



## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Thirty-seventh session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

Tuesday, 21 July 1964  
at 3.20 p.m.

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

## CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 18:	
Reports of the Governing Council of the Special Fund <i>(concluded)</i> . . . . .	65
Agenda item 19:	
Programmes of technical co-operation	
(a) United Nations programme	
(b) Expanded Programme	
(c) Co-ordination of technical assistance activities	
Report of the Technical Assistance Committee . . . . .	66

*President* : Sir Ronald WALKER (Australia)

*Present* :

Representatives of the following States, members of the Council: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Chile, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, France, India, Iraq, Japan, Luxembourg, Senegal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Representatives of the following States, additional members of the sessional Committees: Cameroon, Ghana, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Mexico, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar.

Observers for the following Member States: Brazil, Canada, Central African Republic, Finland, Jordan, Norway, Pakistan, Romania, Sweden, Uganda, Uruguay.

Observers for the following non-member States: Federal Republic of Germany, Holy See, Switzerland.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, World Health Organization, Universal Postal Union, Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization.

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

## AGENDA ITEM 18

**Reports of the Governing Council of the Special Fund  
(E/3854, E/3889) (concluded)**

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to continue its discussion of the reports of the Governing Council

of the Special Fund on its eleventh and twelfth sessions (E/3854, E/3889).

2. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar) congratulated the Managing Director and staff of the United Nations Special Fund on the magnificent work done in infrastructural investment in developing countries. Those who had followed the career of the Managing Director of the Special Fund knew that he had been one of the greatest champions of the cause of the peoples of the developing world; it had therefore been no matter for surprise when he had alluded to the fact that the world was a rich world and that developing peoples were intelligent and eager to learn. The Special Fund was of considerable assistance in helping the developing countries to move from a subsistence to an industrial economy. He was particularly glad that two projects relating to his country, those on the College of African Wildlife Management and on the mineral exploration of the Lake Victoria goldfield, had been approved by the Special Fund at its twelfth session. His delegation agreed with previous speakers who had said that it was imperative that industrialized countries should increase their contributions to the Special Fund and supported the ideas on the gradual transformation of the Special Fund contained in General Assembly resolution 1936 (XVIII) and the recommendation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (see E/CONF.46/139, annex A.IV.8). Although he sympathized with the opinion expressed by the representative of Indonesia at the 1324th meeting that the Special Fund would have to set priorities for the assistance it granted, he considered that developing countries had to reach a certain stage of infrastructural development before priorities could be set for industrial projects. His delegation supported the proposal for the establishment of a new United Nations development programme merging EPTA and the Special Fund; he would speak about that at greater length in the Council Co-ordination Committee.

3. Mr. GOLESTANEH (Iran), congratulated the Managing Director of the Special Fund and his staff on the excellent work they had done. The world would never have enough of the kind of assistance provided by the Fund. As the United Kingdom representative had said at the 1324th meeting, the new ideas of the Special Fund on land reform were fundamental and of particular interest to his country. His delegation believed that the Secretary-General's proposals for a new United Nations development programme would add to the efficiency of the current efforts of the United Nations and would give renewed impetus to the efforts being made to perform the difficult tasks ahead.

4. Mr. HOFFMAN (Managing Director, Special Fund) said that the Council should always remember that there was no country, rich or poor, that was not dependent on a rapidly expanding world economy. The longer he worked for the Special Fund, the more certain he became that there was no reason for poverty, hunger, illiteracy or ill-health in the world. The Special Fund had always had great support from the Council. He was concerned when he heard some countries say that they could not increase their subscriptions to the Special Fund. The world was currently spending \$120,000 million annually on armaments and only \$4,000 million on loans of various kinds. The United Nations had two functions, namely, peace-keeping and peace-building. It seemed absurd to spend \$120,000 million on peace-keeping and only \$4,000 million on peace-building. Ultimately, any money spent on peace-building would benefit peace-keeping.

5. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council adopt the following resolution:

*"The Economic and Social Council*

*"Takes note with appreciation of the reports of the Governing Council of the Special Fund on its eleventh and twelfth sessions."*

*It was so decided.*

#### AGENDA ITEM 19

##### Programmes of technical co-operation

- (a) United Nations programme
- (b) Expanded Programme
- (c) Co-ordination of technical assistance activities

##### REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE (E/3933)

6. The PRESIDENT called upon the Chairman of the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC) to introduce the Committee's report (E/3933).

7. Mr. KOLB (Austria), Chairman of the Technical Assistance Committee, said that EPTA had grown from \$6,436,000 in 1951 to \$102,661,000 in 1963/1964. The Programme had over 3,000 experts in the field, they were serving in 133 different countries and had been recruited from 57 different countries. 2,595 fellowships had been awarded in 1963, bringing the grand total of fellowships awarded under the Programme since 1950 to 26,600.

8. The Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) had reported on his use of his contingency authority and general satisfaction had been expressed. Practical difficulties had been encountered by TAB in computing assessments of Governments for local living costs of regional experts. The Committee had decided to recommend that the Council authorize the Executive Chairman "in joint agreement with the Governments participating in regional projects, to apply the provisions of paragraph 4 of Council resolution 787 (XXX) with a

degree of flexibility imposed by practical considerations, provided that the principle of reasonable financial participation of recipient Governments in the costs of such projects, including local living costs of experts, was maintained" (see E/3933, para. 43). No specific action by the Council was necessary on that point.

9. The TAC had studied the question of the housing of experts when suitable housing could not be obtained by normal means. In that connexion, the Committee had felt that guarantees of long-term leases might meet some difficult cases and that the participation by TAB in the financing of construction costs should be used only as a last resort. Under a draft resolution submitted by TAC (*ibid.*, annex II), the Council would authorize TAB, as an exceptional measure, and when no other practical remedies were available, "to adopt such solutions, which might involve underwriting the costs of providing experts with housing, recognizing that such solutions could exceptionally give rise to contingent costs to the Programme when no other source of funds was available". It would be necessary for the Council to approve that resolution.

10. The General Assembly in its resolution 1968 B (XVIII) had requested TAC to consider the Secretary-General's report containing suggestions relating to the proclamation of a United Nations decade of international law. The consensus of the Committee had been that the Executive Chairman should be prepared, as before, to consider requests in specific fields of international law if they were related to economic, social or administrative development and included in the country programmes in the normal way. The Committee had also studied the ways in which a programme in international law could be financed under the regular programme of technical assistance and had agreed that Governments were free to request assistance relating to international law under the human rights advisory services programme and on the basis of the priority approach described in the Secretary-General's report on the 1965 Programme (see E/3870/Add.1).

11. The TAC had unanimously recommended that the Council admit IMCO to TAB (see E/3933, annex V). He hoped the Council would welcome that recommendation.

12. With reference to the United Nations regular programme of technical assistance, he said that, at its autumn session in 1963, the Committee had authorized (see E/3849, para. 65) that the 1965 Programme be planned on the basis of \$6.4 million and had requested the Secretary-General to recommend methods for introducing further flexibility in programming so as to take account of changing priorities of recipient Governments. Accordingly, the programme proposals submitted to the Committee had been presented in two ways.

13. One method was the conventional presentation by sections of the United Nations budget which provided for fixed appropriations for economic development, social activities, public administration (including the programme for the provision of operational, executive and administrative personnel (OPEX)), human rights advisory services and narcotic drugs control. The other way of

presentation was on a straight priority basis as determined by the recipient countries without regard to the sectional distribution, with the exception of human rights and narcotics. Countries were requested to indicate their choice as between those two methods.

14. The Committee had noted that the majority of the Governments replying had expressed their preference for the priority system. The Committee had confirmed its earlier recommendation of \$6.4 million and had approved its distribution according to the priorities indicated by Governments, with separate totals for human rights and narcotic drugs programmes.

15. Annex IV to the Committee's report contained a draft resolution proposed by the Committee for the consideration of the Council concerning the level of appropriation for 1965 and an endorsement of the programme proposals for that year by the Secretary-General. In addition, the Committee was recommending to the Council that future programmes under the regular budget should be established on the basis of similar priority procedures, and that the Secretary-General, during programming periods, should inform Governments of the services available to them in economic development, social welfare, public administration, human rights and narcotic drugs control. It was further recommended that the level of the annual budget submissions for technical assistance and the programmes thereunder should continue to be subject to the advice, guidance and review of TAC.

16. In that connexion, it would be useful for the Council to inform its functional commissions and committees of the need to transmit all technical assistance proposals to the Council through TAC so that any observations of TAC could be before the Council at the appropriate time. It would perhaps be best therefore to include some reference to that procedure in the draft resolution presented in annex IV. He proposed that that could be accomplished by adding the following words to the end of the text of operative paragraph 6: "... and that proposals emanating from the functional commissions and committees of the Council which could affect the technical assistance resources of the United Nations should be transmitted to the Council through the Technical Assistance Committee."

17. In the Committee's draft resolution, the Secretary-General was requested to continue to report to the commissions and committees of the Council on the programmes delivered and planned in the fields of their particular substantive interests. The Council was also asked to agree that, for working purposes, a provisional level of \$6.4 million should be used by the Secretary-General as a guide for initial programming for 1966.

18. It would be recalled that under General Assembly resolution 1768 (XVII) the Committee was to prepare a study on the relationship between the various United Nations programmes of technical assistance under its mandate and the regular budget programmes, with a view to their rationalization. At its recent session, the Committee, taking into account its earlier interim recommendations and the report of the *ad hoc* Committee set up under Council resolution 851 (XXXII) (E/3862), had

concluded its study of the regular programme and decided to transmit its views thereon to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. Those observations were contained in the Committee's report (see E/3933, paras. 77-85).

19. In conclusion, he wished to say how happy his Government had been to receive TAC in Vienna.

20. Mr. KRALIK (Czechoslovakia) said that in the fifteen years of its operations EPTA had become a strong programme responding to the needs of Governments. Its operations during the previous year had been marked by the following significant developments: for the first time, pledges had exceeded the \$50 million mark; there had been closer co-operation and co-ordination between EPTA, the United Nations regular programme and the United Nations Special Fund; the regional part of the Expanded Programme had proved its usefulness and contributed to close co-operation between EPTA and the regular programmes of participating organizations; and, there had been a continued increase not only in the number of expert assignments undertaken by nationals of the developing countries, but also in the proportion of those experts to the total number of experts.

21. It was not possible, however, to overlook the shortcomings of EPTA. There was an imbalance in its implementation, the tendency being to shift the weight of implementation to the second year of the biennial period, the number of fellowships awarded in 1963 had been much smaller than that for 1962, while the number of expert missions had increased: very little had been done to stop the growth in administrative and other unproductive expenditures; and, lastly the work of EPTA in industrialization was far from satisfactory.

22. He drew the Council's attention to paragraph 20 of the report of TAC which dealt with the selection of regional and interregional projects, and to the Seminar on National Co-ordination of Technical Assistance held in January, 1964, at Addis Ababa. At the recent TAC session in Vienna several delegations had pointed out that the existing procedure for the organization of regional projects did not give sufficient assurance that the regional part of the programme fully reflected the needs of recipient countries. In his opinion, a reasonable way of improving the existing situation might be to increase the role of the regional economic commissions in the selection of projects. The Seminar on National Co-ordination of Technical Assistance had dealt with a number of important problems and had been a success. Seminars of that sort were of major significance and he hoped that its general conclusions would be put into practice.

23. In so far as the United Nations regular programme of technical assistance was concerned, his Government maintained that the United Nations budget was not intended to finance activities in the field of technical assistance; consequently, his delegation was unable to support the resolution contained in annex IV to the report of TAC. Nevertheless, his country's National Technical Assistance Committee had been doing its best to assist in the implementation of projects financed by the regular programme.

24. His delegation had often recommended that EPTA and the United Nations regular programme of technical assistance should be merged. So far that idea had met with little response. His delegation believed that, however premature the proposal might seem at present, the question of the merger of the two programmes would arise sooner or later.

25. He assured the Council, the Executive Secretary of TAB and the Managing Director of the Special Fund that his country was ready to participate to a greater extent in the implementation of the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme and to help whenever necessary.

26. Mr. YOKOTA (Japan) said that his delegation considered that the recent session of TAC had been most constructive and meaningful. It had greatly appreciated the warm hospitality of the Austrian Government, the excellent chairmanship of Mr. Kolb and the co-operation of the Director-General of the IAEA in helping with the arrangements for meetings.

27. The EPTA had been extending its field of activities and had also been able to improve many aspects of its programmes. While it was true that the biennial programme for 1963-1964 had produced certain features which could be attributed directly to the procedure of biennial programming, which would necessitate a careful study of the merits and demerits of biennial programming at an appropriate time in the future, that did not overshadow the fact that EPTA had been coping successfully with the needs of the recipient countries. His delegation was particularly pleased with the way in which the Executive Chairman of TAB had used his contingency authorization. It had endorsed the annual report of TAB (E/3871) to TAC.

28. As regards some of the concrete problems upon which the Council was called upon to take action, he hoped that the Executive Chairman of TAB would continue to endeavour to obtain closer contact with participating organizations, Governments and other appropriate institutions, when trying to recruit well-qualified experts at the times they were needed. He had been pleased to note the increase in the number of experts from developing countries. It should, however, be borne in mind that the origin of an expert was not the only consideration; finding the most suitable expert for a given task was equally important. On the question of the lack of adequate accommodation for United Nations experts, which had been discussed by the Governing Council of the Special Fund as well as by TAC, his delegation hoped that a solution could be found which would avoid the necessity of taking out the short-term loan suggested by the Managing Director of the Special Fund. The Executive Chairman was to be thanked for the efforts he had made in that respect. His delegation would support the draft resolution on the subject contained in annex II to TAC's report.

29. The TAC had been requested to express its views on whether or not EPTA could extend its technical assistance to the promotion of the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law. He con-

sidered that, generally speaking, it should concentrate its activities on projects which could be explicitly identified as promoting economic and social development in the recipient countries. In view of its resolution 222 A (IX), the Council should be cautious in expanding the activities of EPTA to a new field. However, his delegation had no objection to the general view stated in paragraph 57 of TAC's report. It also agreed that without special provision under part V (Technical programmes) of the United Nations regular budget, Governments were free to continue including in their requests, on a priority basis, proposals for assistance with respect to any international legal aspects involved in development projects.

30. His delegation was satisfied with the activities of the United Nations regular programme during the past year, and endorsed the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations programmes of technical assistance (E/3870 and Add.1). It hoped that more co-ordinated and mutually complementary implementation of regular programme, EPTA and Special Fund projects would take place.

31. The United Nations regular programme had rendered valuable service to recipient countries, particularly as a result of its operational flexibility and because it was able to respond to urgent requests which were not always suitable for action under EPTA. He was sure that no one would deny the desirability of continuing those activities. While his delegation shared the view that activities which could be carried out efficiently under EPTA should be left to that programme, it also believed that the regular programme should maintain its own distinct characteristics and procedures.

32. As regards the budgetary resources of the regular programme under part V of the budget, his delegation considered that it would be appropriate to maintain the level in 1965 as at present. It also believed that the United Nations regular programme should continue to be implemented in a flexible manner so as to reflect the desires and priorities of recipient Governments. It supported the establishment of the 1965 programme under the regular budget on the priority basis outlined in paragraph 23 of the Secretary-General's report (E/3870/Add.1), with the amendment suggested by the chairman of TAC. It would support the draft resolution in annex IV to document E/3933.

33. Sir KEITH (United Kingdom) said that the keynote of TAC's report and also of the comprehensive report of TAB was expansion and progress. During 1963 no fewer than 122 countries and territories had received assistance from EPTA, which in itself was no small achievement. It was indeed remarkable that such a widely distributed programme, which called for a good deal of administrative work in respect of each expert, each fellowship and each seminar, was so effectively administered by the Executive Chairman of TAB and his colleagues in the Secretariat and in the specialized agencies. His delegation had also been pleased to know that the number of experts assigned in 1963 was considerably above that assigned in 1961, which was the first year of the last biennial planning period, and that the comparative figures for fellowships



had also shown a rise. That expansion in the activities of EPTA had been made possible by the increase in pledges from member Governments, which had risen from \$45.4 million in 1962 to \$50.1 million in 1963. Another most encouraging feature was that the number of contributing countries had increased from 92 to 105 in the space of a year. The United Kingdom Government warmly welcomed the progress that had been made. In order to help EPTA to expand still further, a number of Governments, including that of the United Kingdom, had made known their intention of increasing their contributions to EPTA for 1965.

34. The report of TAC laid special emphasis on regional and inter-regional projects (see E/3933, para. 18). His delegation had been pleased to read the statements in that report that regional projects were frequently the most efficient and economic device for adding to the "know-how" of developing countries, and that that activity fostered personal contact and the exchange of views and of experts between neighbouring countries. By doing that, they also served the broader purpose of encouraging international understanding.

35. Another significant point was the way in which projects proposed by experts serving under EPTA led on to their adoption by the Special Fund. His delegation looked forward to further information on that most practical form of co-operation between the two programmes.

36. He would like once again to express his satisfaction at the work done by the resident representatives. He had been particularly struck by the tributes paid to their work by delegations from the developing countries at the recent meetings of both the Governing Council of the Special Fund and TAC.

37. His Government supported the biennial planning approach for EPTA, believing that the disadvantages of such an approach were far outweighed by the advantages. That view was supported both in the report of TAB and also by remarks made by representatives of the developing countries at the TAC meeting.

38. Of the sixty-two Governments which had replied to the invitation made by the Commissioner for Technical Assistance to Governments of developing countries to state whether they wished the Regular Programme to be based on a sectional distribution or on a straight priority basis, forty-six had indicated a preference for the priority system. The United Kingdom delegation believed that that overwhelming support for the priority system and the resolution adopted by TAC at its recent session by virtue of which it adopted that approach, had given the regular programme the necessary flexibility to respond effectively and rapidly to the priority needs of the developing countries. That new approach should ease the task of the Commissioner for Technical Assistance and his colleagues, and he looked forward to hearing from him at a future meeting about its detailed implementation.

39. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that as his delegation had already expressed its views on TAB's report at the recent session of TAC, he would confine his comments to a few salient points.

40. The report of TAB had, as usual, been an impartial and complete account of the work of the EPTA, in spite of the fact that it had been prepared in the middle of a two-year period. The report of TAC was also interesting and constructive. One of the most important facts brought out by the TAB report was that Africa now held a normal place in EPTA because of the particularly urgent needs of the new States. That it had been possible to give that place to Africa without greatly reducing allocations to other continents was due, in part, to the increase in contributions to EPTA.

41. The closer co-operation between the administrations of EPTA and the Special Fund had also been noted. That co-operation was mainly carried out through the resident representatives, who acted as intermediaries between Governments and EPTA and Special Fund, and between the specialized agencies in their capacity as executing agencies. The activities of EPTA and its experts often served as an introduction to and preparation for the Special Fund's pre-investment projects, an aspect of co-operation which his delegation hoped would be expanded.

42. The TAB report had rightly laid emphasis on regional projects, and the French delegation hoped that even more emphasis would be placed on such projects in the future. At the recent TAC session, stress had been put on the need for expanding EPTA's activities in the field of industrialization, and some delegations had wished more attention to be given to science and technology, a view which the French delegation was prepared to support.

43. The report of TAB had also brought out some disturbing facts, in particular, the difficulties of biennial planning. Recipient Governments tended to give maximum attention to putting as many projects as possible into operation during the first year of a biennium, whereas participating organizations tended to concentrate their attention on the second year. The reduction in the number of fellowships awarded appeared to be a direct result of that difference in approach, and that reduction was regrettable as fellowships played an essential role in the training of experts and staff for the developing countries. That trend should be halted, and the United Nations regular programme of technical assistance would not be sufficient for the purpose, as had been suggested; it should fulfil other objectives and was too limited in scope. To introduce a greater regularity into the implementation of programmes, a more rational use of long-term projects was needed. The resident representatives should try to persuade recipient Governments to prolong their projects beyond the two-year period, or to integrate their technical assistance programmes into their long-term development plans.

44. The difficulties which had arisen in connexion with the implementation of EPTA programmes were also due to a lack of adjustment to a new situation. Under the mechanism for implementing EPTA projects, the distribution of funds received from donor countries was made by the General Assembly amongst the participating organizations. A further distribution was then made

amongst the beneficiary countries without discussion or formal approval by TAC. Since the Council was to discuss later in the session a reorganization of technical co-operation, it might also consider at that time a possible adaptation of the mechanism and procedures for providing technical assistance. If that was not done soon, technical assistance might suffer from a lack of proper governmental control, and become the poor relation so far as United Nations activities were concerned. His delegation believed that greater flexibility could be achieved with the co-operation of both donor and recipient countries if the general projects under EPTA were not made the subject of an advance distribution of funds either to the participating organizations or to the beneficiary countries. That would enable EPTA administration to deal with emergencies. Although there was already a contingency fund that could be called upon for the undertaking of projects which could not be financed under EPTA, the introduction of other categories of projects that could be financed by means of a more flexible mechanism might be envisaged. In any case, it was desirable that funds should be allocated to Governments, not on the basis of the interest of a particular specialized agency in a project, but rather on the basis of the assessment which each country made of its own needs. If such a procedure were adopted, problems of co-ordination would be greatly simplified.

45. As far as the regular programme was concerned, it was essential that projects should be approved by an inter-governmental organ. The Council already examined the financial implication of its own resolutions and scrutinized in detail those parts of the United Nations budget which concerned matters of interest to it. There was no reason why it should not do the same in the case of the regular programme of technical assistance. There was no need for the Council to approve the specialized agencies' programmes, but when they were acting as participating organizations or executing agencies for other programmes, the Council had an interest in knowing how activities were co-ordinated. It was only by taking into account the wishes of the developing countries and by eschewing considerations of self-interest that maximum results could be achieved by the assistance given by the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

46. Mr. ARKADYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had given special attention to the statement made by the Managing Director of the Special Fund to the effect that the Fund would henceforth engage not only in pre-investment activities but also in direct investment in experimental industrial enterprises. His Government had repeatedly raised that question in various United Nations bodies over the years, and he was glad to see that its counsels had finally found favour. If such experimental enterprises were based on the most up-to-date technology and served the practical needs of the developing countries, they would represent a great contribution to the future progress of those countries. At the same time, he hoped the Governing Council would give attention to the scientific, technical and engineering possibilities of the USSR, and to its experience in extending aid to the developing countries, both on a bilateral basis and through the United Nations system.

47. The Special Fund had considerable and fast-growing funds at its disposal, which offered a broad base for investment activities and the training of national cadres. If the level of contributions reached in the period under review was maintained, the total income over the decade should amount to at least \$1,000 million. Given such resources, the investment activity on which the Special Fund was now embarking was of the utmost importance, both because it served the economic and industrial interests of the developing countries and because it would help to accelerate the transformation of the Fund into a capital development fund, in accordance with the various resolutions to that effect adopted by the General Assembly and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

48. Judging from the reports before the Council, the Organization's technical assistance activities had enjoyed a certain success during the period under review; it also appeared that EPTA was making a serious effort to promote the growth of industry in the developing countries. It might therefore be wondered what would happen to those various activities if and when the proposed merger of the Special Fund and EPTA took place. Unfortunately, the report of TAC gave the misleading impression that the question of the merger was more or less decided. But many delegations in the Governing Council and TAC had spoken against the proposal, while numerous others had expressed serious reservations. His delegation, too, was against any such merger, and it had said as much at the time the Special Fund had been set up. It should not be forgotten that, in creating the Special Fund, the General Assembly had rejected the idea that the newly created Fund should absorb the other technical assistance programmes of the United Nations. On the other hand, the Assembly had taken a clear decision to transform the Special Fund into a capital development fund making specific provision for its gradual transformation. It had subsequently adopted resolution 1936 (XVIII) reaffirming that intention, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development had also adopted a recommendation to that effect (see E/CONF.46/139, annex A.IV.8).

49. The EPTA had won a good reputation in its fifteen years of existence, and his delegation could see no sense in destroying what had been so laboriously built up. In particular, he could not understand why the Executive Chairman, who had worked so long and tenaciously to ensure the effectiveness of EPTA, should passively accept a merger which would jeopardize the Programme's whole future. So long as the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme continued to exist independently, they acted as a valuable complement to one another, whereas the creation of a single governing body would merely bureaucratize both programmes. Supporters of the merger offered no suggestions as to how such a step was to be reconciled with the various resolutions providing for the transformation of the Special Fund into a capital development fund. His delegation believed a more rational step would be to merge the Special Fund and the regular programme of technical assistance, a practical measure which could be carried out immediately, without violating any existing resolutions.

50. Much serious criticism could be levelled at the regular programme, as his delegation had done at the recent TAC session in Vienna, and he fully supported the views expressed by the Czechoslovak delegation in that regard. Those sections of the TAC report which dealt with the regular programme left much to be desired, and the extraordinarily inadequate nature of the replies — particularly in paragraph 95 — to some of the questions put by delegations cast doubt on the seriousness of the document. He entirely endorsed the French representative's observation that TAC never actually approved the programmes which were carried out in its name; delegations might express their views in the Committee, but little notice was taken, and the Secretariat in fact did what it liked. More attention should be given to the needs of the developing countries themselves in the apportionment of funds. What happened all too often was that resources were allocated to the head of a given fund or institute, who then proceeded to distribute them according to his discretion. On that basis, there was no guarantee that the needs of the developing countries would be met. What was required was the democratic apportionment of funds; to that end, TAC should not be content with mere formal existence, but should pass authoritative judgement on each programme.

51. His delegation also wished to draw attention to unjustified delays in project implementation by the Special Fund. According to the reports, no more than twenty-four of the 374 projects authorized had actually been carried out. But the developing countries were interested in action, not in impressive statistics; it was therefore necessary, as the Secretary-General had said, to give priority to those projects whose implementation would really accelerate the economic, and more particularly the industrial, growth of the developing countries. That applied to both the Special Fund and to EPTA. The regional economic commissions had a particularly important role to play in determining priorities, being more immediately familiar with local needs.

52. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) paid a warm tribute to the Austrian Government for its hospitality in receiving TAC in Vienna. His delegation was well satisfied with EPTA and was delighted that the \$50 million target for annual contributions to the Programme had now been reached. Although it was more difficult to see its immediate results than in the case of the Special Fund, the Expanded Programme was no less important. At the same time, it was becoming ever clearer that the two programmes were complementary and were growing closer together. He would not dwell on a number of problems which had already been sufficiently ventilated at the TAC session in Vienna, but would confine himself to expressing support for the resolutions in annexes I, II and V to the TAC report. He warmly welcomed the admission of IMCO to full participation in EPTA.

53. As regards the regular programme of technical assistance, he stressed that TAC was responsible for its over-all review. At its recent session the Committee had devoted much time to such review, and his delegation was satisfied with the results. It endorsed the resolution

in annex IV to the report setting the level of appropriations for part V of the United Nations regular budget in 1965 at \$6.4 million and suggesting that, for working purposes, the tentative estimates for 1966 should be maintained at the same level. Thus, his delegation recognized the principle that the regular programme should be stabilized and that increases in expenditure should be financed from voluntary contributions. His delegation also accepted the policy shift whereby the 1965 programme was to be established on the basis of the priorities indicated by requesting Governments; at the same time, he welcomed operative paragraph 4 (a), which informed such Governments of the services available to them under various General Assembly and Council resolutions. He was sure that those services would tend to expand rather than the reverse. His delegation also accepted the amendment to operative paragraph 6 proposed by the Chairman of TAC, which would save the Council the embarrassment of suddenly being called upon to approve financial estimates which had not gone through the appropriate channels. He referred in that context specifically to the note by the Secretary-General on Advisory Services in the Field of Human Rights (E/3882/Add.1) which submitted financial estimates to the Council that had not been submitted either to the Commission on Human Rights or to TAC.

54. Mr. CUBILLOS (Chile) expressed satisfaction at the way both EPTA and the regular programme were discharging their functions for the benefit of the developing countries. The system of biennial programming adopted by EPTA was having positive results, and TAB might usefully examine the possibility of programming over even longer periods so that the developing countries could take EPTA assistance into account in drawing up their long-term development plans.

55. His delegation welcomed EPTA's concern to allocate resources to the newly independent countries, particularly in Africa. He understood the special situation of such countries, and agreed that the United Nations had a duty to help them with their economic and social problems. However, he hoped that, while continuing to give the new nations appropriate assistance, TAB would take steps to halt the decline in assistance to other regions.

56. He congratulated TAB on its initiative in concentrating on regional projects, which in 1963 had accounted for 16 per cent of the total EPTA resources. He hoped that in future years that figure would be raised to 20 per cent, not only because such a policy was already bearing remarkable fruit, especially in the ECLA region, but also because the developing countries themselves regarded the complementarity or integration of emergent economies as a decisive element in the struggle against economic backwardness. The Latin American countries, in particular, were making strenuous efforts towards such integration. That was a most important new departure to which the United Nations should give every encouragement. He therefore hoped the Council would support TAB's initiative in that direction.

57. At the recent TAC session in Vienna, the Board had explained that it was encountering difficulties in applying



paragraph 4 of Council resolution 787 (XXX), regarding the contribution to be made by recipient Governments towards meeting the local costs of experts working on regional projects. While his delegation favoured the continued application of those provisions, it was prepared to accept the TAC recommendation that they should be applied with the degree of flexibility imposed by practical considerations.

58. He believed that EPTA should pursue its policy of recruiting experts from the developing countries, which enabled such countries to obtain a better understanding of their own problems. However, TAB should take care to consult with the governments concerned to ensure that they really could spare the experts for service elsewhere.

59. His delegation was concerned to see from the TAC report that the percentage of resources allocated to industrialization was still very low, and hoped to see it increased in future years. While being aware that priorities were determined by requesting Governments, he hoped TAB would make every possible effort to increase its participation in industrial projects. He hoped that EPTA would make a similar effort in the field of science and technology, with a view to accelerating the transfer of the latest information to the developing countries.

60. In conclusion he expressed his gratitude to the Austrian Government for its warm welcome to TAC, and paid a special tribute to the Executive Chairman of TAB for his tenacity in the fight against economic backwardness over the past fifteen years.

61. Mr. LUCIC-LAVCEVIC (Yugoslavia) observed that his delegation's views on the effective development of international technical assistance had been expressed in detail at the recent meeting of TAC in Vienna, and he would therefore confine his remarks to particular sections of the report now before the Council.

62. The success of technical assistance during the past year was due to some extent to the increased resources it had had at its disposal, but the intensified efforts of TAB and the participating organizations and the more efficient use by the developing countries of the assistance received had also contributed to that success. His delegation welcomed the decision by several developed countries to increase their contributions to EPTA, and hoped that the example thus set would be followed by other developed countries.

63. He expressed his appreciation of the system of biennial programming, which facilitated the implementation of programmes and enabled the recipient countries to plan ahead. The system could be more thoroughly assessed at the end of the first two-year period of programming. The lack of skilled national personnel, especially in the economic field, was one of the main problems of the developing countries. Technical assistance should concentrate on such forms of training as would produce the most efficient and rapid results. The role of foreign experts should be to train national personnel who could then be made responsible for the training of further cadres. The organization, on a regional or national basis, of seminars for such trained personnel was also desirable, and should be arranged with the co-operation of the participating

bodies and agencies concerned. There had been some increase in the number of experts from developing countries recruited by technical assistance. The use of those experts had been fully justified, and he believed that there should be a bolder approach to the recruitment of experts from both developing and developed countries. In the allocation of priorities among technical assistance projects, special attention should be paid to those which were part of long-term national development plans or which encouraged industrialization in the less-developed countries.

64. During 1963, while additional assistance to newly independent countries had been reduced because of their incorporation in existing programmes, the number of contingency authorizations had increased. In such cases, the Executive Chairman of TAB had a great responsibility with regard to the allocation of assistance in emergencies such as national disasters and epidemics, and the continuance of contingency authorizations was fully justified.

65. His delegation commended the report of TAC and supported the draft resolutions.

66. Mr. GARCÍA PINEIRO (Argentina) said that at the Vienna meeting of TAC his delegation had stressed the importance his Government attached to the technical assistance programmes and the Special Fund. It was clear from the report now before the Council that the work carried out by TAB had received general approval. His delegation would like, however, to pay a special tribute to the work of the resident representatives who had so effectively co-ordinated the various programmes with the work of the international bodies.

67. His delegation attached particular importance to the industrialization programmes. With regard to the system of biennial programming, in spite of some teething troubles, it was proving highly satisfactory.

68. Lastly, he wished to express his satisfaction at the increasing use of experts from developing countries who could, in many cases, be recruited without depriving the countries concerned of the skilled personnel required for their own development projects. He was convinced that the ultimate aims of technical co-operation could be fully achieved when all countries unstintingly helped one another. He congratulated the Executive Chairman of TAB, the Commissioner for Technical Assistance and the secretariat staff, who had made the Vienna session such an outstanding success.

69. Mr. HILL (Australia) expressed his gratitude to the Austrian Government for its hospitality during the Vienna session and to the Director-General of IAEA for making conference facilities available.

70. Despite some critical comments from several delegations, including his own, the general feeling at the session of TAC had been that in EPTA the United Nations had a soundly based and administered enterprise. That view was shared by the Australian delegation, and he would like to express his appreciation of and confidence in the Executive Chairman of TAB. Australia had supported the Expanded Programme since its inception and would continue to do so. In that connexion, his delegation



welcomed the suggestion made in paragraph 7 of the report of TAC that TAB's report on the 1963-1964 biennium should commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of technical assistance by reviewing its operations since the beginning. His delegation also endorsed the hope expressed in TAC's report that there should be greater emphasis on evaluation, particularly with regard to regional and interregional projects in the next report placed before the Committee.

71. Mr. ESSOME (Cameroon) said that his delegation was gratified at the efforts made by the United Nations to help the developing countries in the gigantic task they had to face. One of the most valuable forms of technical assistance was the appointment of United Nations experts in the developing countries, but their work was often frustrated by duplication, as when a project sponsored by the United Nations was already being handled within the framework of bilateral assistance. Greater co-ordination was required, especially in the administrative sphere. The problem of the developing countries was, in his view, essentially a problem of human resources, and capital investment was merely an adjunct to the training of the skilled cadres without which there could be no sustained development. As the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development had reminded the Council some days earlier, the complexity of the developing countries' problems was further increased by their need for skilled national personnel on several fronts at once. Technical assistance remained their best hope, and the fellowships were much appreciated. He hoped, however, that the fellowships would in future, wherever possible, be made available locally. With regard to regional and interregional projects, any new approach would be welcome: hitherto, the trend seemed to have been towards intergovernmental rather than interregional programmes. The observations made on that subject during the sixth session of the Economic Commission for Africa should encourage those responsible for technical assistance programmes to design them to meet the requirements of the regions they were intended to benefit.

72. Mr. SALMAN (Iraq) expressed his satisfaction with the results achieved by the regular and Expanded Programmes of Technical Assistance. He was disappointed, however, that there had been a reduction in the number of fellowships awarded in 1963. His delegation appreciated the work done by the resident representatives and hoped their activities could be expanded under the new programmes of technical assistance and of the Special Fund. His delegation associated itself with those who had expressed their thanks to the Austrian Government, the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board and the Commissioner for Technical Assistance.

73. Mr. KOLB (Austria) thanked those representatives who had paid tribute to his Government for its assistance in the organization of the TAC's session at Vienna. He was pleased to announce that, through the kindness of the IAEA in providing conference facilities, his Government would again be able to act as host for the next session of the Committee.

74. Mr. OWEN (Executive Chairman, Technical Assistance Board) thanked the representatives for their tributes to the work of TAB. Many members of the Council had over the years contributed to the success of TAB's work under both the regular and Expanded Programmes of Technical Assistance. The administrators of the programmes had always believed in growth and change, and would continue their search for new and better methods and institutions which would make development assistance even more effective than it had been in the past.

75. The PRESIDENT called upon the Council to vote on the draft resolutions in annexes I-V to the report of the Technical Assistance Committee (E/3933).

ANNEX I. — ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BOARD TO THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

ANNEX II. — EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

ANNEX III. — REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMMES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

ANNEX IV. — UNITED NATIONS REGULAR PROGRAMMES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

76. The PRESIDENT said that, in view of the amendment proposed by the Chairman of TAC, the Council would first have to vote on the amendment.

*The amendment was adopted unanimously.*

*The draft resolution, as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

ANNEX V. — PARTICIPATION OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION IN THE EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

The meeting rose at 6.40 p.m.