



Twentieth session
Agenda item 44

CONVERSION TO PEACEFUL NEEDS OF THE RESOURCES
RELEASED BY DISARMAMENT

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In resolution 1931 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963, the General Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to consider all pertinent aspects of the question of the conversion of the resources released by disarmament to peaceful uses, including the possibility of establishing an ad hoc group for the purpose of accelerating activities in this field of study. It also endorsed the intentions and plans of the Secretary-General set forth in his work programme and requested him to present a further report on this matter at the nineteenth session. The report of the Secretary-General was issued in documents E/3898/Rev.1, E/3898/Add.1-6 and E/3898/Rev.1/Add.1-2.

2. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development adopted recommendation A.VI.10 entitled "Elaboration of trade aspects of the economic programme of disarmament"^{1/} in which it deemed it necessary that due attention be paid to the trade aspects of this programme.

3. On 11 August 1964, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1026 (XXXVII), in which it, inter alia, expressed its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report on this matter and to Governments for furnishing the information requested of them, stated that the activities of the United Nations family should be continued and accelerated as much as possible, welcomed the arrangements that had been recently made to co-ordinate these activities and recognized that at a later time the establishment of the new ad hoc group referred to in General Assembly resolution 1931 (XVIII) might be advantageous. An account

^{1/} Final Act and Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (United Nations publication, Sales No. 64.II.B.11 (E/CONF.46/141, vol. I)), annexes.

of the discussion in the Council, at its thirty-seventh session, may be found in chapter II of the Council's report to the nineteenth session of the Assembly.^{2/}

4. At its thirty-ninth session the Council, in accordance with operative paragraph 6 of resolution 1026 (XXXVII), received a further progress report by the Secretary-General, which was issued in document E/4042. In resolution 1087 (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965, the Council, inter alia, took note of this report, requested the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of various studies he may receive on this subject and decided to consider this item at its forty-first session. An account of the Council's action may be found in chapter III of its report to the twentieth session of the Assembly.^{3/}

5. The Secretary-General's report has since been supplemented by a paper containing further replies of Governments to his note verbale of January 1965 (E/4042/Add.1).

6. Because the General Assembly was not able to consider this item at its nineteenth session, the Secretary-General has included it in the provisional agenda of the twentieth session.

^{2/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/5803).

^{3/} Ibid., Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/6003).