

1534 (XLIX). Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Takes note* of the report of the President of the Council;¹⁰⁸

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and suggestions contained therein;

3. *Recommends* these conclusions and suggestions for action by the specialized agencies and other institutions concerned;

4. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the discussions that have taken place in the Council¹⁰⁹ and also in the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination¹¹⁰ and in the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee for Co-ordination.¹¹¹

*1717th plenary meeting,
24 July 1970.*

1542 (XLIX). Feasibility of an international university

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2573 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969 concerning the idea of an international university and expressing the hope that consideration might be given to the matter by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session and during the International Education Year,

Having given preliminary consideration to the feasibility study prepared by the Secretary-General,¹¹²

Believing that the examination of all aspects of this matter can be advantageously pursued only on the basis of further studies,

1. *Invites* the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make available to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session its views on the goals and objectives and also optional models of an international university and at an appropriate time to put forward proposals as to how the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization might participate in such a university;

¹⁰⁸ E/4892 and Corr.1.

¹⁰⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-ninth Session*, 1717th meeting.

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*, *Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10* (E/4877), chap. VII.

¹¹¹ See E/4886 and Corr.1, sect. V and annex II.

¹¹² E/4878.

2. *Further invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and other interested agencies and organizations within the United Nations system to provide the Economic and Social Council at an appropriate time with their detailed recommendations as to how such a university might be organized and financed;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session on the basis of such views as may be available at the time.

*1721st plenary meeting,
30 July 1970.*

1546 (XLIX). Assistance in cases of natural disaster

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2034 (XX) of 7 December 1965 and 2435 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, on assistance in cases of natural disaster,

Noting its resolution 1518 (XLIX) of 10 July 1970 concerning measures to be taken following the earthquake in Peru,

Having in mind its resolution 1533 (XLIX) of 23 July 1970, in which it recommended that the States Members of the United Nations establish an emergency fund for disasters, to be made up of voluntary contributions from all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies,

Having considered with interest the interim report of the Secretary-General on assistance in cases of natural disaster,¹¹³

Aware not only of the cost in human life and suffering but also of the serious implications for social and economic development of natural disasters, especially in the developing countries,

Noting with appreciation the important contributions to disaster relief and rehabilitation made by Governments, the many United Nations organizations concerned, and by the League of Red Cross Societies and other voluntary agencies,

Mindful of the need to strengthen and make more effective the capacity of the United Nations system to assist countries stricken by natural disasters as stressed by experience in connexion with the natural catastrophes of recent years,

1. *Commends* the Secretary-General on his intention to entrust one of his senior officials with the responsibility of acting for him on a regular basis in developing and co-ordinating assistance from the United Nations system and in ensuring continual and close co-operation with the Governments concerned, the League of Red Cross Societies and other voluntary agencies;¹¹⁴

¹¹³ E/4853 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

¹¹⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-ninth Session*, 1696th meeting, para. 36.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the staff arrangements necessary to this end, in implementation of operative paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2435 (XXIII);

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the preparation of pre-disaster plans at the national level to meet natural disasters, including the establishment of co-ordination machinery capable of immediate action in cases of disaster;

4. *Draws attention* to the contribution that the United Nations Development Programme can make in providing technical assistance towards such preparations;

5. *Stresses* the importance of stand-by relief units at the national level and of the stockpiling of supplies for use in emergency situations;

6. *Appeals* to States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to offer on an increasing scale, through bilateral arrangements, the United Nations system, or other appropriate organizations, emergency assistance to meet natural disasters, including stand-by relief units or the earmarking of similar units for service in foreign countries;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consult the Governments of States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies on this matter;

8. *Recognizes* the role of the resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme in undertaking a preliminary assessment of the extent of a natural disaster, including consultation with the Government concerned on the question of the need for a special resident co-ordinator to deal with international disaster relief;

9. *Reaffirms also* the need to promote scientific research into the causes and early manifestations of impending disasters and to develop and improve early warning systems;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in continuing his studies in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2435 (XXIII), to pay special regard to the following points:

(a) That a clear distinction should be maintained between special arrangements for the co-ordination of assistance during the emergency phase of natural disasters, and the subsequent co-ordination of further assistance for reconstruction and rehabilitation;

(b) That possible improvements should be explored in co-ordination at the national and international level of prior arrangements both for the giving and the receipt of emergency assistance, and for the channelling of such assistance to disaster-affected areas, in order to help the initiatives of relief organizations;

(c) That there should be full consultation with the League of Red Cross Societies and other voluntary agencies concerned, and also with the Governments of States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies and other appropriate organizations, in the formulation of his eventual recommendations to the Council at its fifty-first session;

11. *Further invites* the Secretary-General, in pursuing his studies, to consider the role within the United Nations system of the Emergency Fund for Disasters, recommended in Council resolution 1533 (XLIV), in providing assistance to countries stricken by natural disasters;

12. *Decides* to review at its fifty-first session the question of assistance in cases of natural disaster, on the basis of the comprehensive report which the Secretary-General has been asked to submit to the Council at that session, with a view to the formulation of recommendations for the consideration of the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session, in keeping with General Assembly resolution 2435 (XXIII).

*1721st plenary meeting,
30 July 1970.*

OTHER DECISION

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

At its 1722nd meeting, on 31 July 1970, the Council decided, without debate, to transmit the annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees ¹¹⁶ to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session.

¹¹⁶ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/8012), transmitted to the Council under the symbol E/4869.*