



UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
LIMITED

A/C.2/34/L.122  
12 December 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-fourth session  
SECOND COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 70

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Austria: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, which give prominence to the role of science and technology in promoting the development of developing countries,

Recalling also its resolutions 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, 31/184 of 21 December 1976, 32/115 of 15 December 1977 and 33/192 of 29 January 1979 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1897 (LVII) of 1 August 1974, 2028 (LXI) of 4 August 1976, 2123 (LXIII) of 4 August 1977 and 1978/70 of 4 August 1978, regarding the convening and preparation of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development,

Recalling further its resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and 33/202 of 29 January 1979, regarding the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system,

Convinced of the paramount need for and importance of the application of science and technology to development in establishing a new international economic order,

Recognizing that peace, security and national independence are important factors for ensuring the effective utilization and further development of science and technology for all countries and, in particular, for the developing countries, and that effective measures in the field of real disarmament would increase the possibilities of reallocation of resources now being used for military purposes to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries,

Emphasizing the urgent need to develop and strengthen the scientific and technological capacity of developing countries in order to enable them to apply science and technology to their own development, with a view to the elimination of existing inequalities between developing and developed countries in science and technology,

Recognizing that concerted and sustained efforts must be made by all sections of the international community in order to achieve the goal of strengthening the endogenous scientific and technological capacities of developing countries,

Further recognizing the role of the intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of scientific and technological development programmes,

Conscious that deliberate and urgent steps are needed in order to achieve the target of reconstructing the existing pattern of international scientific and technological relations,

Affirming the central role of the United Nations in the promotion of science and technology for development and the need to strengthen that role through, inter alia, new institutional arrangements and additional and substantially increased financial resources,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology through, inter alia, new institutional arrangements and new substantial resources in addition to those which currently exist,

Recognizing the need for adopting effective means of utilizing new science and technology for overcoming obstacles to development and also the role to be played by science and technology in the development strategies for the future,

Taking note of the report adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development on 31 August 1979, 1/

Noting with satisfaction the agreements reached at the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development as contained in the report adopted by the Conference, 1/

Recognizing the important role of Governments in the execution of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, adopted by the

Conference, 2/ and in the implementation of scientific and technological programmes within the framework of national development programmes,

Expressing regret that no decisions were taken on certain important questions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, 3/

I

VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to the Government and people of Austria for the excellent facilities and generous hospitality provided for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, held at Vienna from 20 to 31 August 1979;
2. Endorses the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development; 2/
3. Urges all Governments to take effective action for its implementation;
4. Requests organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations to comply with its recommendations;
5. Invites all concerned scientific and technical organizations to be guided by its provisions;
6. Fully supports the Conference resolution on women, science and technology; 4/

---

2/ Ibid., chap. VII.

3/ A/34/587 and Add.1 and 2.

4/ Ibid., chap. VI, sect. A.

II

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. Decides to establish an Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development; 5/
2. Endorses the recommendation of the Conference that representation of Member States in the Committee should be at a high level;
3. Decides that the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development shall be open for participation to all States as full members, shall meet once a year and shall submit its reports and recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, which may transmit to the General Assembly such comments on the report as it may deem necessary, particularly with regards to co-ordination;
4. Invites all States to participate actively in the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development and to make an effective contribution to its work;
5. Decides that the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development shall assist the General Assembly in the following functions, inter alia:
  - (a) Formulating policy guidelines for the harmonization of policies of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in regard to scientific and technological activities, on the basis of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology and with a view to contributing to the establishment of a new international economic order;
  - (b) Promoting the improvement of linkages between the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, with a view to ensuring the co-ordinated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action; 6/
  - (c) Identifying priorities for activities within the Vienna Programme of Action with a view to facilitating operational planning at the national, subregional, regional, interregional and international levels;
  - (d) Preparing an operational plan for carrying out the Vienna Programme of Action;

---

5/ At the same time, the Assembly recommends to the Economic and Social Council that its Committee on Science and Technology for Development should cease to exist.

6/ The Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination should assist the Intergovernmental Committee, at its request, in accordance with their terms of reference.

(e) Monitoring the activities and programmes related to science and technology within the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system;

(f) Promoting the optimum mobilization of resources in order to enable the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to carry out the activities of the Vienna Programme of Action;

(g) Initiating arrangements for the early identification and assessment of new scientific and technological developments which may adversely affect the development process as well as those that may have specific and potential importance for that process and for strengthening the scientific and technological capacity of the developing countries;

(h) Providing directives and policy-making guidance to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development (see sect. VI below);

6. Decides that the Intergovernmental Committee shall, as an exception, hold a one week additional session early in 1980 to consider, inter alia, organizational matters and other issues of a particularly urgent nature and shall hold its regular session in the second quarter of 1980,

7. Further requests the Intergovernmental Committee to establish working procedures and mechanisms necessary for the effective discharge of its responsibilities and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session through the Economic and Social Council;

8. Decides that the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development shall establish procedures and mechanisms which will ensure it adequate and effective provision of scientific and technical expert advice as well as consider in this connexion modifying the terms of reference of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development so that the Advisory Committee will be able to provide, upon the request of the Intergovernmental Committee, all necessary assistance and advice, and shall report thereon to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

9. Invites the Economic and Social Council to take the necessary action, in the light of recommendations that may be made by the Intergovernmental Committee regarding the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development;

10. Decides to refer those issues on which agreement had not been reached at the Conference to the Intergovernmental Committee, so that it might decide, at its earliest convenience, what further action, including procedural action, may be required, taking into account the relevant decision of the Conference;

11. Invites all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, in accordance with practices established in the light of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the relationship agreements, to participate actively in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development at a high level, preferably at the level of heads of secretariat;

12. Invites all appropriate intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other concerned organizations to participate in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development, according to procedures established by the Committee;

## III

## SECRETARIAT FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. Requests the Secretary-General to establish, as a new, organizationally distinct entity, a Centre for Science and Technology for Development within the United Nations Secretariat;
2. Decides that the Centre will be located at United Nations Headquarters and will be headed by an Assistant-Secretary-General, who shall be responsible to and report directly to the Director-General, as envisaged in paragraph (4) (b) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 33/197, and paragraph 5 (c) of section IV of General Assembly resolution 33/202;
3. Decides that the Centre shall assist the Director-General in fulfilling the responsibilities assigned to him in the Vienna Programme of Action, particularly in providing the necessary substantive support to the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development and in co-ordinating activities at the secretariat level related to science and technology within the United Nations system;
4. Decides further that in the performance of these responsibilities the Centre should maintain close co-operation with all the relevant entities of the United Nations;\*
5. Decides also to allocate all the necessary resources from the United Nations regular budget to the Centre, drawing to the fullest extent possible on resources already existing within the United Nations, as well as to abolish the Office for Science and Technology, redeploying immediately most of its posts and budgetary resources to the Centre and further that the Intergovernmental Committee should determine at the earliest possible time whether such resources should be strengthened;
6. Agrees to review the above arrangements, including the level of the head of the Centre, at its thirty-sixth session.

---

\* These are, *inter alia*, the United Nations Development Programme, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.

11. Invites all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, in accordance with practices established in the light of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the relationship agreements, to participate actively in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development at a high level, preferably at the level of heads of secretariat;

12. Invites all appropriate intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other concerned organizations to participate in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development, according to procedures established by the Committee;



III

SECRETARIAT FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. Requests the Secretary-General to establish, as a new, organizationally distinct entity, a Centre for Science and Technology for Development within the United Nations Secretariat;
2. Decides that the Centre will be located at United Nations Headquarters and will be headed by an Assistant-Secretary-General, who shall be responsible to and report directly to the Director-General, as envisaged in paragraph 4 (b) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197, and paragraph 5 (c) of section IV of General Assembly resolution 33/202;
3. Decides that the Centre shall assist the Director-General in fulfilling the responsibilities assigned to him in the Vienna Programme of Action, particularly in providing the necessary substantive support to the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development and in co-ordinating activities at the secretariat level related to science and technology within the United Nations system;
4. Decides further that in the performance of these responsibilities the Centre should maintain close co-operation with all the relevant entities of the United Nations;\*
5. Decides also to allocate all the necessary resources from the United Nations regular budget to the Centre, drawing to the fullest extent possible on resources already existing within the United Nations, as well as to abolish the Office for Science and Technology, redeploying immediately most of its posts and budgetary resources to the Centre and further that the Intergovernmental Committee should determine at the earliest possible time whether such resources should be strengthened;
6. Agrees to review the above arrangements, including the level of the staff of the Centre, at its thirty-sixth session.

---

\* These are, inter alia, the United Nations Development Programme, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.

IV

CO-ORDINATION WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

1. Decides that the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation shall be responsible for exercising over-all co-ordination, at the secretariat level within the United Nations system in science and technology;
2. Requests the organizations of the United Nations system, through, inter alia, the mechanisms of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to offer their full and effective co-operation and assistance to the Director-General in discharging his responsibilities in this field;
3. Further decides to entrust to the Director-General the responsibility of co-ordinating the contributions of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations, as well as of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, to the work of the Intergovernmental Committee;
4. Calls upon all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to co-operate with the Director-General in the accomplishment of his over-all co-ordination tasks;
5. Requests all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take the necessary steps to implement the recommendations addressed to them in paragraphs 90-99 and 104-108 of the Vienna Programme of Action; 7/

V

STUDY OF SYSTEM-WIDE EFFICIENCY

1. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a basic study of the activities, mandates and working methods of all the various organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology for development and to examine the possibilities of improving the efficiency of the system in that field. A preliminary report on this study should be submitted to the Intergovernmental Committee at its first substantive session, and a final study, including proposals, should be submitted to the Intergovernmental Committee at its 1981 session. The Intergovernmental Committee should make preliminary recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session and final proposals to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

---

7/ A/CONF.81/16, chap. VII.

## VI

## GLOBAL FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. Decides to establish a United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, hereinafter referred to as the Financing System;

A. Objectives

2. Decides that the Financing System shall finance a broad range of activities aimed at strengthening the endogenous scientific and technological capacities of developing countries, in particular to assist in the implementation of the measures envisaged in the Vienna Programme of Action. Those activities shall be complementary to bilateral and multilateral programmes for science and technology and supportive of the national efforts of the developing countries in the fields of science and technology. It shall be a vehicle for the mobilization, co-ordination, channelling and disbursement of financial resources;

B. Resources of the Financing System

3. Agrees that in determining the nature and level of the resources of the Financing System, the following considerations should be taken into account:

- (a) The asymmetry of the technological capacity between developed and developing countries;
- (b) The need for predictability and continuous flow of financial resources;
- (c) The need for substantial resources in addition to those that now exist within the United Nations system;
- (d) The need for untied external resources for the scientific and technological development of the developing countries;

C. Other financial resources

4. Decides that the Financing System may enter into arrangements with international, regional and other public and private financial institutions with a view to the generation and channelling of additional resources to the developing countries for scientific and technological activities, including research and development, and the commercialization and acquisition of technology;

5. Decides also that the resources to be derived from these arrangements should be supplementary to the Financing System's own resources. Such resources could be provided by:

- (a) International and regional financial institutions;
- (b) Public and private banks of national, regional and international types;
- (c) Public and private corporations;
- (d) Other public and private financial institutions;

6. Decides that additionally the Financing System may use other resources, such as:

(a) Resources that may accrue from concrete progress on all measures towards general and complete disarmament, including the urgent implementation of the already agreed disarmament measures;

(b) Resources that may accrue from the proposed "international labour compensatory facility" related to the reverse transfer of technology;

D. Allocation of resources for the interim and long-term arrangements

7. Further decides that the resources available should be allocated to the various activities identified in the Vienna Programme of Action, including national, regional, subregional and interregional activities. In the context of decisions of the General Assembly on interim and long-term arrangements to be taken at its thirty-fourth and thirty-sixth sessions respectively, the Committee will establish guidelines for the allocation and the distribution of resources for the building up of the endogenous scientific and technological capacity of developing countries. These guidelines should be within the framework of the priorities of the developing countries, at the national, regional, subregional and international levels, for implementing in particular different types of projects and programmes of direct relevance to the developing countries, taking into account, inter alia, the need to take special measures to meet the urgent and specific problems of the least developed, land-locked, island and most seriously affected developing countries and the need to overcome poverty and to accelerate the development of the developing countries, as well as other criteria to be adopted by the Committee. Additional criteria for the allocation of resources should provide, inter alia, for a part of the resources to be applied to high-risk research and development science and technology projects at the national, regional, subregional and interregional levels and to provide support for the developing countries in obtaining financial resources from other sources;

8. Decides, in view of the above considerations, as follows:

Long-term arrangements to start in January 1982

(a) The directing and policy-making body of the Financing System shall be the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development. The Committee should, taking into consideration the results of the study described in subparagraph (b) below, define the guiding principles, general economic provisions,

forms of operation and general procedures for the formulation, submission, consideration and approval of programmes and projects. The Committee shall submit to the General Assembly recommendations regarding the appropriate structure for the executive body of the Financing System;

(b) An intergovernmental group of experts, composed of 27 members shall be elected, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution and the need for an appropriate range of expertise, by the Intergovernmental Committee at its first substantive session in 1980, which will be held at United Nations Headquarters. With the support of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, the group of experts shall undertake a prompt and thorough study of all relevant arrangements for the operation of the Financing System for Science and Technology for Development. The terms of reference shall be as follows:

- (i) The study will make an assessment of the requirements for additional funding for science and technology activities in developing countries and of potential sources of funding;
- (ii) The study will include an inventory of existing multilateral and bilateral programmes for providing financial support for such activities;
- (iii) The study will review alternative proposals, including all the proposals put to the Conference by the Group of 77 <sup>8/</sup> for generating requisite additional funds for science and technology development activities on a long-term basis and for the disbursement and control of those funds, as well as those for institutional arrangements, and make recommendations thereon;

(c) The intergovernmental group of experts shall submit its final report to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development for its consideration so that the Intergovernmental Committee may make, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

#### Interim arrangements

(d) Pending the establishment of the long-term arrangements for the financing system for science and technology for development an Interim Fund will be created and will be sustained by voluntary contributions. The Assembly agrees that the target for voluntary contributions for the two-year period 1980-1981 should be no less than \$250 million. During the interim period, to the extent that such funds are fully committed and taking fully into account the needs of the developing countries, the \$250 million figure will be reviewed by the Committee with the aim of raising additional resources for the Interim Fund;

(e) The Interim Fund, which shall be created on an identifiable and separate basis, shall be administered by the United Nations Development Programme under

---

<sup>8/</sup> A/CONF.81/L.1, paras. A.22, A.36, A.50, A.59, B.26 and C.20 to C.27.

policy guidelines established by the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session 9/ and also under the guidelines set by the Committee when it starts its meetings. The Secretary-General is requested to call a pledging conference not later than March 1980. The General Assembly should provide the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme with the necessary resources for these initial preparatory responsibilities until the Interim Fund is in operation;

9. Decides that the establishment of interim arrangements should not prejudice the ultimate decisions with regard to long-term arrangements;

10. Decides also that the Interim Fund shall be administered and managed in accordance with the provisions of the annex to this resolution, and urges that the necessary arrangements be made to ensure that it becomes operational at the earliest possible time;

11. Urges all Member States, and in particular the developed countries, to contribute generously so that the agreed upon target of \$250 million for the Interim Fund may be met.

-----

---

9/ See the annex to the present resolution.