



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERALA/34/587 + add.1, 2
14 November 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-fourth session
Agenda item 70

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Matters requiring consideration by the General Assembly
at its thirty-fourth sessionReport of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	1 - 5	4
II. QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND WORK OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT	6 - 28	5
A. Establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development	6 - 10	5
B. Programme of work of the Intergovernmental Committee	11 - 13	8
C. Provision of scientific and technical advice to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development	14 - 24	9
D. Establishment of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts to Study a Financing System for Science and Technology for Development	25 - 28	11
III. ORGANIZATION IMPLICATIONS OF SECRETARIAT SUPPORT		

[to be issued as A/34/587/Add.1]

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
IV. INITIAL PROSPECTUS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FUND FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INITIAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS	29 - 93	13
A. <u>Initial prospectus</u>	29 - 86	13
1. Introduction	29 - 33	13
2. Interim Fund	34	14
3. Purpose of the Interim Fund	35	14
4. General principles	36	15
5. Basic activities	37	17
6. Participation in the Interim Fund	38	17
7. General operational provisions		17
(a) Forms of co-operation	39 - 40	17
(b) Eligibility	41	18
(c) General responsibilities of recipients	42 - 43	19
8. Resources of the Fund	44 - 50	19
9. Organization and management	51	20
(a) Intergovernmental arrangements	52 - 54	20
(b) The Administrator	55	20
(c) Staff and other administrative matters	56 - 59	21
(d) Co-operation with organizations of the United Nations system	60	21
(e) Use of consultants	61 - 62	21
10. Procedures		22
(a) Formulation of requests	63 - 65	22
(b) Appraisal and approval of requests	66 - 69	22
(c) Execution of projects	70 - 76	22

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
11. Relations between Governments and the Interim Fund	77 - 78	23
12. Financial arrangements	79 - 82	23
13. The period of the Interim Fund	83 - 86	24
B. <u>Arrangements for the Pledging Conference</u> <u>For the Interim Fund</u>	87	24
C. <u>Preliminary information on initial administrative</u> <u>and programme support costs</u>	88 - 93	25

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Vienna Programme of Action for Science and Technology for Development, ^{1/} adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, envisages a comprehensive and interrelated set of requirements for specific action at the international, regional, subregional and national levels. It focuses principally on the objectives of strengthening the scientific and technological capacities of developing countries, restructuring the existing pattern of international scientific and technological relations and strengthening the role of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology and the provision of increased financial resources.

2. Included among the recommended measures for action at the international level are a number which call for decision by the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session. Some of these recommendations contain specific requests for reports from the Secretariat. Other recommendations, while envisaging action by the General Assembly at its current session, do not appear to call for specific reports but, in order to assist the Assembly in its consideration of the issues involved, relevant background material of an informative and supporting character has nevertheless been included in the present report.

3. The report is divided into four sections. Section II deals with questions relating to the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development and the expert advice to be provided to it. Section III is presented in response to the request for a report on the operational and financial implications of the arrangements outlined in paragraph 103 of the Programme of Action. It may be noted in this connexion that a separate document on the programme and budget estimates related to the provision of Secretariat support by the United Nations in the field of science and technology for development will also be presented for consideration by the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly.

4. Section IV of the report responds to the request made in paragraph 117 (d) of the Programme of Action where "the Administrator of UNDP, in consultation with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation" is requested to prepare "an initial prospectus for the operation of the Interim Fund to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session for its decision". The initial prospectus also contains a number of guiding principles for the operation of the Fund, which are intended to assist the General Assembly in its task of establishing policy guidelines for the administration of the Interim Fund. Also included in section IV of the report is some preliminary information prepared by the Administrator of UNDP regarding the resources needed for the initial preparatory responsibilities foreseen in paragraph 117 (d) of the Programme of Action until the Fund is in operation. This information will be elaborated in a separate General Assembly document containing the relevant estimates.

^{1/} A/CONF.81/16 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21), chap. VII.

5. Finally, it should be pointed out that the implementation of the Programme of Action requires that each organization of the United Nations system should, within its mandate and sphere of competence, strengthen its activities in the area of science and technology for development. Such strengthening is clearly dependent on the availability of resources commensurate with the results sought. In assessing the financial implications of the present endeavour, which requires inputs from the organizations of the system, it will therefore be necessary, in the view of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for the competent central intergovernmental bodies to take account of the cost of inputs from the organizations concerned as well as those of the United Nations proper. The implementation of the plan of action will not necessarily generate requests for additional funds by each of the organizations concerned, although it will require reorientation of the programmes of work of the United Nations system as a whole and in its separate parts. However, where altogether new activities have to be undertaken, or where relevant activities cannot exceed the availability of current resources, it would be important to plan these activities sufficiently long in advance to make it possible for appropriate steps to be taken by the organizations concerned to secure the necessary resources, without which success cannot be ensured.

II. QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND WORK OF THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT

A. Establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee
on Science and Technology for Development

6. The Programme of Action recommended that the General Assembly should establish a "high-level intergovernmental committee", to be known as the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, which would assist the Assembly in certain tasks (see para. 10 below). 2/ The Committee is to be "open to the participation of all States as full members". The Conference recommended that "the representation of Member States in the Committee be at a high level". 3/ The Conference, at the same time, recommended to the Economic and Social Council that the latter's Committee on Science and Technology for Development "should cease to exist". 4/

2/ Ibid., para. 100.

3/ Ibid., para. 101.

4/ Ibid., para. 100, foot-note 23. That Committee was established in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1621 B (LI) of 30 July 1971. Its terms of reference are contained in Council resolution 1715 (LVIII) of 28 July 1972, as supplemented subsequently, and more particularly, by Council resolution 1718 (LIII) of 28 July 1972, para. 3, and Council resolution 1826 (LV) of 10 August 1973, para. 8.

7. The Intergovernmental Committee is to submit its report and recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, "which may transmit to the Assembly such comments on the report as it may deem necessary, particularly with regard to co-ordination". The Conference further recommended that all organs organizations and bodies of the United Nations, including the regional commissions as well as the specialized agencies and IAEA, "shall be invited, in accordance with practices established in the light of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the relationship agreements, to participate in the Committee at a high level, preferably at the level of heads of secretariats". It also recommended that the Intergovernmental Committee "may invite appropriate intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other organizations to participate according to procedures it will establish". 3/ In addition, the Intergovernmental Committee is to establish procedures and mechanisms which would "ensure adequate and effective provision of scientific and technical expert advice to it". 5/

Provision of support for the Intergovernmental Committee

8. The Programme of Action provides for "secretariat support whose head should be at a high level to assist the Director-General in providing the necessary assistance to the [Intergovernmental] Committee and in co-ordinating science and technology activities within the United Nations system". 6/ It further provides that the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation "should be entrusted with the co-ordination of the contributions of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations as well as the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency".

Terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Committee

9. The Conference recommended that the Intergovernmental Committee "should assist the General Assembly, inter alia", in the eight functions specified below, which may thus be considered to constitute the core of that Committee's terms of reference. While they are quite broad, it will be noted that in employing the expression "inter alia", the Conference did not intend the list to be exhaustive.

5/ Ibid., para. 102.

6/ Ibid., para. 103.

10. The enumerated functions in respect of which the Committee is to assist the General Assembly are the following: 7/

"(a) To formulate policy guidelines for the harmonization of policies of the organs, organizations and bodies within the United Nations system in regard to scientific and technological activities, on the basis of the Programme of Action and with a view to contributing to the establishment of the New International Economic Order;

"(b) To promote the improvement of linkages among the organs, organizations and bodies within the United Nations system, with a view to ensuring the co-ordinated implementation of the Programme of Action; 8/

"(c) To identify priorities for activities within the Programme of Action with a view to facilitating operational planning at the national, subregional, regional, interregional and international levels;

"(d) To prepare an operational plan for carrying out the Programme of Action;

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

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

7/ Ibid., para. 100. The United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development adopted, moreover, a resolution entitled "Women, science and technology", para. 3 of which is addressed to the Intergovernmental Committee and reads as follows:

"The ... Conference ...

"3. Invites the proposed Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development:

"(a) To give due regard to the perspectives and interests of women in all its recommendations, programmes and actions;

"(b) To include in its annual reports a review of the progress made concerning the implementation of the tenets of the present resolutions".

8/ The Conference recommended that the Committee on 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 (ibid., para. 100 (b), foot-note 24).

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

"(h) To give directives and policy-making guidance to the United Nations financing system for science and technology for development referred to in paragraphs 110 to 112 ...". 9/

B. Programme of work of the Intergovernmental Committee

11. The Committee's programme of work, as indicated in the terms of reference mentioned above, is basically intended to ensure the implementation of the Programme of Action, particularly as regards the strengthening of the science and technology capacities of the developing countries and the restructuring of the existing pattern of international scientific and technological relations. While the Programme of Action recognizes that the primary responsibility for the development of developing countries rests upon those countries themselves, individually or through joint action, it also recognizes that effective action at the international level, especially by developed countries, is required to create

9/ In accordance with paragraph 116 of the Programme of Action,

"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."

In accordance with paragraph 117 (a) on long-term arrangements to start in January 1982,

"The directing and policy-making body of the financing system for science and technology for development shall be the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development. The Committee should, taking into consideration the results of the study described in paragraph 117 (b), define the guiding principles, the general economic provisions, the forms of operations, and the general procedures for the formulation, submission, consideration and approval of programme and projects. The Committee shall submit to the General Assembly recommendations regarding the appropriate structure for the executive body of the financing system".

In accordance with paragraphs 117 (c), and (d) on interim arrangements, the Fund to be established for the 1980-1981 interim period is to be "administered by the United Nations Development Plan under policy guidelines to be established by the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session and also the guidelines of the Committee when it starts its meetings".

/...

an environment that is fully supportive of the national effort of the developing countries to realize their development goals. 10/

12. While the Intergovernmental Committee at its first session should have before it a full picture of the scope of its work programme, it is unlikely to be able during that session to deal with all the issues arising out of its terms of reference. Some of them, such as those mentioned in paragraphs 100 (c) and (d) of the Programme of Action, clearly require early action by the Committee and should accordingly be placed on the provisional agenda of its first substantive session.

Schedule and duration of sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee

13. The Conference recommended that the Intergovernmental Committee should meet once a year. 11/ Bearing in mind the related recommendation that "the representation of Member States in the ... Committee be at a high level", there would be advantage in limiting its sessions to approximately two weeks' duration. Consideration might also be given to the need for a brief organizational session early next year, which would enable the Committee, inter alia, to establish the programme of work for its substantive session during the course of the year and agree on its requirements for documentation.

C. Provision of scientific and technical advice to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development

14. The Programme of Action recommended that:

"The [Intergovernmental] Committee shall establish procedures and mechanisms which would ensure adequate and effective provision of scientific and technical expert advice to it. In this connexion, the terms of reference of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development should be modified as required with a view to enabling it to provide upon request of the Committee, all necessary assistance and advice." 12/

15. The suggestions which follow are intended to serve as a contribution to the discussions the General Assembly and the Intergovernmental Committee will be conducting on this matter and are based on the following views submitted by ACC to the Conference:

"Information and advice on the technical aspects of questions submitted to the Economic and Social Council should be provided by the organizations of the

10/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21, chap. VII, para. 11.

11/ Ibid., para. 101.

12/ Ibid., para. 102.

United Nations system as part of the normal exercise of their existing mandate and competence. Their secretariats and the network of specialists to whom they continually have recourse to define, implement and evaluate their own programmes, constitute a major source of expertise at the international level on which the system and the Member States should be able to rely and make maximum use of. There would also appear to be a general recognition of the need for an expert advisory body which would serve the system as a whole and enabled to offer advice at the request of intergovernmental bodies, the ACC and the Secretary-General.

"Since the 1963 Conference, an advisory committee of experts (ACAST) has been set up to advise the Economic and Social Council in regard to the application of science and technology to development. However, the area to be covered is so wide that it cannot be encompassed in a balanced manner by a body of compact membership whereas an extensive membership would make it unwieldy. There would therefore be advantages in the advisory body comprising a permanent nucleus of leading figures who have gained experience in their countries in the working out and application of national policies for science and technology; to this nucleus would be attached a roster of experts members in particular fields, who could be convened in panels to deal with specific issues. In addition, most organizations of the system maintain a network of more specialized experts bodies, such as UNSCEAR, the UNISIST Council or the WHO Advisory Committee on Medical Research, for instance, which carry considerable authority in their field. The Economic and Social Council should therefore draw on these sources of expertise as well as on its own advisory panel. Finally, the organizations of the United Nations system would also participate in the work of the advisory body." 13/

16. Scientific and technical expertise could be made available to the Intergovernmental Committee, at its request, by an Advisory Committee to the Intergovernmental Committee, comprising a small nucleus of leading figures who have gained experience in their countries in the development and application of national policies for science and technology, with appropriate terms of reference. Bearing in mind that such a mechanism, in accordance with paragraph 102 of the Programme of Action, would involve a modification of the terms of reference of the existing Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, which is a standing expert body of the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly may wish to consider how to enable the Intergovernmental Committee to take the necessary decisions concerning both the modification just mentioned and transitional arrangements without undue delay.

17. The Advisory Committee would seek assistance from:

(a) The expert bodies of the organs and organizations of the United Nations system and;

13/ A/CONF.81/4/Add.1, paras. 28 and 29.

(b) Ad hoc panels drawn from a roster of experts, established by the Advisory Committee as necessary, to provide any additional advice required.

18. The organizations of the United Nations system would also assist the Intergovernmental Committee and the Advisory Committee as part of the normal exercise of their existing mandate and competence.

19. The procedures and mechanisms should provide for effective participation of all concerned parts of the United Nations system in the work of the Advisory Committee and its related bodies. The Advisory Committee could call on, as necessary, the expertise of the scientific and technological non-governmental organizations.

20. The functions of the Advisory Committee should be to provide, upon request of the Intergovernmental Committee, such advice as may be necessary for the discharge of the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee.

21. In addition, the Advisory Committee should consider, at the request of the Intergovernmental Committee, the Secretary-General or ACC, specific questions relating to the application of science and technology to development.

22. The composition of the Advisory Committee should achieve a balance between the various types of expertise in the application of science and technology to development, while taking into account the need for equitable geographical distribution and should ensure adequate representation of developing countries. In order to be effective and as indicated above, the Advisory Committee should be kept small in size.

23. The members of the Advisory Committee might be nominated in their individual capacity by the Secretary-General, on the advice of the Director-General and in consultation with the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system. They would be appointed by the Intergovernmental Committee. Suggestions for membership of the Advisory Committee could be obtained from the Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and the scientific and technological community.

Terms of office of members of the Advisory Committee

24. The term of office of the members of the Advisory Committee might be for a period of three years. A shorter duration would not be functionally effective. It is for consideration whether membership should be restricted to not more than two terms. This would facilitate the induction of new members as well as continuity.

D. Establishment of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts to Study a Financing System for Science and Technology for Development

25. Among its recommendations concerning long-term financial arrangements, the Programme of Action has proposed the creation by the General Assembly of an

Intergovernmental Group of Experts "appointed on the basis of equitable geographical distribution to undertake with the support of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation a prompt and thorough study of all relevant arrangements for the operation of a financing system for science and technology for development." 14/ In addition to the foregoing, the terms of reference for the study would be as follows:

- (a) "The study would make an assessment of the requirements for additional funding for science and technology activities in developing countries and of potential sources of funding.
- (b) "The study would include an inventory of existing multilateral and bilateral programmes for providing financial support for such activities.
- (c) "The study would review alternative proposals, including all the proposals put to this Conference by the Group of 77, 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. 15/

26. The Programme of Action envisages that:

"The study would be submitted to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development for its consideration and for making appropriate recommendations which would be presented to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session for decision".

27. In making arrangements for the establishment of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts, the General Assembly may wish to address the following considerations, namely, the size of the Group, equitable geographical distribution among the regional groups and possible guidelines for the nomination of experts. It would seem desirable to keep the Group to a moderate size consonant with the requirements of adequate representation for Member Governments; the number of 31 that was mentioned during the relevant discussions at the Conference would appear to meet this criterion. In the matter of equitable geographical distribution, the General Assembly may wish to adhere to the pattern it follows and is followed by the Economic and Social Council in regard to groups of a similar size. The nomination of experts is, of course, the prerogative of Governments, but it would nevertheless seem helpful to provide for an adequate balance among the various disciplines involved, including development planning, financial expertise, natural science and technology, social and human sciences, and general management and administration. To the extent possible, a geographical balance within each of the main disciplines would also be desirable.

14/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21, chap. VII, para. 117 (b).

15/ Ibid., para. 117 (b).

28. In providing support to the Group, it would be the Director-General's intention to avail himself, as appropriate, of the experience, advice and expertise of the various organizations of the United Nations system. The resource implications of support for the Intergovernmental Group of Experts, together with the interorganization arrangements envisaged in that context, are dealt with in section III below.

III. ORGANIZATION IMPLICATIONS OF SECRETARIAT SUPPORT

[To be issued as document A/34/587/Add.1.]

IV. INITIAL PROSPECTUS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FUND FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INITIAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS

A. Initial prospectus

1. Introduction

29. The United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, in the Programme of Action it adopted at Vienna on 31 August 1979, 16/ recommended the establishment of an Interim Fund by the General Assembly of the United Nations. It was envisaged that the Interim Fund should be created pending the establishment of the long-term arrangements for the financing system for science and technology for development, and that the interim period should run from 1 January 1980 to 31 December 1981. The Conference agreed that the establishment of the interim arrangements should not prejudice the ultimate decisions with regard to long-term arrangements. 17/ In addition, the Conference recommended to the Assembly the establishment of a high-level intergovernmental committee, to be known as the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, hereinafter referred to as the "Intergovernmental Committee".

30. The Conference further recommended that the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, hereinafter called the Administrator, in consultation with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, should prepare an initial prospectus for the operation of the Interim Fund, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session for its decision. According to the request, the present prospectus is being submitted for the consideration of the Assembly and is the result of such consultations.

31. The Conference further recommended that the Interim Fund should be administered under policy guidelines, to be established by the General Assembly at

16/ Ibid., para. 117 (c).

17/ Ibid., para. 118.

its thirty-fourth session, and also the guidelines of the Intergovernmental Committee when it starts its meetings. 18/ In order to assist the Assembly in this task, suggested general principles under which the Interim Fund will operate are set out in paragraph 36 below.

32. According to the recommendations of the Conference, the Secretary-General is requested to call a pledging conference before the end of 1979. In determining the size of their contributions to the Interim Fund, participating Governments should duly take into account that the Conference agreed that the target for voluntary contributions for the two-year period 1980 and 1981 should be a minimum of \$250 million. 19/

33. In accordance with the recommendation of the Conference, 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 for the years 1980 and 1981 will be reviewed by the Intergovernmental Committee with the aim of raising additional resources for the Interim Fund.

2. Interim Fund

34. The United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development (the Interim Fund), established by the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session, shall operate as an identifiable and separate Fund, and as an organ of the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions set forth below.

3. Purpose of the Interim Fund

35. Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 60 to 76 below, the aims and objectives of the Interim Fund and the purposes for which its resources shall be used are to provide technical and capital assistance to Governments, organizations and groups, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 41 below, for activities aimed at promoting the objectives and implementing the measures recommended in the Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, as set out in section I, entitled "Strengthening the science and technology capacities of the developing countries", and in section II, entitled "Restructuring the existing pattern of international scientific and technological relations", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, as endorsed by the General Assembly, and as an integral part of the establishment of the New International Economic Order, inter alia:

(a) To strengthen the endogenous scientific and technological capacities of the developing countries;

18/ Ibid., paras. 117 (d), as well as 100 and 116.

19/ Ibid., para. 117 (c).

(b) To promote the strengthening of international co-operation in the field of science and technology for development, inter alia:

- (i) Promoting co-operative arrangements through which developed countries may more effectively support and facilitate the internal efforts of developing countries to achieve development through the establishing and strengthening of their scientific and technological capacities;
- (ii) Supporting co-operation among developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;

(c) Pending the establishment of long-term arrangements for whatever financing system for the scientific and technological development of the developing countries may be determined by the General Assembly, to support, promote and initiate, if appropriate during the interim period, the activities necessary to prepare for future efforts to strengthen the scientific and technological capacities of the developing countries.

4. General principles

36. The Interim Fund shall operate in accordance with the following principles:

(a) Provision of assistance shall be in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) Assistance furnished by the Interim Fund shall not be a means of foreign economic and political interference in the internal affairs of the country or countries concerned and shall not be accompanied by any conditions of a political nature;

(c) Resources of the Interim Fund shall be applied in such a manner as to ensure an equitable geographical distribution. The resources available to the Interim Fund shall be used to support projects and programmes at the national, subregional, regional and interregional levels taking due account of the need to ensure adequate linkages between institutions at the national, subregional, regional and interregional levels and between these and the productive sectors of the country or region concerned, 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 Intergovernmental Committee;

(d) Due account shall be taken, in the use of the resources of the Interim Fund, of the need for an appropriate balance between activities to meet the urgent needs of the developing countries for assistance in the field of science and technology and activities to lay the basis for a sustained effort, over the next decade, to build up the scientific and technological capacities of the developing countries;

(e) Assistance provided by the Interim Fund to individual countries shall be provided in response to the requests of the Governments concerned, shall be designed to meet the needs of the country, and shall be provided as far as possible in the form which the Government desires;

(f) For intercountry projects and programmes, the assistance provided by the Interim Fund shall be within the framework of the priorities of the developing countries and shall take due account of the various activities identified in the Programme of Action of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, as adopted by the General Assembly;

(g) Subject to the provisions of (e) and (f) above, the activities supported by the Interim Fund shall be complementary to bilateral and multilateral programmes for science and technology and shall be formulated and implemented in such a way as to ensure that such activities are co-ordinated with complementary activities of the component parts of the United Nations system in the light of the integrated nature of the development process itself and the fact that considerations of a technical nature should be viewed in their economic, social and cultural context;

(h) The Interim Fund shall give due priority to the support of those projects which have the potential for early implementation and significant results, and those having the widest possible impact in advancing the scientific and technological capabilities of the country or countries concerned;

(i) Assistance from the Interim Fund shall be given in a flexible manner, and due account shall be taken, in the management of the Interim Fund, of the need to promote innovative approaches and to accelerate procedures so as to be fully responsive to the programme action over the interim period;

(j) The resources of the Interim Fund may be used to provide technical and capital assistance to promote international collaboration in the field of science and technology among scientific and technological organizations, and the Interim Fund shall also, in the performance of its functions, obtain advice, as appropriate, from specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, the scientific community and the relevant organizations;

(k) The Interim Fund shall actively promote effective investment and other follow-up to its activities, and shall assist the developing countries in obtaining financial resources for scientific and technological activities from other sources.

In the application of the foregoing general principles, the Interim Fund, in utilizing its resources, shall establish and maintain close and continuing working relationships with the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular with the specialized agencies and other concerned United Nations entities, including the regional commissions.

5. Basic activities

37. Within the limits of the resources prospectively available and of the interim period envisaged, the assistance provided by the Interim Fund, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 41 below, to Governments, organizations and groups shall support a broad range of activities to strengthen the scientific and technological capacities of the developing countries as well as to contribute to restructuring the existing pattern of international scientific and technological relations, including, inter alia, the creation and/or strengthening of policy-making capacity for scientific and technological matters; the review and international exchange of experience and information on issues related to science and technology for development; the establishment of appropriate legal, administrative, fiscal and institutional machinery and the services required to carry out the process of scientific and technological development; the establishment and strengthening of national capacities for assessment, selection, acquisition and adaptation of foreign technology and expertise; the preparation of action programmes aimed at strengthening the scientific and technological capacities of developing countries both individually and on a co-operative basis; the establishment and improvement of national, subregional, regional and global information centres, networks and systems to meet, in particular, the needs of developing countries; the education and training of the human resources required at all levels to generate and implement science and technology development policies, plans, programmes and projects, the promotion of basic and applied research, application, pilot testing and demonstration, and the diffusion of innovative technology; the promotion, through the application of science and technology, of the rational use of natural resources for national, subregional and regional development; the promotion of activities related to the socio-cultural implications of science and technology for development; the undertaking of a limited number of high-risk, high-potential, research and development projects; the undertaking of international co-operation projects in research, development and application, and in training in relation to problems of particular importance to developing countries in the field of science and technology.

6. Participation in the Interim Fund

38. Participation in the Interim Fund shall be open to all States.

7. General operational provisions

(a) Forms of co-operation

39. In the pursuance of its objectives, the Interim Fund may provide assistance, as appropriate, to projects or programmes in fields such as those mentioned in paragraph 37 above through, inter alia, one or a combination of several of the following: (a) survey pilot and demonstration projects, technical tests, experiments and research; (b) the services of experts and consultants, including operational personnel; (c) the provision of equipment or supplies; (d) scholarships and fellowships or other arrangements under which candidates from developing countries may study or receive training both within other developing countries or

/...

developed countries; (e) assistance for research, development, the testing of products and processes and for pilot production; (f) support for basic and applied research related to the solution of development problems common to a number of countries including support for the creation, adaptation or application of technology; (g) support for the strengthening of existing and the creation of new research institutions; (h) support for activities conducive to the acquisition of scientific potential and of operative technology and know-how; (i) support for the dissemination of the results of research, development and pilot projects both within and among developing countries through technical co-operation among developing countries; (j) support to improve both the access of the developing countries to scientific and technical information, and their ability to utilize it in the process of development; (k) the use of the good offices of the Interim Fund to mobilize additional resources of all kinds to support or follow up the activities of developing countries in the field of science and technology for development; (l) such other and further assistance as may, in the opinion of the Intergovernmental Committee, be considered consistent with the objectives of the Interim Fund, taking into account the form of assistance requested by Governments.

40. The assistance referred to in paragraph 41 above, to be extended by the Interim Fund from its resources, shall be on a grant basis. In the light of experience of the operations of the Interim Fund, the Intergovernmental Committee shall provide policy guidelines as to whether any capital assistance extended by the Fund shall be on a loan or on a refundable basis.

(b) Eligibility

41. Assistance from the Interim Fund may be given to:

(a) The Governments of all States or groups of States and organizations and groups eligible for assistance from UNDP, in accordance with the objectives of the Programme of Action.

(b) At the request of a Government or Governments of such States to:

(i) An entity having public or private juridical personality within the territory of such States, including, inter alia, existing or new research institutes which are engaged in basic or applied scientific and technological research for development;

(ii) Regional or subregional governmental organizations possessing juridical personalities;

(c) Support may be provided to the organizations of the United Nations system, subject to the approval of the Governing Council of UNDP, for implementing regional, interregional and global projects relevant to the measure foreseen in the Programme of Action, as endorsed by the General Assembly.

(d) In the case of intergovernmental organizations controlled by a governing body comprised of government representatives, applications for projects will be accepted by the Interim Fund where these have the support of the governing body

concerned. Financial support for such projects may be provided subject to the approval of the Governing Council of UNDP.

(e) Pending any guidelines which may be provided by the Intergovernmental Committee, financial support for projects submitted by non-governmental organizations, institutions or other organizations not controlled by a body comprised of government representatives may be provided subject to the approval of the Governing Council of UNDP.

(c) General responsibilities of recipients

42. The recipient Governments, organizations and institutions referred to in paragraph 41 above should ensure that the assistance furnished by the Interim Fund is used in an effective manner and in accordance with the purposes for which it is approved, and should account to the Administrator accordingly.

43. Recipient Governments, organizations and institutions shall maintain the records required by the Interim Fund in connexion with the administration of its assistance and shall report fully on the utilization of the assistance granted by the Interim Fund in such a format as the Administrator shall provide.

8. Resources of the Fund

44. The resources of the Interim Fund shall consist of voluntary contributions in cash or in kind by Governments of participating States. The Interim Fund shall also be empowered to receive donations from international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, and from other private sources. No limitation may be imposed by such donors as to the use of donations in a specific recipient country or by a specific agency or for a specific project. Furthermore, while contributions will generally be on an annual basis, it is desirable, in view of the interim nature of the Fund, that contributions be pledged or indicated, wherever possible, for two years. Contributions in kind may be accepted by the Interim Fund where the Administrator considers it appropriate to accept them.

45. Contributions pledged to the Interim Fund shall be payable as early as possible, but in any event within the 12 months following the pledge.

46. Cash contributions shall be made in convertible currencies or in currency readily usable by the Interim Fund.

47. To ensure that the multilateral character of the Interim Fund is strictly respected, no contributing country shall receive special treatment with respect to its contribution, nor shall negotiations for the use of its currency take place between contributing and receiving countries.

48. Recipient Governments shall be expected to finance a substantial part of the costs of projects, normally at least that part payable in local currency. The

agreed sharing of project costs between the Interim Fund and the recipient country shall take into account the financial situation of the country concerned.

49. Trust funds may be established for specific purposes consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the Interim Fund.

50. Assistance provided by the Interim Fund will be aimed, inter alia, at broadening the financial means available to strengthen the scientific and technological capacities of the developing countries. For this purpose, the Interim Fund may enter into joint financing arrangements with multilateral, bilateral, public or private sources to support projects approved by the Fund.

9. Organization and management

51. The organization and management of the Interim Fund are designed to ensure maximum efficiency in the use of the Fund's resources.

(a) Intergovernmental arrangements

52. The policy guidelines for the Interim Fund will be established by the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session; guidelines of the Intergovernmental Committee will also be established when it starts its meetings. The Intergovernmental Committee will review, as a separate item of its agenda, the policies and progress of the Interim Fund and will provide the necessary directives and guidance. In this connexion, the Administrator, in consultation with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, shall, during the interim period, submit to the Intergovernmental Committee annual reports on the implementation of these policies. He shall also report annually to the Intergovernmental Committee on the progress of the operations of the Interim Fund.

53. The Administrator shall submit, during the interim period, annual reports to the Governing Council of UNDP on the operations and management of the Interim Fund.

54. The Intergovernmental Committee shall, in turn, review the reports referred to above on the progress and performance of the Interim Fund and shall make its report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

(b) The Administrator

55. The Interim Fund shall be administered by the Administrator of UNDP, who shall exercise his functions under the policy guidance of the General Assembly and the Intergovernmental Committee, and under the operational management and review of the Governing Council of UNDP. The Administrator shall have the over-all responsibility and be accountable for all phases and aspects of the operations of the Interim Fund. He will establish clear lines of responsibility for the direction of the Interim Fund. The Administrator shall appoint the staff for the Interim Fund, on the delegation of authority by the Secretary-General, and in accordance with the Staff Regulations adopted by the General Assembly. The selection of the staff and consultants shall be made in accordance with the

relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. The Administrator shall have authority, on behalf of the Interim Fund, to enter into contracts and agreements with Governments, organizations and persons.

(c) Staff and other administrative matters

56. The General Assembly shall provide the Administrator with the necessary resources for the initial preparatory responsibility until the Interim Fund is in operation.

57. The administrative expenses of the Interim Fund, once it becomes operational, will be met from its own resources, including interest and other resources.

58. The Interim Fund will operate with the minimum staff required to perform the functions assigned to it by the General Assembly. Its staff shall be assembled as expeditiously as possible and commensurate with its resources and volume of operations for the interim period.

59. In the operations of the Interim Fund, the Administrator will utilize, to the extent feasible, both the existing headquarters and field staff of UNDP and the existing administrative machinery and contracting and other facilities of UNDP. Where specific additional resources are required by UNDP for the support of the Interim Fund, appropriate arrangements will be made for reimbursement of the costs to UNDP from the Interim Fund's resources, once the Fund becomes operational.

(d) Co-operation with organizations of the United Nations system

60. Co-operation with organizations of the United Nations system will include the following:

(a) The Interim Fund will establish and maintain close and continuous working relationships with the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the specialized agencies and concerned United Nations entities, including the regional commissions, in order to give full expression to the Programme of Action;

(b) The Administrator shall, as appropriate, seek the advice of the specialized agencies and concerned United Nations entities in the identification, formulation, appraisal, execution and evaluation of projects.

(e) Use of consultants

61. The Administrator may also, as required, engage expert consultants in order to advise him on the activities of the Interim Fund. Their cost will be charged to the Fund.

62. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 60, the Administrator, within the limits of the resources available from the Programme Reserve described in paragraph 81 below, may finance the provision of expert advice and support for the examination and preparation of projects at the formulation stage where this is appropriate. Such resources should be recouped by the Programme Reserve as part of the costs of the project or projects which may result from this preparation.

10. Procedures

(a) Formulation of requests

63. The Administrator shall prescribe the form, content and procedures for requests for assistance from the Interim Fund.

64. Requests shall include all relevant information on the intended use and benefits expected to be derived from the assistance of the Interim Fund, together with statements of the part of the costs which the Government itself would be ready to bear.

65. In the formulation and appraisal of projects, the Resident Representative of UNDP will provide co-ordination at the field level, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 60 (b).

(b) Appraisal and approval of requests

66. In considering requests for assistance, pending the guidelines and/or principles to be established by the Intergovernmental Committee, the Administrator shall be guided by the general principles set out above.

67. The Administrator shall submit for approval to the Governing Council of UNDP projects to be supported by the Interim Fund resources in the amount of \$2 million or above.

68. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 41 above, the Administrator shall be authorized to approve projects to be supported by the Fund below the amount of \$2 million and shall report in each case to the Governing Council of UNDP.

69. The Governing Council of UNDP shall take final decisions on the projects and programmes recommended by the Administrator in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 67 above, in the light of the guidelines established by the General Assembly and the Intergovernmental Committee and of the directives, which will be established by the Intergovernmental Committee, and shall authorize the Administrator to conclude the appropriate agreements.

(c) Execution of projects

70. Projects shall be executed through the channels and arrangements already established for the execution of projects supported by UNDP. Special attention will be paid to the need to make maximum use of government executing arrangements and national expertise.

71. The Administrator shall apply the existing basic agreements between UNDP and the participating and executing agencies in those cases where they have been so designated, as the basis for carrying out projects and programmes, subject to whatever modifications may be mutually agreed upon in the light of the special characteristics of the Interim Fund.

72. Bearing in mind the provision of paragraph 60 (b) above and when necessary to ensure the maximum effectiveness of the assistance provided by the Interim Fund, or to increase its capacity, and with due regard to the cost factor, increased use may appropriately be made of suitable services obtained from governmental and non-governmental institutions and firms, in agreement with the recipient Government concerned and in accordance with the applicable financial rules and regulations. Maximum use should be made of national institutions and firms within the recipient countries.

73. With the approval of the Government or Governments concerned in each case, non-governmental institutions and organizations within the recipient countries may execute projects supported by the Interim Fund.

74. Arrangements for the execution of projects shall be subject to the approval of the requesting Government or Governments and shall be specified in the project document. Such arrangements shall contain provisions regarding costs which the requesting Government will assume, and those facilities and services which it will provide.

75. Appropriate emphasis shall be placed, in the execution of projects on the potential of technical co-operation among developing countries.

76. The Administrator shall make appropriate arrangements to monitor and evaluate the progress and results of projects and programmes supported by the resources of the Interim Fund and shall report to the Governing Council of UNDP and to the Intergovernmental Committee on their status.

11. Relations between Governments and the Interim Fund

77. Each Government shall designate to the Administrator an appropriate channel for its relations with the Interim Fund. The Interim Fund shall utilize only the official channel designated by each Government for the submission of requests.

78. In regard to the operations of the Interim Fund, the existing basic agreements between Governments and UNDP shall apply, subject to such modifications as may be called for, having regard to the special characteristics of the Interim Fund and subject to the concurrence of the Governments concerned. In particular, the privileges and immunities accorded to staff of the Interim Fund shall be identical to those accorded to the staff of UNDP.

12. Financial arrangements

79. Pending any action that may be undertaken by the Governing Council, the Interim Fund shall be governed by the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. Any amendments which may be necessary to take account of the special requirements of the Interim Fund's operation shall be drafted by the Administrator and submitted to the Governing Council for its consideration, and the Council shall report accordingly to the Intergovernmental Committee and the General Assembly.

80. The Administrator will take such steps as are necessary to ensure separate accounting and financial management of the operations of the Interim Fund, while utilizing the existing services of UNDP to the maximum possible extent.

81. The Interim Fund shall be authorized to establish a Programme Reserve by earmarking 2 per cent of the total annual contributions. Such a Programme Reserve shall be used by the Administrator, at his discretion for purposes consistent with the Programme of Action, established by the Conference and adopted by the General Assembly, and with the guidelines established by the General Assembly and the Intergovernmental Committee, to ensure the flexibility and innovative capacity of the Interim Fund and its ability to provide catalytic support. The Administrator shall ensure the utilization of such a reserve fund and shall report to the Governing Council on his decisions and on the results achieved.

82. The Administrator shall not at any time enter into commitments which shall exceed the usable resources of the Interim Fund. Nor shall he incur any liabilities on behalf of the Interim Fund which shall result in a charge against the general resources of UNDP.

13. The period of the Interim Fund

83. In accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session and the outcome of the Pledging Conference, the Administrator will determine the date at which the Interim Fund becomes operational and will report accordingly to the Intergovernmental Committee.

84. Because time is of the essence, given the limited period of the Interim Fund, the Administrator will submit to the General Assembly, at its thirty-fourth session, proposals for staffing and other administrative resources required both for the preparatory period and for the further period to the end of 1980, on the understanding that all such costs incurred shall be met from the resources of the Fund.

85. In view of the interim nature of the Fund, the Administrator shall submit his staffing and other administrative proposals for the year 1981 to the Governing Council of UNDP at its session in June 1980 for its consideration.

86. Taking into account the interim nature of the Fund, the General Assembly will decide, at its thirty-sixth session, on the recommendation of the Intergovernmental Committee, on the arrangements to be made for an effective transition between the operations of the Interim Fund and the long-term arrangements for the financing system for science and technology for development, to be determined by the General Assembly.

B. Arrangements for Pledging Conference for the Interim Fund

87. Immediately after approval by the General Assembly of the recommendations contained in paragraph 117 (d) of the Programme of Action, the Secretary-General

will call a pledging conference, in accordance with the established arrangements, as well as any additional guidance which the Assembly may wish to provide in that respect. Subsequently, Governments will, of course, be able to pledge to the Fund at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

C. Preliminary information on initial administrative and programme support costs

88. In paragraph 117 (d) of the Programme of Action, it is recommended, in connexion with the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, that "The General Assembly should provide the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme with the necessary resources for these initial preparatory responsibilities until the Fund is in operation".

89. It is anticipated in the initial prospectus (see paras. 29 to 86 above) that, once the Interim Fund becomes operational, its administrative and programme support costs will be met from its own resources. During the preparatory period, however, that is, until the Interim Fund becomes operational, it is expected that the financial resources necessary to sustain the initial preparatory activities will be provided by the United Nations, as recommended by the Conference. The Administrator anticipates that he will be in a position to declare the Interim Fund operational by 1 April 1980, on the assumption that this will be justified by contributions resulting from the first Pledging Conference.

90. In the view of the Administrator, during the initial preparatory phase, at least until the Interim Fund becomes operational, there is a necessity to establish a small core staff, consisting of six Professional and five General Service staff, to carry out the required preparatory work. It is also anticipated that, during the initial planning and organizational period, there will be need for some consultancy, as well as some activities to assist recipient countries, in the identification of projects for consideration by the Interim Fund. The Administrator, therefore, is submitting to the General Assembly, for its approval at its current session, a separate note containing estimates for the costs of a core staff and other administrative and programme support, for the period from the date of the General Assembly action and the date at which the Interim Fund becomes operational.

91. In view of the two-year period of the Interim Fund, the urgency of making an early start with operations and the need to build up these operations steadily and effectively, the Administrator is requesting the General Assembly also to approve, at its current session, the estimates of administrative and support costs for 1980 and 1981, subject to a further review of the estimates for 1981 at its thirty-fifth session.

92. As mentioned in paragraph 58 above, the Interim Fund will operate with the minimum staff required to perform the function assigned to it by the General Assembly. The staff shall be assembled as expeditiously as possible and commensurate with its resources and the volume of operations for the interim period. The administrative and programme support costs of the Interim Fund, which

/...

has to be met from its own resources, will not exceed 2 per cent of its total resources. The Administrator, in the operations of the Interim Fund, will utilize to the extent feasible, both the existing headquarters and field staff of UNDP and also the existing administrative machinery and contracting and other facilities of UNDP. Similarly, close and continuous working relationships will be established and maintained between the Interim Fund and the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular with the specialized agencies and concerned United Nations entities, for the Interim Fund's operation.

93. In the view of the Administrator, based upon the assumption that the pledges to the Interim Fund reach the level agreed by the Governments at the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, the Interim Fund will need a secretariat consisting of 11 Professional and eight General Service staff, to be headed by a high-level official. Depending upon the outcome of the first Pledging Conference, the Administrator will review the situation and make the necessary arrangements for phased growth of the Fund's staff and administrative support within the over-all levels approved by the General Assembly, following his decision to declare the Interim Fund operational.
