

13. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to adhere to the Programme of Action contained in the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, in particular with regard to increased support for the opponents of apartheid, the use of concerted and effective measures aimed at applying pressure to ensure a speedy end to apartheid and ensuring the non-relaxation of existing measures to encourage the South African regime to eradicate apartheid until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible changes;

14. *Stresses* in the context of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, the need for the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to render all possible assistance to the front-line and neighbouring States to enable them to rebuild their economies, which have been adversely affected by South Africa's acts of aggression and destabilization, to withstand any further such acts and to continue to support the people of South Africa;

15. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the second regular session of 1991 of the Economic and Social Council;

16. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to report thereon to the Council;

17. *Also requests* the President of the Council to maintain contact with the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, which is the focal point for the international campaign against apartheid, and to report thereon to the Council as appropriate;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the present resolution, with particular attention to coordination and integration arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system, and to report thereon to the Council at its regular session of 1992;

19. *Decides* to keep these questions under continuous review.

*32nd plenary meeting
26 July 1991*

1991/69. Assistance to the Palestinian people

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Assistance to the Palestinian people

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 45/183 of 21 December 1990,

"Taking into account the intifada of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory against the Israeli occupation, including Israeli economic and social policies and practices,

"Rejecting Israeli restrictions on external economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory,

"Concerned about the economic losses of the Palestinian people as a result of the Gulf crisis,

"Aware of the increasing need to provide economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people,

"Affirming that the Palestinian people cannot develop their national economy as long as the Israeli occupation persists,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people;⁶⁸

"2. Expresses its appreciation to the States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have provided assistance to the Palestinian people;

"3. Requests the international community, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to sustain and increase their assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization, taking into account the economic losses of the Palestinian people as a result of the Gulf crisis;

"4. Calls for treatment on a transit basis of Palestinian exports and imports passing through neighbouring ports and points of exit and entry;

"5. Also calls for the granting of trade concessions and concrete preferential measures for Palestinian exports on the basis of Palestinian certificates of origin;

"6. Further calls for the immediate lifting of Israeli restrictions and obstacles hindering the implementation of assistance projects by the United Nations Development Programme, other United Nations bodies and others providing economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory;

"7. Reiterates its call for the implementation of development projects in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the projects mentioned in its resolution 39/223 of 18 December 1984;

"8. Calls for facilitation of the establishment of Palestinian development banks in the occupied Palestinian territory, with a view to promoting investment, production, employment and income therein;

⁶⁸ A/46/204-E/1991/80 and Add.1 and 2.

“9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.”

*32nd plenary meeting
26 July 1991*

1991/70. The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the vital importance of informatics in promoting and accelerating development,

Considering it imperative that States Members of the United Nations and observers have easy, economical, uncomplicated and unhindered access to the growing computerized databases and information systems and services of the United Nations,

Regretting that Member States lack such access to existing United Nations informatics systems at present,

Stressing the need for representatives of all States to be actively associated with United Nations bodies, such as the International Computing Centre, dealing with informatics within the United Nations system,

Bearing in mind the ongoing discussions on the reform of the General Assembly,

Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, within existing resources and in consultation with representatives of States, a study analysing the causes of the present situation with respect to United Nations informatics systems and providing an outline of a rapid solution to the problem, leading to easy, economical, uncomplicated and unhindered access to United Nations computerized databases and information systems and services, which are of great importance to all States, in particular to the developing countries, and to report thereon to the Council at its regular session of 1992.

*32nd plenary meeting
26 July 1991*

1991/71. International cooperation in the field of informatics

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 1989/179 of 27 July 1989, its resolution 1990/58 of 26 July 1990 and decision 7.1 adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its one hundred and thirty-first session,⁶⁹

⁶⁹ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its one hundred and thirty-first Session, Paris, 17 May-22 June 1989* (131 EX/Decisions).

Taking note of the follow-up report on international cooperation in the field of informatics prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,⁷⁰

Considering the existing disparities in the level of development of informatics between the developed and developing countries,

Reaffirming the importance of the development of informatics as an instrument of international cooperation and endogenous development,

1. *Recommends* that more effective use be made of the existing coordinating mechanisms, with a view to regular consultations and coordination concerning informatics within the United Nations system, including consultations and coordination between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, through its Intergovernmental Informatics Programme, the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

2. *Invites* the above-mentioned organizations to continue to reinforce their subprogrammes concerning international cooperation and regional strategies in informatics in developing countries, in particular the Informafrika project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

3. *Invites* Member States to encourage and promote activities to expand the endogenous skills of their populations in the field of informatics, and calls upon donor countries to make voluntary contributions to the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, with a view to strengthening its ability to provide appropriate support for projects in the field of informatics for the benefit of developing countries;

4. *Decides* to keep this issue under review and to examine it at its regular session of 1992, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*32nd plenary meeting
26 July 1991*

1991/72. Membership of Israel in the Economic Commission for Europe

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering the wide range of economic relations that exist between Israel and the States members of the Economic Commission for Europe,

Considering also that Israel has expressed its readiness to contribute to the work of the Commission by accepting the responsibilities inherent in full membership,

Considering further that, at its forty-sixth session, the Commission took note of the renewal of the application

⁷⁰ E/1991/104, annex.