

18 December 1984 concerning economic co-operation among developing countries.

*Reaffirming* the important role that economic co-operation among developing countries can play in promoting the development of developing countries.

*Recognizing* the competence of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in the areas of transnational corporations in general and of joint ventures and other alternative and new forms of international economic co-operation among national corporations from different developing countries.

*Encouraged* by the fact that a sizeable portion of the foreign investment in the least developed among the developing countries is received from developing countries.

1. *Affirms* the need to enlarge the role of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in promoting new forms of economic co-operation among developing countries within its mandate and in technical co-operation and assistance for interested developing countries;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a study of the experience of joint ventures among national corporations from different developing countries and their contribution to the development process in developing countries, including an analysis of the possibilities and potentialities offered in this field by regional economic integration and co-operation among developing countries;

3. *Invites* the Centre to explore the possibilities for further increasing the co-operation between the least developed countries and other developing countries in the field of foreign investment;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in the study referred to in paragraph 2 above specific proposals on ways and means of promoting that form of co-operation and to report on the matter to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its sixteenth session.

*15th plenary meeting  
24 May 1989*

#### **1989/22. Recent trends concerning transnational corporations and international economic relations**

*The Economic and Social Council.*

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 1908 (LVII) of 2 August 1974 and 1913 (LVII) of 5 December 1974 on the impact of transnational corporations on the development process and on international relations.

*Reaffirming also* its resolution 1988/58 of 27 July 1988 on strengthening the role of the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in support of developing countries.

*Taking note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on recent developments related to transnational corporations and international economic relations<sup>42</sup> and on the role of transnational corporations in the least developed countries.<sup>43</sup>

*Aware* that structural imbalances in the economies of major actors in the world economy have an impact on investment flows, including those to developing countries.

<sup>42</sup>E/C.10/1989/2.

<sup>43</sup>E/C.10/1989/6.

*Noting* that developed market economy countries increasingly attract foreign direct investment in a situation in which developing countries increasingly face limitations on financial and technological resources that could contribute to their economic and social development.

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its sixteenth session, in 1990, a report analysing those trends and to recommend ways and means of increasing the operations of transnational corporations in developing countries in order to contribute to their economic, social and technological development;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in that report an assessment of the potential impact of the regional economic integration processes taking place among developed countries on the future operations of transnational corporations, particularly in developing countries, and, in turn, the impact on regional economic integration processes in developing countries.

*15th plenary meeting  
24 May 1989*

#### **1989/23. Role of transnational corporations in the least developed countries**

*The Economic and Social Council.*

*Mindful* of the role that transnational corporations can play in the development of the least developed countries, and concerned that transnational corporations have largely bypassed those countries,

*Stressing* the need for appropriate policies and measures, including those instituted by Governments of home countries of transnational corporations, and for international action, including action by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, to enhance the contribution of transnational corporations in the least developed countries,

*Mindful* of the development objectives and priorities of the least developed countries,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of transnational corporations in the least developed countries,<sup>43</sup>

1. *Emphasizes* the crucial need for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations to provide assistance to the Governments of the least developed countries, at their request, in various areas pertaining to foreign direct investment by transnational corporations, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>43</sup> with a view to strengthening their capabilities in dealing with transnational corporations, as well as to devise innovative and action-oriented approaches in that regard, aimed at substantially increasing the contribution of transnational corporations in the least developed countries;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a study on home-country legislation on investment by transnational corporations in the least developed countries;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to study further the impact of levels of official development assistance, balance-of-payment support, technical assistance and other forms of assistance to the least developed countries on flows of foreign direct investment to those countries;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations to participate actively in the