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NATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN ACHIEVING FAR-REACHING SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC CHANGES FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOCIAL PROGRESS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 3273 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its thirtieth session a comprehensive report on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress. Subsequently, owing to lack of time, the General Assembly deferred consideration of this subject to its thirty-first session. Following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General (A/10166), the Assembly adopted two resolutions.
2. In resolution 31/37 of 30 November 1976, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in co-operation with Member States, to submit to it at its thirty-third session through the Economic and Social Council, a report on their experience in promoting the co-operative movement and on the results so far achieved by international co-operation in this field.
3. The Secretary-General's report (E/1978/15 and Corr. 1), prepared on the basis of information supplied by Member States in response to a questionnaire, was considered by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session, 1978. On 5 May 1978, the Council adopted resolution 1978/8 in which it recommended to the General Assembly for adoption a draft resolution requesting, inter alia, the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its thirty-fifth session, through the Council, a follow-up report on national experience in promoting the co-operative movement, referring especially to the participation of women in the co-operative movement and to the role of co-operatives in achieving over-all social and economic development.
4. In its resolution 31/38 of 30 November 1978, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its thirty-third session, through the Commission for Social Development and/or the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive report prepared on the basis of information received from Governments on national experience in carrying out far-reaching changes for the purpose of social progress.

5. The report of the Secretary-General on this subject (E/1978/19) was considered by the Council at its first regular session, 1978. The Council, in decision 1978/19, took note of the report. An addendum to the report, based on information received from Governments subsequent to the preparation of that report, has been prepared for consideration by the General Assembly at its present session (E/1978/19/Add.1).
6. The General Assembly will have available for its consideration under agenda item 78 the report on national experience in promoting the co-operative movement (E/1978/15 and Corr. 1) and the report on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress (E/1978/19 and Add. 1). The Assembly will also have before it the text of the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1978/8 (A/C.3/33/L.3).
