

REVIEW AND APPRAISAL

3. *Invites* the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, in close co-operation with the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system concerned, to keep the World Plan of Action and the regional plans under periodic review and appraisal and, in the light of new developments, to prepare new areas of topics of research and development for incorporation in the World Plan of Action and/or the regional plans, bearing in mind the need for integrated economic and social research as an important factor in the setting of priorities in the field of science and technology, and to present its conclusions and recommendations to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development;

II

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CAPACITY

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult with the organizations of the United Nations system on ways and means of identifying the existing gaps in the institutional scientific infrastructure at the national, regional and global levels and on the measures that would be required to strengthen this infrastructure for the implementation of the research and policy measures contained in the World Plan of Action; use should be made of surveys already undertaken by organizations of the United Nations system, and especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, on existing scientific and technological institutions;

5. *Invites* the international financing organizations, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the regional development banks, as well as developed countries, in close consultation with developing countries and at their specific request, to provide them with ways and means of supporting their efforts to implement specific infrastructural projects for research and development;

6. *Requests* the organizations of the United Nations system concerned to continue to develop flexible programmes for assistance to the developing countries, at their request, in keeping their existing scientific and technological infrastructure operational;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the other agencies and organizations concerned, to report to the Economic and Social Council, through the Committee on Science and Technology for Development, on the progress made with action to strengthen the scientific and technological capacities of developing countries;

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESEARCH

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action, in close consultation with the international financing organizations, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the regional development banks, and with the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the regional economic commissions, and with interested Member States, for the establishment at the regional and/or global level, as may be required, of consultative groups or other such machinery aimed at achieving rapid progress in areas scheduled for research and for the application of existing knowledge, as identified in the World Plan of Action;

9. *Invites* the international financing organizations and developed countries to consider contributing financially to these consultative groups or other machinery;

IV

NATIONAL SCIENCE POLICIES

10. *Urges* on all Governments the importance of drafting and implementing national science and technology policies and of giving high priority to the establishment of at least one centre for providing advisory services in the field of science and technology policy in each region and requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with other international organizations, both inside and outside the United Nations system, to promote effective assistance in this field and in particular to strengthen such activities at the regional level;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-ninth session and to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its third session

*1919th plenary meeting
1 August 1974*

**1901 (LVII). Quantification of scientific
and technological activities related to development**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1822 (LV) of 10 August 1973, in which it requested the Secretary-General to convene an intergovernmental group of experts on the quantification of scientific and technological activities related to development and to present its report to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its second session,

Having considered the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Quantification of Scientific and Technological Activities related to Development,³²

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 3179 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, in which the Council was requested to instruct the Committee on Science and Technology for Development to give priority, at its second session, to the consideration of the subject of quantitative targets in the field of science and technology, to enable the Council to consider the subject at its fifty-seventh session, and recalling that by its decision I (LVI) of 10 January 1974 the Council had referred the subject to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development,

1. *Commends* the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Quantification of Scientific and Technological Activities related to Development for the excellent work undertaken;

2. *Recommends* to Governments, on the basis of the conclusions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts, that:

(a) They continue their efforts to establish data systems for scientific and technological activities or further to refine existing systems to include the identification of research and development objectives, so as to obtain the information necessary for the development of national policies and programmes in the field of science and technology;

(b) They devote, in the course of that process, specific efforts to the identification of other characteristics of research and development projects necessary to establish the relevance of such projects to the specific problems of developing countries and to ensure that national data are internationally compatible;

3. *Requests*, in recognition of the difficulties to be encountered in developing national data systems and ensuring their international compatibility and aware of the work and interest of national organizations in the field, that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as part of its current programmes regarding policies and statistics in the field of science and technology, should:

(a) Serve as a focal point for the development of concepts, criteria, standard nomenclatures and methodologies for the purposes indicated in paragraph 2 above;

(b) Assist countries, on request, in elaborating and organizing their national data systems for science and technology with emphasis on the quantification of scientific and technological activities related to specific problems of developing countries, and, in complying with this request, avail itself of and draw upon the capabilities of the United Nations and other international bodies;

(c) Make its reports on this question available to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development for consideration at its third session.

4. *Stresses* the need to initiate, continue and reinforce international co-operation in science and technology on already identified specific problems of developing countries without waiting for more refined data to become available;

5. *Requests* the Committee on Science and Technology for Development to keep under continuing review the progress made in the quantification of scientific and technological activities related to development and to include the subject in the agenda of its third session.

*1919th plenary meeting
1 August 1974*

1902 (LVII). The role of an international technological information system in the transfer and assessment of technology and in the indigenous growth of appropriate technologies in developing countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, in paragraph 62 of which the Assembly requested that particular attention be devoted to fostering technologies suitable to developing countries,

Bearing in mind Council resolutions 1636 (LI) of 30 July 1971 and 1715 (LIII) of 28 July 1972, which proposed practical measures for the maximization of the contribution of technology to development,

Recognizing the urgent need for establishing in developing countries an indigenous science and technology capacity for the assessment of technology and the development of appropriate technologies,

Realizing that:

(a) Developing countries, in order to achieve rapid economic growth, will have to rely to a large extent on imports of technology coupled with domestic research and development efforts,

(b) It is necessary for developing countries to have a knowledge of alternative available technologies, together with analyses of the economic costs and benefits and relevant data on the requirements of capital, labour, raw materials and other factors of production,

(c) The transfer of technological information, including its collection, retrieval and analysis, is basic to the assessment of the technological perspectives and of the ecological, economic and social effects involved,

(d) Developing countries have established or are establishing national scientific and technical information centres,

(e) The availability of technological information from international sources could improve the capability of the developing countries of taking the fullest advantage of existing knowledge, so providing new alternatives and approaches to the solution of technical problems and assisting them in the rationalization and systematization of their research and development efforts,

³² E/C.8/18.