

1935 (XVIII). The role of patents in the transfer of technology to developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1713 (XVI) of 19 December 1961 on the role of patents in the transfer of technology to developing countries,

Taking into account that the study requested of the Secretary-General in resolution 1713 (XVI) could not be completed in time for submission to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session, owing to its broad geographical coverage and substantive character,

Considering the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council that the compilation and analysis of the necessary information should be continued through 1963 so that the study may be submitted to the Committee for Industrial Development, to the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its nineteenth session,

Bearing in mind that, in the report on its second session,⁷ the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, recognizing the importance of patents in facilitating access to technological experience and know-how, suggested that the study should be expedited so that it may be available for consideration by the Conference,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to continue with the preparation of the study referred to in sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of resolution 1713 (XVI), and to submit it to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as well as to the Committee for Industrial Development, to the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its nineteenth session;

2. Recommends the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in its deliberations under item IV of the provisional agenda, entitled "Improvement of the invisible trade of developing countries", to give serious consideration to the study to be prepared by the Secretary-General.

1276th plenary meeting,
11 December 1963.

1936 (XVIII). Establishment of a United Nations capital development fund

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1521 (XV) of 15 December 1960, 1706 (XVI) of 19 December 1961 and 1826 (XVII) of 18 December 1962,

Having considered the report of the Committee on a United Nations Capital Development Fund at its third session,⁸

1. Decides to extend the mandate of the Committee on a United Nations Capital Development Fund so as to enable it to fulfil the tasks entrusted to it by the General Assembly in paragraph 5 (c) of resolution 1826 (XVII);

2. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To prepare, in consultation with the appropriate organs of the United Nations and such other institutions as may be necessary, a study of the practical steps to transform the Special Fund into a capital development

fund in such a way as to include both pre-investment and investment activities;

(b) To complete and circulate this study as part of the documentation prepared for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development jointly with the other documents required by the Preparatory Committee of the Conference in the field of the financing of development;

3. Instructs the Committee on a United Nations Capital Development Fund to consider the study of the Secretary-General in the light of the views which may be expressed at the Conference as well as by the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-seventh session, and to formulate appropriate recommendations for submission to the General Assembly at its nineteenth session for action.

1276th plenary meeting,
11 December 1963.

1937 (XVIII). World campaign for universal literacy

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1677 (XVI) of 18 December 1961 and 1710 (XVI) of 19 December 1961, and Economic and Social Council resolution 972 (XXXVI) of 31 July 1963 on co-operation for the eradication of illiteracy throughout the world,

Having considered with appreciation the report on the world campaign for universal literacy,⁹ called for by the General Assembly, which was approved by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twelfth session and transmitted to the Assembly through the Economic and Social Council,

Expressing its deep concern at the grave situation revealed in this report, which indicated that:

(a) According to the best available estimate, more than 700 million adults fifteen years of age and over, or more than two-fifths of the world's population, were illiterate in the mid-twentieth century,

(b) In many countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America, the percentage of adult illiterates is between 70 and 90 per cent of the population and the rate of illiteracy among women is considerably higher, and in the present circumstances, in these countries alone, approximately 20 to 25 million new illiterates will be added annually to the adult population in the next six or seven years,

Reaffirming its belief that the right to education is one of the fundamental rights of man, as set forth in article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and that mass illiteracy is an obstacle to social and economic progress during the United Nations Development Decade and thereafter,

Recognizing that, while the eradication of illiteracy is in the main a problem requiring national effort, intensified international co-operation also has an important role to play in the solution of this problem,

Noting the broad conclusions brought to the attention of the General Assembly by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in its resolution 1,2531 of 12 December 1962, adopted at its twelfth session,

1. Invites States Members of the United Nations in whose territories illiteracy is still widespread to

⁷ *Ibid.*, agenda item 5, part III, document E/3799, para. 165.

⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session. Annexes. agenda items 12, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39 and 76*