

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on Co-ordination, in the carrying out of its functions, to submit recommendations on these matters to the Council;

7. *Recognizes* that this information is essential to the United Nations, to the agencies and to Member Governments for an over-all appreciation of the contribution being made by the United Nations system of organizations as a whole towards the attainment of the economic and social objectives of the United Nations Development Decade;

III

Considering the urgent need to accelerate the economic and social growth of the developing countries in connexion with the United Nations Development Decade,

Noting that the Special Committee on Co-ordination has suggested certain development methods and techniques as worthy of priority consideration,

Desiring to strengthen the collective approach to these tasks at all levels,

1. *Recommends* to Governments Members of the United Nations and the agencies that they should stimulate sound and co-ordinated development plans at the country level;

2. *Calls the attention* of Governments to the potential contributions to such planning of world-wide and regional development institutes functioning within the framework of the United Nations system and of inter-agency development planning teams, which should work in co-operation with the resident representatives;

3. *Urges* Member Governments, the appropriate bodies of the United Nations and the agencies concerned to promote close inter-relationships among the various world-wide and regional planning institutes, so as to ensure complementary action and avoid undesirable overlapping and competition in the planning and operations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, assisted by the regional economic commissions and in co-operation with the specialized agencies, and the International Atomic Energy Agency, to report to the 1964 session of the Council the degree to which these objectives are being met.

*1303rd plenary meeting,
2 August 1963.*

990 (XXXVI). Work programme in the economic, social and human rights fields

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1797 (XVII) of 11 December 1962, on an integrated programme and budget policy and Council resolution 936 (XXXV) of 10 April 1963 on the same subject,

Having received the "Extract from the fifth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary

Questions to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session" ¹⁰⁷ elaborating further on this matter,

Noting that the Secretary-General, in preparing his report on the work programme in the economic, social and human rights fields, ¹⁰⁸ revised the outline for a functional classification of United Nations projects and activities in these fields, taking into account the comments made at the thirty-fifth session of the Council,

1. *Takes note, with appreciation,* of the Secretary-General's report on the work programme and, specifically, of the presentation of this programme in the form of a "tentative classification of United Nations projects and activities according to their intended contribution to progress in the various priority areas of work which can be identified in the economic, social and human rights fields in the light of the objectives of the United Nations Development Decade". ¹⁰⁹

2. *Considers* that this presentation constitutes an important first step towards the aim of formulating priorities reflecting the needs of the developing countries and in keeping with the resources likely to be available to the United Nations, towards the integration of the activities in the economic, social and human rights fields, towards the mutual adaptation of budgetary resources and programme requirements, and towards establishing a sound basis for controlled expansion of the economic, social and human rights work of the organization;

3. *Considers further,* that in the preparation of future reports on the work programme every effort should be made to describe each project in more concrete and uniform terms, giving information on the nature, duration and scheduling of each project, the interrelationships of projects, together with as detailed information as possible on budgetary implications;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the committees of the Council, its regional and functional commissions and their subsidiary bodies at each session with the pertinent sections of the work programme and concrete suggestions for a review of priorities;

5. *Requests* these bodies, with the help of the suggestions of the Secretary-General, to formulate their programmes of work in terms of priority requirements within their respective sectors in a manner facilitating a uniform presentation to the Council, along functional lines, of an integrated programme of work and activities in the economic, social and human rights fields, including the information requested in operative paragraph 3 above;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to present such a work programme to the 1964 session of the Council and its summer sessions in subsequent years, together with his observations regarding priorities within the different functional sectors of the programme;

¹⁰⁷ E/3801.

¹⁰⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-sixth Session, Annexes, agenda item 4, document E/3788.*

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, annex.

7. *Accepts*, as a factor of paramount importance in the formulation and execution of all United Nations programmes and activities in these fields, the conclusion of the Secretary-General "that, in a situation characterized by grave financial difficulties and by a relative scarcity of personnel qualified to carry out many complex projects, any hope of maintaining an efficient secretariat and of sustaining a 'controlled expansion' of the Organization's activities in the economic and social fields rests on the assumption that such expansion and efficiency depends less on the number, length and frequency of reports and meetings than on the quality of the former and the careful preparation and conduct of the latter";¹¹⁰

8. *Decides* to consider at its 1964 session the revision of the Council's procedures for discussing financial implications of its actions, taking into account the Extract of the Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

*1303rd plenary meeting,
2 August 1963.*

991 (XXXVI). Evaluation of programmes

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 908 (XXXIV) of 2 August 1962 regarding "the importance it attaches to systematic and objective evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of programmes undertaken by the United Nations as well as the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency directed towards the advancement of economic and social progress of the developing countries",

Having considered the observations on the evaluation of programmes presented by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in its twenty-eighth report to the Council,¹¹¹

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Technical Assistance Board at evaluation on a sector by sector basis,

Noting, however, that the Special Committee on Co-ordination has expressed the view that "the approach to evaluation may be too piecemeal and partial in character to produce the results which the Council hoped for in resolution 908 (XXXIV)",¹¹²

Being convinced that the present arrangements are not adequate to assess the extent to which the programmes and activities of the United Nations family of organizations are making an effective contribution to economic and social development in the recipient countries,

Considering that comprehensive evaluation can be achieved only by a combination of an evaluation of:

(a) The efficiency of management and operations, staffing, administrative procedures and financial controls;

(b) The technical soundness of programmes and methods employed;

(c) The over-all impact on the development of a given country,

1. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administrative authorities of the United Nations and its related agencies to keep under review administrative machinery, procedures and financial management;

2. *Expresses the hope* that the appropriate organs of the United Nations and the agencies will continue and intensify their efforts at technical evaluation of their programmes and operations and their effectiveness in achieving set objectives;

3. *Decides* that greater attention must be centred on an evaluation of the over-all impact on the development of the developing countries of the combined programmes of the United Nations system of organizations in terms of performance and results achieved and as a first step on the collection of relevant data on a country by country basis in co-operation with the countries concerned;

4. *Recognizes* that any evaluation of the impact of the technical co-operation programmes and activities of the United Nations and related agencies on the progress of the developing countries is of primary concern to these countries and can be achieved only on the basis of systematic efforts at evaluation by the Governments of these countries;

5. *Requests* the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in its further consideration of the problem of evaluation to be undertaken in co-operation with Governments:

(a) To formulate proposals designed to assist developing countries in their own evaluation efforts;

(b) To elaborate and define procedures for the collection of relevant information, making the fullest possible use of the resident representatives and the regional economic commissions;

(c) To explore ways and means of consolidating such information with a view to achieving an over-all evaluation of the impact on development and the effectiveness of the activities of the United Nations system in the economic, social and related fields, including the possibility of the establishment of permanent evaluation machinery;

(d) To report on the results of the consideration of this request to the 1964 session of the Council;

6. *Further requests* that this resolution be called to the attention of the governing bodies and general conferences of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

*1303rd plenary meeting,
2 August 1963.*

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 12.

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*, document E/3765, paras. 30 to 37.

¹¹² *Ibid.*, document E/3778, para. 35.