

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 I 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;

4. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to take appropriate measures with a view to the regulation and improved co-ordination of economic, social, scientific and technical activities within the United Nations system and, in that connexion, calls the attention of the Council to the need for greater precision and efficiency in the exercise of its functions and powers, as defined in the Charter, in particular in Article 63;

5. *Instructs* the Economic and Social Council, having regard to paragraph 4 above, to prepare and submit to the General Assembly, for consideration at its twenty-seventh session, proposals concerning effective measures to remedy present shortcomings in the co-ordination of economic and social development programmes and thereby to eliminate overlapping, duplication, over-staffing and over-expenditure of budgetary funds.

*1798th plenary meeting,
30 July 1971.*

1623 (LI). Organization of the work of the Council

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that its role as a principal organ of the United Nations should be reaffirmed and that its authority 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 development,

Reaffirming that, because of the expansion of the activities of the United Nations system during recent years, greatly increased importance has been assumed by the functions of the Council as set out in its resolution 1156 (XLI) of 5 August 1966, namely its functions as:

(a) The governing body for the United Nations work programme in the economic, social, human rights and related fields,

(b) The co-ordinator of the activities of the United Nations system of organizations in these fields,

(c) A forum for the discussion of issues of international economic and social policy, and for formulating recommendations for the United Nations system of organizations,

Noting that paragraph (83) of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 and providing for an over-all appraisal by the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, of the progress in implementing the Strategy, will bring these functions into sharper focus and require increased emphasis on the definition of priorities and the resolution of conflicts of interests within the United Nations system,

I

1. *Decides* that in its review of the over-all economic and social situation the Council should formulate new policy recommendations to meet the challenges of

development, define major lags and constraints in the field of development and recommend ways and means for their removal;

2. *Decides* to arrange its programme of work, taking into account the rules of procedure of the Council, to provide for:

(a) A short organizational session in January;

(b) A session in the second quarter of the calendar year devoted mainly to social questions, the reports of subsidiary bodies and elections;

(c) A session in the third quarter of the calendar year at Geneva devoted to major questions arising from the world economic situation and in alternate years a debate on the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, with a view to assisting the General Assembly in the over-all appraisal, and to the co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations system in the economic and social fields;

(d) A brief resumed session during the session of the General Assembly to deal with items that cannot normally be considered at the regular sessions of the Council;

II

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the members of the Council, to develop a more rational agenda designed to avoid duplication of discussion and to enable the Council to concentrate on policy issues, grouping items on related issues and providing for the consideration of important substantive issues on a longer-term planning cycle, where this is appropriate;

4. *Reaffirms* its decision that the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees should be transmitted to the General Assembly without debate, unless the Council decides otherwise, at the specific request of one or more of its members or of the High Commissioner, at the time of the adoption of its agenda;⁹²

5. *Decides* that, as a general rule and in order to avoid repetitious debates, consideration of the reports of all its functional commissions and subsidiary bodies should be confined, as far as possible, to matters which require decisions or guidance from the Council;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in consultation with delegations, to circulate a more detailed schedule of work for each session and to ensure that the annotated provisional agenda for each session is more informative;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare for each substantive agenda item a short document summarizing the previous consideration of the question and the various options for decision by the Council, as well as the consequences likely to arise from such decisions;

⁹² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1A (E/4735/Add.1)*, p. 3.