

(c) Raise family levels of living by, *inter alia*, avoid-ing an inequitable distribution of national income.

780th plenary meeting,
14 November 1958.

1259 (XIII). Technical assistance to Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Having considered Economic and Social Council reso-lution 689 H (XXVI) of 28 July 1958,

Welcoming the adoption by Afghanistan, which was formerly an important opium-producing country, of the law of Kaus 2, 1336 (24 November 1957) prohibiting opium cultivation in Afghanistan,

Believing that technical assistance in the field of eco-nomic and social development is necessary for the full execution of the policy incorporated in the above-men-tioned law and for minimizing serious economic and social consequences,

Recognizing that the success of Afghanistan in this field requires international co-operation,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* of the policy adopted by Afghanistan;

2. *Requests* the relevant technical assistance organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies con-cerned to pay due attention to requests from the Gov-ernment of Afghanistan for technical assistance in this field.

780th plenary meeting,
14 November 1958.

1260 (XIII). Co-ordination of results of scientific research

The General Assembly,

Noting the remarkable advances made in recent years in the natural sciences, pure and applied,

Believing that the United Nations and the specialized agencies should stimulate and encourage further the general direction of scientific research toward the peace-ful ends of economic progress and human welfare, and in the interest of peace and international co-operation,

Recalling its resolution 1164 (XII) of 26 November 1957 on the development of international co-operation in the fields of science, culture and education, and Eco-nomic and Social Council resolution 695 (XXVI) of 31 July 1958 on the survey which is to be prepared on international relations and exchanges in the fields of education, science and culture,

Recognizing the responsibility of the United Nations for co-ordinating the activities of its organs and those of the specialized agencies in accordance with Articles 58 and 63 of the Charter of the United Nations, and noting that the Economic and Social Council has re-quested the United Nations and five of the specialized agencies to undertake appraisals of their activities and programmes for the period 1959 to 1964,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the other specialized agencies concerned with the peaceful application of science, as well as the International Atomic Energy Agency, to arrange for a survey to be made on the main trends of

inquiry in the field of the natural sciences and the dis-semination and application for peaceful ends of such scientific knowledge, and on the steps which might be taken by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency towards encouraging the concentration of such efforts upon the most urgent problems, having regard to the needs of the various countries; and requests the Secretary-General, in arranging for such a survey, to take into account the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to be prepared in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 695 (XXVI);

2. *Invites* the above-mentioned organizations to co-operate with the Secretary-General in this connexion;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit this survey to the Economic and Social Council at its thirtieth session for comment and any appropriate rec-ommendations;

4. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to transmit this survey to the General Assembly, together with its comments and recommendations.

780th plenary meeting,
14 November 1958.

1261 (XIII). Advisory services in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Taking note of chapter VII, section X, of the report of the Economic and Social Council,¹

Recalling its resolution 926 (X) of 14 December 1955 requesting the Economic and Social Council to submit to the General Assembly at its thirteenth session an evaluation of the projects carried out under the pro-gramme of advisory services in the field of human rights and recommendations concerning the future of the pro-gramme,

Recalling also its resolution 1163 (XII) of 26 No-vember 1957, in which the General Assembly noted with satisfaction the success of the seminar held in August 1957 at Bangkok (Thailand) and expressed the hope that seminars on the status of women would be held as frequently as possible in the future under the pro-gramme of advisory services in the field of human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the important results achieved at the two seminars held during 1958 under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights,

Having considered the plan presented by the Secre-tary-General to the Economic and Social Council for holding seminars in the year 1959,² and Council resolu-tion 684 (XXVI) of 21 July 1958 approving this plan,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the manner in which the projects have been carried out under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

2. *Approves* the plan presented by the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council for holding seminars in the year 1959 and recommends that, if possible, three seminars should be held in 1959, taking

¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twen-ty-sixth Session, Annexes, agenda item 12, document E/3075/Add.1.*

note of Council resolution 684 (XXVI) requesting the Secretary-General to keep in mind the possibility of organizing in the future an international seminar on a subject of universal interest.

780th plenary meeting,
14 November 1958.

1283 (XIII). International Health and Medical Research Year

The General Assembly,

Considering that active international co-operation and the exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of health and medical research are important factors in improving the health and welfare of mankind,

Desiring to encourage further practical steps to combat widely prevalent diseases, such as malaria, tuberculosis, smallpox, cholera, cancer, cardiovascular ailments, leprosy and poliomyelitis, which still represent a serious threat to the health of the people,

Believing that these aims could be greatly furthered by the organization of an International Health and Medical Research Year,

1. *Invites* the World Health Organization to consider, in accordance with article IV of the Agreement between the United Nations and the World Health Organization,³ the recommendation to organize, primarily on a national basis, an International Health and Medical Research Year, preferably in 1961, and to adopt methods for intensifying international co-operation in this field with a view to, *inter alia*:

(a) Disseminating the knowledge gained from experience in combating these diseases;

(b) Substantially expanding, co-ordinating and organizing joint scientific research in the prevention and treatment of these diseases and in the rehabilitation of patients;

(c) Exchanging experience in the use of atomic energy in medicine;

(d) Organizing popular health education on a broad scale;

(e) Providing assistance to under-developed countries, including equipment, medicine, special literature and qualified specialists;

2. *Further invites* the World Health Organization to transmit its views on this matter to the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-eighth session and to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session.

782nd plenary meeting,
5 December 1958.

1284 (XIII). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,⁴

Bearing in mind that a substantial international effort still needs to be made in order to achieve solutions for

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 19 (1948), No. 115.

⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/3828/Rev.1) and Supplement No. 11A (A/3828/Rev.1/Add.1).*

non-settled refugees, and in particular for those living in camps,

Having considered the decisions taken by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund⁵ at its ninth (special) session pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957,

1. *Welcomes* the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund that the protection activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees should be increased;

2. *Takes note* of the programme recommended for 1959 by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund;

3. *Notes* that the High Commissioner has been authorized by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund to appeal for the funds required for the programme;

4. *Appeals* to Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to support the High Commissioner's programme, either through financial contributions or through offers of resettlement or both.

782nd plenary meeting,
5 December 1958.

1285 (XIII). World Refugee Year

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,⁴ together with the resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugee Fund at its ninth (special) session on 26 September 1958,⁶

Convinced of the need to make a further world-wide effort to help resolve the world refugee problem,

Having considered the proposal for a World Refugee Year to begin in June 1959,

Noting that this proposal has two aims, namely:

(a) To focus interest on the refugee problem and to encourage additional financial contributions from Governments, voluntary agencies and the general public for its solution,

(b) To encourage additional opportunities for permanent refugee solutions, through voluntary repatriation, resettlement or integration, on a purely humanitarian basis and in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the refugees themselves,

1. *Urges* States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to co-operate, in accordance with the national wishes and needs of each country and from a humanitarian point of view, in promoting a World Refugee Year as a practical means of securing increased assistance for refugees throughout the world;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take such steps as he may think fit to assist in the promotion of a World Refugee Year in accordance with the present resolution.

782nd plenary meeting,
5 December 1958.

⁵ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 11A (A/3828/Rev.1/Add.1), para. 21.

⁶ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 11A (A/3828/Rev.1/Add.1), appendix II.