Thirty-fifth session
DRAFTING GROUP
6 June-1 July 1988, Geneva
Agenda item 8 (a)

Federal Republic of Germany, Netherlands and
United Kingdom

United Nations Volunteers

Draft decision

The Governing Council

Convinced of the value of volunteers in the United Nations system of
operational activities,

Recognizing the contribution the United Nations Volunteers Programme can
make to providing operational expertise in developing countries,

Noting with appreciation the host country Governments' recognition of the
dedication, competence and cost-effectiveness of the United Nations Volunteers,

Taking into account the importance of maintaining and strengthening the
universal character of the United Nations Volunteers,

Considering the need to improve the governance of the United Nations
Volunteer Programme,
1. Takes note of the excellent evaluation of the United Nations Volunteers;

2. Further notes the Administrator's response to it, as set out in document DP/1988/46/Add.1;

3. Notes with satisfaction the intention of the Administrator to prepare and circulate widely a Programme Advisory Note on the use of volunteers and to draw the attention of member organizations of the United Nations system to its contents;

4. Also notes with satisfaction the increasing practice of the United Nations system to consider the use of volunteers in the project preparation stage;

5. Requests volunteer sending organizations to continue to assist in the work of the United Nations system whether by participating in the United Nations Volunteers Programme or by the provision of volunteers for work in projects in accordance with terms of service and standards of qualification laid down by the Administrator or by support of the Government or other local counterpart contribution to a project of the United Nations system;

6. Decides to consider the Programme every two years, the next such consideration being in 1990, and to set aside a specific day for that purpose;

7. Requests the Administrator to evaluate United Nations Volunteers' activities every three to five years and to present the results of these evaluations to the Council;

8. Requests the Administrator to inform the Council on the results of Consultation Meetings held with other volunteer sending societies and with interested Governments;

9. Supports the modification of the title "volunteer" into the acronym UNV followed by the professional qualification;

10. Requests the Administrator to merge the youth Programme into the overall Volunteer Programme;

11. Agrees that the Domestic Development Services should retain its separate identity.

12. Recognizes the need to streamline recruitment procedures and improve co-operation with volunteer sending societies so that the universal character of the Programme can be reflected in the diversity of the volunteers' countries of origin, and requests the Administrator to report on the steps taken and results obtained in this area at the thirty-seventh session of the Council.
13. **Reaffirms** the understanding that volunteers from countries with a national sending society are recruited through that society;

14. **Recommends** that the Administrator make efforts towards increasing the number of women volunteers and older volunteers;

15. **Stresses** the need for improvement of pre-assignment preparation, including cross cultural sensitivity and language training for all volunteers, and supports increased collaboration in this area with the sending societies;

16. **Stresses** the need for detailed job descriptions for United Nations Volunteers, including the framework within which the volunteers' position has been established, and for increased attention to the adequate matching of volunteers' skills with the assignments;

17. **Supports** the change of title of United Nations Volunteers programme assistants into United Nations Volunteers programme officers and the enhancement of their role in the field, and requests the Administrator to examine the possibility of hiring nationals with volunteer experience for these posts.