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Agenda items 17, 10 (b) and 3 (a)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1621 (LI). Enlargement of the membership of the Economic and Social Council, institutional arrangements for science and technology, and machinery for review and appraisal

A

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming that its role as a principal organ of the United Nations should be enhanced and its methods of work improved to enable it to discharge more effectively the functions conferred upon it by the Charter of the United Nations in the formulation of general economic and social policies to meet the challenges of the modern world,

Considering that the participation of a larger number of members of the United Nations would strengthen the representative character, the authority and the dynamism of the Council,

1. Recommends the General Assembly to take, at its twenty-sixth session, all necessary steps to amend the Charter to ensure an early enlargement of the Council to 54 members, the additional 27 seats to be allocated in accordance with the present geographical distribution in the Council;

2. Decides to enlarge, in the interim period, the membership of its sessional committees and the Committee on Natural Resources to 54 members as from 1 January 1972;

3. Requests the General Assembly to elect, at its twenty-sixth session, in addition to the 9 new members of the Council, 27 States Members of the United Nations to serve on the sessional committees of the Council in accordance with the present geographical distribution of seats in the Council;

4. Decides also that, in the interim period, all substantive items on the agenda of a session of the Council, apart from the general debate, would be allocated to the sessional committees for their in-depth consideration, with a view to submitting concrete recommendations to the Council;

5. Decides further to review at its fifty-third session its co-ordinating machinery, including the possibility of inter-sessional meetings of the Co-ordination Committee to deal with the task currently entrusted to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, with a view to strengthening the co-ordination role of the Council.

1798th plenary meeting,
30 July 1971.

B

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1454 (XLVII) of 8 August 1969 and 1544 (XLIX) of 30 July 1970, and in particular paragraph 4 of the latter, on future institutional arrangements for science and technology,

Recognizing the ever-growing role of the application of science and technology in the resolution of economic and social problems of the developing countries,

Recognizing further that the United Nations system urgently needs an adequate institutional framework to ensure the increasing application of science and technology to development and to eliminate any existing institutional gaps among the bodies and organizations of the United Nations system dealing with specific scientific and technological problems,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment by the Trade and Development Board, in its resolution 74 (X) of 18 September 1970,^{1/} of an intergovernmental group on the transfer of operative technology,

1. Decides to establish a standing committee of the Council composed of 54 members, to be elected in accordance with the present geographical distribution of seats in the Council, to provide policy guidance and make recommendations on matters relating to the application of science and technology to development and to report to the General Assembly, through the Council;

2. Decides further to review at its fifty-seventh session the institutional arrangements for science and technology in the light of the implementation of the provisions contained in operative paragraph 1 of resolution A above and of the provisions of its resolution 1623 (LI) of 30 July 1971;

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/8015/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1), part two, annex I.

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council at its fifty-second session on the possible terms of reference of the Standing Committee referred to in paragraph 1 above, taking into account the specific competence of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency and of the inter-sessional organs of the General Assembly, and the need for co-ordination between them and the standing committee;

4. Decides further to maintain the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, with a membership of 24, to be appointed in the manner laid down in Council resolution 980 A (XXXVI) of 1 August 1963, that the term of office of the members shall be three years and can be renewed, that the Advisory Committee is to furnish expertise to the Standing Committee, in addition to its terms of reference as set forth in that resolution and that it may receive such instructions from the Standing Committee as will be necessary to provide it with scientific, technological, and innovative advice and ideas in this field;

5. Reiterates the view that any institutional arrangements in the field of science and technology can only be meaningful if adequate resources are made available for tackling major problem areas, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

1798th plenary meeting,
30 July 1971.

C

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that paragraph (83) of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, approved by the General Assembly in resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, provides for an over-all appraisal by the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, of the progress in the implementation of the policy measures and the attainment of the goals and objectives embodied in the Strategy,

Recalling its resolution 1556 B (XLIX) of 31 July 1970, in which the Council expressed its readiness to assume responsibility for assisting the General Assembly in the task of the over-all review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the Strategy,

Aware of the different levels of review and appraisal that are going to be carried out by Governments and the United Nations system,

1. Decides to establish a committee of the Council on review and appraisal, composed of 54 members to be elected at the fifty-second session, in accordance with the present geographical distribution of seats in the Council, to enable the Council to discharge the responsibilities entrusted to the Council by the General Assembly, in accordance with the Council's functions under the Charter of the United Nations, to assist the General Assembly in the over-all review and appraisal of the Second United Nations Development Decade, as provided for in General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV), notably in paragraph (83);

2. Decides further to review at its fifty-seventh session the machinery for over-all review and appraisal in the light of the implementation of the provisions of operative paragraph 1 of resolution A above and the provisions of its resolution 1623 (LI) of 30 July 1971;

3. Requests the intergovernmental bodies of the specialized agencies and of other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Industrial Development Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to consider adequate procedures for the review and appraisal of the policy measures and the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy falling within their competence and to report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council;

4. Requests the Committee for Development Planning to assist the Committee on Review and Appraisal by reviewing all relevant material concerning the over-all progress made in implementing the International Development Strategy, and by conveying its comments and recommendations to the Standing Committee referred to in operative paragraph 1 of resolution B above.

1798th plenary meeting,
30 July 1971.