

developed countries, giving due consideration to questions of a social nature which directly condition economic development;

(b) Stimulate its commissions and the specialized agencies to give similar urgent attention to these problems;

(c) Include in its annual report to each regular session of the General Assembly a special chapter on the measures being taken to promote economic development, together with the recommendations for the further improvement, if necessary, of such measures.

*242nd plenary meeting,
16 November 1949.*

307 (IV). Economic development and international economic and commercial policy

The General Assembly,

Considering that the tasks hitherto entrusted to the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies in connexion with the economic development of under-developed countries have been concentrated especially on the study of problems connected with technical assistance and with the financing of economic development,

Considering that experience has shown that many aspects of international economic and commercial policy exercise a powerful influence on the economic development of under-developed countries,

Recommends that, in the Economic and Social Council's forthcoming work and studies on economic development, further attention should be paid to such questions of international economic and commercial policy as may influence the process of development of the economies of under-developed countries, with a view to making recommendations to the General Assembly.

*242nd plenary meeting,
16 November 1949.*

308 (IV). Full employment

The General Assembly

1. *Notes* the discussions which have taken place at the ninth session of the Economic and Social Council on problems of employment and economic stability, and the adoption of resolution 221 (IX)E⁷ of the Council on 11 August 1949 and the resolution⁸ on unemployment adopted by the International Labour Conference on 1 July 1949;

2. *Approves* the action of the Secretary-General in inviting a group of experts to report on national and international measures required to achieve and maintain full employment;

Believes:

3. That national and international action by Members, designed to promote and maintain full

⁷ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council*, Fourth Year, Ninth Session, Resolutions, page 2.

employment in accordance with Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter, is a basic requirement for the achievement of a stable and expanding world economy;

4. That, in addition, action is needed to overcome unemployment and under-employment such as that arising, particularly in under-developed countries, among large numbers of people engaged in agricultural pursuits; and that, to this end, it is necessary, *inter alia*, to stimulate the economic development of under-developed countries;

5. That the objectives of international agreements for the furtherance of the production and consumption of, and the expansion of international trade in, goods on as free as possible a basis would be seriously impaired by failure to take, or by delay in taking, action designed to maintain full and productive employment especially in those countries which have an important share in world trade; and

6. That a high and stable level of international investment, particularly in the under-developed areas of the world, would contribute materially to the realization of those objectives;

Notes with satisfaction:

7. Declarations of various Governments of their intention to deal promptly with unemployment, and their recognition of the contribution which such steps will make towards the maintenance of world-wide economic stability; and that the measures they have already put into effect, or have under study, for increasing purchasing power and for promoting full employment include such measures as the extension of unemployment insurance, the expansion of social services generally, public works programmes including low-cost housing and natural resources development projects, measures affecting the level and methods of taxation, incentives for the encouragement of private capital investment; and

8. The intention of the Economic and Social Council to study further the related questions of measures to achieve full employment and to encourage international investment;

9. *Recommends* that each Government consider, as a matter of urgency, its international responsibility under Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter to take action, as the need arises, designed to promote and maintain full and productive employment, through measures appropriate to its political, economic and social institutions;

10. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, during its consideration of full employment and economic development, to give attention to unemployment and under-employment, especially in under-developed countries and particularly in such critical fields as agriculture;

11. *Decides* that the world economic situation be reviewed again at the next regular session of the General Assembly in the light of Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter.

*256th plenary meeting,
25 November 1949.*

⁸ See International Labour Office, *Industry and Labour*, volume II, No. 3, page 168.