

and agencies of the United Nations system, which is taking on special significance in the context of the objectives of the forthcoming second United Nations Development Decade,

*Recalling* the provisions of Chapter IX of the United Nations Charter concerning international economic and social co-operation and, in particular, Article 60 concerning the special responsibility of the Economic and Social Council for the discharge of functions in economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related fields, and also concerning the central role of the Council in the co-ordination of that activity,

*Having examined* the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its second session,<sup>61</sup>

1. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to rationalize and enhance the effectiveness of its work on co-ordination of the programmes of the United Nations system in the field of economic and social development and human rights;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the work done by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in that direction, especially its suggestions aimed at eliminating duplication, parallelism and redundancy in the work of all organs of the United Nations system;

3. *Approves* the recommendations and proposals of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, contained in the Committee's report on its second session,<sup>62</sup> concerning its future role, and conduct of its work, in programme matters;

4. *Requests* the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, at its next session, to make further recommendations as necessary concerning its future role, and conduct of its work, in co-ordination matters;

5. *Re-emphasizes* the complementarity of the functions of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and, consequently,

(a) *Further requests* the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, which is essentially a tool for programming and co-ordination, to take into account, when considering and reviewing the programmes of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, their financial implications;

(b) *Invites* the advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, when considering the budgetary estimates of these programmes, to give as a matter of continuing practice, due weight to the relevant comments and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;

6. *Also requests* the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to group all its conclusions and recommendations into one section in its future reports to the Council, and to mark clearly all recommendations which call for Council action;

7. *Invites* the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on

Co-ordination, if possible to prolong their joint meetings by one or two days and to ensure that such joint meetings are prepared with a view to more concrete discussion of co-ordination problems;

8. *Requests* the functional commissions, the regional economic commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Council, and *invites* the Trade and Development Board and the Industrial Development Board, to classify the items in their work programmes into categories of priority in the manner recommended by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in paragraphs 12-14 of its report;

9. *Reminds* the functional commissions and the regional economic commissions of the need to secure the observance of their rules corresponding to rule 34 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council;

10. *Also reminds* the functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Council that their terms of reference require that the Council consider, in advance of their implementation, all proposals relating to their work programmes;

11. *Requests* the functional commissions, the regional economic commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Council to include, in the chapters of their reports dealing with programmes and priorities, a section entitled " Programme changes ", in accordance with paragraph 16 (c) of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

*1561st plenary meeting,  
2 August 1968.*

#### **1368 (XLV). Questions arising from the reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having considered* the thirty-fourth report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination<sup>63</sup> and the report of that Committee on expenditures of the United Nations system in relation to programmes<sup>64</sup> and the relevant sections of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its second session,<sup>65</sup>

### **I**

#### **INTERNATIONAL YEARS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

*Conscious* of the dangers of the growing tendency to designate international years and anniversaries and of the fact that the value of the practice will be impaired if it is followed too frequently,

1. *Expresses* the hope that new proposals for the designation of international years and anniversaries will be avoided except on the most important occasions and

<sup>63</sup> *Ibid.*, *Forty-fifth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 23, documents E/4486 and Add.1-3.

<sup>64</sup> *Ibid.*, document E/4501 and Add.1.

<sup>65</sup> *Ibid.*, *Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 9* (E/4493/Rev.1 and Add.1/Rev.1).

<sup>61</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 9* (E/4493/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1).

<sup>62</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

after consideration of the probable impact of such proposals on existing celebrations;

2. *Requests* that its views be brought to the attention of all intergovernmental organizations in the United Nations system.

## II

### COMPUTERS

3. *Welcomes* the establishment of a Computer Users' Committee;

4. *Expresses* the hope that the Computer Users' Committee will devote as much attention to questions concerning the use of computers throughout the United Nations system as to questions concerning the use of computers in Geneva;

5. *Expresses* the hope also that, in view of the high cost of computer facilities, the Computer Users' Committee will work on the basis of a maximum sharing of facilities rather than of self-sufficiency for each organization in the United Nations system, and that organizations' plans for computer facilities will be fully discussed in the light of possible alternatives before being submitted to the governing bodies concerned;

6. *Requests* the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to report further in 1969 on the progress made by the Computer Users' Committee;

## III

### STATISTICS

7. *Decides* that the special report submitted by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on statistical research and publications<sup>66</sup> should in the first instance be remitted to the joint consultations between representatives of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and a working group of the Statistical Commission, which are to be held in accordance with Council resolution 1306 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968, together with the summary records of the meetings at which this subject was discussed at the forty-fifth session of the Council.<sup>67</sup>

*1561st plenary meeting,  
2 August 1968.*

#### 1369 (XLV). Co-ordination at the national level

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 125 (II) of 20 November 1947, and Council resolutions 590 A II (XX) of 5 August 1955, 630 A II (XXII) of 9 August 1956, and 1281 (XLIII) of 4 August 1967,

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*, *Forty-fifth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 23, document E/4486/Add.2.

<sup>67</sup> *Ibid.*, *Forty-fifth Session*, 1561st meeting; E/AC.24/SR.338-344, 346 and 359.

*Recalling further* the survey of the Secretary-General<sup>68</sup> on the means and methods employed by the Governments of Member States for the purpose of co-ordinating their national policies in respect of the activities of the various organs, committees and agencies in the field of the economic and social activities of the United Nations family and the difficulties encountered by them in so doing,

*Considering* that since the publication of that survey a number of new bodies and agencies dealing with economic and social activities have been established within the United Nations system of organizations,

*Considering further* that as a consequence of these developments, the co-ordination at the national level of policies and measures in respect of activities of the United Nations, its various organs and committees and the specialized agencies has become more complicated,

*Reaffirming* the need for different organizations within the United Nations system to take mutually consistent decisions on related issues in order for the system to function properly,

*Noting* that "the aggravation of the problem of conflicting decisions being taken in different intergovernmental organizations" is among other reasons "due to inadequate co-ordination at the national level", as stated in the thirty-fourth report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination,<sup>69</sup>

*Convinced* that the timely distribution of documents plays an important role in assisting Governments in achieving co-ordination of their policies,

*Convinced further* that the improvement of co-ordination at the national level, together with other measures which need to be adopted by the organs and organizations of the United Nations system, would greatly assist in ensuring the better functioning of the United Nations system of organizations,

1. *Draws* the attention of Governments to the desirability of taking further steps to ensure a more appropriate co-ordination at the national level;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a survey for the forty-ninth session of the Council, on the basis of information submitted by the Governments of Member States and the experience of the United Nations system of organizations, on:

(a) The means and methods currently employed by the Governments of Member States for the purpose of co-ordinating their national policies in respect of the activities of the United Nations, its various organs and committees, and the specialized agencies;

(b) The difficulties generally encountered in ensuring such co-ordination at the national level, including appropriate suggestions for overcoming these difficulties;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the agencies to ensure the full implementation of the rule 80 of the rules of procedure of the Council and

<sup>68</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-sixth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 3, document E/3107.

<sup>69</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 23, document E/4486, para. 14.