

Considering that the question of the maximum utilization of the headquarters and field staff of the organizations in the United Nations system is a matter of growing concern,

Noting with satisfaction that a study is already being made of the use of the staff of the United Nations Secretariat,⁷²

1. Takes note of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its sixth session⁷³ and the thirty-sixth report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;⁷⁴

2. Reaffirms that the policy-making role in the United Nations system is the prerogative of Member States in the competent organs of the system;

3. Instructs the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to review the sphere of activities and competence of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in the light of the relevant discussion in the Council⁷⁵ so that the Council may achieve more effective co-ordination of the social, economic and technical activities of the United Nations system, and to submit recommendations to the Council at its fifty-first session;

4. Invites the Secretary-General, the executive heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency and the executive officers of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the regional economic commissions to pay special attention to the need to eliminate overlapping and duplication in their work;

5. Invites the above-mentioned bodies to carry out more precisely and effectively the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies and further, whenever obstacles or problems occur, to mention these in their reports and make recommendations to overcome them;

6. Invites the governing bodies of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to consider making arrangements for studies on the use of the staffs of their secretariats;

7. Recommends that the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency take every possible action, including reassignment of present personnel in the light of priority programmes, in order to ensure the maximum utilization of the said personnel.

*1721st plenary meeting,
30 July 1970.*

⁷² *Ibid.*, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/8008) (extract submitted to the Council by a letter from the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (E/L.1342)), paras. 58-67.

⁷³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10* (E/4877).

⁷⁴ E/4840 and Add.1/Rev.1.

⁷⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-ninth Session*, 1719th meeting; see also E/AC.24/SR.389 and 390.

1548 (XLIX). Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its sixth session with specific reference to the format of the analytical summaries of the reports of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency,⁷⁶

Invites the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, in the future, to include in their analytical summaries the following types of information:

(a) An organizational chart at the beginning of each summary, together with an indication of the changes that have been made during the course of the year;

(b) In the chapter entitled "Co-ordination with other organizations of the United Nations system", one section which would be concerned with achievements and a second section which would contain a description of any outstanding co-ordination problems and the difficulties encountered in solving them;

(c) Information in tabular form on expenditure on major programmes for previous and current years;

(d) Fuller information on the concrete steps taken by the organizations to carry out the recommendations made in the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit on the question of duplication or lack of co-ordination;

(e) Recommendations for specific action by the Council.

*1721st plenary meeting,
30 July 1970.*

1549 (XLIX). Prior consultations on work programmes

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its sixth session and the thirty-sixth report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, and particularly the parts dealing with prior consultations on work programmes,⁷⁷

Taking note of the discussions on this subject in the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination,⁷⁸

1. Welcomes the general agreement among the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system to carry out prior consultations on work programmes by the circulation to other United Nations organizations of their draft work programmes with a request for comments and the notification of such comments to the intergovernmental bodies responsible for preliminary and final consideration of the work programme;

⁷⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10* (E/4877), chap. VI.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, chap. IV, and E/4840, chap. I, sect. C.

⁷⁸ See E/4886 and Corr.1, paras. 11-15.