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NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT ON RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (FORTY-FOURTH AND FORTY-FIFTH SESSIONS) WHICH ARE OF CONCERN OR OF POSSIBLE INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION

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The Office of the Executive Secretary wishes to draw the attention of the Economic Commission for Latin America to certain resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions, which relate to the Commission's activities. The paper is divided into resolutions which are clearly of concern to the Commission and may require action on its part, and resolutions which, although of possible interest to the Commission, do not seem to require any decisions. Both parts only include summaries of the resolutions in question, but the complete texts are available for consultation in the Office of the Executive Secretary.

The corresponding resolutions of the General Assembly are embodied in a supplementary document.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
AT ITS FORTY-FOURTH SESSION
(6-31 May 1968)

A. Resolutions which require action by the Commission

1300 (XLIV). Campaign to focus world attention on housing

The Council, recalling its resolution 1224 (XLII) of 6 June 1967, concerning the role of the regional economic commissions in housing and the initiatives that might be taken to improve living conditions and to provide an adequate volume of proper housing for low-income families, recommended that the competent United Nations bodies should examine the possibility of convening regional conferences and of initiating a programme of public information in this field, within the context of the desirability of designating an international year for housing and urban and rural development during the Second United Nations Development Decade. It also requested the Secretary-General to ascertain the views of Member States on these proposals and to report to the Council on his findings, in order to help it to decide what further action should be taken.

1301 (XLIV). Establishment of a United Nations international institute for documentation on housing, building and planning

The Council, recalling its resolution 1166 (XLI) of 5 August 1966, in which it approved in principle the establishment of a United Nations international institute for documentation on housing, building and planning at New Delhi, requested the Secretary-General to take specific steps in connexion with the implementation of that decision, including the establishment of an Advisory Board to define the functions of a working party which would be responsible for the detailed technical aspects of the preparatory phase. Members of the Advisory Board should, inter alia, include a representative of each of the regional economic commissions. The resolution also called for the establishment at Geneva, for a period of two or three years, of a working party consisting primarily of documentation experts whose task would be: (i) to maintain contact with the Advisory Board; (ii) to draw up a list of the existing national, regional and international centres and to advise on, and when requested to facilitate the establishment of, national, regional and other centres; (iii) to establish a network of documentary exchange between the

/aforementioned centres

aforementioned centres and the institute; (iv) to arrange for basic documentation embodying the more important literature pertaining to housing, building and planning to be prepared in the various centres and for its transmission to the institute, thus enabling it to play its part as a world clearing-house of knowledge in this field.

1307 (XLIV). World Programme for the Improvement of Vital Statistics

The Council, aware that vigorous efforts had to be made by the United Nations, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and Member States to push forward the development of reliable civil registers of vital events, requested the Secretary-General to undertake a World Programme for the Improvement of Vital Statistics, utilizing every means at the Secretariat's disposal, including the provision, on request, of technical assistance under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

B. Resolutions of general interest to the Commission

1296 (XLIV). Arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations

In this resolution the Council approved new arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which supersede those set out in its resolution 288 B (X) of 27 February 1950. The Council agreed that the resolution would not take effect until after the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had completed its review of organizations currently in consultative status, as requested in Council resolution 1225 (XLII) of 6 June 1967, and after the Council at its forty-sixth session had acted upon the Committee's report. These arrangements will be of special interest to the regional economic commissions as they clarify the relationships between non-governmental organizations and commissions established under the Council.

In accordance with part III of the resolution, non-governmental organizations will be classified as follows:

1. Organizations in general consultative status, category I;
2. Organizations in special consultative status, category II;
3. Organizations on the Roster.

Part V of the resolution deals with consultation with commissions and other subsidiary organs of the Council. Part VIII deals with the suspension and withdrawal of consultative status.

1303 (XLIV). Work programme of the United Nations in the economic social and human rights fields

The Council, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to take into account the comments and observations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination with respect to the work programme in the following sectors: science and technology; population programmes; social development; fiscal and financial questions; statistical services; housing, building and planning; natural resources; and transport, including tourism.

1306 (XLIV). International statistical work programme and co-ordination

The Council requested the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the executive heads of the specialized agencies, (a) to take steps to promote arrangements to ensure the development of an integrated and co-ordinated international statistical programme, based on longer-term planning than is now in effect; and (b), to arrange for joint consultations between representatives of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and a working group consisting of the Chairman and two additional members of the Statistical Commission with a view to the working group providing a report for members of the Statistical Commission prior to its sixteenth session on the progress made in establishing an integrated programme and in ensuring the necessary co-ordination in fields where its absence is felt most.

1311 (XLIV). Arrangements for the transfer of operative technology to developing countries

The Council, inter alia, decided that the Secretary-General should continue the comprehensive field studies on the transfer of operative technology. It also requested the Secretary-General, in carrying out these studies, to take into consideration the views expressed during the debate on this subject in the Council, and also the adaptability of these studies to the needs and problems of the developing countries on a regional basis. It further requested the Secretary-General to complete the study already undertaken on methodology. The Council agreed that the Secretary-General should convene an interregional meeting of experts to evaluate, in the light of the studies, the effectiveness and cost of arrangements for the transfer of technology between enterprises (public and private).

1312 (XLIV). Transfer of technology

The Council, in this resolution, noting that it was decided at the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to transmit to the Trade and Development Board a draft resolution

(E/AC.52/L.33,

(E/AC.52/L.33, annex IV) which recommended that the Board, after obtaining the views of the Council, consider the establishment of an intergovernmental committee to examine the over-all question of the transfer of technology to developing countries, decided to defer the substantive consideration of this subject until its forty-fifth session. It requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to prepare a study for submission to the Council at its forty-fifth session, designed, among other things, to determine to what extent all or part of the functions mentioned in the draft resolution were already included in the texts defining the terms of reference, and in the current and planned programmes of work of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other international organizations dealing with this topic.

1316 (XLIV). Non-agricultural resources

The Council invited the Secretary-General to prepare a general study of the methods and scope of planning for the development of non-agricultural resources as an integral part of national development plans; it requested the Secretary General (i) to submit to the Council at its forty-sixth session a report on the desirability of adopting a new system for the most efficient and rational manner of collection, retrieval, processing and utilization of the information on natural resources which is accumulating in the United Nations Headquarters; (ii) to submit to the Council at its resumed forty-fifth session a report containing fuller information on the proposal to publish a journal; and (iii), to strengthen advisory and technical services in the development of non-agricultural resources.

1320 (XLIV). World social situation

The Council, noting with deep concern that the world social situation remained unsatisfactory and the economic gap between the developed and developing countries continued to widen, called upon the Committee for Development Planning to take into account a number of specific considerations, among others, in formulating its proposals for the goals and programmes of the next development decade. One of these considerations was that goals should reflect the varying needs and conditions of different regions, urban and rural areas, and groups of countries within a region.

1321 (XLIV). Work programme of the Commission for Social Development

In this resolution, the Council, taking into account that the regular programme of technical assistance has been a main link between the regional

economic commissions and the countries they serve, requested the Secretary-General, in preparing the study on the regular programme, to be submitted to the Governing Council of UNDP at its seventh session, to give particular attention to the role of this programme in promoting social development and in helping to ensure an adequate increase in, and the maximum effectiveness of, the United Nations technical co-operation services as a whole, in terms of their ability to meet the needs for assistance in the social field.

1322 (XLIV). Social policy and the distribution of national income

In this resolution, the Council reaffirmed its interest in the question of social policy and the distribution of national income. It decided to include in the agenda of one of its forthcoming sessions the question of social policy and the just and equitable distribution of national income, and requested the Commission for Social Development to report periodically to the Economic and Social Council on the progress of its work in this field.

1327 (XLIV). Access of women to education

The Council requested the Secretary-General to draw up an international policy aimed at promoting and accelerating technical and vocational training in line with employment opportunities for broad sections of the female population in the developing countries. It also invited organizations within the United Nations system to intensify their co-operation in the fields of education, vocational guidance and training for girls and women by using every means of action available to those organizations, in order to promote the full participation of girls and women in economic and social development.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
AT ITS FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

(8 July-2 August 1968)

A. Resolutions of direct concern to the Commission

(a) Annual reports

1. As in the past, the agenda of the forty-fifth session of the Economic and Social Council, which took place at Geneva from 8 July to 2 August 1968, included an item on the annual reports of the regional economic commissions (item 14). The Council showed great interest in the introductory statements made by the Executive Secretaries and in the annual reports of the regional economic commissions. In addition, the Council expressed satisfaction with the report of the meetings of the Executive Secretaries held during 1968.
2. During the debate on item 14 the Council expressed its gratification at the progress achieved by the four regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut (UNESOB), and made suggestions concerning their work programmes.
3. There was consensus in the Council regarding the wisdom of having established the regional economic commissions, as they were in direct contact with local needs and aspirations in their respective regions. It was felt that the United Nations should enter into a new phase of regionalizing its economic and social activities through the regional economic commissions and UNESOB, particularly in view of the preparations for the Second Development Decade and the implementation of the economic and social programmes during that period. The Council also expressed the view that there was need for further decentralization and strengthening of the regional economic commissions. It was felt that in addition to a global approach through an international development strategy, regional and subregional approaches would be essential for intensifying action-oriented projects in order to achieve more effective results.
4. The Council congratulated the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) on its twentieth anniversary, which had been celebrated in April 1968. A number of representatives suggested that ECLA might intensify its work in the field of co-ordinated trade policies among the Latin American countries in view of the balance-of-payments difficulties encountered by them.

5. In its resolution 1342 (XLV) the Council took note of the Commission's annual report and the resolutions and recommendations contained therein, and endorsed its programme of work.

(b) Resolutions arising out of the report of the meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions

6. In expressing appreciation for the report of the meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions held in 1968,^{1/} the Council indicated that the Executive Secretaries' meetings under the chairmanship of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, and with the participation of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions, the Director of UNESOB and, as appropriate, the heads of interested United Nations bodies, such as UNCTAD, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), UNDP and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), were performing an important function of co-ordination in the economic and social activities of the United Nations. Hope was expressed by the Council that they Executive Secretaries' meetings would intensify their activities and that they would continue to work towards the co-ordination of appropriate programmes and projects in the field of economic and social development within the United Nations family. The report of the meetings of the Executive Secretaries was referred to the Council's Co-ordination Committee to facilitate discussions on specific programmes, particularly the United Nations' concerted action in export promotion.

(i) United Nations concerted action in export promotion

7. After consideration of the report of the meetings of the Executive Secretaries, the Co-ordination Committee adopted resolution 1362 (XLV) on United Nations export promotion efforts. This was originally introduced by Sweden in plenary meeting during the debate on item 14, but was referred to the Co-ordination Committee at the request of some delegations. It will be recalled that the United Nations export promotion programme was established at the January 1967 meeting of the Executive Secretaries. The representative of the United Kingdom objected to the use of the term "programme" in the title on semantic grounds and for this reason the resolution was entitled United Nations export promotion efforts. In the Co-ordination Committee,

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 14, document E/4560.

the United Kingdom delegation also raised the question of whether the United Nations export promotion programme should not come under the aegis of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), but the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs explained that the meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions were much broader in scope than had been suggested in General Assembly resolution 1823 (XVII), and that their direct impact on programmes was much greater than originally envisaged. In his view, "a strictly legal interpretation of the situation might deprive the machinery represented by such meetings of much of its efficiency, flexibility and value." He further stated that "it was difficult to see, for example, what would be gained if the report in question were to be submitted through the machinery of the ACC, which was inevitably cumbersome." The report referred to above relates to the request in resolution 1362 (XLV) that the Secretary-General should prepare periodically a report on United Nations export promotion efforts, which should be submitted to the Trade and Development Board for substantive examination and, together with the comments and observations of the Trade and Development Board, to the Council for consideration and over-all co-ordination under a separate item or sub-item of its agenda. It was understood that the Secretary-General would be submitting a report on the United Nations concerted activities in export promotion to the forty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council. For this purpose it would be necessary for all participating organizations, including the regional economic commissions and UNESOB, to submit their work programmes in export promotion to United Nations Headquarters. The format and the deadline for the submission of such information would be communicated to the parties concerned in the near future by the Regional Economic Commissions Section of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Paragraph 4 of the operative part of the resolution commended to the attention of all agencies and bodies participating in the United Nations export promotion efforts the importance of taking duly into account in their activities the problems of export promotion between developing countries themselves. From this viewpoint it may be noted that some members of the Council expressed appreciation of the newly established Regional Trade Promotion Centre of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE). Also of significance to the regional commissions is the second operative paragraph, in which it was noted that the Executive Secretaries' meeting

/intended to

intended to review periodically the activities concerning the United Nations export promotion efforts. This would seem to indicate that the meeting of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions is the primary co-ordinating machinery for the United Nations concerted action in export promotion.

(ii) Tourism

8. Resolution 1363 (XLV) on tourism was also the result of the examination by the Council's Co-ordination Committee of the report of the meetings of the Executive Secretaries in 1968. In this resolution it was decided to place a separate item dealing with the review of programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism on the agenda of the Council's forty-seventh session. For that purpose it invited the Secretary-General to prepare a report, in consultation with all the United Nations organizations and agencies concerned and the International Union of Official Tourist Organizations (IUOTO), on the present programmes and activities in the field of tourism with suggestions for improved integration and co-ordination of these activities. The Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs will be writing to all parties concerned in order to collect information for this report. It is planned that a first draft of the report should be considered by the next meeting of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions early in 1969.

(iii) Follow-up activities of the second session of UNCTAD

9. Arising also out of the report of the Executive Secretaries' meetings was resolution 1352 (XLV) on the role of the regional economic commissions and of UNESOB in the follow-up activities of the second session of UNCTAD, which was adopted at one of the plenary meetings of the Council. In this resolution, the Council noted with satisfaction the report of the meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions and the Director of UNESOB, and in particular the conclusion that the second session of UNCTAD had provided an opportunity for UNCTAD, the regional economic commissions and UNESOB to intensify their efforts to expand trade among developing countries and to further regional integration. It was requested that the regional economic commissions and UNESOB should continue their co-operation with UNCTAD and take into account in pursuing their regional activities and programmes of action the relevant resolutions or decisions

/of UNCTAD

of UNCTAD. It was also requested that the Secretary-General should submit to the Economic and Social Council, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination "and as part of their regular annual reports, the reports of the regional economic commissions and UNESOB" on the measures taken by them under this resolution that the Council also requested that such information should be transmitted to the Trade and Development Board.

B. Resolutions which require action by the Commission

(a) United Nations Development Decade

10. The Council's discussions of this item reflected a general consensus on a number of points. It was realized that the Second Development Decade had to be formulated in a more realistic manner. In this connexion the First Decade should provide valuable lessons. Furthermore, the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system should be well co-ordinated, among other things, in order to dovetail sectoral and over-all plans. International, regional, subregional and national plans should also be synchronized. It was emphasized that the regional economic commissions had an important role to play in contributing to a more realistic formulation of a global development strategy, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative targets. It was also stressed that the co-operation and support of governments of both developed and developing countries, within a framework of collective responsibility or solidarity, was essential. The success of the next development Decade depended largely on their will to make decisions. It was considered most important that there should be a programme to educate public opinion on economic development. It was also suggested that the necessary machinery should be set up to work, between one session and another, on the concrete measures to be adopted as part of the international development strategy. Furthermore, it was considered that machinery for examination and evaluation purposes should be set up at the beginning of the next Development Decade. This machinery would enable the United Nations to judge how the situation was developing.

11. The Council adopted two resolutions:

(i) In resolution 1356 (XLV) on the United Nations Development Decade, the Council, inter alia, decided to consider, at its forty-seventh session, the document on the international strategy for development being prepared by the Committee for Development Planning, as well as the one on international development policy to be prepared by the Economic Committee. It requested

/the appropriate

the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate with the Economic Committee in the fulfilment of its task.

(ii) In resolution 1357 (XLV) on the mobilization of public opinion in developed and developing countries regarding the United Nations Development Decade, the Council, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to give particular attention, in collaboration with the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned within the United Nations system, to the formulation of a programme of action, as part of the international development strategy for the next development decade, to mobilize public opinion in support of the Development Decade.

(b) Population and its relation to economic and social development

12. From the Council's discussion of this item, it emerged that the urgency of population problems calls for more action-oriented programmes. These programmes should be given a proper place in the global development strategy for the Second Development Decade. Conditions peculiar to each region and country have to be taken into account in programmes at the regional and country level. Parents have the right of access to information and means concerning family planning. Co-operation among members of the United Nations family of organizations, including the regional economic commissions, is essential and the present situation is considered encouraging. A number of speakers also referred to the important role of the regional economic commissions in the field of population.

13. However, a number of delegations also expressed some caution. Population control could not be considered as a solution in itself. The relationship between demography and economic and social change still remains complex. There is a limit to the right of governments, a limit imposed by respect for the liberty and dignity of the individual.

14. The Council adopted resolution 1347 (XLV) in which it requested the Committee for Development Planning to give appropriate attention to the interrelationship between population dynamics and economic and social growth with respect to the second Development Decade, taking into account the diversity of regional and national characteristics. It invited the regional economic commissions and UNESOB to prepare and consider regional reports on population aspects of economic and social development.

/(c) External

(c) External financing of economic development in the developing countries

(i) International flow of capital and assistance

15. Regarding the international flow of capital it was pointed out that in general the volume of aid to developing countries remained stagnant. The terms and conditions on which it was granted did not improve either. In addition, the reverse flow of resources from developing countries had increased sharply. It was also pointed out that fluctuations in the flow of aid could be just as harmful in their effect on development programmes as a sudden drop in export earnings. Widespread adoption of the practice of announcing commitments in advance could, however, make it possible to place planning and utilization of resources on a sound basis. It was also considered desirable to find a firmer statistical basis for discussion of the international financing of economic development.

16. Attention was drawn to the proposal of the Secretary-General to convene a representative panel of top-level specialists from governments, international agencies, and the investment community to give more detailed consideration to issues concerning the promotion of the flow of private capital. The Netherlands Government had expressed its willingness to act as host to the panel. Most of the delegations supported the proposal.

17. In its resolution 1359 (XLV) on the promotion of private foreign investment in developing countries, the Council approved the proposal to convoke a panel on foreign investment for the purpose of discussing the principal issues arising in the context of foreign investment in developing countries and the solutions that may be appropriate.

(ii) Export credits

18. On the issue of export credits, it was pointed out that this kind of financing had come to be recognized as a useful instrument, which was likely to be used even more extensively in the future. The question was, therefore, not whether the system should be continued, but what were the best means of accommodating the requirements of the developing countries. The representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in referring to export credits, said that it was important that the financial aspects of regional integration should be considered. In this connexion he referred to a study, currently planned by IMF for ECAFE, of the international banking and credit possibilities which already existed in Asia and the Far East.

19. Stress was laid on the importance of export credits as a means of promoting trade among the developing countries themselves. Delegations also welcomed the proposal of the Secretary-General to convene a round table for an exchange of views on the use of export credits as a means of promoting exports from developing countries.

20. In its resolution 1356 (XLV) on export credits and export promotion in developing countries, the Council approved the proposal for a Round Table. It also invited the Secretary-General to organize, in co-operation with the secretariats of UNCTAD, UNIDO, the Joint UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre, the regional economic commissions and UNESOB and the appropriate related agencies, seminars at the regional and international level for the purpose of assisting the competent authorities of the developing countries to review the problems and techniques of export credits as a means of promoting exports.

(d) Activities of the United Nations system of organizations in the transport field

(i) General transport

21. This item was discussed in the Co-ordination Committee. Delegations welcomed the agreement between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs on a division of responsibilities in the field of transport, as reported in document E/44.62.^{2/} Support was also expressed for the view that the secretariats of the regional economic commissions should play a major role in the initiation and programming of operational activities. In this connexion the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs emphasized that it was essential that the Council should make a thorough study of transport problems as had already been done by the regional economic commissions. He believed that the regional commissions should be regarded as programming centres in transport matters.

22. In connexion with the arrangements between UNCTAD and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the representative of UNCTAD pointed out that the division of responsibilities had been approved unanimously at the second session of UNCTAD, but the Council's approval was also required before the arrangements could be put into effect.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 23.

23. Regarding the creation of a functional committee, or an ad hoc group of experts, and of an international transport centre to deal specifically with transport problems, as suggested in document E/4509,^{3/} most speakers were of the opinion that at the present stage no such bodies seemed to be required.

24. The Council adopted resolution 1372 (XLV) in which it invited the Secretary-General, in preparation for the discussion of this problem at the forty-seventh session, to prepare, in consultation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and interested specialized agencies, the regional economic commissions and UNESOB, a report on the major transport problems of developing countries in the context of their economic and social development, with special reference to the latest technological developments and their impact on the programmes and activities of the organizations of the United Nations system designed to assist the developing countries in the improvement of their transport facilities, and to transmit the report to the Council, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, for its comments and suggestions.

(ii) Shipping and ports

25. The Council also adopted resolution 1373 (XLV) on the division of responsibilities among the United Nations Secretariat units concerned with shipping and ports. In this resolution the Council recommended that the necessary administrative steps be taken through the appropriate bodies of the United Nations to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to fulfil their respective tasks as set forth in the Secretary-General's report.^{4/}

(e) Human Resources and Education

(i) Development and utilization of human resources

26. During the discussion of this item in the Council, the importance of youth was brought up as part of the actual, potential or prospective manpower. It was recognized that youth should be given the opportunity to participate in the life of society, especially in economic and social development. It was pointed out that, as stated in the 1967 Report on the World Social Situation, what happened to young people now would very largely determine the success or failure of development in the next couple of decades.

^{3/} Ibid.

^{4/} Ibid., document E/4462.

27. Reference was also made to the recent phenomenon of youth rebellion in many countries. Efforts should be made to understand the causes underlying this unrest and a suggestion was put forward that the Council appoint a non-political expert group or institution to study the problem and to make recommendations that would enable the Council to take effective steps to solve it.

28. The Council adopted two resolutions dealing with youth. In resolution 1353 (XLV) on youth participation in international co-operation, it recognized the great contribution that the enthusiasm and energy of youth and their concern for peace and justice can make to the realization of the ideals and purposes of the United Nations, in particular with regard to economic and social development and human rights. The Council also invited the organizations concerned within the United Nations system to take this resolution into account when formulating and pursuing their programmes. In resolution 1354 (XLV) on programmes of international action relating to youth, the Council requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Directors-General of the specialized agencies concerned to take all possible measures to strengthen their programmes of international action for dealing with youth problems in society, in both developing and developed countries. The Secretary-General was also requested to submit, after consultation with the agencies and organizations concerned, the regional economic commissions and UNESOB, a report to the Council at its forty-seventh session on the measures taken to strengthen and co-ordinate existing programmes.

(ii) International Education Year

29. It will be recalled that the General Assembly in its resolution 2306 (XXII), recognizing the urgent need for a more effective mobilization of efforts in education and training as an essential element of a successful strategy of international development, decided to observe an International Education Year and provisionally designated the year 1970 for that purpose. The Secretary-General's report (E/4518) pointed out that preparations for the programme of activities would depend on the adoption by the General Assembly, at its twenty-third session, of guiding principles concerning those activities, a large part of which the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) had agreed to prepare. It was, however, obvious that close inter-agency co-operation was desirable and necessary for

/the preparation

the preparation and implementation of those activities. In this connexion, UNESCO's proposals emphasized the fact that International Education Year should go beyond the scope of a celebration and aim at the adoption by governments and the international community at large of measures to promote educational progress. This idea received general support from members of the Council. The decision of the Director-General of UNESCO to assume responsibility for the preparations for the International Education Year was welcomed.

30. The representative of UNESCO reiterated the three basic principles of the Education Year as propounded by the Secretary-General. First, education should be considered in its widest sense, embracing all aspects of the formation of man. The second principle was that International Education Year should be conceived as a form of joint action by all the United Nations bodies. Finally, International Education Year should provide a focus around which governments and the international community could marshal not only their activities but also their ideas.

31. A number of suggestions were made as to the emphasis and scope of the campaign. The programmes should reach not only the social élite but also the man in the street. Rural education should receive more attention, since most of the inhabitants of developing countries live in the countryside. The educational system should be better adapted to current economic and social needs. Instead of adopting a comprehensive approach, it would be better to concentrate attention on the training of educators and vocational training. Education should be stressed as a means of promoting international understanding.

32. The Council adopted resolution 1355 (XLV), in which it invited all the United Nations agencies, bodies and organs to participate in the preparation of programmes of concerted action and, within the context of an over-all strategy for development during the next decade and in close co-operation with UNESCO, to devise proposals concerning major objectives on which they and the Member States could focus their attention and concentrate their efforts. The Council also recommended to the General Assembly that 1970 be definitely designated as International Education Year.

(f) Implementation of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to examine the finances of the United Nations and the specialized agencies

33. One of the fields covered by the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee was long-term planning. It was pointed out that some organizations were already engaged in the process of drawing up systems of planning, though they were not always based on common principles and objectives. Reference was made to the fact that ECLA, for instance, had since 1963 been presenting two yearly programmes of work. The conclusions reached by ECAFE on its long-term programme and methods of work were also considered of great interest. On this subject the Council adopted resolution 1378 (XLV), in which it called for renewed efforts by the United Nations for better co-ordination in planning to ensure that reports concerned with projections be based, to the extent practicable, on the same general assumptions and common methodology, cover the same periods, and use the same statistical data, and that such arrangements be made as early as possible so as to provide the United Nations system with a comprehensive basis on which to formulate the plans and programmes for the second Development Decade.

(g) Science and technology: question of convening an international conference on the problems of human environment

34. The debate on this item in the Council's Economic Committee showed widespread interest in the convening of an international conference to deal with this subject. As an indication of this interest, it was recalled that an Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Meeting of Governmental Experts on Problems Relating to Environment would be held in Czechoslovakia in 1970 or 1971 and that it would be preceded by a meeting of a Preparatory Group of Experts on Environment.

35. It was pointed out, however, that such a conference should be prepared with the utmost care, and that the Council should bear that necessity in mind when deciding on the date of the meeting. On the basis of these broad considerations, the Council adopted resolution 1346 (XLV) at its 1555th plenary meeting. It may be noted that under operative paragraph 2, the regional economic commissions and UNESOB would be required to co-operate in the preparation of a preliminary report on the subject for submission to the Council at its forty-seventh session.

/ (h) Industrial

(h) Industrial development

36. During the discussion of the report of the Industrial Development Board, members of the Council expressed their appreciation of the fact that many valuable recommendations made at the Athens Symposium had been incorporated in the Board's future programme of work. It was also noted that co-operation between UNIDO and the regional economic commissions was developing satisfactorily and that the Executive Secretaries were in complete agreement with the Executive Director of UNIDO in recognizing the need for co-ordinated programmes in the industrial field. It was suggested that the regional economic commissions would be suitable bodies through which UNIDO could be decentralized.

37. The regional commissions and UNESOB may take note of the interest expressed by the Council, in its resolution 1349 (XLV), in the creation of a Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination, and the hope the Council expressed that this Working Group would facilitate the task of the Board with regard to its co-ordination functions.

(i) Technical co-operation

38. The Council adopted resolution 1364 (XLV) on the evaluation of programmes of technical co-operation. In the discussion leading to the approval of this resolution, the Council's Co-ordination Committee had before it document E/4486/Add.1, annex VII, ^{5/} containing the findings of the Inter-Agency Study Group on Evaluation. Other documents before the Committee were a report of the Secretary-General (DP/RP/5) on the arrangements made with regard to the Office of Technical Co-operation, and a progress report on the study prepared by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) ^{6/} for the elaboration of improved methods applicable at various stages of evaluation. Members of the Committee generally agreed that these reports were an important contribution to the clarification of the subject. They welcomed the spirit of self-criticism that seemed to pervade the work of the United Nations family of organizations in development assistance. As regards ad hoc evaluation missions, most delegations agreed on their usefulness, but it was generally felt that any decision on their continuation should await the pertinent reports of the ad hoc missions to Ecuador and Iran.

^{5/} See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 23.

^{6/} Ibid., agenda item 18, document E/4508.

39. Regarding the resolution itself, in operative paragraph 4 the Secretary-General is requested to prepare a background paper describing the main policy issues and the practical problems raised by the efforts of the United Nations system of organizations to evaluate projects and programmes of technical co-operation.

(j) Co-ordination at the national level

40. Resolution 1369 (XLV) on the above subject reflects the belief among members of the Council that many of the difficulties the Council encountered in trying to fulfil its co-ordination functions were caused by inadequate co-ordination at the national level. The resolution deals primarily with the means and methods currently employed by governments for the purpose of co-ordinating their national policies in respect of the activities of the United Nations.

41. The regional economic commissions may wish to note, in particular, operative paragraph 3, in which the Council urges the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the agencies concerned to ensure the full implementation of rule 80 of the Council's rules of procedures and the relevant rules of the functional and regional economic commissions and of the relevant agencies.

(k) Preparation of reports

42. In resolution 1370 (XLV) the Council, concerned at the continued increase in the number and length of the reports submitted by the Secretary-General, requests the Secretary-General to arrange in future for those passages in reports which call for a decision by the body to which they are addressed to be suitably distinguished from the rest of the text and clearly marked, and where appropriate to present proposals or suggestions for action by the Council and its subsidiary bodies.