

Development Programme, concerning the financial resources available for possible execution of the draft proposal after approval by the Council at its second regular session of 1990;

3. *Recommends* to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe that, in examining closely the resources required for maintenance and development activity now under way, consideration be given to the issue of what resources, from within the existing resources of the Commission, might be made available to support this activity.

*37th plenary meeting  
28 July 1989*

### **1989/119. Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 1982/57 of 30 July 1982, 1983/62 of 29 July 1983, 1984/75 of 27 July 1984, 1985/70 of 26 July 1985 and 1987/69 of 8 July 1987,

*Having considered* the conclusions contained in the interim report prepared in compliance with Council resolution 1987/69 by the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe on the progress being made in the studies relating to the project for a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar,<sup>95</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the new dynamism being brought to the region owing, in particular, to the proclamation of the Maghreb Arab Union and to the greatly expanding land transport infrastructure leading to the Strait of Gibraltar,

*Noting* the resolution adopted on 1 February 1989 by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe<sup>96</sup> regarding measures to encourage the construction of a major traffic artery in south-western Europe and to study thoroughly the possibility of a permanent link between Europe and Africa across the Strait of Gibraltar,

*Also noting* the resolution adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning at its sixth meeting, held at Kinshasa in March 1988,<sup>97</sup> concerning the establishment of an entity for the development of transport in the North Africa region,

*Aware* that the studies on the permanent link have contributed to other regional projects, such as the connection of the electricity grids of Morocco and Spain and the Maghreb-Europe gas pipeline,

*Welcoming* the co-operation between the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for

Europe, the Governments of Morocco and Spain and the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean,

*Conscious* of the importance of the project for the development of transport in the region, the consolidation of North-South relations and the promotion of scientific and technological research at the international level,

1. *Invites* interested Governments and the enterprises and institutions concerned, as well as other competent organizations, to participate in the international symposium on the permanent link to be held at Marrakesh from 16 to 18 May 1990 with a view to the implementation of the project;

2. *Also invites* the countries concerned to co-operate with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe in accelerating the creation of transport networks leading to the Strait of Gibraltar and in harmonizing transport regulations with a view to facilitating the transport of goods and merchandise between the two areas;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe:

(a) To submit, at the Marrakesh symposium, a global evaluation of the studies and work relating to the project based on the reports of the Executive Secretaries transmitted by the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council;

(b) To allocate as far as possible the resources necessary for the evaluation of the studies and work relating to the project and of the results and recommendations of the Marrakesh symposium;

(c) To submit an interim report on the project to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1991.

*37th plenary meeting  
28 July 1989*

### **1989/120. Development of human resources**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Reaffirming* the crucial role of human resources in the socio-economic development process, and recognizing that the development of human resources is both an essential pre-condition for development and the ultimate aim of development,

*Bearing in mind* that it is the sovereign right and responsibility of each country to formulate and implement national strategies, policies, plans and programmes for human resources development as part of the overall development process and within the context of its specific national development needs and objectives,

*Recognizing* that the integrated and concerted strategies, policies, plans and programmes for develop-

<sup>95</sup> See E/1989/58.

<sup>96</sup> See Council of Europe, Parliamentary Assembly, Fortieth Ordinary Session (third part), *Texts Adopted by the Assembly*, resolution 912 (1989).

<sup>97</sup> See E/ECA/CM.14/24.

ment in the 1990s should place greater emphasis on human resources development,

*Emphasizing* that many developing countries are devoting a considerable share of their limited resources to the development of their human resources,

*Taking into account* the continuing evolution of the concept of human resources development and the consequent variety in the scope and nature of the experience and technical capacity of organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in contributing to the promotion of human resources development in their respective fields of competence, and convinced of the need for greater effectiveness, clarity and co-ordination in carrying out such activities,

*Aware* that the development of human resources is a long-term and multidisciplinary process requiring an integrated approach,

*Believing* that a more common operational definition of human resources development, reflecting the views, priorities and objectives of Member States, would enhance the effectiveness and impact of the activities of the United Nations system in this field,

*Noting with satisfaction* the contribution to the elaboration of the concept of human resources development made by the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa,<sup>98</sup> the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region<sup>99</sup> and the African Alternative Framework for Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation,<sup>100</sup>

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/81 of 8 July 1987 on the development of human resources,

*Also recalling* decision 88/29 of 1 July 1988 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its experience in human resources development,<sup>101</sup>

*Bearing in mind* that human resources development is an important area of activity for organizations of the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on human resources development and the activities of the United Nations system in that field;<sup>102</sup>

2. *Recognizes* the important work already done by relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including funding bodies, in the field of

human resources development, and invites them to enhance those activities;

3. *Notes* that the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme intends to issue a report on human development, and invites him to continue to prepare the report in close co-operation with the other organizations of the United Nations system concerned;

4. *Reaffirms* the need for an integrated and multidisciplinary approach to all aspects of human resources development as an important feature of the programmes of work of the relevant mandated organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that deal with economic and social development;

5. *Stresses* the continuing need to strengthen and expand the human resource base of developing countries and their capacity to face the challenges of development and accelerated technological change in order to achieve sustained development, and calls upon the international community to support the efforts of developing countries in this area, in accordance with their national priorities and plans;

6. *Invites* the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including funding bodies, to cooperate effectively with developing countries in support of the development and implementation of their strategies, policies, plans and programmes for human resources development and to promote the effective co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations system in this field;

7. *Invites* the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade to consider the issue of human resources development in the light of its economic and social impact on the overall process of development;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the efforts made in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to elaborate a more common operational definition of human resources development in order to strengthen the effectiveness of programmes in this field in accordance with specific national development objectives and needs;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, within his competence and functions as set out in General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, with the responsibility for overall co-ordination of the activities of relevant secretariat units of the organizations of the United Nations system in the field of human resources development;

10. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution in the context of the reports on operational activities for development and on the world social situation and to include in those reports recommendations for improving operational arrangements and focusing support,

<sup>98</sup> A/43/430, annex I.

<sup>99</sup> Resolution 274 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 11* (E/1988/35), chap. IV.

<sup>100</sup> A/44/315, annex.

<sup>101</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1988, Supplement No. 9* (E/1988/19), annex I.

<sup>102</sup> A/44/229-E/1989/60.

especially financial and technical support, for more commonly defined human resources development activities.

*37th plenary meeting  
28 July 1989*

**1989/121. Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1991-1992**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* the comments of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme concerning the minimum target for voluntary contributions to the Programme for the period 1991-1992,<sup>103</sup>

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 2462 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968 and 2682 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, in which the Assembly recognized the experience gained by the World Food Programme in the field of multilateral food aid,

1. *Recommends* to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Urges* States Members of the United Nations and members and associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to undertake the necessary preparations for the announcement of pledges at the Fourteenth Pledging Conference for the World Food Programme.

*37th plenary meeting  
28 July 1989*

<sup>103</sup> See WFP/CFA: 27/15 (transmitted to the Economic and Social Council as document E/1989/107), paras. 80 and 81.

ANNEX

**Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1991-1992**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the provisions of its resolutions 2095 (XX) of 20 December 1965 to the effect that the World Food Programme is to be reviewed before each pledging conference,

*Recalling also* the provisions of paragraph 4 of its resolution 42/164 of 11 December 1987 stipulating that, subject to the review mentioned above, the next pledging conference, at which Governments and appropriate donor organizations should be invited to pledge contributions for 1991 and 1992, with a view to reaching such a target as may then be recommended by the General Assembly and by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, should be convened, at the latest, early in 1990,

*Noting* that the Programme was reviewed by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme at its twenty-seventh session and by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1989,

*Having considered* Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/121 of 28 July 1989 and the recommendation of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes,

*Recognizing* the value of and continuing need for multilateral food aid as provided by the World Food Programme, both as a form of capital investment and for meeting emergency food needs,

1. Establishes for the period 1991-1992 a target for voluntary contributions to the World Food Programme of \$1.5 billion, of which not less than one third should be in cash and/or services, and expresses the hope that those resources will be substantially augmented by additional contributions from other sources in view of the prospective volume of sound project requests and the capacity of the Programme to operate at a higher level;

2. *Urges* States Members of the United Nations and members and associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and appropriate donor organizations to make every effort to ensure that the target is fully attained;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to convene a pledging conference for this purpose at United Nations Headquarters early in 1990.

DECISIONS

**1989/163. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

1. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 5 July 1989, the Economic and Social Council adopted the agenda of its second regular session of 1989<sup>104</sup> and approved the organization of work for the session.<sup>105</sup>

2. At its 21st plenary meeting, on 7 July 1989, the Council approved the requests made by non-governmental organizations to be heard by the Council at its second regular session of 1989.<sup>106</sup>

<sup>104</sup> E/1989/100, sect. I.

<sup>105</sup> E/1989/100, sect. III.

<sup>106</sup> See E/1989/124.

**1989/164. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

At its 17th plenary meeting, on 5 July 1989, the Economic and Social Council decided to transmit the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees<sup>107</sup> to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

**1989/165. Participation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the Economic and Social Council**

At its 34th plenary meeting, on 24 July 1989, the Economic and Social Council, having considered the

<sup>107</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/44/12).*