

**REPORT
OF THE
HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE ON THE REVIEW OF
TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 39 (A/36/39)



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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.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with recommendation 37 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1/ as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, a high-level meeting of all States participating in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was convened at Geneva from 26 May to 2 June 1980, to carry out an over-all, intergovernmental review of technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) within the United Nations development system. The report on the first session of the intergovernmental body 2/ was considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session. In its resolution 35/202 of 16 December 1980, the General Assembly decided, inter alia, to change the name of the High-level Meeting to High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries and requested the Administrator of UNDP to convene the next session of the Committee under the same organizational and procedural arrangements as were made for the High-level Meeting.

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/35/39 and Corr.1).

II. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. Date and place of the session

2. The second session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 1 to 8 June 1981.

3. In accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 35/202, the session was convened by the Administrator of UNDP under the same organizational and procedural arrangements as were made for the first session.

B. Attendance

4. The following 115 States participating in UNDP were represented at the session:

Afghanistan	Egypt	Luxembourg
Algeria	El Salvador	Madagascar
Argentina	Ethiopia	Malawi
Australia	Fiji	Malaysia
Austria	Finland	Mauritania
Bangladesh	France	Mexico
Barbados	Gambia	Nepal
Belgium	German Democratic	Netherlands
Benin	Republic	New Zealand
Bolivia	Germany, Federal	Niger
Brazil	Republic of	Nigeria
Bulgaria	Ghana	Norway
Burma	Greece	Oman
Burundi	Guatemala	Pakistan
Byelorussian Soviet	Guinea	Panama
Socialist Republic	Holy See	Paraguay
Canada	Honduras	Peru
Central African Republic	Hungary	Philippines
Chile	India	Poland
China	Indonesia	Portugal
Colombia	Iran	Republic of Korea
Congo	Iraq	Romania
Costa Rica	Ireland	Rwanda
Cuba	Israel	Saint Lucia
Cyprus	Italy	Saint Vincent and
Czechoslovakia	Ivory Coast	the Grenadines
Democratic People's	Jamaica	Senegal
Republic of Korea	Japan	Singapore
Democratic Yemen	Kenya	Somalia
Denmark	Kuwait	Spain
Dominican Republic	Lesotho	Sri Lanka
Ecuador	Liberia	Sudan

Swaziland	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist	United States of America
Sweden	Republic	Upper Volta
Switzerland	Union of Soviet	Uruguay
Thailand	Socialist Republics	Venezuela
Togo	United Arab Emirates	Viet Nam
Trinidad and Tobago	United Kingdom of Great Britain	Yugoslavia
Tunisia	and Northern Ireland	Zaire
Turkey	United Republic of Cameroon	Zambia
Uganda	United Republic of Tanzania	Zimbabwe

5. Members of the following offices and departments of the United Nations Secretariat participated in the proceedings of the session:

Office of the Director-General for Development and International
Economic Co-operation
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs
Department of Technical Co-operation for Development
United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations
Centre for Science and Technology for Development

6. The regional commissions and other secretariat units were represented as follows:

Economic Commission for Europe
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Economic Commission for Latin America
Economic Commission for Africa
Economic Commission for Western Asia
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
United Nations Industrial Development Organization
United Nations Environment Programme

7. The following United Nations bodies and programmes were also represented:

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
United Nations Children's Fund
United Nations Development Programme
World Food Programme
United Nations Institute for Training and Research
United Nations Fund for Population Activities

8. Representatives of the following specialized agencies and related organizations attended the session:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
World Health Organization
World Bank
Universal Postal Union
World Meteorological Organization
Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization
World Intellectual Property Organization
International Fund for Agricultural Development

International Atomic Energy Agency
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
International Trade Centre

9. The following organizations which have received a standing invitation to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly were represented at the Meeting:

Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation
Commonwealth Secretariat
Latin American Economic System
Organization of American States
Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
(OECD Development Centre)
South-West Africa People's Organization

10. In addition, representatives of 13 other intergovernmental organizations attended the session as observers.

11. As proposed by the Administrator of UNDP in paragraph 7 of his report to the General Assembly (A/34/415), and as approved by the General Assembly in resolution 34/117, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were invited to be represented by observers. Forty-one of these organizations were so represented.

C. Opening of the session and election of the President
(agenda items 1 and 2)

12. The session was opened by the Vice-President of the first session of the High-level Committee, Mr. José Luis Pardos-Pérez (Spain) on behalf of Mr. Wilbert Kumaliya Chagula (United Republic of Tanzania), President of the first session of the High-level Committee.

13. The Vice-President invited members of the Committee to observe a minute of silence in tribute to the memory of Mr. Ziaur Rahman, President of Bangladesh, and of Madame Soon Ching-ling, Honorary President of the People's Republic of China.

14. Mr. Natarajan Krishnan, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, was elected President of the High-level Committee by acclamation.

15. In his opening statement, the President noted that the common objective of the Committee was to arrive at decisions that would improve and reinforce measures designed to promote TCDC and thereby to contribute to the realization of the objective of establishing a new international economic order. Given the grave economic situation faced by most developing countries, the High-level Committee had to be practical, both in assessing whether the solutions proposed would help alleviate the situation and in organizing its work so as to conclude with agreed, pragmatic recommendations that would strengthen TCDC. The President stressed that because economic difficulties were severely restricting the options of many developing countries, the role of the development agencies in the United Nations system had become doubly important. Therefore, concrete recommendations for improvement of the role of the agencies were all the more necessary. The President

reminded the Committee of the five specific tasks assigned to it in recommendation 37 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and suggested that the main thrust of the Committee's deliberations concentrate on those areas of concern. The President concluded by reiterating his hope and belief that the review would help strengthen technical co-operation among developing countries and thereby contribute to improving the well-being and living standards of their peoples.

D. Consideration of the rules of procedure
(agenda item 3)

16. The Committee approved without amendment the rules of procedure contained in document TCDC/2/Rev.1, which were adopted at the first session. The President reminded the Committee that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 35/202, the High-level Meeting had been renamed High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries. Provisions to this effect, therefore, should be included in the rules of procedure.

E. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
(agenda item 4)

17. The Committee adopted the agenda (TCDC/2/L.1) and the organization of work (TCDC/2/L.2). Working Groups I and II, which began their work on 1 June, were assigned the following items for consideration:

Working Group I: agenda items 6, 7 and 8;

Working Group II: agenda item 9.

18. In addition, it was agreed that agenda items 6 and 7 would be the subjects of the general debate in the plenary. Item 10, the work programme for the 1983 session of the High-level Committee, would also be considered by the plenary. A list of the documents considered at the second session of the Committee is contained in annex II.

F. Election of officers other than the President
(agenda item 5)

19. The following officers were elected by acclamation:

Vice-President: Mr. José Luis Pardos-Pérez (Spain)
Mr. Ion Popescu (Romania)
Mr. José Ramón Sanchis-Muñoz (Argentina)

Rapporteur: Mr. Francis R. C. Blain (Gambia)

III. SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL DEBATE

A. Opening statement by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

20. The Administrator stated that the second session of the High-level Committee was of crucial importance since new policy guidelines were to be decided upon for enhancing the supportive role of the United Nations development system in promoting and strengthening technical co-operation among developing countries within the framework of the international development strategy for the 1980s. The United Nations system in general and UNDP in particular would continue to make every effort to live up to the expectations of all Governments for determined and continuous support of TCDC as envisaged in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. He recognized, however, that TCDC depended upon the initiative of the developing countries themselves.

21. The Administrator then referred to the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi in February 1981, and the High-level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Caracas, in May 1981, both of which reaffirmed the commitment of developing countries to the objectives of self-reliance through the modalities of economic and technical co-operation among themselves. The many decisions on action for economic co-operation among developing countries (ECDC) reached at Caracas (see A/36/333 and Corr.1, annex) would require preparatory work through TCDC. UNDP had noted with interest the decisions to develop a model contract for use of experts among developing countries and to hold biennial meetings of heads of national technical co-operation agencies. He noted that the specific Caracas recommendations on TCDC activities closely matched the development sectors on which study papers had been prepared for this session of the High-level Committee.

22. The Administrator expressed appreciation of the High-level Committee's support at its first session for the concept of a Development Information Network which UNDP, in consultation with the Governments of many developing countries, had been evolving since the Buenos Aires Conference.

23. The Administrator proceeded to point out that support for TCDC promotional activities by the organizations of the United Nations development system could be seriously affected if adequate resources in the form of seed money were not forthcoming. He urged the High-level Committee to consider this crucial issue and to provide necessary guidance in order that UNDP could discharge the responsibility entrusted to it by the General Assembly.

24. The Administrator also stated that the Committee might wish to consider a different approach and perhaps a new format for reporting on the supportive and promotional TCDC role by the United Nations system which would be more appropriately responsive to the mandate given to the Administrator. To facilitate the process, he had submitted a working paper (TCDC/2/L.3) setting forth a number of alternative solutions. The Administrator also referred to the review of the efforts and actions of a number of developing and developed countries in

establishing, promoting or supporting TCDC at the bilateral and multilateral levels.

25. The Administrator then mentioned that sectoral studies had been prepared in such areas as scientific and technological research, agricultural production, rural development, rural-urban migration, control of desertification, and accelerating women's participation in development. Several sectoral and substantive studies bearing on modalities and perspectives of the subject had also been submitted. Technical papers concerning the strengthening or developing of adequate institutional, administrative and legal arrangements and mobilization of resources had been prepared in response to specific recommendations in the Plan of Action.

26. At the request of the Governing Council, a report on TCDC and policies, rules and procedures of UNDP (TCDC/2/17) had been prepared for the consideration of the Committee. Issues such as flexible use of country indicative planning figures (IPFs) in TCDC projects, endorsed in resolution 80/46 of the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council, 3/ and the Governing Council restriction on the reimbursement of local currency costs from country IPFs were dealt with in this document. A number of recommendations for consideration of the Committee and, subsequently, by the Governing Council were presented therein.

27. On the programme of work for 1982-1983, the Administrator expressed the intention to focus on such basic issues and areas of TCDC as information, finances, and training and administrative mechanisms. He considered that sectoral studies were more suited for treatment by the specialized agencies of the United Nations system. UNDP would continue to adapt its operational policies and procedures towards the inclusion of TCDC dimensions in country and intercountry development efforts and to assist Governments in strengthening their institutional and procedural arrangements for such co-operation.

28. The Administrator concluded with the hope that the Committee's deliberations would result in concrete and realistic proposals which would guide the international community in carrying the "spirit of Buenos Aires" through the Third United Nations Development Decade and beyond.

B. Summary of the views of delegations

1. Overview

29. Various delegations reiterated their support for the concept of technical co-operation among developing countries, many noting that this support had begun even prior to the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. Such co-operation was generally recognized as a crucial element in the realization of both the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade adopted at the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly in its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, and of the new international economic order. It was hoped that the second session of the High-level Committee would provide meaningful direction

3/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 12 (E/1980/42/Rev.1), chap. XI.

for the further strengthening of TCDC in these contexts. Certain delegations saw the growth in South-South co-operation as a positive and necessary alternative to the slowdown in the North-South dialogue and regretted the impasse in launching global negotiations. Most delegations, however, reiterated the view expressed by the Chairman of the Group of 77, namely that South-South co-operation was neither a substitute nor an alternative to North-South co-operation; rather, the two should be viewed as complementary. Frequent reference was made to the impact of the current economic crisis on the implementation of TCDC. More than one delegation qualified the situation as a serious one for industrialized countries, but tragic for developing countries. Several delegations also emphasized the link between disarmament and TCDC in terms of the financial resources which could be made available.

30. Opinion was divided as to the extent of progress made in furthering TCDC over the years. Some delegations pointed to the increased activities and useful work in various fields. They considered that the scope of co-operation had gradually widened and its forms were becoming more diversified and innovative. Representatives of several United Nations system organizations, in presenting overviews of TCDC activities in their fields of competence, generally expressed the belief that TCDC was being enhanced. At the same time, it was stressed that new initiatives had to be undertaken to draw full advantage from existing co-operative ventures among developing countries. Other delegations recognized that, while some progress have been made, achievements on the whole were too limited and far from what had been anticipated. A common point was that the time had come to adopt concrete, action-oriented measures to promote TCDC in accordance with recommendation 3 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and of the relevant decisions of the High-level Committee at its first session. Other themes common to the discussions were inadequate financing, the shortage of trained manpower, appropriate technologies and institutional frameworks, especially in the fields of agriculture, industry, transportation and communications, and the need for coherent, co-ordinated policies for the promotion of TCDC at the national level.

2. Integral function of technical co-operation among developing countries

31. Although one delegation stated that it was not the purpose of the Committee to define or question the relevance of TCDC, a number of delegations and representatives of organizations of the United Nations system felt that this issue warranted re-emphasis. Various delegations and the representatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Department for Technical Co-operation and Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) remarked that TCDC formed an integral part of multilateral technical co-operation rather than a specialized activity being pursued for its own intrinsic merits. Accordingly, such co-operation should not only be promoted through national and regional efforts, but as a regular part of the existing multilateral machinery, in terms of both administrative and financing arrangements. Some delegations felt that every effort should be made to avoid the creation of new bureaucratic structures. The Assistant Director-General of UNESCO, referring to the Committee's current deliberations on mechanisms and procedures for TCDC, questioned the efficacy of the establishment of focal points for such co-operation in each country, as he felt that such a crystallization of TCDC was counter to its dynamic nature as a dimension of international co-operation. One delegation felt that, based on the experience of last year's session of the High-level Committee as well as the present one, TCDC need not be the subject of separate meetings.

their operational activities for development. Some delegations thought that the progress report on the activities of the United Nations system (TCDC/2/5) reflected an increased focus by the United Nations system on the identification of technical co-operation projects and on the strengthening of institutional machinery to support such co-operation. Others felt that the report left an impression of rather slow and painstaking progress. They saw the international community as having the responsibility to provide the financial support and technical expertise necessary to reinforce the operational and institutional capabilities of all developing countries, particularly the least developed, and to emphasize in the middle-income countries with appropriate technological skills those aspects which would enable them to carry out an expanded TCDC programme.

37. Three delegations referred specifically to the innovative approach of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in organizing ministerial-level meetings to promote TCDC in industrial development in countries hosting the meetings. One such meeting, held in a developing country in March 1981, was attended by 21 other developing countries from all regions as well as several international and regional organizations and development banks.

38. One delegation expressed the view that the regional commissions could play a crucial and effective role in TCDC in the future, and suggested that their institutional capacity in this respect should therefore be strengthened. Another delegation expanded this point by indicating that TCDC activities in general should be institutionalized and that this could best be organized at the regional level.

6. Role of the United Nations Development Programme

39. Delegations generally reaffirmed the Development Programme's central and catalytic role in promoting TCDC in the operational activities of the United Nations system. It was felt that the third programming cycle, 1982-1986, would provide further opportunities for incorporating TCDC dimensions in country programming, bearing in mind the over-all resource position of the Programme. The expectation was expressed that the Programme, especially, would progressively increase the proportion of such projects in its regional, interregional and global programmes.

40. One delegation felt that the Programme's policies and procedures could be simplified. It was deemed unnecessary, for example, for headquarters to approve each individual project within an over-all "umbrella project agreement".

41. While commending the significant work of the Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, two delegations felt that its responsibilities should be more action-oriented, with an emphasis on field missions for the purpose of identifying and formulating specific TCDC projects.

7. Regional co-operation

42. Support for recommendation 23 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, with respect to the enhancement of national and collective self-reliance, was reiterated. In the view of some delegations, collective self-reliance was the only path to social and economic development. Many delegations commented that the regional and subregional approach to TCDC was especially practical, since affinities within such areas could not only enrich such activities but also ensure stronger will among

their operational activities for development. Some delegations thought that the progress report on the activities of the United Nations system (TCDC/2/5) reflected an increased focus by the United Nations system on the identification of technical co-operation projects and on the strengthening of institutional machinery to support such co-operation. Others felt that the report left an impression of rather slow and painstaking progress. They saw the international community as having the responsibility to provide the financial support and technical expertise necessary to reinforce the operational and institutional capabilities of all developing countries, particularly the least developed, and to emphasize in the middle-income countries with appropriate technological skills those aspects which would enable them to carry out an expanded TCDC programme.

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members to sustain them. Examples of co-operative ventures undertaken by several regional organizations were frequently adduced, as were national initiatives with regard to interregional organizations and the various regional commissions and bodies of the United Nations development system. One delegation hoped that an international TCDC policy could be articulated through exchanges among regional, subregional, interregional and global institutions.

43. It was generally thought that the Development Programme could play a greater role in strengthening regional institutions, providing regional manpower training and diversifying TCDC activities. One delegation observed that with the appropriate support of the United Nations system, UNDP-financed regional projects could ultimately be translated into TCDC exercises. The recommendations in the report entitled "Methodologies for promoting horizontal co-operation among developing countries in scientific and technological research" (TCDC/2/12, paras. 103 and 104), for establishing and strengthening networks of research institutes and research institutes as centres of excellence were welcomed. Representatives of the specialized agencies, the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) also stressed the importance of regional co-operation and described the efforts of their respective organizations in this area.

8. Financing of TCDC

44. Every delegation commented on the financing of TCDC. It was generally hoped that the common will which had infused life into the concept of TCDC would also be reinforced by adequate financial support, particularly in the low-income and least developed countries, the lack of which had been the greatest obstacle to the expansion and strengthening of TCDC. The Assistant Director-General of UNESCO, noting that the initiation of TCDC activities by the developing countries was often hindered by lack of resources, underscored the importance of the role that developed countries could play in such cases. One delegate observed that the small sums currently expended on TCDC were not an indication of the importance of this concept; indeed, such an analysis would be perverse. Several delegations sought firm commitment from developed countries and from national and multinational development banks for special funds to finance TCDC activities. In contrast, it was observed by delegations of the developed countries that, if they were to play an expanded role in financing TCDC, it would become increasingly difficult to distinguish between traditional co-operation activities and those of TCDC. TCDC, it was claimed, should refer to those actions originated and primarily funded by developing countries themselves in the field of technical co-operation. One delegate remarked that decision 1/7 of the High-level Committee, 4/ calling for the mobilization of financial and other resources from private enterprises and other organizations outside the national budget, had been virtually ignored. Other delegates, however, cited examples of the resolutions's implementation.

45. Several delegations suggested that developing countries be encouraged to use part of the indicative planning figures (IPF) to support TCDC and they welcomed the Administrator's recommendation that local costs of projects be met from the IPF, as

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/35/39 and corrigendum), annex I.

stated in the report on TCDC and policies, rules and procedures of UNDR (TCDC/2/17, para. 32). They also agreed with the recommendations set forth in document TCDC/2/16 on potential sources for financing technical co-operation among developing countries. A number of delegates emphasized that trilateral arrangements could make a significant contribution to the financing of TCDC.

46. The importance of regional and interregional IPFs as a source of financing for TCDC activities was emphasized by several groups of countries. The Administrator was requested to submit additional information on the use of these funds for financing TCDC to the Governing Council at its twenty-ninth session. He was also requested to organize seminars for government officials on various ways of using these IPFs for TCDC projects and programmes within existing policies, rules and procedures.

9. Recommendations for practical action

(a) Information

47. The need for user-oriented information systems working primarily at the national level with linkages to regional systems and those of United Nations organizations, as recommended in decision 1/4 of the first session of the High-level Committee, 4/ was still considered vital to the full application of TCDC and to the proper functioning of the Committee. On several occasions the view was expressed that many more TCDC activities were under way than was presently known. Various comments and suggestions were made concerning the revision and updating of the Information Referral System (INRES) currently being undertaken by UNDP, and interest in the Development Information Network was also evidenced. The potential of the central role of UNDP Resident Representatives in the exchange of information at the country level was emphasized by one delegation. In this regard as well, the representative of WHO cited the efforts of his organization to help member countries develop health information systems. The representatives of the regional commissions expressed their readiness to function as regional focal points in the proposed UNDP global project on the development information network.

(b) Reporting

48. Many delegations expressed satisfaction with the progress report (TCDC/2/5) on the performance of the United Nations development system in implementing TCDC, and with the timely and careful preparation of the documentation over-all. They suggested that future progress reports be more analytical, including statistical and financial indicators to illustrate the quantitative aspects of TCDC progress. A more composite picture of TCDC activities, in terms of their achievements, problems and priorities, was necessary to evaluate the impact of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. In view of the volume of documentation provided to the Meeting by the Special Unit, support was expressed for the suggestion made in document TCDC/2/L.3 that future sessions focus on a couple of basic organizational and priority issues. There was general agreement with the Administrator's suggestion that reporting on sectoral-specific TCDC activities be handled by the relevant specialized agencies. One delegation recommended that statistical information should be reported on an annual basis, even though the High-level Committee would be meeting biennially.

(c) Training

49. Support was voiced for the recommendation made in the report on institutional arrangements and administrative mechanisms for TCDC (TCDC/2/14), that UNDP should develop and organize training programmes for national TCDC focal points. It was announced that the first regional course was scheduled for October 1981, with several others to follow in 1982, and several delegations offered to host such programmes. One delegation added that a more deliberate attempt must be made by all organizations and agencies within the United Nations development system to initiate TCDC training for the professional staff as well as for officials from developing countries. Some delegations felt in this regard that the Special Unit for TCDC should itself become more field-oriented.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

50. At its 17th meeting, on 8 June, the Committee considered the reports of Working Groups I and II as contained respectively in documents TCDC/2/WG.I/L.2 and Add. 1-5 and TCDC/2/WG.II/L.5 and Add.1. The Committee also considered the draft report (TCDC/2/L.5 and Add.1), the report on credentials (TCDC/2/18), and the work programme for the 1983 session of the High-level Committee as proposed by the Administrator (TCDC/2/L.3).

A. Report of Working Group I

51. Introducing the report of Working Group I, its Chairman drew attention to the following draft decisions which the Group recommended for adoption by the High-level Committee:

(a) Some information on the activities of Governments in technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/2/WG.I/L.2/Add.1) (see annex I, decision 2/1);

(b) Promoting women's participation in development programmes through technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/2/WG.I/L.2/Add.1) (see annex I, decision 2/2);

(c) Report on the progress made in implementing the tasks entrusted to the United Nations development system by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC/2/WG.I/L.2/Add.2) (see annex I, decision 2/3);

(d) Methodologies for promoting horizontal co-operation among developing countries in scientific and technological research (TCDC/2/WG.I/L.2/Add.3) (see annex I, decision 2/4);

(e) Transport and communication among developing countries (TCDC/2/WG.I/L.2/Add.1) (see annex I, decision 2/5).

52. The Chairman also drew attention to document TCDC/2/WG.I/L.2/Add.5 in which the Group reported that it had not had time to consider a draft decision in document TCDC/2/WG.I/L.3 on agenda item 8 entitled "New policies, creative and innovative approaches to further the development of technical co-operation among developing countries". The Working Group, therefore, was transmitting the draft decision to the High-level Committee.

53. Following an oral amendment to operative paragraph 3 of the draft decision on transport and communication among developing countries (TCDC/2/WG.I/L.2/Add.4), which changed the word "Invites" to "Requests", the Committee adopted by consensus the draft decisions recommended to it by Working Group I.

54. With respect to the draft decision on agenda item 8 (TCDC/2/WG.I/L.3), on the proposal of its sponsor the Committee agreed to defer consideration of the draft decision to its third session, in 1983.

55. Following the adoption of the draft decisions, one delegation, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, expressed regret that the Working Group had not been able to come to decisions on three questions: rural development, agricultural production and combating desertification. He said that the Group of 77 was convinced that these were fields in which TCDC could provide positive results. Voicing the hope that Governments of developed countries, organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant bodies would augment their support of TCDC activities in these fields, the delegate stated that the Group of 77 would consider undertaking joint action and collaboration in these areas by exchanging information, supporting intergovernmental research centres, utilizing relevant available technologies and promoting TCDC projects for UNDP financing at the subregional, regional and interregional levels.

56. Acting on a proposal of the President, the Committee decided to take note of the reports of the Administrator (TCDC/2/8, TCDC/2/9 and TCDC/2/11) and to express its conviction that the activities reported on therein were integral parts of the endeavours by Governments and the organizations of the United Nations system in the area of TCDC.

57. Another delegate, speaking on behalf of a number of delegations of the Latin American region, referred to the question of rural-urban migration. He stated that the Administrator's report on this subject (TCDC/2/10) was considered erroneous and unacceptable in its conclusions and requested the Secretariat to stop further circulation of the document. Other delegates noted that the subject itself was important and that it should remain before the Committee. General agreement with this view was expressed with the understanding that only the technical aspects of the issue as they related to TCDC should be taken up.

58. Acting on a proposal of the President, the Committee decided that, in view of the objections of a number of delegations to the report of the Administrator (TCDC/2/10), it would be unable to take note of the report, and agreed to request the Secretariat to stop further circulation of this report. Recognizing, however, the importance of the subject of the role of TCDC with respect to rural-urban migration and economic development, the Committee also decided to request the Administrator to submit a brief report on this question to the High-level Committee at its third session, in 1983, taking fully into account the views expressed by delegations at the second session.

B. Report of Working Group II

59. The Secretary of the Committee presented orally the following corrections to the text of the draft decision on TCDC and the policies, rules and procedures of UNDP (TCDC/2/WG.II/L.5/Add.1):

(a) To be added was the following fourth preambular paragraph: "Bearing in mind the views expressed by delegations at the first and second sessions of the High-level Committee on issues related to this subject";

(b) The following words were to be added to the end of operative paragraph 1: "and of the status on the use of the Programme Reserve for financing the promotion of TCDC and recommendation for an additional allocation during the third cycle (TCDC/2/L.4)";

(c) The following words were to be deleted from the end of subparagraph (i) of operative paragraph 3: "and the national resources of participating Governments".

60. Introducing the report of Working Group II, its Chairman drew attention to the following draft decisions which the Group recommended for adoption by the High-level Committee:

(a) Institutional arrangements and administrative mechanisms for technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/2/WG.II/L.5) (see annex I, decision 2/6);

(b) Legal arrangements for technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/2/WG.II/L.5) (see annex I, decision 2/7);

(c) Potential sources for financing technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/2/WG.II/L.5/Add.1) (see annex I, decision 2/8);

(d) Technical co-operation among developing countries and the policies, rules and procedures of UNDP (TCDC/2/WG.II/L.5/Add.1) (see annex I, decision 2/9).

61. The Committee adopted by consensus the draft decisions recommended to it by Working Group II as orally revised (see para. 59 above).

62. Following the adoption of the decisions, one delegate, speaking on behalf of the members of the European Community, referred to document TCDC/2/16 and pointed out that the European Development Fund was the institute primarily responsible for the financing of technical co-operation within the framework of the Lomé Convention. With regard to paragraph 39 of the report, he stated that, according to the European Development Fund statistics of the total contracts financed by the Fund, 68 per cent were awarded to firms within the European Community, 30 per cent to firms in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and 2 per cent to firms in other countries. These figures showed the progressive development of a trend of increased participation by firms in ACP countries in recent years, he said.

63. Another delegate, referring to Committee decision 2/9, reiterated his concern regarding subparagraphs 2 (b) and 2 (f) and stated that he wished to reserve the right to return to these questions after practical experience in the application of the guidelines had been gained. Several delegations emphasized that with respect to procurement for TCDC activities, such procurement should be restricted to developing country supplies.

C. Work programme for the third session of the High-level Committee, to be held in 1983

64. The President referred to the Administrator's introductory statement on his report on the work programme for the 1983 session. He suggested that the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee at its second session, as well as the proposals of the Administrator contained in his report, would provide a suitable framework for the 1982-1983 work programme of the United Nations development system. He also invited the Committee to approve the draft provisional agenda (TCDC/2/L.3), and to agree that the structure of the 1983 session should include the Plenary and only one Working Group.

65. Acting on the President's suggestion, the Committee endorsed the programme of work proposed by the Administrator in his report, in particular paragraph 9, and agreed that the proposals contained therein, together with the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee at its second session, should provide the framework for the 1982-1983 work programme of the United Nations development system which would be reviewed by the Committee at its third session in 1983. The Committee also agreed that the structure of the third session would consist of the Plenary and only one Working Group. In addition, the High-level Committee adopted the provisional agenda as contained in document TCDC/2/L.3 with the inclusion of an oral amendment by which the following words were added at the end of agenda item 5: "and decisions taken by the High-level Committee" (see annex I, decision 2/10).

D. Report on credentials

66. The High-level Committee approved the report on credentials (TCDC/2/18).

E. Draft report of the Plenary

67. The Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Plenary, stating that while it was not possible to include the specific points made by each and every delegation on each and every issue, he hoped the draft report reflected the broad spectrum of views and proposals which were presented during the general debate.

68. During consideration of section II.B, "Summary of the views of delegations", a number of suggested amendments were made which the Rapporteur was assigned the responsibility and authority to incorporate into the final text. The draft report of the Committee was approved as orally revised.

V. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

69. Following the adoption of the report of the High-level Committee on its second session, the Administrator made a closing statement in which he highlighted the accomplishments of the second session of the High-level Committee and expressed his conviction that TCDC would continue to make a valuable contribution to international development progress.

70. The President, in his closing remarks, reviewed some of the difficulties the world community still faced in implementing TCDC in the spirit of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. He expressed the hope that his fears were unfounded that the spirit and will so evident in 1978 were flagging. Emphasizing that the importance of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action had not lessened over the years, he called upon the international community and the High-level Committee to respond to the needs of the countries TCDC was designed to benefit with a compatible sense of urgency and resolve.

ANNEX I

Decisions adopted by the High-level Committee
at its second session

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2/1. Some information on the activities of Governments in technical co-operation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries a/ endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978,

Recalling also Committee decision 1/1 of 2 June 1980 b/ on progress reporting by Governments on their activities in the field of technical co-operation among developing countries,

Taking note of the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, c/

Recognizing that response to recommendations of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action is primarily the responsibility of the Governments of developing countries themselves,

1. Invites Governments of developing countries to consider making arrangements to collect on a systematic basis information on their activities in the field of technical co-operation among developing countries at both the bilateral and multilateral levels and, when Governments deem appropriate, to share the collected information with the United Nations development system;

2. Invites Governments of developing countries to support the activities of the multilateral institutions of developing countries dealing with promotional activities in the field of technical co-operation among developing countries, such as public enterprises in developing countries;

3. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in preparing future reports, to make greater efforts to ensure a more complete and more analytical coverage of the activities of Governments in the field of technical co-operation among developing countries, and to bear in mind the potentialities of developing countries to develop such activities.

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a/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

b/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/35/39 and corrigendum), annex I.

c/ TCDC/2/7.

2/2. Promoting women's participation in development programmes through technical co-operation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for the Promotion and Implementation of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries and Committee decision 1/3 of 2 June 1980; b/

Recalling the provisions of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, d/ adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Copenhagen in 1980, relating to the participation of women in the development process,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, in which the Assembly endorsed the Programme of Action,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 31/135 of 16 December 1976, in which the Assembly endorsed the decision of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1998 (LX) of 12 May 1976 to create the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1981/12 and 1981/13 of 6 May 1981,

Convinced that women can play an important role in technical co-operation activities,

1. Takes note of the report by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme; e/
2. Invites the Governments which have not yet done so and the organizations of the United Nations system to take the measures they deem appropriate to promote the complete integration of women in the process of technical co-operation among developing countries;
3. Invites the Governments of developing countries and the organizations of the United Nations system to use appropriate networks of women's organizations and associates and to co-operate with them in identifying and implementing programmes and projects on technical co-operation among developing countries;
4. Recognizes the importance of existing institutions through which the participation of women in technical co-operation among developing countries can be strengthened at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;

d/ See Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3), chap. I, sect. A and Conference resolution 39, chap. I, sect. B.

e/ TCDC/2/13.

5. Invites Governments and the organizations of the United Nations system to consider contributing, in accordance with their possibilities, to the existing institutions and to regional and interregional programmes so as to strengthen technical co-operation among developing countries for the benefit of women at the national, subregional, regional and interregional levels.

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2/3. Report on the progress made in implementing the tasks entrusted to the United Nations development system by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling recommendation 34 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries a/ entrusting the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme with the responsibility to prepare, in collaboration with other organizations of the United Nations development system, a progress report on the implementation of the Plan of Action and make suggestions to expedite progress through new actions and initiatives,

Recalling also Committee decision 1/1, b/

Concerned at the insufficient progress in the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and of Committee decision 1/1 of 2 June 1980 b/ on the examination of technical co-operation among developing countries, as well as the lack of progress in removing obstacles to such co-operation activities,

1. Takes note of the progress report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, f/
2. Invites developing countries to continue to increase and promote technical co-operation among themselves, in accordance with, inter alia, the recommendations of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action;
3. Reiterates its invitation to the developed countries to continue and consider increasing and otherwise improving their support for technical co-operation among developing countries, in accordance with the recommendation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action;
4. Requests the governing bodies of organizations of the United Nations system:
 - (a) To continue to provide their support to developing countries in their implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action;

f/ TCDC/2/5.

(b) To ensure the utilization, to the maximum extent possible, of the inputs available locally and those from other developing countries for the implementation of technical co-operation projects;

5. Requests the Administrator to prepare the progress report for the third session of the High-level Committee according to the following terms of reference:

(a) Analytical review of the progress made in the implementation and promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries;

(b) Practical information on potential sources of finances for technical co-operation among developing countries from international institutions and organizations, including those within the United Nations development system, multilateral development banks and funds and government agencies of developed as well as developing countries;

(c) Information on the contribution that the network of office of the United Nations Development Programme in the developing countries has given for the strengthening and promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries at the bilateral and multilateral levels;

6. Requests the administration of the United Nations Development Programme to give more emphasis to action-oriented activities through the support of specific bilateral and multilateral technical co-operation projects, at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;

7. Requests the Administrator to work towards a methodology of information for technical co-operation among developing countries, which should be homogeneous and easily understood by all countries and organizations;

8. Requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to continue efforts within the United Nations system to make compatible the different information networks so that the information flow will become systematic and timely in order to respond effectively to the specific needs of countries interested in technical co-operation among developing countries;

9. Requests the Administrator to continue his efforts with a view to implementing the proposed project for a Development Information Network which will help foster the exchange of information among developing countries and contribute to, inter alia, the achievement of the objectives of technical co-operation among developing countries.

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2/4. Methodologies for promoting horizontal co-operation among developing countries in scientific and technological research

The High-level Committee,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, Committee decision 1/8 and the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, g/

Aware of the great importance that co-operative exchange of skills among developing countries could have within the framework of technical co-operation among them,

Aware of the importance of technical co-operation in the field of socio-economic research and of the urgency to create more favourable conditions for its realization,

Noting with interest the report submitted by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; h/

1. Takes note of the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme; i/

2. Recommends joint action and collaboration between developing countries in the following fields:

(a) Maximum utilization of existing facilities at national, subregional, regional and global levels;

(b) Establishment and strengthening of regional training and research institutes and centres of excellence in important developmental areas;

(c) Establishment, if necessary, and promotion of existing subregional, regional and interregional councils of directors of research institutes in different sectors to facilitate exchange of experiences, emergence of networks and provision of advice to policy-making bodies concerned with technical co-operation in their particular fields;

(d) Encouragement of leaders of public and private industry to co-operate and exchange experiences;

g/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

h/ TCDC/2/INF.3.

i/ TCDC/2/12.

3. Invites the Governments of developed countries and the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations development system, at the request of developing countries, to enhance their catalytic and supportive role in the following areas:

(a) Further development and strengthening of national, subregional, regional and global training and research institutes;

(b) Strengthening of research and developmental infrastructure, including appropriate information systems and computer services;

(c) Training of personnel in the management of co-operative research and development programmes;

4. Reiterates Committee decision 1/4 of 2 June 1980, b/ with regard to the promotion and support of the national research and training centres that have a multinational scope, and the need to gather and make fully available information on the existence and activities of these centres;

5. Invites the Trade and Development Board to consider initiating an action-oriented study on the feasibility of the various proposals made in the report regarding co-operative exchange of skills, h/ including recommendations for further action, taking fully into account the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries and the views expressed by Governments at the current session of the High-level Committee, and to submit this study to the Committee at its third session;

6. Invites Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and financial institutions to consider giving strong support to the regional associations and to the Interregional Co-ordinating Committee of Development Associations, in the field of socio-economic research.

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2/5. Transport and communication among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling that recommendation 39 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, a/ endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, placed emphasis on the strengthening of transport and communication among developing countries as a necessary condition for technical co-operation among developing countries to become a major element in the development process,

Recalling Committee decision 1/2, b/

Noting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, j/

1. Invites developing countries to intensify and accelerate their co-operation on a regional or subregional basis in the field of transport and communications;
2. Requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to take steps in identifying and strengthening national maritime transport training facilities which have multinational scope;
3. Requests the United Nations development system to consider increasing substantially its support to developing countries, at their request, in strengthening all development-related sectors of transport and communication systems;
4. Recommends that the regional commissions and other relevant bodies of the United Nations development system, in their activities in the field of transport, should give special consideration to non-conventional means of transport and to the needs of geographically disadvantaged countries;
5. Requests the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Development Programme to make available to the High-level Committee at its third session their annual reports on the Transport and Communication Decade in Africa;
6. Invites developed countries and the governing bodies of international financial institutions to consider increasing their financial and material support for projects and programmes earmarked for the improvement of the transport and communication infrastructure of developing countries and regions.

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2/6. Institutional arrangements and administrative mechanisms for technical co-operation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling recommendations 2 and 3 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries a/ concerned with national mechanisms for promoting technical co-operation among developing countries,

Recalling also Committee decision 1/1, paragraph 2, and decision 1/6, subparagraph 5 (d), b/ on the establishment and/or strengthening, as the case may be, of national focal points or co-ordinating mechanisms for technical co-operation among developing countries,

j/ TCDC/2/6.

Considering that the national focal points can play a useful role in facilitating the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries at national and international levels,

1. Takes note of the report on institutional arrangements and administrative mechanisms for technical co-operation among developing countries; k/

2. Recommends that Governments of developing countries should review their experience with technical co-operation among developing countries, assess their potential for its future development in the context of their national policies and consider the administrative arrangements to be established or strengthened for enhancing the implementation of the objectives of technical co-operation among developing countries;

3. Invites the Governments of developing countries to intensify co-operation among themselves as part of the process of strengthening their administrative arrangements for technical co-operation among developing countries through such modalities as exchange and cross-fertilization of experience and expertise, exchange of staff, sharing of information and the organization of joint seminars and study tours;

4. Urges the United Nations system to assist Governments of developing countries, at their request, in establishing and/or strengthening the national focal points or co-ordinating mechanisms for technical co-operation among developing countries;

5. Invites the United Nations Development Programme to assist developing countries at their request in organizing, primarily at the regional and subregional levels, training programmes on technical co-operation among developing countries specifically designed for staff members of the national Governments concerned.

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2/7. Legal arrangements for technical co-operation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling recommendation 2 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, a/

Aware of the importance of national and international legal arrangements for the development of effective and equitable technical co-operation among developing countries,

k/ TCDC/2/14.

1. Takes note of the report on legal arrangements for technical co-operation among developing countries; 1/

2. Recommends to developing countries which have not yet done so to consider:

(a) Incorporating in their legislation on technical co-operation laws, rules and regulations which will serve as a basis to facilitate activities of technical co-operation among developing countries, including the relevant administrative, financial and monetary provisions favourable to technical co-operation among developing countries;

(b) Possible legislation or rules relating to sending their technical or professional personnel abroad so as not to jeopardize their regular national employment pensions and other benefits;

(c) The use of joint or mixed commissions under general bilateral agreements at the appropriate governmental level in technical co-operation among developing countries activities;

3. Invites developed countries to continue to include in their programmes of technical co-operation such measures as would facilitate programmes and projects involving technical co-operation among developing countries;

4. Invites the governing bodies of multilateral agencies involved in technical co-operation programmes to consider adjusting, as appropriate, and in accordance with their constitutional procedures, the rules and procedures of the agencies in order to assist and support technical co-operation among developing countries;

5. Recommends to the Governments of developing countries to continue to provide the Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme with different types of legal instruments relating to technical co-operation among developing countries on a selective and informal basis, so as to enable the Unit to study such instruments and develop models that would help Governments in preparing bilateral or multilateral agreements on technical co-operation among developing countries.

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2/8. Potential sources for financing technical co-operation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling recommendations 38 and 35 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, a/

1/ TCDC/2/15.

Recalling also Committee decision 1/7; b/

1. Takes note of the report on potential sources for financing technical co-operation among developing countries; m/

2. Invites developing countries to:

(a) Consider incorporating in their national budget, resources designed to finance programmes and projects of technical co-operation among developing countries;

(b) Consider the possibility of setting up national funds for technical co-operation activities;

(c) Continue to provide information on a voluntary basis, and, if they deem it appropriate, to the Special Unit for technical co-operation among developing countries, regarding their sources for financing technical co-operation projects;

(d) Consider incorporating modalities for technical co-operation, to the extent possible, when formulating national programmes and projects;

3. Reiterates previous requests to regional and interregional funds, development banks and other intergovernmental financial institutions and aid agencies, to take appropriate action to implement recommendation 38 (b) of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, in support of technical co-operation activities;

4. Invites developed countries to continue to consider requests for financial support to activities which will enhance technical co-operation among developing countries, in particular:

(a) National projects of developing countries containing modalities for technical co-operation among developing countries;

(b) Promotional activities in the field of technical co-operation (training, workshops, study tours, pre-feasibility studies, etc.);

(c) Strengthening of institutions of intercountry scope or potential;

(d) Strengthening or improvement of physical infrastructure that would facilitate technical co-operation among developing countries in other sectors;

5. Invites those developed countries which have not already done so and may wish to do so to provide information to the Special Unit for technical co-operation among developing countries on their sources for financing technical co-operation activities for dissemination to Governments at their request;

6. Invites subregional and regional intergovernmental organizations to consider, whenever appropriate, including in their budgets a provision devoted to supporting technical co-operation activities;

m/ TCDC/2/16.

7. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme:

(a) Before the next session of the High-level Committee, to expand and extend the information provided in the report on potential sources for financing for technical co-operation activities m/ as well as those of the United Nations development system and to respond to requests from Governments with information on policies and procedures for the provision of resources available for technical co-operation among developing countries by international institutions and organizations, including those within the United Nations development system, multilateral development banks and funds and governmental agencies of developed countries, as well as developing countries which may offer bilateral co-operation;

(b) To devote the greatest possible share of resources which come from regional, interregional and global IPFs to support, within the priorities set by Governments, programmes and projects with technical co-operation elements to be carried out through intergovernmental agencies with subregional, regional and interregional objectives in keeping with the provisions of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action;

(c) To ensure that the programme units entrusted with the task of administering regional, interregional and global IPFs in co-ordination with the agencies of the United Nations development system should establish the necessary contacts to promote technical co-operation through Governments and intergovernmental organizations so as to lend them support in carrying out the tasks assigned to them under the Buenos Aires Plan of Action;

(d) To report to the High-level Committee at its third session on the programmes and projects with technical co-operation elements financed by the Programme and implemented through intergovernmental organizations in order to carry out the provisions contained in subparagraphs (b) and (c) above.

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2/9. Technical co-operation among developing countries and the policies, rules and procedures of the United Nations Development Programme

The High-level Committee,

Recalling recommendations 33, 34 and 38 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, a/

Recalling also Committee decision 1/7, b/

Recalling further decision 80/46 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,

Bearing in mind the views expressed by delegations at the first and second sessions of the High-level Committee,

1. Takes note of the report on technical co-operation among developing countries and the policies, rules and procedures of the United Nations Development Programme n/ and of the report on the status on the use of the Programme Reserve for financing the promotion of technical co-operation and the recommendation for an additional allocation during the third cycle; o/

2. Recommends that the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme:

(a) Ensure that for the period of the third programming cycle earmarking from country IPFs for technical co-operation activities for the benefit of other countries does not exceed 10 per cent of the country's IPF or \$7.5 million, whichever is smaller;

(b) Lift the present blanket restriction on the reimbursement of local currency costs;

(c) Ensure that the following basic guidelines of technical co-operation among developing countries be used in assessing technical co-operation project proposals:

(i) Technical co-operation activities or projects involve the deliberate and voluntary sharing or exchange of technical resources, skills and capabilities between two or more developing countries for their individual or mutual development;

(ii) Technical co-operation among developing countries is initiated, organized and managed primarily by developing countries themselves. In such a process Governments of developing countries would normally take the lead or responsibility. Technical co-operation among developing countries could also involve the participation of national public institutions, and within the framework of the policies laid down by Governments of developing countries, private organizations and individuals;

(iii) The financing and project inputs, such as expertise, consultancy services, research and training facilities, equipment and supplies in technical co-operation activities, should be the primary responsibility of developing countries themselves and the country IPF should be considered as a catalyst and a supplementary contribution. At its third session, in 1983, the High-level Committee will, on the basis of financial data for the years 1980-1982 submitted by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, consider guidelines for the share of earmarked IPF funds of total contributions for technical co-operation;

(iv) Technical co-operation among developing countries can include all sectors and all kinds of technical co-operation activities of developing

n/ TCDC/2/17.

o/ TCDC/2/L.4.

countries. It can be bilateral or multilateral in scope, subregional, regional or interregional in character. It should try, whenever possible, innovative approaches, methods and techniques particularly adapted to local needs as well as existing modalities of technical co-operation to the extent that they are considered useful;

(d) Allow that projects conforming to the basic guidelines enumerated in the previous paragraphs may be financed from country IPFs subject to the existing rules and procedures established for the United Nations Development Programme as a whole, with regard to project assessment, approval, implementation and evaluation. Within this framework, expenditure for provision of inputs necessary in the execution of projects should be allowed in the same manner and with the same flexibility as for the rest of the Development Programme;

(e) Allow that advances, current payments and reimbursements from the IPF resources be made by the Programme in the currencies of expenditure on the inputs concerned, and shall be drawn as far as possible from the Programme's holding of such or any other suitable currencies;

(f) Apply the following rules with regard to the reimbursement of certain local costs, associated with services and materials, which the Governments or national public or private institutions of the "IPF country" should primarily bear in accordance with subparagraph 2 (c) (iii) above;

(i) Any part of the salary and allowances of professional staff and any part of the cost of contractual services payable in the home country of the staff or contractor would be reimbursable in the "IPF country" currency only;

(ii) The local currency cost of equipment and materials purchased would be reimbursable in the "IPF country" currency only;

(g) Apply regular Development Programme procedures related to approval of its assisted projects, compensation, hiring of national experts, procurement of equipment and services, subcontracting and related matters;

(h) Incorporate the above principles and criteria into the standing guidelines and instructions of the United Nations Development Programme Policies and Procedures Manual;

3. Recommends that the Governing Council request the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme for the purpose of monitoring the guidelines of technical co-operation set out in subparagraph 2 (c), to notify the Committee at its third session on:

(i) The relevant financial costs of projects funded from the country IPFs and the national resources of participating Governments;

(ii) The amounts of IPF resources, if any, expended by the Development Programme in implementing the provision of subparagraphs 2 (e) and (f) above;

(iii) The breakdown of expertise, equipment and supplies, consultancy services, and training present in these projects;

4. Recommends that the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme should consider favourably the proposal of the Administrator to use \$1 million for the period of 1982-1983 for promotional activities of technical co-operation among developing countries, o/ and that a report containing an assessment on the use of the funds should be submitted by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to the High-level Committee at its next session;

5. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to provide member countries, on request, lists of available experts in developing countries for technical co-operation projects.

17th meeting
7 June 1981

2/10. Provisional agenda for the 1983 session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries

The High-level Committee,

Taking into account the views expressed at the second session of the High-level Committee,

Approves the following provisional agenda for the third session of the High-level Committee, to be held in 1983:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of the President of the session.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Election of officers other than the President.
5. Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and the decisions of the High-level Committee.
6. Organizational and supportive arrangements for technical co-operation among developing countries (such as administrative, legal, information and financial).
7. Provisional agenda for the 1985 session of the High-level Committee.
8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of the report of the meeting.

ANNEX II

List of documents

<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title of document</u>	<u>Document symbol</u>
4	Provisional agenda	TCDC/2/L.1
4	Agenda	TCDC/2/1
4	Annotated agenda	TCDC/2/2
4	Draft organization of work	TCDC/2/L.2
4	Organization of work	TCDC/2/3
4	List of documents	TCDC/2/4 and Add.1
	Rationalization of the symbol series of the documents of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries	TCDC/2/INF/1
4	Status of pre-session documents	TCDC/2/INF/2
4	Credentials	TCDC/2/18
6	Report on the progress made in implementing the tasks entrusted to the United Nations development system by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for promoting and implementing technical co-operation among developing countries	TCDC/2/5 and Corr.1
6	Activities of the United Nations development system to strengthen transport and communications among developing countries for the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries	TCDC/2/6
7	Some information on the activities of Governments in technical co-operation among developing countries	TCDC/2/7
8	The role and potential of technical co-operation among developing countries in rural development	TCDC/2/8
8	The role and potential of technical co-operation among developing countries in increasing agricultural production	TCDC/2/9

<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title of document</u>	<u>Document symbol</u>
8	The role and potential of technical co-operation among developing countries in rural-urban migration and economic development	TCDC/2/10
8	The role and potential of technical co-operation among developing countries in desertification control	TCDC/2/11
8	Methodologies for promoting horizontal co-operation among developing countries in scientific and technological research	TCDC/2/12
8	Promoting and accelerating women's participation in development programmes in the Caribbean through technical co-operation among developing countries	TCDC/2/13
8	Co-operative exchange of skills among developing countries. A case for TCDC	TCDC/2/INF/3
8	TCDC among national chambers of commerce (NCCs) of developing countries	TCDC/2/INF/4
8	TCDC among state trading organizations (STOs) of developing countries	TCDC/2/INF/5
8	Joint ventures through TCDC and their economic potentials	TCDC/2/INF/6
9	Institutional arrangements and administrative mechanisms for technical co-operation among developing countries	TCDC/2/14
9	Legal arrangements for technical co-operation among developing countries	TCDC/2/15
9	Potential sources for financing technical co-operation among developing countries	TCDC/2/16
9	Technical co-operation among developing countries and policies, rules and procedures of UNDP	TCDC/2/17

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