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Agenda item 67

TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Fazlul KARIM (Bangladesh)

1. The General Assembly, at its 2353rd plenary meeting on 19 September 1975, allocated to the Second Committee agenda item 67, entitled "Technical co-operation among developing countries".
2. The Second Committee considered this item 1/ at its 1666th to 1668th meetings, 1704th meeting, and at its 1708th to 1710th meetings, on 14 and 15 October, 25 November and on 1 to 3 December 1975. An account of the discussions of the Committee on the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/SR.1666-1668, 1704 and 1708-1710).
3. For the consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its nineteenth 2/ and twentieth 3/ sessions, the report of the Economic and Social Council, 4/ a note by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on technical co-operation among developing countries (DP/117 and Add.1-6) and a report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on technical co-operation among developing countries (DP/120).

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1/ The Committee held a general debate on this item jointly with item 66, entitled "Economic co-operation among developing countries: report of the Secretary-General".

2/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/5646), chap. VI.

3/ Ibid., Supplement No. 2A (E/5703/Rev.1), chap. VIII.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/10003), chap. VI, sect. A.II.

4. At the 1666th meeting on 31 October, the Assistant Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme made an introductory statement.

5. At the 1686th meeting, on 31 October, a draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1438) was submitted by Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, the Upper Volta, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

6. At the 1704th meeting, on 25 November, the representative of Argentina, on behalf of the original sponsors and Bangladesh, Egypt, Guyana, Iraq, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Paraguay, Peru, Romania, Uruguay and Zaire, subsequently joined by Brazil, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Somalia, Togo, the United Republic of Cameroon and Zambia, introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.1) which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolution 3251 (XXIX) of 4 December 1974 on technical co-operation among developing countries,

"Recalling the Consensus of 1970 and the decision taken by the Council of UNDP at its twentieth session concerning New Dimensions in Technical Co-operation,

"Recalling further Council resolution 1963 (LIX) of 30 July 1975,

"Bearing in mind its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 on the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

"Recognizing that technical co-operation among developing countries should be seen as an integral part of over-all co-operation for development as highlighted by the Working Group on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries in its final report (DP/69),

"Conscious that technical co-operation among developing countries constitutes one of the most effective channels for promoting economic co-operation among developing countries, to enable them to achieve collective self-reliance,

"Taking note with satisfaction of the statement made on behalf of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme at the 1666th meeting of the Second Committee in the introduction of the item,

"1. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in view of the importance of technical co-operation activities among developing countries, to integrate those activities through the work of the Special Unit into the regular framework of the United Nations Development Programme, and to give them due priority;

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"2. Emphasizes the need for the speedy and full implementation of the recommendations contained in the final report of the Working Group on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, as a whole, in particular by UNDP and the participating and executing agencies, as the prerequisite for the review of those recommendations envisaged by the Governing Council of UNDP;

"3. Further requests the Administrator of the Programme, for the purpose of achieving a practical application of technical co-operation among developing countries, to give special consideration to the recruitment of experts, consultants and subcontractors from developing countries on a preferential basis, as well as to purchase, also on a preferential basis, equipment and material that can be supplied by developing countries;

"4. Also requests the United Nations Development Programme and the participating and executing agencies to intensify their efforts for the full utilization of national institutions in developing countries and the building up of new capacities in those countries, in the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General, together with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to prepare a study on the existing rules, regulations, procedures and practices followed by the United Nations development system in recruiting experts, subcontracting and procuring equipment and to present it to the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its twenty-second session, together with concrete suggestions and recommendations for their adjustment and amendment, in order to promote technical co-operation among developing countries and attain equitable geographical distribution of recruitment, subcontracting and purchasing. In carrying out the work requested, full account should be taken of the request contained in paragraph 3 above;

"6. Decides to appropriate the necessary funds under the regular budget of the United Nations to cover the cost of providing conference servicing facilities for the intergovernmental regional and global meetings on technical co-operation among developing countries, to be organized and conducted by the United Nations Development Programme;

"7. Accepts the invitation of the Government of Argentina to act as host to the global meeting in 1977 and requests the sessional committee of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at the thirty-first session recommendations on the organization of the Conference;

"8. Stresses the need for closer co-ordination of the activities pertaining to technical co-operation among developing countries. To this end, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system should co-operate fully with the United Nations Development Programme in the promotion of such activities;

"9. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to see to it that the Special Unit for the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries in the Programme establish close collaboration with schemes of co-operation among developing countries that are taking place outside the United Nations system;

"10. Decides, in conformity with paragraph 7 of its resolution 3251 (XXIX), to include "Technical co-operation among developing countries" as an item on the provisional agenda of its regular sessions."

7. A statement by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.1) was circulated in document A/C.2/L.1484.

8. At the 1710th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of Argentina introduced a further revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.2) which incorporated the following changes:

(a) The fourth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.1 was transposed to the first preambular paragraph;

(b) A new fifth preambular paragraph was added which read as follows:

"Noting with satisfaction the decisions taken at the eighteenth and twentieth sessions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme concerning technical co-operation among developing countries,"

(c) In operative paragraph 1, the words "including the activities and projects carried out by the organizations of the United Nations development system financed by the United Nations Development Programme" were inserted between the words "United Nations Development Programme" and the words "and to give".

(d) Operative paragraph 2 was reworded as follows:

"2. Emphasizes the need for the speedy implementation of the recommendations contained in the final report of the Working Group on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries by all Governments, by the United Nations Development Programme and by the participating and executing agencies as the prerequisite for the review of those recommendations envisaged by the Governing Council of UNDP in the light of the experience gained in the process of implementation of the final report of the Working Group;"

(e) Operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.1 became operative paragraph 3 in the revised version, and was modified to read as follows:

"3. Requests the Secretary-General, together with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to prepare a study on the existing rules, regulations, procedures and practices followed by the United Nations development system in recruiting experts, subcontracting, procuring equipment

and provision of fellowships, which would include the consequences for the United Nations Development Programme of giving preferential treatment to the developing countries in the above-mentioned areas, in order to promote self-reliance in the developing countries through the support of technical co-operation among developing countries, in a manner consistent with the maximum effectiveness of the Programme, and to present this study, together with concrete suggestions and recommendations for their improvement to the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its twenty-third session;"

(f) Operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution in A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.1 became operative paragraph 4 in the revised text and was reworded as follows:

"4. Further requests the Administrator of the Programme, for the purpose of achieving a practical application of technical co-operation among developing countries, to give special consideration to the recruitment of experts, consultants and subcontractors from developing countries, as well as to purchase suitable and competitive equipment and material that can be supplied by developing countries;"

(g) New operative paragraph 6 was modified to read as follows:

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary funds under the regular budget of the United Nations to cover the cost of providing conference servicing facilities for the four intergovernmental regional meetings and for the conference on technical co-operation among developing countries, to be organized and conducted by the United Nations Development Programme;"

(h) New operative paragraphs 7 and 8 were added, which read as follows:

"7. Invites the Governments of developing countries of each region, in view of the preparatory nature of the intergovernmental regional meetings for the conference, to participate in these meetings along the lines suggested by the Administrator at the twentieth session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, and to include the consideration of items on arrangements for interregional co-operation and on the interrelationship between technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and financial arrangements for the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries, envisaged in the final report of the Working Group. Governments of other Member States may also participate in these meetings in order to prepare themselves for the conference;

"8. Invites further the intergovernmental regional meetings to include in their reports conclusions and recommendations for consideration at the conference;"

(i) Operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution in A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.1 became operative paragraph 9 and was reworded as follows:

"9. Takes note with appreciation of the offer made by the Government of Argentina to act as host of the conference in 1977 and requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at the thirty-first session recommendations on the organization of the conference;"

(j) Operative paragraph 8 of the draft resolution in A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.1 became operative paragraph 10 and the word "Governments" was inserted between the words "to this end" and "the specialized agencies";

(k) Operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution in A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.1 became operative paragraph 12 and the words "of the General Assembly" were added at the end of the paragraph.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1438/Rev.2) without a vote (see para. 10 below).

#### RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

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

##### Technical co-operation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing respectively the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Reaffirming its resolution 3251 (XXIX) of 4 December 1974 on technical co-operation among developing countries,

Recalling the consensus of 1970 adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its tenth session 5/ and the decision taken by the Governing Council at its twentieth session concerning new dimensions in technical co-operation, 6/

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1963 (LIX) of 30 July 1975,

Noting with satisfaction the decisions taken at the eighteenth and twentieth

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5/ See General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV), annex.

6/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 2A (E/5703/Rev.1), para. 332.

sessions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme concerning technical co-operation among developing countries, 7/

Recognizing that technical co-operation among developing countries should be seen as an integral part of over-all co-operation for development as highlighted by the Working Group on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries in its final report, 8/

Conscious that technical co-operation among developing countries constitutes one of the most effective channels for promoting economic co-operation among developing countries, to enable them to achieve collective self-reliance,

Noting with satisfaction the statement made on behalf of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme at the 1666th meeting of the Second Committee 9/ in the introduction of the item,

1. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in view of the importance of technical co-operation activities among developing countries, to integrate those activities through the work of the Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries into the regular framework of the United Nations Development Programme, including the activities and projects carried out by the organizations of the United Nations development system financed by the Programme, and to give them due priority;

2. Emphasizes the need for the speedy implementation of the recommendations contained in the final report of the Working Group on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries by all Governments, by the United Nations Development Programme and by the participating and executing agencies as the prerequisite for the review of those recommendations envisaged by the Governing Council of the Programme in the light of the experience gained in the process of implementing the final report of the Working Group;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, together with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to prepare a study on the existing rules, regulations, procedures and practices followed by the United Nations development system in recruiting experts, subcontracting, procuring equipment and providing fellowships, which would include the consequences for the Programme of giving preferential treatment to the developing countries in the above-mentioned areas, in order to promote self-reliance in the developing countries through the support of technical co-operation among developing countries, in a manner consistent with the maximum effectiveness of the Programme, and to submit that study, together with concrete suggestions and recommendations for their improvement to the Governing Council of the Programme at its twenty-third session;

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7/ Ibid., Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 2A (E/5543/Rev.1), para. 204, and ibid., Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/5646), para. 164.

8/ DP/69.

9/ See A/C.2/SR.1666.

4. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, for the purpose of achieving a practical application of technical co-operation among developing countries, to give special consideration to the recruitment of experts, consultants and subcontractors from developing countries, and to purchase suitable and competitive equipment and material that can be supplied by developing countries;

5. Requests the United Nations Development Programme and the participating and executing agencies to intensify their efforts to achieve full utilization of national institutions in developing countries and the building-up of new capacities in those countries, in the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary funds under the regular budget of the United Nations to cover the cost of providing conference servicing facilities for the four intergovernmental regional meetings and for the conference on technical co-operation among developing countries to be organized and conducted by the United Nations Development Programme;

7. Invites the Governments of the developing countries of each region, in view of the preparatory nature of the intergovernmental regional meetings for the conference, to participate in those meetings along the lines suggested by the Administrator at the twentieth session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme 10/ and to include the consideration of items on arrangements for interregional co-operation and on the interrelationship between technical and economic co-operation among developing countries and financial arrangements for the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries, envisaged in the final report of the Working Group; Governments of other Member States may also participate in these meetings in order to prepare themselves for the conference;

8. Invites the intergovernmental regional meetings to include in their reports conclusions and recommendations for consideration at the conference;

9. Takes note with appreciation of the offer made by the Government of Argentina to act as host of the conference in 1977 and requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to submit recommendations on the organization of the conference, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session;

10. Stresses the need for closer co-ordination of the activities pertaining to technical co-operation among developing countries; to this end, Governments, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system should co-operate fully with the United Nations Development Programme in the promotion of such activities;

11. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

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10/ See DP/121.



to ensure that the Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries in the Programme establish close collaboration with schemes of co-operation among developing countries that are taking place outside the United Nations system;

12. Decides, in conformity with paragraph 10 of its resolution 3251 (XXIX), to include the item entitled "Technical co-operation among developing countries" in the provisional agenda of the regular sessions of the General Assembly.

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