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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION
(Second session, Geneva, 9-13 July 1964)

1. At its resumed 36th session the Council elected the following States as members of the Special Committee on Co-ordination to serve for a term of office of one year (1964) : Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Denmark, France, Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and Yugoslavia.
2. The Committee met at the European Office of the United Nations on 9-13 July 1964. Mrs. N. Wright, of Denmark, was re-elected Chairman and Mr. G. Heible, of Austria, was elected Rapporteur. Representatives of specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency participated in the work of the Committee.
3. The Committee was originally scheduled to meet for a period of two weeks in May at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Because of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other conference pressures, the Committee had to content itself with a three-day session in Geneva just prior to the opening of the thirty-seventh session of the Council.
4. As a result of the circumstances referred to above, the Committee found itself unable to consider fully and report on the various matters that fall within its terms of reference. The Committee decided therefore to confine its report this year to identifying - in the light of the reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the specialized agencies and the IAEA, as well as other documents before the Council - and commenting briefly on a number of issues and areas of activity to which the Council might wish to devote special attention at this session.

5. The Committee was specifically requested by the Council in its resolution 920 (XXXIV) to take into account the activities of the ad hoc Committee of Ten. The Committee had before it that Committee's report (E/3862) as well as the Secretary General's proposals (E/3850, E/3851, and E/3899) and the recommendations of the ACC on the same subject (E/3886). The Committee, in view of the circumstances referred to in paragraph 3 of this report, did not find it opportune to go into the substance of the proposals for bringing together the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund into one United Nations Development Programme. It does, however, attach great importance to this issue because of its significance in the context of the Development Decade and because of the many co-ordination aspects involved. As regards procedure, the Committee recommends that the item be considered in the first instance in the Co-ordination Committee of the Council.

6. The Council has before it the Final Act and the Reports of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (E/CONF.46/139). The recommendations of the Conference, especially those concerning the establishment of the new institutional machinery in the field of trade and development, have a profound and direct bearing on the structure and modus operandi of the United Nations in respect of wide areas of economic and social activities, and will undoubtedly give rise to additional problems of co-ordination meriting the Council's closest attention. The Committee wishes, therefore, to express the hope that, when the detailed arrangements to give effect to the Conference's recommendations are considered, the utmost care will be taken to ensure:

- (a) a rational and clearly defined distribution of work among the different organs concerned; and
- (b) the further development of the system of close co-operation and co-ordination through consultation among members of the United Nations family which has been built up over the years under ECOSOC in virtue of Article 63 of the Charter.

7. A considerable part of the Council's machinery has remained virtually unchanged since 1946 and 1947 when the nature and scope of United Nations activities were very different from what they are now. It would seem opportune, in the light of the requirements of the Development Decade and in view of the factors referred to in the preceding paragraph, for this whole machinery to be looked at in a somewhat broader framework. The Council may wish to consider the advisability of arranging for such a re-appraisal to be undertaken of the adequacy and the effectiveness of the economic and social structure of the United Nations, with due regard to ensuring the good functioning of the agreements between the United Nations and the specialized agencies and IAEA.

8. Council resolution 991 (XXXVI) requested the ACC to give further consideration to certain problems relating to evaluation and to report on the results of its consideration of this request to the 37th session of the Council. The Committee studied with great interest the detailed comments and recommendations of the ACC contained in paragraphs 34-65 of its thirty-seventh report to the Council (E/3886). After elaborating extensively on the many difficulties and problems involved in evaluating the over-all impact of the programmes of the UN family, the ACC has presented in paragraphs 52-65 certain concrete proposals as to how in its opinion a process of evaluation should be set in motion. Most members of the Committee, while recognizing the many implications of the matter, feel that there is perhaps a disproportionate emphasis in the ACC report on the obstacles which stand in the way of a meaningful and effective evaluation. Other members of the Committee, while attaching importance to the question of evaluation, consider that the ACC's report maintains a judicious balance between the practical obstacles in the way of effective evaluation on the one hand and the ACC's practical proposals for pilot studies in four countries at different stages of economic development on the other. They favour a policy of hastening slowly in the field of evaluation. The Committee is of the opinion that a great deal of discussion on the importance and the problems of evaluating the overall impact of United Nations programmes has already taken place and that it would now be desirable to concentrate constructive efforts on the implementation of concrete proposals for action, so as to achieve as soon as possible some first tangible, if limited, results. The suggested idea of conducting pilot projects was felt to be a pertinent approach. Most members of the Committee are of the opinion that the Resident Representatives should be full members of the proposed evaluation teams. Other points that would in the view of the Committee deserve a careful consideration by the Council are the question of the role of the Resident Representative in the evaluation team, the degree of independence with which these teams should be endowed and the desirability of conducting further studies as to ways and means in which an evaluation machinery on a permanent basis could be established. The Committee concurred also in the view that the collection of information on as wide a basis as possible would be a step of foremost importance that could be undertaken as a preliminary measure independently of the pilot projects mentioned. This collection of data should be conducted in such a way as to concentrate at one point all the relevant information concerning a specific country, so as to obtain an overall view of the activities of the UN family in that country.

9. The Committee underlines the need for including full budgetary information in the annual work programme of the UN in the economic, social and human rights fields. In this regard, the Committee recalled resolution 1797 of the XVIIth General Assembly on integrated programme and budget policy, and ECOSOC resolution 990(XXXVI) under which the Council decided "to consider at its 1964 summer session ~~the~~ revision of the Council's procedures for discussing financial implications of its actions ..." (para 8 *ibid*). It was noted that much preparatory work was already being done and that the Council at its 37th session, pursuant to its resolution 990(XXXVI), would be presented by the Secretary-General with a work programme framed within the functional classification of the activities of the United Nations family in the economic, social and human rights fields. The Committee is of the opinion that the ECOSOC should give consideration to the establishment of a procedure for "screening" the UN work programme in the economic, social and human rights fields in relation to its budgetary implications. The establishment of such a procedure would imply that the Secretary-General would have to present to the ECOSOC, at a timely stage of the calendar year, an integrated draft programme and budget.. This would be a practical step of considerable importance on the road towards a clearly defined budget cycle for the United Nations programmes in question, with the result, first and foremost, that the General Assembly would be much better placed when taking decisions on the annual budget of the Organization. On the basis of the foregoing considerations, the Committee recommends that the Council give particular attention to the desirability of establishing such procedure as one of its subsidiary organs, and under its overall co-ordinating authority.
10. The Committee suggests that the Council should give special attention to the first report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development (E/3866) and to the relevant remarks in the 27th report of the ACC (E/3886), so that the work in this field for the benefit of the underdeveloped countries may be advanced as rapidly as possible.
11. The Committee noted the Secretary-General's reports on relations among planning institutes and on the United Nations Training and Research Institute (E/3923 and E/3924). It attaches great importance to the establishment and consolidation of these institutes in the framework of the Development Decade, as well as to the arrangements - which appear to be well in hand - for ensuring full consultation and co-ordination among them, especially in the pre-programming stage.

12. The Committee felt that the points outlined above were of such importance that in view of the short time available the discussion of any other items did not seem advisable. It is, however, aware of the fact that there are several other areas that involve important aspects of co-ordination to which the Council will undoubtedly wish to give its serious attention.