

1615 (LI). Financial contributions to the United Nations Development Programme

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that the high expectations of an increase in resources as a result of the improvement in the capacity of the United Nations development system are not being fulfilled,

Considering that the provision for a growth of 9.6 per cent per annum over the next five years in the over-all resources for establishing indicative planning figures constitutes a departure from the provisions concerning the United Nations Development Programme approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, which considered the rate of growth in the resources of the Programme during the past few years as only one of the bases and the minimum to be taken into account for calculating future rates of growth,

Further noting with concern that, with a 9.6 per cent per annum increase, the over-all increase in contributions during the next five years will be less than 60 per cent and that, at this rate, eight to ten years might be required to double the current level of resources,

Recognizing that one of the serious consequences of a 9.6 per cent growth in contributions would be a decline in the rate of increase in the expenditures for field programmes from 16 per cent during the last five years to less than 10 per cent during the next five years, which would imply that even the present capacity of the United Nations development system will remain unused,

Considering further that if allowance is made for increase in the cost of the Programme, a 9.6 per cent per annum growth in contributions will result in the stagnation of the Programme at its present level in real terms,

Believing that the provision in the indicative planning figures for only 9.6 per cent growth in resources is a source of concern when viewed in the context of the Administrator's statement that a doubling of the programme by 1975 is a realistic goal⁷² and when Governments have accepted the provision, within the framework of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, to make available an increasing proportion of their assistance in the form of official financial transfers,⁷³

1. Requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to review at the first possible opportunity the planning estimates on which the indicative planning figures as approved by it were based, in order to attain the goal of the doubling of the resources of the Programme during the next five years, thus imparting a real meaning to the concept of country programming on a long-term dynamic basis;

⁷² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 6 (E/4954)*, para. 71, decision I; also DP/L.157.

⁷³ See General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, operative paragraph 2, (43).

2. Urges Governments to increase their financial contributions to the Programme, so as to enable it to use as fully as possible its improved capacity to assist developing countries in reaching the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade.

*1791st plenary meeting,
26 July 1971.*

1616 (LI). Special natural resources advisory services

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Committee on Natural Resources established under Council resolution 1535 (XLIX) of 27 July 1970, stating *inter alia* that the Committee on Natural Resources should be responsible for the establishment of guidelines for the provision and for the improvement and strengthening of advisory services to the Governments of Member States, to be made available at their request, for the planning, development and utilization of their natural resources,

Recalling further Council resolution 1572 B (L) of 18 May 1971, which approved the establishment of special natural resources advisory services and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Natural Resources, at its second session, on the progress made in the establishment and operations of the special natural resources advisory services,

Welcoming the joint report by the Secretary-General and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the arrangements between the United Nations and the Programme about the special natural resources advisory services,⁷⁴

Convinced that the speedy implementation of Council resolution 1572 B (L) is desirable,

1. Urges all the parties to whom the implementation of Council resolution 1572 B (L) has been assigned, to implement forthwith all provisions of the resolution as stipulated, taking into account, when appropriate, the results of the joint study referred to in paragraph 2 below:

2. Welcomes the proposal of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme for a joint study, by the Secretary-General and the Administrator of the Programme, of short-term special advisory services in other fields or of various separate advisory services, all based on the principles of speedy action in response to Government requests, of efficiency in using all existing high-level expertise and in minimizing costs to developing countries, and of full consultation with the Governments involved in each case.

*1792nd plenary meeting,
27 July 1971.*

⁷⁴ DP/L.191.