

627 (XXII). Programme of concerted practical action in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 585 H (XX) of 23 July 1955, which requested the Secretary-General to prepare "a report on the extent to which the priorities and programmes set forth in Council resolution 496 (XVI) on the programme of concerted practical action in the social field have been taken into account and implemented by the United Nations and the specialized agencies",

Recalling also its resolution 585 F (XX) on the maintenance of family levels of living,

1. *Notes* the report of the Secretary-General on the programme of concerted action in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies,⁵⁴ and the progress it reflects, including the widening of the geographical scope of the programmes in independent countries and Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories;

2. *Stresses* the need for intensified and concerted international efforts in strengthening social programmes in independent countries and Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories, and the need for attention to the social aspects of economic development in the interests of integrated development;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in the special study being prepared in response to Council resolution 496 (XVI) of 31 July 1953 recommendations for concerted international action on a long-range basis for the promotion of community development, taking into account paragraph 5 of Council resolution 585 C (XX);

4. *Requests* its Social Commission to transmit to the Council, at its twenty-fourth session, its comments and recommendations on the study mentioned in paragraph 3 above;

5. *Decides* to consider at its twenty-fourth session, in connexion with the examination of the second *Report on the World Social Situation*, the problem of the improvement of information on social conditions;

6. *Reaffirms* its request to the Secretary-General in Council resolution 585 H (XX) to give special attention in the second *Report on the World Social Situation* "to the problems of peoples undergoing rapid transition especially through urbanization";

7. *Expresses* its interest in the study now being undertaken by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the possibility of concerting international action in connexion with the problems mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

8. *Notes* with satisfaction that, in drafting its proposals on the maintenance of family levels of living, the

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, *Twenty-second Session, Annexes*, agenda item 10, document E/2890.

Working Group convened in pursuance of Council resolution 585 F (XX) is, in accordance with the terms of reference established for it, to give attention, among other factors which determine the level of living of the population, to such factors as housing, nutrition, education, employment and labour, and health;

9. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General prepare, as soon as possible, a preliminary study designed to assist in determining the feasibility and practical value of analysing the methods used and the nature of the problems encountered by countries in their attempts to integrate social and economic action to raise the level of living of their people.

*947th plenary meeting,
2 August 1956.*

628 (XXII). Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling with gratitude the work accomplished by Dr. G. J. van Heuven Goedhart as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Mindful of his devoted and untiring efforts to lead the nations to a final solution of the refugee problem,

Noting with satisfaction the Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,⁵⁵

1. *Expresses* its deep regret at his untimely passing;

2. *Reaffirms* its abiding interest in finding as quickly as possible permanent solutions to the refugee problem;

3. *Urges* all Governments to do everything in their power to support the work on behalf of refugees in the spirit in which it was carried forward by the late High Commissioner and, as a solemn tribute to his memory, to bring it to a successful conclusion.

*933rd plenary meeting,
13 July 1956.*

629 (XXII). Application from Morocco for membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the application of Morocco⁵⁶ for admission to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, transmitted by that organization to the Council in accordance with article II of the

⁵⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/3123)*, transmitted to the Council under document E/2887, Corr.1 and Add.1.

⁵⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-second Session, Annexes*, agenda item 22, document E/2902 and Add.1.

Agreement between the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Decides to inform the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization that it has no objection to the admission of Morocco to the Organization.

930th plenary meeting,
11 July 1956.

630 (XXII). General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole

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The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the Secretary-General's introductory statement,⁵⁷ his note on the work programme of the Council and the financial implications of the Council's actions,⁵⁸ and his note on work programme and costs of the economic and social activities of the United Nations,⁵⁹

Having considered the annual reports of the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Telecommunication Union, the Universal Postal Union and the World Meteorological Organization,⁶⁰

⁵⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-second Session, Annexes*, agenda item 3, document E/2894/Rev.1.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, agenda item 17, document E/2903.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, document E/2900 and Add.1.

⁶⁰ International Labour Organisation, *Tenth Report of the International Labour Organisation to the United Nations, Geneva, 1956*: (E/2879). Food and Agriculture Organization, *Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to the Twenty-second Session of the Economic and Social Council*: (E/2878). *Report of the Eighth Session of the Conference*, 4-25 November 1955, Rome, March 1956: (E/2878/Add.1). *The State of Food and Agriculture 1955, Review of a Decade and Outlook*, Rome, September 1955: (E/2878/Add.2). *The Work of FAO 1954-55, Report of the Director-General*, Rome, 1955: (E/2878/Add.3), and *Program of Work for 1956 and 1957*, Rome, 1956: (E/2878/Add.4). United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Report to the United Nations for the Year 1955-1956*: (E/2867). World Health Organization, *The Work of WHO 1955, Annual Report of the Director-General to the World Health Assembly and to the United Nations: Official Records of the World Health Organization No. 67*, Geneva, March 1956: (E/2873); and *Supplementary Report to the Economic and Social Council*, July 1956: (E/2873/Add.1). International Civil Aviation Organization, *Annual Report of the Council to the Assembly for 1955*, Caracas, June-July 1956: (E/2877). *Council's Budget Estimates 1957 and Information Annex*, Caracas, June-July 1956: (E/2877/Add.1); and *Supplementary Report of the Council to the Assembly on the Activities of the Organization, 1 January-15 June 1956*: (E/2877/Add.2). Universal Postal Union, *Report on the Work of the Union 1955*, Berne: (E/2826) and *Correction*: (E/2826/Corr.1). International Telecommunication Union, *Annual Report by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union 1955*, Geneva, 1956: (E/2874). World Meteorological Organization, *Annual Report of the World Meteorological Organization, 1955*, Geneva, 1956: (E/2847).

Having considered the nineteenth report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination,⁶¹

Considering that more concrete measures by the Council on co-ordination require appropriate preparatory work,

1. *Takes note* of the above-mentioned reports;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the action already taken to streamline the work of the United Nations in the economic, social and human rights fields;

3. *Endorses*, subject to the decisions taken and comments made by the Council at its present session, the proposals made in the Secretary-General's note entitled "Observations on the Work Programme of the Council and on the Financial Implications of the Council's Actions";⁶²

4. *Reiterates* the appeal made by the General Assembly in its resolution 125 (II) of 20 November 1947 and *calls upon* the States members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies to take urgent measures to ensure on the national level a co-ordinated policy in regard to the activities of the United Nations and of the various specialized agencies, in order that greater concentration on major projects and fuller co-ordination may be achieved between the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the economic, social and human rights fields;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to produce a further report on the lines of the document entitled "Observations on the Work Programme of the Council and on the Financial Implications of the Council's Actions", including comments on work in the social field as mentioned in paragraph 4 of that document and on the work programmes of the regional economic commissions and the functional commissions;

6. *Recommends* to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to continue and intensify its efforts through inter-agency consultation to achieve co-ordination in the planning and execution of programmes;

7. *Recommends* to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to report in more detail to the Council on its deliberations;

8. *Recommends* to the specialized agencies and *requests* the regional economic commissions and the functional commissions to pay special attention to further concentration of their activities on major economic, social and human rights problems, as may be appropriate, and to the more efficient co-ordination of the said activities, and to include a special section thereon in their next reports to the Council;

9. *Decides* that its Co-ordination Committee shall meet one week before the opening of its twenty-fourth session in order to consider the report of the Secretary-General requested above and the relevant sections of the reports of the specialized agencies, regional economic

⁶¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-second Session, Annexes*, agenda item 3, document E/2884.

⁶² *Ibid.*, agenda item 17, document E/2903.