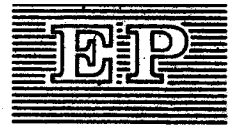




United Nations
Environment
Programme



Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/GC/4 Add.1
15 May 1973

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GOVERNING COUNCIL
First session
Geneva, 12-22 June 1973

Item 7(a) of the provisional agenda

GENERAL PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE OPERATIONS
OF THE ENVIRONMENT FUND

Subsidiary Procedures regarding the Fund Programme Reserve

Note by the Executive Director

The draft General Procedures governing the operations of the Environment Fund (document UNEP/GC/4) provide in their Article VIII, paragraph 2, for authorization by the Governing Council of the necessary allocation of funds to cover, inter alia, Fund Programme Reserve activities. The Fund Programme Reserve is defined in the procedures as the reserve established each year at a level sufficient to meet unforeseen needs, to finance unanticipated projects or phases of projects, and to meet such other purposes as may be determined by the Governing Council.

The Governing Council may wish to determine from time to time the other purposes to which reference is made above. At the present session, it is suggested for the Governing Council's consideration

- that the Fund Programme Reserve be used to establish a Revolving Fund (information), set initially at a level of \$100,000, details of which are given at Annex I,
- and that the Executive Director be given discretionary authority to use the resources of the Fund Programme Reserve up to maximum amount of \$500,000 in any given financial period for the purposes and in accordance with the procedures set out at Annex II.

Annex I

Revolving Fund (Information)

1. In implementation of the General Procedures governing the operations of the Environment Fund, the Governing Council authorizes the Executive Director to use the Fund Programme Reserve to establish a Revolving Fund (Information) for the purposes and in accordance with the procedures set out hereunder.

A. Purposes

2. The provision of information and related material in support of national programmes of public information and education in the environment field^{1/} is to be an important element in the Action Plan for the Human Environment (see document UNEP/GC/5, paragraph 24 (d)). The Revolving Fund (Information) is established to finance the production of information materials in furtherance of these purposes.

B. Procedures

3. The Executive Director may allocate funds from the Revolving Fund (Information) for the purposes set out in paragraph 2 above.

4. Income from the sale or rental of information materials, the production of which was financed from the Revolving Fund (Information), shall be credited to the Revolving Fund (Information).

5. Income to the Revolving Fund (Information) during any financial period, when in excess of the expenditures debited to or the commitments incurred by the Revolving Fund (Information) during the period, shall be credited to the Fund Programme Reserve.

6. At the request of the Executive Director, the Governing Council may review the level of the Revolving Fund (Information).

7. The Executive Director shall provide and enforce rules governing the use of the Revolving Fund (Information) and shall report such rules to the Governing Council.

^{1/} Further details of relevant Stockholm recommendations and the action suggested in terms of Programme development and priorities appear under parts F. Information (paragraphs 56 to 65) and N. Education and culture (paragraphs 124 to 129) of document UNEP/GC/5.

Annex II

Executive Director's Discretionary Authority

1. In implementation of the General Procedures governing the operations of the Environment Fund, the Governing Council grants discretionary authority to the Executive Director to use the Fund Programme Reserve for the purposes and in accordance with the procedures set out hereunder.

A. Purposes

2. The Executive Director may exercise such discretionary authority for the following purposes:

- (a) Ad hoc assignment of high-level experts, or members of the secretariat, whose services may be requested at relatively short notice to advise on specific questions in the field of the environment.
- (b) Ad hoc assignment of high-level experts or members of the secretariat whose services may be requested on an urgent basis, to advise in the case of situations of an urgent nature giving rise to serious concern for the environment. The Executive Director may also be requested in connexion with such assistance to exercise his good offices in a clearing house capacity as provided in the draft General Procedures.
- (c) Assistance of a general character, needed at relatively short notice, to strengthen the capability of non-governmental institutions to support, or contribute to the implementation of, environment programmes relevant to the objectives of UNEP.

B. Procedures

3. Requests for the exercise of discretionary authority should be made directly to the Executive Director. The Executive Director will report annually to the Governing Council on the requests received and the action taken in pursuance of such requests, including the costs incurred, and on the results achieved as a result of the assistance provided.

4. Exercise of the discretionary authority in any particular case should not normally involve assistance for a period over six months in duration or \$100,000 in amount.

5. Implementation of assistance should commence within three months of approval of request by the Executive Director. In case of delay beyond three months, the Executive Director shall review his approval.