

ARTICLE 66 (2)

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TEXT OF ARTICLE 66 (2)

It [the Economic and Social Council] may, with the approval of the General Assembly, perform services at the request of Members of the United Nations and at the request of the specialized agencies.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. During the period under review there were some decisions which are related to the provisions of Article 66 (2) but there has been no important change in the various arrangements described in the Repertory 1/ by which the Economic and Social Council performs services at the request of the Members of the United Nations and at the request of the specialized agencies.

I. GENERAL SURVEY

A. The United Nations Children's Fund

2. The General Assembly, at its ninth session, took note 2/ of a previous resolution of the Economic and Social Council 3/ and invited all States to continue their efforts to expand the resources of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

3. The Economic and Social Council, at its twenty-second session, took note of the Secretary-General's report on the co-ordination of the programmes of UNICEF with the regular and technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and specialized agencies and requested 4/ him to continue to report to the Council periodically on the development and co-ordination of these programmes.

B. Advisory welfare services

4. In deciding the budget appropriations for the financial year 1956 5/, the General Assembly, at its tenth session, acting upon a recommendation 6/ of the Council provided for a considerable increase in allocations for the programme of advisory social welfare services.

C. Technical assistance for the economic development of under-developed countries

5. The General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council continued to consider various aspects of the technical assistance for the economic development of under-developed countries. The assistance was given under essentially the same conditions as those authorized in previous resolutions and described in the Repertory.

1/ See in the Repertory, vol. III, under Article 66 (2), paras. 1-7.

2/ G A resolution 835 (IX).

3/ E S C resolution 543 (XVIII).

4/ E S C resolution 630 C (XXII).

5/ G A resolution 979 (X).

6/ E S C resolution 585 G (XX).

6. The General Assembly took into consideration the Council's measures to ensure a more efficient operation of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and recognized the need for adequate planning at the country level and co-ordinating the work of the participating organization more effectively in order to make the whole Expanded Programme more beneficial. For this the General Assembly adopted resolution 831 (IX) submitted in draft by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 542 B (XVIII). 7/ This resolution changed the system of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme since they are no longer allocated to the participating organizations on the basis of fixed percentages but are distributed on the basis of requests submitted by the Governments subject to the review and approval of the over-all Expanded Programme by the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC) and to the confirmation by the General Assembly.

D. Technical assistance in the field of public administration

7. The Economic and Social Council, at its twenty-second session, recognized the growing need for services supporting assistance in public administration. 8/ It requested the Secretary-General to provide full documentation for his request 9/ for additional funds and recommended that the General Assembly give special attention to the need for funds for the United Nations public administration programme. 10/

E. Technical assistance in certain fields relating to human rights

8. On several occasions the General Assembly authorized the rendering, at the request of Member States, of services in certain fields relating to human rights which do not fall within the scope of the programmes of technical assistance described in the Repertory. 11/ These included the status of women, prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and finally freedom of information upon which the General Assembly acted at its ninth session. 12/ At its nineteenth session, the Economic and Social Council gave effect to this last decision of the General Assembly by requesting 13/ the Secretary-General to take steps, in close collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to put into operation a programme to promote freedom of information and provide various specified services for this purpose. At its twentieth session the Council recommended 14/ to the General Assembly consolidation of the technical assistance programmes in these several fields with the broad programme of assistance in the field of human rights, the entire programme to be known as "Advisory services in the field of human rights". The General Assembly approved this proposal in resolution 926 (X). 15/ Under its terms

7/ Amendments to some provisions of this resolution and of resolution 521 A (XVII) were made by the Council and recommended to the General Assembly for its approval in Council resolution 623 B II (XXII). These amendments redefined the use of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund in the financial planning and management of the Programme.

8/ E S C resolution 623 A, II (XXII).

9/ A/C.2/189.

10/ The General Assembly, at its eleventh session, provided for a significant increase in allocations for this programme (G A resolution 1083 (XI)).

11/ See in the Repertory, vol. III, under Article 66 (2), para. 28.

12/ G A resolution 839 (IX).

13/ E S C resolution 574 A (XIX).

14/ E S C resolution 586 E (XX).

15/ G A (X), Plen., 554th mtg., paras. 17-21. See also E S C resolution 605 (XXI) to give effect to G A resolution 926 (X).

the Secretary-General was requested to undertake the assistance in the field of human rights in agreement with and at the request of the Governments concerned and with due regard to the greater needs of the under-developed areas, in the form of advisory services of experts, fellowships, scholarships and seminars.

F. Provision of services of an emergency character through specially created bodies

9. At its ninth session the General Assembly extended the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) for another five years. 16/ UNRWA is a subsidiary organ created by, and directly responsible to, the General Assembly under the terms of G A resolution 302 (IV). The General Assembly also requested that a study be made of "the problem of assistance which should be given to other claimants for relief, particularly children and needy inhabitants of villages along the demarcation lines". At its tenth session the General Assembly, acting upon the study prepared by the Director of the Agency, appealed to private organizations to give increased assistance to these claimants for relief, and urged all Governments to support these private organizations with food, goods and services. 17/

10. With respect to the question of reporting by the various agencies which were established by the General Assembly to meet certain emergency problems, the Council asked the General Assembly to amend one of its provisions in the case of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency. The request of the Council was to the effect that in view of certain technical and organizational considerations the Agent General of that Agency should not send a copy of his report to the Council and that the latter should not be required to send its comments to the General Assembly. 18/

G. Some characteristics of the services provided to Governments by the United Nations

11. The General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council continued from time to time to inform the Governments of the facilities available for technical assistance or to recommend to them to take advantage of such facilities in some particular social or economic area of activity. They also continued to include in some of their decisions specific requests to the Secretary-General 19/ to give priority or sympathetic consideration to requests for technical assistance in specified fields. Many, such as land reform 20/ and community development 21/ were singled out by the General Assembly and the Council on one or more occasions before the period covered by this supplement. 22/ Decisions were also made with respect to specific areas of activities such as: demineralization of saline water and utilization of subsoil water; 23/ resources and requirement surveys; 24/ economic opportunities for women; 25/ family living surveys; 26/ methods of giving effect to the principle of equal pay for

16/ G A resolution 818 (IX).

17/ G A resolution 916 (X).

18/ E S C resolution 611 (XXI). See also in this Supplement, under Article 60.

19/ In E S C resolution 585 C (XX), the request was addressed to the Technical Assistance Board.

20/ See for example, G A resolution 826 (IX).

21/ See for example, E S C resolutions 585 C and E (XX).

22/ See in the Repertory, vol. III, under Article 66 (2), para. 38.

23/ E S C resolution 599 (XXI).

24/ E S C resolution 614 C (XXII).

25/ E S C resolution 587 F (XX).

26/ E S C resolution 585 B (XX).

equal work; 27/ training of welfare personnel; 28/ and transit facilities and travel. 29/

**** H. Services at the request of the specialized agencies**

I. Technical assistance in the field of narcotics control 30/

12. The Economic and Social Council recommended to the Government of Iran to request the technical assistance authorities concerned for help in achieving the aims it has undertaken in banning the cultivation of the opium poppy; the Council invited the technical assistance authorities to give due consideration to the request. 31/

13. The Council also considered the role which technical assistance can play in narcotics control in general. 32/ It invited Governments to consider the possibility of applying, "under existing arrangements concerned with technical assistance", for the various specified forms of assistance in the field of narcotics control and recommended that the United Nations and the specialized agencies give due consideration to such requests.

II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE

**** A. How the Economic and Social Council performs services**

**** B. The approval of the General Assembly**

C. The services

**** 1. *Services provided by specially created bodies***

**** 2. *Technical assistance services***

3. *Services outside the scope of technical assistance*

14. The Repertory 33/ described two kinds of services similar in nature to those provided by the technical assistance programmes which have been rendered to Governments. They were provided for under special decisions of the United Nations organs or were classified by them as services which "do not fall within the scope of existing technical assistance programmes". These services were in connexion with narcotic drugs and human rights.

15. As regards narcotic drugs the decisions of the Council 34/ during the period covered by this Supplement included assistance in narcotics control in the existing technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

27/ E S C resolution 587 C (XX).

28/ E S C resolution 585 D (XX).

29/ E S C resolution 563 (XIX).

30/ See paras. 14 and 15 below and in the Repertory, vol. III, under Article 66 (2), paras. 75 and 76.

31/ E S C resolution 626 E (XXII).

32/ E S C resolution 626 D (XXII).

33/ See in the Repertory, vol. III, under Article 66 (2), paras. 75-77.

34/ E S C resolutions 626 D and E (XXII).

These services, therefore, can no longer be treated as outside the scope of technical assistance; they are discussed elsewhere in this study (see paragraphs 12 and 13 above).

16. By establishing "Advisory services in the field of human rights" ^{35/} the General Assembly consolidated the various programmes of technical assistance with the broad programme of assistance in the field of human rights (see paragraph 8 above). These services are similar in many of their characteristics to the other technical assistance programmes for economic and social development. The Secretary-General is authorized to provide assistance to Governments in the form of advisory services of experts and seminars. The General Assembly specified that assistance should be given in agreement with the Governments concerned and on the basis of their requests, that the kind of advisory services of experts should be determined by the Governments and that the selection of persons for fellowships and scholarships should be made on the basis of proposals from Governments. The amount of assistance and the conditions under which it is to be rendered should be decided by the Secretary-General, with due regard to the greater needs of under-developed areas, and in conformity with the principle that each requesting Government should be expected to assume responsibility, as far as possible, for all or a considerable part of the expenses connected with the assistance. The General Assembly also stated that the assistance should be applicable to any subject in the field of human rights, provided that it was one for which adequate advisory assistance was not available through a specialized agency, and that it did not fall within the scope of existing technical assistance programmes.

**** D. Eligibility for services**

**** E. The request**

^{35/} G A resolution 926 (X).