developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, members of the regional economic commissions and of the United Nations Economic and Social Office at Beirut,

5. Requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to study the possible ways of promoting, within the present proportional allocation of resources, in accordance with paragraphs 25 and 26 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV), a greater number of global projects in the context of the implementation of the objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade in the field of science and technology, with emphasis on industrial development and agricultural, pastoral, artisanal, tourism and mining development, as well as natural resources development in general;

6. Also stresses that the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme should prepare the omnibus statute of the Programme in such a way that it incorporates any new matter or procedures that might be agreed upon at its thirteenth and fourteenth sessions and, at the same time, keeps the flexibility necessary for the future adaptation of the Programme to changing situations;

7. Requests the United Nations Development Programme:

(a) To establish and implement, in collaboration with the Committee on Natural Resources, special programmes in the field of the identification and optimum utilization of the natural resources of the least developed among the developing countries;

(b) To exempt the least developed among the developing countries from the payment of local costs as long as required by their special situation;

8. Further stresses that the scope of the activities of the Inter-Agency Consultative Board must correspond to its functions of interagency consultations and co-ordination at the secretariat level and should be defined accordingly by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at the earliest possible opportunity, in the light of paragraph 65 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV);

9. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1617 (LI) of 27 July 1971 on projects in the field of industrial development;

10. Expresses the hope that increased contributions to the United Nations Development Programme will make it possible to enlarge substantially the resources available for the Programme, taking especially into account the interests and needs of the least developed among the developing countries.

> 2017th plenary meeting, 14 December 1971.

## 2815 (XXVI). United Nations Fund for Population Activities

## The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1084 (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965 on the work programmes and priorities in the population fields,

Recalling further 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,

Bearing in mind the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, contained in General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, with particular reference to the demographic objectives and policy measures set forth in paragraphs 13 and 65 of the Strategy,

Recognizing the responsibility of the Population Commission to assist the Economic and Social Council in accordance with its terms of reference, as defined in Council resolution 150 (VII) of 10 August 1948,

Noting that the Secretary-General has requested the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to administer the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and that an Executive Director of the Fund has been appointed,

Further noting with satisfaction the progress made to date by the Fund to which, so far, thirty-two countries have contributed,

Aware that the Fund has now become a viable entity in the United Nations system,

*Convinced* that the Fund should play a leading role in the United Nations system in promoting population programmes-consistent with the decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Councilon the problem of fast population growth as well as on the problem of under-population, which could, among other things, hamper rapid economic development,

*Recognizing* the need for the executing agencies of the Fund to implement with dispatch, in close co-operation with the Fund, population programmes requested by developing countries in order that such programmes may have the desired impact,

*Expressing its appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General, which have resulted in the unprecedented growth and expansion of the Fund, and of the support extended by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme,

1. Invites Governments which are in a position to do so and whose policies would allow it to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, to take the necessary steps to achieve the desired improvements in the administrative machinery of the Fund aimed at the efficient and expeditious delivery of population programmes, including measures to quicken the pace of recruiting the experts and personnel required to cope with the increasing volume of requests, as well as to consider the training of experts and personnel in the developing countries;

3. Further requests the Secretary-General to inform the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-third session and the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session of the steps he has taken in the implementation of the present resolution and of any recommendations he may wish to make in this regard.

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