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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Restructuring of the economic and social sectors of
the United Nations system

Second progress report by the Secretary-General for 1979

INTRODUCTION

1. The first progress report of the Secretary-General on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system for 1979, dated 17 July 1979 (E/1979/81), submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1979, contained a summary account of all relevant measures taken since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 32/197 on 20 December 1977, with emphasis on measures initiated since the adoption of Assembly resolution 33/202 on 29 January 1979. It was stated in that report that further developments during the second half of 1979 would be covered in a second report, to be submitted to the Assembly at its thirty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its resumed second regular session of 1979.
2. In its decision 1979/57 of 2 August 1979, the Council decided:
 - "(a) To inform the General Assembly that it was not able to reach an agreement on the implementation of section II of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977;
 - "(b) To take note of, and to transmit to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session, the first progress report by the Secretary-General for 1979 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, 1/ prepared in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 33/202 of 29 January 1979;
 - "(c) To authorize the Secretary-General to submit the second progress report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session."

1/ E/1979/81.

3. The present report, prepared pursuant to paragraph 2 (c) above, describes developments since the Economic and Social Council's second regular session of 1979 and deals in particular with the following:

- (a) Structures for regional and interregional co-operation;
- (b) Secretariat support services: reorganization of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development;
- (c) Adjustments in the functioning and administrative arrangements of organizational entities within the United Nations, pursuant to paragraph 6 of section IV of General Assembly resolution 33/202.

A. Structures for regional and interregional co-operation

4. The Secretary-General stated, in paragraph 38 of his first progress report for 1979, that a submission of programme and financial implications for the regional commissions of the restructuring recommendations concerning regional co-operation and the strengthening of the regional commissions, to be prepared in the light of ongoing consultations on decentralization and redeployment of resources, would be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session. A programme report entitled "Restructuring of economic and social sectors of the United Nations system: Decentralization of economic and social activities to, and the strengthening of, the regional commissions", is accordingly before the General Assembly (A/34/649). In the light of the Second Committee's action on that report, a statement of financial implications will be submitted to the Assembly.

5. Following the submission of that report, a meeting of representatives of UNCTAD and of the regional commissions was convened at Geneva with a view to identifying possibilities for strengthening co-operation and co-ordination, including decentralization, between UNCTAD and the regional commissions. The matter was also discussed at the nineteenth session of the Trade and Development Board, which took note of a paper on the matter submitted to it by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD (for the text of the paper, see annex I below). The General Assembly will be kept informed of further developments in this respect.

B. Reorganization of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

6. The establishment of a new Department of Technical Co-operation for Development was announced by the Secretary-General in his progress report on the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations annexed to General Assembly resolution 32/197, submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1978 (E/1978/28). Subsequently, in his first progress report for 1979, the Secretary-General informed the Council that the newly appointed Under-Secretary-General for this Department, Mr. Bi Jilong, was in the process of completing a review of the internal organization of the Department and that the results of that review would be conveyed to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session.

7. The following information concerning the reorganization of the Department should be read in conjunction with the related budgetary submission (A/C.5/34/72), which is simultaneously being placed before the current session of the General Assembly.

8. The broad responsibilities of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, as set out in paragraph 61 (c), (d) and (f) and 62 of section VIII of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 include:

(a) Substantive support for technical co-operation activities in specified economic and social sectors; 2/

(b) Management of technical co-operation activities carried out by the United Nations:

(c) Certain research activities on the basis of their substantive, practical and methodological relationships to the foregoing responsibilities. The specific functions approved by the Secretary-General for the Department, on the basis of the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 32/197, are set out in document ST/SGB/162 (see E/1978/118, annex).

9. The two main concerns underlying the realignment of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development have been to improve the Department's delivery of services and the quality and relevance of its activities; and to strengthen the Department's capacity both to respond dynamically to the changing requirements of developing countries in technical co-operation and to carry out effectively the relevant mandates and priorities established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. Due consideration has also been given to the expanded role of the regional commissions as executing agents for technical co-operation projects envisaged by the Assembly and to the new relationships with the commissions which this role entails.

10. In response to these concerns, a number of general requirements have been identified to guide the reorganization of the Department as follows:

(a) The need for close linkages between substantive backstopping and management of technical co-operation projects, in order to ensure integrated support for technical co-operation activities;

(b) The need to ensure that research and analysis in accordance with the terms of reference of the Department, on the one hand, and substantive support for technical co-operation on the other, are effectively interrelated and mutually supporting in the Department as well as in the Organization as a whole;

2/ In accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/197, this responsibility involves, *inter alia*, the provision of technical expertise for country and intercountry programmes and projects, the provision of direct advisory services to Governments and the development of training materials and support of training institutions.

(c) The need to enable Governments and relevant United Nations services to ensure that resources are strictly utilized for the purposes for which they have been provided, in accordance with relevant intergovernmental decisions and in conformity with the national directives and priorities of the recipient countries;

(d) The need to continue providing technical co-operation to developing countries through prevailing modalities and, at the same time, to develop new modalities to accommodate new dimensions of technical co-operation.

1. Methodology of work

11. On the basis of the above considerations, the Secretary-General has approved new methods of work for the Department which seek to apply a team approach to all phases of technical co-operation activities and involve an extensive use of task forces, particularly for multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary activities. The aim is to ensure optimal use of the expertise and resources available to the Department; to allow for a continuous monitoring of progress in Departmental activities; and to promote a co-ordinated approach to ongoing technical co-operation activities, while at the same time introducing in the work of the Department the flexibility necessary to adapt to changing national and international development priorities, and to formulate, on that basis, appropriate strategies for relations with Governments and intergovernmental bodies.

12. Firstly, it is envisaged that a Departmental Policy and Co-ordination Committee will be established to oversee the functioning of the Department, in general, and to guide and constantly keep under review the new methodology of work, in particular. The Committee will comprise the Under-Secretary-General as chairman, the Assistant Secretary-General, all heads of Divisions, as well as other members of the Department, as required. The Committee will be supported by a standing Sub-Committee on Technical Co-operation, under the chairmanship of the Assistant Secretary-General, charged with monitoring the progress of implementation of the technical co-operation projects executed by the Department, as well as other standing or ad hoc sub-committees, as required.

13. Arrangements based on team work are also envisaged for the Department's participation in the preparation of country programmes of technical co-operation for UNDP funding. In accordance with the consensus adopted by the Governing Council in 1970, and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council and by the General Assembly in resolution 2688 (XXV), these programmes are prepared by Governments, in accordance with their own national economic and social development plans and their related priority objectives and needs, with the United Nations system supporting and advising as necessary and appropriate. The Department's participation is therefore envisaged at two levels:

- (a) Broad support to Governments, at their request, designed to help them to:
 - (i) Define their over-all technical co-operation needs;

- (ii) Use the country programming process as a frame of reference for the operational activities carried out by the United Nations system in responding to Governments' priorities, as envisaged in paragraph 33 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197;

(b) Specific assistance to Governments in defining the ongoing UNDP-financed projects, within the Department's competence, which require continuous support and funding and in identifying critical aspects of development in areas coming within the purview of the Department where technical co-operation may be required. The Department's participation in country programming will at all times be carried out in close collaboration with UNDP and will involve its geographic units and development advisory services, working in consultation with other substantive Headquarters' personnel and field experts.

14. A network of Departmental teams is also envisaged to support all large-scale projects executed by the Department. Each of these teams will operate under the leadership and responsibility of a single official within the Department, normally a substantive technical adviser in the sector concerned, and will involve all other interested Departmental services, including technical personnel, programme management officers, and recruitment, contract, procurement, fellowship and financial officers.

15. Similar arrangements are envisaged for providing Headquarters support, in an integrated manner, to other types of projects, as well as to project evaluation and other follow-up activities undertaken at the field level in accordance with established procedures.

2. Departmental structures

16. The new departmental structures envisaged, as a result of the review undertaken by the Under-Secretary-General for the Department referred to in paragraph 6 above, to complement and support the new working methods referred to above involve the reorganization of the Department into five divisions as follows:

(a) A Division of Policies and Resources Planning, as part of the central staff services described in paragraph 17 below;

(b) Two substantive divisions - a Division of Development Administration and Finance and a Division of Natural Resources and Energy;

(c) Two operational and support divisions - a Division of Programming and Implementation and a Division of Field Operations.

Central staff services

17. This cluster will comprise:

(a) The Office of the Under-Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General who, as his deputy, assists him in the discharge of his responsibilities for all aspects of the Department's work;

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(b) The Division of Policies and Resources Planning, including functions within the purview of the Department pertaining to policy development and co-ordination, resource planning and management (including preparation of relevant medium-term plans and exploration of new resources), legislative and external relations with Governments and intergovernmental bodies, co-operation and collaboration with the regional commissions, liaison on policy matters with UNDP and other agencies in the system, publication policies and programmes of the Department, and specific and new assignments;

(c) A strengthened Executive Office, including, inter alia, relevant functions relating to personnel, administration and finance;

(d) The World Food Programme Liaison Office (special arrangement).

18. This cluster will strengthen the capability of the Department to make contributions to legislative deliberations concerning technical co-operation for development and to reflect better relevant decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in departmental activities. The cluster will also be responsible for planning, resource mobilization and monitoring of implementation of departmental activities.

Substantive divisions

19. These will comprise:

(a) A Division of Natural Resources and Energy, which will deal with all activities in these sectors coming within the purview of the Department, as well as with the development of physical infrastructure generally, to the extent that the Department is concerned with it;

(b) A Division of Development Administration and Finance, which will deal with all aspects of the institutional infrastructure for development and human resources development that fall within the jurisdiction of the Department, including relevant aspects of public administration, public finance, population programmes, development planning (preparation of technical guidelines and training materials), social development (selected issues assigned to the Department), and Statistics (the present arrangements in the field of statistics are currently being reviewed by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Co-operation and Development).

20. In allocating substantive activities between the two Divisions, due attention has been paid to the substantive, methodological and practical relations involved. Each Division will be responsible, in respect of its own programme elements, for the following:

(a) Substantive research within the terms of reference of technical co-operation for development in support of functional (for example, the Committee on Natural Resources and ad hoc expert groups established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council) and legislative bodies (including support of preparatory work for the new international development strategy, and subsequently

for contributions to the review and appraisal of progress, in so far as these concern the mandates of technical co-operation for development), and of developing countries, both individually and collectively.

(b) Substantive backstopping of technical co-operation projects, including interregional advisory services, provision of technical advisory services for the formulation and execution of technical co-operation projects (but excluding development advisory services (see para. 23 below)), the development of training materials, support for training institutions, and related publications, seminars, and other means for the exchange and dissemination of information.

21. It should be noted that in the process of reorganization of the Department, various options were considered regarding the organizational location of the Special Technical Advisers for backstopping field projects. After analysis of these options, the conclusion reached is that, in order to maximize the substantive capacity of the Department to provide support to recipient countries, such services should be located in the two substantive divisions in the manner described above. It is considered that the necessary linkages between substantive backstopping and the management of projects can be ensured through the working methods referred to above and that this arrangement will not hinder the necessary streamlining and reorientation of the services concerned. However, while located in the two substantive divisions in the manner indicated above, technical advisory services will retain a distinct identity, for organizational purposes, in respect of the subprogrammes of each of the two divisions. This arrangement which will be reviewed in due course as provided for in paragraph 28 below is built in the realignment of the Department in order to: (a) satisfy existing policies for the control and utilization of extrabudgetary resources; and (b) retain the necessary flexibility for the future.

22. Generally, the objectives being sought are to strengthen the programmatic and substantive orientation of the Department; to allow for cross-fertilization between research and field experiences, both within the Department and with other units of the Secretariat, as recommended by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, and for more effective integration of international substantive measures and priorities, established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, with technical co-operation projects; and assist in evolving new delivery approaches for major programmes within the jurisdiction of the Department and in promoting international networks concerned with major substantive issues in the same context.

Division of Programming and Implementation

23. This Division will comprise, inter alia:

- (a) Geographical branches;
- (b) Development Advisory Services (DAS).

These will work closely together, through the new methodology of teams described above, under which the development advisory services will play a central role with regard to the development of the country programmes.

24. The main functions of the geographical branches will be:

(a) To maintain country intelligence covering:

(i) Basic economic and social information;

(ii) Information on the over-all programme of technical co-operation for development in a country by source of finance (UNDP, UNFPA etc.);

(b) To undertake over-all development and co-ordination of the programme of technical co-operation for development in a particular country or region, by inter alia:

(i) Ensuring timely and effective involvement of technical co-operation for development in the country programming exercise;

(ii) Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the over-all programmes by countries and regions;

(c) To contribute to the implementation of country projects by:

(i) Taking part in the management of projects as required;

(ii) Monitoring the progress of individual projects and operating an early warning system;

(iii) Undertaking follow-up of completed projects as appropriate;

(d) To ensure co-operation on operational matters between the Department and the regional commissions;

(e) To prepare over-all financial and statistical reports on technical co-operation activities of the Department.

25. The development advisory services will have responsibility (in collaboration, as appropriate, with other units) for:

(a) The collection and storage of economic and social information on country situations;

(b) Assisting Governments, as required, in assessing their technical co-operation needs in general, and from technical co-operation for development needs in particular;

(c) Providing support, as mutually agreed, to UNDP and resident representatives on country programming;

(d) Backstopping development planning projects at all stages of their formulation and implementation;

/...

(e) Maintaining investment follow-up information on technical co-operation for development projects.

Divisions of field operations (support services)

26. This Division will be the key logistical arm of the Department, performing the critical function of ensuring the timely supply to the field of the inputs required for the effective implementation of projects. It will consist of five components:

- (a) Contracts and procurement;
- (b) Experts recruitment and their servicing;
- (c) Fellowships;
- (d) Administrative operations;
- (e) Technical reports.

27. To expedite operations, this Division will have direct access to the field. Furthermore, the juxtaposition of two vitally important logistical arms in the same Division - procurement and recruitment - should facilitate the synchronization of experts and equipment being supplied to a single project.

28. It is envisaged that the above structures will be reviewed in co-operation with the Administrative Management Service in time for the next session of the General Assembly, taking into account, inter alia:

(a) Decisions taken regarding the Department's programme budget proposals (which are especially relevant in determining the orientation of the work of the substantive Divisions);

(b) The review by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination of the distribution of functions between Headquarters units and regional commissions;

(c) The Department's experience with the functioning of the various arrangements outlined above.

C. Adjustments in the functioning and administrative arrangements of organizational entities within the United Nations pursuant to paragraph 6 of section IV of General Assembly resolution 33/202

29. Paragraph 6 of section IV of General Assembly resolution 33/202 provided that the steps to be taken by the Secretary-General in implementation of that resolution should include appropriate adjustments in the functioning and administrative arrangements of the relevant organizational entities. In his first progress report for 1979 (E/1979/31), the Secretary-General noted that the above

provisions had implications not only for the new organizational entities established at Headquarters pursuant to General Assembly resolution 33/197, but also for other United Nations units and entities in related areas, and endeavoured to identify the organizational entities and main issues involved. These are outlined in paragraphs 103 and 104 of that report.

30. Ongoing consultations on the issues raised in that report are based on the recognition that the degree of functional and administrative autonomy which various United Nations organs and programmes currently enjoy in accordance with their basic instruments, should continue to be fully respected, if effect is to be given to the intent of the General Assembly and to the priorities inherent in the establishment of these entities. Similarly, arrangements should continue to be pursued, consistent with sound budgetary and administrative policies, which would secure greater flexibility for some of these entities and a greater degree of decentralization within the Organization as a whole.

31. Without prejudice to the above-mentioned desiderata, measures are currently being developed, along the lines outlined in paragraphs 103 and 104 of the first progress report of the Secretary-General for 1979, with a view to enhancing the over-all coherence of the policies and actions of all entities forming part of the United Nations, and strengthening the performance of the Organization as a whole, as well as the effectiveness of its individual components, in line with the objectives of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202.

32. The first set of issues, raised in paragraphs 103 (a) and (b) and 104 (a) and (b) of the progress report (E/1979/81), relates to the exercise of management responsibilities both at the Headquarters level and by the heads of organs and programmes concerned. The corresponding measures will be aimed at ensuring that the exercise of such responsibilities should be guided by a common framework of approaches, criteria and practices, while paying regard to the functional, geographical and legislative requirements of each of the components of the system. These measures have implications for, inter alia, the planning, programming and budgeting processes, including the preparation of both the medium-term plan and the programme budget, and in particular for the arrangements required to secure in these processes the active association of, and constructive dialogue with, all concerned Secretariat entities. The specifics of these arrangements will be worked out, taking into account actions at the current session of the General Assembly on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system and, more particularly, the decisions to be taken by the Assembly in connexion with its review of the planning process. It should be noted that certain revisions have recently been introduced in the financial rules, in order to reflect in that document changes which have taken place in the structure and functioning of the offices coming within the purview of the Under-Secretary-General for Administration, Finance and Management. These revisions are, of course, without prejudice to the measures referred to above, or to further amendments to the financial rules that such measures may entail.

33. The other set of issues raised in the first progress report by the Secretary-General relates to the achievement of greater coherence within the Organization in respect of Secretariat positions and proposals submitted by individual

organizational entities within the Secretariat to intergovernmental and intersecretariat bodies which have policy and institutional implications for the Organization as a whole. The aim is to ensure that such Secretariat positions and proposals should be mutually supportive and thus maximize the contribution of the Secretariat to the formulation and execution of the broad policy guidelines, directives and priorities established by the international community, particularly to the benefit of the developing countries. Such positions and proposals should be guided by the over-all policy framework established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. But they should also be governed by full respect for the mandates and responsibilities of other entities at the Secretariat as well as at the intergovernmental level. This requires systematic arrangements for prior consultations, which would apply in particular to proposals or positions which affect co-ordination and relationships between the various components of the Organization, or which, in the light of their possible impact on the mandates and policy orientation of individual entities, have implications for the scope and thrust of activities of the Organization as a whole. It also entails improvements in existing arrangements for the representation of the United Nations at international conferences or meetings convened by the specialized agencies. The objective in this regard should be to project the orientations defined by United Nations intergovernmental bodies in a manner that is fully integrated and consonant with the variety of sectoral and regional concerns inherent in different components in the Organization.

34. In developing specific measures in respect of the above set of issues, along the lines indicated in paragraphs 103 (c) and 104 (c) and (d) of the first progress report for 1979 (E/1979/81), the Secretary-General will take into full account any views that may be expressed on these matters at the current session of the General Assembly.

ANNEX

DECENTRALIZATION OF ACTIVITIES TO THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS*

Note by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD

1. The purpose of the present report is to inform the Board of the various steps taken by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD in pursuance of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council relating to the question of decentralization of activities to the regional commissions, and to seek the views of the Board on the issues involved, in particular those mentioned in paragraph 5 below.
2. In endorsing the conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Restructuring, the General Assembly of the United Nations agreed, inter alia, that "the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council as the main general economic and social development centres within the United Nations system for their respective regions ...". a/ It was also agreed that measures should be taken, by the General Assembly itself and by the Economic and Social Council, to enable the commissions "to function expeditiously as executing agencies for inter-sectoral, sub-regional, regional and interregional projects and, in areas which do not fall within the purview of the sectoral responsibilities of specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies, for other sub-regional, regional and interregional projects". b/
3. Subsequently, in its resolution 33/202 of January 1979, also on restructuring the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, the General Assembly designated the regional commissions "executing agencies, in their own right ..." c/ and requested the Secretary-General to proceed expeditiously with the development and application of measures contemplated in his report, d/ in particular those related to the decentralization to the regional commissions of appropriate research and analysis activities and technical co-operation projects coming within the scope of paragraph 23 of section IV of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197. e/

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a/ General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, annex, para. 19.

b/ Ibid., para. 23.

c/ General Assembly resolution 33/202, sect. V, para. 3.

d/ A/33/10/Rev.1.

e/ General Assembly resolution 33/202, sect. V, para. 4.

4. All organs, organizations and bodies within the United Nations system were requested to implement, or take further action to give full effect to, the recommendations annexed to resolution 32/197 within their respective spheres of competence. f/ At the same time, it should be noted that the General Assembly also recognized the need to have "due regard to the responsibilities of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies in specific sectoral fields ...". g/ Furthermore, in the case of UNCTAD, the Assembly agreed in resolution 32/197 that appropriate measures should be taken to enable UNCTAD effectively to play "the major role envisaged in resolution 90 (IV) of 30 May 1976 of the Conference as an organ of the Assembly for deliberation, negotiation, review and implementation in the field of international trade and related areas of international economic co-operation ...". h/

5. The question of decentralization was taken up at the meetings of Executive Secretaries held in Rabat (Morocco) in March 1979, and in Geneva in July 1979, the latter having been preceded by a technical meeting held in New York in May 1979. The results of these meetings are reflected in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1979. i/ The following are some of the major points made in the report:

- Decentralization should cover research and analysis as well as substantive support for and management of technical co-operation activities (para. 23);
- The process of decentralization should also contribute to the establishment of more effective and mutually reinforcing relations among all United Nations regional and global entities (para. 24);
- Decentralization of activities and resources should be a continuing process based on mutual consultations (para. 25);
- The following should be among the broad criteria which should guide decentralization of activities to the regional commissions:
 - (i) effectiveness and efficiency; (ii) concentration of information;
 - (iii) multisectoral requirement of activities (para. 26);
- The possibilities for redeployment of resources from Headquarters to the regional commissions should be fully explored (para. 24);
- The need to expedite the process of decentralization of activities and redeployment of resources (para. 33);

f/ General Assembly resolutions 32/197, para. 7, and 33/202, sect. VI, para. 1.

g/ General Assembly resolution 32/197, para. 19. See also qualifications in para. 23.

h/ Ibid., para. 18. See also Conference resolution 11⁴ (V).

i/ E/1979/76, part A, sect. III.

- As regards the decentralization of activities from the other United Nations organizations, such as UNCTAD and UNIDO, to the regional commissions, it would be necessary to bear in mind that also in their case the scope for action might be limited by specific mandates resulting from intergovernmental decisions of their governing bodies (para. 38).

6. As reflected in the Secretary-General's report to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in 1979, ^{j/} UNCTAD has indicated its readiness to examine further with the regional commissions the possibilities for decentralization, against the legislative background referred to above and taking into account decisions by Governments in UNCTAD, including in particular those taken at UNCTAD V.

7. Accordingly, a technical meeting of representatives of the regional commissions and of UNCTAD was convened in Geneva (1-3 October 1979) with the purpose of considering the broad issues involved and of examining specific programme areas or elements with a view to identifying possibilities for strengthening co-operation and co-ordination including decentralization. A record on the results of the consultations is being finalized and will be submitted to the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions and to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD for their consideration and action, as appropriate. The Board will be informed in due course of the results.

^{j/} E/1979/76, part A, sect. III. See also resolution 1979/64 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in 1979. As a result of subsequent consultations, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development took action as recorded in the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the work of the Organization (Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/34/1)).