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TRAINING AND RESEARCH

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin WALTER (Czechoslovakia)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1988, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled:

"Training and Research:

"(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

"(b) United Nations University"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a general discussion of the item at its 22nd and 27th meetings, on 25 and 28 October 1988. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/43/SR.22 and 27). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 10th meetings, on 5 to 7, 10 and 11 October (A/C.2/43/SR.3-10).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research

A/43/14 Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research 1/

A/43/697 and Add.1 Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research

(b) United Nations University

A/43/31 Report of the Council of the United Nations University 2/

4. At the 22nd meeting, on 25 October, introductory statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs, the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the Rector of the United Nations University (see A/C.2/43/SR.22).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/43/L.32

5. At the 38th meeting, on 9 November, the representative of Japan introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/43/L.32) entitled "United Nations University", on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Colombia, Egypt, Finland, Ghana, Guyana, Iceland, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, the Netherlands, the Philippines and Zambia, subsequently joined by Brazil, China and Poland.

6. At the 42nd meeting, on 15 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ejeviome Eloho Otobo (Nigeria), informed the Committee that in informal consultations, it had been agreed to revise operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution by replacing the words "Notes the continuing and intensified co-operative activities of the United Nations University with the United Nations, its bodies and the specialized agencies," with the words "Invites the United Nations University to continue and intensify its co-operative activities with the United Nations, its bodies and the specialized agencies and, in particular, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, in areas of common interest,".

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/43/L.32, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 10, draft resolution I).

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 14 (A/43/14).

2/ Ibid., Supplement No. 31 (A/43/31).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/43/L.65

8. At the 43rd meeting, on 21 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ejeviome Eloho Ootobo (Nigeria), informed the Committee that a draft resolution (A/C.2/43/L.65) entitled "United Nations Institute for Training and Research", was being submitted by him on the basis of informal consultations.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/43/L.65 without a vote (see para. 10, draft resolution II).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

United Nations University

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the United Nations University,

Having considered the report of the Council of the United Nations University on the work of the University in 1987 ^{3/} and its development in 1988, as presented by the Rector of the University on 25 October 1988,

Noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made so far from Governments and other sources in support of the University,

Also noting with appreciation the continuing support of the Government of Japan for the overall development of the University, including the construction of a permanent headquarters building at Tokyo,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Finland for the continued financial and other support it provides to the first research and training centre established by the University, the World Institute for Development Economics Research,

Noting decision 5.2.1 adopted on 31 May 1988 by the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation at its one hundred and twenty-ninth session,

3/ Ibid.

1. Welcomes the achievements of the United Nations University in implementing programmes of research, advanced training and dissemination of knowledge, within the framework of the first medium-term perspective (1982-1987);
2. Welcomes the consolidation of the overall University programme and the restructuring of the University Centre at Tokyo;
3. Notes with satisfaction that the World Institute for Development Economics Research has made considerable progress on the three research themes for its initial programme: "Hunger and poverty: the poorest billion"; "Money, finance and trade: reform for world development"; and "Development and technological transformation: the management of change" and that its first substantial research publications will be issued shortly;
4. Notes with concern the difficulties encountered by the United Nations University to secure the funding for the commencement of the activities of the Institute for Natural Resources in Africa;
5. Welcomes the offer made by the Government of the Netherlands relating to the establishment and operation of a research and training centre of the University in the area of new technologies;
6. Requests the United Nations University, when drawing up its report to the General Assembly, to take into account the comments made by Governments in the Assembly on the manner in which the activities of the University are presented, in particular by strengthening the analytical content of the report;
7. Invites the United Nations University to continue and intensify its co-operative activities with the United Nations, its bodies and the specialized agencies and, in particular, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in areas of common interest, on the one hand, and with the international academic and scientific community, including national research centres, on the other, which enhance the responsiveness of the University to global issues and problems and bring its work into closer relation with the concerns of the United Nations system and the world academic community with regard to global issues and problems;
8. Requests the University to continue to intensify its fund-raising efforts to build up its Endowment Fund and Operating Fund in order to increase its core income;
9. Earnestly appeals to all States to take cognizance of the progress made by the United Nations University and the relevance of its work to the concerns of the United Nations, to contribute urgently and generously to its Endowment Fund and to make operating contributions, including support for its research and training centres and programmes, in order to enable it to fulfil its mandate efficiently, in accordance with its Charter and with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/172 of 5 December 1986 and 42/197 of 11 December 1987,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General 4/ and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, 5/

Recognizing the continuing importance and relevance of the mandate of the Institute, particularly in the field of training,

Recognizing also the need for Governments to contribute or increase their voluntary contributions, as appropriate, to the Institute,

Noting with concern the continuing lack of a sufficiently broad base of donor countries supporting the Institute,

Recognizing the need for the Institute to continue to utilize the services of a small number of senior fellows for the Institute's programmes,

Noting with concern that the 1988 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities did not provide the General Fund of the Institute with the level of resources required to maintain a minimum training programme and institutional structure,

Concerned that the absorption, on an exceptional basis, of several professional staff members of the Institute within the United Nations system, as called for in General Assembly resolution 42/197, section II, paragraph 11, has yet to be fully implemented,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 42/197 6/ and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research; 5/

4/ A/43/697 and Add.1.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 14 (A/43/14).

6/ See A/43/697/Add.1, art. III, para. 1 (e).

2. **Reaffirms** the continuing validity and relevance of the mandate of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, as contained in the amended statute;
3. **Reaffirms also** the continuing validity of General Assembly resolution 42/197 and calls for the early implementation of all its provisions;
4. **Takes note** of the amendment to the statute of the Institute regarding the designation of alternates to trustees who are unable to attend any session of the Board; g/
5. **Requests** that the 1989 budgetary proposals of the Institute, as well as those of subsequent years, be submitted to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for review and comment prior to approval by the Board of Trustees of the Institute;
6. **Urges** the Secretary-General to proceed as rapidly as possible with the acquisition of the land and subsequent sale of the entire property of the Institute as approved in resolution 42/197;
7. **Reiterates** its approval of the recommendation of the Secretary-General that the Institute should repay the amounts currently owed to the United Nations after the sale of the building, the balance to be used to establish a reserve fund for the Institute;
8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to submit to the Board of Trustees at its forthcoming session a complete and current report on his efforts to purchase the land under the Institute building and the subsequent sale of the entire property;
9. **Further requests** the Secretary-General, in the event that the necessary financing is not assured through the sale of the building and/or voluntary contributions for the administration of the Institute in the first half of 1989, to present to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session specific recommendations on the future of the Institute, together with detailed financial information;
10. **Authorizes** the Secretary-General, notwithstanding the provisions of article VI, paragraph 1, of the statute of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, to appoint for a one-year period up to nine full-time senior fellows and grant them the status of officials of the United Nations;
11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to consult with the Board of Trustees of the Institute on criteria and qualifications to apply to full-time senior fellows, and to present his recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session;
12. **Renews** its appeal to the Secretary-General to give priority consideration to absorbing the remaining four staff members of the Institute who are occupying posts that have been abolished as a result of the restructuring of the Institute;

13. Encourages the Secretary-General to explore new modalities for greater interfacing among United Nations research bodies and requests him to report thereon;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.
