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NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT ON RESOLUTIONS, OF CONCERN OR OF POSSIBLE
INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION, ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL AT ITS THIRTY SIXTH SESSION

The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America wishes to draw the attention of the Committee of the Whole to a number of resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-sixth session.* All these resolutions were brought to the secretariat's attention after 18 May 1963, the date on which the Commission's tenth session ended, and have some bearing on the Commission's work. The account given below is in two parts, the first dealing with those resolutions of the Council that directly concern the Commission, and may call for some action by the Committee of the Whole, and the second with resolutions of possible interest to the Commission.

I

RESOLUTIONS OF DIRECT CONCERN TO THE COMMISSION ADOPTED BY
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION947 (XXXVI). Annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America
(1269th plenary meeting, 5 July 1963)

In this resolution the Council takes note of the last annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America (E/3766/Rev.2) and endorses the programme of work and priorities contained therein.

955 (XXXVI). Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions
(1270th plenary meeting, 5 July 1963)

In this resolution the Council looks forward to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on decentralization as requested by General Assembly resolution 1823 (XVII), and notes with satisfaction the measures taken on the implementation of the policy of decentralization, including the establishment in the regional secretariats of technical assistance coordination units and of regional advisers. The Council invites the Secretary-General to explore ways and means for expanding the activities of the United Nations office in Beirut, and expresses the hope that the process of decentralization will further evolve in a way that will enable the secretariats of the regional economic commissions increasingly to assist developing countries, upon their specific request, and in cooperation with the Technical Assistance Board resident representatives, in the formulation of their technical assistance

* The present document includes only pertinent extracts to make clear the content of the resolutions in question. The full text of the resolutions is contained in Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-sixth session, Supplement No 1 (E/3816), a United Nations publication of which the secretariat has copies that may be consulted for reference.

programmes, both Regular and Expanded, as well as Special Fund projects, and in the evaluation of the results of such programmes and projects for which their assistance may be requested by the developing countries concerned. The Council also expresses the hope that the regional economic commissions will, upon the request of the secretary-general of the Conference on Trade and Development and in accordance with the process of decentralization, play an active role in the preparation for the Conference. The Secretary-General is requested to report annually on the progress of decentralization and strengthening of the regional economic commissions.

956 (XXXVI). Fifteen years of ECE activity (1270th plenary meeting, 5 July 1963)

In this resolution the Council takes note of the report entitled "Fifteen Years of ECE Activity" (E/3759), and decides to transmit the report in its final form through the secretariats of the regional economic commissions to their States members.

975 (XXXVI). World social trends and report of the Social Commission (1301st plenary meeting, 1 August 1963)

In part B of this resolution (Report on the world social situation), the Council invites all the international organizations which take part in technical assistance, including the regional economic commissions, to take account, in carrying out their programmes, of the importance of developing human resources, including the training of national cadres, by means of appropriate programmes in the fields of education and vocational training, nutrition, public health, public administration, housing, and urban and rural development.

In part C (Social development in the regional economic commissions), the Council urges the regional commissions to pay special attention to arranging for participation of both social and economic experts in development project planning and execution; it recommends that these commissions prepare their work programmes and determine their priorities in such a way as to encourage in their respective regions the inclusion of social and economic projects that contribute to economic development, and recommends further that the commissions study and analyse their respective regional chapters in the 1963 Report on the World Social Situation (E/CN.5/375 and Add. 1 and 2) with a view to drawing conclusions therefrom, and make all necessary provision for effectively discharging their responsibilities in the social field, as well as those in the economic field.

In operative paragraph 4 of part D (Land reform) the Council recommends that in the work programme of the United Nations, including the regional commissions and regional development planning institutes, due priority be given to studies in the field of land reform with particular reference to over-all development planning and the impact of land reform on social development, to fiscal and financial questions, and to community development.

976 (XXXVI). Report of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning
(1301st plenary meeting, 1 August 1963)

In part B (Housing, building and planning in the United Nations Development Decade) the Council recommends that the regional economic commissions (a) initiate, and where appropriate intensify, regional studies including pilot projects and exchange of experience and information on problems of environmental planning and development, including the social, economic, technological and administrative aspects of housing, building and physical planning; (b) examine their present programme in this field in the light of the report of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning (E/3719/Rev.1) with a view to indicating their present and potential contribution to the over-all United Nations objectives and action programmes in this field. The Council requests the Secretary-General to consider ways and means of making available to the regional economic commissions, and also to regional and sub-regional centres in other parts of the world, the experience of the Economic Commission for Europe in the field of development of national systems and institutions for the financing of the low-cost housing and urban services. The Council also requests the Secretary-General to take account in the regional economic commissions of the needs in the field of housing, building and planning, and to strengthen the staff resources devoted to them.

In part C of the resolution (Research, training and information on housing, building and planning) the Council, among other things, requests the Secretary-General to bring this resolution to the attention of all Member States of the United Nations, specialized agencies, regional economic commissions, etc.

In part E of the resolution (Planning and implementation of pilot projects in housing, building and planning) the Council recommends that the Secretary-General proceed with the execution of those pilot projects requested by Governments for which resources are available in collaboration with the regional economic commissions concerned and other bodies.

In part G of the resolution (Coordination and organization of existing and increased international assistance to housing, building and planning) the Council, realizing that the activities of the United Nations, the regional economic commissions and the specialized agencies in housing, building and planning are increasing and being intensified as a result of the recognition of housing and urban development as a sector of high priority in the United Nations Development Decade, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning at its second session a comprehensive and systematic account of existing programmes in housing, building and planning according to agencies which expend funds in this field and the amount of such expenditure.

978 (XXXVI). Proposals for a priority programme of coordinated action in the field of water resources (1302nd plenary meeting, 1 August 1963)

In this resolution the Council invites the Secretary-General by appropriate action at Headquarters and in the regional economic commissions, in line with resolution 955 (XXXVI) on decentralization, to continue in co-ordination with the Water Resources Development Centre, to make available such facilities as appropriate for the implementation of projects in the field of water resources development, including those for the training of local technical personnel, in response to Government requests.

The Council also draws the attention of Governments of Member States to the preliminary proposals for priority action contained in the report of the United Nations Water Resources Development Centre (E/3760) and for this purpose recommends that due consideration be given to the importance of more adequate water resources development in the submission of Special Fund and technical assistance requests, with such assistance being sought as appropriate from this centre and from regional and other bodies. In the context of the Council's discussion, the regional bodies referred to are the four regional economic commissions and the United Nations office in Beirut.

979 (XXXVI). Economic planning and projections (1302nd plenary meeting, 1 August 1963)

The Council requests the Secretary-General to proceed with the implementation of the work programme of the Economic Projections and Programming Centre at Headquarters and in the regional centres in cooperation with the specialized agencies, for meeting as effectively as possible the requests of Governments in the fields of economic planning and projections; the hope is expressed that the regional economic commissions will give great emphasis to the consideration of problems of planning in their work programmes. The Council recommends an intensification of the exchange of information on experience in the field of planning and planning methods among regional commissions and other regional bodies of the United Nations, through their respective secretariats, and recognizes in this connexion the special value of seminars and symposia with participants from one or more regions. The other regional bodies of the United Nations should be understood as including the regional institutes for economic development and planning.

982 (XXXVI). Economic and social consequences of disarmament (1303rd plenary meeting, 2 August 1963)

In the preamble of this resolution, the Council recognizes that the work programmes of, inter alia, the regional economic commissions include various kinds of research and analysis which, though not related directly to the problems of economic and social adjustment to a disarmament process, expand the base of knowledge essential to planning for such adjustment.

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In operative paragraph 3 the Council recommends that the regional economic commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Council do all they can in their respective fields to advance any studies which the competent organs of the United Nations and the Secretary-General request them to undertake in the field of economic and social aspects of disarmament, including ways in which they may contribute to international action for dealing with the economic and social problems that would be involved in the reconversion process.

984 (XXXVI). United Nations Development Decade (1303rd plenary meeting, 2 August 1963)

In operative paragraph 2 of part I of this resolution, the Council decides that the progress report requested under paragraph 13 of Council resolution 916 (XXXIV), which might be conceived as a contribution to the International Co-operation Year, should be prepared for the 1965 summer session of the Council in the form of a consolidated report, with special emphasis on those areas of activity which are of primary importance for the attainment of the objectives of the United Nations Development Decade, on the interrelationship within these areas of the programmes and activities of the United Nations family of organizations and on their combined impact. It is recalled that paragraph 13 of resolution 916 (XXXIV), on the United Nations Development Decade, requested the Secretary-General to prepare, in cooperation inter alia with the regional economic commissions, a programme consisting of detailed phased proposals for action.

Operative paragraph 4 of part II of resolution 984 (XXXVI) requests the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to submit to the 1964 session of the Council a draft framework of functional classifications for the activities of the United Nations system in the economic, social and human rights fields, during the United Nations Development Decade. This draft framework will be prepared on the basis of the new structure of the work programme requested in resolution 990 (XXXVI).

In operative paragraph 4 of part III of resolution 984 (XXXVI) the Council requests the Secretary-General, assisted by the regional economic commissions and in cooperation with the specialized agencies, to report to the 1964 session of the Council the degree to which coordination of planning action is being achieved.

989 (XXXVI). Education planning in relation to economic and social development (1303rd plenary meeting, 2 August 1963)

The Council welcomes the establishment of an educational planning section as an integrated part of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning, and recommends that the United Nations and its organizations and institutes in the field of education intensify their coordinated action in order to cooperate with Governments requesting assistance at the various stages of the educational planning process.

990 (XXXVI). Work programme in the economic, social and human rights fields
(1303rd plenary meeting, 2 August 1963)

In operative paragraph 3, the Council specifically states that, in the preparation of future reports on the work programme every effort should be made to describe each project in more concrete and uniform terms, giving information on the nature, duration and scheduling of each project, and the interrelationships of projects, together with as detailed information as possible on budgetary implications.

The Council requests the Secretary-General to provide the subsidiary bodies of the Council, including the regional economic commissions, at each session with the pertinent sections of the work programme and concrete suggestions for a review of priorities in this field, and requests these bodies to formulate their programmes of work, with the help of the suggestions of the Secretary-General, in terms of priority requirements within their respective sectors in a manner facilitating a uniform presentation to the Council of an integrated programme of work and activities in the economic, social and human rights fields.

II

RESOLUTIONS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION ADOPTED BY
THE COUNCIL AT ITS THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

961 (XXXVI). Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (1280th plenary meeting, 12 July 1963)

In section II of part E (Economic rights and opportunities of women) the Council expresses confidence that the United Nations system in all country programmes relating to the provision of professional and technical training will give due attention to the training of personnel and to the importance of equal access of men and women to such training.

In part G (Participation of women in the work of regional economic commissions), the Council draws the attention of the States members of the regional economic commissions to the desirability of appointing women to serve as delegates, advisers or experts on the various committees of the regional commissions, thereby enabling them to take part in the preparation of development studies and plans, particularly those involving the adaptation of legislation to the needs of expanding economies.

963 (XXXVI). United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
(1288th plenary meeting, 18 July 1963)

In this resolution the Council decides to convene the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Geneva from 23 March to 15 June 1964, and to convene a third session of the preparatory committee in New York beginning on 3 February 1964; the Council approves the arrangements for documentation set out in the report of the second session of the preparatory committee (E/3799) and further outlined by the secretary-general of the Conference.

967 (XXXVI). Question of procedures for the revision of the International Convention on Road Traffic and of the Protocol on Road Signs and Signals, done at Geneva, 19 September 1949 (1296th plenary meeting, 25 July 1963)

The Council invites the Secretary-General to communicate the amendments to the Convention and the Protocol once again to all Contracting States, and requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation as appropriate with the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions, to urge all Contracting States to reply to the further communication of the Secretary-General as promptly as possible. The Secretary-General is invited to prepare in cooperation with the regional economic commissions, a report for the submission to the Council on whether further action to revise or replace the existing Convention and Protocol is desirable or necessary.

991 (XXXVI). Evaluation of programmes (1303rd plenary meeting, 2 August 1963)

In this resolution the Council expresses the hope that the appropriate organs of the United Nations and the agencies will continue and intensify their efforts at technical evaluation of their programmes and operations and their effectiveness in achieving set objectives, and decides that greater attention must be centered on an evaluation of the over-all impact on the development of the developing countries of the combined programmes of the United Nations system of organizations.