

3. *Recommends* to the governments of the under-developed countries concerned that they avail themselves of the facilities available to them through the United Nations expanded programme of technical assistance, in order that they may obtain expert advice in the planning of such measures as those listed in the preceding paragraph, for the purpose of improving agrarian conditions.

*312th plenary meeting,
20 November 1950.*

402 (V). Development of arid land

The General Assembly,

Considering that:

(a) One of the basic reasons for the low standard of living in certain under-developed countries is the inadequate extent of the areas at present under cultivation,

(b) The continual increase in the populations of these countries requires the adoption of appropriate and urgent measures for the development of their resources,

(c) It is essential in the above circumstances, if the equitable distribution of land is to be promoted and the standard of living raised, that, among other measures, the areas at present under cultivation be increased by the development of arid zones,

(d) The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 324 D (XI) of 9 August 1950, has recommended an intensification of scientific research to promote the economic and social progress of mankind and has recognized the necessity for co-ordinating the efforts of the various competent bodies of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in order to study the problems of the arid zones both in their scientific and in their practical aspects,

1. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General prepare, in collaboration with the competent specialized agencies, a report on the practical measures adopted for the study of the problems of arid zones and on the technical and financial means employed by the specialized agencies for this purpose;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit his report on this matter not later than to the fourteenth session of the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Calls upon* the Economic and Social Council to examine the report and, with a view to facilitating and encouraging the development of arid land, to consider such measures as:

(a) Devoting sufficient technical and financial means to the study of the relevant scientific and practical problems;

(b) Promoting and co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to that end;

(c) Furnishing appropriate technical assistance to the governments concerned.

*312th plenary meeting,
20 November 1950.*

403 (V). Volume and distribution of national income in under-developed countries

The General Assembly,

Considering that, in order to mobilize better their resources with a view to accelerating their economic development, it is desirable that the under-developed countries should have knowledge of their national income and its distribution,

Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 299 E (XI) of 12 July 1950 concerning national income and social accounts,

1. *Recommends* that the under-developed countries should devote special attention to studies directed towards the calculation of their national income and its distribution;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies concerned to give the most favourable consideration possible to requests for technical assistance made for the above purpose;

3. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to study and report on the volume and distribution of national income in the under-developed countries, with special reference to:

(i) The various income groups and the respective proportions between them;

(ii) The amounts used by these countries to meet their foreign commitments arising from loans and investments, public and private, and the payment of services;

4. *Directs* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the Economic and Social Council a report to enable it to carry out the request made in paragraph 3 above;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in carrying out studies relating to the present resolution, to avoid any duplication with the study recommended in paragraph 16 of Economic and Social Council resolution 294 D (XI) of 12 August 1950.

*312th plenary meeting,
20 November 1950.*

404 (V). Economic development and international economic and commercial policy

The General Assembly,

Considering that the economic welfare of most countries depends on their imports and exports, and that these imports and exports are directly affected by prevailing commercial policies,

Considering further that the United Nations and its specialized agencies must thoroughly and continuously study the extent to which prevailing commercial policies influence the plans for economic development of under-developed countries,

Reaffirms General Assembly resolution 307 (IV) of 16 November 1949 concerning economic development and international economic and commercial policy, and requests that the group of experts, to be appointed by the Secretary-General under Economic and Social