

Article IV

All media of information should report honestly and in good faith

They should strive to ensure the accuracy of their reports and should respect the reputation of individuals. It is their high privilege and responsibility to provide the basis on which enlightened opinion can be formed.

Article V

The rights and freedoms proclaimed above should be universally recognized and respected

They should be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.

OTHER QUESTIONS

742 (XXVIII). Concentration of activities of the United Nations in the economic, social and human rights fields, and control and limitation of documentation

The Economic and Social Council,

I

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,"⁷⁶

Noting that the review of the work programme by the Secretary-General 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,

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

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare annually a similar report for the consideration of the Council, at its summer session;

3. *Requests* its subsidiary bodies to utilize existing studies or publications where possible or where they can be adapted to the purposes of the work programme concerned;

4. *Further requests* these bodies, whenever possible, to accept the Secretary-General's time schedule for the completion of studies, provided they can be completed in the most economical way within a reasonable period of time;

5. *Approves* the annex to the present resolution;

II

Having taken note of General Assembly resolution 1272 (XIII), of 14 November 1958, on control and limitation of documentation, designed to avoid duplication and unnecessary documentation,

⁷⁶ *Officials Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-eighth Session, Annexes, agenda item 4, document E/3274.*

Recalling that in response to this resolution the Council requested⁷⁷ its subsidiary bodies to include this question in their agenda,

Noting that the reports of its subsidiary bodies contain descriptions of the various measures taken,

Noting further that it has itself taken decisions in the past, as part of its efforts to achieve a greater concentration of activities, which have resulted in control and limitation of documentation, and will continue to keep this question under review,

Considering that a primary objective of control and limitation of documentation should be to ensure the distribution of documents in all the working languages of the Council within the six weeks' time-limit,

1. *Calls the attention* of its subsidiary bodies to the fact that the problem is a continuing one and should be constantly borne in mind and reviewed;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, for inclusion in the report of the Council to the General Assembly at its fourteenth or fifteenth session or in the report which he has been requested to make under General Assembly resolution 1272 (XIII), a summary of the action taken by the Council and its subsidiary bodies pursuant to that resolution;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the distribution, in good time, of documents in all the working languages of the Council.

*1089th plenary meeting,
31 July 1959.*

ANNEX

Merger of the Technical Assistance Administration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

1. The Council expresses its appreciation of the importance and timeliness of the merger of the Technical Assistance Administration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. It agrees with the Secretary-General that the merger should gear more effectively the research and information activities of the

⁷⁷ *Ibid., Resumed Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 1 A, E/3169/Add.1, p. 2.*

Secretariat to the needs of technical assistance operations and render research and information services more effective by utilizing operational experience.⁷⁸ The Council understands that the merger will not alter existing arrangements which provide that technical assistance activities are to be undertaken only in response to requests from Governments, under the terms of reference and rules governing the technical assistance programmes as set forth by the Technical Assistance Committee and the Council, so as to preserve the identity of these programmes.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

2. The Council hopes that the Secretary-General will make the fullest use, in appropriate cases, of the services of public and private research institutions outside the United Nations for the purpose of carrying forward economic studies and surveys.

3. The Council agrees with the Secretary-General's proposal⁷⁹ that the series of country studies on the taxation of private foreign investment by capital exporting and capital importing countries should be discontinued, since on the basis of studies carried out in co-operation with the United Nations Secretariat, information of this kind is now being published by a private research institution.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

4. The Council notes with satisfaction the response of the regional economic commissions to the Council's request,⁸⁰ that their rules of procedure contain a provision for distribution of documentation six weeks in advance of meetings. The Council continues to regard it as essential that the commissions should have before them in good time all pertinent information with respect to proposed programmes or projects. In this connexion, the Council notes that the Executive Secretaries are submitting to the commissions financial implications of new programmes or projects prior to their approval and hopes that this practice will be continued.

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES

5. The Council, in line with paragraph 4 of part I of the present resolution, considers that the study on discrimination in the matter of political rights should be completed without additional costs and that therefore the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the Commission on Human Rights should adjust their programmes accordingly.

APPENDIX

At its 1089th plenary meeting, the Council decided to append to the above resolution the following excerpt from the report of the Co-ordination Committee.⁸¹

"(a) The Committee considered that, for the time being, the Secretary-General's consolidated statement of work programmes should continue to be produced annually."

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Twenty-eighth Session, Annexes, agenda item 4, document E/3274, para. 5.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 13.

⁸⁰ Council resolution 694 B II (XXVI), para. 3.

⁸¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-eighth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 4, document E/3299, para. 12 (a).

743 (XXVIII). 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

A

CONCERTED ACTION

The Economic and Social Council,
Recalling its resolution 675 (XXV) of 2 May 1958,
Noting with satisfaction that the Water Resources Development Centre has been set up at United Nations Headquarters and has become the focal point for concerted action among United Nations agencies in the field of water resources,

Noting that hydrology is a field where concerted action might have useful results for the development of water resources,

Noting with interest resolution 19 (CG-III) adopted by the World Meteorological Organization on 20 April 1959 and its decision to establish a new Technical Commission on Hydrological Meteorology,

1. *Commends* the World Meteorological Organization for the establishment of the Commission;

2. *Expresses the hope* that States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies will make appropriate use of and will co-operate fully with the Water Resources Development Centre of the United Nations, as well as with the work of the World Meteorological Organization and its new Technical Commission on Hydrological Meteorology;

3. *Invites* the competent United Nations agencies and bodies to inform regularly the Water Resources Development Centre of requests that may be received from Member States in respect of the development of their water resources;

4. *Requests* the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to continue its efforts to bring about programmes of concerted action in the field of water resources development.

1089th plenary meeting,
31 July 1959.

B

PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY

The Economic and Social Council,
Having considered section VII and section F of annex I, and annex II of the twenty-third report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination,⁸²

Endorsing the view expressed by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination⁸³ that in the field of atomic radiation there remains a need for intensification of scien-

⁸² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-eighth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 4, document E/3247.

⁸³ *Ibid.*, Annex I, para. 57.