

and in consultation with other competent organizations and persons, to continue his studies on the economic, legal and administrative means which may help the less developed countries to secure private capital for promoting their economic development and their advance towards self-sustaining growth, bearing particularly in mind the special problems of those countries with currently inadequate economic and social infrastructures;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the thirty-third session of the Economic and Social Council on the status of these studies and on the progress made in relation to concrete proposals for encouraging the flow of private capital.

*1180th plenary meeting,
3 August 1961.*

846 (XXXII). Growth of world commercial trade in agricultural products

The Economic and Social Council,

Convinced that trade between nations is a paramount means of fostering international co-operation and is indispensable to efforts by Governments throughout the world to raise the living standards of their peoples,

Recalling resolution 1515 (XV) of 15 December 1960 of the General Assembly,

Noting that many countries exporting primary commodities, especially those which are under-developed or highly dependent on a narrow range of agricultural exports, have been finding it increasingly difficult to finance from their exports, the imports which are essential to their economic and social development and have had to rely to an undue extent on foreign financing, the servicing of which may place a growing strain on their future export income,

Recognizing therefore the crucial importance of an expanding export trade for the diversification and development of their economies, and noting in this regard that food and raw materials account for the greater part of their exports,¹⁵

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, agenda item 2, document E/3520, table 1; see also Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Development through Food, a Strategy for Surplus Utilization*, Rome 1961.

Observing that the rate of growth in world trade, particularly commercial trade in agricultural products, depends not only on market forces but also on official policy decisions of Governments, and that policies of excessive agricultural protection or the maintenance of unduly high revenue and fiscal charges on agricultural commodities by highly industrialized countries have contributed to retarded growth of the export trade of, and therefore adversely affected the economic development of, many countries relying on their commercial export of such commodities,

Recalling in this connexion the view recorded by the Secretary-General in his report¹⁶ that quite modest changes in commercial or protective policies of the industrialized countries could result in substantial increases in the volume of international trade in the affected commodities,

1. *Reaffirms* the views expressed in resolution 1515 (XV) of the General Assembly which *inter alia* stressed the importance of enabling "less developed countries and those dependent on the export of a small range of primary commodities to sell more of their products at stable and remunerative prices in expanding markets and so increasingly to finance their own economic development from their earnings of foreign exchange";

2. *Calls* on Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, particularly of highly industrialized countries, to pursue national and regional agricultural policies which encourage and make allowance for an expanding world commercial trade in agricultural products especially by avoiding excessive agricultural protection, and avoid prejudicing the trade prospects of efficient producers from outside their countries and regions;

3. *Further invites* the Governments to consider the possibility of liberalizing such revenue or fiscal charges or other barriers to trade as may at present unduly limit consumption of agricultural commodities from under-developed or other developing countries.

*1180th plenary meeting,
3 August 1961.*

¹⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-second Session, Annexes*, agenda item 2, document E/3520, paras. 26 and 44.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

848 (XXXII). Report of the Committee on Questions relating to the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Managing Director of the Special Fund and the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board,¹⁷ concerning questions

relating to the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Managing Director and the Executive Chairman.

*1182nd plenary meeting,
4 August 1961.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, agenda item 10 and 11, document E/3473.