The Governing Council


2. Notes the approval by the Administrator of supplementary short-term financing for mineral exploration in the province of Chubut, Argentina (ARG/NR/77/001) (DP/NRE/PROJECTS/9) and for geothermal exploration in the Qualibou Caldera, St. Lucia (STL/GT/84/001) (DP/NRE/PROJECTS/10);

3. Notes with satisfaction the Fund's continued efforts to obtain investment follow-up for its projects and its recent success in attracting additional countries to the list of voluntary contributors and joint financing partners;

4. Requests the Administrator to review the terms and conditions for the Fund's assistance with a view to seeing whether they can be made more attractive to the recipient countries, without sacrificing the intention to build up a revolving fund from replenishments from successful projects, and to report on it to the thirty-fifth session of the Council;

5. Notes with concern the lack of needed resources to meet the existing demand for mineral and geothermal exploration projects in developing countries; and

6. Renews its appeal to Member States to contribute to the financial resources of the Fund in order for it to fulfil its mandate.
Agenda item 8 (f) (ii). Activities of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office and assistance to other drought-stricken countries in Africa

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 86/39 of 27 June 1986, and resolution 87/1 of 17 February 1987 on the implementation of the medium- and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme and the implementation of the plan of action to combat desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region,

Deeply concerned by the serious effects of drought and desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region which have aggravated food shortages and famine and undermined the development of the countries in the region,

Convinced that Africa's socio-economic recovery will be severely handicapped in the absence of more concerted international effort to counter the effects of drought and desertification,


Recalling decision 13/30 B of 23 May 1985 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Taking note of the efforts of the Administrator to establish within the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office a unit responsible for East African countries,

Taking note also of the efforts made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to implement the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme of the member countries of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, and noting with satisfaction the co-operation that the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office has started with the newly established Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development,

1. Takes note of the report of the Administrator on the activities of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office and United Nations assistance to other drought-stricken countries in Africa (DP/1987/50);

2. Expresses its gratitude to the Governments, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals that have contributed to the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region and commends the Administrator on the progress achieved by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the face of financial constraints;
3. Appeals to all Governments to strengthen further their support to the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, including voluntary contributions on the occasion of the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, as well as through direct financing of United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office-sponsored projects which enable it to respond to the priority requirements of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region;

4. Reaffirms the role of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in co-ordinating United Nations efforts to help the States members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development in implementing their recovery and rehabilitation programme, with due regard to ecological considerations and urges all Governments of the affected areas and specialized and operational agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their co-ordination to assure concerted efforts to combat desertification;

5. Requests the Administrator to continue to report annually to the Governing Council on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region and on efforts to combat drought and desertification, as well as on co-operation of the United Nations system in this area.

Agenda item 6. United Nations Fund for Population Activities

The Governing Council,

Taking into account the views expressed by delegations at its thirty-fourth session during the consideration of matters concerning the United Nations Fund for Population Activities,

Emphasizing the sovereignty of nations in the formulation, adoption and implementation of their population policies, consistent with basic human rights and responsibilities of individuals, couples and families,

Recalling operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of General Assembly resolution 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, concerning the role of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme relating to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities,

Also recalling operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of ECOSOC resolution 1763 (LIV) of 18 May 1973 that set forth the aims and purposes of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities,

I

1. Takes note of the reports of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities on the activities of the Fund in 1986 (DP/1987/32 (parts I and II) and DP/1987/33 (parts I and II);
2. Notes with satisfaction the sound financial condition of the Fund in 1986, especially in view of the loss of the contribution from its traditional major donor, expresses its appreciation to all donors to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, especially those that were able to increase their contributions in 1986 and with particular reference to the additional efforts made by three donors in 1986 in the form of special one-time contributions to the Fund;

3. Urges all countries that are able to do so to increase their contributions in 1987 and future years, and to make their contribution payments as early as possible in the year for which the pledge is made;

4. Notes with satisfaction the proportions of assistance allocated to the highest priority programme areas outlined in Governing Council decision 81/7 I, paragraph 3, of 23 June 1981, as reflected in the annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities for 1986 (DP/1987/32 (parts I and II)), in accordance with the Council's previous directives;

5. Takes note with satisfaction of the increase in both volume and percentage terms of UNFPA assistance to sub-Saharan Africa in keeping with Governing Council decision 86/34 I, paragraph 1, urging the Executive Director to increase the attention given to this region;

6. Reiterates its directive that UNFPA continue to allocate at least two thirds of country programme assistance to the priority countries for UNFPA assistance;

7. Urges that steps be taken to augment the resource base so that even while increasing the emphasis on assistance to sub-Saharan Africa and other priority countries, support for programmes in non-priority countries is maintained at present levels, if not increased;

8. Welcomes the intention of the Fund as set forth in the Executive Director's 26 May 1987 statement to the Council to conduct a wide-ranging review and assessment of accumulated population experience in key areas within its mandate, as well as of UNFPA field and headquarters operations, in order to improve further the quality, impact, effectiveness and outreach of all UNFPA-assisted programmes and projects; and requests the Executive Director to include information on the review and assessment in a section of the annual report of the Executive Director to the Governing Council at its thirty-fifth session and to provide a special report on the completed review and assessment to the Council at its thirty-sixth session;

9. Notes with satisfaction the plans of the Fund to assist Governments to strengthen their own co-ordination machinery in the population field and the Fund's efforts to increase co-ordination and co-operation with other organizations and agencies notably within the Joint Consultative Group on Policy and the wider United Nations system; and urges the Executive Director to increase such collaboration by assisting the formulation and implementation of comprehensive national plans for population and health issues to ensure the complementarity of the actions of the relevant agencies and organizations of the United Nations system;
10. Welcomes the stated intention of the Executive Director to take steps to ensure more open, substantive and continuing dialogue with Council members between sessions of the Council;

[11. Agrees that intersessional meetings of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole be used to consider important aspects of the Fund's present and planned programmes and initiatives, the initial discussion to take place preferably in February 1988;]

12. Encourages national Governments whenever possible to present their proposed UNDP and UNFPA country programmes to the same session of the Governing Council and requests UNDP and UNFPA to co-ordinate their inputs and presentations and to assist the countries at their request in co-ordinating the two programmes so as to ensure their complementarity and consistency;

13. Also notes with satisfaction the report of the Executive Director on procedures for feedback and use of evaluation results (DP/1987/39) as requested in decision 86/34 I, paragraph 4; endorses the proposed system, requests the Executive Director to ensure the necessary resources are provided for the finalization of the system by the end of 1987, and requests the Executive Director to include information on the finalization and initial implementation of the system in her report on evaluation to the thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council;

14. Notes document DP/1987/36 on implementation experience and endorses the strategies outlined in this document to continue, in close co-operation with the agencies, to improve implementation of the UNFPA programme, particularly in its support for strengthening of technical backstopping, including, inter alia, increased technical resources and the strengthening of the Fund's technical capacity, endorses further decentralization to the field offices and the need for staff training of the recipient countries and urges UNFPA to take technical expertise, competence and past performance into account in proposing implementing entities to recipient Governments;

15. Notes with special satisfaction the report of the Executive Director on the strategy for UNFPA assistance to sub-Saharan Africa (DP/1987/37) submitted in response to decision 86/34 I, paragraph 2, agrees with the overall objectives of the proposed strategy and with the four areas that were targeted in the paper as priority areas for UNFPA assistance, and requests the Executive Director to report to the thirty-fifth session of the Council on the status of the implementation of the strategy;

16. Notes with appreciation the report on an implementation strategy to strengthen the capacity of the Fund to deal with issues concerning women, population and development (DP/1987/38), endorses the proposed four-year work plan; further endorses the Executive Director's decision to give the Special Unit for Women an adequate status in the organizational structure of the Fund; urges the Executive Director to ensure the accountability of all staff for its implementation; also urges the Executive Director to take all necessary measures to facilitate its full, prompt implementation including providing adequate human and financial resources to the Special Unit for Women and ensuring heightened awareness
and training of the Fund's entire staff; and requests the Executive Director to provide status reports on the implementation of the strategy to the Council at its thirty-sixth and thirty-eighth sessions;

17. Takes note of the report on the attribution of intercountry activities (DP/1987/40), approves the methodology for such attribution to developing countries as contained in the report, requests the Executive Director to report regularly on such attribution for the past year in UNFPA's work plan;

18. Requests the Executive Director to submit the intercountry programme of UNFPA for the years 1988-1991 to the Council at its thirty-fifth session for its approval.

Note

The Governing Council in this section of the decision has requested the Executive Director to submit the following reports:

(a) To the Council at its thirty-fifth session:

1. In the annual report of the Executive Director to include specific chapters on:

   (i) Information on the Fund's wide-ranging review and assessment of accumulated population experience in key areas within its mandate as requested in chapter I, paragraph 8;

   (ii) A status report on the implementation of the Fund's strategy for sub-Saharan Africa as requested in chapter I, paragraph 15, and in paragraph 2 of decision 87/__ (WP.5);

2. To include in the previously requested report on evaluation, information on the finalization and initial implementation of the proposed system for feedback and use of lessons learned from evaluations as requested in chapter I, paragraph 13;

3. All intercountry programmes of the Fund for the years 1988-1991, as requested in chapter I, paragraph 18;

(b) To the Council at its thirty-sixth session:

   (i) Status reports on the Fund's implementation strategy to strengthen the capacity of the Fund to deal with issues concerning women, population and development as requested in chapter I, paragraph 16;

   (ii) Report on the Fund's wide-ranging review and assessment of accumulated population experience in key areas within its mandate as requested in chapter I, paragraph 8;
II

Having considered the work plan for 1988-1991 and request for approval authority (DP/1987/34) and the report of the financial implementation of Governing Council-approved UNFPA country programmes and projects (DP/1987/35),

1. Commends the Executive Director for cautious forward planning at times of uncertainty of available resources;

2. Approves the revised programme ceiling for 1987 of $137.6 million as contained in document DP/1987/34, including an increase in the overprogramming to 10 per cent above new programmable resources of 1987;

3. Decides to maintain the level of permitted overprogramming up to 10 per cent of new programmable resources for 1988;

4. Approves the work plan for 1988-1991;

5. Authorizes the net additional approval authority in accordance with the work plan in the amounts of:

   (a) $30.0 million for 1988, to bring the total for 1988 to 100 per cent of the 1988 level, or $153.7 million;

   (b) $32.8 million for 1989, to bring the total for 1989 to 75 per cent of the 1988 level, or $115.3 million;

   (c) $35.7 million for 1990 to bring the total for 1990 to 50 per cent of the 1988 level, or $76.9 million;

   (d) 25 per cent of the 1988 level, or $38.4 million for 1991.

III

Having considered the recommendations of the Executive Director in regard to the proposed country and intercountry programmes and projects,

1. Approves UNFPA assistance to the 31 multi-year large-scale country programmes, as set forth in the recommendation by the Executive Director (DP/1987/L.7) and enumerated below and in table B of DP/1987/35, and included in the work plan for 1988-1991 (DP/1987/34); the level of assistance to each multi-year country programme from UNFPA's regular resources, subject to the availability of funds initially to be programmed at the lower level set forth on the first page of each document, it being understood that UNFPA would seek to provide the balance required to meet the higher level proposed on the first page of the country programme documents as its funding situation permits; it also being understood that if and to the extent UNFPA's funding situation would not permit it to finance the higher proposed level for the country programmes, UNFPA will seek to locate and obtain resources from other funding sources, including, from multi-bilateral sources:
Sub-Saharan Africa

Angola (DP/FPA/CP/9)
Botswana (DP/FPA/CP/13)
Burkina Faso (DP/FPA/CP/16)
Burundi (DP/FPA/CP/24)
Cameroon (DP/FPA/CP/30)
Congo (DP/FPA/CP/21)
Ethiopia (DP/FPA/CP/27)
Gambia (DP/FPA/CP/7)
Guinea (DP/FPA/CP/20)
Guinea-Bissau (DP/FPA/CP/11)
Kenya (DP/FPA/CP/26)
Liberia (DP/FPA/CP/6)
Madagascar (DP/FPA/CP/28)
Malawi (DP/FPA/CP/8 and Corr.1)
Mali (DP/FPA/CP/12)
Mauritania (DP/FPA/CP/23 and Corr.1)
Niger (DP/FPA/CP/17)
Nigeria (DP/FPA/CP/19)
Rwanda (DP/FPA/CP/29)
Senegal (DP/FPA/CP/18)
Tanzania (DP/FPA/CP/10)

Asia and the Pacific

Malaysia (DP/FPA/CP/3)
Sri Lanka (DP/FPA/CP/2)
Thailand (DP/FPA/CP/1)

Latin America and the Caribbean

Honduras (DP/FPA/CP/13)

Middle East and Mediterranean

Democratic Yemen (DP/FPA/CP/4)
Morocco (DP/FPA/CP/15)
Somalia (DP/FPA/CP/25)
Sudan (DP/FPA/CP/22)
Tunisia (DP/FPA/CP/14)  
Yemen (DP/FPA/CP/5)  

Intercountry programmes and projects

2. Also approves UNFPA assistance to the following large-scale multi-year intercountry programme and project:


Agenda item 7. United Nations technical co-operation activities

The Governing Council,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical co-operation activities (DP/1987/45 and Add.1),

1. Welcomes the steps taken by the Department for increased effectiveness and productivity, the increased volume of project delivery in 1986, the elimination of previous support costs deficits, and the increased project implementation rate;

2. Urges the Department to give continued attention to its performance, especially regarding its level of programme delivery in the context of the approval of project budgets at the outset of the 1987–1991 country programme cycle;

3. Urges that, bearing in mind the sizeable staff cuts already sustained by the Department, recommendation 15 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts should be applied judiciously and with flexibility in the case of the Department;

4. Welcomes the steps taken by the Department for improved analysis and reporting of results of project evaluations, and encourages further such efforts aimed at augmenting the quality of projects and programmes, bearing in mind also the important roles of Governments as well as funding agencies in ensuring practical feedback and follow-up of the recommendations of evaluation missions;

5. Welcomes the measures initiated by the Department for implementation of the recommendations of the 1986 Meeting of National Recruitment Services, and urges further expeditious actions, especially as concerns increasing the participation, as technical co-operation personnel, of: women; personnel from developing countries; and personnel from other countries whose potentials, until now, have not been sufficiently utilized;

6. Notes with concern the existing shares of developing countries and underutilized donor countries in the provision of equipment and subcontracting services and urges that efforts be pursued to improve the situation, particularly
through wider and more appropriate use of information on the potentials of these countries;

7. Welcomes the preparation of a departmental implementation strategy on the participation of women in development, and encourages its application at the Headquarters and field levels, taking into account the parallel strategies within the United Nations development system;

8. Requests UNDP and donor countries to contribute adequate funds for the implementation of the Special Action Programme for Administration and Management in Africa and urges the Department to intensify its efforts in assisting African countries to enhance their public administration, in particular support of training programmes for middle- and lower-level management at the national level;

9. Notes with interest the recent augmentation of the Department's programme in Africa, reflecting the interests of requesting Governments, the budgetary allocations of funding bodies and the measures taken by the Department in collaboration with its partners to increase the volume and rates of project implementation, and urges the continuation of such special efforts as may be necessary in this regard;

10. Welcomes the new emphasis being placed by the Department upon support and follow-up to intergovernmental programming exercises for technical co-operation among developing countries in conjunction with the United Nations Development Programme and in response to the requests of Governments and encourages further such efforts and related allocations of resources from the Department's share in the United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation;

11. Recognizes the importance of the identification of opportunities for wider co-operation between the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and urges that the guidelines on this co-operation be finalized, bearing in mind the technical capabilities of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development as executing agency and the financial and co-ordinating role of the United Nations Development Programme;

12. Invites the Secretary-General to continue to make available, through various means, further information on the role, experience and competence of the Department so as to assist Governments of developing countries and others in becoming more fully aware of the possibilities for technical co-operation available through its services.