

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

Council resolution 290 (XI), paragraph 13, after consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization, pay due attention to the influence that prevailing commercial policies have on national plans for the economic development of under-developed countries.

*312th plenary meeting,
20 November 1950.*

405 (V). Full employment

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 290 (XI) of 15 August 1950 concerning full employment, has formulated recommendations to governments designed to strengthen the resistance of their national economies and of the international economic structure against the danger of recession,

Considering that the additional studies which the Secretary-General and the various groups of experts are requested to undertake by that resolution are designed to provide a sound basis for the adoption of national and international measures tending to ensure full employment, both in economically advanced and in under-developed countries,

1. *Notes* with satisfaction the vigorous action taken by the Economic and Social Council in connexion with full employment;

2. *Invites* governments to co-operate with the Secretary-General in carrying out the tasks entrusted to him.

*320th plenary meeting,
12 December 1950.*

406 (V). Current world economic situation

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that, as a result of the international events of the last few months, new economic factors have appeared which may unbalance and dislocate the general economic stability and the economic progress of many countries,

Recognizing that, under Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter, the United Nations is under an obligation to use all the means at its disposal to ensure the steady growth of the world economy and to prevent the emergence of those factors of economic disequilibrium which impair general economic stability and disturb the economic development of the under-developed countries,

1. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, when examining the world economic situation during its twelfth session, to pay special attention to changes currently taking place in the international economic situation, with a view to recommending to governments and to the General Assembly measures designed to make possible the uninterrupted progress of programmes of economic stability and development;

2. *Invites* all the members of the Economic and Social Council to submit to the twelfth session of the Council their views concerning the way in which the current world situation has affected their economic progress and the prospects of continuing world eco-

nomie expansion, and, if possible, to communicate these views, through the Secretary-General, to the Council before the opening of its twelfth session;

3. *Invites* all the other Members of the United Nations similarly to submit their views to the Council, with the object of assisting the Council in its task of recommending measures referred to in paragraph 1 above to the governments and to the General Assembly.

*320th plenary meeting,
12 December 1950.*

407 (V). Guides for organization and collection of economic data in under-developed countries

The General Assembly,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council, in resolution 290 (XI) of 15 August 1950, *inter alia*,

(a) Recommended that governments should furnish the Secretary-General with a wide range of economic and statistical information relating to the implementation of that resolution,

(b) Stated that "*Having regard* to the fact that, in some predominantly agricultural countries, figures for unemployment and under-employment may not be easily ascertainable and full employment goals may, if related only to industrial labour, lead to misleading conclusions, and that, consequently, it may not be possible for such countries to implement certain provisions of this resolution",

(c) Invited the International Labour Organisation to take all feasible further steps towards the practical implementation of the recommendations in order to facilitate international comparability of employment and unemployment data with special reference to their use in the formulation of full employment standards and annual employment goals, policies and programmes,

Being aware that the Economic and Social Council, in part E of the above-mentioned resolution, recommended that the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies should provide, within their capacities, technical assistance to governments, on their request, for the purpose of assisting under-developed countries in this respect,

Recommends that the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies, taking into account the different institutional circumstances in the under-developed countries, prepare material which may serve to guide governments wishing to make use thereof and which should set forth:

(a) The types of data considered necessary to provide up-to-date information regarding the level of economic activity, employment, unemployment and under-employment;

(b) Procedures and methods suitable for obtaining and presenting such data;

(c) Other suggestions relating to the organization of adequate government machinery necessary for obtaining the said data.

*320th plenary meeting,
12 December 1950.*