



**Governing Council
of the
United Nations
Development Programme**

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/1987/14
10 March 1987

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Third-fourth session
26 May-19 June 1987, New York
Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
AT PREVIOUS SESSIONS

UNDP Development Study Programme

Report by the Administrator

1. Since the inception of the UNDP Development Study Programme five years ago, the Governing Council has annually received oral reports on the activities of the Programme. The Administrator considers it useful to submit a written report to the Council this year in order to provide an overview of the full range of activities of the Study Programme since its creation by decision 81/30 on 27 June 1981.
2. The overall objective of the UNDP Development Study Programme, as set out in this decision, is to promote a greater understanding of the complex issues related to development and technical co-operation and to explore new ideas and innovative approaches facilitating their solution. This mandate should be pursued through seminars, lectures and discussion groups involving high-level national policy-makers, Government representatives, senior Secretariat officials, leaders of public and private enterprises, representatives of the media and academics. By its subsequent decision 82/10 of 18 June 1982, the Governing Council, inter alia, invited the Administrator to explore the possibility of organizing seminars at various venues. Under the terms of the decisions of the Council, all activities are financed from voluntary contributions.

I. SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES

3. Under the auspices of the UNDP Development Study Programme, a number of diverse and wide-ranging activities, such as round-table meetings, partnership conferences, lectures, meetings, discussion groups and briefing sessions, were organized both in New York and at other venues. As the Programme is still

relatively young, the process of gaining experience as to the best possible mix of activities continues.

4. Over the years, a number of round-table meetings were held covering several subject areas:

(a) World monetary, financial and human resource development issues:

In Istanbul, Turkey (30 August-1 September 1983), primary emphasis was given to the linkages between financial assistance and human resource development, while the meeting in Santiago, Chile (27-29 February 1984), focused on adjustment programmes and their impact on human welfare. In Vienna, Austria (10-12 September 1984), the meeting dealt with the international debt crisis and its impact on human resource development. In New York (13-14 December 1985), a round-up of previous round-table meetings took place.

(b) Development: the human dimension:

In Istanbul, Turkey (2-4 September 1985), the meeting concentrated on the role of the human factor in the development process while in Salzburg, Austria (7-9 September 1986), participants addressed the subject of adjustment and growth with human development. A third meeting, which will take place in Budapest, Hungary (6-9 September 1987), will focus on managing human development.

(c) The Informatics revolution and the developing countries:

In Scheveningen, the Netherlands (13-15 September 1985), special reference was made to the development of human resources. Another meeting on the subject will be convened in Japan in 1988.

(d) Trade issues:

In Geneva (4-5 July 1986), and in London (14-16 December 1986), meetings focused on proposals for early action in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations. In all these activities, the Programme collaborated with the North-South Round-Table of the Society for International Development.

5. Other conferences organized or co-sponsored by the UNDP Development Study Programme included:

(a) A conference on Technical Co-operation in the Development Process - Human Resources Building, jointly organized with the German Foundation for Development of the Federal Republic of Germany, 7-9 September 1983;

(b) Two "Partnership for Development Dialogue" conferences, co-sponsored with a number of local community and business organizations and universities in Pittsburgh, USA, from 2-4 October 1983 and from 6-7 May 1985 on the subject of Human Resource Building;

(c) The annual Paul Hoffman lectures at United Nations Headquarters:

- (i) His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Bin Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, "Equality Breeds No War" Tunis, 10 July 1981;
- (ii) The Honourable Silvio O. Conte, Member of the United States Congress, "International Development from a Congressional Perspective", New York, 17 February 1983;
- (iii) H.E. Federal Councillor Kurt Furgler, Vice-President of the Swiss Federal Council, Minister of Economy, Switzerland, "The Reality of Interdependence - A Swiss View", New York, 9 February 1984;
- (iv) Dr. Saburo Okita, President, International University of Japan (former Foreign Minister of Japan), "The Role of the Human Element in the Development Process - Japan's Experience", New York, 8 May 1986.

6. Lectures were held in New York and Geneva on the following subjects:

"Promotion of self-reliance through multilateral co-operation" by Mr. G. Arthur Brown, then Deputy Administrator, New York, 11 March 1982;

"Multilateral development co-operation in the 1980s" by Miss Margaret Joan Anstee, then Assistant Secretary-General, the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD), New York, 21 April 1982;

"Future of multilateral co-operation" by Mr. Janez Stanovnik, former Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe, New York, November 1982;

"Development at the grass-root level - a view from the field" by Dr. Majid Rahnema, former Resident Representative of UNDP, New York, 6 April 1983;

"The relationship between human resource building and capital investment in the development process", by Dr. Chedli Ayari, President of the Arab-African Development Bank, New York, 8 June 1983;

"Debt problems of Latin America and other developing countries - financial issues and their impact on peoples" by Dr. Pedro-Pablo Kuczynski, Co-Chairman, First International Bank of Boston, New York, 16 May 1984;

"The developing countries' prospects: the period of transition" by Dr. Shahid J. Burki, Director, International Relations Department, The World Bank, New York, 17 June 1985;

"The role of international voluntary organizations in the development process" by Mr. Frank Judd, Director, OXFAM, Geneva, 10 June 1986;

"The outlook for world resources" by Mr. Peter S. Thatcher, Distinguished Fellow, World Resources Institute, Geneva, 16 June 1986;

7. Discussion groups with select panelists and a limited number of invitees on specific development issues of current concern, such as:

"Energy in the 1980s: problems and prospects", New York, 5 May 1982;

"Where Are We Today in the International Debt and Development Crisis?", New York, 18 March 1985; and

"Impact of Declining Oil Prices", New York, 25 March 1986.

8. Briefing sessions were held for the United Nations community, at which six to eight participants in the round-table meetings listed above presented their results.

II. DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

9. As one of the stated objectives of the Programme is to promote a greater understanding of the complex problems of development, following each round-table meeting or conference, arrangements were made for the printing of the statements adopted on such occasions and for their dissemination to the public at large. Similarly, five books were published, containing reports and papers submitted to the round tables mentioned above. An agreement was recently concluded with the Sales Section of the United Nations Secretariat by which these volumes are to be included in the list of sales publications of the United Nations. A list of all publications is contained in the annex to this report. All these publications are given wide distribution both within and outside the immediate United Nations community. In particular, the material is made available to the Permanent Missions in New York and Geneva, through Resident Representatives to their respective Government counterparts, to non-governmental organizations on the rosters of the UNDP Non-Governmental Liaison Service, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Department of Public Information and to media representatives accredited to the United Nations. In addition, the members of the Governing Council received copies of all such publications each year at the annual sessions. Finally, the Department of Public Information covered several events at Headquarters in their regular radio programmes.

III. IMPACT

10. Each of the round-table meetings was attended by some 40 high-level personalities. Among these were heads or senior officials of seven bilateral aid agencies, more than 20 current or former Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Prime Ministers and Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Planning, Finance or Development, some 50 senior executives from private sector organizations, senior members of the secretariats of 25 intergovernmental organizations and renowned scientists. Between 1983 and 1986, more than 200 policy-makers from 55 countries, developed and developing, East and West, attended in their personal capacities to foster a frank exchange of views, experiences and knowledge.

11. The round-table meetings resulted in the formulation of new ideas, possible policy options and solutions to development issues of direct concern to UNDP, in such areas as human development, development planning and financing,

science and technology and energy. The ideas, new approaches and vistas put forward in these meetings gradually found their way into policies and activities of UNDP and other organizations of the United Nations system. The documentation prepared for recent high-level debates by the Governing Council and the debates themselves on subjects such as the technical co-operation needs of developing countries, human resource development and adjustment with a human dimension have benefited from the concepts and proposals developed in the context of the UNDP Development Study Programme events. Moreover, they have very probably contributed towards the increasing concern about these issues in such intergovernmental organs as the Economic and Social Council, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation for Development (OECD).

12. Lectures and briefing sessions provided an opportunity to familiarize a large segment of the United Nations community (average participation: 400 persons) with recent developments, trends, concerns and proposals and thus contributed to a better understanding of the issues throughout a wide constituency. These activities and the dissemination of the written material mentioned in paragraph 6 above have created a wider awareness of the problems addressed and the proposals advanced.

13. The activities sponsored by the Programme have usually emphasized the need for multilateral solutions and thereby may have helped to focus on the critical role played by the organizations of the United Nations system in that area. Considering the broad attendance at lectures and briefing sessions, the case for multilateral solutions to solve existing problems may therefore have been sustained and strengthened.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGERIAL ASPECTS

14. By its decision 81/30, the Governing Council requested the Administrator to consult with interested Governments, international institutions and private foundations in order to ensure the necessary financing. By decision 82/10, the Council invited Governments and relevant international organizations and foundations to support the Programme with financial contributions. Consequently, the Programme is financed entirely by voluntary contributions.

15. To meet the financial and other administrative costs associated with the Programme, a trust fund was established from which costs related to the organization and servicing of the various seminars and the publication of reports are financed as appropriate. Throughout its activities, the Programme has been administered with a particular concern for cost-effectiveness and for keeping administrative expenses to a minimum. To this end, no travel expenditures for participants were paid from the trust fund, although they were authorized by decision 81/30.

16. Throughout the years of its operations, the UNDP Development Study Programme has received a variety of contributions. Several Governments have made cash donations to the UNDP trust fund, while other Governments and entities have

contributed in kind or through cost-sharing arrangements, e.g. by paying directly for travel costs of some participants, local expenditures and the printing of the final report. Direct contributions were pledged by the Governments of Austria, Hungary, the Netherlands, Romania, Tunisia and Turkey. The totality of contributions pledged since 1982 amounts to an estimated \$516,000 of which \$434,000 has thus far been received. In addition, contributions in kind or through cost-sharing were made by the Federal Republic of Germany (through the German Foundation for Development), the Netherlands and the United Nations Association of Pittsburgh and other private organizations in Pittsburgh. The financial status of the trust fund is reported annually to the Governing Council in the report of the Administrator on trust funds (document DP/1987/57).

17. In accordance with paragraph 12 of the annex to decision 81/30, the Study Programme is administered by the Administrator. Further, as specified by paragraph 13 of this annex, support services to the seminars and other activities are normally provided by the secretariat of the Governing Council.

Annex

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS BY THE UNDP DEVELOPMENT STUDY PROGRAMME

I. Booklets

"Statement from Istanbul: A Report on the Istanbul Roundtable on World Monetary, Financial and Human Resource Development Issues", 48 pages

"Santiago Statement on World Monetary, Financial and Human Resource Development Issues", 9 pages

"Vienna Statement on World Monetary, Financial and Human Resource Development Issues", 10 pages

"Istanbul Statement on Development: The Human Dimension", 31 pages

"The Informatics Revolution and the Developing Countries - Summary Report on a Consultative Meeting of the North-South Roundtable", 22 pages

"Statement of the Roundtable on Money and Finance" (Fourth Session), 45 pages

"Salzburg Statement on Adjustment and Growth with Human Development", 23 pages

II. Books

Crisis of the '80s: World Monetary, Financial and Human Resource Development Issues, 1984, 316 pages

Adjustment with Growth: A Search for an Equitable Solution, 1984, 336 pages

The Lingering Debt crisis, 1985, 271 pages

Human Development: The Neglected Dimension, 1986, 446 pages

The Informatics Revolution and the Developing Countries, 1986, 131 pages

Adjustment and Growth with Human Development, 1986, estimated 400 pages

III. Other Publications

Roundtable on Technical Co-operation in the Development Process - Human Resources Building, 1983, 106 pages

Highlights of the Partnerships for Development Dialogue Conference, 1983, 12 pages

Highlights of the Second Partnerships for Development Dialogue Conference - Human Resource Building, 1985, 19 pages

DP/1987/14

English

Page 8

Paul G. Hoffman Lectures, 1983-1985, 32 pages

Paul G. Hoffman Lecture 1986, 14 pages
