



Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/1997/L.4/Rev.1
6 February 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Organizational session for 1997
4-7 February 1997
Agenda items 2 and 3

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL

Draft proposals submitted by the President and members of the Bureau on the basis of informal consultations held pursuant to paragraph 2 (1) of Council decision 1988/77

DRAFT DECISION I

Provisional agenda for the substantive session of 1997
of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council, having considered the proposed programme of work for 1997 and 1998,¹ approves the following provisional agenda for its substantive session of 1997:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

High-level segment

2. Fostering an enabling environment for development - financial flows, including capital flows; investment; trade

For discussion

Report of the Secretary-General (Council decision 1996/310)

World Economic and Social Survey 1997

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

¹ E/1997/1.

3. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

- (a) Coordination of activities on a system-wide basis: funding for operational activities for development: implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227

For discussion

Report of the Secretary-General (Council decision 1996/310)²

- (b) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly

For discussion

Report of the Secretary-General (Assembly resolutions 50/120 and 50/227, annex I, paras. 9-11, and Council resolution 1996/42)

Addendum to the above containing comprehensive statistical data on operational activities for development for the year 1995

Addendum to the above on capacity-building: conceptual and operational issues

Addendum to the above on regional dimensions of operational activities for development

- (c) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

For action

Report of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA (Assembly resolution 48/162, annex, and Council resolution 1995/51)

Report of the Executive Board of UNICEF (Assembly resolution 48/162, annex, and Council resolution 1995/51)

Report of the Executive Board of WFP (Assembly resolution 50/8 and Council resolution 1995/51)

² Submitted to the General Assembly through the Council.

For discussion

Report of the Secretary-General on issues arising from the Executive Boards of United Nations funds and programmes, including their overall financial picture

Annual report of the Executive Director of UNDP (Assembly resolution 48/162)

Annual report of the Executive Director of UNFPA (Assembly resolution 48/162)

Annual report of the Executive Director of UNICEF (Assembly resolution 48/162)

Annual report of the Executive Director of WFP (Assembly resolution 48/162)

(d) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

For discussion

Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries²

Coordination segment

4. Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes:

(a) Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

For discussion

Report of the Secretary-General (Council decision 1996/310)

(b) Fresh water, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation

For discussion

Report of the Secretary-General (Council decision 1996/310)

General segment

5. Integrated and coordinated follow-up of the major international United Nations conferences and summits

For discussion

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1996 coordination segment of the Council on the eradication of poverty

Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (resolution 1996/36, para. 3)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the outcome of the World Food Summit (Assembly resolutions 50/109 and 51/171)²

6. Coordination, programme and other questions

(a) Reports of coordination bodies

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1996, including the report of the Committee on expenditures of the United Nations system in relation to programmes (Council resolution 13 (III) and decision 1980/103)

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination²

(b) Multisectoral collaboration on tobacco or health

Report of the Secretary-General (Council resolution 1995/62)

(c) International cooperation in the field of informatics

Report of the Secretary-General (Council resolution 1996/35)

(d) Coordination of the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in the field of energy

Report of the Secretary-General (Council resolution 1996/44)²

(e) Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (Council resolution 1996/47)

(f) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999²

(g) Calendar of conferences in the economic, social and related fields

Draft calendar of conferences in the economic, social and related fields for the biennium 1998-1999

Report of the Secretary-General on the utilization of conference services by the Economic and Social Council (Assembly resolution 51/211 C)

(h) United Nations University

Report of the Council of the United Nations University for 1996²

(i) Proclamation of international years

Letter dated 30 January 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General in relation to the proclamation of the year 2000 as the international year of mountains (E/1997/3)

Letter dated 5 February 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General in relation to the proclamation of the year 2001 as the international year of volunteers (E/1997/11)

Letter dated 6 February from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General in relation to the proclamation of the international year of thanksgiving (E/1997/12)

7. Reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies

For action

Document prepared by the Secretariat containing a consolidation of conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68)

(a) Economic questions³

For action

Relevant sections of the document prepared by the Secretariat containing a consolidation of conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68)

The reports listed under this sub-item will also be made available under sub-item 7 (b).

Sustainable development

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its fifth session (Council decision 1993/207)

Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-first session (Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1625 (LI))

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Council resolution 1995/53 on consumer protection

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on trade and environmental matters (Assembly resolution 50/95)²

Science and technology for development

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its third session (Council decision 1992/218)

Population and development

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirtieth session (Council resolutions 150 (VII) and 1986/7 and decision 1995/209 and Assembly resolution 49/128)

Human settlements

Report of the Commission on Human Settlements, including the report of the Commission on progress made in the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 (Assembly resolutions 32/162 and 43/181)²

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 51/177 on the outcome of Habitat II²

³ The Council will not duplicate discussion on the issues listed under sub-items (a) and (b).

Environment

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme²

Transport of dangerous goods

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Council resolution 1995/5)

Cartography

Report of the Secretary-General on the Fourteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Council decision 1994/228)

Report of the Secretary-General on the Sixth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas (Council decision 1993/225)

Statistics

Report of the Statistical Commission on the work of its twenty-ninth session (Council resolutions 8 (I), 8 (II) and 1566 (L))

Public administration and development

Report of the Secretary-General on the thirteenth meeting of the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance (Council decision 1989/114)

(b) Environmental questions³

For action

Relevant sections of the document prepared by the Secretariat containing a consolidation of conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68)

The reports listed under sub-item 7 (a) will also be made available under this sub-item.

(c) Social questions

For action

Relevant sections of the document prepared by the Secretariat containing a consolidation of conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68)

Advancement of women

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-first session (Council resolutions 11 (II) and 1147 (XLI))

Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (Council resolution 1998 (LX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Assembly resolutions 50/203 and 51/69)²

Social development

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-fifth session

Report of the Secretary-General on the world social situation (Assembly resolution 44/56)²

Report of the Secretary-General on the process of implementation of the objectives of education for all (Assembly resolution 50/143)²

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its sixth session (Council resolution 1992/1)

Narcotic drugs

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fortieth session (Council resolution 9 (I))

Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees²

(d) Human rights questions

For action

Relevant sections of the document prepared by the Secretariat containing a consolidation of conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68)

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to
Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Report of the Secretary-General (Assembly resolutions 49/146 and 51/81
and Council decision 1996/251)

Human rights

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
(Council resolutions 1988 (LX), 1985/17 and 1995/39)

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-third session
(Council resolutions 5 (I) and 9 (II))

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
(Assembly resolution 48/141)²

Report of the Human Rights Committee (article 45 of the International
Covenant on Civil and Political Rights)²

8. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of humanitarian
emergency assistance of the United Nations (Assembly resolutions 46/182,
annex, and 51/194 and Council resolution 1996/33)²

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance for the reconstruction and
development of Lebanon (Council resolution 1996/32 and Assembly resolution
51/130)²

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to
Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the
international institutions associated with the United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people
(Assembly resolution 51/150 and Council resolution 2100 (LXIII))²

Report of the President of the Council on consultations with the Chairman
of the Special Committee (Council resolution 1996/37)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration
(Council resolution 1996/37)²

10. Regional cooperation

Report of the Secretary-General, including information on the subject of
common interest to the regional commissions (Council decision 1979/1)

Note by the Secretary-General on a Europe-Africa permanent link through the
Strait of Gibraltar (Council resolution 1995/48)

Summaries of the surveys of economic conditions in the five regions, prepared by the regional commissions (Council resolution 1724 (LIII))

Note by the Secretary-General on reform of the United Nations and its impact on the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (E/1997/5)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions (Council resolution 1996/41, para. 9; see also Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paras. 74-75)

11. Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories

Report of the Secretary-General on economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan (resolution 1996/40)²

12. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolution 50/227²

Report of the Secretary-General on mandates, composition and functions of the functional commissions and expert groups and bodies (resolution 1996/41, para. 4) (E/1996/97 and Add.1)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions (Council resolution 1996/41, para. 9; see also Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, paras. 74-75)

Report of the Secretary-General containing a comprehensive assessment of the present arrangements for the Council's sessions (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 43)

13. Non-governmental organizations

(a) Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (Council resolutions 3 (II) and 1996/31)

(b) Increase in the membership of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

Note by the Secretary-General (Council resolution 1996/31 and decision 1995/304)

14. New and innovative ideas for generating funds

Report of the Secretary-General (Council resolution 1996/48)²

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DRAFT DECISION II

Basic programme of work of the Economic and Social
Council for 1998

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the following list of questions for inclusion in the programme of work for 1998:

Substantive session of 1998

A. High-level segment

[Item/items to be selected]

World Economic and Social Survey, 1998

B. Coordination segment

Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes:

[Theme/themes to be selected]

C. Operational activities of the United Nations for
international development cooperation segment

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development
cooperation

Report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive triennial policy review of operational activities for development undertaken by the United Nations (Assembly resolution 50/120)⁴

Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly

Coordination of activities on a system-side basis

⁴ Submitted to the General Assembly through the Council.

Consideration of the reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund (Assembly resolution 48/162)

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (Assembly resolutions 802 (VIII) and 48/162)

Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (Assembly resolution 50/8)

D. General segment

Coordination questions

Reports of coordination bodies

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-eighth session (Council resolution 2008 (LX))

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1997 (Council resolution 13 (III))

Implementation and follow-up of major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the 1997 agreed conclusions of the Council

Malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the implementation of the strategies and workplans presented to the Council at its substantive session of 1995 (Council resolution 1995/63)

Social, humanitarian and human rights questions: reports of subsidiary bodies, conferences and related questions:

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations (Assembly resolution 46/182, annex)

Oral reports on special programmes of economic and humanitarian assistance

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Report of the Secretary-General (Assembly resolutions 49/146 and 51/81)

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (Council resolution 2100 (LXIII))⁴

Human rights

Report of the Human Rights Committee (article 45 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights)⁴

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Council resolutions 1988 (LX) and 1985/17)

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Assembly resolution 44/25, annex)⁴

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-fourth session (Council resolutions 5 (I) and 9 (II))

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Assembly resolution 48/141)⁴

Documentation for information

Reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and by the specialized agencies

Advancement of women

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women)⁴

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-second session (Council resolutions 11 (II) and 1147 (XLI))

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the revised system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996-2001 (Council resolution 1996/34)

Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (Council resolution 1998 (LX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Assembly resolutions 50/203 and 51/69)⁴

Social development

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-sixth session (Council resolutions 10 (III) and 1996/7)

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its seventh session (Council resolution 1992/1)

Narcotic drugs

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-first session (Council resolution 9 (I))

Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board (article 15 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; article 18 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971; and article 23 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances)

Report of the Secretary-General on the biennial update of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (Assembly resolution 48/112, sect. IV)⁴

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees⁴

Economic and environmental questions: reports of subsidiary bodies, conferences and related questions

Sustainable development

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its sixth session (Council decision 1993/207)

Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-second session (Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1625 (LI))

Report of the Committee for Development Planning on the report of the Secretary-General on a vulnerability index for small island developing States (Assembly resolution 51/183)⁴

Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment (Assembly resolution 39/229)⁴

Natural resources

Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its fourth session
(Council decisions 1992/218 and 1993/302)

Energy

Report of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on
Energy for Development on its third session (Council decision
1992/218)

International cooperation in tax matters

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of the work of the Ad
Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters
(Council resolutions 1273 (XLIII) and 1765 (LIV))

Public administration and finance

Report of the Secretary-General (Assembly resolution 50/225)⁴

Cartography

Report of the Secretary-General on the Seventh United Nations
Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (Council
decision 1993/226)

Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (Council decision
1979/1), including the report of the Secretary-General on a subject relating to
interregional cooperation of common interest to all regions (Council resolution
1982/50 and decision 1982/174)

Summaries of the surveys of economic conditions in the five regions prepared by
the regional commissions (Council resolution 1724 (LIII))

United Nations University

Report of the Council of the United Nations University for 1997⁵

Non-governmental organizations

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (Council
resolutions 3 (II) and 1296 (XLIV) and decision 1995/304)

⁵ Will be considered by the General Assembly in 1998.

Programme and related questions in the economic, social and related fields

Relevant chapters of the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2003

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-eighth session

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DRAFT DECISION III

Regional cooperation

The Economic and Social Council decides to consider at its substantive session of 1997, under the item entitled "Regional cooperation", in pursuance of Council resolution 1982/50 of 28 July 1982 and taking into account the joint recommendations made by the executive secretaries of the regional commissions, pursuant to Council decision 1982/174 of 30 July 1982, the question of review and reform of the regional commissions.

DRAFT DECISION IV

Working arrangements for the substantive session
of 1997 of the Council

The Economic and Social Council decides that:

- (a) The high-level segment of its 1997 substantive session shall be held from 30 June to 2 July;
- (b) Statements made during the high-level segment shall be limited to seven minutes;
- (c) The operational activities segment shall be held from 3 to 8 July;
- (d) The coordination segment shall be held from 9 to 11 July;
- (e) The general segment shall be held from 14 to 25 July.

DRAFT DECISION V

Consideration of reports

The Economic and Social Council decides to authorize the Secretary-General to transmit directly to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session the following reports:

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolution 50/165 on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas;

(b) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, prepared pursuant to Assembly resolution 50/81;

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on progress made on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family, prepared pursuant to Assembly resolution 50/142;

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on desertification and drought, prepared pursuant to Council resolution 1978/37 and Assembly resolutions 3054 (XXVIII) and 50/114;

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on cultural development, prepared pursuant to Council decision 1996/206 and Assembly resolution 49/105.

DRAFT DECISION VI

Venues of sessions of subsidiary organs of the Council

The Economic and Social Council decides to take note of the note by the Secretariat on the venues of sessions of subsidiary organs of the Council.⁶

DRAFT DECISION VII

Dates of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme on Public Administration and Finance

The Economic and Social Council decides that the Thirteenth Meeting of the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme on Public Administration and Finance, which was to have been held at Headquarters from 21 April to 2 May 1997, will be held at Headquarters from 27 May to 4 June 1997.

⁶ E/1997/8.