



**Governing Council
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Operational Activities for Development

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system and General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 on the capacity of the United Nations development system and 3405 (XXX) of 28 November 1975 on new dimensions in technical co-operation,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 41/171 of 1986 on operational activities for development, by which the Assembly invited the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system to provide the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1987 with views and comments on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/74, in particular on the role of the resident co-ordinators, the use of the United Nations Development Programme country programming process as a framework for operational activities, the co-location of field offices and the further harmonization of operational procedures,

Having considered the report of the Administrator on co-ordination (DP/1987/15/Add.1), the report of the Administrator on the organizational and financial structure of the UNDP-administered system (DP/1987/53), the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Field representation of organizations of the United Nations system: structure and co-ordination" (A/41/424), and the comments thereon of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination,

1. Affirms UNGA resolution 41/171 as an important element of the framework for the participation of UNDP in the operational activities of the United Nations system;

2. Notes the increased levels over the past year of voluntary contributions for the conduct of operational activities for development;
3. Re-emphasizes the need for a significant, continuous, predictable and real increase in resources for operational activities for development of the developing countries, in particular the least developed countries;
4. Considers that increased support for the African economic recovery programme remains among the most urgent priorities of the operational activities of the United Nations system and of development efforts generally;
5. Reiterates the priority attached to increasing procurement from developing countries, reaffirms the need to increase procurement from sources presently underutilized, and highlights the need for activities in this regard to encompass experts and training as well as equipment;
6. Invites members of the JCGP to engage in more systematic exchanges at the headquarters level as a wider range of issues, so as to ensure a coherent and complementary approach to development efforts;
7. Invites the Director-General to consider means of fostering closer relationships between operational activities and the development research activities of the system, such as DIESA and UNCTAD, in order to facilitate the integration of practical and theoretical standpoints;
8. Brings to the attention of the Economic and Social Council the following views on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/171:
 - (a) The resident co-ordinator can play a key role in efforts to achieve greater coherence and complementarity of operational activities at the country level, particularly in assisting governments to plan technical co-operation programmes and to co-ordinate related development assistance. The authority of the resident co-ordinator has been clarified by the designation of resident co-ordinators as the (sole) representatives of the Secretary-General. It can be further bolstered to enable fulfilment of the functions envisaged in UNGA resolutions 32/197 and 41/171 by concrete support for his functions from host authorities and bilateral donors. As a practical measure to promote impact and coherence within the United Nations system, the views of the resident co-ordinator on programme and project initiatives funded by United Nations agencies could usefully be solicited;
 - (b) The country programme of UNDP is not now widely used as the frame of reference for the technical co-operation activities of the system, partly due to the distinct mandates of different organizations. Progress in this area could be achieved by revising the country programming process to enable more complete participation by members of the United Nations system, in collaboration with host authorities and the resident representative;

(c) The Council welcomes the decision of the Secretary-General to conduct a review under the auspices of the JCGP of the field representation of organizations under his authority and awaits with interest concrete proposals emanating from this review. Also welcomes his decision to consolidate UNIC with the offices of the Resident Co-ordinator where more cost effective to do so, on the understanding that the additional information functions will not be funded from the income or voluntary contributions of UNDP. The Council considers that the JIU report on field representation of the United Nations system draws attention to costly proliferation of field offices not related to programme functions and considers that no new offices should be established unless unavoidable;

(d) Harmonized and simplified procedures for the programming and delivery of the United Nations system technical co-operation should be more actively pursued;

9. Invites other governing bodies, through the ECOSOC, to review their own field representation and to consider with UNDP the feasibility of co-location and/or common services.

