

tention, during the forthcoming decade, from the international community and from the Conference:

(a) Population growth, changes in demographic structure, including ageing of population, and the regional diversity of such changes, with particular emphasis on the interaction between demographic variables and socio-economic development;

(b) Population policies and programmes, with emphasis on the mobilization of resources for developing countries, at the international and national levels by each country according to its capacity;

(c) The interrelationships between population, development, environment and related matters;

(d) Changes in the distribution of population, including socio-economic determinants of internal migration and the consequences for urban and rural development, as well as determinants and consequences of all types of international migration;

(e) Linkages between enhancing the roles and socio-economic status of women and population dynamics, including adolescent motherhood, maternal and child health, education and employment, with particular reference to the access of women to resources and the provision of services;

(f) Family-planning programmes, health and family well-being;

5. *Stresses* the need, in connection with foregoing issues, to take account of the particular circumstances of the least developed countries;

6. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene six expert group meetings corresponding to the six groups of issues identified in paragraph 4 above, in order to provide the required input for consideration by the Conference, ensuring the participation of a full range of relevant disciplines and of geographical regions;

7. *Requests* the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation to provide overall guidance, orientation and coordination of the input from the appropriate secretariats of the United Nations system to the preparatory activities of the Conference;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to make use of the substantive contribution of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerned, as well as of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in the preparatory activities for the Conference;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to make full use of the existing resources of all units of the United Nations system concerned, in particular the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Population Fund;

10. *Invites* the regional commissions to convene as soon as possible meetings or conferences to review the experience gained in population policies and programmes in their regions, in the light of paragraphs 3 and 4 above, bearing in mind the relationship between

such policies and programmes and development issues, and to propose future action, as part of their contribution to the preparatory activities for the Conference;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to report to the Economic and Social Council at its regular sessions of 1992, 1993 and 1994 on the progress made in all aspects of the preparatory activities for the Conference;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to report to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on the status of the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development;

13. *Decides*, in principle, to hold the second session of the Preparatory Committee in August 1993, immediately following the rescheduled twenty-seventh session of the Population Commission, to review the state of the preparatory work, including the reports of the expert groups on their meetings;

14. *Also decides*, in principle, to hold the third session of the Preparatory Committee early in 1994 to review the documentation for the Conference, including the draft recommendations;

15. *Recommends* that the General Assembly consider establishing a voluntary fund for the purpose of supporting the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process and that it invite Governments to contribute to such a fund;

16. *Requests* the Conference to report to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly.

*32nd plenary meeting
26 July 1991*

1991/94. Patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 40/179 of 17 December 1985 and 44/234 of 22 December 1989,

Recalling also its resolutions 1987/6 of 26 May 1987 and 1989/4 of 22 May 1989,

Recalling further the reports of the Statistical Commission on its twenty-fourth,¹³⁶ twenty-fifth¹³⁷ and twenty-sixth sessions,¹³⁸ in particular the sections on development indicators,

¹³⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 6 (E/1987/19), paras. 133-140.*

¹³⁷ *Ibid.*, 1989, *Supplement No. 3 (E/1989/21)*, paras. 128-141 and 154-161.

¹³⁸ *Ibid.*, 1991, *Supplement No. 5 (E/1991/25 and Corr.1)*, paras. 122-141.

Recalling the work of the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Statistical Office of the Secretariat and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, on qualitative indicators of development,

Reiterating that the subject of patterns of consumption and related socio-economic indicators is of considerable importance and high priority for developing countries,

Encouraging countries, in this regard, to improve their basic statistical programmes and capabilities and to make efforts to develop the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of data relating to patterns of consumption, and inviting the international community to strengthen the national capabilities of the developing countries with respect to the collection of integrated socio-economic data and their processing, in particular by microcomputer, with a view to having better and more up-to-date data,

Convinced of the need to preserve, in the long term, balance between resources, population, environment and development, taking into account the advances made in science and technology and the need to make progress in the transfer of technological innovations to developing countries,

Stressing that the development of indicators tailored to the fundamental economic and socio-cultural needs of a population in the fields of food, clothing, housing, education, health care and necessary social services would help to orient national development and support international cooperation by helping Governments to formulate and follow policies better geared to human development,

Stressing also that the identification of indicative patterns of consumption and the development of qualitative indicators of development would be extremely useful in the evaluation of the progress achieved in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade¹³⁹ and would make a substantial contribution to the work of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in 1992,

Stressing further the need for harmonization of the work of the United Nations system on qualitative indicators of development,

1. *Notes* that the High-level Meeting of Experts on Social Development Indicators, envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/234, was held at Rabat from 8 to 11 April 1991 under the auspices of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to organize, in close consultation with the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, the Statistical Office of the Secre-

tariat, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organisation and the World Health Organization, in New York or Geneva, another high-level meeting of experts with a view to further advancing the work on qualitative indicators of development on the basis of the outcome of the first high-level meeting and the necessary further research, bearing in mind the need to ensure wider participation and collaboration of different scientific and technical disciplines;

3. *Invites* interested donor countries and relevant multilateral agencies to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for the purpose of holding in good time the meeting referred to in paragraph 2 above, and invites the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organisation and the World Health Organization, to support such a meeting;

4. *Requests* the regional commissions to organize workshops aimed at disseminating the concept of qualitative indicators of development on the basis of extrabudgetary support;

5. *Requests* the Statistical Commission to keep the issue of patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development under consideration, with a view to assisting the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in their appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade and, in particular, the mid-term review;

6. *Invites*, in the interest of harmonization, the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, as well as the international financial and development institutions, to use in their annual reports, as appropriate, qualitative indicators of development that are based on the areas identified in General Assembly resolution 40/179;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development and other relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to report orally to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

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¹³⁹ General Assembly resolution 45/199, annex.