



Eighteenth session  
Agenda item 33

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The situation as regards each of the five sub-items under this item is indicated in a separate section below.

Planning for economic development (sub-item (a))

2. By resolution 1708 (XVI), the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of experts, to prepare a study summarizing the experience gained and the techniques in use in the planning of economic development by different countries. A group was appointed in the spring of 1962 and arrangements were made to hold two sessions; the first was held in August 1962, and the second in March-April 1963. Owing to the lack of time, however, it was not possible for the Expert Group to complete the preparation of its report at these two sessions, and it became necessary to convene a third session in August 1963. The completed report, which was to have been submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-sixth session, will be issued in the near future as document A/5533.

3. Although the Council has not yet had an opportunity to examine this report and thus could not submit its recommendations concerning the utilization of experience of economic planning in the interest of developing countries in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI), it considered the question of economic development planning and projections at its thirty-sixth session, and a summary of its discussions on this subject will be found in chapter III of its

annual report to the General Assembly.<sup>1/</sup> Attention is also invited to Council resolution 979 (XXXVI) which deals with this topic.

Activities of the United Nations in the field of industrial development  
(sub-item (b))

4. In resolution 1821 (XVII), the General Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to submit to the General Assembly the report of the Advisory Committee of ten experts which had been set up to examine the question of the further organizational changes that might be necessary in order to intensify, concentrate and expedite the United Nations effort for the industrial development of the developing countries, including the advisability of establishing a specialized agency for industrial development, or of strengthening or modifying the existing organizational structure in that field. The Advisory Committee's report was submitted by the Secretary-General to the Committee for Industrial Development and will be found in document E/C.5/29.

5. A summary of the discussions in Committee for Industrial Development on this report will be found in chapter V of its report,<sup>2/</sup> and the Economic and Social Council's comments on the report will be found in paragraphs 140 and 141 of its annual report to the General Assembly.<sup>1/</sup> Attention may also be invited to Council resolution 969 (XXXVI) which transmitted the report to Governments and which offered the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) an opportunity of making such comments on the report as they deemed appropriate. In addition, the Council requested a summary of the activities of the Industrial Development Centre and of those relating to assistance to the development of manufacturing industry under the United Nations programmes of technical co-operation, and also a summary of the activities of the specialized agencies and of the IAEA in their general areas of competence and specifically in the field of industry. The activities of the Industrial Development Centre and the data regarding the United Nations programmes of technical co-operation

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 3, (A/5503).

2/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-sixth Session Supplement No. 14. (E/3781).

will be made available in document A/5534, while the comments of the specialized agencies and the IAEA on the experts' report, as well as the accounts of their activities in the field of industry, will be made available in document A/5535.

Decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations and strengthening of the regional economic commissions (sub-item (c))

6. In resolution 1823 (XVII), the General Assembly requested (i) the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to submit to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session its recommendations regarding the further steps that may be necessary to carry out the Assembly's decisions on decentralization and the strengthening of the regional economic commissions; (ii) the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly a detailed report on the stage reached in the implementation of the policy in this area and on the further steps required to achieve the intended results; and (iii) the Secretary-General to make available to the Assembly an annual report on the meetings of the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions to discuss matters of common interest and to exchange experience, particularly regarding the operation of decentralized activities, with a view to promoting co-operation between the regions.
7. The Secretary-General's report on policy implementation will be found in document E/3786; the report of the meeting of the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions in document E/3798; and the report of the Advisory Committee is expected to be ready later next month.
8. A summary of the Economic and Social Council's discussions on this topic will be found in chapter VI, section I, of its annual report to the General Assembly.<sup>1/</sup> Attention is also invited to Council resolution 955 (XXXVI) which deals with this topic.

Accelerated flow of capital and technical assistance to the developing countries (sub-item (d))

9. In pursuance of General Assembly resolutions 1522 (XV) and 1711 (XVI), the Secretary-General submits detailed annual reports on this question. This year's report "International flow of long-term capital and official donations - 1960-1963" will be issued in the near future.

10. The Assembly's attention is invited, in this connexion, to paragraphs 148-159, of the annual report of the Economic and Social Council.<sup>1/</sup>

Establishment of a United Nations Capital Development Fund (sub-item (e))

11. The Committee on a United Nations Capital Development Fund held its third session from 5 to 13 September 1963, and its report to the General Assembly will be found in document A/5536. The report of the Secretary-General, containing the replies of Governments, submitted in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 921 (XXXIV) and General Assembly resolution 1826 (XVII), will be found in document E/3790 and Add. 1-2.

12. A resumé of developments in this field prior to the recent session of the Committee will be found in paragraphs 158-162 of the Council's annual report.<sup>1/</sup>

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