

session, in which the Board suggested that the General Assembly proclaim 1990 International Literacy Year,

Emphasizing that widespread illiteracy, especially in many developing countries, seriously hinders the process of economic and social development and cultural and spiritual advancement,

Convinced that the process of education can make an indispensable contribution to the achievement of social progress, mutual understanding and co-operation among nations,

Mindful that the eradication of illiteracy calls for world-wide co-operation and joint efforts,

Convinced that the elaboration of a global strategy for the elimination of illiteracy and the organization of a world-wide literacy campaign will promote deeper understanding by the world public of the various aspects of the problem of illiteracy and help to intensify efforts to spread literacy and education,

Reiterating the importance of paragraph 164 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,⁴⁴ which identifies the need for priority programmes to overcome the special obstacles that have generally led to higher illiteracy rates among women than among men,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the proposals for the observance of an international literacy year prepared by the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;⁴⁵

2. *Invites* the General Assembly to proclaim 1990 International Literacy Year;

3. *Appeals* to all Member States to co-operate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the preparation of the International Literacy Year and participate actively in the implementation of the activities to be organized within the framework of the Year.

*36th plenary meeting
8 July 1987*

1987/81. Development of human resources

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the crucial role of human resources in the socio-economic development process,

Bearing in mind that the long-term development process of developing countries is one of the main objectives of international co-operation and the development activities of the United Nations system and that human resources development is essential to the attainment of that objective,

⁴⁴ *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

⁴⁵ See E/1987/113.

Recognizing that the training of qualified national personnel is an important and integral part of human resources development,

Recalling the importance attached to the development of human resources in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,⁴⁶

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 40/213 of 17 December 1985 on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries and Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/73 of 23 July 1986 on the development of human resources,

Noting decision 87/15 on human resources development, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on 18 June 1987,⁴⁷

Considering that it is for each developing country to decide the possible content of a national programme for the development of human resources,

Taking into account the considerable experience and technical capacity acquired by the organizations of the United Nations system in human resources development in their respective fields of competence, and convinced of the need for greater co-ordination of such activities,

Noting the note by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations system in human resources development and its contribution to meeting the economic and social objectives of the developing countries and the views expressed in the summing-up by the Chairmen of the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination,⁴⁸

Emphasizing its central role in co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations system in human resources development,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on human resources development;⁴⁹

2. *Takes note also* of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries;⁵⁰

3. *Reaffirms* the need for an integrated and multidisciplinary approach to all aspects of the development of human resources in the programme of work of the United Nations and the other organizations of the United Nations system;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account earlier studies and the discussions held at the twenty-second series of Joint Meetings of the Commit-

⁴⁶ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

⁴⁷ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 12 (E/1987/25)*, annex I.

⁴⁸ E/1987/83, sect. III.

⁴⁹ A/42/335-E/1987/84.

⁵⁰ A/42/275-E/1987/76.

tee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, as well as the comprehensive report to be submitted to the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its thirty-fifth session, to submit, after consultation with the organs and organizations of the United Nations system, a comprehensive report on human resources development and the activities of the system as a whole in that field, containing conclusions and recommendations, to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, for consideration and appropriate action;

5. *Invites* Governments of Member States to provide the Secretary-General with information on their experience in the development of human resources, including qualified national personnel, to be reflected in his report;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the present resolution duly into account in preparing the medium-term plan for the period 1990-1995;

7. *Calls upon* all organs and organizations of the United Nations system to implement the present resolution and to convey their views on the question to the Secretary-General.

*36th plenary meeting
8 July 1987*

1987/82. Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1986/50 of 22 July 1986,

Stressing the importance of the Joint Meetings for co-ordinating the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system,

Having considered the report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the twenty-second series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees,⁵¹

1. *Reiterates* that further improvements are needed if the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination are to accomplish their objectives, in view of the present United Nations administrative reforms;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the twenty-second series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees, which includes the views expressed by participants on the schedule, venue and content of the Joint Meetings;

3. *Recommends* that all participation in the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination be at a high level and requests the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental Structure and Functions in the Economic and Social Fields to consider and make recommendations on the organizational aspects of the question, in particular the venue of future sessions of the Joint Meetings;

4. *Emphasizes* that the Joint Meetings should continue to be oriented more towards the co-ordination of important issues and should provide for more in-depth discussion among the participants.

*36th plenary meeting
8 July 1987*

1987/83. Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-seventh session

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered part one of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-seventh session,⁵²

Reiterating the importance of the programming and co-ordinating functions carried out by the Committee as the main subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for planning, programming and co-ordination,

Emphasizing the importance of the additional responsibilities assigned to the Committee by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986,

1. *Approves* part one of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-seventh session;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report;

3. *Authorizes* the Committee, subject to established procedures, to resume its twenty-seventh session for two weeks, starting on 14 September 1987, in order to consider the issues included in the provisional agenda for its resumed twenty-seventh session⁵³ and to finalize its report;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the documentation necessary for the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to finalize its work is provided in good time;

5. *Decides* to transmit the relevant parts of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-sixth session⁵⁴ concerning the detailed examination of its method of work to the

⁵² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/42/16).*

⁵³ *Ibid.*, part one, para. 17.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, *Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/41/38).*

⁵¹ E/1987/83.