



Twelfth session
Agenda item 29 (a)

PROGRAMMES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

(a) REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. J.G. HADWEN (Canada)

1. The General Assembly, at its 682nd plenary meeting on 20 September 1957, allocated to the Second Committee item 29 of its agenda, "Programmes of technical assistance: (a) Report of the Economic and Social Council; (b) Confirmation of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance".
2. The present report is concerned with part (a) of this item: "Report of the Economic and Social Council".^{1/}
3. The Committee had before it the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/3613),^{2/} chapter III, section B, and a note by the Secretary-General on the outpostting of certain programme officers of the Technical Assistance Administration (A/C.2/196). It also received the following draft resolutions:
 - (a) Draft resolution by France, India, the Netherlands and Yugoslavia entitled "Financing of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance" (A/C.2/L.347);
 - (b) Draft resolution by Canada, Denmark, France, Iraq, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Sudan and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland entitled "United Nations Technical Assistance Programmes" (A/C.2/L.348 and Rev.1).

^{1/} Item 29 (b) will be considered by the Second Committee early in December 1957 and a separate report will be presented to the General Assembly.

^{2/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Session, Supplement No. 3.

4. The Committee considered item 29 (a) during twelve meetings (A/C.2/SR.471, 479-489). The first ten meetings were devoted to the general debate in which fifty-nine delegations took part. The Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board and the Director-General of the Technical Assistance Administration made statements to the Committee; their statements were distributed, at the request of the Committee, as documents A/C.2/L.338 and L.339.

I

5. The draft resolution by France, India, the Netherlands and Yugoslavia (A/C.2/L.347) was received by the Committee at its 486th meeting. Under this proposal the General Assembly, noting with concern that the resources available to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance in 1958 might prove to be less than those available in 1957 even though a substantial number of countries had increased their pledges, and recognizing that even the maintenance of the Programme at its existing level would require greater resources than those pledged at the Eighth Technical Assistance Conference, would: (1) appeal to participating Governments to examine the consequences of the situation mentioned above and to consider, in the light of their economic and other circumstances, the possibility of increasing the financial resources of the Programme; and (2) request the Secretary-General to draw this resolution to the attention of the Governments participating in the Programme.

6. This draft resolution was discussed at the 488th and 489th meetings, and was adopted at the 489th meeting by 59 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

7. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution I annexed to the present report.

II

8. The draft resolution by Canada, Denmark, France, Iraq, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Sudan and the United Kingdom (A/C.2/L.348) was received by the Committee at its 487th meeting. Under this draft resolution the General Assembly would: (1) take note of chapter III B of the report of the Economic and Social Council for the period 10 August 1956 to 2 August 1957 (A/3613);

(2) request the Council to study the desirability of promoting, without prejudice to the country programming procedures, a further possible concentration of effort on chosen fields of activity under the programmes of technical assistance; (3) further request the Council to study the desirability of promoting, with the co-operation of national governments, increased use of such regional and national training facilities as may be made available under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance; (4) suggest that, in the preparation of the report required under Council resolution 659 B (XXIV), account be taken of the suggestions put forward by delegations during the twelfth session of the General Assembly for the purpose of assisting in the development of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance; and (5) decide to consider (a) the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and (b) the regular United Nations Programme of Technical Assistance together with that part of the Expanded Programme administered under the Secretary-General, as separate sub-items of the technical assistance item at future sessions of the Assembly.

9. This draft resolution was discussed at the 488th and 489th meetings. In the light of suggestions made at the 488th meeting, a revised text (A/C.2/L.348/Rev.1) was submitted at the 489th meeting, in which the operative part was modified as follows:

"1. Takes note of chapter III B of the report of the Economic and Social Council for the period 10 August 1956 to 2 August 1957 (A/3613);

"2. Requests the Economic and Social Council to study the desirability of promoting with the co-operation of Governments, increased use of such regional and national training facilities as may be made available under the United Nations programmes of technical assistance;

"3. Suggests that, in the preparation of the report required under part III of Economic and Social Council resolution 659 B (XXIV), account be taken of suggestions put forward by delegations during the twelfth session of the General Assembly for the purpose of assisting in the development of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance;

"4. Decides to consider (a) the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and (b) the programmes administered by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration as separate sub-items of the technical assistance item on the agenda of future sessions of the General Assembly."

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10. At the 489th meeting the representative of Romania proposed, and the sponsors agreed, that the word "all" be inserted in the fourth paragraph of the preamble after the words "to use", so that the paragraph would then read as follows:

"Further recognizing that continued efforts should be made to use all the available technical assistance resources as effectively as possible in assisting the less-developed countries to further economic progress and achieve higher standards of living,".

11. Also at the same meeting, the sponsors agreed to delete operative paragraph 4 of the revised text. The Committee considered that this paragraph might be more suitably dealt with by requesting the Council in its future reports to the Assembly on United Nations programmes of technical assistance, to include a section dealing with that part of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance administered by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, as well as the regular programmes of the United Nations. This would mean that those parts of the report of the Council dealing with (a) the Expanded Programme, and (b) the programmes administered by the TAA could be considered as separate sub-items of the technical assistance item on the agenda of future sessions of the Assembly.

12. The revised nine-Power draft resolution (A/C.2/L.348/Rev.1), as amended, was adopted unanimously at the 489th meeting.

13. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution II annexed to the present report.

Draft resolution I

Financing of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

The General Assembly,

Noting with concern that the resources available to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance in 1958 might prove to be less than those available in 1957, even though a substantial number of countries have increased their pledges,

Recognizing that the maintenance of the Programme even at its existing level would require greater resources than those pledged at the Eighth Technical Assistance Conference held on 10 October 1957,

1. Appeals to participating Governments to examine the consequence of the situation mentioned above and to consider, in the light of their economic and other circumstances, the possibility of increasing the financial resources of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to call the present resolution to the attention of the Governments participating in the Programme.

Draft resolution II

United Nations technical assistance programmes

The General Assembly,

Noting the achievements of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and of the regular United Nations programmes of technical assistance,

Noting further that, for 1958, seventy-five Governments have so far pledged contributions to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and that, in 1957, the Expanded Programme provided assistance to more than one hundred countries and territories throughout the world,

Recognizing that the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance is a co-operative programme to the success of which all participating Governments contribute,

Further recognizing that continued efforts should be made to use all the available technical assistance resources as effectively as possible in assisting the less-developed countries to further economic progress and achieve higher standards of living,

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1. Takes note of chapter III B of the report of the Economic and Social Council for the period 10 August 1956 to 2 August 1957;^{1/}

2. Requests the Council to study the desirability of promoting with the co-operation of Governments, increased use of such regional and national training facilities as may be made available under the United Nations programmes of technical assistance;

3. Suggests that, in the preparation of the report required under part III of Economic and Social Council resolution 659 B (XXIV) of 30 July 1957, account be taken of suggestions put forward by delegations during the twelfth session of the General Assembly for the purpose of assisting in the development of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/3613).