

Africa and Namibia for the consideration of the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its ninth session and to include, as an annex to that report, a list of transnational corporations which continue to operate in strategic sectors, including military and nuclear sectors, of the southern African economy in violation of United Nations resolutions, as well as those transnational corporations that have taken measures to terminate their activities in such sectors.

54th plenary meeting  
27 October 1982

**1982/70. Public hearings on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Recalling its resolutions on the activities of transnational corporations in southern Africa, in particular resolution 1981/86 of 2 November 1981, in which it called for the organization of public hearings on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretariat on the measures taken pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/86,<sup>1</sup>

1. Decides that the public hearings on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia called for in Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/86 shall be conducted by the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its tenth session, which shall, if necessary, be extended for a period of one week for that purpose;

2. Decides also that the public hearings shall deal with the operations of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia, with a view to identifying concrete measures that could be taken by Governments and by intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies to bring about the eradication of the system of *apartheid*, in particular:

(a) The extent to which such transnational corporations sustain the system of *apartheid* and the continued illegal occupation of Namibia by the racist minority régime of South Africa;

(b) The employment practices of transnational corporations and their socio-cultural impact;

(c) The implications of the activities of transnational corporations in the nuclear and military sectors of the South African economy;

3. Decides further to establish an *ad hoc* committee composed of five States, to be assisted by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, which would prepare and submit for adoption by the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its ninth session guidelines regarding:

(a) Procedures for the hearings;

(b) Persons and organizations to be invited to the hearings;

(c) Documentation for the hearings;

(d) Such other matters as may be pertinent to the modalities for the public hearings;

4. Requests the *ad hoc* committee of five States to hold one or two meetings before the ninth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations in order to prepare the guidelines referred to in paragraph 3 above;

5. Invites the relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies that have done work on the matters

referred to in paragraph 2 above to submit documentation to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its tenth session in connection with the public hearings to be held by the Commission.

54th plenary meeting  
27 October 1982

**1982/71. Strengthening of the co-ordination of information systems in the United Nations system**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Conscious that information is one of the most valuable resources at the disposal of the United Nations system.

Emphasizing the need for facilitating the access of developing countries to the United Nations information systems,

Recognizing the need to co-ordinate and harmonize the information systems in the United Nations system and the need to undertake this from the perspective of the needs of users at the national level,

Bearing in mind the conclusions contained in the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination<sup>2</sup> and the recommendations set forth in the final report of the independent experts on the strengthening of the co-ordination of information systems in the United Nations system,<sup>3</sup> and stressing the need for further consideration of that report,

Recalling its resolution 1981/63 of 23 July 1981.

1. Urges that a small central mechanism in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for the co-ordination of information systems, whose aims would be to ensure the more efficient operation of existing or planned United Nations information systems from the perspective of users at the national level and to enhance the capacity of the United Nations system to collect, store, retrieve and disseminate information, should:

(a) Review and advise on at an early stage proposals for the creation of new information systems or for the substantial modification of existing ones, when such proposals might be of interest to more than one organization, with a view to avoiding unnecessary duplication and to ensuring compatibility of information systems in the same or related fields, and stresses that such advisory opinions should be presented to the governing bodies of organizations, together with the proposals of those organizations, before decisions are taken to create new information systems or substantially modify existing ones;

(b) Give priority in its work programme to determining the needs of users, in particular those in developing countries; to identifying the areas, especially those related to operational activities, in which coherent information should be made available, especially at the level of the United Nations system; and to developing, within a year, a meaningful register of development activities;

(c) Compile, update and popularize common indexing vocabularies at the generic level and formulate standards, drawing upon the technical expertise of the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system;

(d) Monitor the development of information technology and ensure its application in the United Nations system in an effective and co-ordinated manner;

<sup>1</sup> E/1982/85.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, annex.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

2. *Stresses* the importance of associating the technical experts of the United Nations system with the suppliers and users of information in the discharge of the functions outlined in paragraph 1 above, in order to ensure that information users at the national level obtain maximum benefit from the information systems of the United Nations system;

3. *Stresses further* that such work should involve no costs additional to those foreseen in the estimates proposed to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1983 and that, in future years, work of this nature should be carried out with maximum cost-effectiveness;

4. *Invites* the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to take appropriate action to ensure the continuation of current activities supporting the co-ordination of information systems and to strengthen and reorient them so as to achieve the above objectives;

5. *Invites* the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to submit to it, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-third session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution for consideration at its second regular session of 1983.

57th plenary meeting  
10 November 1982

## DECISIONS

### 1982/181. Convening of the International Conference on Population in 1984

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 26 October 1982, the Council took note of the oral report by the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population to be held in 1984, made pursuant to its resolution 1982/42 of 27 July 1982.<sup>a</sup>

### 1982/182. Expansion of the conference facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa at Addis Ababa

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 27 October 1982, the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the adequacy of the conference facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa at Addis Ababa,<sup>b</sup> prepared in pursuance of its resolution 1982/60 of 30 July 1982, and decided to transmit it, together with the views expressed by delegations during the resumed second regular session of 1982 of the Council,<sup>c</sup> to the General Assembly for consideration at its thirty-seventh session.

### 1982/183. Date of the ninth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 27 October 1982, the Council decided that the ninth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 20 to 29 June 1983.

### 1982/184. Provisional agenda and documentation for the ninth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 27 October 1982, the Council decided to approve the provisional agenda and documentation for the ninth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations set out below.

1. *Recent developments related to transnational corporations and international economic relations*

Documentation:

Third integrated study on transnational corporations in world development

<sup>a</sup> See E/1982/SR.53.

<sup>b</sup> E/1982/111.

<sup>c</sup> See E/1982/SR.54.

2. *Activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations:*

- (a) *Reports on the activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations*

Documentation:

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations

Report on the activities of the joint units with the regional commissions

- (b) *Allocation of resources among the programme elements of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations*

Documentation:

Note on the allocation of resources among the programme elements of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations

3. *Work related to the formulation of a code of conduct on transnational corporations*

Documentation:

Report on the status of discussions at the special session of the Commission

4. *Comprehensive information system on transnational corporations*

Documentation:

Report on the comprehensive information system on transnational corporations

5. *International standards of accounting and reporting*

Documentation:

Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

6. *Technical co-operation*

Documentation:

Report on the programme of technical co-operation

Report on the evaluation of completed technical co-operation projects

7. *Studies on the effects of the operations and practices of transnational corporations*

- (a) *Activities of transnational corporations in southern Africa and their collaboration with the racist minority régime in that area*

Documentation:

Report on the policies and practices of transnational corporations regarding their activities in South Africa and Namibia

Report on the modalities for public hearings on the activities of the transnational corporations in southern Africa

- (b) *The role of transnational corporations in transborder data flows and their impact on home and host countries, particularly developing countries*

Documentation:

Progress report on transnational corporations and transborder data flows