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Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Second Committee (part I)

Rapporteur: Mr. Leandro I. VERCELES (Philippines)

1. The General Assembly, at its 1843rd plenary meeting, held on 18 September 1970, allocated to the Second Committee certain parts of agenda item 12 entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council".<sup>1/</sup> The parts of the report allocated to the Second Committee were as follows: chapters I to VI, VII (section A, paragraphs 234 to 239), VIII, X (sections A to C), XI (sections B to D, F to J and L) and XIII (sections A to C and E). The General Assembly suggested that chapter VII, section A, paragraphs 240 and 241 (Social factors in improving nutrition), and chapter VII, section B, paragraphs 251 to 257 (Housing, building and planning in the Second United Nations Development Decade), which had been allocated to the Third Committee, might also be of interest to the Second Committee.
2. The Second Committee decided, at its 1311th meeting, on 28 September 1970, to take up the relevant parts of the report of the Council when it considered the separate items on its agenda to which they were related. The items and relevant sections of the report were the following:

Second United Nations  
Development Decade

(item 42, chapter I)

United Nations Industrial  
Development Organization

(item 38, chapter VI)

<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session,  
Supplement No. 3 (A/8003).

Operational activities for development	(item 40, chapter X, sections A and B)
United Nations Capital Development Fund	(item 41, chapter X, section A)
United Nations Conference on the Human Environment	(item 43, chapter IV, section F)
Question of the establishment of an international university	(item 44, chapter XI, section B)

3. The Second Committee considered the items at its 1318th to 1327th meetings between 21 and 30 October 1970, at its 1343rd to 1345th meetings on 18 and 19 November 1970, at its 1348th and 1349th meetings on 23 November 1970, at its 1352nd and 1353rd meetings on 25 November 1970 and at its 1354th meeting on 27 November 1970. The discussions which took place in the Committee are to be found in the summary records of the meetings.<sup>2/</sup>

4. In addition to the report of the Economic and Social Council, the Second Committee had before it the following documents on various subjects covered in the report:

Exploitation and conservation of living marine resources:

A/C.2/250	Note by the Secretary-General
E/4842	Report of the Secretary-General in collaboration with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

International co-operation on questions relating to the oceans:

A/C.2/251	Note by the Secretary-General
E/4836	Report of the Secretary-General

Increase in the production and use of edible protein:

A/C.2/252	Note by the Secretary-General
E/4829 and Corr.1-2	Progress report of the Secretary-General on the protein problem
E/L.1330	Note by the Secretary-General
E/AC.6/SR.514-516	Summary records of the Economic Committee of the Economic and Social Council

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<sup>2/</sup> A/C.2/SR.1318-1327, 1343-1345, 1348, 1349, 1352-1354.

Population and its relation to economic and social development:

A/C.2/253

Note by the Secretary-General

E/4778

Report of the Secretary-General on the  
world population situation

Economic and social consequences of disarmament:

A/C.2/254

Note by the Secretary-General

E/4811 and Add.1-3

Note by the Secretary-General and  
replies by Governments to the  
note verbale by the Secretary-General

Human resources for development:

A/C.2/255

Note by the Secretary-General

E/4790

Report of the Secretary-General

Multilateral food aid:

A/C.2/256

Note by the Secretary-General

Application of computer technology for development:

A/C.2/257

Note by the Secretary-General

E/4800 and Summary

Report of the Secretary-General

Outflow of trained personnel from developing to developed countries:

A/C.2/258

Note by the Secretary-General

E/4820 and Add.1

Report of the Secretary-General

5. The Second Committee had before it nine draft resolutions, as set forth in sections I to VII below.

[Sections II to VII will be contained in Part II of the report (A/8203/Add.1)]

I

Feasibility of creating an international corps  
of volunteers for development

6. The Committee considered this subject at its 1318th to 1323rd meetings held between 21 and 27 October 1970. It had before it a draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly, recommended by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1539 (XLIX) entitled "Feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development".

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7. At its 1322nd meeting on 26 October 1970, the Second Committee adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council by 60 votes to none, with 16 abstentions, on a second vote held in accordance with rule 110 of the rules of procedure (see paragraph 8 below, draft resolution I).

#### RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

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

##### Feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2460 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1444 (XLVII) of 31 July 1969 and also of the report of the Secretary-General on the feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development,<sup>3/</sup>

Convinced that the active participation of the younger generation in all aspects of social and economic life constitutes an important factor in ensuring the increased effectiveness of collective efforts necessary for a better society,

Convinced also that voluntary service in development assistance activities is a rewarding form of such participation and one which can make a substantial contribution to their success by the provision of an additional source of trained manpower, provided that:

(a) Such service is well planned and directed, utilizes volunteers recruited and serving on as wide a geographical basis as possible, including in particular the developing countries, and the necessary resources are made available;

(b) Volunteers have the technical and personal qualifications required for the development of recipient countries including the transfer of skills;

(c) Volunteers are not sent to a country without the explicit request and approval of the recipient Governments concerned,

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<sup>3/</sup> E/4790.

1. Welcomes the Secretary-General's proposals contained in his report;
2. Decides to establish within the existing framework of the United Nations system, with effect from 1 January 1971, an international group of volunteers the members of which shall be designated collectively and individually as United Nations Volunteers;
3. Requests the Secretary-General:
  - (a) To designate the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme as the Administrator of the United Nations Volunteers;
  - (b) In consultation with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to appoint a co-ordinator, within the framework of the Programme, to promote and co-ordinate the recruitment, selection, training and administrative management of the activities of the United Nations Volunteers within the United Nations system in collaboration with the United Nations agencies concerned and in co-operation with organizations concerned with national and international voluntary service and, where appropriate, with relevant youth organizations;
4. Invites Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, international non-governmental organizations and individuals to contribute to a special voluntary fund for the support of United Nations Volunteers activities;
5. Requests the Secretary-General and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to report through the Governing Council of the Programme and the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session on the experience gained from the operation of the United Nations Volunteers programme in implementing the present resolution and to make such proposals as they deem advisable to enable the United Nations Volunteers to serve better the aims and ends in view.

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