

Noting the progress achieved in the implementation of the programme,

Recognizing the importance of achieving permanent solutions for the refugees in camps as quickly as possible,

Considering that the closure of the refugee camps will be practicable only to the extent that adequate funds are made available,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Refugee Fund Executive Committee on its sixth session (special) and in particular resolution No. 6³⁴ adopted at that session,

1. *Endorses* the request made to the High Commissioner in that resolution to the effect that he should intensify his programme to the fullest extent possible in order to achieve permanent solutions for the maximum number of refugees remaining in camps, without losing sight of the need to continue to seek solutions for the problems of refugees outside camps;

2. *Recommends* that the General Assembly authorize the High Commissioner to make an appeal to States Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies for the purpose of raising funds needed for closing the refugee camps.

989th plenary meeting,
24 July 1957.

663 (XXIV). World social situation

A

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL COMMISSION (ELEVENTH SESSION)

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Social Commission (eleventh session);³⁵

2. *Approves* the work programme of the Social Commission for the period 1957-1959.

994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.

B

MAINTENANCE OF FAMILY LEVELS OF LIVING: SOCIAL POLICY RELATING TO SOCIAL INSURANCE, SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED SOCIAL SERVICES

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Expresses appreciation and general approval* of the important work done by the Working Group of Experts and *considers* that its report³⁶ should be the basis of continuing research and studies for positive action by Governments, the United Nations, and the International Labour Organisation, with the assistance of the other specialized agencies and appropriate non-governmental organizations, with the object of encouraging and helping

³⁴ *Ibid.*, annex III, appendix, transmitted to the Council under document E/3015/Add.2.

³⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/3008)*.

³⁶ E/CN.5/321, appendix I.

Governments in the development of a co-ordinated social policy;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General and *invites* the International Labour Organisation and other specialized agencies to include in their programmes provision for:

(a) Further joint study of the ways and means gradually to achieve, in the countries now entering upon a more rapid economic and social development, a comprehensive system of social security and related social services, taking into account the variety of national problems and resources;

(b) Continuing study of the co-operative arrangements required by intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies to assist countries in achieving co-ordinated social policy;

3. *Requests* the regional economic commissions to consider the economic implications of the report within their respective regions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the report, his observations and those of the Social Commission, the International Labour Organisation, and the other specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, to Governments and to appropriate non-governmental organizations for comment, and to prepare an analysis of the replies received in a report to the Social Commission at its twelfth session, so that the Commission may be able to present its recommendations to the Council at its twenty-eighth session.

994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.

C

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS ON THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

I

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Approves* the *Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners* adopted by the First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;³⁷

2. *Draws the attention* of Governments to those *Rules and recommends*:

(a) That favourable consideration be given to their adoption and application in the administration of penal and correctional institutions;

(b) That the Secretary-General be informed every five years of the progress made with regard to their application;

(c) That Governments arrange for the widest possible publicity to be given to the *Rules*, not only among governmental services concerned but also among non-governmental organizations interested in social defence;

³⁷ A/CONF/6/1, annex I, A. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.IV.4.

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to make arrangements for the publication, as appropriate, of the information received in pursuance of sub-paragraph 2 (b) above and to ask for supplementary information if necessary.

994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.

II

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Endorses* the recommendations on the selection and training of personnel for penal and correctional institutions, on open penal and correctional institutions, and on general principles of prison labour, adopted by the first United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;³⁸

2. *Draws the attention* of Governments to those recommendations, and *recommends* that they take them as fully as possible into account in their administration of penal and correctional institutions and when considering legislative and administrative reforms;

3. *Invites* Governments to give the widest publicity to these recommendations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to arrange for the periodical collection and publication, as appropriate, of information on :

(a) The selection and training of personnel for penal and correctional institutions;

(b) Open penal and correctional institutions.

994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.

D

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: REPORT ON CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON FURTHER PRACTICAL MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 1042 (XI) of 21 February 1957 on community development, the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Concepts and principles of community development and recommendations on further practical measures to be taken by international organizations",³⁹ the views of different Governments as summarized in that report and the discussion that took place in the Social Commission at its eleventh session,⁴⁰

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the growing understanding of the basic principles of community development, and the increasing recognition of the community development movement in its different forms as an essential instrument of national and international action, particularly in the under-developed regions, for promoting economic and social progress;

³⁸ A/CONF/6/1, annex I, B, C and D. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.IV.4.

³⁹ E/CN.5/325 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

⁴⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/3008)*, chap. VI, paras. 74 to 88.

2. *Commends to the attention* of all Governments and international organizations the latest formulation of the essential character and requirements of the principles and techniques of the community development process embodied in the twentieth report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to the Council⁴¹ and incorporated in the report of the Secretary-General;⁴²

3. *Recognizes* that assistance by international organizations to Governments in the field of community development should be organized on a long-term basis, and endorses the proposals contained in the Secretary-General's report to this end;

4. *Recommends* to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations and to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, so far as may be practicable, the following steps for improving community development and for strengthening international action for that purpose :

(a) The co-ordinated operation, with special emphasis on their bearing upon community development plans in each country, of the relevant parts of the programmes of the specialized agencies and of the organizations functioning under the guidance of the United Nations, such as the United Nations Children's Fund and other bodies responsible for measures of relief and rehabilitation;

(b) More effective co-ordination, at the country level, of the international agencies assisting Governments in general or particular aspects of their community development programmes, taking into account for this purpose the activities under bilateral assistance programmes and the activities of non-governmental organizations;

(c) Further study of the essential elements of the community development process and of the prerequisites of a well balanced community development programme, particularly with regard to the training and supervision of personnel;

(d) Further exploration of the possibilities of extending the application of the principles and programmes of community development to urban areas;

(e) Initiation and assistance in the organization of conferences, seminars, workshops and study tours at the international, regional and national levels, for the promotion of better understanding of community development processes and techniques, both in their general and technical aspects, as well as for the establishment and improvement of training facilities for all personnel, both paid and voluntary, concerned with the planning and execution of community development programmes;

(f) Initiation and assistance of programmes of research and publication on particular aspects of community development, as suggested in paragraph 5 of Council resolution 585 C (XX) of 23 July 1955 and in the work programme of the Social Commission for 1957-1959,⁴³ taking into account the resources of international, regional

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, Annexes, agenda item 4, document E/2931.

⁴² E/CN.5/325.

⁴³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/3008)*.

and national bodies that are available at the present time and utilizing these to the maximum extent for this purpose;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the specialized agencies concerned, to prepare for the next session of the Social Commission and for the next session thereafter of the Council, a report on the progress of all significant measures in the field of community development, the report to include recommendations for further action as necessary.

*994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.*

E

ORGANIZATION OF REPORTS ON THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to publish, at least four months in advance of each session of the Social Commission, a report under the heading "World social situation", and specifically:

(a) To prepare, for the Commission at its twelfth session and for the Council at its twenty-eighth session (1959), a survey of programmes of social development, and to circulate a questionnaire to Governments and to appropriate non-governmental organizations as one means of obtaining information for this report;

(b) To prepare, for the Social Commission at its thirteenth session and for the Council at its thirty-second session (1961), a report including, in part I, a brief survey of major trends in the social situation and, in part II, a study of balanced economic and social development;

(c) To prepare, for the Social Commission at its fourteenth session and for the Council at its thirty-sixth session (1963), a report on the world social situation including a comprehensive review of changes in levels of living throughout the world and analyses of such special problems as the situation demands;

2. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the specialized agencies, to explore ways and means of improving the quality of the data available for analysis of the world social situation and, in this connexion:

(a) To establish contacts, through the Governments concerned, with centres engaged in research on social problems of economically under-developed areas, and, through technical assistance and other means, to assist Governments in strengthening research on problems of social policy;

(b) To study the major gaps in the information needed for an evaluation of the world social situation, and the most effective action to improve knowledge in this field;

(c) To undertake a review of the scope and organization of the report on the world social situation, the major types of data and analyses that should be included in successive reports and the possibility of issuing future

reports on the world social situation at more frequent intervals, and to present recommendations to the Social Commission at its thirteenth session;

3. *Invites* the co-operation of the specialized agencies concerned in these efforts.

*994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.*

F

SOCIAL DEFENCE

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered resolution E adopted by the Social Commission at its eleventh session, concerning implementation of the work programme of the United Nations in the field of social defence,⁴⁴

Approves the action called for in that resolution.

*994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.*

G

SOCIAL SERVICES

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the part of the report of the Social Commission concerning its work programme for 1957-1959,⁴⁵

Having noted also the views expressed during the eleventh session of the Social Commission that the "Report on a Co-ordinated Policy regarding Family Levels of Living"⁴⁶ needed to be followed by more detailed examination of the relationship of social services to other services and measures aimed at improving the family levels of living.

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, as early as practicable, a group of experts highly qualified in the field of social services and representative of countries at varying stages of economic development, to advise on:

(a) The scope and contents of national social service programmes and the establishment of priorities in the implementation of such programmes, taking into account economic, cultural and other variations;

(b) The specific contribution of social services, particularly family and child welfare services, to programmes relating to community development, urbanization and the improvement of family levels of living;

2. *Invites* the specialized agencies concerned to co-operate in the work of the group of experts in items of special interest to them;

3. *Calls upon* the Social Commission to examine the report of the group of experts, together with the comments of the Secretary-General, in connexion with consideration of the work programme of the United Nations in the social field.

*994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.*

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, annex III, resolution E.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, chap. VII and annex II.

⁴⁶ E/CN.5/321, appendix I.

H

REPORT ON THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION

The Economic and Social Council,

*Having examined the Report on the World Social Situation,*⁴⁷

1. *Endorses* the opinion of the Social Commission regarding the importance and value of the reports on the world social situation;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies concerned on the high quality of the present report;

3. *Expresses its gratification* with the social progress noted in the present report;

4. *Expresses concern* over the uneven development in various sectors within countries as well as between different countries;

5. *Considers of special importance* the problems of balance among the factors of development, having regard especially to the interaction between developments in the economic and in the social fields;

6. *Attaches special importance also* to the question of urbanization and *urges* the Secretary-General and *invites* the specialized agencies concerned to continue their work in this field, looking towards the evolution of integrated policies in the field of urbanization to be developed with due regard to both rural and urban aspects of the problem.

*994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.*

I

DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONAL CONTACTS BETWEEN SPECIALISTS IN SOCIAL MATTERS

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that the *Report on the World Social Situation*⁴⁸ contains useful information on the exchange of experience between States in the matter of raising and improving the social conditions of broad sectors of the population in many countries of the world;

Considering that international co-operation and personal contacts in the social field will facilitate the development of mutual understanding between peoples;

Recommends that Governments extend international co-operation in the social field and, in particular, promote and encourage the development of personal contacts and the exchange of experience among experts in the social field.

*994th plenary meeting,
31 July 1957.*

⁴⁷ E/CN.5/324/Rev.1. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.IV.3.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

667 (XXIV). International control of narcotic drugs

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS (TWELFTH SESSION)

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (twelfth session).⁴⁹

*995th plenary meeting,
1 August 1957.*

B

REPORT OF THE PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Permanent Central Opium Board on the work of the Board in 1956.⁵⁰

*995th plenary meeting,
1 August 1957.*

C

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ON OPIUM

The Economic and Social Council

Requests the Secretary-General to increase the staff and facilities of the United Nations Laboratory so as to permit an increased number of analyses of opium samples to be carried out and research on methods of determining the geographical origin of opium by physical and chemical means to be expedited.

*995th plenary meeting,
1 August 1957.*

D

THE QUESTION OF KHAT

The Economic and Social Council,

Having noted that the habitual chewing of the leaves of khat (*catha edulis*) has become widespread in several countries,

Recognizing that this habit gives rise to a grave social problem in the countries affected,

Invites the World Health Organization to study the medical aspects of the problem and to report thereon to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

*995th plenary meeting,
1 August 1957.*

⁴⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10 (E/3010 and Add.1).*

⁵⁰ E/OB/12 and Add., United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.XI.4 and Addendum.