



General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.3/43/L.56
17 November 1988

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-third session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 15 November 1988 from the Chairman of the Third
Committee to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to request that the attached letter be forwarded to the
Chairman of the Second Committee.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASSAN
Chairman
Third Committee

Annex

LETTER DATED 15 NOVEMBER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE
ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

[Original: English]

I have the honour to refer to your letter dated 26 October 1988, sent to me under cover of a letter from the President of the General Assembly dated 27 October 1988, regarding agenda item 12, entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council".

Members of the Third Committee were asked to write me their views, singly or in groups. I enclose the reply of the Permanent Representative of Tunisia as Chairman of the Group of 77.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASSAN
Chairman
Third Committee

Appendix

[Original: French]

The Group of 77 has taken note of document A/C.3/43/L.24 and of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/63 of 27 July 1988 concerning guidelines for international decades.

While expressing its interest in any proposal to rationalize the workings of the United Nations, the Group of 77 wishes to make the following comments:

First: With regard to the guidelines to be established for the proclamation of international decades, the Group of 77 considers that this important matter deserves to be given more careful and detailed consideration and that Governments therefore need to have sufficient time to submit their views and comments. Consequently, the Group proposes that the consideration of this question should be deferred to the next session of the General Assembly.

Second: In view of the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/63 of 27 July 1988 specifying that the guidelines are not intended to apply to United Nations development decades, the Group of 77 considers that the matter should fall exclusively within the purview of the Third Committee and not within that of the Second Committee of the General Assembly.

Third: Having regard to the complexity of the matter and its various implications for the consideration of other items on the agenda of the Assembly, the Group of 77 believes that the principle of the consideration and adoption of guidelines for international decades should fall exclusively within the sphere of competence of the General Assembly. No other organ may be substituted for the General Assembly in its policy-making and decision-making functions.
