

MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL

1621 (LI). Organization of the work of the Council

A

ENLARGEMENT OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming that its role as a principal organ of the United Nations should be enhanced and its methods of work improved to enable it to discharge more effectively the functions conferred upon it by the Charter of the United Nations in the formulation of general economic and social policies to meet the challenges of the modern world,

Considering that the participation of a larger number of States Members of the United Nations would strengthen the representative character, the authority and the dynamism of the Council,

1. *Recommends* the General Assembly to take, at its twenty-sixth session, all necessary steps to amend the Charter to ensure an early enlargement of the Council to 54 members, the additional 27 seats to be allocated in accordance with the present geographical distribution in the Council;

2. *Decides* to enlarge, in the interim period, the membership of its sessional committees and the Committee on Natural Resources to 54 members as from 1 January 1972;

3. *Requests* the General Assembly to elect, at its twenty-sixth session, in addition to the 9 new members of the Council, 27 States Members of the United Nations to serve on the sessional committees of the Council in accordance with the present geographical distribution of seats in the Council;

4. *Decides also* that, in the interim period, all substantive items on the agenda of a session of the Council, apart from the general debate, shall be allocated to the sessional committees for their in-depth consideration, with a view to submitting concrete recommendations to the Council;

5. *Decides further* to review at its fifty-third session its co-ordinating machinery, including the possibility of inter-sessional meetings of the Co-ordination Committee to deal with the task currently entrusted to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, with a view to strengthening the co-ordination role of the Council.

*1798th plenary meeting,
30 July 1971.*

B

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1454 (XLVII) of 8 August 1969 and 1544 (XLIX) of 30 July 1970, and in particular

paragraph 4 of the latter, on future institutional arrangements for science and technology,

Recognizing the ever-growing role of the application of science and technology in the resolution of economic and social problems of the developing countries,

Recognizing further that the United Nations system urgently needs an adequate institutional framework to ensure the increasing application of science and technology to development and to eliminate any existing institutional gaps among the bodies and organizations of the United Nations system dealing with specific scientific and technological problems,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment by the Trade and Development Board, in its resolution 74 (X) of 18 September 1970,⁹¹ of an intergovernmental group on the transfer of operative technology,

1. *Decides* to establish a standing committee of the Council composed of 54 members, to be elected in accordance with the present geographical distribution of seats in the Council, to provide policy guidance and make recommendations on matters relating to the application of science and technology to development and to report to the General Assembly, through the Council;

2. *Decides further* to review at its fifty-seventh session the institutional arrangements for science and technology in the light of the implementation of the provisions contained in operative paragraph 1 of resolution 1621 A (LI) above and of the provisions of its resolutions 1623 (LI) of 30 July 1971;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council at its fifty-second session on the possible terms of reference of the Standing Committee referred to in paragraph 1 above, taking into account the specific competence of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency and of the inter-sessional organs of the General Assembly, and the need for co-ordination between them and the Standing Committee;

4. *Decides further* to maintain the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, with a membership of 24, to be appointed in the manner laid down in Council resolution 980 A (XXXVI) of 1 August 1963, that the term of office of the members shall be three years and can be renewed, that the Advisory Committee is to furnish expertise to the Standing Committee, in addition to its terms of reference as set forth in that resolution and that it may receive such instructions from the Standing Committee as will be necessary to provide it with scientific, technological, and innovative advice and ideas in this field;

⁹¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/8015/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1)*, part two, annex I.

5. *Reiterates* the view that any institutional arrangements in the field of science and technology can only be meaningful if adequate resources are made available for tackling major problem areas, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

1798th plenary meeting,
30 July 1971.

C

MACHINERY FOR REVIEW AND APPRAISAL

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that paragraph (83) of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, approved by the General Assembly in resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, provides for an over-all appraisal by the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, of the progress in the implementation of the policy measures and the attainment of the goals and objectives embodied in the Strategy,

Recalling its resolution 1556 B (XLIX) of 31 July 1970, in which the Council expressed its readiness to assume responsibility for assisting the General Assembly in the task of the over-all review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the Strategy,

Aware of the different levels of review and appraisal that are going to be carried out by Governments and the United Nations system,

1. *Decides* to establish a committee of the Council on review and appraisal, composed of 54 members to be elected at the fifty-second session, in accordance with the present geographical distribution of seats in the Council, to enable the Council to discharge the responsibilities entrusted to it by the General Assembly, in accordance with the Council's functions under the Charter of the United Nations, to assist the General Assembly in the over-all review and appraisal of the Second United Nations Development Decade, as provided for in General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV), in particular in paragraph (83);

2. *Decides further* to review at its fifty-seventh session the machinery for over-all review and appraisal in the light of the implementation of the provisions of operative paragraph 1 of resolution 1621 A (LI) above and the provisions of its resolution 1623 (LI) of 30 July 1971;

3. *Requests* the intergovernmental bodies of the specialized agencies and of other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Industrial Development Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to consider adequate procedures for the review and appraisal of the policy measures and the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy falling within their competence and to report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Requests* the Committee for Development Planning to assist the Committee on Review and Appraisal by reviewing all relevant material concerning the over-all progress made in implementing the International Development Strategy, and by conveying to that Committee its comments and recommendations.

1798th plenary meeting,
30 July 1971.

1622 (LI). Organization of the work of the Council: recommendation to the General Assembly

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Taking into account the considerable increase over the past twenty-five years in the volume of activities undertaken by organs and organizations of the United Nations system in the economic, social, scientific and technical fields, and the resulting need for the closer and more effective co-ordination of those activities,

Recalling its resolutions 2188 (XXI) of 13 December 1966, 2360 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and, in particular, 2579 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969, in which, *inter alia*, the Economic and Social Council was requested to introduce as soon as possible such improvements or modifications with regard to co-ordination and programme review as might appear necessary, in the light of the experience gained and of relevant developments within the United Nations system of organizations,

Supporting, in that connexion, the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1547 (XLIX) of 30 July 1970,

Recalling that, under Chapter IX of the Charter of the United Nations, responsibility for the development of international, economic and social co-operation is vested in the General Assembly and, under its authority, in the Economic and Social Council,

Emphasizing that, under Chapter X of the Charter, the Economic and Social Council is required to play a key role within the United Nations system in the economic and social fields and in the field of human rights,

Noting the need for the establishment of a more rational procedure for the consideration of economic, social, scientific and technical questions at the sessions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council,

1. *Deems it advisable* for any new economic, social, scientific or technical questions appearing on the agenda of the General Assembly to be considered, as a rule, first by the Economic and Social Council, which would make specific recommendations concerning the nature of possible future decisions to be adopted by the General Assembly on such questions;

2. *Instructs* the Economic and Social Council to submit, in due time, a list of questions concerning the economic, social, scientific and technical activities of the United Nations, accompanied by appropriate recommendations for consideration at sessions of the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, at one of its forthcoming sessions, to indicate the range of problems on which the Council itself, in accordance with the Charter, considers it advisable to take final decisions and to submit its proposals on that question for the approval of the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session;