

appropriate efforts to co-operate in accelerating the economic development of the developing and under-developed countries,

*Considering* that a faster rate of economic growth is in the interest of all countries and that the United Nations together with other international bodies, as appropriate, should provide ways and means of finding and furthering effective solutions for achieving this purpose,

1. *Urges* the economically developed Member States to take into due account, when formulating and executing their trade and economic policies, the interests of the developing and under-developed countries by making maximum efforts to create conditions through which they extend to these countries advantages not necessarily requiring full reciprocity to improve their economic situation, and to pursue as a matter of great urgency bilateral, multilateral and/or regional negotiations—including, where appropriate, negotiations conducted under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade—to facilitate the necessary expansion of their trade and to attain a satisfactory co-ordination of efforts in the field of trade towards economic development;

2. *Calls upon* States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, and especially upon the more highly industrialized countries and the developed countries belonging to regional and sub-regional economic groupings:

(a) To promote, through individual or collective measures, the expansion of world trade, particularly by avoiding undue protection of their domestic production;

(b) To avoid measures detrimental to the prospects of international commodity trade for producers outside their own countries or regions;

(c) To make every effort to liberalize the restrictive or discriminatory practices that unnecessarily limit the consumption and importation of commodities, especially those which have undergone maximum processing, from the under-developed and developing countries;

(d) To pursue policies which would promote the industrialization of the developing countries and to avoid practices such as dumping and the unrestricted disposal of accumulated stocks that may hamper this process;

3. *Recommends* that the Governments of Member States, in recognition of the profound concern of normal commercial exporters, pursue policies designed to avoid the harmful effects on international markets that may result from the disposal of surpluses and, to this end, strictly adhere to the principles of surplus disposal recommended by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

4. *Commends* the efforts made by the International Monetary Fund to increase its activities with regard to drawings and standby arrangements in helping the less developed countries to meet seasonal and cyclical maladjustments arising from fluctuations in their export earnings, and expresses the hope that such efforts will continue;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Commission on International Commodity Trade, at its tenth session, and, at their joint session, the Commission on International Commodity Trade and the Committee on Commodity Problems of the Food and Agriculture Organization will consider ways and means of solving the problems created by fluctuations in the commodity export earnings of the developing and under-developed

countries, and urges the above organs to formulate at these sessions specific recommendations in this connexion;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and ascertain their views on the advisability of holding an international conference on international trade problems relating especially to primary commodity markets and, if they deem such a conference advisable, the topics that might be considered for a provisional agenda;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, on the basis of these consultations, to report to the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-fourth session and to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session.

*1084th plenary meeting,  
19 December 1961.*

### 1708 (XVI). Planning for economic development

*The General Assembly,*

*Convinced* of the urgent need of the less developed countries to establish and implement national, all-inclusive and well-integrated development plans to build up their societies in accordance with their own individual precepts,

*Realizing* that to this end it is necessary to advance further the development of planning techniques that can be adjusted to the specific needs and problems of various countries,

*Taking into consideration* the growing trend towards the use of different forms of planning in the economic policies of developing countries,

*Realizing further* that it is imperative that economists, other social scientists and administrators, within and outside government service, be trained without delay in techniques and problems relating to planning so as to permit not only the elaboration of plans but also their execution,

*Bearing in mind* the initiatives already demonstrated in this connexion, namely that:

(a) Some African States expressed their views in the course of the resumed fifteenth session of the General Assembly in favour of the establishment, under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa and with the assistance of the Special Fund, of an economic development institute for Africa for the purpose of training suitable persons in the field of economic development, in particular in the techniques of economic planning and programming,<sup>7</sup>

(b) The Economic Commission for Latin America, in its resolution 199 (IX) of 13 May 1961, requested the establishment, under its auspices, of an institute for planning economic development which would provide advisory services to Governments and engage in training,<sup>8</sup>

(c) The Conference of Asian Economic Planners, held in New Delhi from 26 September to 3 October 1961 under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, recommended to the Commission that it consider the establishment of an Asian institute of economic development to overcome the

<sup>7</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 88, document A/4747, para. 4.*

<sup>8</sup> *See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/3486), part III.*

serious shortage of trained personnel for the formulation and implementation of economic development plans,<sup>9</sup>

*Considering* that each institute should establish a programme of training fully adjusted to the needs of the countries in each region,

*Recalling* that the Managing Director of the Special Fund, in his statement to the Governing Council of the Fund on 23 May 1961,<sup>10</sup> announced that on the initiative of regional economic commissions several Governments in Latin America had made requests for that type of project and that similar requests were expected from Africa,

*Noting* that the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs declared on 5 October 1961 that the increased participation of the regional economic commissions in technical assistance programmes and the establishment under their auspices of economic programming institutes, where Governments will find both advisory services and training facilities for the staff of their economic departments, will provide Governments with new facilities on the regional level, to which they attach so much importance,<sup>11</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1517 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 777 (XXX) of 3 August 1960 and 830 H (XXXII) of 2 August 1961,

#### I

1. *Invites* the Governments concerned, acting as appropriate through the regional economic commissions or their appropriate subordinate bodies to be established for this purpose, to submit requests to the Special Fund for assistance needed for the establishment of economic development and planning institutes which will be closely linked to the respective regional economic commissions with a view, *inter alia*, to giving prospective trainees the benefits not only of theoretical but also of practical training and an acquaintance with the important work carried out by the secretariats of the regional economic commissions in their regions;

2. *Invites also* the Economic and Social Council at its resumed thirty-second session to recommend that the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East consider this matter at their forthcoming annual meetings and that the Economic Commission for Europe consider the expansion of its in-service training programme to include a substantial number of fellows from less developed regions;

3. *Expresses the hope* that the Special Fund will give prompt and sympathetic consideration to the establishment of the institutes referred to above;

4. *Expresses the hope also* that the Special Fund will give prompt and sympathetic consideration to the establishment of similar institutes which may be proposed by a group of Member States that are not members of any regional economic commission, such institutes to be open to participation by developing countries which are at present members of regional economic commissions;

#### II

*Requests* the Secretary-General to establish an Economic Projections and Programming Centre with sub-

centres, as appropriate, in the regional economic commissions or institutes of economic development and planning;

(a) To intensify the activities already initiated in this field and to prepare, as soon as practicable, in co-operation with the international agencies concerned, long-term projections of world economic trends in order to facilitate the formulation of national economic plans;

(b) To provide studies of planning techniques under various economic and social systems which would be helpful to national and regional institutes of economic development and planning;

#### III

1. *Invites* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of experts composed with due regard to their familiarity with various planning techniques under different economic systems and in co-operation with the appropriate institutions of different countries, to prepare a study summarizing the experience gained and the techniques in use in the planning of economic development by different countries, and at the same time expresses the hope that the Governments of Member States will help to carry out that study;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to examine the study at its thirty-sixth session and to submit to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session its recommendations concerning the utilization of experience of economic planning in the interests of developing countries;

3. *Further invites* the Secretary-General to prepare a special chapter on questions of economic development planning in one of the forthcoming issues of the *World Economic Survey*.

1084th plenary meeting,  
19 December 1961.

#### 1709 (XVI). Decentralization of the economic and social activities of the United Nations and strengthening of the regional economic commissions

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1518 (XV) of 15 December 1960 on decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions,

*Noting* the recommendations on economic and social activities contained in part V of the report of the Committee of Experts appointed under General Assembly resolution 1446 (XIV) of 5 December 1959 to review the activities and organization of the Secretariat<sup>12</sup> and the Secretary-General's comments thereon,<sup>13</sup>

1. *Notes with appreciation* the Secretary-General's action and proposed arrangements with regard to decentralization and to the strengthening of the regional economic commissions, as stated in his report to the General Assembly;<sup>14</sup>

2. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 823 (XXXII) of 20 July 1961 and the emphasis placed therein on the important functions to be fulfilled

<sup>9</sup> E/CN.11/571, para. 53.

<sup>10</sup> SF/L.51.

<sup>11</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixteenth Session, Second Committee, 717th meeting.*

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 61, document A/4776.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, document A/4794.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, agenda items 12, 28, 29 and 30, document A/4911.