

3. *Reaffirms* the policies of the United Nations Children's Fund and expresses its appreciation of the initiatives taken by it in furtherance of the objectives of the new international economic order.

36th plenary meeting
2 August 1978

1978/57. United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3504 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which the Assembly decided to establish a special fund for the land-locked developing countries to compensate for their additional transit and transport costs,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 31/177 of 21 December 1976, by which the Assembly approved the statute of the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries and requested the Secretary-General to convene a pledging conference for the Fund,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 32/113 of 15 December 1977, by which the Assembly *inter alia* expressed its concern at the fact that the Fund had not yet become operational as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 31/177,

Aware of the special problems and particular needs of the land-locked developing countries, as recognized by the international community,

Reaffirming that, owing to the disadvantaged situation of the land-locked developing countries, their development efforts are affected by particular problems, especially with regard to additional transit, transport and transshipment costs,

1. *Takes note* of decision 25/15 of 28 June 1978 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme;¹⁵³

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make a fresh appeal to all countries, in particular the developed countries, to make generous contributions to the Fund and to become members of its Board of Governors, so as to enable the Fund to become operational as soon as possible.

36th plenary meeting
2 August 1978

1978/58. Report of the Committee for Development Planning

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 31/187 and 31/188 of 21 December 1976, and 32/93, 32/94, 32/100 and 32/101 of 13 December 1977, in which, taking into account the special difficulties and upheavals experienced by Sao Tome and Principe, Angola, Djibouti, Tonga, Guinea-Bissau and Seychelles, the Assembly *inter alia* requested the Committee for Development Planning to consider the question of the inclusion of those countries in the list of the least developed countries,¹⁵⁴

Having examined the relevant conclusions reached by the Committee for Development Planning, contained in chapter IV of the report on its fourteenth session,¹⁵⁵

¹⁵³ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 13 (E/1978/53/Rev.1), chap. XX.

¹⁵⁴ See General Assembly resolutions 2768 (XXVI) and 3487 (XXX).

¹⁵⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 6 (E/1978/46 and Corr.1).*

Noting the Committee's conclusion that, on the basis used in the 1975 general review, the six above-mentioned countries did not satisfy the existing criteria, applicable during the Second United Nations Development Decade, for inclusion in the list of the least developed countries,

Having regard to the Committee's opinion that the special difficulties and upheavals faced by those countries require special measures of assistance in their favour,

Urges all States to take the view of the Committee for Development Planning into account in formulating their assistance programmes and policies, with regard to both terms and volume, towards Sao Tome and Principe, Angola, Djibouti, Tonga, Guinea-Bissau and Seychelles.

37th plenary meeting
3 August 1978

1978/59. United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing 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,

"Noting with satisfaction the initiative taken by the Organization of African Unity and the Economic Commission for Africa to establish an integrated African road network and to rationalize Africa's railway systems and other transport systems in order to facilitate the promotion of multinational economic co-operation in Africa, intra-African trade and the political, social and economic integration of Africa, as well as the work carried out since June 1977,

"Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2097 (LXIII) of 29 July 1977 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

"Recalling further General Assembly resolution 32/160 of 19 December 1977, by which the Assembly, *inter alia*, proclaimed a Transport and Communications Decade in Africa during the years 1978-1988 and requested the Secretary-General to mobilize all necessary resources to make the Decade a success,

"Taking note of resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res. 2, adopted by the Executive Committee of the Economic Commission for Africa at its eighteenth meeting, held at Khartoum from 2 to 4 May 1978,¹⁵⁶ in which measures were proposed for the implementation of the global strategy and comprehensive programme of work for the Decade,

"Noting with appreciation the work carried out so far by the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity in preparation for the Decade,

"1. *Endorses* resolution ECO(XVIII)/Res.2, by which the Executive Committee of the Economic Commission for Africa decided to convene early in

¹⁵⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 10, Addendum (E/1978/50/Add.1), chap. II.*

1979 a meeting of African Ministers concerned with matters relating to transport, communications, works and planning, in order to adopt Africa's global strategy and a comprehensive plan of action for the implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

"2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Economic Commission for Africa, as the lead agency for the Decade, with the necessary financial and staff resources to enable it to make all preparatory arrangements for the Decade, including the preparations for and the convening of the meeting of Ministers referred to in paragraph 1 above;

"3. *Requests further* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements, as appropriate, for the convening of a pledging conference of donor countries and institutions in the first half of 1979 on the basis of the global strategy and the comprehensive plan of action and of specific projects contained therein;

"4. *Urges* the international community, in particular the developed countries, to give full support and to contribute substantially to the implementation of the programmes and projects for the attainment of the objectives of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa."

*37th plenary meeting
3 August 1978*

1978/60. Role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking into account the suggestions presented by the Secretary-General in his report on the role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries,¹⁵⁷

Noting with appreciation the initiatives taken by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization¹⁵⁸ and by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in its resolution 181 (XXXIV) of 17 March 1978,¹⁵⁹ in the field of strengthening the role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries,

Bearing in mind that every State has the sovereign and inalienable right to choose its economic and social system in accordance with the will of its people, without outside interference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to proceed with the further implementation of General Assembly resolution 32/179 of 19 December 1977, taking into account the comments and suggestions made by delegations during the second regular session of 1978 of the Council;

3. *Invites* the regional commissions and other organizations concerned within the United Nations system to assist the Secretary-General regularly in his continuing study on the role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries;

4. *Further invites* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive progress report on the subject to the

¹⁵⁷ E/1978/76.

¹⁵⁸ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/33/16)*, chap. XV and annex I.

¹⁵⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 8 (E/1978/48)*, chap. IV.

Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1979.

*37th plenary meeting
3 August 1978*

1978/61. United Nations conference on new and renewable sources of energy

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation and 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Aware of the importance of increasing the industrial capacity of the developing countries,

Cognizant of the importance of ensuring the availability of new and renewable sources of energy in order to meet requirements for continued economic and social development, particularly in the developing countries,

Bearing in mind the need to identify concrete measures for the transfer and development of the relevant technology to developing countries and for financing arrangements in new and renewable sources of energy through the United Nations system, directed towards the special needs of developing countries,

Recalling further Council resolution 2119 (LXIII) of 4 August 1977,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the feasibility of holding an international conference on new and renewable sources of energy;¹⁶⁰

2. *Stresses* the importance of international action in the development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy, including the holding of an international conference on the subject, and especially international co-operation in favour of the developing countries;

3. *Recommends* that the General Assembly at its thirty-third session should give favourable consideration to, and take definitive action on, convening at the earliest possible time a United Nations conference on new and renewable sources of energy, and should in that context define the objectives, scope, nature and timing of such a conference, as well as the required preparatory arrangements, including intergovernmental machinery.

*37th plenary meeting
3 August 1978*

1978/62. International co-operation relating to the environment

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its sixth session,¹⁶¹

Having also considered the study of the group of specialists in the international financing of projects and programmes of additional measures and means of financing for the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,¹⁶² together with paragraphs

¹⁶⁰ E/1978/68.

¹⁶¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/33/25)*.

¹⁶² See UNEP/GC.6/9/Add.1.