



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/6975
12 December 1967

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-second session
Agenda item 41

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. I.S. CHADHA (India)

1. At its 1564th meeting, on 23 September 1967, the General Assembly allocated to the Second Committee agenda item 41 entitled "United Nations Development Decade: report of the Secretary-General".
2. The Committee considered this item at its 1166th to 1173rd meetings, held on 5 through 8 December 1967.
3. The Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/6824), a progress report of the Secretary-General (E/4376), a memorandum submitted by the Netherlands (A/C.2/235) and the relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session.^{1/} Also circulated as a document of the Second Committee was a memorandum submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/C.2/241). Two draft resolutions, the texts of which are reproduced in sections I and II below, were submitted under this item.

I

4. At the 1166th meeting, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the delegations of Algeria, Argentina, Chile, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Libya, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Peru, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/L.984), which read as follows:

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/6703 and Corr.1), chapter III.

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 2218 (XXI) of 19 December 1966 on the United Nations Development Decade,

"Endorsing Economic and Social Council resolution 1260 (XLIII) of 3 August 1967 which took note with satisfaction that the Committee for Development Planning had given preliminary thought to the preparation of guidelines and proposals for the next Decade,

"Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1261 (XLIII) of 3 August 1967 on review of past experience and of possibilities for future action in the field of economic development,

"Reaffirming that the possibility and advisability of proclaiming a Charter of Development underlying international co-operation in the interest of economic, social and cultural development deserve further consideration,

"Reaffirming also that it is necessary to look ahead to the next Decade so that concerted international action will be taken for the accelerated social and economic development of the developing countries in the light of the experience gained during the present Decade,

"Stressing the importance of intensifying the preparatory work for the next Decade with a view to having, before the end of the present Decade, a clear and comprehensive picture of the specific goals and targets to be attained by the international community in a common endeavour for the accelerated economic and social development of developing countries,

"Taking into account that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will consider at its second session the major problems of trade and development which will have an important bearing on the preparations for the next Decade,

"1. Requests the Secretary-General to expedite the preparation of the survey requested of him in part A of resolution 2218 (XXI) and to submit the survey to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session through the Economic and Social Council at its forty-fifth session;

"2. Further requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Committee for Development Planning and the executive heads of the members of the United Nations family of organizations, and taking into account the results of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to incorporate suggestions on concrete measures that could be taken both by international organizations and by developing and developed countries, in the preliminary framework of an international development strategy, being prepared by him in pursuance of part B of resolution 2218 (XXI) for submission to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session;

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"3. Urges Governments of Member States to take appropriate steps to intensify national and international efforts for formulating and implementing a dynamic international policy for economic and social development of developing countries to be pursued during the next Decade;

"4. Stresses the importance of enlisting the support of world public opinion in favour of the policies and objectives to be pursued during the next Decade and, towards this end, the desirability for national and international public information media to take the necessary steps in seeking the active co-operation and support of the general public in fulfilment of these objectives;

"5. Decides to consider at its twenty-third session the appropriate procedures to be followed for proclaiming the 1970's as a second United Nations Development Decade and for approving a programme of action within the framework of an international development strategy for it."

5. Upper Volta joined as a sponsor of the draft resolution at the same meeting.

6. At the 1168th meeting, Afghanistan, Ghana, Nepal and Sweden also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. At the 1170th meeting, the sponsors presented a revised text

(A/C.2/L.984/Rev.1) of the draft resolution, which included the following changes:

(a) The words "and its resolution 2158 (XXI) of 25 November 1966 on the permanent sovereignty over natural resources" were added at the end of the first paragraph of the preamble;

(b) The words "and with due regard to safeguarding their economic interests" were added at the end of the fifth paragraph of the preamble;

(c) Operative paragraph 2 was revised to read:

"2. Further requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Committee for Development Planning and the organizations in the United Nations system, and on the basis of the results of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to incorporate suggestions on appropriate measures that international organizations and developing and developed countries might respectively consider taking, in the preliminary framework of an international development strategy, being prepared by him in pursuance of part B of resolution 2218 (XXI) for submission to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session, with due regard to safeguarding the economic interests of the developing countries;"

(d) The opening words of operative paragraph 3 were revised to read:

"Urges Member States to consider taking appropriate steps....".

8. Argentina withdrew as a sponsor of the draft resolution, as revised.

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9. At the 1171st meeting, the co-sponsors, now joined by Guatemala, Morocco and the United Republic of Tanzania, orally revised the first part of operative paragraph 2 to read:

"Further requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Committee for Development Planning and the organizations in the United Nations system, and on the basis of the results of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to incorporate suggestions on the appropriate means of harmonizing measures that could be considered by international organizations, on the one hand, and developing and developed countries, on the other, in the preliminary framework....".

10. At the same meeting, the sponsors agreed to divide the first paragraph of the preamble into two paragraphs, as follows:

"Recalling its resolution 2218 (XXI) of 19 December 1966 on the United Nations Development Decade,

"Recalling further its resolution 2158 (XXI) of 25 November 1966 on permanent sovereignty over natural resources,".

11. The representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland orally proposed an amendment to insert in the preamble a paragraph reading:

"Recalling further its resolution 2087 (XX) of 20 December 1965 on the financing of economic development,".

The representative of Argentina formally proposed that the new paragraph proposed by the United Kingdom, if adopted, should be inserted between the first and second paragraphs of the preamble (see paragraph 10 above).

12. The Committee then voted on the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.984/Rev.1), as orally revised, and the amendment thereto, as follows:

(a) The amendment by the United Kingdom (see paragraph 11 above) was adopted by 39 votes to 16, with 31 abstentions;

(b) The second paragraph of the preamble (see paragraph 10 above) (now the third paragraph), on which a separate vote was requested by Argentina, was approved by 78 votes to none, with 11 abstentions;

(c) The sixth paragraph of the preamble (now the eighth paragraph), on which a separate vote was requested by Malta, was approved by 81 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions;

(d) The draft resolution (A/C.2/L.984/Rev.1) as a whole, as orally revised and amended, was approved by 92 votes to none, with 1 abstention (see paragraph 24 below, draft resolution I). Subsequently, the delegation which abstained requested that its vote be changed to an affirmative vote, in order to enable the draft resolution to be adopted unanimously.

II

13. At the 1170th meeting, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of the delegations of Argentina, Austria, Ceylon, Colombia, Dahomey, Ghana, Liberia, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, the United Arab Republic, the United States of America and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/L.992), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Noting that the year 1970 will follow the end of the first United Nations Development Decade,

"Recalling the appraisal by the Secretary-General on the Development Decade at mid-point, and in particular his emphasis on the development of human resources as 'the greatest potential resource of any country',

"Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1274 (XLIII) of 4 August 1967 on the Development and Utilization of Human Resources,

"Recognizing the urgent need for a more effective mobilization of education and training as an essential element of a successful strategy of international development,

"Recognizing further the fundamental importance of education as a means of widening man's horizons, improving mutual understanding and strengthening international peace,

"Convinced that the proclamation of an International Education Year in 1970, on the basis of appropriate planning, would serve throughout the world to mobilize energies and inspire initiatives in education and training,

"1. Designates the year 1970 as International Education Year;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to consult with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other interested specialized agencies in preparing a programme of activities to be undertaken or initiated by Member States, by the United Nations and by the specialized agencies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and

Cultural Organization, in order to achieve those world-wide initiatives in education which constitute the purpose of the International Education Year;

"3. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the twenty-third session through the Economic and Social Council at its forty-fifth session."

14. Ecuador, India, Iran, Madagascar, Togo and Uruguay joined as sponsors of the draft resolution.

15. At the 1172nd meeting, the co-sponsors presented a revision (A/C.2/L.922/Rev.1) of the draft resolution, which included the following changes:

- (a) The first paragraph of the preamble was deleted;
- (b) The last paragraph of the preamble was reworded to read:

"Convinced that an International Education Year on the basis of appropriate planning, would serve throughout the world to mobilize energies and inspire initiatives in education and training,";

- (c) Operative paragraph 1 was changed to read:

"1. Decides to designate the year 1970 as International Education Year;"

- (d) The last phrase in operative paragraph 2 was revised to read: "in order to initiate those world-wide activities in education which constitute the purpose of the International Education Year";

- (e) The following words were added at the end of operative paragraph 3: "with a view to a formal proclamation of International Education Year by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session".

16. Afghanistan, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania became sponsors of the revised draft resolution.

17. At the 1173rd meeting, the sponsors, now joined by Ethiopia, Guinea and Romania, made further oral revisions in the draft resolution, as follows:

- (a) The third paragraph of the preamble was revised to read:

"Recognizing the urgent need for a more effective mobilization of efforts in education and training as an essential element of a successful strategy of international development,";

- (b) Operative paragraph 1 was reworded to read:

"1. Decides to reserve the year 1970 for an International Education Year;"

(c) In operative paragraph 2, the words "and by other interested bodies" were inserted before the words "in order to initiate those world-wide activities in education....";

(d) Operative paragraph 3 was revised to read:

"3. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the twenty-third session through the Economic and Social Council at its forty-fifth session, so that the General Assembly may decide, on the basis of those preparations, on the proclamation of International Education Year."

18. At the same meeting, the sponsors again revised operative paragraph 1 to read:

"1. Decides to observe an International Education Year and provisionally designates the year 1970 for this purpose, subject to review at the twenty-fourth session in the light of the preparatory work;"

19. The delegations of Chad, Czechoslovakia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Sudan, Syria and Tunisia orally proposed an amendment to replace operative paragraph 1 by the following:

"1. Invites the Secretary-General to examine, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other specialized agencies, the possibility of designating an International Education Year at the beginning of the next Decade;"

20. The delegations of Czechoslovakia and Sudan proposed orally an amendment to operative paragraph 2, whereby the words "and other interested bodies" (see paragraph 17 (c) above) would be changed to read "and other interested inter-governmental bodies". This amendment was accepted by the sponsors.

21. The United Arab Republic withdrew as a sponsor of the draft resolution, as orally revised.

22. Some delegations stated that although they supported the principle of proclaiming an International Education Year, they thought it necessary, before a specific year was designated, that there should first be consultations with the Governments of Member States and the specialized agencies concerned, particularly UNESCO.

23. The Committee then voted on the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.992/Rev.1), as orally revised, and the amendment thereto, as follows:

/...

(a) The amendment of Chad, Czechoslovakia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Sudan, Syria and Tunisia (see paragraph 19 above) was rejected by 30 votes to 26, with 21 abstentions;

(b) Operative paragraph 1 (see paragraph 18 above), on which a separate vote was requested by Tunisia, was approved by 55 votes to 4, with 18 abstentions;

(c) The draft resolution as a whole, as orally revised, on which a roll-call vote was requested by Nigeria, was approved by 76 votes to none, with 6 abstentions (see paragraph 24 below, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Cuba, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Sudan, Syria and Tunisia.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

24. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2218 (XXI) of 19 December 1966 on the United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling also its resolution 2087 (XX) of 20 December 1965 on the financing of economic development,

Recalling further its resolution 2158 (XXI) of 25 November 1966 on permanent sovereignty over natural resources,

Endorsing Economic and Social Council resolution 1260 (XLIII) of 3 August 1967, in which the Council noted with satisfaction that the Committee for Development Planning had given preliminary thought to the preparation of guidelines and proposals for the next Decade,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1261 (XLIII) of 3 August 1967 on review of past experience and of possibilities for future action in the field of economic development,

Reaffirming that the possibility and advisability of proclaiming a charter of development underlying international co-operation in the interests of economic, social and cultural development deserve further consideration,

Reaffirming also that it is necessary to look ahead to the next Decade so that concerted international action will be taken for the accelerated social and economic development of the developing countries in the light of the experience gained during the present Decade, and with due regard to safeguarding their economic interests,

Stressing the importance of intensifying the preparatory work for the next Decade with a view to having, before the end of the present Decade, a clear and comprehensive picture of the specific goals and targets to be attained by the international community in a common endeavour towards the accelerated economic and social development of developing countries,

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Taking into account the fact that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will consider at its second session the major problems of trade and development which will have an important bearing on the preparations for the next Decade,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to expedite the preparation of the survey requested of him in resolution 2218 A (XXI) and to submit the survey to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session through the Economic and Social Council at its forty-fifth session;

2. Further requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Committee for Development Planning and the organizations in the United Nations system, and on the basis of the results of the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to incorporate suggestions on the appropriate means of harmonizing measures that could be considered by international organizations, on the one hand, and by developing and developed countries, on the other, in the preliminary framework of an international development strategy being prepared by him in pursuance of resolution 2218 B (XXI) for submission to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session, with due regard to safeguarding the economic interests of the developing countries;

3. Urges Member States to consider taking appropriate steps to intensify national and international efforts to formulate and implement a dynamic international policy for the economic and social development of developing countries to be pursued during the next Decade;

4. Stresses the importance of enlisting the support of world public opinion in favour of the policies and objectives to be pursued during the next Decade and, towards this end, the desirability for national and international public information media to take the necessary steps in seeking the active co-operation and support of the general public in fulfilment of these objectives;

5. Decides to consider at its twenty-third session the appropriate procedures to be followed for proclaiming the 1970's as a second United Nations Development Decade and for approving a programme of action within the framework of an international development strategy for that Decade.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

International Education Year

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Secretary-General's appraisal of the United Nations Development Decade at mid-point, and in particular his emphasis on the development of human resources as the greatest potential resource of any country,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1274 (XLIII) of 4 August 1967 on the development and utilization of human resources,

Recognizing the urgent need for a more effective mobilization of efforts in education and training as an essential element of a successful strategy of international development,

Recognizing further the fundamental importance of education as a means of widening man's horizons, improving mutual understanding and strengthening international peace,

Convinced that an International Education Year on the basis of appropriate planning would serve throughout the world to mobilize energies and inspire initiatives in education and training,

1. Decides to observe an International Education Year and provisionally designates the year 1970 for this purpose, subject to review at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly, in the light of the preparatory work;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to consult with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other interested specialized agencies in preparing a programme of activities to be undertaken or initiated by Member States, by the United Nations and by the specialized agencies, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and by other interested inter-governmental bodies, in order to initiate those world-wide activities in education which constitute the purpose of the International Education Year;

3. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session through the Economic and Social Council at its forty-fifth session, so that the Assembly may decide, on the basis of those preparations, on the proclamation of International Education Year.