

Convinced that it is both timely and desirable to undertake such studies,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine:

(a) The national economic and social consequences of disarmament in countries with different economic systems and at different stages of economic development, including, in particular, the problems of replacing military expenditures with alternative private and public civil expenditures so as to maintain effective demand and to absorb the human and material resources released from military uses;

(b) The possible development of structural imbalances in national economies as a result of the cessation of capital investment in armaments industries, and the adoption of possible corrective measures to prevent such imbalances, including expanded capital assistance to the under-developed countries;

(c) The impact of disarmament on international economic relations, including its effect on world trade and especially on the trade of under-developed countries;

(d) The utilization of resources released by disarmament for the purpose of economic and social development, in particular of the under-developed countries;

2. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General should conduct the proposed examination with the assistance of expert consultants to be appointed by him with due regard to their qualifications and to the need of geographical representation and intimate knowledge of countries with different economic systems and at different stages of economic development;

3. *Appeals* to Governments of Member States to give full co-operation to the Secretary-General in the fulfilment of the task entrusted to him;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a preliminary report on the results of the examination to the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-third session;

5. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to transmit the report with its views to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session.

*948th plenary meeting,
15 December 1960.*

1517 (XV). Projections

The General Assembly,

Considering the importance of projections of certain major international economic trends, particularly in the field of primary products,

Aware of the special importance of such projections to the less developed countries, including those which have recently achieved their political independence, for the formulation of their long-term policies and plans for economic development, including the use of their natural resources,

Recalling its resolution 1428 (XIV) of 5 December 1959 on world economic development,

Taking note of the activities of the Economic and Social Council in this field, and in particular of its resolution 777 (XXX) of 3 August 1960 concerning the solution of problems relating to methodology, comparability and collation of relevant data,

Believing that the need to accelerate the economic development of the under-developed countries calls for an intensification of all activities conducted in this field, in order to make available even tentative data on the

medium- and long-term prospects for the production and exports of those countries in the light of the longer-term trends prevailing in the world economy.

1. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 777 (XXX);

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to intensify its work in the field of economic and social projections;

3. *Recommends* that the regional economic commissions continue and intensify their activities in this field;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on International Commodity Trade to continue the consideration of this question at its next session and invites it to make such recommendations as it deems appropriate;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the recommendations of the Commission on International Commodity Trade, to prepare, in consultation with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and in co-operation with the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions, a study containing tentative medium- and long-term projections of the prospective international demand for, and supply of, selected major primary commodities at present exported by the under-developed countries;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit this study, together with a detailed note on the methodology used and the problems encountered, to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its thirty-fourth session and for transmission, with its observations, to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session.

*948th plenary meeting,
15 December 1960.*

1518 (XV). Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions

The General Assembly,

Expressing its satisfaction that the Economic and Social Council recognized the value of regional co-operation in the establishment of the United Nations system of regional economic commissions to which the Economic Commission for Africa was added in 1958,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 795 (XXX) of 3 August 1960 on co-ordination in the field, and being aware of the continuing need for regional co-ordination which requires liaison and co-operation between the representatives of the Technical Assistance Board and the specialized agencies and the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions,

Recognizing that the regional economic commissions are not limited under their terms of reference to studies and deliberations and are actually performing various operational functions through their secretariats,

Reaffirming its resolution 1158 (XII) of 26 November 1957 on the activities of the regional economic commissions,

Bearing in mind particularly resolutions 11 (II) of 5 February 1960 on multilateral economic and financial assistance to Africa and 19 (II) of 4 February 1960 on concerted action adopted by the Economic Commission for Africa, resolution 31 (XVI) of 18 March 1960 on regional economic co-operation for development of trade and industries adopted by the Economic