

activities conducive to the creation of career possibilities, the improvement of fellowships and other forms of encouragement for training personnel in areas of direct concern to developing countries, and other measures, such as the establishment of the career of scientific research worker in those countries;

7. *Requests* the Committee on Science and Technology for Development to consider the problem of the outflow of trained personnel from developing to developed countries again at its third session.

*1919th plenary meeting
1 August 1974*

1905 (LVII). Institutional arrangements for science and technology

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1454 (XLVII) of 8 August 1969 and 1544 (XLIX) of 30 July 1970, and in particular paragraphs 1 and 4 of the latter resolution, entitled "Future institutional arrangements for science and technology", and especially the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 concerning the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Recognizing the pivotal role of modern science and technology in the development of all nations and, in particular, the ever-growing awareness of the potential role of science and technology in the solution of the economic and social problems of the developing countries.

Recognizing also that the application of science and technology to development, particularly in the developing countries, is vital to the attainment of the objectives enunciated in Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Convinced that the United Nations system needs to be involved on a more practical basis with these new challenges and responsibilities and, consequently, that the United Nations system needs the institutional machinery commensurate with these new responsibilities, in order to ensure a vigorous, coherent and co-ordinated pursuit of the work in the field of science and technology.

Recognizing the important work being done in the field of development and the transfer of technology by various United Nations bodies and specialized agencies.

Mindful of the view that any institutional arrangements in the field of science and technology can be meaningful only if adequate resources are made available in accordance with the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Taking note of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology for Development on its second session,³⁶

³⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty seventh Session, Supplement No. 3 (E/5473).*

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the advice of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, and after consultation with all interested agencies and bodies within the United Nations system, to make a study on:

(a) The work at present being undertaken throughout the United Nations system in the field of the development and the transfer of science and technology particularly in the interests of developing countries;

(b) The feasibility of the establishment of a United Nations science and technology programme, including its form, functions and responsibilities, to assist, facilitate and ensure the application of science and technology to development, particularly that of the developing countries;

2. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit the report on the matters referred to in paragraphs 1 (a) and (b) above to the intergovernmental working group of the Committee on Science and Technology for Development to be convened in 1975;³⁷

3. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-ninth session the report of the intergovernmental working group of the Committee on Science and Technology for Development, with a view to making appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session.

*1919th plenary meeting
1 August 1974*

1908 (LVII). The impact of transnational corporations on the development process and on international relations

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1721 (LIII) of 28 July 1972,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, including the provisions relating to transnational corporations,

Recalling further the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly concerning the permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources,

Having given preliminary consideration to the report of the group of Eminent Persons to Study the Impact of Multinational Corporations on Development and on International Relations,³⁸ and to the report of the Secretary-General³⁹

Aware of the need to ensure that, taking fully into account the above-mentioned resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session on the Declaration and the Programme of Action on a New International Economic Order, and with full respect for the sovereignty of States, the activities of transnational corporations should contribute effectively to the acceleration of the process of development, in particular of the developing countries, and to the strengthening of international economic co-operation,

³⁷ See Council resolution 1897 (LVII).

³⁸ E.5500/Add.1 (parts I and II).

³⁹ E.5500.

Desirous of giving priority consideration to the review of issues raised by the activities of transnational corporations and their role in the world economy,

Recognizing the need for the establishment of permanent machinery to deal on a continuing basis with the full range of issues relating to transnational corporations, taking fully into account, in particular, the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the members of the Group of Eminent Persons to Study the Impact of Multinational Corporations on Development and on International Relations for their efforts;

2. *Decides* to keep the full range of issues relating to transnational corporations, and in particular the subject of the regulation of and supervision over their activities, under close consideration on a continuing basis;

3. *Invites* all States⁴⁰ to make known their views on the report of the Group and on the problems with which it is concerned, if possible before the meeting of the Special Intersessional Committee referred to in paragraph 7 below;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, to prepare a concise report on those activities of the system which are closely related to the subject of transnational corporations;

5. *Decides* in principle to establish, in accordance with the principles accepted by the United Nations, appropriate permanent machinery to assist the Council in dealing with the issue of transnational corporations;

6. *Decides* to establish an information and research centre on transnational corporations and requests the Secretary-General, pending further arrangements regarding the modalities of operation of the centre, to set up, in accordance with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, a nucleus of the centre in the light of the Secretary-General's report and the report of the Group, and bearing in mind also that such a centre should be financed through the regular United Nations budget, without prejudice to any voluntary contribution from Member States;

7. *Decides* to convene a Special Intersessional Committee of the Council to examine:

(a) The different aspects and proposals of the report of the Group;

(b) The views of States, referred to in paragraph 3 above;

(c) The report of the Secretary-General, requested in paragraph 4 above;

8. *Decides also* that the Special Intersessional Committee should recommend priorities for a programme of work on the full range of issues relating to transnational

corporations, as well as for permanent machinery needed to develop such a programme of work, including further arrangements regarding the modalities of operation of the information and research centre referred to in paragraph 6 above, taking into account the several on-going activities of the United Nations system directly related to the subject of transnational corporations;

9. *Decides further* that the Special Intersessional Committee should report to the Council at its resumed fifty-seventh session;

10. *Decides* to give priority to the question of transnational corporations at its resumed fifty-seventh session and to take a final decision at that resumed session on the permanent machinery to be established and on its mandate;

11. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the action that the Council might take pursuant to paragraph 8 above:

(a) To make provisional arrangements for ensuring that the issues concerning transnational corporations are given adequate attention by the services of the Secretariat in charge of economic studies, research and planning;

(b) To promote a programme of technical co-operation aimed at strengthening the capacity of host countries, in particular of developing countries, in their dealings with transnational corporations;

12. *Requests also* the Secretary-General to provide, within the Secretariat, appropriate support for the Special Intersessional Committee referred to in paragraph 7 above.

*1920th plenary meeting
2 August 1974*

1909 (LVII). Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2952 (XXVII) of 11 December 1972 and 3087 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973 relating to the Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 concerning the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, especially section III and section IX, paragraph 2, thereof,

Noting with appreciation the preparatory work thus far carried out by the Industrial Development Board and by the Permanent Committee in their capacity as the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee for the Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization,⁴¹

⁴⁰ It is the understanding of the Economic and Social Council that the Secretary-General, in discharging his functions under the present resolution, will follow the practice of the General Assembly in implementing an "All States" clause and, in all cases when it is advisable, the Secretary-General will request the opinion of the General Assembly before taking appropriate decisions.

⁴¹ See the report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee in document ID/B/145 (transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbol E/5547), and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (E/5548).