

Noting Economic and Social Council resolutions 830 A (XXXII) and 830 H (XXXII) of 2 August 1961 concerning the *Report on the World Social Situation*<sup>4</sup> and balanced co-ordinated economic and social development,

1. *Endorses* the decision of the Economic and Social Council to continue the study of the question of balanced and co-ordinated economic and social development,

2. *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council, the regional economic commissions, the Committee for Industrial Development, the Social Commission and the specialized agencies concerned should continue to pay special attention to problems of balanced economic and social development, taking into account the interaction of economic growth and social development and all valuable experience of countries of various economic and social systems;

3. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to recommend, after appropriate studies, measures which may be helpful primarily to the less developed countries in planning for balanced and co-ordinated economic and social development;

4. *Recommends further* that the Special Fund should take this question into consideration when providing assistance to requesting countries;

5. *Expresses the wish* that the regional institutes of economic development which are in the process of being created in the various regions under United Nations auspices would include in their terms of reference the study of social factors affecting economic development;

6. *Believes* that an exchange of experience in the field of co-ordination of economic and social development will be fruitful.

1081st plenary meeting,  
18 December 1961.

### 1675 (XVI). Strengthening of the work of the United Nations in the social field

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1392 (XIV) of 20 November 1959 in which it recognized that economic development and social development are interrelated and that social progress is an end in itself as well as a means of furthering economic development,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 1393 (XIV) of 20 November 1959 on low-cost housing and 1508 (XV) of 12 December 1960 on low-cost housing and related community facilities,

*Taking note* of recommendation No. 115 concerning workers' housing adopted by the International Labour Organisation at its forty-fifth Conference on 28 June 1961,

*Having considered* chapters VI and VIII of the report of the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly,<sup>5</sup>

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the action taken by the Economic and Social Council to strengthen the activities of the United Nations in the social field, particularly

the decision to enlarge the Social Commission and to convene it annually, the establishment of the *ad hoc* group of experts on the relation of community development programmes to national development programmes including land reform, the establishment of the *ad hoc* group of experts on housing and urban development, and the Council's request that the Social Commission reappraise its basic direction with a view to giving increased attention to matters of social policy;

2. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 841 (XXXII) of 3 August 1961 designed to bring about close co-ordination between the programmes of industrialization, rural development, urbanization and housing;

3. *Calls the attention* of Governments of Member States and the appropriate authorities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to the necessity of closely co-ordinated action in dealing with the problems relating to those programmes;

4. *Expresses its satisfaction* that the Economic and Social Council will give consideration, at its thirty-third session, to having a combined plenary debate on world economic trends and the world social situation at its thirty-fourth session, thus giving practical recognition to the interdependence of economic and social factors in development;

5. *Requests* that the Economic and Social Council, on the basis of the information gathered in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1508 (XV), consider proposals to expand and co-ordinate international programmes and give assistance, at the request of Governments, to national programmes in the field of low-cost housing and related community facilities;

6. *Expresses its strong support* of the hope expressed in Economic and Social Council resolution 840 J (XXXII) of 2 August 1961 that all necessary provision will be made to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to discharge effectively its responsibilities in the social field, in particular those relating to research, operational programmes, United Nations Children's Fund projects concerned with social services for children and those arising from the increased activities in the social field of the regional economic commissions.

1081st plenary meeting,  
18 December 1961.

### 1676 (XVI). Urbanization

*The General Assembly,*

*Having noted* Economic and Social Council resolution 830 B (XXXII) of 2 August 1961 in which the Council approved the proposal for concerted international action in the field of urbanization,

*Recognizing* the magnitude of problems stemming from the growing concentration of population in urban and metropolitan areas, *inter alia*, the increasing volume of investment required to provide sufficient employment and to establish and maintain social and physical services and facilities in those areas,

*Recognizing further* the difficulty of adaptation to urban life of people from rural areas, the inadequacy of urban institutions designed to facilitate such adaptation and transition, and the lack of basic research, studies and evaluation of successful techniques in those fields,

<sup>4</sup>United Nations publication, Sales No.: 61.IV.4.

<sup>5</sup>Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/4820).

1. *Recommends* that Governments of Member States assess the adequacy of measures dealing with various aspects of the urbanization process and review their national policies and programmes affecting urbanization;

2. *Recommends further* that Governments designate existing, or establish new, organizations as national centres on urbanization in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 830 B (XXXII);

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to suggest appropriate ways of organizing among such centres an international exchange of the results of research and studies and of practical experience in the field of urbanization;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the Special Fund, the regional economic commissions and the specialized agencies concerned to co-operate with Governments in carrying out the necessary basic research and studies, in formulating comprehensive plans for urban and regional development and in establishing and expanding the required community service and facilities;

5. *Invites* Governments to enlist citizens' participation in such programmes.

*1081st plenary meeting,  
18 December 1961.*

#### **1677 (XVI). Co-operation for the eradication of illiteracy throughout the world**

*The General Assembly,*

*Expressing its concern* at the fact that there at present exists, in many countries of the world, mass illiteracy which, in several countries, extends to a great part of the population and acts as a brake upon the advance, both of individual countries and of human society as a whole, along the path of economic and social progress,

*Confirming* its resolutions 330 (IV) of 2 December 1949, 743 (VIII) of 27 November 1953, 1049 (XI) of 20 February 1957 and 1463 (XIV) of 12 December 1959, recommending the establishment of free and compulsory primary education and the raising of such education to the level enjoyed by the peoples of the advanced countries,

*Having regard* to its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 768 (XXX) of 21 July 1960 on co-operation on behalf of newly independent countries and 837 (XXXII) of 3 August 1961 on African educational development,

*Convinced* of the great importance of literacy and general education to the development of peaceful and friendly relations among nations and peoples,

*Sharing the view* that the literacy campaign and assistance in all fields of education should be the responsibility of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

*Bearing in mind* the usefulness of the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of literacy and education in general, and particularly of the decision taken by that organization, at the eleventh session of its General Conference, in resolution 8.63 of 15 December 1960,

*Noting* that even greater efforts are called for, at the present time, with a view to eradicating mass illiteracy throughout the world as speedily as possible,

1. *Invites* the United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization:

(a) To make a general review, at a regular session of its General Conference, of the question of the eradication of mass illiteracy throughout the world, with the object of working out concrete and effective measures, at the international and national levels, for such eradication;

(b) To present, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at a regular session a survey of the position in the world with regard to the extension of universal literacy, together with recommendations on the measures which might be taken, within the framework of the United Nations, for co-operation in the eradication of illiteracy;

2. *Calls* for the extension of effective assistance for the eradication of illiteracy and the promotion of education of all kinds to the developing countries both bilaterally and within the framework of the United Nations and its specialized agencies;

3. *Expresses the hope* that the Governments of those countries will assign, in their programmes of social development, prime importance to the problem of eradicating illiteracy.

*1081st plenary meeting,  
18 December 1961.*

#### **1678 (XVI). United Nations Children's Fund**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* the basic importance of child welfare programmes, not only to the future well-being of children but also to the role they will play as useful and productive members of society,

*Noting* the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund entitled "Survey of the needs of children",<sup>6</sup> the decisions of the Executive Board of the Fund following from his report, and Economic and Social Council resolution 827 (XXXII) of 28 July 1961 by which the Council endorsed those decisions,

*Expressing its satisfaction* that the Fund has thus taken steps to translate still more effectively the provisions of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child<sup>7</sup> into improved programmes of welfare for children,

1. *Endorses* the new emphasis and approach represented by those decisions, in particular those aspects which will assist developing countries desiring to:

(a) Make intensive and integrated surveys of child needs for the purpose of identifying those priority needs which might most effectively be met by national and international action;

(b) Draw up long-term plans and programmes for child welfare on the basis of such surveys;

<sup>6</sup> Report by the Executive Director (E/ICEF/410 and Add.1) and supplementary reports by the Bureau of Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (E/ICEF/411-415 and 415/Add.1).

<sup>7</sup> Resolution 1386 (XIV) of 20 November 1959.