

2. *Urges* the Governments, regional economic commissions and international organizations concerned to take note of the recommendations of the Committee of Experts and of any further recommendations by the committee referred to in paragraph 1 (a) above, and to keep the Secretary-General currently informed of the extent to which they can bring their own practices into general conformity with them ;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue his consultations with the Director-General of the International Labour Office on the best means of avoiding any overlapping of the work of the above committee with any work being undertaken in this field by the International Labour Organisation.

*968th plenary meeting,
26 April 1957.*

H

WORK PROGRAMME AND PRIORITIES FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 497 C (XVI) of 29 July 1953, 557 A (XVIII) of 5 August 1954 and 630 A (XXII) of 9 August 1956,

Approves the work programme and priorities for transport and communications projects recommended by the Transport and Communications Commission in resolution 9 adopted at its eighth session.¹²

*968th plenary meeting,
26 April 1957.*

649 (XXIII). Economic development of under-developed countries

A

INDUSTRIALIZATION

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on industrialization and productivity,¹³

Recalling that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1033 B (XI) of 26 February 1957, the question of organizational and administrative machinery in the field of industrialization will be considered by the Council at its twenty-fifth session,

Bearing in mind the importance of rapid industrialization in the less developed countries as a significant factor in the balanced development of their economies,

¹² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 3 (E/2948).*

¹³ *Ibid., Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 5, document E/2958.*

Recognizing the role that the industrially advanced and the under-developed countries have to play in such a programme,

1. *Looks forward* to intensified implementation of the programme of work contained in the report by the Secretary-General¹⁴ under Council resolution 597 A (XXI) of 4 May 1956, with special attention to the needs of the Middle East and Africa in accordance with paragraph 9 of the above-mentioned resolution, and with particular emphasis on such studies and projects as would provide practical assistance and guidance in the industrial progress of the under-developed countries ;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore, in consultation with the appropriate specialized agencies, further possibilities of organizing—in connexion with the studies on industrialization—seminars, consultations and training centres, which would serve the practical application of the programme ;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of collecting available up-to-date basic economic data, including those bearing on trends, which would be of interest to the public and private agencies concerned with economic programming.

*971st plenary meeting,
2 May 1957.*

B

LAND REFORM

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the second report on progress in land reform,¹⁵ prepared by the Secretary-General in co-operation with the International Labour Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Taking into account the views expressed on various aspects of land reform during the discussion on this subject at the twenty-third session of the Council,

Noting from the analysis, contained in the above-mentioned report, of the replies to the questionnaire distributed by the Secretary-General that progress in various aspects of land reform has been made in many countries,

Recognizing that, for many countries, further progress towards satisfactory solutions of problems of land utilization, ownership and tenure is important both for the social advancement of low-income rural populations and over-all economic development,

1. *Urges* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the appropriate recommendations in Council resolutions 370 (XIII) of 7 September 1951, 512 C I (XVII) of 30 April 1954 and General Assembly resolu-

¹⁴ *Ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, agenda item 4, document E/2895.*

¹⁵ *Progress in Land Reform (E/2930).* United Nations publication, Sales No. : 1956.II.B.3.

tions 625 A (VII) of 21 December 1952 and 826 (IX) of 14 December 1954, suggests that Governments undertake specific studies of the implementation of land reform measures and their impact on production, living standards and economic and social development, and calls the attention of Governments to the availability of technical advice and assistance from the United Nations and specialized agencies ;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation and other specialized agencies, in their respective fields of work for advancement of land reform, to give particular attention to such activities as :

(a) The dissemination of information regarding the experience of individual countries with respect to national measures of land reform ;

(b) The organization of seminars and training courses on institutional problems to assist in the promotion of sound national land policies ;

(c) The promotion, with the aid of technical assistance from the United Nations and the specialized agencies, of appropriate pilot projects and studies in individual countries ;

(d) The promotion, both nationally and internationally, of collaboration by institutions on research related to land reform ;

3. *Renews* its recommendation that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development give sympathetic consideration to loan applications for development projects designed to implement programmes of agrarian reform ;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep under review developments in the field of land reform and to prepare, in collaboration with the appropriate specialised agencies, a further report on land reform for submission to the Council in 1962 ;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the specialized agencies and recognizing the major responsibilities in this field of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to present to the Council at its twenty-seventh session a report on progress in the work referred to in paragraph 2 above, together with a prospectus of the report referred to in paragraph 4 above which would describe the specific land reform problems to which it was planned to devote attention and indicate the information which would be available for such a report as well as the kinds and sources of additional information which would be required ;

6. *Decides* that paragraphs 4 and 5 above supersede paragraph 8 of Council resolution 370 (XIII) ;

7. *Invites* Governments to provide the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies with information which may be needed for the implementation of the present resolution.

*971st plenary meeting,
2 May 1957.*

C

CO-OPERATIVES

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the report prepared by the Secretary-General in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, pursuant to Council resolution 512 C II (XVII) of 30 April 1954, and taking into account the opinions expressed at the twenty-third session of the Council,

Recognizing that while co-operatives are based on the principle of voluntary association and self-administration, they may benefit from Governments' support and advice in organization and management,

Considering that the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies have already completed many studies on the subject of co-operatives, particularly in the field of agriculture and fisheries,

Considering that priority should be given to studies and research on methods whereby the action of co-operatives in specific fields could most effectively contribute to the integrated economic and social development of under-developed areas,

Noting that, particularly in the early stages of economic development, inadequate understanding of the purposes and ideals of co-operatives and the lack of appropriate training for management make co-operatives difficult to establish and impair their efficiency,

1. *Invites* the Governments of Member States :

(a) To encourage, when appropriate, the organization of co-operatives in the less developed areas, especially in the field of agriculture and fisheries and in the general field of community development, and to this end to take suitable measures, especially in respect of elementary and advanced training for their staff and information for their members, both in the preliminary and in the more advanced stages of their development ;

(b) To bear in mind that from various technical assistance programmes assistance is available to the Governments of under-developed countries for promoting the development of co-operatives ;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies concerned, through their regional offices when appropriate, to give Member States all possible assistance and advice in carrying out the above activities, including the establishment of training institutions ;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that :

(a) In studies on economic and social development, attention should be given when appropriate to the place of co-operatives as a technique for development having important social as well as economic benefits ;

(b) Specific studies on the role of co-operatives in community development and low-cost housing programmes should be continued within the framework of

programmes authorized by the Council at its twenty-second session ;

4. *Recommends* that the International Labour Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should continue to carry out studies on the methods which experience in developed and under-developed countries has shown to be most effective in the various specific fields in which co-operatives can

most usefully contribute to the promotion of modern techniques, especially in agriculture and fisheries ;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its twenty-ninth session on the implementation of the above recommendations.

971st plenary meeting,
2 May 1957.

Social questions

638 (XXIII). United Nations Children's Fund

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund.¹⁶

965th plenary meeting,
24 April 1957.

642 (XXIII). Report of the Population Commission (ninth session)

A

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Population Commission (ninth session).¹⁷

967th plenary meeting,
25 April 1957.

B

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing that there is a direct relationship between the problems of population and economic and social development,

Considering that after the establishment of demographic training and research centres in Latin America and in Asia and the Far East, the time has come to focus attention on demographic problems in Africa,

Considering further that the existence of new States in Africa justifies increased attention to these problems,

Noting the useful work done by the African Seminar on Vital and Health Statistics sponsored jointly by the Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara and the World Health Organization, held at Brazzaville, French Equatorial Africa, in November 1956,

Considering the desirability of making as much preparation as possible for deriving maximum results from the forthcoming population censuses in Africa,

¹⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/2937).*

¹⁷ *Ibid., Supplement No. 4 (E/2957/Rev.1).*

Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Governments concerned, specialized agencies and other appropriate international agencies, to study the possibilities of encouraging wider co-operation in demographic studies and in the improvement of census and vital statistics in Africa and explore the desirability and feasibility of the early establishment of demographic training and research centres in Africa, and to report as appropriate to the Population Commission at its tenth session.

967th plenary meeting,
25 April 1957.

C

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the importance of technical assistance in the demographic field for the economic and social development of under-developed countries,

Recalling the request made to the Secretary-General, in Council resolution 471 C (XV) of 14 April 1953, to give, within the limits of the resources available and in accordance with the work priorities, appropriate technical assistance to those Governments requesting aid in order to help them carry out analytical studies of their census results,

Considering the small number of experts available in this field in most countries and the difficulties which have been experienced in recruiting qualified experts for demographic missions,

1. *Recommends* that Governments interested in obtaining technical assistance in the demographic field make their requests as early as possible ;

2. *Urges* Governments to assist the United Nations in its efforts to recruit demographic experts for technical assistance missions by making such experts available to the greatest extent possible ;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to collaborate with the United Nations in this field, in view of their contacts with non-governmental organizations and institutions which have consultative status or maintain relations with these specialized agencies.

967th plenary meeting,
25 April 1957.