



**United Nations
Development Programme**

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/1983/35
10 June 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GOVERNING COUNCIL
Thirtieth session
June 1983
Agenda item 6 (f)

TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation
among Developing Countries on its third session*

* Provisional text only. The final text will be issued as a document for the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly (A/38/___).

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION	1	3
I. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK	2 - 18	3
A. Date and place of the session	2 - 3	3
B. Attendance	4 - 11	3
C. Opening of the session and election of the President ...	12 - 14	6
D. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.....	15 - 16	6
E. Election of officers other than the President	17 - 18	6
II. SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL DEBATE	19 - 74	7
A. Opening statement by the Deputy Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme	19 - 31	7
B. Statement made on behalf of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation	32 - 39	10
C. Summary of the views of delegations	40 - 74	11
III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	75 - 84	18
A. Report of the Working Group	76 - 80	18
B. Schedule and organization of work for the 1985 session of the High-level Committee	81	20
C. Report on credentials	82	20
D. Draft report of the Plenary	83 - 84	20
IV. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION	85 - 86	21
<u>Annexes</u>		
I. Decisions adopted by the High-level Committee at its third session ..		22
II. List of documents		33

INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with recommendation 37 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1/ as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134, a High-level Meeting of all States participating in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was convened in Geneva from 26 May to 2 June 1980, to carry out an overall, intergovernmental review of technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) within the United Nations development system. The report of the first session of the intergovernmental body 2/ was considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session. The General Assembly decided, inter alia, to change the name of the High-level Meeting to High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, and requested the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to convene the next session of the Committee under the same organizational and procedural arrangements as were made for the High-level Meeting. The second session of the High-level Committee met in New York from 1 to 8 June 1981 and its report 3/ was considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.

I. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. Date and place of the session

2. The third session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries was held in New York from 31 May to 8 June 1983.

3. In accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 35/202, the session was convened by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme under the same procedural arrangements as for its previous session. At the third session, however, arrangements were made for only one Working Group.

B. Attendance

4. The following 89 States participating in the United Nations Development Programme were represented at the session:

Afghanistan	Haiti	Philippines
Algeria	Hungary	Poland
Angola	India	Portugal
Argentina	Indonesia	Republic of Korea
Austria	Iraq	Romania
Bangladesh	Ireland	Rwanda
Belgium	Israel	Romania
Bhutan	Italy	Sao Tome and Principe
Bolivia	Jamaica	Senegal
Brazil	Japan	Sierra Leone
Bulgaria	Jordan	Spain
Burundi	Kenya	Sri Lanka
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Kuwait	Sudan
Canada	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Swaziland
Chile	Lesotho	Sweden
China	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Switzerland
Cuba	Malawi	Thailand
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Malaysia	Trinidad and Tobago
Denmark	Maldives	Tunisia
Djibouti	Mali	Turkey
Ecuador	Mexico	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Egypt	Morocco	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Finland	Mozambique	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
France	Nepal	United States of America
Gambia	Netherlands	Uruguay
German Democratic Republic	New Zealand	Venezuela
Germany, Federal Republic of	Nicaragua	Viet Nam
Greece	Nigeria	Yugoslavia
Guinea	Norway	Zambia
Guyana	Pakistan	
	Paraguay	
	Peru	

5. Members of the following Offices and Departments of the United Nations Secretariat participated in the proceedings of the session:

Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation

Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

6. The regional commissions and other Secretariat units were represented as follows:

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Economic Commission for Latin America

Economic Commission for Africa

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

United Nations Environment Programme

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

7. The following United Nations bodies were also represented:

United Nations Office of the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

United Nations Children's Fund

United Nations Fund for Population Activities

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

World Food Council

World Food Programme

8. Representatives of the following specialized agencies and related organizations attended the session:

International Labour Organisation

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

World Health Organization

World Bank

International Monetary Fund

Universal Postal Union

World Meteorological Organization

International Maritime Organization

International Atomic Energy Agency

9. The following organizations which have received a standing invitation to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly were represented at the Meeting:

Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee

Asian Development Bank

European Economic Community

League of Arab States

Organization of African Unity

Organization of American States

Organization of the Islamic Conference

Palestine Liberation Organization

10. In addition, representatives of 12 other intergovernmental organizations attended the session as observers.

11. As proposed by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme in paragraph 7 of his report to the General Assembly (A/34/415), and as approved by the General Assembly in resolution 34/117, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were invited to be represented by observers. Eight of these organizations were so represented.

C. Opening of the session and election of the President
(agenda items 1 and 2)

12. The session was opened by the President of the second session of the High-level Committee, Mr. Natarajan Krishnan (India).

13. Mr. José Luis Pardos-Pérez, Director-General for International Technical Co-operation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain, was elected President of the High-level Committee by acclamation.

14. In his opening statement, the President expressed the hope that, at its third session, the High-level Committee would infuse new life into the issues under discussion and that it would consider some of these items in greater depth during the course of its debate.

D. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 4)

15. The Committee adopted the agenda (TCDC/3/L.1) and the organization of work (TCDC/3/L.2), as amended orally by the President. The Working Group which began its work on 1 June, was assigned agenda items 5 and 6 for consideration.

16. In addition, it was agreed that agenda items 5 and 6 would be the subjects of the general debate in the plenary. A list of the documents considered at the second session of the Committee is contained in annex II.

E. Election of officers other than the President (agenda item 5)

17. The following officers were elected by acclamation:

Vice-President: Mr. Francis R. C. Blain (Gambia)
Mr. Anton Baramov (Bulgaria)

Rapporteur: Miss Norma Shalhoub (Jordan)

18. The Committee approved the President's recommendation that Mr. Blain (Gambia) should act as Chairman and Rapporteur of the Working Group.

II. SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL DEBATE

A. Opening statement by the Deputy Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

19. The Deputy Administrator of UNDP stated that, during its third session, the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC) would review the progress made in TCDC and assess the degree of implementation of the important tasks and responsibilities entrusted to all parties - developing countries, developed countries and particularly the United Nations development system - under the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. The Committee would also help ensure that collective efforts to strengthen TCDC would be sustained.

20. The Deputy Administrator then remarked that five years had passed since the historic conference in Buenos Aires, and that the time was especially opportune, given the deteriorating state of the world economy, to review the progress made in TCDC and to renew the commitment to greater national and collective self-reliance through this modality. The need for such co-operation had clearly become more urgent as the international economic situation had worsened and resources for development, particularly from multilateral institutions, had declined. He recognized that growing interest among developing countries in TCDC as an instrument for promoting and expanding economic co-operation among developing countries (ECDC) reflected these trends and was an increasingly important factor in the restructuring of the world economy along more just and equitable lines.

21. The Deputy Administrator referred to the High-level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries held in Caracas, Venezuela, in May 1981 by the Group of 77. This conference had issued the Caracas Programme of Action, which reaffirmed the important role of TCDC as an instrument for the promotion and implementation of ECDC, as well as the pertinent recommendations contained in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action.

22. In accord with the Caracas Programme of Action, several sectoral meetings had been held, with financial and substantive support from the UNDP and the United Nations system. In New Delhi in May 1982, for example, the heads of national agencies for science and technology in developing countries proposed the establishment of a centre for science and technology for the non-aligned and other developing countries. In Rio de Janeiro in May-June 1982, a High-level Meeting on New and Renewable Sources of Energy was held. In Baghdad in March 1982, the meeting of experts of the Group of 77 on finance and balance of payments recommended the establishment of a world fund to alleviate financial burdens imposed on developing countries by inflation. In Kingston in March 1982, a meeting of experts of the Group of 77 for the financing of ECDC recommended the establishment of a South-South bank for developing countries. In Bucharest in May-June 1982, a meeting of high-level officials responsible for industrial manpower training in developing countries recommended the strengthening of industrial manpower training capabilities at the national, subregional and interregional levels and the development of centres of excellence to meet the needs of developing countries.

23. Among the numerous sectoral meetings held in accord with the Caracas Programme of Action, the Deputy Administrator considered the Meeting of Heads of National Agencies of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, which was held in Tunis in October 1982, to be of particular interest to UNDP. This meeting had recommended the creation and strengthening of national TCDC focal points and more effective co-ordination among them and between them and international institutions so as to improve the exchange of information among developing countries. It had stressed the need for developing a multisectoral information network to be run by developing countries themselves. It had also recommended that adequate resources for financing TCDC be secured, that co-operation among enterprises be further promoted and that more suitable procedures for TCDC, such as the drawing up of model contracts for the recruitment of experts from developing countries, be established.

24. The Deputy Administrator also mentioned the Seventh Summit Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries that met in New Delhi in March of 1983. This conference had pledged to impart fresh impetus to collective self-reliance and to mobilize all necessary resources in support of subregional, regional and interregional co-operation among the non-aligned and developing countries.

25. In May of 1983, in Buenos Aires, where the TCDC movement had been given its initial global impetus, the ministers responsible for foreign affairs and international economic relations of member countries of the Group of 77 had stressed the urgency of launching, at UNCTAD VI in Belgrade, a concerted and sustained programme aimed at reactivating the world economy and accelerating development in developing countries. The ministers had affirmed that, as an integral part of their effort to promote a restructuring of international economic relations and to establish the new international economic order, the developing countries were determined to expand and deepen mutual co-operation based on collective self-reliance. Their Declaration states that the prevailing attitude of the developed countries, together with unfavourable prospects of growth in the world economy, had added new force to the imperative of collective self-reliance.

26. The Deputy Administrator remarked that these political and economic trends underscored the need to speed up the achievement of the objectives of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. The fundamental principle of TCDC is the voluntary sharing or exchange of technical resources, skills and capabilities between two or more developing countries for their individual or mutual development. These activities must be initiated, managed, largely financed and implemented by the developing countries, he reiterated. The role of the United Nations development system, as well as that of the developed countries, can be only supportive and catalytic.

27. The Deputy Administrator then referred to several important issues before the Committee. The quantitative assessment of the record of the United Nations system over the last two years in promoting and implementing TCDC (TCDC/3/2) demonstrated that, by and large, the organizations of the system had taken seriously their responsibility to foster and support TCDC, and that progress had been made. However, greater emphasis had to be placed by the agencies and organizations of the system on the promotion and support of intergovernmental consultations aimed at identifying operational issues which are conducive to TCDC, on the co-ordination of national plans and strategies in key development areas of mutual interest and on

the negotiation of concrete TCDC arrangements. He noted that during the past two years various initiatives had been taken in these areas with the support of UNDP and other organizations of the United Nations development system.

28. The Deputy Administrator stated that almost all the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the regional commissions, had participated in promotional TCDC activities, but in certain areas, such as information collection and exchange, institution-strengthening and networking, training, legal arrangements for TCDC and resource mobilization, further efforts had to be made. He then spoke of the absence of sufficient information on countries' needs and technical capabilities that had continued to be a serious constraint on the development of operational TCDC. He stressed the importance of the Information Referral System (INRES) and the inquiry service being developed by UNDP, and expressed the hope that other organizations of the system would consider how more information directly related to TCDC programming could be integrated within their sectoral technical information systems. UNDP was consulting with the Governments of many developing countries on the concept of a development information network. The Deputy Administrator noted in this regard that the Tunis meeting had called for a "multisectoral information network" for TCDC to be established and operated by the developing countries.

29. The Deputy Administrator then drew the attention of the Committee to the information provided by Governments on their TCDC activities (TCDC/3/3). The report showed that such activities had continued to gather momentum during the last two years and that awareness of the importance of achieving development objectives through TCDC was growing. He also pointed out that the strengthening of national focal points for TCDC could contribute towards the preparation of more comprehensive and analytical reports of this type.

30. The Deputy Administrator introduced three other reports prepared for the consideration of the Committee: on measures to facilitate TCDC (TCDC/3/6 and Add.1) within the framework of current UNDP policies and procedures, including a review of the mandate of the Special Unit; on the use and proposed use of funds from the Special Programme Resources during 1982-1983 on promotional TCDC activities and TCDC activities under the regional and interregional indicative planning figures (IPFs) and other sources (TCDC/3/7); and on the use of country IPFs for TCDC (TCDC/3/8). The Deputy Administrator then drew attention to the fact that, as agreed at the Committee's second session, the reports now before it covered basic issues such as finance, training, information, administrative and organizational arrangements. Two sectoral studies had nevertheless been prepared by the Special Unit at the specific request of the Committee: on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (TCDC/3/4); and on the role and potential of TCDC in rural-urban migration and economic development (TCDC/3/5). The report of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) on the Transport and Communication Decade in Africa 1978-1988 (A/37/296) was also being made available to the Committee as part of the documentation for its current session.

31. The Deputy Administrator concluded by stating that the goals established at Buenos Aires in 1978 remained undiminished in importance. He expressed the hope that the Committee's deliberations would provide practical guidance to those entrusted with the task of assisting the developing countries in their march towards the goals of national and collective self-reliance.

B. Statement made on behalf of the Director-General for
Development and International Economic Co-operation

32. The representative of the Office of the Director-General said that the High-level Committee would focus attention at its third session on the performance of the United Nations development system with respect to TCDC and the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action by member countries.

33. He recalled the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, which recognizes that "economic and technical co-operation among developing countries based on the principle of collective self-reliance constitutes a dynamic and vital component of an effective restructuring of international economic relations". The Strategy further states that "while the main elements of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries will be determined by these countries themselves, the international community should accord high priority and urgency to supporting the efforts of developing countries to strengthen and implement their programmes of mutual economic and technical co-operation". Such programmes, he added, would contribute to reducing the external dependence and vulnerability of developing countries, achieving equitable and balanced international economic relations and strengthening the role of developing countries in the world economy.

34. It was important to have a better understanding of the scope of the particular form of co-operation known as TCDC, he said. A significant part of technical co-operation consisted of an exchange of experts or consultants or fellowships or of seminars and experience. From this viewpoint, emphasis on better information, on appropriate institutional frameworks, and on overcoming attitudinal barriers was certainly valid. However, too much preoccupation with this "market sharing" or exchange aspect of technical co-operation might divert attention from the more urgent and difficult task of mustering political will to initiate and sustain truly co-operative efforts to solve specific common problems and to build institutions to serve common needs. Co-operation in finding answers to common problems in areas such as development of appropriate technologies, eradication of certain diseases, or development of cheaper sources of energy would yield high dividends in terms of political unity.

35. The representative of the Office of the Director-General referred to the need for further co-operation in view of improving the formulation of economic policies and development strategies, generally or in particular sectors, and also to the need for better policies with respect to problems such as the rapid growth of urban settlements, mass participation in development, including that of women, and the development of disadvantaged regions within a country.

36. He went on to state that the promotion of TCDC called for the exercise of political will on the part of the developing countries and of the international community as a whole. There was need for developing countries to recognize the benefits accruing to them through such co-operation, even if in the initial phases it entailed a temporary "sacrifice" in providing concessions or advantages to other developing countries. The concerned organizations of the United Nations system, in particular UNDP, had an important role to play in documenting and disseminating the

advantages and longer-term benefits of such co-operation among developing countries. At this stage, he stressed, it was essential to transform the general agreement on the philosophies and wider concepts relating to TCDC into a series of well conceived and practical programmes and projects which, in turn, would help generate a greater momentum for co-operation. TCDC was particularly vital at the present juncture, when a global economic crisis was threatening the course of international economic co-operation.

37. Up to now, he continued, developing countries had faced serious problems in their attempts to implement TCDC. In the area of transfer of skills, for example, no reliable data of available skills in skill-surplus countries existed and problems had arisen in connection with the harmonization of procedures for the recruitment of TCDC experts. The lack of resources to implement TCDC projects and programmes had also hampered the development of self-reliance.

38. Although the current economic difficulties were a real constraint, part of the costs of TCDC activities could be met by utilizing non-convertible currencies, supplemented as necessary by contributions in convertible currencies. It was often overlooked, he added, that many worthwhile TCDC initiatives require financial assistance of relatively small proportions. Once again he stressed that the United Nations system had an important role in providing financial support for the planning and co-ordination of TCDC activities and that it was important that the United Nations system, in particular UNDP, should be assured of sufficient resources to this end.

39. It was necessary for the objectives of TCDC to permeate more fully the entire United Nations system, he concluded. TCDC was not a specialized activity being pursued for its own intrinsic merits, but rather an integral part of multilateral co-operation. As such, it should be promoted not only through national and regional efforts, but also as a regular part of the existing multilateral machinery. The valuable efforts of UNDP in this area required full support. In addition, action currently under way to fully integrate TCDC into the work programmes of the organizations of the system should be encouraged. The United Nations regional commissions, he added, should be enabled to contribute increasingly to the promotion of TCDC at the regional and subregional levels.

C. Summary of the views of delegations

1. Overview

40. Many of the delegates noted that it had been five years since the Buenos Aires Plan of Action had been adopted and two years since the second session of the High-level Committee. It was considered a very good time, therefore, to review and assess the activities of TCDC, given the longer time period and improved perspective.

41. It was generally agreed that although great progress had been made over the five-year period, the developing and developed world had fallen short of the accomplishments that could have been made. One delegate pointed out that the substantial resources available in developing countries continued to be excluded

/...

from the international development process. It was noted that developing countries were still having trouble matching needs and capacities in a complete TCDC programme because there were few contacts between national focal points and a critical lack of information and data. Many delegates expressed the concern that already-existing programmes had severe limitations and that not enough new projects were being undertaken. Some delegations urged that the necessary political will be exerted in order to give more practical effect to TCDC programmes.

42. On the whole, however, the delegates expressed more optimistic views and pointed to what they considered substantive progress. One delegate emphasized that the developing countries had overcome a major obstacle - the attitudinal barrier to TCDC. He added that a structural framework had been established that could serve as a solid foundation for current and future activities. Others concurred that TCDC had provided new impetus to bilateral and subregional co-operation and that significant steps had been taken towards the establishment of a new international economic order. Although delegates felt progress had been slower than expected, they considered TCDC, on the whole, a success. One delegate mentioned that over 12,500 projects had been undertaken by developing countries thus far, and others pointed to the expanded scope of co-operation as well as the increase in exchange of skills and experience. Most delegates agreed that over the past five years developing countries had taken responsibility to launch, organize and carry out activities of technical co-operation, establishing a very advanced degree of self-reliance. Several mentioned that, given the various stages of development of their countries, and given the complex nature of TCDC, one could not expect immediate and complete success.

43. Many delegates mentioned that this session of the High-level Committee was of particular importance because it was being held just prior to the first review of the Third International Development Strategy, scheduled for 1984, in which TCDC is considered a central component. The Third United Nations Decade has reaffirmed that both technical co-operation among developing countries and economic co-operation among developing countries are essential for international development and vital instruments for the developing and developed countries to reverse the global economic slump. Many delegates mentioned that this session of the High-level Committee followed several very important meetings, among them the Group of 77 meeting held in 1981 that adopted the Caracas Plan of Action, the meeting of the Heads of National Technical Co-operation Agencies in Developing Countries held in Tunis in 1982, the Summit Meeting of the Non-Aligned Countries held in New Delhi in March 1983, and the UNCTAD Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 held in Buenos Aires in April 1983. All these meetings reaffirmed the commitment of the developing countries to the objectives of collective self-reliance through promotion of ECDC and TCDC.

44. It was generally agreed that the current economic downturn had greatly affected the progress of TCDC. Many delegates felt that there existed a certain reluctance among developed nations to provide the needed funds for TCDC. It was mentioned that international co-operation worked best when conditions of peace, détente and international security exist and that current economic and political climates were less than conducive to TCDC. One delegate said that requests from the developing countries had not increased significantly in the last two years, and

felt this was in reaction to the slow growth in contributions from donor countries. Several of the representatives noted that too much money was being diverted from development efforts to the arms build-up.

45. Most delegates concurred that the tasks of this session of the High-level Committee on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries were to formulate new guidelines for further support, sustain momentum of projects, emphasize the more concrete components, and provide new impetus to the spirit of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, by promoting and strengthening all aspects of technical co-operation among developing countries.

2. TCDC/ECDC

46. The delegates of several developing nations stressed the important link between TCDC and the broader concept of ECDC. The Caracas Programme of Action, drafted by the Group of 77 in 1981, followed by the meeting of the Heads of National Co-operation Agencies in Developing Countries held in Tunis in 1982, set down the principles for TCDC/ECDC co-operation and integration.

47. TCDC/ECDC co-operation was recognized as being central in helping the developing countries strengthen their economic potential, accelerate economic growth and improve their position in the system of international economic relations. Many delegates stressed that the conceptual distinction between TCDC and ECDC has become increasingly diffused at all levels among developing countries - from the grassroots to the regional and interregional levels.

48. Most delegates held that the strengthening of TCDC led naturally to the strengthening of the broader notion of ECDC. There was a consensus among the developing countries, however, that the developed countries and the United Nations system had not done enough thus far in the promotion of these endeavours. They felt that a much higher level of commitment was necessary.

49. Certain United Nations agencies described their activities in this domain. The regional commissions expressed their strong support for TCDC/ECDC, while the representative of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women explained that issues of concern to women were also relevant to TCDC/ECDC, for there existed a solid interdependence between the social and economic spheres.

3. Role of the United Nations system

50. That the organizations of the United Nations development system had a significant role to play, both substantively and promotionally, in the successful realization of the concept of TCDC was acknowledged by the High-level Committee. Several delegations, however, expressed reservations that this role was being carried out in as effective and co-ordinated a manner as the system was perceived as being capable of. The spokesman for the Group of 77, for example, suggested that the Committee for Programme Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on

Co-ordination, at their joint meeting next month, give serious consideration to recommendations adopted by the High-level Committee for improvement in the co-ordination of the United Nations development system's response to TCDC mandates.

51. One delegate, speaking on behalf of several others, referred specifically to the United Nations system's capability of identifying operational issues and concrete projects amenable to a TCDC approach as being an especially useful contribution. Other delegations stated that they looked to the United Nations system to strengthen the developmental capacities of the peoples and institutions of the developing countries by providing them with the necessary training, equipment and consultant services. Some delegations also expressed support for the Administrator's recommendation that future activities of the United Nations system be better designed and focused on selected areas or projects that promised the most rewarding and immediate results. Speakers, in general, expressed agreement with the observation that TCDC had been successful in those areas where regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations were strongest.

52. The Under-Secretary-General, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, summarized the efforts undertaken by his Department in support of TCDC, particularly with respect to activities in the least developed countries and to programmes fostering the integration of disadvantaged segments of populations. Relevant activities of the regional commissions, the ILO, UNESCO, WHO and the United Nations Volunteers programme were also brought to the attention of the Committee by representatives of their respective organizations.

4. Role of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

53. Most delegations commended the catalytic and supportive role of UNDP in promoting TCDC despite severe financial constraints. Appreciation was expressed for the important work of the Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, and some delegations considered that the role of this Unit should be expanded and strengthened.

54. Some delegations expressed the view that UNDP should act as the co-ordinating body for TCDC activities of all United Nations specialized agencies and should therefore develop more organizational flexibility and skill, and be more action-oriented.

55. One delegation suggested that subregional field offices be established for the promotion of action-oriented TCDC activities.

56. Several delegations, however, felt that the existing mechanisms for TCDC should be used to the extent possible and that no new institutional framework was required to further promote TCDC.

57. One delegation felt that Governments should determine how programme resources should be used while another delegation felt that UNDP had been too passive in leaving the initiative to developing countries and acting only when approached.

5. Role of Governments

58. Delegations were virtually unanimous in expressing the view that the primary responsibility for TCDC lay with the developing countries themselves. Several emphasized, in particular, that these Governments should take a more vigorous and dynamic approach in promoting bilateral and multilateral TCDC activities. In this connection, delegates stressed the importance of national focal points receiving the full support of their Governments, especially if a co-ordinated approach to TCDC were to be achieved. In addition, some delegates stated their support for the Administrator's recommendations that the capabilities of national focal points should be strengthened since they provided the crucial linkage for the successful implementation of TCDC. One delegate, in this regard, offered the assistance of his Government in increasing the technical capacities of national focal points. Another delegate suggested further that intergovernmental consultations among national focal points could be instrumental in dealing with problems common to developing countries on a regional or even interregional basis.

59. The High-level Committee was also in general agreement with the view that the industrialized countries had a significant role to play in the successful implementation of TCDC, particularly in terms of their financial and technological support of projects and programmes with TCDC dimensions. The delegate from one developed country pointed out that his Government had repeatedly emphasized that, within the scope of its bilateral technical co-operation programme, it would give preference to projects benefiting several developing countries or to projects of regional co-operation among developing countries. He expressed some disappointment, however, that the inclusion of TCDC elements in donor country aid programmes was still the exception rather than the rule.

6. Financing of TCDC

60. The view was expressed that additional resources were needed to reap the benefits of TCDC activities and should be commensurate with the expanding requirements of TCDC, as envisaged in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action.

61. Several delegations referred to the conclusion reached at the Tunis meeting in October 1982 that the greatest obstacle to the expansion and strengthening of TCDC was the lack of financial resources in developing countries. Nevertheless, it was generally felt that developing countries should continue to rely for support of TCDC activities first of all on resources from their own national budgets and country indicative planning figures (IPFs). Supplementary contributions from developed countries, organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, however, had an important role to play. One delegation, for example, expressed its appreciation for the supplementary funding provided by a regional commission. The representative of the regional commissions suggested that certain TCDC activities could be undertaken through the direct exchange of expertise, equipment, etc. It was felt that this consideration would be important for developing countries, which were facing serious balance of payments problems. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations said that limited amounts of project funds for TCDC would be

made available from its TCP resources under its regular programme upon the request of Governments. It was hoped that the TCDC resources situation might improve as the world economic situation improved.

62. With respect to the use of IPF resources to fund TCDC activities, a group of major donors considered that this was the only way to ensure that allocations for TCDC were used in line with the overall development priorities of developing countries. The representative of one donor country, however, cautioned that care should be taken so that IPF allocations for TCDC activities were not made at the expense of the national development needs of recipient countries.

63. The representative of a developing country stressed in this regard that global and regional IPFs should be used before country IPFs, particularly in view of the 45 per cent reduction in illustrative IPFs for the third programming cycle. More flexible use of country IPFs, especially with respect to the financing of local costs and equipment for TCDC projects, was urged by the spokesman for the Group of 77. The proposal to defer consideration of the guidelines on the use of IPF resources for TCDC activities until the Committee's fourth session received support from some delegations. Other delegations expressed the view that the question should be dealt with in the Governing Council of UNDP.

7. Information systems

64. The High-level Committee agreed that the flow of information among developing countries was vital to the promotion of technical and economic co-operation among them. In this connection, several delegates, while recognizing the improvement in the Information Referral System (INRES), expressed some disappointment with respect to two aspects of it: first, that the information compiled so far was not sufficiently comprehensive, and second, that the information was not adequately utilized by the countries concerned. In this latter regard, there was general agreement that INRES should become increasingly user-oriented. Several delegates emphasized the importance of the multisectoral information network which was to be established by the developing countries as agreed to at the Tunis meeting. Several delegates mentioned, too, that a wealth of relevant information was already available in existing information systems of organizations of the United Nations family and that ways should be devised to utilize these systems rather than duplicating the effort. The benefits to be realized from linking national information systems with those of a regional nature and those of the United Nations system were also stressed.

65. Regret was expressed by several delegates at the low rate of return on the questionnaire requesting information on current TCDC activities. While it was agreed that the responsibility for replying rested with the institutions and Governments concerned, one spokesman suggested that the resident co-ordinators take a more active role in ensuring the return of the questionnaires.

66. With respect to the administrative status of INRES, several delegates expressed their opposition to converting it to a project to be financed out of the Special Programme Resources of UNDP. Other delegations, however, favoured such a conversion.

8. Practical recommendations

67. A number of delegations as well as representatives of United Nations system organizations noted that, although the Buenos Aires Plan of Action had identified the objectives of TCDC, it had not set clear priorities and targets nor established a timetable for their realization. Therefore it was suggested that sessions of the High-level Committee determine what the high priority problems were and produce clear guidelines for TCDC. The representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) felt that any realistic guidelines for TCDC should contain provisions extending external support to help with local costs in all cases where national Governments were being supported in their TCDC efforts. It was held by a number of delegates that UNDP should play a central co-ordinating role in reviewing activities from the global to the national level which require external support.

68. Several delegations expressed the view that the efficiency of the United Nations system as a whole in promoting TCDC could be enhanced by focusing relevant programmes on specific sectors. A delegation of a developing country suggested that one area of priority might be integrated rural development programmes at the national level. Another delegation suggested that a pattern be established between United Nations agencies in joint and tripartite ventures in supporting TCDC programmes and projects. A third delegation suggested that United Nations agencies might help national Governments identify TCDC areas for third-party support. It was suggested that the United Nations Volunteer programme would be a useful tool for the interchange of expertise.

69. In view of economic constraints in funding TCDC, one delegation suggested that activities should be carried out in the context first of small- and then of large-scale projects in order to build on gained experiences and growing strong points.

9. Other considerations

Training

70. Delegations generally reaffirmed support in initiating TCDC personnel training and cited examples of their initiatives in this regard. One delegation stated that it had provided training in various fields under the sponsorship of the United Nations system. Another delegation set forth a proposal to establish an interregional centre to train personnel from developing countries in managing their natural resources. Willingness to offer the use of existing technical expertise to other countries was expressed by many delegations.

Regional co-operation

71. Support was voiced for the consolidation of co-operation among developing countries by strengthening regional institutions and by establishing stronger interregional linkages. The view was expressed that regional co-operation was desirable to facilitate the exchange of ideas and experiences of mutual interest to developing countries. It was also pointed out that regional co-operation could provide a general view of development problems in a geographical area and could thus help define a desired common plan of action.

72. Several delegations referred to various activities aimed at improving co-ordination among regional and interregional institutions in promoting TCDC. A few delegations, for example stated that their Governments had hosted regional meetings for the purpose of identifying major areas of co-operation and of assessing member country needs and capacities. One delegation referred specifically to his Government's having sponsored a regional seminar in co-operation with UNDP, in which several recommendations on the assessment of technical assistance from the United Nations and its specialized agencies were made and later submitted to UNDP.

73. Representatives of the regional commissions expressed their support in building and maintaining the links necessary for effective regional and interregional co-operation. It was felt that the Special Programme Resources of UNDP should assist the regional commissions in implementing interregional projects and programmes in order to sustain the momentum already gained.

Legal framework

74. The importance of formulating a standard contract defining the terms and conditions of recruiting experts from developing countries was reiterated. It was hoped that the upcoming meeting in Caracas in August 1983 would be successful in eliminating the present diversity in recruitment contracts.

III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

75. At its 8th meeting, on 6 June, the Committee considered the report of the Working Group as contained in documents TCDC/3/L.14 and Add.1-7. The Committee also considered a draft decision submitted by Venezuela in document TCDC/3/L.16.

A. Report of the Working Group

76. Introducing the report of the Working Group, its Chairman drew attention to the following draft decisions which the Group recommended for adoption by the High-level Committee:

(a) Some information from Governments on their activities in technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.1), (see annex I, decision 3/1);

(b) United Nations Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa, 1978-1988 (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.1), (see annex I, decision 3/2);

(c) Role and potential of technical co-operation among developing countries in rural-urban migration (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.2), (see annex I, decision 3/3);

(d) Report on the progress made in implementing the tasks entrusted to the United Nations development system by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for promoting and implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.2), (see annex I, decision 3/4);

(e) Use and proposed use of the funds from the Special Programme Resources during 1982-1983 on promotional activities for technical co-operation among developing countries and activities in technical co-operation among developing countries under the regional and interregional indicative planning figures of the United Nations Development Programme (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.2), (see annex I, decision 3/5);

(f) Co-operative exchange of skills among developing countries through technical co-operation among developing countries - institutional and policy issues: study by the Secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.3), (see annex I, decision 3/6);

(g) Integration of women in development through technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.4), (see annex I, decision 3/7);

(h) Measures to facilitate technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.5), (see annex I, decision 3/8);

(i) Status report on the development of technical co-operation among developing countries: information referral system (INRES) (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.6), (see annex I, decision 3/9);

(j) Use of country indicative planning figures for technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/3/L.14/Add.7), (see annex I, decision 3/10).

77. The Chairman also drew attention to document TCDC/3/L.16 which contained a draft decision entitled "Assistance to developing countries with respect to TCDC activities". The Chairman reported that the Working Group had not had time to consider this draft decision, but that informal consultations had been undertaken by members of the Group.

78. The following oral amendments were made:

(a) In TCDC/3/L.14/Add.2, "Role and potential of technical co-operation among developing countries in rural-urban migration", corrections were made in the Spanish text;

(b) In TCDC/3/L.14/Add.4, "Integration of women in development through technical co-operation among developing countries", the asterisk in the heading and the corresponding footnote were deleted; the asterisk was also removed from the first line of the text; in operative paragraphs 1 and 2, the words "Governments of" were deleted;

(c) In TCDC/3/L.14/Add.6, "Status report on the development of technical co-operation among developing countries: information referral system (INRES)", in operative paragraph 5, the word "assessed" was changed to "accessed". In operative paragraph 5, the words "and the discussions at its third session" were added to the end of the sentence.

79. The following changes were made in TCDC/3/L.16, "Assistance to developing countries with respect to TCDC activities": in the preambular paragraph, "Caracas Plan" was changed to "Caracas Programme"; in operative paragraph 2, the same change was made, and the words "inter alia, draft a model contract for the interchange of experts among developing countries" were deleted and replaced by "be held in August 1983". In operative paragraph 4, "monitor all" was replaced by "follow the decisions on".

80. Following these oral amendments, the Committee adopted by consensus the draft decisions recommended to it by the Working Group, as well as the draft decision contained in document TCDC/3/L.16.

B. Schedule and organization of work for the 1985 session of the High-level Committee

81. After an in-depth discussion of the schedule and organization of work for the fourth session of the High-level Committee on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, the Committee agreed to recommend to the General Assembly the following arrangements:

(a) The session will be scheduled for a duration of one week (five working days) prior to the regular session of the UNDP Governing Council, on the understanding that after translation of the draft report and any draft decisions, an additional, final meeting to adopt the report will have to be held;

(b) The first three days of the session will be devoted to a general debate. Based on the views and suggestions expressed during this debate, the working group will then meet, as of the third working day of the session, also for a duration of three days, to elaborate draft decisions and recommendations. Thus, two simultaneous meetings are required for only one day during the High-level Committee's session.

C. Report on credentials

82. At the 8th meeting, the President reported orally that in accordance with rule 8 of the High-level Committee's rules of procedure, the Bureau had examined the credentials of delegations and had found them to be in order. The High-level Committee subsequently approved the oral report of the President.

D. Draft report of the Plenary

83. The Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Plenary, contained in document TCDC/3/L.12 and Add.1-4. She expressed regret that it was not yet available in all official United Nations languages because of time limitations. Following a brief discussion, the Committee decided to postpone consideration of the draft report until the documentation became available in all official languages.

84. At its ninth meeting on 8 June 1983, the Committee considered the draft report. Oral amendments were made to paragraphs 4 and 8 in document TCDC/3/L.12. Oral amendments were also made to paragraphs 1, 24, 25 and 27 in document TCDC/3/L.12/Add.4. The Rapporteur was assigned the responsibility and authority to incorporate these amendments into the final text. The Committee approved the draft report as orally revised.

IV. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

85. Following the adoption of the report of the High-level Committee on its third session, the Deputy Administrator made a closing statement in which he underlined the importance of the Caracas Programme of Action on ECDC and of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Heads of National Technical Co-operation Agencies in Developing Countries held in Tunis last year. He regarded the prominent role those decisions played in the deliberations of the Committee as symbolic of the continued enthusiasm and collective interest of the developing countries in ECDC/TCDC issues. He also expressed his appreciation for the high quality of the Plenary debate and for the meticulous work undertaken in the Working Group which, aided by intensive efforts on the part of the Group of 77, brought forth effective, action-oriented decisions. The Deputy Administrator closed by stating his conviction that effective measures were being taken to strengthen TCDC and to ensure greater use of TCDC modalities in technical co-operation.

86. The President, in his closing remarks, congratulated the Committee for its decision to streamline its organizational procedure at the fourth session in 1985. He remarked that in the context of the complexity of most United Nations conferences, this step towards a more effective working method was an achievement in itself. He went on to emphasize the significance of TCDC as an idea in action, one that could have a profound effect on the social, economic and even cultural lives of peoples in the developing countries. Reviewing briefly the world situation as it appeared at present, the President expressed the hope for better political and economic conditions when the Committee next met in 1985. He said that to realize this end solidarity and co-operation among all nations were essential. The President concluded by voicing his sincere wish for an intense, in-depth debate on South-South co-operation at the fourth session of the Committee.

Notes

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/35/39 and Corr.1).

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/36/39).

ANNEX I

Decisions adopted by the High-level Committee
at its third session

	<u>Page</u>
3/1. Some information from Governments on their activities in technical co-operation among developing countries	23
3/2. United Nations Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa, 1978-1988	23
3/3. Role and potential of technical co-operation among developing countries in rural-urban migration	24
3/4. Report on the progress made in implementing the tasks entrusted to the United Nations development system by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries	25
3/5. Use and proposed use of the funds from the Special Programme Resources during 1982-1983 on promotional activities for technical co-operation among developing countries and activities in technical co-operation among developing countries under the regional and interregional indicative planning figures of the United Nations Development Programme	27
3/6. Co-operative exchange of skills among developing countries through technical co-operation among developing countries - institutional and policy issues: study by the Secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	27
3/7. Integration of women in development through technical co-operation among developing countries	28
3/8. Measures to facilitate technical co-operation among developing countries	28
3/9. Status report on the development of technical co-operation among developing countries: information referral system (INRES)	30
3/10. Use of country indicative planning figures for technical co-operation among developing countries	31
3/11. Assistance to developing countries with respect to TCDC activities.	31
3/12. Provisional agenda for the fourth session, 1985, of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries	32

3/1. Some information from Governments on their activities in technical co-operation among developing countries

The High-level Committee

1. Takes note of the report of the Administrator contained in document TCDC/3/3, entitled "Some information from Governments on their activities in technical co-operation among developing countries";
2. Invites developing countries to strengthen their national focal points for technical co-operation among developing countries to ensure, wherever possible, that they have appropriate administrative measures, adequate personnel and funds, including those required to collect on a systematic basis information on their activities in technical co-operation at both the bilateral and multilateral levels;
3. Invites developing countries to arrange for the review, analysis and transmittal of the collected information on the standard forms, by October 1984, to the Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, for the preparation of the Administrator's report to the fourth session of the Committee, that would establish a base line for future reports;
4. Invites developing countries to utilize, whenever possible, the opportunities for technical co-operation among developing countries which may be provided by the multilateral institutions set up by developing countries themselves;
5. Invites developed countries to continue to give their full support to the implementation of recommendations 35 and 36 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and to report on actions taken to the Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, for dissemination and incorporation into the progress report to be prepared for the fourth session of the Committee.

3/2. United Nations Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa, 1978-1988

The High-level Committee,

Recalling that recommendation 30 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, endorsed by United Nations General Assembly resolution 33/134, emphasized that strengthening transport and communications among developing countries was a necessary condition for technical co-operation among developing countries to become an important element in the development process,

Recalling decision 2/5 of the second session of the High-level Committee,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (A/37/296), submitted by the Secretary-General to the United Nations General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council in 1982,

Having further considered the report of the Third Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning (E/ECA/CM.9/26), held in Cairo from 8 to 11 March 1983,

1. Takes note of the Administrator's report, contained in document TCDC/3/4, on the United Nations Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa, 1978-1988;

2. Requests the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to make available to the fourth session of the High-level Committee its annual progress report on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

3. Invites developed countries and the governing bodies of international financial institutions to consider increasing substantially their financial support to the Decade projects, and in particular supporting the technical consultative meetings organized by the Economic Commission for Africa, and to strengthen its co-ordination unit for the Transport and Communications Decade, paying special attention to the transport and communication problems of the land-locked countries;

4. Emphasizes that the successful implementation of the Decade projects will be an important step towards the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries.

3/3. Role and potential of technical co-operation among developing countries in rural-urban migration

The High-level Committee

1. Takes note of the report of the Administrator contained in document TCDC/3/5, Role and potential of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries in rural-urban migration;

2. Invites developing countries, for the purpose of developing national experiences on rural-urban migration:

(a) To carry out the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries on the rural-urban migration issues at subregional, regional and interregional meetings of Government representatives and of professional societies;

(b) To co-operate with other countries wishing to profit by particular country experiences on ways and means of dealing with the problems of rural-urban migration;

3. Invites member Governments of regional intergovernmental organizations:

(a) To encourage an existing and appropriate subregional intergovernmental organization, or a co-operating national institution, to serve as a documentation and referral centre for requests from Governments in the respective region, and from other regional referral "centres", about national institutional and professional sources of information on rural-urban migration issues that could be exchanged through the modality of technical co-operation among developing countries, in close co-ordination with INRES;

(b) To submit requests to subregional and regional intergovernmental institutions to programme special training courses dealing with concrete experiences and practical measures on rural-urban migration, as well as to include this topic in training courses with associated content;

4. Invites organizations of the United Nations development system to co-operate and collaborate with the subregional referral centres envisaged in paragraph 3 (a);

5. Invites developed countries to consider providing:

(a) Technical materials on rural-urban migration developed in the course of their experience;

(b) Funding, within bilateral, multilateral and other forms of technical co-operation among developing countries exchange opportunities in this field, particularly during the implementation of projects when the in-service training of nationals from other countries would be most opportune for the sharing of technical approaches;

(c) Financial support to the subregional and regional documentation and referral centres to help assure the good functioning of these key foci;

6. Invites those non-governmental organizations that are engaged in development research to collaborate with Government institutions of developing countries in the design of project evaluation and migration research that would be of practical benefit for national development.

3/4. Report on the progress made in implementing the tasks entrusted to the United Nations development system by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries

The High-Level Committee

1. Reaffirms that the entire United Nations development system must be permeated by the spirit of TCDC, and all its organizations should play a prominent role as promoters and catalysts of technical co-operation among developing countries;

2. Takes note of the report of the Administrator (TCDC/3/2), on the progress made in implementing the tasks entrusted to the United Nations development system by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for promoting and implementing technical co-operation among developing countries;

3. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to increase its support to technical co-operation among developing countries in order to fully implement the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and the relevant decisions of the second session of the High-level Committee;

4. Urges the United Nations development system to grant adequate importance to technical co-operation among developing countries and, in particular, to give more emphasis to action-oriented activities through direct support in the implementation of specific technical co-operation among developing countries projects in developing countries;

5. Invites the agencies and organizations of the United Nations development system to review their present mechanisms for collecting information and reporting on their activities in technical co-operation among developing countries in order to adapt them to the requirements in terms of quantitative information for the preparation of the next progress report;

6. Requests the Administrator to make the necessary arrangements to update the information regarding the potential source for financing technical co-operation among developing countries on a regular and periodic basis to enable the developing countries to take advantage of such information;

7. Invites the agencies and organizations of the United Nations development system to continue to review their procurement policies and practices with a view to increasing procurement in developing countries within the existing financial rules and regulations of the United Nations system for categories of equipment and supplies that meet required standards, and for which technological improvement might be stimulated through access to wider markets;

8. Invites the agencies and bodies of the United Nations development system, including the regional commissions to promote and support intergovernmental consultations aimed at:

(a) Identifying operational issues which lend themselves to a TCDC approach;

(b) The co-ordination of national plans and strategies relating to technical co-operation among developing countries in key development areas of mutual interest; and

(c) Negotiations of concrete arrangements for TCDC;

9. Requests the Administrator to ensure timely availability of all publications related to technical co-operation among developing countries in appropriate languages so as to achieve the greatest possible benefit from these publications by the developing countries;

10. Requests the Administrator to submit to the High-level Committee, at its fourth session in 1985, further information on the progress achieved by the United Nations development system in the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action through new actions and initiatives of the organizations concerned.

- 3/5. Use and proposed use of the funds from the Special Programme Resources during 1982-1983 on promotional activities for technical co-operation among developing countries and activities in technical co-operation among developing countries under the regional and interregional indicative planning figures of the United Nations Development Programme

The High-level Committee

1. Takes note of the reports contained in documents TCDC/3/7 and DP/1982/42 and Add.1 concerned with the use and proposed use of the funds from the Special Programme Resources during 1982-1983 on promotional activities for technical co-operation among developing countries and activities in technical co-operation among developing countries under the regional and interregional indicative planning figures of the United Nations Development Programme;
2. Recommends to the UNDP Governing Council, bearing in mind the proposal made by the Administrator in 1981, to consider the possibility of allocating a sum of \$1 million from the Special Programme Resources for the period 1984-1985 for promotional technical co-operation among developing countries activities;
3. Recommends that the UNDP Governing Council give due consideration to subregional and regional intergovernmental organizations on the use of resources established by the regional and interregional IPFs for activities in technical co-operation among developing countries in order to strengthen their technical co-operation among developing countries capacities in accordance with recommendation 15 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action;
4. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to incorporate further information on the use of the Special Programme Resources, the regional and interregional indicative planning figures for activities in technical co-operation among developing countries in the progress report on the activities in technical co-operation among developing countries of the United Nations development system to be submitted to the fourth session of the High-level Committee.

- 3/6. Co-operative exchange of skills among developing countries through technical co-operation among developing countries - institutional and policy issues: study by the Secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The High-level Committee

1. Takes note of the study entitled "Co-operative exchange of skills - institutional and policy issues" (TD/B/943) prepared by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;
2. Invites the Trade and Development Board to examine the modalities for co-operation analysed in chapter II of the above study and to recommend concrete ways and means to establish the co-operative mechanisms and policies for the

exchange of skills among developing countries, while considering the possibility of entrusting this task to a group of governmental experts;

3. Invites the Trade and Development Board to inform the High-level Committee on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, at its fourth session, on the implementation of the preceding paragraph;

4. Requests the Administrator to incorporate information on the implementation of Recommendation 27 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action in his progress report to be submitted to its next session.

3/7. Integration of women in development through technical co-operation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling its decision 2/2 on the promotion of women's participation in development programmes through technical co-operation among developing countries, and taking note of the publication prepared by the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW),

1. Invites developing countries to strengthen, wherever possible, linkages between their national focal points for technical co-operation among developing countries and women, as well as other professional institutions, in order to facilitate the incorporation of women into the development processes;

2. Invites developing countries to give due consideration to women's participation and requirements when identifying operational issues which lend themselves to a technical co-operation among developing countries approach;

3. Invites the agencies and organizations of the United Nations development system to include specific references to women in supportive activities for technical co-operation among developing countries;

4. Requests the Administrator to continue to support the incorporation of issues relevant to women in all activities aimed at strengthening technical co-operation among developing countries.

3/8. Measures to facilitate technical co-operation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Responding to decision 82/24 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,

Recalling resolution 33/134 of the General Assembly which endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries as an important instrument of the international community to

intensify and strengthen co-operation among developing countries, thus making international co-operation for development more effective,

Recalling further recommendation 34 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action which called for the strengthening of the Special Unit for Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries in order to assist the Administrator of UNDP to carry out the extensive functions in the promotion and support of TCDC as detailed in that recommendation,

Reaffirming the crucial role of TCDC as an effective instrument for the promotion of ECDC as recognized by the High-level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held in Caracas, Venezuela in May 1981,

1. Takes note of the report of the Administrator on measures to facilitate TCDC, contained in document TCDC/3/6;
2. Expresses its satisfaction at the measures taken by the Administrator on the rationalization of procedures making it possible to utilize country indicative planning figures for TCDC activities;
3. Requests the Administrator to study the possibility of introducing greater flexibility in the use of country IPFs for TCDC activities because of the urgent and important nature of these activities for the developing countries;
4. Expresses its firm belief that the continuity of all the functions of the Special Unit for TCDC, as stipulated in recommendation 34 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, remains crucial for the support to and progress of TCDC;
5. Takes note, with appreciation, of the activities of and support provided by the Special Unit for TCDC in promoting TCDC, while noting with deep concern the fact that during the last five years since the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action the activities of the Special Unit have not only remained modest but are now in the process of being scaled down;
6. Urges, to the extent possible, the restoration of the staffing resources of the Special Unit at least to the level approved by the Governing Council of UNDP at its twenty-sixth session in June 1979, and the allocation of adequate budgetary provisions in order to enable it to carry out its functions effectively, and in this regard, to pay particular attention to field and action-oriented TCDC activities;
7. Requests the Administrator of UNDP to take the necessary steps to assist Governments, intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations and organizations of the United Nations development system in pursuing the TCDC recommendations of the Caracas Programme of Action;
8. Requests the Administrator of UNDP to bring this decision to the attention of the Governing Council at its thirtieth session in June 1983, and report to the High-level Committee at its fourth session on the progress of the implementation of this decision.

3/9. Status report on the development of technical co-operation among developing countries: information referral system (INRES)

The High-level Committee,

Recalling recommendation 26 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action on further expansion, development and review of INRES endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 33/134 and decision 79/29 of the United Nations Development Programme Governing Council,

Also recalling the information requirements envisaged in the Caracas Programme of Action and the recommendations of the Meeting of Heads of National Agencies for TCDC held in Tunis, 25-29 October 1982, for review of INRES in the context of development of multisectoral information network (MSIN),

1. Takes note of the efforts of the Administrator to have organized:

(a) A consultant mission to review INRES and the information systems of the regional commissions, and the Technological Information Pilot System (TIPS) of the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology Development (UNFSSTD) in the context of the recommendations of the Tunis meeting;

(b) A meeting of representatives from UNDP, UNFSSTD, regional commissions, the Chairman of the Group of 77 and the members of the Bureau of the Tunis meeting, in New York from 24-27 May 1983 to review the consultants' report;

2. Also takes note of the efforts of the Administrator on the implementation of the INRES data bank and improvements of its user accessibility;

3. Requests the Administrator of UNDP, in consultation with the parties concerned, to take immediate measures, starting in 1983, in the re-orientation of INRES in line with the objectives and specific recommendations of the Tunis Report and the aforementioned meeting on MSIN;

4. Urges the developing countries to expedite the completion, clearance and prompt return of INRES questionnaires in order to expand and update the data-base to make the system more useful to the developing countries and to take appropriate measures to maximize the use of INRES in sharing one another's capacities for their mutual development;

5. Requests the Administrator of UNDP to report to the Committee at its fourth session on the progress of the enlargement and effective use of INRES (through MSIN), including the increase of the coverage of institutions and services which can be accessed through a multilingual on-line enquiry service;

6. Urges the Administrator to continue to finance the development and expansion of INRES from the administrative budget of UNDP, as originally envisaged in report DP/69 and mandated by General Assembly and Governing Council decisions, 33/134 and 79/29 respectively, and to review the matter at its fourth session, taking note of the report of the Administrator contained in document TCDC/3/6, and the discussions at its third session.

3/10. Use of country indicative planning figures for technical co-operation among developing countries

The High-level Committee

1. Takes note of the report contained in TCDC/3/8 regarding the use of country indicative planning figures for technical co-operation among developing countries;
2. Requests the United Nations Development Programme Governing Council, in the light of the inconclusive discussions in the Committee, to consider to:
 - (a) Allow the use of country IPFs to cover fully the local currency expenditure on TCDC projects financed from the IPF resources;
 - (b) Permit the reimbursement, in convertible currency, of the local currency expenditure on TCDC projects covered by country IPFs;
 - (c) Ensure procurement, in TCDC projects, of equipment, services, experts, etc. from among developing countries;
3. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to provide further information on the use of country indicative planning figures for technical co-operation among developing countries to be incorporated in the progress report to be submitted to the fourth session of the High-level Committee.

3/11. Assistance to developing countries with respect to TCDC activities

The High-level Committee,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, as well as the relevant decisions contained in the Caracas Programme of Action of the Group of 77 and the report of the first biennial meeting of Heads of National Agencies of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries held in Tunis in October 1982,

1. Requests the Administrator of UNDP, in close co-ordination with other United Nations bodies involved in the promotion of TCDC activities, to make available by 1984, to the extent possible, the preliminary conclusions of the different reports requested at the third session of the High-Level Committee, with a view to contributing to the work of the next meeting of Heads of National Agencies of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries;
2. Further requests the Administrator of UNDP, through the Special Unit for TCDC and the Regional Bureaux, to provide support, to the extent possible, to the developing countries in the preparation and realization of specialized TCDC meetings, deriving from the Caracas Programme of Action and the Report of the Tunis Conference, including the forthcoming meeting of a group of experts to be held in August 1983;

3. Invites the international community to support, as may be deemed appropriate, these efforts of the developing countries to continue to carry forward TDC activities by themselves, at the international, interregional and regional levels;

4. Requests the Administrator to continue to closely follow the decisions on TCDC activities undertaken by the developing countries and to report on the implementation of this decision to the next session of the High-level Committee.

3/12. Provisional agenda for the 1985 session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries

The High-level Committee,

Taking into account the views expressed at the third session of the High-level Committee,

Approves the following provisional agenda for the fourth session of the High-level Committee, to be held in 1985:

1. Opening of the session
2. Election of the President of the session
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
4. Election of officers other than the President
5. Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and the decisions of the High-level Committee
6. Organizational and supportive arrangements for technical co-operation among developing countries (such as administrative, legal, information and financial)
7. Provisional agenda for the 1987 session of the High-level Committee
8. Other matters
9. Adoption of the report of the meeting

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<u>Title</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
Provisional agenda	TCDC/3/L.1
Annotations to the provisional agenda	TCDC/3/1
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work	TCDC/3/L.2
Annotations to the provisional agenda. List of documents	TCDC/3/1/Add.1
Annotations to the provisional agenda. Status of pre-session documents	TCDC/3/1/Add.2
Report on the progress made in implementing the tasks entrusted to the United Nations development system by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries	TCDC/3/2
Some information from Governments on their activities in technical co-operation among developing countries	TCDC/3/3
United Nations Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa 1978-1988. Report by the Administrator	TCDC/3/4
Role and potential of technical co-operation among developing countries in rural-urban migration. Report by the Administrator	TCDC/3/5
Co-operative exchange of skills among developing countries through technical co-operation among developing countries - institutional and policy issues - study by the UNCTAD secretariat. Note by the Administrator	TCDC/3/INF/1
Measures to facilitate technical co-operation among developing countries. Report by the Administrator	TCDC/3/6
Measures to facilitate technical co-operation among developing countries	TCDC/3/6/Add.1
Use and proposed use of the funds from the Special Programme Resources during 1982-1983 on promotional TCDC activities and TCDC activities under the regional and interregional indicative planning figures of UNDP. Report by the Administrator	TCDC/3/7
Use of country indicative planning figures (IPFs) for TCDC	TCDC/3/8

<u>Title</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
Status report on the development and expansion of the technical co-operation among developing countries Information Referral System (INRES)	TCDC/3/9
Report of the Seminar on technical co-operation among developing countries for Senior Government Officials of Asia and the Pacific Region, New Delhi, 23 April to 1 May 1982	TCDC/3/INF.2
