

presented for each programme, so as to permit an easy comparison of the shifting of emphasis within and between sections, explanations of the causes of which should be incorporated in the explanatory texts, due regard also being paid to the fact that the inclusion of the current year's authorizations would be most useful in ascertaining the future direction programmes may take and would be of assistance to the various inter-governmental bodies in their decision-making;

(e) The reports should be circulated early in the year to the intergovernmental organs concerned and, as far as practicable, incorporated in the agendas and documentation for consideration by each organization or commission, and the results of such consideration, in turn, should be examined by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in its review of the topic.

*1799th plenary meeting,
30 July 1971.*

1645 (LI). The green revolution

The Economic and Social Council,

Aware of the significant contribution which the wider application and spread of high-yielding varieties of food crops can make towards achieving the agricultural production goals of the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Realizing that attention should be given to the economic, social and human problems which inevitably accompany such a revolutionary process, such attention being a determining factor in ensuring the successful promotion of the new technology,

Noting the new initiative taken jointly by the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to improve and strengthen international co-operation in the fields of agricultural and allied research,

Taking note with interest of the United Nations/UNDP research project at present being carried out by the United Nations Research Institution for Social Development, in consultation with the International Labour Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on the social implications of the large-scale introduction of high-yielding varieties of food grains,

Considering that the successful application of new high-yielding varieties of grains requires a more accessible and greatly increased availability of material inputs,

Recognizing that the impact of the green revolution extends far beyond the field of agricultural technology, covers also a wide field of social and economic aspects, and therefore calls for concerted multidisciplinary action by the United Nations system as a whole,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the special report prepared by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the implications of the green revolution⁸⁵ and the initiative of that Committee in thus bringing to the notice of the Council the opportunities offered by the spread of the new technology for a truly co-ordinated effort throughout the whole of the United Nations system;

2. *Endorses* the broad lines for inter-agency planning and concerted action-oriented programming in this particular area of economic and social development, indicated in the special report mentioned in paragraph 1 above;

3. *Recommends* the Governments of Member States, the regional economic commissions, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned to give close attention, in their short-term and medium-term plans, to the promotion of concerted and meaningful action-oriented projects in respect of the green revolution;

4. *Recommends* that attention also be given to spreading the benefits of the green revolution to a wider range of agricultural conditions and income groups, through continued research to develop high-yielding varieties of food crops not already covered by existing programmes;

5. *Further recommends* that close attention be given to the impact of the new technology on socio-economic development, including environmental aspects, taking into account, *inter alia*, the findings of the study on the social implications of the new agricultural technology now being undertaken by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development;

6. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in intensifying contacts with potential sources of both international and bilateral aid, especially in respect of research and food production resources, in order to further the objective of spreading the new technology;

7. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme and other financial institutions to give careful consideration to the special report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and to take it into account in assisting Governments in their country-programming;

8. *Decides* that a review and appraisal of progress in the application of this new technology be made at the mid-term of the Second United Nations Development Decade, within the framework of the arrangements that may be established for that purpose and in co-operation with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

*1799th plenary meeting,
30 July 1971.*

⁸⁵ E/5012, (part II)