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**UNDP SUBMISSION TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL SPECIAL
COMMISSION ON THE IN-DEPTH STUDY OF THE UNITED NATIONS
INTERGOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS IN THE ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL FIELDS**

Note by the Administrator

Summary

The General Assembly, in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, decided that the recommendations agreed upon by the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations (Group of 18) should be implemented in light of certain findings and considerations. Recommendation 8 of the Group of 18 calls for a careful and in-depth study of the intergovernmental structure in the economic and social fields to be undertaken by an intergovernmental body to be designated by the General Assembly. The General Assembly decided that this study should be carried out by the Economic and Social Council, assisted as and when required by relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations. The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 1987/112 of 6 February 1987, established a special commission open to the full participation of all States Members of the United Nations, to carry out the study. The Council requested all subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in the economic and social sectors and all subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to submit to the special commission their views and proposals on achieving the objectives envisaged in Recommendation 8 of the Group of 18. The present report has been prepared to assist the Governing Council in formulating its views and proposals for submission to the special commission. The question, which, among others, the Council may wish to consider in this connection are highlighted throughout this document.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present paper has been prepared by the Secretariat in compliance with the request of the Governing Council at its organizational meeting for 1987, to facilitate the Council's consideration of the submission which the Council is to make to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the in-depth study of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations. The Governing Council further requested the Administrator to arrange for intensive and systematic consultations on this question.

2. The paper to be submitted by the Council to the Special Commission will be the outcome of the Council's deliberations at its thirty-fourth session, not the present documents. No attempt has therefore been made to present any conclusions in the present document, the purpose of which is merely to draw the Council's attention to the various issues it may wish to address in this exercise. These issues have been grouped under four headings: intergovernmental structure; subsidiary machinery of the Council; interrelationship with other bodies; and secretariat support structures.

3. Although this subject will be considered under item 10 (c) of the provisional agenda of the Council at its thirty-fourth session, the Council decided, at its organizational meeting for 1987, that members may address the issues relating to this subject in their statements during the high-level segment of the thirty-fourth session. Related thereto is the Council's consideration of the role, mandate and future of the Committee of the Whole and its Working Group, which will be considered under agenda item 4 (a) (iii) (see paras. 23-29 below).

4. The Council may wish to decide on the mechanism for formulating and finalizing its submission to the Special Commission, for instance, through the setting up of a small working group, a modality which has proved effective in the past when dealing with complex issues requiring informal discussions. Following informal consultations, members of the Council have agreed that the Bureau of the Council should make a recommendation on this matter which the Council should take up on 26 May 1987, when it considers its organization of work for the thirty-fourth session.

II. BACKGROUND

5. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, the Economic and Social Council, in its decision 1987/112 of 6 February 1987, established a Special Commission to carry out an in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields and its secretariat support structures, as called for in recommendation 8 of the Group of 18. The Special Commission is open to the full participation of all members of the United Nations on an equal basis.

6. In paragraph (i) of the decision, the Economic and Social Council requests all subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in the economic and social sectors

and all subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to submit to the Special Commission, within 30 days of the conclusion of their forthcoming session, their views and proposals on achieving the objectives envisaged in recommendation 8 of the Group of 18.

7. Pursuant to the same Economic and Social Council decision, the Special Commission is to consider relevant provisions of recommendation 2 of the Group of 18, which requests subsidiary bodies to review urgently their current agendas and schedules of meetings in order to reduce substantially their number, frequency and duration. Recommendation 2 also urges the pursuit of efforts towards the biennialization of meetings in the economic and social fields.

8. For ease of reference, the most relevant excerpts from General Assembly resolution 41/213, concerning the recommendations of the Group of 18 and Economic and Social Council decision 1987/112, are given in the annex. Recommendations 2 and 8 are also annexed.

9. When the report of the Group of 18 was first published towards the end of 1986, members of the Governing Council were informally consulted for an exchange of views on those recommendations which are relevant to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

III. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

A. Intergovernmental structure

10. The Governing Council completed a full review of its methods and procedures as recently as June 1985. The Council's review was aimed at producing the best structure needed by an intergovernmental body to supervise a funding and development organization responsible for administering some \$1 billion annually. Members of the Programme made it quite clear that financial contributions to UNDP were dependent on the extent to which they could satisfy themselves that their contributions were being efficiently and economically spent on programmes and projects, that project objectives were being met, and that a close working relationship existed with the UNDP secretariat.

11. The mandate and terms of reference of UNDP are set out in a separate document (E/1983/INF.4/Rev.1) already distributed to the Special Commission. For ease of reference, excerpts are given in the annex.

12. Until 1977 the Governing Council convened two sessions annually, for three weeks and four weeks, respectively, in New York in January, and at Geneva in June. Since 1978, however, even with the expansion of the Programme's activities, the Council has held only one regular annual session for approximately four weeks, alternating between New York and Geneva. An organizational session is held at the beginning of February of each year, and special sessions of a few days' duration have been convened when necessary for consideration of country, intercountry, regional, interregional and global programmes and projects. A high-level segment, lasting for approximately four or five days, is held during the regular sessions.

For Council consideration: Organization of meetings

13. The Governing Council is now invited by recommendation 2 of the Group of 18 to consider the schedule, number, frequency and duration of its meetings based on its experience in dealing with the agenda and make its views known to the Special Commission.

For Council consideration: Time allocated for agenda items

14. Within the overall period of three to four weeks scheduled for the Governing Council regular sessions, specific timetables are developed for the consideration of each agenda item. Based on its experience, the Council may consider whether the time allocated for each agenda item has been insufficient, adequate or excessive.

15. The Governing Council has already taken steps to biennialize the consideration of certain agenda items and their documentation. Most recently in decision 87/1 of 17 February 1987, on an experimental basis, the Council biennialized, consolidated or took other action to streamline a number of its documents (see annex).

For Council consideration: Work programme and subsidiary bodies

16. As a result of biennialization and other streamlining efforts, and bearing in mind that there are some years in which the Council will not have many country and intercountry programmes to consider, the Council may wish to examine its work programme. In years with fewer programmes and projects to consider, the Council usually devotes time to policy matters. However, it may be possible to examine the work programme and number of meetings of the Council's subsidiary bodies, particularly the Budget and Finance Committee, with a view to curtailment in years when not many financial matters are to be taken up.

For Council consideration: High-level segments

17. In its high-level segment, the Governing Council discusses policy issues, addressing them in a comprehensive manner. Consideration may be given to the continuance of this process, as well as ways and means of making the discussions even more meaningful and result-oriented.

18. An economic and social development issue of major importance has been selected as the theme for each of these high-level segments. One example, that of human resources development, may serve to illustrate the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach in the United Nations system. Human resources development is a field in which the United Nations Development Programme is recognized as having a leading role in the United Nations system.

19. So far, the subject has been considered in various intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations without a systematic or integrated policy. At the intergovernmental level, a truly integrated approach to the consideration of this issue needs to be developed. The somewhat artificial separation in policy consideration of issues into "economic" and "social" categories, the former being allocated to the Second Committee and the latter to the Third Committee of the

General Assembly, has resulted, for instance, in the lack of a comprehensive and integrated discussion of human resources development, which spans both areas.

For Council consideration: Single governing body for operational activities for development

20. In its recommendation 8 (3) (d), the Group of 18 requests that consideration be given to the establishment of a single governing body to be responsible for the management and control, at the intergovernmental level, of the United Nations operational activities for development. Members of the Council may wish to express their views on this proposal. The nature of a voluntarily funded Programme such as UNDP, and the need for a direct and close relationship between the UNDP secretariat and its Governing Council will need to be carefully borne in mind in this exercise.

21. On the other hand, the Economic and Social Council itself, when it takes up the annual or major triennial review of operational activities on the basis of the reports of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, has been playing a major role as the principal intergovernmental body in this area. Consideration may be given to the possibility of strengthening this role, as well as that of the Second Committee of the General Assembly. Consideration may also be given for the Economic and Social Council to hold subject-oriented sessions, one of which could be on the triennial review of operational activities.

For Council consideration: Funds and other bodies

22. At present, in addition to UNDP itself, the Governing Council is responsible for the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA); the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD); the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF); the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO); the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries (SMF); the United Nations Trust Fund for Colonial Countries and Peoples; the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV); the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration (UNRFNRE); the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development; the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM); the United Nations Trust Fund for the Operational Programme in Lesotho; and the United Nations Trust Fund for Operational Personnel in Swaziland. Debates or discussions of these items have never had to be curtailed for shortage of time. To deal with the policy issues arising in connection with these funds, the Council has increased the time allocated to their consideration in the past few years. The first substantive item to be taken up by the Council at its thirty-fourth session will deal with UNFPA; three full days have been allotted to this item, plus two days in the Budget and Finance Committee and possibly another two days in the Drafting Group. The Council may review its performance in serving as the governing body of these entities, including the time allocated to these funds.

B. Subsidiary machinery of the Council

23. The Governing Council, in its decision 83/5 of 24 June 1983, established a Committee of the Whole for a trial period of three years, for the following purposes:

- (a) To consider major issues related to programme matters;
- (b) To review country, regional, interregional and global programmes and projects;
- (c) To review programme and project implementation;
- (d) To consider reports on evaluation studies; and
- (e) To deal with other matters related to the programme management of the United Nations Development Programme.

24. The Council, in its decision 85/17 of 29 June 1985, established also on an experimental basis, a Working Group of the Committee of the Whole, to facilitate and help expedite the consideration of matters arising from the mandate of the Committee of the Whole, particularly in respect of programming matters, other than country and intercountry programmes. The Working Group meets on a regular basis. It has a membership of 26 at present, but attendance is open to all member States. It reports to the Committee of the Whole. Between February 1986 and April 1987, the Working Group held five sessions, each lasting for two or three days. Meetings of the Working Group have so far been convened always within existing resources, thus involving no additional financial or administrative expenses for the United Nations or UNDP.

25. At the end of the three-year experimental period of the Committee of the Whole, the Council postponed for one year the required review of the Committee's future, and extended its mandate accordingly. The review of the Committee of the Whole, and its Working Group, is now scheduled to be carried out during the current session of the Governing Council.

26. A separate document (DP/1987/64) will be before the Council on this subject, which is a separate item on the agenda for the thirty-fourth session. An analysis, assessment and evaluation of the performance and usefulness of both the Committee of the Whole and its Working Group are contained in paragraphs 16-23 of document DP/1987/64, which should be considered in conjunction with the present document.

For Council consideration: Subsidiary bodies and overall structure

27. Bearing in mind recommendations 2 and 8 of the Group of 18, and inasmuch as experience has demonstrated that virtually all member States participate rather actively in the Working Group, the Council may wish to give consideration to the extent to which it is necessary to reopen and hold a full debate again in the Committee of the Whole and the Governing Council, on matters already thoroughly considered by the Working Group.

28. In carrying out the review of the status, mandate and future of the Committee of the Whole and its Working Group, the Council may wish to bear in mind recommendations 2 and 8 of the Group of 18, and decide specifically which views it wishes to convey to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council regarding its subsidiary machinery.
29. In addition to the Committee of the Whole, the Council convenes two sessional subsidiary bodies, a Budgetary and Finance Committee and a Drafting Group.
30. The Budgetary and Finance Committee is the subsidiary body of the Governing Council which considers the budgetary and financial matters of UNDP, UNFPA and other funds and programmes under the authority of the Administrator. The Committee carries out an annual review of the UNDP financial situation, the biennial budget estimates, the trust funds, audit reports and other relevant budgetary and financial matters. It makes recommendations to the Governing Council for approval.
31. The Drafting Group assists the Council in elaborating and recommending proposals and decisions for approval by the Governing Council.
32. The Governing Council may wish to review the experience it has had with the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group with a view to determining their efficacy.
33. In the light of the above-listed review, the Council may wish to consider whether its subsidiary bodies and present overall structure are responsive to present needs.

C. Interrelationship with other bodies

For Council consideration: Other intergovernmental bodies

34. The Governing Council may also wish to discuss the interrelationship of UNDP with other intergovernmental bodies dealing in areas similar to the responsibilities of UNDP.
35. Several intergovernmental bodies deal with subject areas which also appear on the UNDP agenda. The following examples, including the bodies that consider them, may be cited:

<u>Subject area</u>	<u>Intergovernmental bodies</u>
Population	Population Commission
Women	Commission on the Status of Women Consultative Committee on UNIFEM Board of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for Women (INSTRAW)
Energy	Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy

<u>Subject area</u>	<u>Intergovernmental bodies</u>
Science and technology	Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development
United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office	Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme
Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Development	Committee on Natural Resources
Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries	High-level Committee on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries

36. In all of these cases, the related issues, having been discussed at both the UNDP Governing Council and the respective other intergovernmental or advisory body, still go to the Economic and Social Council and/or the General Assembly, where they are again discussed in either the Second Committee or the Third Committee, or in both, as in the case of women.

For Council consideration: Economic and Social Council and Second Committee

37. While considering this matter, the respective roles of the Economic and Social Council and the Second Committee on UNDP activities may also be examined with a view to streamlining and to the reduction of duplicate debates.

For Council consideration: Transfer of agenda items

38. The Council may also consider which, if any, items it would consider appropriate to eliminate from its own agenda and transfer to other bodies outside UNDP, and conversely any items the Council feels that it, rather than others, should have on its agenda (see para. 35 above). In this context, the Council may wish to consider, for instance, whether the report on the regular and extrabudgetary technical co-operation expenditures of the United Nations system, which is currently being prepared by the UNDP secretariat should not be prepared by the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and be considered by the Economic and Social Council.

D. Secretariat support structures

39. The attention of the Council is drawn to the opening paragraph of Economic and Social Council decision 1987/112, whereby the in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields includes "its secretariat support structures". Moreover, in paragraph (j) (i) of the same decision, the Secretary-General is requested to submit to the Special Commission "Information on the intergovernmental machinery of the United Nations in

the economic and social fields and its Secretariat support structures". This may include consideration of the role of the Resident Co-ordinator.

For Council consideration: Secretariat support structures

40. Once the intergovernmental relationship is redefined, the Secretariat support structures may be expected to be reviewed accordingly.

For Council consideration: Co-ordination at headquarters

41. An important matter to be reviewed also is co-ordination at the headquarters level. Regarding the administrative structure at headquarters, the Council has before it document DP/1987/53 on the organization and financial structure of the UNDP-administered system.

Annex

PERTINENT BACKGROUND RECOMMENDATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS

I. REPORT OF THE GROUP OF HIGH-LEVEL INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS TO
REVIEW THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL
FUNCTIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Recommendation 2

The number of conferences and meetings can be significantly reduced and their duration shortened without affecting the substantive work of the Organization. To this end:

- (a) The Economic and Social Council should be invited to hold an annual session;
- (b) The General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should request their subsidiary bodies to review urgently their current agendas and schedules of meetings in order to reduce substantially their number, frequency and duration. In this context, the move towards biennialization of conferences and meetings, which has been initiated particularly in the economic and social fields, should be vigorously pursued;
- (c) As there continues to be large differences between planned and actual utilization of available conference resources by numerous United Nations bodies, these bodies should be requested to provide a more realistic assessment of their needs. The Committee on Conferences should, in co-operation with the bodies concerned, ensure that wastage of conference-service resources is minimized through a reduction in the projections of the length and, where appropriate, the frequency of meetings of those bodies that have consistently utilized a lower level of resources than planned;
- (d) Until 1978, a number of resolutions had requested that only one major conference be scheduled annually. The decision of the General Assembly that no more than five special conferences should take place in a given year and that no more than one special conference should be convened at the same time should be strictly implemented.

Recommendation 8

- (1) A careful and in-depth study of the intergovernmental structure in the economic and social fields should be undertaken by an intergovernmental body to be designated by the General Assembly. This body should preferably have a limited membership, at the highest possible level of representation and based on the principle of equitable geographical distribution. In discharging its tasks, the body should seek the

co-operation of the intergovernmental organs whose functions are being reviewed in the study and draw on the expertise of relevant United Nations bodies, such as the Joint Inspection Unit and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

- (2) In general terms, the study should include a comparative analysis of agendas, calendars and programmes of work of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and related subsidiary bodies, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Council. The study should also include their support structures.
- (3) The purpose of the study should be, inter alia, to:
 - (a) Identify measures to rationalize and simplify the intergovernmental structure, avoid duplication and consider consolidating and co-ordinating overlapping activities and merging existing bodies in order to improve their work and make the structure more responsive to present needs;
 - (b) Develop criteria for the establishment and duration of subsidiary bodies, including periodic reviews of their work and mechanisms for implementing their decisions;
 - (c) Define in precise terms areas of responsibility for the various bodies. Particular attention should be given to strengthening the coherence and integrity of the structure, to facilitating the formulation of a comprehensive approach to development issues and to the necessity of putting more emphasis on regional and subregional co-operation;
 - (d) Consider the establishment of a single governing body responsible for the management and control, at the intergovernmental level, of United Nations operational activities for development;
 - (e) Improve the system of reporting from subsidiary to principal organs, thereby reducing the number of reports and avoiding duplication of documentation;
 - (f) Strengthen on a continuous basis the co-ordination of activities in the economic and social fields under the leadership of the Secretary-General.
- (4) The study should be undertaken as a matter of priority and its findings and recommendations should be presented to the General Assembly not later than at its forty-third session.

II. GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 41/213: REVIEW OF THE
EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL
FUNCTIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The General Assembly,

1. Decides that the recommendations as agreed upon and as contained in the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations should be implemented by the Secretary-General and the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations in the light of the findings of the Fifth Committee and subject to the following:

...

- (e) The Economic and Social Council, assisted as and when required by relevant organs and bodies, in particular the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, should carry out the study called for in recommendation 8.

III. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL DECISION 1987/112: IN-DEPTH STUDY
OF THE UNITED NATIONS INTERGOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS
IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELDS

At its 4th plenary meeting, on 6 February 1987, the Economic and Social Council, in order to carry out the in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields and its Secretariat support structures, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, decided:

(a) To establish a Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental Structure and Functions in the Economic and Social Fields, which would be open to the full participation of all States Members of the United Nations on an equal basis and whose proceedings would be governed in all other respects by the relevant rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council;

(b) That in undertaking its task, the Special Commission should establish, as appropriate, drafting or working groups;

(c) To invite Governments to participate at the highest possible level in the work of the Special Commission;

(d) To request the Special Commission to consider, in the context of the in-depth study, the relevant provisions of recommendation 2 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations;

(e) That the Bureau of the Special Commission should be composed of five members, one from each regional group, who should serve for the entire duration of the work of the Special Commission;

/...

(f) To appoint Ambassador Abdel Halim Badawi (Egypt) Chairman of the Special Commission and to convene an organizational meeting of the Special Commission on 13 February 1987 for the purpose of electing, following consultations, the other members of the Bureau;

(g) To convene the first and second sessions of the Special Commission from 2 to 6 and from 18 to 20 March 1987;

(h) That the Special Commission should inform the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1987 and at subsequent regular sessions, of the progress of its work and should make recommendations to the Council on its future programme of work and its calendar of meetings;

(i) To request all subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in the economic and social sectors and all subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to submit to the Special Commission, within 30 days of the conclusion of their forthcoming sessions, their views and proposals on achieving the objectives envisaged in recommendation 8 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts regarding their functioning and that of their subsidiary machinery;

(j) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the Special Commission:

(i) Information on the intergovernmental machinery of the United Nations in the economic and social fields and its Secretariat support structures, including information concerning terms of reference, programmes of work, agenda, reporting procedures and periodicity of meetings, that information to be submitted to the Special Commission at its first session;

(ii) A list of available United Nations studies on the functioning and restructuring of the intergovernmental bodies in the economic and social sectors, as well as legislative decisions taken in that regard;

(iii) Other studies and analyses as required by the Special Commission;

(k) Also to request the Secretary-General, to the extent possible within existing resources, to provide conference services, facilities and other necessary support on a preferential basis to the Special Commission to enable it to operate with sufficient frequency as from in the first half of 1987 to fulfil its mandate in the limited time available;

(l) To request the Special Commission to make its final report available in time for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session for 1988;

(m) That the Special Commission should approach its work with a view to strengthening the effectiveness of the United Nations in dealing with economic and social issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the objectives agreed upon by the General Assembly.

IV. UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL DECISION 87/1: SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS
OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL IN 1987

The Governing Council

...

Approves on an experimental basis the proposals contained in document DP/1987/7 on biennialization and further streamlining of Council documentation as reflected in the annex to this decision;

...

Annex

A. Reports to be submitted on a biennial basis

1. Reports of the special funds administered by UNDP other than the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). In the interim years basic statistical and financial data on each of the funds will be included in a statistical addendum to the Administrator's Annual Report. The schedule of full reports will be prepared in line with the work programme of the Second Committee and the Economic and Social Council.

2. No consensus matter, relating to amendments of the UNDP financial regulations, will be taken up biannually.

B. Reports to be consolidated

1. The UNSO reports on the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and on the Recovery and Rehabilitation Programme will be submitted as a single report.

2. A report entitled "Annual Review of Programme and Project Activities" to include in 1987: the use of equipment; project personnel; government execution and implementation of measures to improve programme and project quality.

3. A report entitled "Annual Review of Thematic Programmes Established by the Governing Council" to include in 1987: human resources development; co-ordination and the implementation strategy for women in development.

4. A report entitled "Fourth Cycle Indicative Planning Figure and Other Resource Utilization" will incorporate such matters as Special Programme Resources (SPR); the special needs of Island Developing Countries; changes in IPF calculations; and issues relating to net contributor status during the fourth cycle.

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V. UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME: TERMS OF REFERENCE

UNDP was established by General Assembly resolution 2029 (XX) of 22 November 1965, which combined the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, the basic principles and purposes of which were defined by Assembly resolution 1240 (XIII) and Council resolution 222 (IX), and subsequent decisions of the Assembly and the Council, in particular Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) entitled "The capacity of the United Nations development system".

The primary objective of UNDP is to co-operate with developing countries in their efforts to accelerate their economic and social development and achieve self-reliance. In resolution 3405 (XXX) of 28 November 1975, the General Assembly endorsed the general guidelines adopted by the Governing Council of UNDP at its twentieth session for the future orientation of UNDP technical co-operation, known as "new dimensions in technical co-operation". They were based on a study undertaken by UNDP to examine new approaches to the kind of technical co-operation provided by UNDP which would enable it to respond to and contribute more effectively to the changing requirements of developing countries and the establishment of a new international economic order. The essential features of the new dimensions included the promotion of self-reliance in developing countries, a shift in emphasis from input to output or the results to be achieved, and special attention to the needs of the least developed countries. The guidelines specifically advocated flexibility in the provision of equipment and material resources, and the financing of local costs. They also suggested that Governments and institutions in recipient countries should be increasingly entrusted with the responsibility for executing UNDP-assisted projects; that assistance should be provided at all stages of the development process; and that UNDP should enter into partnership with capital assistance sources.

Developing countries have the exclusive responsibility for formulating their development policies, objectives and priorities. UNDP country programmes, which are designed to respond to the changing needs of evolving, national objectives and priorities, are formulated by the Governments themselves, in co-operation with UNDP and its participating and executing agencies.

The General Assembly, in resolution 2029 (XX), also established a Governing Council "to perform the functions previously exercised by the Governing Council of the Special Fund and the Technical Assistance Committee, including the consideration and approval of projects and programmes and the allocation of funds; in addition, it shall provide general policy guidance and direction for the United Nations Development Programme as a whole, as well as for the United Nations regular programmes of technical assistance". The General Assembly also provided that the Governing Council "shall submit reports and recommendations thereon to the Economic and Social Council for consideration by the Council at its summer (Northern Hemisphere) session".

Membership and composition of the Governing Council

The Governing Council consisted originally of 37 members; it was increased to 48 members by General Assembly resolution 2813 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2029 (XX), members are elected by the Economic and Social Council "from among States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, providing for equitable and balanced representation of the economically more developed countries, on the one hand, having due regard to their contribution to the United Nations Development Programme, and of the developing countries, on the other hand, taking into account the need for suitable regional representation among the latter members".

The present composition is as follows:

"(a) Twenty-seven seats shall be filled by developing countries, allocated as follows:

"(i) Eleven seats for African States;

"(ii) Nine seats for Asian States and Yugoslavia;

"(iii) Seven seats for Latin American States;

"(b) Twenty-one seats shall be filled by economically more advanced countries, allocated as follows:

"(i) Seventeen seats for Western European and other States;

"(ii) Four seats for Eastern European States;

"(c) The composition of seats in each group should at all times give due expression to adequate subregional representation;

"(d) Elections to these 48 seats shall be for a term of three years and retiring members shall be eligible for re-election." 1/

Notes

1/ General Assembly resolution 2813 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971.
