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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
Second regular session of 1987
Item 12 of the provisional
agenda**
POPULATION QUESTIONS

Implementation of Council resolution 1986/7 on population questions

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The Economic and Social Council, in paragraph 11 of its resolution 1986/7, requested the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its forty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of that resolution.
2. In paragraph 3 of its resolution 1986/7, the Council decided to consider, at its second regular sessions, the report of the Population Commission and relevant parts of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), together with relevant inputs from the regional commissions. The agenda of the Council for its second regular session of 1987 has been so organized.
3. In paragraph 5 of the resolution, the Council invited the Population Commission to act upon the recommendations contained in paragraph 70 of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to General Assembly resolution 39/228 on the International Conference on Population (A/41/179-E/1986/18), in which the Secretary-General stated that:

"To provide the Population Commission with comprehensive information on the work of the United Nations and the United Nations system in the field of population and thereby place the Commission in a better position to provide the policy guidance expected from it, the following measures are recommended:

* A/42/50.

** See Economic and Social Council decision 1987/108

"(a) The Commission should receive a review of UNFPA activities from the Executive Director of UNFPA on a regular basis; the section of the report of the Governing Council of UNDP dealing with UNFPA should also be made available for information;

"(b) The Commission should receive through its substantive secretariat, the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, periodic reports on the activities of the United Nations system prepared in collaboration with all organizations and agencies concerned. The Commission should be enabled, within its terms of reference, to discuss this matter and advise the Council on further improving co-operation and co-ordination within the system;

"(c) The Commission should also receive reports from its substantive secretariat on the work on non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations in the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action."

4. In acting upon the recommendation, the Commission, at its twenty-fourth session, considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations system in the field of population (E/1987/4) and on the work of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action (E/CN.9/1987/6) and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) on the activities of the Fund (E/CN.9/1987/5). The Commission considered these reports under item 5. 1/ The Commission also had available to it the section of the report of the thirty-third session of the Governing Council of UNDP dealing with UNFPA. 2/

5. In paragraph 6 of its resolution 1986/7, the Council invited the Governing Council of UNDP:

"(a) To use reports of the Population Commission for greater exchange of information on population questions;

"(b) To give adequate consideration to Fund matters, bearing in mind the importance of population issues and the separate identity of the Fund as stated in paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972;

"(c) To continue to organize its work programme in a manner that will facilitate the consideration of Fund matters before relevant budgetary and administrative issues are taken up in the Budget and Finance Committee of the Governing Council."

6. The Governing Council, in its decision 86/34, 3/ took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to General Assembly resolution 39/228 on the International Conference on Population (A/41/179-E/1986/18) and Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/7 and decided:

(a) To utilize the reports of the Population Commission during its discussion of Fund-related questions so as to increase the exchange of information on population questions;

(b) With a view to providing adequate time for consideration of questions relating to the Fund, to review at its organizational meeting for 1987 the number of meetings to be allocated to the Fund in the light of the experience gained at the thirty-third session;

(c) To continue organizing its work programme in a manner that would facilitate the consideration of Fund-related items in plenary meetings before the relevant budgetary and administrative questions were taken up in the Budgetary and Finance Committee;

(d) To request the Executive Director of the Fund to monitor the multilateral population programmes and projects supported by the Fund;

(e) To request the Executive Director to continue to support, with the express consent of the recipient Government, innovative projects of non-governmental organizations.

7. In paragraph 12 of its resolution 1986/7, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to keep under review the follow-up to General Assembly resolution 39/228 and to include a separate section on the subject in the overview report requested in paragraph 6 of Council resolution 1985/4.

8. In accordance with the request made by the Council in paragraph 6 of its resolution 1985/4, the following reports are being submitted to the Council for consideration at its second regular session of 1987:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population trends and policies (E/1987/3);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations system in the field of population (E/1987/4);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of multilateral population assistance (E/1987/5).

Notes

1/ For an account of the discussion, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 3 (E/1987/16), chap. IV.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986, Supplement No. 9 (E/1986/29), chap. VI.

3/ Ibid., annex I.