

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.

1. *Approves* the emphasis laid by the Secretary-General, in his report on the United Nations programme of technical assistance, on his activities based upon General Assembly resolution 723 (VIII);

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, prior to the eleventh session of the General Assembly, a full documentation in support of his request for additional funds;

3. *Recommends* that the General Assembly in the light of such documentation give special attention to the need for sufficient funds for the United Nations programme in public administration.

951st plenary meeting,
9 August 1956.

B

EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

I

REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BOARD TO THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note with appreciation of the eighth report submitted by the Technical Assistance Board³³ to the Technical Assistance Committee.

951st plenary meeting,
9 August 1956.

II

WORKING CAPITAL AND RESERVE FUND

The Economic and Social Council,

Having noted the report of the Technical Assistance Committee,³⁴

1. *Decides* to amend its resolutions 521 A (XVII) of 5 April 1954 and 542 B II (XVIII) of 29 July 1954 as follows:

A. For sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of paragraph 5 of resolution 521 A (XVII) substitute:

“(a) The Working Capital and Reserve Fund shall be maintained as a continuing operating reserve for the following purposes:

“(i) To make advances against firm pledges of contributions to finance the Technical Assistance Programme as approved by the Technical Assistance Committee; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for the purpose; provided that advances against pledges shall be reviewed periodically by the Technical Assistance Committee to determine whether the advances shall continue or be repaid from other resources of the Programme;

“(ii) To improve and facilitate currency management;

“(iii) To make advances to participating organizations to provide working balances in their bank accounts;

“(iv) To make advances to finance commitments which may be duly authorized by the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board under authority given to him to meet urgent needs which may arise during the implementation of the annual programme; provided that the repayment of such advances shall constitute a priority charge against the resources of the following year;

“(v) To provide funds to cover forward contractual commitments and to meet residual liquidating liabilities; each participating organization shall limit its forward contractual commitments and residual liquidating liabilities to its *pro rata* share of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund, based on the allocations authorized for the current year;

“(vi) For such other purposes as may be approved by the Technical Assistance Committee from time to time;

“(b) The size of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund shall be determined from time to time by the Technical Assistance Committee;

“(c) The Technical Assistance Board shall report annually to the Technical Assistance Committee on the advances outstanding at the end of the period;”

B. For sub-paragraphs 1 (b), (v) and (vii) of resolution 542 B II (XVIII) substitute the following:

“(v) Subject to the confirmation of the General Assembly, the Technical Assistance Committee shall authorize the allocation of funds to each of the participating organizations in proportion to their share in the approved over-all programme. These funds shall be drawn from the net financial resources, after setting aside the expenses of the secretariat of the Technical Assistance Board and such amounts as may be required to reimburse the Working Capital and Reserve Fund for withdrawals during the preceding year to finance obligations for urgent needs authorized by the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board under paragraph (vii) of this resolution;

“(vii) Any extraordinary requests submitted by a Government for modification of the programme received subsequent to the approval of the annual programme by the Technical Assistance Committee may be approved by the Technical Assistance Board and reported to the Technical Assistance Committee at its next meeting. Should it not be possible to effect necessary increases and decreases within the programme of the country concerned, the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board may authorize participating organizations to enter into commitments to meet urgent needs within limits fixed annually by the Technical Assistance Committee but not to exceed five per cent of the estimated resources for the year. The Technical Assistance Board shall report to the Technical Assistance Committee annually, beginning with the session in November 1957, all

³³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 5 (E/2842) and documents E/2842/Add.1 and E/TAC/REP.68.*

³⁴ *Ibid.*, Annexes, agenda item 9, document E/2923.

allocations made under this provision, together with the circumstances relating thereto. The Technical Assistance Committee shall review those allocations, and make such recommendations as it deems appropriate;”

2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it give its approval to the above amendments.

*951st plenary meeting,
9 August 1956.*

III

CURRENCY UTILIZATION

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance is financed through contributions made voluntarily by participating Governments,

Considering that the increasing needs of the less developed countries require the fullest possible utilization of funds contributed,

Bearing in mind the multilateral character of the Programme,

Recognizing that operational and other difficulties have arisen out of the utilization of certain contributions under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance,

Considering that the Programme will gain operational effectiveness through increased usability of contributions on a multilateral basis, as well as through certain alterations in programme procedures affecting currencies which are difficult to utilize,

Noting that paragraph 9 (a) of Council resolution 222 A (IX) of 15 August 1949 states that “ Contributions shall be made by Governments in such forms and subject to such conditions as may be agreed between the Secretary-General, after consultation with the TAB, and the contributing Governments, provided that contributions shall be made without limitation as to use by a specific agency or in a specific country or for a specific project ”,

1. *Emphasizes* that all contributions to the Expanded Programme should be, to the fullest possible extent, in a form readily utilizable for programme purposes;

2. *Considers* that if an amount greater than the equivalent of \$500,000 and greater than the total of the previous year's pledges in any currency remains uncommitted for the approved Programme at the time of the Pledging Conference, such currency is not readily usable;

3. *Urges* Governments in making their pledges to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance to make, as far as possible, that part of their contribution exceeding the equivalent of \$500,000 in the form of, or convertible into, readily usable currencies;

4. *Urges further* those Governments whose contributions present difficulties in utilization to take the necessary measures to reduce, as far as possible, the amount remaining uncommitted at the Pledging Conference in

1957 below the limits set in paragraph 2 above, by agreeing that it be converted into readily usable currencies;

5. *Requests* the Technical Assistance Board and the participating organizations immediately to ensure that the following rules are observed with respect to the utilization of contributions under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance:

(a) The multilateral character of the Programme should be strictly respected and, to this end, no contributing country should receive special privileges or treatment with respect to its contribution;

(b) In planning and carrying out programmes and projects, the Technical Assistance Board and the participating organizations may make information available to receiving countries as to the availability of currencies presenting utilization problems;

(c) Negotiations for the use of currencies should not take place between contributing and receiving countries. Where such negotiations are necessary, they should only take place between the participating organization and the contributing country in conformity with paragraph 9 (a) of Council resolution 222 A (IX);

(d) With respect to the 1958 programme and thereafter in the annual programming process, all available resources should be taken into account in determining country targets. Any backlog of unused currencies presenting utilization problems at 31 December 1957 shall be included as part of the over-all carry-over to 1958 without special measures for utilization being applied thereto;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board, as appropriate, to report to the Technical Assistance Committee at its annual summer session on the implementation of this resolution and, in particular, on the status of the utilization and assimilation of currencies in planning and operation of the Programme;

7. *Decides* to transmit this resolution to the General Assembly at its forthcoming eleventh session for any action it may deem necessary.

*951st plenary meeting,
9 August 1956.*

624 (XXII). Report of the Commission on Human Rights (twelfth session)

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Rights (twelfth session).³⁵

*946th plenary meeting,
1 August 1956.*

³⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (E/2844).*