resources provided voluntarily from governmental as well as non-governmental resources. The Centre will have its own separate and identifiable budget and will function under the direction of an Advisory Board.

4. The Administrative Council established guidelines for the Advisory Board, including, particularly, the following:

(a) Mobilization of the resources required for the advisory services of the Centre to meet, in co-ordination with the Technical Co-operation Department of ITU, the needs of developing countries and to ensure that an adequate part of those resources is available on a stable and continuing basis;

(b) Close and effective co-ordination of its activities with those of the Technical Co-operation Department and other international organizations for cost-effective utilization of resources available to the Centre;

(c) Utmost use of available governmental and non-governmental know-how at national and regional levels;

(d) Ensuring that the work of the Centre and its advisory services fulfil the need for strict neutrality and objectivity and are available universally.
