

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OFFICIAL RECORDS

RESUMED FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION

14 and 18 October, 19, 26 and 29 November and 5, 10 and 16 December 1974

RESOLUTIONS

SUPPLEMENT No. 1A

UNITED NATIONS

كيفية العصول على منشورات الامم المتحدة يكن العمول عن منتج ـ دام المحدد، العكد براج التجريع في عليم العام العالم - بسد عليه ـ الدّف التي محدل معها أَوْ أَكْتُ الَّيْ : لَامَمُ أَنْ حَمَّ فَلَمَ السَّعِ فِي جُومٌ ﴿ وَمِنْ مُلْفُكُ مَا

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New York, 1975

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

The arabic and roman numerals identifying each resolution indicate, respectively, the number of the resolution and the number of the session at which it was adopted.

E/5570/Add.1

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AGENDA OF THE RESUMED FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION

Adopted by the Council at its 1922nd meeting, held on 14 October 1974, and revised at its 1926th and 1933rd meetings, held on 19 November and 16 December 1974

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. Report of the Trade and Development Board.
- 3. Reports of the World Bank Group.
- 4. Report of the International Monetary Fund.
- 5. World Population Conference, 1974.
- 6. World Food Conference:
 - (a) Report of the World Food Conference;
 - (b) Emergency measures in regard to the supply of fertilizers and pesticides.
- 7. Special Programme to provide emergency relief and development assistance to the most seriously affected developing countries.
- 8. Establishment of an International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation
- 9. The impact of transnational corporations on the development process and on international relations.
- 10. Elections:
 - (a) Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;
 - (b) Committee on Natural Resources;
 - (c) Committee on Science and Technology for Development;
 - (d) Committee on Review and Appraisal.
- 11. Report of the Economic Commission for Western Asia on its first special session.
- 12. International conference to be held during the International Women's Year: question of the change of venue of the Conference.
- 13. Ad hoc authorization to the Executive Director of the World Food Programme to give food assistance to peoples in colonial Territories in Africa and their national liberation movements.

RESOLUTION AND DECISIONS ADOPTED WITHOUT REFERENCE TO A SESSIONAL COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

1912 (LVII). Special Programme to provide emergency relief and development assistance to the most seriously affected developing countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Special Programme on its second session,1

- 1. Draws the attention of the General Assembly to the above-mentioned report;
- 2. Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption at its twenty-ninth session of the draft resolution contained in chapter I, paragraph 1, of that report.

1923rd plenary meeting 14 October 1974

¹ E/5590.

DECISIONS

53 (LVII). Report of the Trade and **Development Board**

At its 1922nd meeting, on 14 October 1974, the Council decided to transmit the report of the Trade and Development Board² to the General Assembly and to draw the attention of the Assembly to the comments made on the subject in the above-mentioned meeting.

54 (LVII). Reports of the World Bank Group

At its 1925th meeting, on 18 October 1974, the Council took note with appreciation of the annual report of the World Bank³ and the annual report of the International Finance Corporation.³

55 (LVII). Report of the Economic Commission for Western Asia

At its 1925th meeting, on 18 October 1974, the Council took note of the report of the Economic Commission for Western Asia on its first special session4 and endorsed Commission resolution 6 (S-1) entitled "Site of the headquarters of the Commission".5

mitted to the council o, (E/5583).

4 Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10A (E/5589).

5 Ibid., chap. III.

56 (LVII). Human rights questions: allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights

At its 1931st meeting, on 5 December 1974, the Council took note of two communications from the World Federation of Trade Unions relating to allegations of infringements of trade union rights in Bahrain⁶ and of the reply from the Government of Bahrain.7

57 (LVII). World Population Conference, 1974

At its 1926th meeting, on 19 November 1974, the Council decided:

- (a) To take note of the report of the World Population Conference;8
- (b) To express its gratitude to the Government of Romania for its kind hospitality in acting as host to the World Population Conference, 1974;
- (c) To express its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference for the effective preparation and organization of the Conference:
- (d) To recall that the Council at its fifty-eighth session will study in depth the report of the World Population Conference;
- (e) To transmit the report of the World Population Conference to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session.

² Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/9615/Rev.1), transmitted to the Council by a note by the Secretary-General (E/5582).

³ World Bank, Annual Report 1974 (Washington, D.C.); International Finance Corporation, Annual Report 1974 (Washington, D.C.); a summary of the reports was transmitted to the Council by a note by the Secretary-General

See E/5588 and Add.2.
See E/5588/Add.1.
CONF.60/19. The report in provisional form was transmitted to the Council by a note by the Secretary-General (E/5585 and Corr.1).

58 (LVII). Conference of the International Women's Year

At its 1926th meeting, on 19 November 1974, the Council decided to accept with appreciation the invitation of the Government of Mexico to act as host to the Conference of the International Women's Year.

59 (LVII). World Food Conference

At its 1930th meeting, on 29 November 1974, the Council decided:

- (a) To take note of the report of the World Food Conference;9
- (b) To express its gratitude to the Government of Italy for its generous hospitality in acting as host to the World Food Conference;
- (c) To express its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the World Food Conference for the outstanding manner in which the Conference was prepared and organized;
- (d) To transmit the report of the World Food Conference to the General Assembly, together with the comments made thereon by the Council, with the request, bearing in mind the responsibilities of the Economic and Social Council under the Charter of the United Nations, that careful and priority consideration be given at its twenty-ninth session to the recommendations of the Conference, and especially those contained in Conference resolutions XIII and XXII, with a view to adopting provisions regarding those issues which would effectively enhance the capacity of the United Nations system to deal with world food problems.

60 (LVII). Elections

At its 1932nd meeting, on 10 December 1974, the Council decided to postpone to the organizational session for 1975 the elections to fill vacancies in certain of its committees.¹⁰

61 (LVII). Report of the International Monetary Fund

At its 1927th meeting, on 26 November 1974, the Council took note with appreciation of the annual report of the International Monetary Fund.11

10 See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/9603), para. 798. 11 International Monetary Fund, Annual Report 1974 (Washington, D.C.); a summary of the report was transmitted to the Council by a note by the Secretary-General (E/5584).

62 (LVII). Ad hoc authorization to the Executive Director of the World Food Programme to give food assistance to peoples in colonial Territories in Africa and their national liberation movements

At its 1934th meeting, on 16 December 1974, the Council approved the following ad hoc authorization to the Executive Director of the World Food Programme: 12

"Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3 of its General Regulations, the World Food Programme is authorized to extend assistance in all its forms, through the Organization of African Unity, to peoples in Territories in Africa still under colonial or alien domination and in particular to peoples in liberated areas of those Territories and their national liberation movements."

63 (LVII). Membership of the World Food Council: nomination of members by the Economic and Social Council

At its 1934th meeting, on 16 December 1974, the Council nominated the following States for election by the General Assembly to membership on the World Food Council: 13

- (a) African States: Chad, Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Kenya, Libyan Arab Republic, Mali, Togo and Zambia;
- (b) Asian States: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic and Thailand;
- (c) Latin American States: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Cuba. Guatemala, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela;
- (d) Socialist States of Eastern Europe: Hungary, Romania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia;
- (e) Western European and other States: Australia, Canada, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Italy, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

⁹ E/CONF.65/20. The report in provisional form was transmitted to the Council by a note by the Secretary-General (E/5587 and Add.1-4).

¹² The ad hoc authorization had been previously approved by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (see E/L.1617, explanatory note, para. 10).

13 Subsequently, the General Assembly, at its 2323rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1974, elected the following 36 States from among the States nominated by the Economic and Social Council: Argenting Australia Bangladesh Canada Chad Council: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Chad, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, France, Gabon, Germany (Federal Republic of), Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Republic, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan, Romania, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE CONVENED UNDER COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1908 (LVII)

RESOLUTION

1913 (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 its resolution 1908 (LVII) of 2 August 1974,

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

Having given preliminary consideration to the report of the Group of Eminent Persons to Study the Impact of Transnational Corporations on Development and on International Relations,14 as well as the report of the Secretary-General,14

Recognizing that further detailed consideration of the issues contained in the report of the Group of Eminent Persons should take place at a later date.

Having further considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations system closely related to the subject of transnational corporations¹⁶ and on the views of States on the report of the Group of Eminent Persons, 16 and having heard the views expressed by Governments at the Special Intersessional Committee on transnational corporations,

Desirous of establishing effective machinery for dealing with the full range of issues relating to the activities of transnational corporations in order, inter alia, to recommend to the Economic and Social Council a detailed programme of work for formulating policies,

Bearing in mind its decision 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,

- 1. Decides to establish an intergovernmental Commission on Transnational Corporations as an advisory body to the Economic and Social Council to assist it in dealing with the issue of transnational corporations:
- (a) The Commission on Transnational Corporations shall be composed of 48 members from all States,17 elected by the Economic and Social Council on a broad

and fair geographical basis; 18 each State shall appoint a high-level expert taking into account his knowledge of the issues involved; the States may also appoint

- (b) Elected States may consult with the President of the Economic and Social Council before they finally appoint their experts so as to ensure as far as possible a balanced representation reflecting the various fields of activities covered by the Commission so that it may discharge its functions effectively;
- (c) The term of office of the members of the Commission shall be three years and members shall be eligible for re-election;
- (d) The Commission, as required by its programme of work, and in consultation with the Secretary-General, shall select persons on the basis of their practical experience, particularly from trade unions, business, public interest groups and universities, from both developed and developing countries, who, in a private consultative capacity, will assist the Commission and participate in its discussions in a manner to be decided by it;
- 2. Decides also that the Commission on Transnational Corporations shall meet annually and shall submit an annual report to the Economic and Social Council at its summer session, unless the Council decides otherwise:
- 3. Decides further that the Commission on Transnational Corporations will assist the Economic and Social Council in fulfilling its responsibilities in the field of transnational corporations by:
- (a) Acting as the forum within the United Nations system for the comprehensive and in-depth consideration of issues relating to transnational corporations;
- (b) Promoting the exchange of views among Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, trade unions, business, consumers and other relevant groups through the arrangement, inter alia, of hearings and interviews;
- (c) Providing guidance to the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations, referred to in paragraph 4 below, on the rendering of advisory services to interested Governments and promoting programmes of technical co-operation;
- (d) Conducting inquiries on the activities of transnational corporations, making studies, preparing reports and organizing panels for facilitating discussions among relevant groups;

 ¹⁴ E/5500/Rev.1 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.74.II.A.5).
 15 E/5592.
 16 E/5595 and Add.1-6.

¹⁷ It is the understanding of the Economic and Social Council that, in discharging its functions under this subparagraph of the present resolution, it will follow the practice of the General Assembly in implementing an "All States" clause and, in all cases where it is advisable, will request the opinion of the General Assembly before taking request the opinion of the General Assembly before taking appropriate decisions.

¹⁸ The member States of the Commission shall be elected according to the following pattern: 12 members from African States; 11 members from Asian States: 10 members from Latin American States; 5 members from Socialist States of Eastern Europe: and 10 members from Western European and other States.

- (e) Undertaking work which may assist the Economic and Social Council in evolving a set of recommendations which, taken together, would represent the basis for a code of conduct dealing with transnational corporations;
- (f) Undertaking work which may assist the Economic and Social Council in considering possible arrangements or agreements on specific aspects relating to transnational corporations with a view to studying the feasibility of formulating a general agreement and, on the basis of a decision of the Council, to consolidating them into a general agreement at a future date;
- (g) Recommending to the Economic and Social Council the priorities and the programmes of work on transnational corporations to be carried out by the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations;
- 4. Decides that the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations, established under Council resolution 1908 (LVII), shall conduct its activities under the guidance of the Commission on Transnational Corporations with the following terms of reference:
- (a) To provide the necessary support to the Economic and Social Council and to the Commission on matters related to transnational corporations;
- (b) To develop a comprehensive information system on the activities of transnational corporations by gathering information made available by Governments and other sources, and by analysing and disseminating such information to all Governments;
- (c) To organize and co-ordinate at the request of Governments, programmes of technical co-operation on matters related to transnational corporations, through existing organs of the United Nations system, aimed at strengthening the capacity of host countries, in particular of developing countries, in their dealings with transnational corporations;

- (d) To conduct research on various political, legal, economic and social aspects relating to transnational corporations, including work which might be useful for the elaboration of a code of conduct and specific arrangements and agreements as directed by the Economic and Social Council and the Commission;
- 5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations is constituted early in 1975 in accordance with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, so that it may become fully functional at the earliest possible date, bearing in mind the provision regarding budgetary support for the Centre in paragraph 6 of Council resolution 1908 (LVII); and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-ninth session on the progress made;
- 6. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure the co-ordination of the activities of the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations with those of other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system which undertake activities closely related to the subject of transnational corporations;
- 7. Requests the Commission on Transnational Corporations, in fulfilment of paragraph 8 of Council resolution 1908 (LVII), to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its sixtieth session a detailed draft programme of work on the full range of issues relating to transnational corporations, including a statement of its proposed priorities within the framework of the following guidelines: the development of a comprehensive information system; preliminary work with the objective of formulating a code of conduct; the undertaking of studies, especially case studies, on the political, economic and social impact of the operations and practices of transnational corporations which seem most urgent; and the definition of transnational corporations; the draft programme should be without prejudice to the work undertaken within the United Nations system in related fields.

1931st plenary meeting 5 December 1974

RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON THE REPORT OF THE POLICY AND PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

1914 (LVII). Rationalization of the work of the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation¹⁹ and the work of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2718 (XXV) of 15 December 1970 concerning the role of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning in the formulation and co-ordination of United Nations programmes in the field of human settlements,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 2999 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 concerning the establishment of an international fund or financial institution for human settlements,

Recalling further decisions 16 (II) of 21 March 1974 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme relating to the establishment of the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,²⁰

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1882 (LVII) of 31 July 1974 concerning the need for a thorough rationalization of the work of the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, and other elements of the United Nations system,

Concerned with ensuring that the process of rationalization is carried through in such a manner as to avoid administrative overlapping and ensure a rational disposition of funding and the maximization of the effectiveness of the United Nations system in the field of housing and human settlements,

Considering that housing, building and planning are an integral part of the over-all planning of social and economic development and that, consequently, the activities of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning should logically fall within the over-all activities of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations,

Recalling that the primary operative objective of the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation will be to assist in strengthening national environmental programmes relating to human settlements, particularly in the developing countries, through the provision of seed capital and the extension of the

¹⁹ To be called the "United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation" in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974.

1974.

20 See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625), annex I.

necessary technical and financial assistance to permit an effective mobilization of domestic resources for human habitat and environmental design and improvement of human settlements,

Mindful of the need to establish policy guidelines which will be compatible with the wishes of Governments to accord priority attention to human settlements,

- 1. Decides that the function of housing finance and housing finance policy and those technical co-operation activities being carried out by the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning under this function, together with any overhead resources allocated for that purpose, be transferred to the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation after the plan and programme of operations of the Foundation is approved by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its third session;
- 2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in preparing the plan and programme of operations for the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, to take into account, in consultation with the Secretary-General, the need for the rationalization of the functions of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and the observations of delegations on this subject, and also to take into account that:
- (a) In carrying out the tasks assigned to it, the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation may also entrust the implementation of its programmes to the competent bodies of the United Nations system including the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning;
- (b) In this context the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning shall continue its present activities directed towards pre-investment and research programmes in the field of human settlements, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2718 (XXV) of 15 December 1970;
- 3. Decides that further consideration shall be given to this matter by the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-ninth session in the light of the plan and programme of operations of the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, pending the outcome of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements in 1976.

1932nd plenary meeting 10 December 1974

CHECK LIST OF RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS

NOTE. The resolutions and the decisions of the Economic and Social Council are numbered in the order of their adoption in separate series. This check list includes all the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council during its resumed fifty-seventh session.

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