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S U P P O R T

MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE  
GOVERNING COUNCIL IN 1986

1986 comprehensive policy review of  
operational activities for development

Note by the Administrator

Summary

This note by the Administrator brings paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 40/211, relating to operational activities for development to the attention of the Governing Council. It invites the Council to provide its views to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on various policy issues affecting operational activities for development.

The Administrator proposes that these views may be expressed in the context of the high-level segment of the thirty-third session of the Governing Council in June 1986.

\* Revised text issued for technical reasons.

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1. The Administrator wishes to bring paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 40/211, relating to operational activities for development, to the attention of the Governing Council. By that paragraph, the Assembly invites "the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system, where possible, to provide the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1986 and the General Assembly at its forty-first session, at the time of the 1986 comprehensive policy review of operation activities, with their views on the system-wide policy issues affecting operational activities..." The intention of the General Assembly is to furnish Member States, at the time of the Economic and Social Council's and General Assembly's triennial policy review of operational activities, with as wide a range of views as possible on the main policy issues affecting the operational activities of the system.

2. For ease of reference, the Administrator wishes to recall that the comprehensive policy review will consider issues raised in paragraphs 15 and 24 of resolution 38/171 in accordance with paragraph 32 of that resolution as well as nine issues to be covered by the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation identified in paragraph 1 of resolution 40/211.

3. The three issues mentioned in resolution 38/171 are:

(a) Progress achieved with respect to engaging national experts and personnel;

(b) Utilization of local or regional sources for procurement of material, equipment and services;

(c) Activities relating to technical co-operation among developing countries as carried out by different organizations, with particular reference to the approaches and methods devised and followed, the kind of activities undertaken by them and the institutional arrangements for them.

4. The issues identified in resolution 40/211 are the following:

(a) Measures to strengthen the existing mechanisms within the United Nations system, with a view to furthering the coherence and co-ordination of operational activities;

(b) An analysis of the relationship between the increasing responsibilities of the United Nations Development Programme in the area of co-ordination and its essential role in the provision of technical co-operation;

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(c) An analysis of changing requirements for technical co-operation through multilateral channels and the responsiveness of the United Nations system to them;

(d) Further analysis of programme delivery and administrative and support costs;

(e) Developments regarding joint technical co-operation needs assessments;

(f) Steps taken by United Nations organizations engaged in operational activities to promote the participation of women in development;

(g) An analysis of the response of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries in the strengthening of their co-ordination capacity;

(h) Actions taken to increase programme effectiveness through, inter alia, evaluation;

(i) Efforts undertaken to expand the geographical distribution of the sources of supply, including in underutilized donor and developing countries, for the operational activities of the system.

5. As a response to the General Assembly's invitation, Governments participating in the debate at the thirty-third session of the Council in June 1986 may wish to express their views on the issues identified by the General Assembly. These views could then be transmitted to the relevant sessions of the Economic and Social Council as well as to the General Assembly in an appropriate manner.

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