

*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,<sup>81</sup>

*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,<sup>82</sup> 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-General<sup>83</sup> 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 Child<sup>84</sup> 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,<sup>85</sup>

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;

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

<sup>82</sup> E/5844.

<sup>83</sup> A/31/323.

<sup>84</sup> Resolution 1386 (XIV).

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

9. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session, on progress in preparing for the International Year of the Child, including its financing and the level of contributions pledged.

*106th plenary meeting  
21 December 1976*

### 31/170. United Nations Fund for Population Activities

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2211 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 in response to which a trust fund, subsequently named the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, was established in 1967 by the Secretary-General,

*Recalling further* its resolution 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972 in which it, *inter alia*, decided to place the United Nations Fund for Population Activities under the authority of the General Assembly and established the respective roles relating to the Fund of the Economic and Social Council and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities has become a most effective and viable entity in the United Nations system in the population field, owing in particular to its increased resources and its assistance to the developing countries,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities entitled "Priorities in the future allocation of the resources of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities";<sup>86</sup>

2. *Takes note* of the views expressed on this matter at the twenty-second session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme<sup>87</sup> and at the sixty-first session of the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Endorses* the following general principles to be applied in making future allocations of resources:

(a) To promote population activities proposed in international strategies, particularly the World Population Plan of Action;<sup>88</sup>

(b) To meet the needs of developing countries which have the most urgent need for assistance in the area of population activities in view of their population problems;

(c) To respect the sovereign right of each nation to formulate, promote and implement its own population policies;

(d) To promote the self-reliance of recipient countries;

(e) To give special attention to meeting the needs of disadvantaged population groups;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to apply the criteria for establishing priorities and the other recommendations set forth in his report, taking into account the decisions made by the Governing Council in this regard, in close co-operation with the specialized agencies and the regional commissions concerned, as appropriate;

5. *Invites* Governments to continue and to increase their contributions to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in view of the rapidly increasing needs of developing countries for population assistance;

6. *Recommends* that the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, for purposes of continuity of the programme, should normally be appointed for a four-year term;

7. *Urges* continuing full collaboration and co-operation on operational matters between the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as well as between the Executive Director and the executive heads of other organs within the United Nations system in the field of population.

*106th plenary meeting  
21 December 1976*

### 31/171. Operational activities for development

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its twenty-first<sup>89</sup> and twenty-second<sup>90</sup> sessions, as well as the statement of the Administrator of the Programme<sup>91</sup> and the views expressed during the debate on operational activities at the thirty-first session of the General Assembly,

*Reiterating* the principle reflected in the consensus on the functions and operations of the United Nations development system as embodied in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970,

*Endorsing* Economic and Social Council resolution 2024 (LXI) of 4 August 1976,

*Stressing* the continued need for a co-ordinated and integrated approach to technical co-operation activities carried out by the United Nations system according to the priorities of the recipient Governments, as well as General Assembly resolution 3405 (XXX) of 28 November 1975 on new dimensions in technical co-operation,

*Stressing further* that the implementation of multi-lateral technical co-operation is a common endeavour of the organizations and programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Notes with appreciation* that, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2024 (LXI), the

<sup>86</sup> DP/186 and Corr.1.

<sup>87</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 2A (E/5846/Rev.1)*, chap. XVI.

<sup>88</sup> *Report of the World Population Conference, 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. I.

<sup>89</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/5779)*.

<sup>90</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 2A (E/5846/Rev.1).

<sup>91</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Second Committee, 30th meeting, paras. 2-13.*