

FOURTEENTH SESSION

6 - 27 June 1972

(for reference, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No.2A, E/5185/Rev.1)

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72/32. Country programmes

13. At its 319th meeting, the Governing Council:

(a) Approved the proposed UNDP country programmes for Argentina, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chile, Costa Rica, Gabon, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Khmer Republic, Madagascar, Peru, Poland and Uganda, within the limits of their approved indicative planning figures and for the duration of their respective programme period; and

(b) Authorized the Administrator to proceed with appraisal and approval action on requests for assistance falling within the outlines of the country programmes, and calling for planned expenditures which may be contained within their approved indicative planning figures and the resources currently available at any given time.

319th meeting
9 June 1972

72/33. Project recommendations of the Administrator

16. At its 319th meeting, the Governing Council:

(a) Approved the three projects listed in annex II to this report; and

(b) Authorized the Administrator to make the appropriate arrangements with the Governments and Executing Agencies for the execution of those projects.

319th meeting
9 June 1972

72/34. Actions taken by the Administrator concerning projects

26. At its 319th meeting, the Governing Council took note of documents DP/L.232 (Volumes I-VI) and addenda, and of the explanations given by the Administration and the views expressed by members of the Council.

319th meeting
9 June 1972

72/35. United Nations Volunteers

147. At its 319th meeting, the Council took note with satisfaction of the measures taken by the Administrator to give effect to its decision at the thirteenth session.

319th meeting
9 June 1972

72/36. Information papers on the regular programmes of technical assistance in 1971 of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

150. At its 319th meeting, the Governing Council took note with satisfaction of document DP/L.227.

319th meeting
9 June 1972

72/37. Further assessment of experience in country programming

101. At its 326th meeting, following discussions, the Governing Council approved the text reproduced below in paragraphs 102 to 114 in connexion with its further assessment of experience in country programming.

102. Time factor. The Council takes note of the slight improvements which have taken place with respect to the time available for the preparation of the country programmes. It further notes that for country programmes to be submitted to the January 1973 Governing Council and later the situation will be normal as:

(a) Time will be available to carry out all steps envisaged in the "Guidelines for the preparation of Country Programmes".

(b) Full feedback of the experience of the first two country programming exercises to the Resident Representatives and agencies will have taken place. This will, inter alia, lead to an improvement of the timing of the many steps envisaged in the Guidelines and, in particular, the allocation of more time for the most crucial periods of the process (e.g., time allowed for UNDP Headquarters and agencies' comments on the background paper).

103. (a) Linkage with Government development priorities. Taking into consideration the many different forms such linkages can take, the Council notes that the country programmes approved by the Governing Council at its fourteenth session do only to some extent reflect the Governments' priorities. The Council re-emphasizes that further efforts are needed to make these linkages more explicit.

(b) Co-ordination with the World Food Programme (WFP), The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other organizations. The Council would appreciate information at its fifteenth session on the results of the Administrator's efforts in this field.

104. Evaluation of on-going programmes. It is essential that a thorough evaluation of on-going projects take place as an integral part of the country programming exercise and that the conclusion of such an evaluation is brought to bear on the country programme also when this implies a major shift in emphasis of UNDP assistance. The 16 country programmes approved at the fourteenth session show a wide variation with respect to the number and financial cost of the on-going projects. Such a variation is, of course, quite natural. What is worth noting is the fact that most of these 16 country programmes give a clear indication that a thorough evaluation of on-going projects has taken place. This is an important improvement upon the country programmes submitted at the thirteenth session and the Council requests the Administrator to continue to work for fuller improvements in this field. The Council endorses the idea of the Administrator of providing external inputs into the evaluation process when needed.

105. Periodic reviews of country programmes. The Council agrees with the proposed flexibility. However, the question of periodicity will to some extent be dependent on the decision the Council will take on the question of rolling IPFs (see paragraph 27-39 above). The timing of individual reviews will depend on a number of factors and considerations, the most important of which are:

(a) The programme should be well under way before it is subjected to review (normally 1-1/2 - 2 years);

(b) Timing of the Government's review of its development plan or development objectives.

The procedures should follow closely those in effect for the preparation of the country programme itself with the important exception that the country programme as revised need only be resubmitted to the Council if major changes have been introduced. In all other cases a report will do.

106. Co-ordination of external inputs. The Council endorses, at the same time as it recalls paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Consensus, the Administrator's proposals contained in paragraphs 16 and 17 of document DP/L.224.

107. Second United Nations Development Decade strategy. The Council takes note of the Administrator's actions.

108. Reserve programming. The Council agrees with the Administrator's position that there should be no upper or lower limits on the size of the reserve programme. What is important, however, is that there is a clearly established functional link between the reserve programme and country programme proper.

109. Front-loading. The Council endorses the views and recommendations of the Budgetary and Finance Committee in regard to front-loading: i.e., there is insufficient information available to assess accurately the impact of front-loading. This question should be kept under active review and should be discussed at subsequent sessions of the Council.

110. Unprogrammed reserve. The Council supports the concept of an unprogrammed reserve. However, it should be clearly understood that the establishment of such a reserve must not be made incompatible with full utilization of the IPF without sacrificing the quality of the programmes.

111. Documentation. The Council has noticed some improvement in the timely distribution of Governing Council documentation. The situation is, however, far from satisfactory and the Administrator is requested to take all necessary steps to considerably improve the situation for the fifteenth session of the Governing Council.

112. Staggering of country programmes in 1973. The Council takes note of the tentative schedule of submission of country programmes for 1973 and 1974 submitted in document DP/L.224/Add.1, but requests from the Administrator a report to the fifteenth session on the possibilities of having country programmes for all remaining developing countries submitted to the Council in 1973.

113. Presentation of country programmes. The Council appreciates the uniformity already attained in the notes by the Administrator and that a number of the views expressed at the thirteenth session have been implemented (DP/L.224, paragraphs 29 (a), (c), (d), (e)). The Council shares the view of the Administrator that it is neither possible nor desirable to enforce stringent requirements for uniformity in the presentation of the country programmes themselves.

114. Concluding observations by the Administrator. The Council noted with satisfaction the Administrator's concluding observations (DP/L.224, paragraphs 34 and 35).

326th meeting
14 June 1972

72/38. Review of the organization of UNDP and its
methods and general procedures

162. At its 326th meeting, the Governing Council took note of the report of the Administrator (DP/L.245) and of the views expressed by the members of the Council during the discussion.

326th meeting
14 June 1972

72/39. Personnel for development assistance

330. At its 328th meeting, the Governing Council:

(a) Took note, with appreciation, of the Administrator's report on personnel for development assistance (DP/L.246) and of the steps which he was taking to improve the quality and performance of UNDP staff, as well as of the views expressed in the Council.

(b) Looked forward to receiving further reports at appropriate future sessions in the progress made and results achieved.

328th meeting
15 June 1972

72/40. The activities of UNDP in 1971

173. At its 329th meeting, the Governing Council took note with satisfaction of the report of the Administrator on the activities of UNDP in 1971, with relevant supplementary documentation and reports of the Joint Inspection Unit, and of the views expressed by members of the Council during the discussion of this item.

329th meeting
16 June 1972

72/41. Role of UNDP in promoting investment follow-up

183. At its 329th meeting, the Governing Council:

(a) Took note with appreciation of the Administrator's report on the role of UNDP in promoting investment follow-up (DP/L.241) and of the views expressed by members of the Council during the discussion, and

(b) Looked forward to the Administrator's future reports on the implementation of his plans by the United Nations system.

329th meeting
16 June 1972

72/42. Communication services to support projects and programmes

211. At its 330th meeting, the Governing Council:

(a) Took note of the Administrator's proposed plan of action for assistance in development support communication, and the proposed financing of basic pooled services and facilities for groups of countries within the framework of an interregional project; and

(b) Authorized the Administrator, bearing in mind the views expressed during the discussion by members of the Council and the representative of UNESCO, to submit the proposed interregional project to the Governing Council for further consideration at its fifteenth session.

330th meeting
16 June 1972

72/43. Report of the Administrator on the thirteenth session of the Interagency Consultative Board

353. At its 330th meeting, the Governing Council took note of the report of the Administrator on the thirteenth session of the IACB (DP/L.242) and of the views expressed by members of the Council.

330th meeting
16 June 1972

72/44. Indicative planning figures

39. At its 333rd meeting, the Governing Council decided:

(a) To defer further consideration of the establishment of a system of IPFs on the basis of a development cycle to the sixteenth session of the Council and requested the Administrator to submit a revised study of this problem in the light of the debate at its fourteenth session;

(b) Pending the result of that consideration, whenever a country programme period extends beyond the 1972-1976 development cycle, that for planning purposes the imputed annual resources for the period extending beyond 1976 shall be the same as the average annual resources within the IPF for the 1972-1976 development cycle, and the country programme may be drawn up on this basis provided that in no case shall expenditure in the 1972-1976 development cycle exceed, as a result of this decision, the IPF for that cycle. This decision shall be without prejudice to any decision the Council may take at the appropriate time on a system of IPFs for the countries concerned which would take effect during 1977-1981 development cycle;

(c) To adopt for the 1972-1976 programme cycle the IPFs as set out in table 1 of document DP/L.237, subject to the following changes:

(1) <u>Country</u>	(2) <u>Proposed IPF in DP/L.237</u>	(3) <u>Approved IPF</u>	(4) <u>Increase (Decrease) of Col. 3 over Col. 2</u>
Bangladesh	0.0	18.5	18.5
Bhutan	5.0	2.5	(2.5)
Equatorial Guinea	5.0	3.5	(1.5)
Haiti	7.5	6.0	(1.5)
Pakistan	35.0	18.5	(16.5)
Qatar	2.5	1.5	(1.0)
Sudan	15.0	20.0	5.0
Undistributed Asia and Far East	3.0	2.5	<u>(0.5)</u> - 0 -

(d) To consider the IPF approvals for Bangladesh and Pakistan to be provisional in character pending further assessment of the development needs of these countries. Appropriate IPFs for Bangladesh and Pakistan should be submitted for approval by the Governing Council as soon as possible.

333rd meeting
20 June 1972

72/45. Special measures in favour of the least developed countries

137. At its 335th meeting, the Governing Council approved the following decision:

The Governing Council:

1. Taking into account General Assembly resolution 2768 (XXVI) of 18 November 1971, which designated 25 countries as the hard-core least developed countries requiring special attention, and the resolution adopted by the third session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on 19 May 1972 concerning financial and technical assistance to the least developed countries;
2. Considers that immediate steps should be taken to provide extra assistance to the least developed countries, until significant and longer-range increases in IPFs for these countries planned for the period 1977-1981 are achieved;
3. Takes note with appreciation of the note by the Administrator (DP/L.238 and Add.1);
4. Records with satisfaction that it has been possible to approve recommendations for changes in IPFs covering the period 1972-1976 which will provide an additional amount of \$10.8 million for several of the least developed countries;
5. Decides that the Administrator should take immediate and appropriate action to provide an amount of \$15 million for the least developed countries from estimated programme resources for the period 1973-1976, through such measures as specifically setting aside \$12 million from the Programme Reserve including such Special Industrial Services and Investment Feasibility Studies to go to the least developed countries as are consistent with their special needs for these programmes, and making arrangements with the Participating and Executing Agencies for the provision of \$3 million from the savings achieved in the resources earmarked for overhead cost payments;
6. Expresses the hope that pledges made at the UNDP Pledging Conference in the autumn of 1972 will result in clear prospects for contributions during the remainder of the 1972-1976 programme cycle allowing for an extra effort in favour of the least developed countries so that the Administrator will be able to make recommendations for an increase in their share over the IPFs by at least \$30 million in addition to the funds foreseen in paragraphs 4 and 5 above;
7. Requests the Administrator, in the light of the results achieved during the Pledging Conference, to submit proposals for the most effective plan for, and appropriate utilization of the total additional amount available for the least developed countries for consideration by the Governing Council at its fifteenth session.

335th meeting
21 June 1972

72/46. Role of UNDP in promoting industrial development

199. At its 335th meeting, the Governing Council:

(a) Took note of the Administrator's progress report on the promotion of industrial development (DP/L.233) and of the views expressed by members of the Council during the discussion;

(b) Took note with appreciation of the report of the Ad hoc Committee on Co-operation between UNDP and UNIDO (A/8646) and endorsed its recommendations concerning measures to improve co-operation between UNDP and UNIDO and more efficient implementation of industrial development projects:

(c) Approved the general principles governing the programme of Special Industrial Services as embodied in operative paragraph 1 of resolution 35 (VI) of the Industrial Development Board and recommended their approval to the Economic and Social Council, taking into account the nature of SIS projects which require urgent and often unpredictable action;

(d) Decided to make available on a yearly basis from the Programme Reserve for the financing of SIS projects \$2.5 million and in addition to this an amount in the order of magnitude of \$1 million for SIS projects as required by the least developed countries. Such amount if required should be charged against the part of the Programme Reserve which is set aside for the least developed countries.

335th meeting
21 June 1972

72/47. Audit reports for the year ended 31 December 1970 relating to expenditures by Participating and Executing Agencies of funds allocated from UNDP

216. At its 336th meeting, on the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, the Governing Council took note of the report (DP/L.223) and of the comments made in the Committee.

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/48. Comprehensive statement on the financial position of UNDP
for 1971 and final report on the Revolving Fund

223. At its 336th meeting, on the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, the Governing Council took note of documents DP/L.226 and DP/L.226/Add.1 and of the comments made, and extended through the Administrator a general plea to all Governments for payment of arrears.

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/49. Size and composition of the Operational Reserve

227. At its 336th meeting, on the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, the Governing Council accepted that the Operational Reserve be maintained for the time being at the level of \$150 million as recommended by the Administrator, and that its size and composition be kept under review by the Council.

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/50. Agency overhead costs

239. At its 336th meeting, on the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, the Governing Council:

(a) Took note of document DP/L.225 and Add.1.

(b) Sought the advice and comments of the JIU and ACABQ in making its decision on the study of overhead costs.

(c) Requested the Administrator to submit to the fifteenth session of the Governing Council a further progress report on the study.

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/51. Revised estimates of resources and programme costs for 1972
and estimates of resources and programme costs for 1973-1977

259. At its 336th meeting, the Governing Council approved the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee.

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/52. Waiver of assessed programme costs payable in local currency
and retroactive waiver of assessed programme costs payable
in local currency

267. At its 336th meeting, on the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, the Governing Council:

(a) Approved the Administrator's recommendations in paragraphs 2 and 4 of document DP/L.243;

(b) Requested the Administrator to undertake and submit to the sixteenth session of the Council an in-depth study on the principle and the implications of the proposal for abolishing the assessed programme costs payable in local currency, taking into consideration counterpart contributions:

(c) Requested the Administrator to grant waivers to the 25 hard-core least developed of the developing countries for the full period of the present five-year development cycle;

(d) Requested the Administrator to continue to consider waivers to other countries individually and on an ad hoc basis only until some other criteria shall have been determined.

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/53. Budget estimates for the administrative and programme support services of UNDP for the year 1973

305. At its 336th meeting, on the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, the Governing Council adopted the following decision:

(a) The Governing Council generally agreed to the broad lines of the proposals contained in the Administrator's budget estimates (DP/L.228 and Corr.1) and specifically approved the proposed establishment of a second post of Deputy Administrator. The Council noted that the Administrator would submit to the fifteenth session the results of his review of the organizational and staffing arrangements at Headquarters and recommendations arising therefrom together with the consequential specific revisions to the 1973 budget proposals. The Council urged the Administrator, in formulating his revision of the estimates, to take fully into account the suggestions for economies made in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/3648) and in the discussions in the Budgetary and Finance Committee and to seek total savings of around \$500,000 as suggested by the ACABQ.

(b) The Council, at its fifteenth session, would review the budgetary revisions which would be submitted by the Administrator and take a final decision on the budget appropriations for 1973. The Administrator's submission for this purpose would consist of revisions, with appropriate explanations, to the estimates already submitted rather than a new budget document as a whole.

(c) This departure from the agreed arrangement of approving the following year's budget at the June session was regarded as exceptional in view of the provisional nature of the budget estimates for 1973.

(d) Pending approval by the Governing Council at its next regular session in January 1973 of the budget for 1973, the Council authorized the Administrator to maintain during the first part of January 1973 a rate of expenditure in respect of the budget at a level not to exceed that approved for 1972.

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/54. Anticipated savings in the budget for the administrative and programme support services of UNDP for the year 1972

311. At its 336th meeting, on the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, the Governing Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Administrator on anticipated savings in the budget for the administrative and programme support services of the UNDP for the year 1972 and requested the Administrator to continue his efforts for further savings in this budget; and

(b) Approved the transfers of unused credits between budget sections as reflected in the revised budget contained in annex I of that report (DP/L.229).

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/55. Sectoral support to resident representatives

315. At its 336th meeting, on the recommendation of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, the Council took note of the interim progress report by the Administrator (DP/L.235).

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/56. Establishment of a United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration

382. At its 336th meeting, the Governing Council decided:

(a) To take note of the note by the Administrator (DP/L.247 and Corr.1) on the proposed establishment of the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration; and

(b) Requested the Administrator to transmit to the Economic and Social Council, for consideration at its fifty-third session, the chapter of its report incorporating the views expressed in the course of its debate on this item.

336th meeting
21 June 1972

72/57. United Nations technical co-operation activities

342. At its 337th meeting, the Governing Council took note with satisfaction of the Secretary-General's report (DP/RP/13) and of the statements made by members of the Council.

337th meeting
22 June 1972

72/58. United Nations Capital Development Fund

347. At its 337th meeting, the Governing Council decided:

(a) To take note of the progress report by the Administrator (DP/L.222) and the views expressed by members of the Governing Council during the discussion;

(b) To invite the Administrator to explore with the least developed countries, in co-operation with other developing countries, the possibility of financing from the United Nations Capital Development Fund a selected small number of small-scale plants; and

(c) To request the Administrator, with reference to paragraph 44 of the resolution adopted on 19 May 1972 by UNCTAD at its third session, to prepare a study of the feasibility of using the United Nations Capital Development Fund first and foremost for the least developed countries and to submit his findings and recommendations to the Council at its fifteenth session.

337th meeting
22 June 1972

72/59. Review of criteria to be followed in calculating indicative planning figures

99. At its 338th meeting, on the basis of a draft proposed by the President of the Governing Council, the Council decided to:

- (a) Take note of the recommendation of the Working Group and the amendments to it proposed by the President of the Council containing proposals for new criteria to be followed in calculating indicative planning figures, and of DP/L.240 containing the Administrator's note on the same subject;
- (b) Include this item on the agenda of the fifteenth session for the further consideration of the proposals contained in the recommendation of the Working Group and in the amendments to it proposed by the President of the Council and in the note by the Administrator (DP/L.240); and
- (c) Request the Administrator to present to the fifteenth session calculations of indicative planning figures based on the fundamental criteria contained in the recommendation of the Working Group and the amendments to it proposed by the President of the Council and on different assumptions with respect to total resources available for country indicative planning figures so as to illustrate the results of the application of the proposed criteria to the indicative planning figures for the development cycle 1977-1981.

338th meeting
22 June 1972

72/60. Date and place of the fifteenth session of the Governing Council

383. At its 339th meeting, the Governing Council decided to hold its fifteenth session from 22 January to 9 February 1973 at United Nations Headquarters. It was also agreed that the Budgetary and Finance Committee would convene at United Nations Headquarters on 18 January.

339th meeting
23 June 1972

72/61. Provisional agenda for the fifteenth session of the Governing Council

384. At the same meeting, the Council agreed on the following provisional agenda for its fifteenth session:

1. Opening of the session
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Country and intercountry programming and projects
 - (a) Consideration, in private meetings, and approval by the Council of individual country programmes
 - (b) Consideration, in private meetings, and approval by the Council of projects recommended by the Administrator
 - (c) Report by the Administrator on projects approved between the fourteenth and fifteenth sessions
 - (d) Report by the Administrator on review of regional and interregional projects
 - (e) Further consideration of the experience in country programming
 - (f) Further review of criteria to be followed in calculating indicative planning figures for the 1977-1981 period
 - (g) Report on actions taken and suggested as to special measures in favour of the least developed among developing countries
5. Financial matters:
 - (a) Revised estimates of resources and Programme costs for 1973 and for the period 1972-1976
 - (b) Arrangements for the custodianship of UNDP funds
 - (c) Progress report on agency overhead costs
 - (d) Audit reports
 - (e) Programme Reserve

6. Administrative and budgetary matters:
 - (a) Report by the Administrator on arrangements to provide advice and support to Resident Representatives in sectoral fields
 - (b) UNDP participation in the United Nations staff college
 - (c) Report by the Administrator on headquarters premises of UNDP
 - (d) Revised budget estimates for the year 1973
 - (e) General outline of budget estimates for the year 1974
7. Draft omnibus statute for the Programme for consideration by the General Assembly (General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV))
8. Action taken in 1972 by organs of the United Nations and related agencies on matters relating to the United Nations Development Programme
9. United Nations Capital Development Fund
10. United Nations technical co-operation activities
11. Date and provisional agenda of the sixteenth session of the Governing Council
12. Other matters
13. Draft report of the Governing Council to the fifty-fifth session of the Economic and Social Council

339th meeting
23 June 1972

