

the framework of the United Nations in the field of commodity problems, to transmit to the Commission on International Commodity Trade, to the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements, and to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations the records of the discussions on international commodity problems held during the twenty-second session of the Council under item 6 of its agenda;²⁵

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to obtain from the aforementioned bodies the views which they might wish to express, in the light of the discussion referred to above and in the light of their experience in pursuing their work, on any defects in the present organizational and procedural arrangements governing their activities in the field of international commodity problems and on co-ordination of their functions within the framework of the United Nations, and such specific suggestions on the elimination of those defects as they may be able to make;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit these views to the Council at its twenty-fourth session;

7. *Requests* the Commission on International Commodity Trade, in carrying out its work, to take into account the importance of the economic development of the under-developed countries, bearing in mind the relationship between the acceleration of the process of industrialization in these countries and the state of the world markets for primary commodities.

*951st plenary meeting,
9 August 1956.*

621 (XXII). Establishment of a world food reserve

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report on the *Functions of a World Food Reserve—Scope and Limitations*²⁶ prepared by the secretariat of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations pursuant to General Assembly resolution 827 (IX) of 14 December 1954,

Affirming the desirability of achieving the objectives set forth in General Assembly resolution 827 (IX),

Commending the secretariat of the Food and Agriculture Organization for the useful review and analysis,

1. *Notes* that it is not practicable to achieve under a single organization all the objectives set forth in General Assembly resolution 827 (IX);

2. *Concludes* :

(a) That the basic solution for the problems to which the General Assembly resolution is addressed lies in rapid and balanced economic development;

²⁵ E/AC.6/SR.209 to 213 and *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-second Session, 951st meeting.*

²⁶ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Commodity Policy Study, No. 10 (Rome, 1956) (E/2855).*

(b) That under appropriate circumstances food surpluses can usefully contribute to this development when account is taken of the principles established by the Food and Agriculture Organization for the disposal of agricultural surpluses;

(c) That the use of food surpluses or reserves for economic development or price stabilization purposes, which is an aspect of more general problems already under consideration in the United Nations family, should be examined as part of those problems with increased emphasis on the role of food surpluses or reserves in assisting less developed countries to resist strains placed on their foreign exchange positions by unforeseeable food shortages;

3. *Stresses* the need for progress towards the attainment of the objectives of the General Assembly resolution through continued and intensified international co-operation and national programmes;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization and such other organizations and experts as he considers appropriate, to report on the possibility of further national action and international co-operation with a view to attaining the objectives set forth in the General Assembly resolution, including the feasibility, and, if feasible, the manner of using food reserves for meeting unforeseeable food shortages, taking into consideration the various suggestions made at the twenty-second session of the Council and those which may be made at the forthcoming eleventh session of the General Assembly, and to transmit his report to the Council at its twenty-fourth session;

5. *Decides* to consider this report at its twenty-fourth session and to transmit it and the Food and Agriculture Organization's report together with its own recommendations to the General Assembly at its twelfth session.

*950th plenary meeting,
6 August 1956.*

622 (XXII). Report of the Statistical Commission (ninth session)

A

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the increasing importance of assisting the Governments of States Members of the United Nations in the development and improvement of their statistical services, in order to assure a better planning and implementation of enquiries and to accelerate the compilation of data,

Aware of need for more adequate and more systematic arrangements for providing advisory statistical services to countries requesting such services,

Taking note of the report of the Statistical Commission on its ninth session²⁷ and of the recommendations which are included in it, in particular in resolution I (IX),

²⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/2876).*

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the means by which the purposes of the above-mentioned resolution may be achieved,²⁸

Recognizing the need and importance of adequate statistical data at the regional level,

Further recognizing the necessity of strengthening the statistical work in those parts of the world where statistics are deficient, particularly in the regions covered by the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East and the Economic Commission for Latin America and in the Middle East and Africa,

1. *Approves* the report of the Statistical Commission;
2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly to approve, in the regular budget of the United Nations for the year 1957, the allocation of the funds necessary to increase the number of experts of the Statistical Office of the United Nations in order that statistical assistance be strengthened and systematized and be available, at the request of Governments of Member States:
 - (a) To assist in building up adequate statistical data for the regions;
 - (b) To help in formulating requests for the kind of assistance best suited to the needs of the countries;
 - (c) To provide short-term assistance in the most expeditious way;
 - (d) To consult with Governments on the preparatory arrangements necessary to ensure the success of advisory services provided by experts;
 - (e) To assist in the establishment and conduct of education and training activities in collaboration, where appropriate, with the specialized agencies concerned;
 - (f) At the request of specialized agencies concerned, to render advisory services to Governments on statistical matters of direct concern to such agencies.

*950th plenary meeting,
6 August 1956.*

B

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the importance of population censuses as a means of obtaining essential information for programmes of economic and social development,

Noting with satisfaction the progress made throughout the world during the period around 1950 in carrying out enumerations of population, and the present interest shown by countries in various regional meetings in making early preparations for their next censuses,

Having regard to the recommendations of the Statistical Commission on this subject at its ninth session²⁹ and to the recommendations of the Population Commission at its eighth session that countries be encouraged to

²⁸ *Ibid.*, Annexes, agenda item 9, document E/2876/Add.1.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 7 (E/2876), paras. 87 to 107.

undertake censuses and to report the basic information obtained from census enumerations,³⁰

1. *Recommends* that the Governments of States Members of the United Nations conduct a population census during the ten-year period 1956 to 1965 and preferably around 1960;

2. *Recommends* that such censuses, which are primarily designed to serve national needs, should take into account as far as possible the wishes expressed in international and regional census recommendations.

*950th plenary meeting,
6 August 1956.*

623 (XXII). Technical assistance

A

REGULAR UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

I

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the regular United Nations programme of technical assistance.³¹

*951st plenary meeting,
9 August 1956.*

II

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 246 (III) of 4 December 1948, 518 (VI) of 12 January 1952, and 723 (VIII) of 23 October 1953 on technical assistance in public administration and, in particular, paragraph 2 of resolution 723 (VIII) wherein the Secretary-General is authorized to continue to include in the budgetary estimates of the United Nations the funds necessary for carrying out an effective operational programme, in addition to the activities financed from funds made available from the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance,

Recognizing that there is a growing need for services supporting assistance in public administration and for substantive analysis and utilization of the experiences gained and the materials collected,

Noting the statement by the Secretary-General,³² that the funds made available to date for the execution of resolution 723 (VIII) are not adequate to render the services mentioned above,

Reiterating that the role of governmental administration in programmes for the promotion of economic development and social welfare is of paramount importance,

³⁰ *Ibid.*, Nineteenth Session, Supplement No. 5 (E/2707), para. 65.

³¹ *Ibid.*, Twenty-second Session, Annexes, agenda item 9, document E/2856.

³² See E/TAC/SR.100.