

1988/62. Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-eighth session,²⁷

Recalling the provisions of Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations and, in particular, the role of the Economic and Social Council in co-ordination in the economic and social fields within the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the importance of the programming and co-ordinating functions carried out by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination as the main subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for planning, programming and co-ordination,

Noting the importance of the additional responsibilities in the budgetary process assigned to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986,

Recognizing that the medium-term plan should continue to serve as the principal policy directive of the United Nations and, *inter alia*, as a tool for co-ordination in the economic and social fields,

Recognizing also that programme performance reports, programme evaluations and cross-organizational programme analyses are significant instruments for promoting efficiency and integrating the programming and co-ordination processes,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-eighth session, and endorses the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Authorizes* the Committee, subject to established procedure, to resume its twenty-eighth session from 6 to 19 September 1988 in order to consider those pending items of the agenda indicated in the Committee's report;²⁸

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the documentation necessary for the Committee to complete its work is provided in good time.

*39th plenary meeting
27 July 1988*

1988/63. Guidelines for international decades

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980, in which it adopted guidelines for international years and anniversaries,

²⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/43/16).*

²⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 12.

Noting General Assembly resolution 42/171 of 11 December 1987, in which the Assembly requested the Council to submit recommendations on guidelines for the designation of future international decades,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on guidelines for international decades,²⁹

Recommends that the General Assembly adopt the guidelines for international decades contained in the annex to the present resolution on the understanding that these guidelines are not intended to apply to United Nations development decades.

*39th plenary meeting
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ANNEX

Guidelines for international decades

A. Selection of subjects for and timing of international decades

1. The subject proposed for a decade should be consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as stated in the Charter. It should be of priority concern in the political, economic, social, cultural, humanitarian or human rights field, and should require long-term action at the international or regional level and at the national level. Action on the subject should contribute to the development of international co-operation or the strengthening of universal peace.

2. In areas where effective programmes already exist, international decades should be proclaimed only if they can be expected to produce results that would not otherwise be achieved.

3. As a rule, overlapping of decades should be avoided. A new international decade should be initiated only if it is clear that the United Nations system has the substantive, administrative and financial capacity to play an effective role in the implementation of a programme for the decade.

4. Before a new decade is proposed, consideration should be given to the possibility of an observance for a shorter period of time.

B. Requirements for the proclamation of international decades

5. Proposals for international decades should include a draft programme of action with well-defined objectives and activities to be carried out at the international, regional and national levels. The activities should be designed to lead to clearly identifiable results. The draft programme of action should indicate the proposed organizational arrangements and modalities for financing, from both budgetary and extrabudgetary sources, as well as procedures for monitoring implementation. Provision should also be made for public information activities.

6. The draft programme of action should indicate a lead agency or agencies for the decade and the mechanisms to be used for co-ordinating the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as those of the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned.

7. At the national level, the programme of action should provide for the establishment of national committees or other mechanisms to mobilize public support and carry out activities connected with the decade.

C. Procedures for the proclamation of international decades

8. Proposals for international decades should be submitted to the Economic and Social Council so that it may review the purpose and timing, drawing on the views of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and other intergovernmental bodies concerned.

²⁹ E/1988/58 and Corr.1