



Economic and Social Council

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Agenda item 3 (a)

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation: follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly and the Council

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Alexandru Cujba (Republic of Moldova), on the basis of informal consultations

Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations development system, 63/232 of 19 December 2008 on operational activities for development, 64/289 of 2 July 2010 on system-wide coherence and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2008/2 of 18 July 2008 and 2009/1 of 17 July 2009 on progress in the implementation of Assembly resolution 62/208,

Reaffirming the importance of the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

Acknowledging the importance of delivering assistance in order to overcome the challenges to improving human life through implementing General Assembly resolution 62/208,

Recalling the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system so as to ensure that policy orientations established by the General Assembly are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with Assembly resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 61/16 of 20 November 2006, 62/208 and other relevant resolutions,



Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the Council at its operational activities segment,¹

Funding for operational activities for development of the United Nations development system

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on analysis of the funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2008,² and recalls the section of General Assembly resolution A/64/289 on improving the funding system of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and looks forward to its implementation;

Results achieved and measures and processes implemented in follow-up to General Assembly resolution 62/208

2. *Takes note* of the initiative by the United Nations development system to draw lessons learned and identify approaches that can be scaled up to accelerate progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals at the country level, and invites the United Nations development system to disseminate this information widely;

3. *Invites* the United Nations development system to improve the way capacity development results and their sustainability are assessed in the United Nations development assistance framework, with realistic measurable indicators;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the Council at its substantive session of 2011 information on further progress on an inter-agency collaborative framework on South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, and on progress in the preparation of the operational guidelines to support the implementation of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,³ to be prepared as mandated by the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation at its sixteenth session;⁴

5. *Encourages* further support for a wide use of performance indicators for gender equality and the empowerment of women among United Nations country teams in the context of their review of United Nations Development Assistance Framework implementation and preparations for the roll-out of subsequent United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks;

6. *Invites* the United Nations development system to assess the extent to which national expertise, systems and capacity are used in operational activities for

¹ Report of the Secretary-General on the results achieved and measures and processes implemented in follow-up to General Assembly resolution 62/208 (E/2010/70); Report of the Secretary-General on analysis of the funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2008 (A/65/79-E/2010/76); Report of the Secretary-General on the functioning of the resident coordinator system, including costs and benefits (E/2010/53); Report of the Secretary-General on actions taken by the executive boards and governing bodies of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies in the area of simplification and harmonization of the United Nations development system (E/2010/52).

² A/65/79-E/2010/76.

³ A/CONF.215/1.

⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/65/39)*, chap. I, decision 16/1.

development, with a view to strengthening them and supporting them in reaching the highest quality standards;

7. *Welcomes* the intergovernmental meetings of programme pilot countries held in Kigali, in October 2009, and in Hanoi, in June 2010, takes note with appreciation of the Kigali and Hanoi declarations, and in this regard also takes note of the progress made by “delivering as one” countries in their own country-led evaluations, with the participation of relevant stakeholders and with the technical support of the United Nations Evaluation Group, to be completed by 1 July 2010, taking into account the principle of national ownership and “no one size fits all”;

Functioning of the resident coordinator system, including costs and benefits

8. *Encourages* the United Nations Development Group to continue working to improve the quality of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and its regular monitoring in order to support programme countries through enhancing the capacities of the United Nations country teams and, in that context, reiterates that national ownership and leadership should be the principal guidance in that area, including the participation of programme country Governments;

9. *Recalls* the underscoring by the General Assembly, in paragraph 96 of its resolution 62/208, that resident coordinators, supported by the United Nations country teams, should report to national authorities on progress made against results agreed in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and acknowledges the development of a standard operational format on reporting and encourages the inclusion of information on its implementation in future reports;

10. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations development system and the United Nations Development Group to continue to streamline, and eliminate duplication in, reporting requirements for their various stakeholders, in order to reduce the administrative and procedural burden on United Nations country teams;

11. *Also encourages* the United Nations development system organizations to continue to support the work of the United Nations Development Group for improving the process through which the resident coordinators/humanitarian coordinators are selected and trained, as well as for attracting and retaining suitable and high-performing resident coordinators, and to include information in that regard in their reports to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

Simplification and harmonization of the United Nations development system

12. *Recalls* the section on harmonization of business practices of General Assembly resolution 64/289 and, in that regard, encourages the United Nations Development Group to support the United Nations country teams in preparing and implementing, in consultation with the national authorities of programme countries, workplans for the simplification and harmonization of business practices at the country level, with results and timelines;

13. *Reiterates* its request to the United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies to explore sources of financing to support the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Harmonization of Business Practices in the United Nations System, including through discussions with their respective governing bodies on the allocation of funds;

14. *Encourages* the United Nations development system organizations to overcome obstacles to inter-agency mobility in general, including the rapid redeployment of qualified national and international staff in crisis and post-crisis situations.
