

for the benefit of the least developed countries could be mobilized, should be undertaken under the item on the agenda of the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly relating to the least developed among the developing countries.

*1855th plenary meeting
16 May 1973*

1754 (LIV). Special measures in favour of the least developed among the developing countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, in which the Assembly provided a separate section on special measures in favour of the least developed among the developing countries,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 2768 (XXVI) of 18 November 1971 and 3036 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972, concerning the least developed among the developing countries, as well as the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its third session,³³ the report of the Trade and Development Board for the period from 22 September 1971 to 25 October 1972³⁴ and the decision of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its fifteenth session regarding special measures for the least developed countries,³⁵

Bearing in mind the joint statement by eight socialist countries at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly concerning the Second United Nations Development Decade³⁶ and their declaration at the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,³⁷

Convinced of the need for the organizations in the United Nations system to take further concerted measures, including the adaptation of their operational rules, the terms and conditions under which assistance is provided, and their institutional arrangements including the deployment of personnel, to enable them to give priority and co-ordinated attention to the problems peculiar to the least developed among the developing countries and improve the effectiveness of the assistance provided to these countries,

1. Reaffirms the recognition that the least developed among the developing countries are confronted with special problems in their efforts to accelerate the pace of their economic and social progress;

2. Invites the United Nations Development Programme to submit a written report to the Secretary-General and the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-sixth session setting forth in detail, with special attention to field and headquarters staffing and uses

³³ *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Third Session, vol. I, Report and annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.D.4.).

³⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 15* (A/8715/Rev.1).

³⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 2* (E/5256), paras. 109-129.

³⁶ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 42, document A/8074.

³⁷ See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Third Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.D.4.), annex VIII.G.

being made of the special additional \$35 million earmarked for use in the least developed countries in the period 1973-1976, the various special measures which the Programme and its Governing Council have taken over the previous eighteen months to improve the quality and expand the quantity of technical and pre-investment assistance provided to the least developed countries, as well as any such further measures they project taking over the next twelve-month period;

3. Invites the World Bank Group, with special attention to the International Development Association, to submit a written report to the Secretary-General and the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-sixth session setting forth in detail the various special measures taken over the period 1971-1973 to improve the quality and terms, to expand the quantity, and to expedite the delivery of the capital and technical assistance provided to the least developed among the developing countries, as well as to indicate in so far as feasible the further special measures which they may have under consideration for the benefit of the least developed countries through 1976;

4. Invites each of the specialized agencies, other organizations in the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and the regional economic commissions and regional banks directly concerned to submit a written report to the Secretary-General and the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-sixth session setting forth in detail what special measures each has taken over the previous eighteen months in favour of the least developed countries, with special attention to measures to improve their co-ordination with one another and to adapt policy guidelines, operational rules, terms and conditions and institutional frameworks to the special problems of the least developed countries, and any such further measures they project taking over the next twelve-month period;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-sixth session on specific measures taken by the aforementioned organizations in the fields to which paragraph 4 above draws special attention;

6. Further requests those organizations which will be submitting reports under the terms of the present resolution to include a full appraisal of the administrative, institutional and co-ordinative difficulties they continue to encounter in the implementation of programmes of assistance to the least developed among the developing countries;

7. Decides to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item to review the report of the Secretary-General and consider the adequacy of policy guidelines, operational rules, terms and conditions and institutional frameworks adapted to the special problems of the least developed among the developing countries.

*1855th plenary meeting
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1755 (LIV). Special measures related to the particular needs of the land-locked developing countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2971 (XXVII) of 14 December 1972 on special measures

related to the particular needs of the land-locked developing countries, in which the Economic and Social Council, in consultation with the appropriate organizations in the United Nations system, is invited to study the desirability and feasibility, including possible ways and means, of establishing a special fund for defraying the additional transport costs of land-locked developing countries,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Group of Experts on the special problems involved in the trade and economic development of the land-locked developing countries³⁸ established by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Recognizing that the lack of information would make it impossible to determine the necessary means for the establishment of a fund to subsidize the additional transport costs of the land-locked developing countries,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and in co-ordination with the respective regional economic commissions, to undertake a complete study on the establishment of a fund, which should include:

(a) Difficulties encountered by the land-locked developing countries in the utilization of transportation means;

(b) Definition of the causes and limitations that create additional transport costs;

(c) Evaluation of the additional transport costs for each land-locked country;

(d) Measures which are being taken to reduce the additional transport costs accruing to developing land-locked countries;

(e) Annual financial assistance required to subsidize the additional transport costs;

(f) The various possible sources of financing and the evaluation of the feasibility of each of these sources;

2. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to bring forth in his study all possible alternatives that may result from his consultations;

3. *Requests* the Governments of the land-locked developing countries as well as the Governments of the transit countries to give all the required data, co-operation and necessary assistance to the Secretary-General, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and to the secretariats of the regional economic commissions, for this purpose;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit this study to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council.

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1756 (LIV). Study on regional structures

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 and 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970,

³⁸ *Official Records of the Trade and Development Board, Tenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 13, document TD/B/308.*

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 2687 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 and Council resolution 1442 (XLVII) of 31 July 1969, dealing with the role of the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office at Beirut in the Second United Nations Development Decade, as well as other resolutions of the Assembly and the Council dealing with decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations and strengthening of the regional economic commissions as enumerated in Council resolution 1442 (XLVII),

Stressing the importance of enhancing the role and the usefulness for Member States of the regional offices in the United Nations system,

Mindful of the need of facilitating the application of an integrated approach,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Regional co-operation: study on regional structures",³⁹

2. *Reaffirms* that the regional economic commissions, in their respective regions, are the main general economic and social development centres within the United Nations system, and calls upon all the organizations and agencies in the system to work closely with the regional economic commissions to achieve the over-all economic and social development objectives at the regional level;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the study referred to in paragraph 4 below and any related recommendations, to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-eighth session a further report on regional structures of the United Nations system aimed at their gradual simplification and adjustment to the realities, needs and aspirations of each region, on the basis of an in-depth analysis of the regional structures of the United Nations system as well as the terms of reference of the respective regional offices, and requests the Secretary-General, in preparing this report, to take into account also:

(a) The opinions of the Member States of the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office at Beirut;

(b) The conclusions of current discussions between the United Nations Development Programme and the regional economic commissions;

(c) The points of view of the specialized agencies concerned whose opinions will be requested by the Secretary-General and, wherever feasible, as expressed by their respective regional conferences;

4. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit, for its part, to include in its work programme an in-depth study of the matter, including such recommendations as it may deem appropriate to achieve the above-mentioned purposes.

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1757 (LIV). Study on regional structures: intersecretariat meetings

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2687 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 and Council resolution 1442 (XLVII) of 31 July 1969, dealing with the role of the regional economic commissions and the United

³⁹ E/5127.