

Other questions

678 (XXVI). Co-operation between the United Nations and The Hague Conference on Private International Law and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that a progressive unification of the rules of private international law and the unification and harmonization of the rules of private law in matters relating to international economic and social questions would facilitate the continued development of international commercial exchanges,

Considering further that the scope of The Hague Conference on Private International Law and that of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law include activities in the field indicated above,

Noting that the programmes of work of the regional economic commissions of the United Nations include projects of a similar nature,

Being concerned to avoid duplication and overlapping in the respective programmes of the United Nations and of other international organizations whose activities affect the economic and social fields,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps in order to ensure reciprocal exchange of information and documentation with The Hague Conference on Private International Law and with the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law in matters of mutual interest in order to promote co-operation and co-ordination with those organizations;

2. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council, whenever appropriate, on matters within this area of activities which may be of interest to the Council.

*1023rd plenary meeting,
3 July 1958.*

693 (XXVI). Concentration of activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the economic, social and human rights fields

A

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 664 A (XXIV) of 1 August 1957, paragraph 2 (b) of which invited the specialized agencies to include in their reports in 1958 passages dealing specifically with the further concentration of their programmes in the light of the discussions which have taken place in the Council and to cite examples of concentration achieved during the preceding year,

Considering that such concentration of activities, to achieve its full value, should be a continuing process,

1. Notes with satisfaction the efforts being made by the specialized agencies to achieve further concentration of their programmes;

2. Expresses its thanks to the specialized agencies for their response to the above request of the Council, as contained in their annual reports submitted to the Council at its twenty-sixth session;

3. Invites the specialized agencies to include similar passages in their reports in 1959 and subsequent years.

*1043rd plenary meeting,
31 July 1958.*

B

The Economic and Social Council,

Having reviewed the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Observations on the Work Programme of the Council in the Economic, Social and Human Rights Fields",⁴³ prepared in response to paragraph 1 of Council resolution 664 B (XXIV) of 1 August 1957,

Noting that the Secretary-General's review of the work programme is a continuing process and is not designed primarily to bring about financial savings, but to enable the Council to consider how best to use the limited resources available in the light of changing requirements,⁴⁴

1. Approves the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to achieve a greater concentration of activities in the economic, social and human rights fields, as set forth in the above-mentioned report;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this connexion and to prepare a similar report for the Council, at its twenty-eighth session, keeping in mind the principles outlined in section A of the annex to Council resolution 664 (XXIV),

3. Emphasizes the desirability that the regional and functional commissions keep under constant review their calendars of conferences and meetings, particularly those of working parties, *ad hoc* bodies, and subsidiary organs, with the aim of reducing, whenever possible, the number and the length of those meetings,⁴⁵ and that, when so doing, they bear in mind the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1202 (XII) of 13 December 1957;

4. Endorses the views of the Secretary-General regarding the periodicity of meetings of functional commissions, that, as a general principle, the biennial pattern should be adopted wherever practicable;⁴⁶

5. Decides, nevertheless, that the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women may for the time being continue to hold annual meetings;

6. Requests the Transport and Communications Commission, in view particularly of the fact that the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization has

⁴³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-sixth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 3, document E/3134.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, document E/3134, para. 8.

⁴⁵ Council resolution 664 (XXIV), annex, para.3(d).

⁴⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-sixth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 3, document E/3134, para. 10.