

9. The General Assembly should proclaim an international decade after the proposal has been thoroughly reviewed by the intergovernmental bodies concerned and the views of all Member States and of the non-governmental organizations concerned have been taken into account. For this purpose there should be an interval of two years between the introduction of the proposal in the Economic and Social Council and the proclamation of the decade by the General Assembly.

10. There should be sufficient time between the proclamation of the decade by the General Assembly and the start of the decade to allow for preparatory work at the international, regional and national levels.

11. When a second decade on a particular subject is proposed, the following should be taken into consideration:

(a) There should be a two-year preparatory period between the end of the first decade and the start of the second for drafting the programme of action for the second decade;

(b) Steps should be taken to ensure that the expertise and experience acquired during the first decade are retained, in order to ensure the prompt implementation of activities once a second decade is launched;

(c) The mid-term and end-term reviews of the first decade should be used as a baseline for the programme of action for the second decade;

(d) A second decade should be proclaimed only if the objectives of the first decade have not been fully attained and if there are good prospects for attaining them, particularly in cases where projects or programmes of the first decade have reached an advanced stage of implementation.

D. Review and appraisal of the implementation of the programme of action of the decade

12. The implementation of the programme of action of the decade should normally be reviewed by an appropriate intergovernmental body at the mid-point and end of the decade. When a world conference on the subject of an international decade is convened within the period of the decade, such a conference should serve, *inter alia*, as an instrument for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the programme of action of the decade.

1988/64. Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1982/50 of 28 July 1982, 1986/50 of 22 July 1986 and 1987/82 of 8 July 1987, as well as Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations,

Stressing the importance of periodic meetings between Member States and the executive heads of organizations of the United Nations system in promoting better understanding and co-ordination of the activities of the system in the economic and social fields and of the role of the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in that regard,

Reiterating the need for further improvement in the functioning of the Joint Meetings, relating in particular to the timing, participation, agenda and follow-up,

Having considered the report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the

Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the twenty-third series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees,³⁰ including the suggestions made concerning the functioning of the Joint Meetings, particularly those made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Chairmen of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the twenty-third series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees, in particular the comments made on the timing, venue and conduct of the Joint Meetings;

2. *Decides* that, in future, the Joint Meetings should be held in New York in conjunction with the autumn session of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, in order to facilitate the participation of the members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at a high level as well as the participation of the executive heads of the specialized agencies and United Nations programmes, and that the duration of the Meetings should be sufficient to allow for an adequate exchange of views among participants;

3. *Decides also* that the Joint Meetings should take the following measures relating to their work:

(a) Members of the two Committees should identify well in advance the specific issues for discussion under each topic and hold a concrete exchange of views, focusing on practical measures to solve the co-ordination problems identified;

(b) The background papers prepared by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination should include appropriate action-oriented proposals, so as to assist the Joint Meetings in achieving concrete results;

(c) Steps should be taken to ensure effective follow-up at the intergovernmental and intersecretariat levels of the conclusions and recommendations of the Joint Meetings;

4. *Decides* that appropriate measures for effective intergovernmental and intersecretariat follow-up of the conclusions and recommendations of the Joint Meetings should be reported, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in the following year;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council at its organizational session for 1989 on the measures taken to implement the present resolution;

6. *Decides* to review the implementation of the present resolution at its second regular session of 1991 in the context of the study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields.

*39th plenary meeting
27 July 1988*

³⁰ E/1988/79.