



Twentieth session  
Agenda item 96

REVIEW AND REAPPRAISAL OF THE ROLE AND FUNCTIONS  
OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Economic and Social Council, at its thirty-eighth session, requested the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit their views on the review and reappraisal of the role and functions of the Economic and Social Council and to transmit these views to the Council at its thirty-ninth session, together with such documentation as would facilitate the discussion in the Council and in the General Assembly.
2. At its thirty-ninth session the Council received the comments of twenty-two Governments on this question (E/4052 and Add.1-6) and a factual paper by the Secretary-General setting out the legislation governing the functions of the Council and the organizational framework within which it carried out its activities (E/4040). These papers are now before the Assembly. The Council adopted resolution 1091 (XXXIX), the operative paragraphs of which read as follows:

"1. Requests Governments of Member States of the United Nations, which have not yet done so, to inform the Secretary-General of their views on this question for transmittal to the General Assembly, at its twentieth session, together with those already received; and requests the Secretary-General to submit an analytical summary of those comments as well as of the views expressed during the thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions of the Council;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twentieth session, and not later than 15 November 1965, a report containing his views, conclusions and recommendations on this question;

"3. Requests the General Assembly at its twentieth session to consider this question, taking into account the debates in the Council as well as the views of Governments and the reports of the Secretary-General on this subject;

"4. Decides to resume consideration of this question at one of its forthcoming sessions in the light of the discussions and recommendations by the General Assembly at its twentieth session."

This matter is dealt with in chapter II of the Council's annual report to the Assembly.<sup>1/</sup>

3. The comments of Governments received since the close of the thirty-ninth session of the Council are being issued in further addenda to document E/4052. The Secretary-General will submit to the Assembly in due course both the analytical summary of the comments and views of Governments on this question and the report containing his views, conclusions and recommendations, as requested of him in resolution 1091 (XXXIX).

-----