2083 (XX). Development and utilization of human resources

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the efforts made by all countries, and particularly the developing countries, to hasten the process of their economic and social development,

Considering that the broadening of man’s horizons and his access to all the conquests of science, technology and culture constitute one of the chief needs of the modern world,

Expressing the conviction that in order to hasten the economic and social progress of the developing countries it is necessary to intensify measures for the full utilization of human resources and especially for the training of national personnel, with due regard for the national plans of each country and their present and long-term requirements for qualified personnel at all levels and in all important sectors of activity,

Recalling its resolution 1515 (XV) of 15 December 1960 in which it noted the importance of proper regard for the human and social aspects of economic development, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1090 A (XXXIX) of 31 July 1965 in which the Council requested the competent organizations of the United Nations family to take concerted steps to prepare programmes of action for promoting training and utilization of human resources in the developing countries,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX) of 31 July 1965 under which the organizations of the United Nations family have been asked, inter alia, to determine how they can make their maximum contribution both individually and by concerted action to the goals of the United Nations Development Decade,

Having regard to the increasing variety of the activities undertaken by organizations of the United Nations family in the sphere of training and utilization of human resources as an essential factor of economic growth,

Having regard also to the need to concert efforts in that direction and to the concern of Member States for the fulfilment by the Economic and Social Council of its functions under the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Welcomes Economic and Social Council resolution 1090 A (XXXIX), in which the Secretary-General is requested to submit to the Council, at its forty-third session, a report on measures calculated to intensify concerted action by the United Nations and the specialized agencies with regard to the training of national personnel for the economic and social development of the developing countries;

2. Invites the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to bear the problems in mind when they review future programmes of action, in accordance with the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX);

3. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To take whatever measures he considers necessary so that the discussion of his report envisaged in Economic and Social Council resolution 1090 A (XXXIX) may culminate in a comprehensive evaluation of the experience gained so far by the United Nations family in the development of human resources;

(b) To make all necessary arrangements for a thorough discussion of this problem at the forty-third session of the Economic and Social Council, with the participation of the specialized agencies concerned—in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations—and the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

1404th plenary meeting, 20 December 1965.

2084 (XX). United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Recalling the high hopes with which the United Nations Development Decade was launched at the sixteenth session of the General Assembly as the first world-wide effort of all peoples to give substance, within a reasonable span of time, to the solemn undertaking, embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1079 (XXXIX) of 28 July 1965, in which the Council took note with satisfaction of the Secretary-General’s intention to set up a group of experts in development planning who should, inter alia, consider and evaluate the programmes and activities of the organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies relating to economic planning and projections,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX) of 31 July 1965, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to review their work programmes and to explore the possibility of formulating future programmes of action and, if possible, to make projections over the next five years with a view to identifying areas in which their organizations can make their maximum contribution, both individually and by concerted action, to the goals of the United Nations Development Decade,

Taking into account the various recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development related to the goals of the United Nations Development Decade,

Bearing in mind that in the proceedings of the thirty-ninth session of the Economic and Social Council, as reflected in resolution 1089 (XXXIX) and in the Secretary-General’s report entitled “United Nations Development Decade at mid-point”, it was recognized that the gap between the standards of living in the developed and developing countries has widened instead of narrowing, and that a series of indicators show slow progress towards the goals laid down for the Decade,

Bearing in mind that in recent years the developing countries have increasingly tended to establish specific targets in the various economic and social fields by means of national development plans,

Considering that this action has not yet been accompanied to an adequate extent by action at the international level and that the United Nations Development Decade therefore lacks a set of specific and realistic goals and objectives, corresponding to the needs of the developing countries, which would permit satisfactory co-ordination of the action programmes of the United Nations family of organizations and allow more rational

15 Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Annexes, agenda item 2, document E/4071.
use to be made of their efforts and available funds, which would, at the same time, allow more effective cooperation with Governments.

Considering that such a set of specific and realistic goals and objectives in the economic and social fields constitutes a basis for the economic security of the developing countries, which goals and objectives can be meaningful only if they are combined with policies, actions and resources designed to ensure to Member States the conditions for their free economic development and which are accordingly not only important for each State individually but essential to world peace and prosperity,

Bearing in mind that the determination of these goals and objectives will make it possible to evolve suitable standards for assessing the progress of the United Nations Development Decade more effectively than has hitherto been possible and thereby further accelerate the advancement and safeguard the economic security of the developing countries,

Convinced that the attainment of the objectives of the United Nations Development Decade depends on the willingness to join in a common effort and on the better organization of this effort, so that the resources available may be brought to bear most effectively in order to eliminate the bottlenecks and thus to achieve rapid development,

1. Reaffirms the urgent necessity of attaining the over-all objectives set for the United Nations Development Decade in General Assembly resolution 1710 (XVI) of 19 December 1961 for each developing country to achieve a substantial increase in the rate of growth, with each country setting its own target, taking as the objective a minimum annual rate of growth of aggregate national income of 5 per cent at the end of the Decade;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the regional economic commissions:

(a) To report jointly on the goals and objectives which have been established by the United Nations family of organizations;

(b) To make every effort, within the possibilities of their regular budgets and of appropriate funds-in-trust, to establish such goals and objectives in appropriate fields where they have not yet been precisely defined;

(c) To explore, as the work of the group of experts in development planning referred to in Economic and Social Council resolution 1079 (XXXIX) progresses, the possibility of establishing a more comprehensive and coherent set of goals and objectives, so that a balance-sheet of the United Nations Development Decade and subsequent periods may be prepared and a method devised for the systematic evaluation of progress and prospects;

(d) To review their plans and programmes in the light of the above-mentioned goals and objectives in order that appropriate international action may be taken in support of efforts at the national and regional levels;

3. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To submit a progress report to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-first session, together with the reports on the review of work programmes requested by the Council in operative paragraph 2 of its resolution 1089 (XXXIX);

(b) To transmit these reports, together with the comments and recommendations of the Council, to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session.

1404th plenary meeting, 20 December 1965.

2085 (XX). United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The General Assembly,

Considering that the strengthening and development of international economic relations, including trade relations, is an important factor in economic and social progress throughout the world,

Recognizing the necessity of providing appropriate solutions to the urgent trade and development problems of the developing countries by increasing their share in world trade, improving their export earnings and augmenting the flow of development assistance,

Taking into account the necessity of encouraging the expansion and diversification of all flows of international trade,

Recognizing the historical significance of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and its importance for the furtherance of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and advancement towards a new dynamic international trade and development policy,

Convinced that the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference, in the light of the Final Act of the Conference, would contribute not only to the acceleration of the economic development of developing countries and thus to the advancement of the world economy as a whole, but also to the strengthening of international peace and security,

Having considered the Final Act and Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Expressing the hope that the problems posed by the Conference and the recommendations contained in the Final Act have since been thoroughly examined by the Member States,

Recalling its resolution 935 (XIX) of 30 December 1964,

Having examined the annual report of the Trade and Development Board for the year 1965,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 1000 (XXXVII) of 20 July 1964, 1011 (XXXVII) of 24 July 1964 and 1095 (XXXIX) of 23 November 1965,


2. Takes note also of the annual report of the Trade and Development Board for the year 1965, and of the comments contained in the report of the Economic and Social Council on the first part of its resumed thirty-ninth session;

3. Decides, in accordance with Trade and Development Board resolutions 22 (S-I) of 29 October 1965 and 5 (1) of 28 April 1965, to establish the headqua-

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18 Ibid., Supplement No. 3 A (A/6003/Add.1).