

ments for completing first-cycle programmes and initiating second-cycle programmes, including allocations to programme and administrative support costs and agency overheads;

(d) Such borrowings shall not be used as a means to raise additional funds for the Programme over and above the pledged voluntary contributions and other approved income for any one year;

(e) Repayments shall be made only from the funds voluntarily contributed to the Programme and shall be effected within 60 days of the borrowing;

(f) If possible, borrowing should be free of interest, but if there is a need to pay interest the rate paid should be the lowest possible and in no case higher than that paid by the World Bank for its short-term borrowing and, to the extent possible, the interest shall be paid from earned interest;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to lend moneys to the United Nations Development Programme from appropriate voluntary trust funds in his custody for the purpose and under the conditions specified in paragraph 1 above, on the understanding, however, that in all such cases a consensus decision of the Governing Council of the Programme shall be required.

*106th plenary meeting
21 December 1976*

31/166. United Nations Volunteers

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2659 (XXV) of 7 December 1970 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1966 (LIX) of 30 July 1975,

Noting the expanding role of the United Nations Volunteers in the field of domestic development resulting from the decision taken by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme in 1974 to set up a unit within the United Nations Volunteers programme to deal with the activities in question,

Aware that the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service is in the process of being liquidated under the direction of an interim board appointed by the Council of the International Secretariat and that it has terminated its activities in the field of international volunteer work and domestic development services,

Noting that a number of the activities of the International Secretariat have already been taken over, at the request of the interim board, by the United Nations Volunteers,

1. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme:

(a) To develop further and expand the activities of the United Nations Volunteers in the field of domestic development services;

(b) To ensure that the United Nations Volunteers programme actively promotes the formation of regional advisory groups for domestic development services and subsequently co-operates to the fullest possible extent with such groups;

(c) To ensure that the United Nations Volunteers programme prepares and publishes relevant material on volunteer and domestic development services activities;

2. *Appeals* to Governments to take into account the growing number and widening scope of the activities of the United Nations Volunteers and, consequently, to consider contributing, or increasing their contribution, as the case may be, to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers.

*106th plenary meeting
21 December 1976*

31/167. Expansion of basic services provided by the United Nations Children's Fund in developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3408 (XXX) of 28 November 1975 in which it, *inter alia*, invited the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund to consider in depth the matter of basic services for children in developing countries,

Recognizing that the provision of basic services constitutes an important link in the development process,

Noting that the basic services concept represents the extension, to a number of developmental activities benefiting children, of the same principles as those adopted by the World Health Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, held at Geneva from 13 to 30 May 1975, and by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund at its session held in New York from 14 to 30 May 1975⁸⁰ in connexion with the approach to be followed in meeting basic health needs,

Convinced that the basic services concept and strategy, while providing guidelines for future action by the United Nations Children's Fund, are equally appropriate for adoption by agencies and authorities concerned with the promotion of programmes for human development in developing countries,

Stressing the importance of increased international co-operation in support of basic services as a vital component of social and economic development,

Believing that the external assistance required to support these services should be within the capacity of the international community,

1. *Urges* the developing countries to incorporate the basic services concept and approach in their national development plans and strategies;

2. *Urges* the developed countries and others in a position to do so to provide through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the United Nations Children's Fund, external assistance to supplement the efforts of developing countries in launching or expanding basic services benefiting children;

3. *Urges* the international community to recognize its responsibility for increased co-operative action to promote social and economic development through its support of basic services at the international and the country programming level.

*106th plenary meeting
21 December 1976*

31/168. United Nations Children's Fund

The General Assembly,

Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 2021 (LXI) of 4 August 1976,

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 6 (E/5698).

Having considered the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its session held at United Nations Headquarters from 17 to 28 May 1976,⁸¹

Deeply concerned about the magnitude of the unmet needs of children in developing countries,

Encouraged by the practical and effective opportunities offered for improving the situation of children through the expansion of basic services as part of development strategy,

1. *Endorses* a target for the United Nations Children's Fund of \$200 million in annual revenue from all sources;

2. *Appeals*, with a sense of urgency, to all Governments, especially those of the industrialized countries, and other potential contributors to increase their contributions to the United Nations Children's Fund so that it may rapidly augment its assistance to basic services for children.

106th plenary meeting
21 December 1976

31/169. International Year of the Child

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on measures and modalities to ensure the adequate preparation, support and financing of an international year of the child,⁸² Economic and Social Council decision 178 (LXI) of 5 August 1976 on an international year of the child and the additional report of the Secretary-General⁸³ prepared in the light of the discussions in the Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the fundamental importance in all countries, developing and industrialized, of programmes benefiting children not only for the well-being of the children but also as part of broader efforts to accelerate economic and social progress,

Recalling in this connexion its resolutions 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Deeply concerned that, in spite of all efforts, far too many children, especially in developing countries, are undernourished, are without access to adequate health services, are missing the basic educational preparation for their future and are deprived of the elementary amenities of life,

Convinced that an international year of the child could serve to encourage all countries to review their programmes for the promotion of the well-being of children and to mobilize support for national and local action programmes according to each country's conditions, needs and priorities,

Affirming that the concept of basic services for children is a vital component of social and economic de-

velopment and that it should be supported and implemented by the co-operative efforts of the international and national communities,

Bearing in mind that the year 1979 will be the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child⁸⁴ and could serve as an occasion to promote further its implementation,

Aware that, for an international year of the child to be effective, adequate preparation and the widespread support of Governments, non-governmental organization and the public will be required,

Believing that administrative costs for the international year should be kept to the minimum necessary,

Taking note of the statement made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund before the Second Committee,⁸⁵

1. *Proclaims* the year 1979 International Year of the Child;

2. *Decides* that the International Year of the Child should have the following general objectives:

(a) To provide a framework for advocacy on behalf of children and for enhancing the awareness of the special needs of children on the part of decision-makers and the public;

(b) To promote recognition of the fact that programmes for children should be an integral part of economic and social development plans with a view to achieving, in both the long term and the short term, sustained activities for the benefit of children at the national and international levels;

3. *Urges* Governments to expand their efforts at the national and community levels to provide lasting improvements in the well-being of their children, with special attention to those in the most vulnerable and particularly disadvantaged groups;

4. *Calls upon* the appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system to contribute to the preparation and implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Child;

5. *Designates* the United Nations Children's Fund as the lead agency of the United Nations system responsible for co-ordinating the activities of the International Year of the Child, and the Executive Director of the Fund to be responsible for its co-ordination;

6. *Invites* non-governmental organizations and the public to participate actively in the International Year of the Child and to co-ordinate their programmes for the Year as fully as possible, especially at the national level;

7. *Appeals* to Governments to make contributions or pledges for the International Year of the Child through the United Nations Children's Fund to ensure the adequate financing of activities for the preparation and carrying out of the Year;

8. *Expresses the hope* that Governments, non-governmental organizations and the public will respond generously with contributions to attain the objectives of the International Year of the Child and, through the United Nations Children's Fund and other channels of external aid, to increase substantially the resources available for services benefiting children;

⁸¹ *Ibid.*, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/5847).

⁸² E/5844.

⁸³ A/31/323.

⁸⁴ Resolution 1386 (XIV).

⁸⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Second Committee*, 60th meeting, paras. 28-32.