

profound changes which have taken place since their conclusion;

(b) To make such recommendations a may be necessary with a view to making the United Nations system a more effective instrument of world economic and social co-operation and of co-operation in the human rights field, taking into account in particular the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade;

2. *Requests* the Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee to report on its work to the Council at its fifty-eighth session, in order to assist in the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly in 1975, decided on in Assembly resolution 3172 (XXVIII)

*1920th plenary meeting  
2 August 1974*

### **1907 (LVII). Revised pattern of meetings**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the objectives of Chapter I (Articles 1 and 2) and Chapter IX of the Charter of the United Nations.

*Reaffirming* its conviction, expressed in Council resolution 1768 (LIV) of 18 May 1973, that both short-term and long-term measures for rationalization are required to strengthen the role of the United Nations in international economic and social co-operation.

*Taking into account* the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 concerning the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, section IX, paragraph 3 (b), of which provides that, for the purpose of examining the progress reports of all organizations, institutions and subsidiary bodies concerned within the United Nations system on the implementation of the Programme of Action, the Council may be convened, as necessary, in special session or, if need be, may function continuously.

*Desirous* of discharging more effectively the functions and mandate conferred upon it by the Charter, and of giving effect to the relevant terms of the aforesaid resolutions,

*Conscious* of the need to make the most efficient use of the services and facilities placed at its disposal,

*Considering* that the objectives referred to in the two preceding paragraphs might be achieved more economically, *inter alia*, by an adjustment of the calendar of its sessions,

1. *Notes* the difficulties experienced by the Economic and Social Council in dealing with its present and future workload within the existing arrangements for meetings;

2. *Decides*, in the light of rules 4 and 5 of the rules of procedure of the Council, that the Council's pattern of meetings, in addition to making provision for the regular

spring and summer sessions, should take into full account the need for a better distribution throughout the year of the questions included in the Council's programme of work for each year;

3. *Decides further* that, with a view to such a better distribution of meetings and the more effective operation of the Council, the Secretary-General be requested to present to the Council at its organizational session for 1975 a report containing recommendations to that end, together with an assessment of their possible financial implications;

4. *Decides also* to give priority consideration to the Secretary-General's report at its organizational session for 1975.

*1920th plenary meeting  
2 August 1974*

### **1910 (LVII). Priorities in the economic, social and human rights fields**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the objectives of Chapter IX of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 3043 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972 on the form of presentation of the United Nations Budget and duration of the budget cycle, and resolution 3199 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973 on the formulation, review and approval of programmes and budgets, in which the Council was requested to indicate clearly the order of priorities in the economic, social and human rights fields to be reflected by the Secretary-General in his medium-term plan for 1976-1979 and proposed programme budget for 1976-1977,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 3201 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and General Assembly resolution 3202 (S-VI) of the same date embodying the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

*Recognizing* the need to strengthen the role of the United Nations in the field of world-wide co-operation for economic and social development and the promotion of human rights,

*Believing* that the activities of the United Nations in the economic and social fields should take fully into account the Programme of Action, which complements and strengthens the goals and objectives embodied in the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, and that a re-deployment of resources in these fields may be required in order to achieve these ends,

*Taking into account* the fact some programmes of the United Nations itself are financed from extra-budgetary sources and that in several priority sectors the primary responsibility for international action lies elsewhere with-

in the United Nations system, in particular with its specialized agencies,

*Reiterating its concern* that there should be a unified approach to development,

*Noting* the report of the Secretary-General on priorities in the economic, social and human rights fields,<sup>92</sup>

*Considering* that there is an easure of complementarity between the thematic and the incremental approach to priorities in the economic, social and human rights fields,

1. *Stresses* the importance of establishing an effective system of priorities in the economic, social and human rights fields;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in preparing the draft programme budget for 1976-1977 and the medium-term plan for 1976-1979, to take full account of the views expressed during the fifty-seventh session of the Council;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing his draft programme budget and medium-term plan, to review carefully the activities being undertaken under each programme in the economic, social and human rights fields, in order to permit the General Assembly, with the recommendations of the Council, to redeploy, where appropriate, resources allocated to those areas, taking fully into account:

(a) The major objectives of the International Development Strategy and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, including the attainment of fundamental freedoms and human rights;

(b) The desirability of ensuring a meaningful element of real growth in programmes which are particularly responsive to those major objectives;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in presenting this programme budget and medium-term plan, to indicate concisely not only the programme structure and the legislative authority for each element, but also bearing in mind the element of complementarity referred to in the ninth preambular paragraph of the present resolution, the extent to which each element is essential to the achievement of major objectives, particularly where additions to on-going work are involved, but within the limits of resources allocated under the budget;

5. *Recognizes* that the redeployment of these resources so as to make available a relatively greater share for activities of high priority must be undertaken in an orderly fashion, so as not to cause undue dislocation or detract from the statutory obligations of the Secretariat;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in presenting his next programme budget and medium-term plan, to report how in practice he has interpreted the guidance afforded by the present resolution;

7. *Recommends* that, in the preparation of the draft programme budget for 1976-1977 and the proposed medium-term plan for 1976-1979, due account should be taken of the decisions reached, up to the time of the drawing-up of the budget and the medium-term plan, on matters which require priority action, including the forthcoming world conferences being held under United Nations auspices.

*1921st plenary meeting  
2 August 1974*

<sup>92</sup> E/AC.51/74 and Corr.1 and 2.

## DECISIONS

### 41 (LVII). Machinery for programme and co-ordination

At its 1919th meeting, on 1 August 1974, the Council, recognizing the desirability of reaching agreement by consensus on the future of its organization and working methods for dealing with questions of programme and co-ordination, decided:

(a) To review this matter further at its fifty-eighth session;

(b) To invite the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to confine the substantive agenda of its fifteenth session to the sole question of the programme budget for 1976-1977 and the medium-term plan for 1976-1979;

(c) That, pending a decision on the future machinery for programme and co-ordination, the remaining functions of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination under Council resolution 1472 (XLVIII) should be assumed during 1975 by the Council's Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee.

### 42 (LVII). Creation of an informal group to examine the machinery for programme and co-ordination

At its 1919th meeting, on 1 August 1974, the Council decided to set up an informal group, open to all Member States, to meet in New York early in 1975 to examine the machinery for programme and co-ordination, it being understood that all the necessary steps would be taken to reduce the financial charges in connexion therewith to a minimum.

### 43 (LVII). Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

At its 1918th meeting, on 31 July 1974, the Council took note of the annual report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1973/74.<sup>93</sup>

<sup>93</sup> E/5488.