

accelerating the implementation of their agrarian reform programmes and in particular to make full use of the country programming procedures of the United Nations Development Programme;

4. *Determines* that the acceleration of the implementation of agrarian reform in the developing countries concerned deserves high priority in the further activities of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, particularly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

5. *Requests* that all competent agencies of the United Nations system consider effective means necessary for co-ordinated action to assist developing countries in the implementation of agrarian reform, including a more effective use of United Nations resources of technical assistance aimed at the acceleration of the implementation of agrarian reform, in accordance with the requirements of the Second United Nations Development Decade and, in particular, the improvement of training programmes for specialists from the developing countries, so as to make these specialists better acquainted with the basic elements of agrarian reform and thus to enable them to be more effectively involved in its implementation;

6. *Stresses* that in such co-ordinated action proper means must be found to enhance, through continuing education, the maximum participation of peasants and rural workers in the problems of the implementation of agrarian reform, as well as in economic, social, cultural and political activities;

7. *Stresses* the necessity of creating favourable conditions for the establishment and development of associations of peasants and rural workers;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its fifty-seventh session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council in 1975 the sixth report on progress in land reform, together with the results of the further work of the Special Committee on Agrarian Reform and other bodies of the United Nations system concerned with agrarian reform;

10. *Decides* to take the reports mentioned in paragraph 9 above into account in the mid-point review and appraisal in 1975 of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and to consider goals for the further implementation of agrarian reform during the second half of the Decade;

11. *Recommends* that the General Assembly, at its twenty-seventh session, during its discussion of the report of the Economic and Social Council and of matters related to the Second United Nations Development Decade, devote particular attention to agrarian reform, give favourable consideration to the present resolution and take appropriate action in this field.

*1836th plenary meeting
28 July 1972*

1708 (LIII). Report of the Industrial Development Board

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Industrial Development Board on its sixth session¹¹ and transmits the report to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session;

2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly, for its approval, the guidelines for the operation of the special industrial services programme as contained in paragraph 1 of resolution 35 (VI) of the Industrial Development Board.¹²

*1836th plenary meeting
28 July 1972*

1721 (LIII). The impact of multinational corporations on the development process and on international relations

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that, according to the Charter of the United Nations, the creation of conditions of stability and well-being is necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Recognizing the growing interdependence of economic and social development in the various parts of the world,

Aware that economic and social conditions are continually undergoing changes which require regular scrutiny to ensure unimpeded and equitable progress towards the attainment of an integrated world economy within the framework of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Taking note of the statement in the *World Economic Survey, 1971* which says, with reference to the multinational corporations, that "while these corporations are frequently effective agents for the transfer of technology as well as capital to developing countries, their role is sometimes viewed with awe, since their size and power surpass the host country's entire economy. The international community has yet to formulate a positive policy and establish effective machinery for dealing with the issues raised by the activities of these corporations",¹³

Noting also the resolution adopted at the fifty-sixth session of the International Labour Conference, concerning the social consequences of the activities of multinational corporations¹⁴ and the convening by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office of a meeting concerning the relationship between multinational undertakings and social policy,

¹¹ ID/B/113; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council by a note of the Secretary-General (E/5171).

¹² See ID/B/113, annex I.

¹³ See E/5144 (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.72.II.C.2), p. 10.

¹⁴ See International Labour Conference, *Provisional Record No. 2, Fifty-sixth Session, Geneva, 27 May 1971*.