

## ARTICLE 66 (2)

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## ARTICLE 66 (2)

### 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 specialized agencies.

### INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. During the period under review, there was no specific reference to Article 66 (2) in the various decisions relating to services of one kind or another to be provided to Member States. The outline of the study has been modified to include a new programme of assistance in the field of population activities and to reflect the consolidation of the former Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and the Special Fund into the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). No material has been found for inclusion under "Analytical Summary of Practice".

### I. GENERAL SURVEY

#### A. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

2. During the period under review, the various aid programmes of UNICEF were reviewed annually and endorsed by both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, appeals being made in each instance to Governments and other donors to increase the contributions needed to provide the services, some of which were in response to calls for assistance in emergency situations such as those arising from the strife in Nigeria, Viet Nam and the Middle East.<sup>1</sup>

3. The "country approach" adopted by UNICEF, of assisting key programmes of benefit to children and young people and having priority in the development efforts of individual countries, was commended in 1969 by the Council<sup>2</sup> and the Assembly<sup>3</sup> in resolutions which at the same time noted with satisfaction that UNICEF remained responsive to emergency needs of children and mothers.<sup>4</sup> The resolutions also recognized the important role that UNICEF was in a position to play in achieving the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade, commended it on the promotion of integrated services to meet the needs of children and on its close co-operation with other organizations of the United Nations system in planning, implementation and evaluation of its programmes and projects, and welcomed the growing support that was being given to training the nationals of developing countries.

4. In other resolutions, the General Assembly recommended that Governments should include projects to meet the needs of children and youth in their over-all development plans<sup>5</sup> and called upon national and international bodies with responsibility for multilateral and bilateral aid to consider how their programmes might take account of the needs of children and youth to the fullest possible extent.<sup>6</sup>

5. At the Council's forty-third session, certain reservations were expressed regarding the propriety of aid being furnished by UNICEF for family planning, which was said to be contrary to UNICEF's fundamental objectives. It was stated in reply, and accepted by the Council, that UNICEF would neither urge countries to adopt policies of family planning nor discourage them from doing so; it would provide assistance only in response to requests from Governments.<sup>7</sup>

#### B. Advisory welfare services

6. The Council, in 1969, emphasized the role of the United Nations in international co-operation in the social welfare field and the need for such role to be strengthened, in connection with the recommendations of the International Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare held during the previous year.<sup>8</sup> Among a number of actions taken in pursuance of those recommendations, it requested the Secretary-General to review the existing methods of international co-operation and the use of available resources for technical co-operation, with a view to giving due attention to social welfare activities in the over-all programme of the United Nations in the field of social and economic development.<sup>9</sup> Particular attention was to be paid by the Secretary-General to the need for (a) increasing the effectiveness of assistance to Governments in planning for social welfare in the larger context of social development and in developing their administrative capacities, manpower policies and training programmes in the social welfare field; and (b) intensifying research in the social welfare and community development field at the international and regional levels for the further development of policy and standards, planning and evaluation methods and practical action.

7. In a related action, the Council invited the World Health Organization (WHO) to prepare a study on the differing extent to which basic health and medical ser-

<sup>1</sup>See G A (XXII), Suppl. No. 3, para. 457 and G A (XXIV), Suppl. No. 3 para. 411.

<sup>2</sup>E S C resolution 1445(XLVII).

<sup>3</sup>G A resolution 2582(XXIV).

<sup>4</sup>G A resolution 2335(XXII) and E S C resolution 1348(XLV).

<sup>5</sup>G A resolution 2214(XXI).

<sup>6</sup>G A resolution 2432(XXIII).

<sup>7</sup>E S C (XLIII), 1503 mtg.

<sup>8</sup>E S C resolution 1406(XLVI).

<sup>9</sup>*Ibid.*, para. 6.

vices were available in selected representative groups of countries at different stages of development.<sup>10</sup> In connection with programmes of action relating to youth, the Council recalled its resolution 1086 J (XXXIX)<sup>11</sup> in requesting the Secretary-General and the Directors-General of the specialized agencies concerned to take all possible measures to strengthen their programmes of international action for dealing with youth problems both in developing and developed countries.<sup>12</sup> The following year it recommended that the United Nations and its specialized agencies take account of such problems when formulating the objectives for international activities such as the Second United Nations Development Decade and similar programmes.<sup>13</sup> The General Assembly, in resolutions also relating to youth, requested the Council to study the feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development,<sup>14</sup> and recommended to the Secretary-General that appropriate use should be made of the resources of the United Nations programme of advisory services in the field of human rights for the organization of regional seminars on the education of youth in respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.<sup>15</sup>

### C. World Food Programme (WFP)

8. The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Council, established targets for voluntary contributions to WFP of \$200 million for the two years 1969 and 1970<sup>16</sup> and \$300 million for 1971 and 1972,<sup>17</sup> and once again urged the States Members of the United Nations and members and associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to make every effort to ensure the full attainment of the targets.<sup>18</sup> At the same time, the Assembly pursued the study, which it had asked the Secretary-General to initiate in 1965,<sup>19</sup> of multilateral food aid through concerted international action on a large scale. Thus, at its twenty-second session, it stressed the need for ensuring the effective co-ordination of all food aid programmes and requested the Secretary-General, in continuing the study, to assess the adequacy of existing multilateral institutional arrangements for handling an increased volume of aid.<sup>20</sup> At its twenty-third session, the Assembly, *inter alia*, recognized, in the light of the conclusions of the study,<sup>21</sup> the continuing need for food transfers as a measure of temporary assistance to the developing countries, and invited the Director-General of FAO and the executive heads of other interested organizations to consider ways of ensuring that sufficient food-stuffs could be made available to cope with unforeseen urgent situations.<sup>22</sup> It also requested the United Nations/FAO

Intergovernmental Committee of WFP to submit recommendations which might guide Member States and the competent international organizations in helping to solve the world food problem, to consider ways and means of improving its own food aid programme, and to continue its examination of the question of including therein forms of aid in kind other than food.<sup>23</sup> At its twenty-fourth session, in a resolution submitted for its approval by the Council, the Assembly recognized the value of multilateral food aid as implemented by WFP and the necessity for continuing it both as a form of capital investment and for meeting emergency food needs.<sup>24</sup>

### D. Programmes of technical co-operation for the economic and social development of developing countries

9. During the period under review, the services provided by the United Nations family of organizations were seen increasingly in the context of an evolving international development strategy, the objectives of which were stated<sup>25</sup> and reaffirmed<sup>26</sup> by the General Assembly in the following terms: (a) the maximum concentration of resources, at current and increasing levels, on programmes of direct relevance to Member States; (b) a flexible, prompt and effective response to the specific needs of individual countries and regions, as determined by them, within the limits of available resources; (c) the minimum burden on the administrative resources of Member States and of members of the organizations in the United Nations system; (d) the evolution of an integrated system of long-term planning on a programme basis; and (e) the institution of systematic procedures for evaluating the effectiveness of operational and research activities.

10. The Economic and Social Council continued during the period to devote attention to the problem of the development of a coherent programme for the evaluation of technical co-operation within the United Nations system, with a view to facilitating the achievement of the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade.<sup>27</sup> It did so by various means, including pilot evaluation missions, a research project by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and study of the problem by the Inter-Agency Study Group established for the purpose by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC).<sup>28</sup> The Council continued to stress, at the same time, the importance of the role of the resident representatives of UNDP in the co-ordination at the country level of the technical co-operation and pre-investment programmes of the United Nations and its related organizations.<sup>29</sup>

11. The Council also, responding to a request by the General Assembly that it study the feasibility of creating an international corps of volunteers for development in order to offer opportunities for youth to participate therein,<sup>30</sup> invited the Secretary-General to submit recommendations taking into account the principles

<sup>10</sup>E S C resolution 1226(XLII).

<sup>11</sup>See *Repertory, Supplement No. 3*, under Article 66 (2), para. 9.

<sup>12</sup>E S C resolution 1354(XLV).

<sup>13</sup>E S C resolution 1407(XLVI).

<sup>14</sup>G A resolution 2497(XXIV); see also E S C resolution 1444 (XLVII).

<sup>15</sup>G A resolution 2497(XXIV).

<sup>16</sup>G A resolution 2290(XXII).

<sup>17</sup>G A resolution 2527(XIV).

<sup>18</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>19</sup>G A resolution 2096(XX).

<sup>20</sup>G A resolution 2300(XXII).

<sup>21</sup>E S C (resumed XLV), Annexes, a.i. 2, E/4538. The Assembly also had before it a report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development entitled *Feeding the Expanding World Population: International Action to Avert the Impending Protein Crisis* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.68.II.D.5). See also *International Action to Avert the Impending Protein Crisis* (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.6.XIII.2).

<sup>22</sup>G A resolution 2462(XXIII).

<sup>23</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>24</sup>G A resolution 2527(XXIV).

<sup>25</sup>G A resolution 2188(XXI).

<sup>26</sup>G A resolution 2579(XXIV). See also G A resolution 2411(XXIII) and E S C resolution 1356(XLV).

<sup>27</sup>E S C resolutions 1263(XLIII) and 1364(XLV).

<sup>28</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>29</sup>See E S C resolutions 1262(XLIII) and 1453(XLVII).

<sup>30</sup>G A resolution 2460(XXIII).

that volunteers should be persons offering their services without regard to financial benefit and with the purpose of contributing to the development of a recipient country, that they should be recruited on as wide a geographical basis as possible and organized in multinational teams, and that they should be assigned only on the explicit request or approval of the receiving country.<sup>31</sup>

#### 1. UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

12. UNDP, consolidating the former Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund,<sup>32</sup> continued during the period under review to be the principal instrument for the performance of services to Member States. The General Assembly at its twenty-second session appealed to Member States to do everything possible to increase the resources of the programme and requested the Governing Council of UNDP to examine the means whereby the programme could do more to stimulate and facilitate the financing of projects which had already been the recipients of pre-investment.<sup>33</sup>

13. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) became a participating agency in UNDP under the institutional arrangements established by the General Assembly at its twenty-first session<sup>34</sup> and its Executive Director a member of the UNDP Inter-Agency Consultative Board. Similar arrangements were made by the Assembly in 1966 and 1968 in respect of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and its Secretary-General.<sup>35</sup>

14. After having decided in principle in its 1960 resolution 1521(XV) to establish a United Nations Capital Development Fund, the General Assembly in 1966 decided "to bring into operation the United Nations Capital Development Fund as an organ of the General Assembly", with the purpose of assisting developing countries to develop their economies by supplementing existing sources of capital assistance by means of grants and loans, particularly long-term loans made free of interest or at low interest rates.<sup>36</sup> Because of initial lack of financial resources, the Assembly decided in 1967 that the UNDP Governing Council should perform the functions of the Executive Board of the Fund and that the Administrator of UNDP should be invited to act as its Managing Director,<sup>37</sup> until sufficient funds became available for it to commence operations. These provisional arrangements were continued in 1968<sup>38</sup> and 1969<sup>39</sup> while efforts were being made to stimulate and develop the Fund's activities in order to make it operational and effective.

15. The General Assembly and the Council continued to exercise broad control over the operations of UNDP during the period under review in accordance with the arrangements laid down in General Assembly resolu-

tion 2029(XX). In 1967 the Assembly, on the recommendation of the Council, approved new programming procedures effective in 1969 for the technical assistance component of UNDP<sup>40</sup> designed to reduce significantly the time taken between project approval and implementation by instituting continuous programming procedures to replace programming on a biennial basis. Similarly, in 1969, the Assembly approved new arrangements<sup>41</sup> recommended by the Council<sup>42</sup> for the planning, approval and implementation of regional and inter-regional projects.

16. With regard to the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation, the General Assembly decided at its twenty-second session<sup>43</sup> that the provisions of paragraph 4 of its resolution 2029(XX)<sup>44</sup> should not apply to the programme of technical assistance in industrial development, which would be provided for in a separate section in part V of the United Nations budget. The decision was reaffirmed by the Assembly at its twenty-fourth session<sup>45</sup> as an exception to certain revised programming and budgetary procedures for the regular programme adopted<sup>46</sup> on the recommendation of the Council.<sup>47</sup>

#### 2. PROVISION OF OPERATIONAL, EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

17. At its twenty-first session the General Assembly, following a review by the Council of the result of the experimental provision of operational personnel, decided to authorize temporarily, for the years 1967 and 1968, the continued use of the funds of the technical assistance component of UNDP for this purpose by all the participating organizations, at the request of Governments.<sup>48</sup> At the invitation of the Council,<sup>49</sup> the General Assembly continued the authorization for 1969<sup>50</sup> and, at its twenty-third session, upon the further invitation of the Council,<sup>51</sup> made the practice an integral part of the assistance normally provided by UNDP.<sup>52</sup>

#### E. Technical assistance in the field of public administration

18. At its forty-second session, the Council decided that public administration should be accorded an appropriate place in planning for the period following the United Nations Development Decade and requested the Secretary-General to elaborate specific objectives and programmes to that end in collaboration with the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations concerned.<sup>53</sup> It also invited the Governing Council of UNDP to give sympathetic consideration to requests for assistance in public administration from developing countries, and further requested the Secretary-General

<sup>31</sup>E S C resolution 1444(XLVII).

<sup>32</sup>See G A resolution 2029(XX) and *Repertory, Supplement No. 3*, under Article 66 (2), paras. 21-23.

<sup>33</sup>G A resolution 2280(XXII).

<sup>34</sup>G A resolution 2152(XXI).

<sup>35</sup>G A resolutions 2207(XXI) and 2401(XXIII).

<sup>36</sup>G A resolution 2186(XXI).

<sup>37</sup>G A resolution 2321(XXII).

<sup>38</sup>G A resolution 2410(XXIII). See also E S C resolution 1350 (XLV), and Trade and Development Board resolution 42(VII) [G A (XXII)], Suppl. No. 14, part II, annex I].

<sup>39</sup>G A resolution 2525(XXIV).

<sup>40</sup>G A resolution 2279(XXII) and Annex to E S C resolution 1250 (XLIII).

<sup>41</sup>G A resolution 2513(XXIV).

<sup>42</sup>E S C resolution 1432(XLVII).

<sup>43</sup>G A resolution 2298(XXII).

<sup>44</sup>See *Repertory, Supplement No. 3*, under Article 66 (2), paras. 21 and 22.

<sup>45</sup>G A resolution 2511(XXIV).

<sup>46</sup>G A resolution 2514(XXIV).

<sup>47</sup>E S C resolution 1434(XLVII).

<sup>48</sup>G A resolution 2179(XXI).

<sup>49</sup>E S C (XLIII), Suppl. No. 1, p. 11.

<sup>50</sup>G A (XII), Suppl. No. 16, p. 34.

<sup>51</sup>E S C (XLV), Suppl. No. 1, p. 11.

<sup>52</sup>G A (XXIII), Suppl. No. 18, p. 38.

<sup>53</sup>E S C resolution 1199(XLII).

to maintain the level of assistance for this purpose in the interregional and regional projects under the United Nations regular programme of technical assistance.<sup>53</sup>

#### F. Technical assistance in certain fields relating to human rights

19. During the period under review, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council referred on a number of occasions to the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights established under General Assembly resolution 926(X).<sup>54</sup> Thus, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in co-operation with interested Governments, to organize seminars with the participation of persons specially qualified in subjects of particular concern to youth,<sup>55</sup> and to provide the necessary resources to facilitate expert and other technical assistance to Member States seeking to extend the availability of competent legal aid.<sup>56</sup> The Council, similarly, requested the Secretary-General to organize, under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, seminars in connection with the eradication of slavery and the slave trade, including the slavery-like practices and aspects of *apartheid* and colonialism,<sup>57</sup> and to consider using the programme in order to continue the exchange of experience among States on the effectiveness of the methods and means used by them in the realization of economic, social and cultural rights.<sup>58</sup> The Council also referred to General Assembly resolution 926(X) in requesting the Secretary-General to examine the possibility of making a larger contribution to the financing of seminars on the status of women in developing countries, and in requesting the Assembly to authorize him, in the absence of an invitation from a Government, to organize such seminars at New York or Geneva or at the headquarters of the regional economic commissions.<sup>59</sup>

20. In other decisions taken during the period, the Council reminded Governments of the facilities available, under the regular technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, for assisting them in eliminating slavery and like practices and in helping them to solve the resulting economic and social problems,<sup>60</sup> and also recommended that Governments consider the appointment of qualified women to policy-making posts in bodies responsible for submitting requests for technical assistance in fields of direct concern to women.<sup>61</sup> In connection with the draft Convention on Freedom of Information, the Assembly drew the attention of United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies to the continuing need for assistance in the development and improvement of information media in the developing countries,<sup>62</sup> and on another occasion requested the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the other specialized agencies concerned and UNDP to provide assistance to Member States in connection with education about the United Nations.<sup>63</sup>

21. At its twenty-fourth session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to study the question of enlarging the scope of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa<sup>64</sup> to cover persons in the territories of Southern Rhodesia and Namibia persecuted under repressive legislation and persons victims of Portuguese colonial practices in Africa, and appealed to Governments and voluntary organizations to contribute more generously to this Fund.<sup>65</sup>

#### G. Technical assistance in the field of narcotics control

22. At its twenty-third session, the General Assembly recommended that Governments concerned with ending the illicit cultivation of narcotic raw materials seek assistance from the specialized agencies, UNDP and bilateral aid services in developing alternative economic programmes and activities, and requested the Secretary-General to develop plans for putting an end to uncontrolled production.<sup>66</sup> On several occasions, also, the Economic and Social Council requested or recommended that assistance be provided; in one instance by the Secretary-General, within the limits of budgetary resources, to countries in the Near and Middle East in a regional campaign against illicit drug-traffic;<sup>67</sup> in another instance by the United Nations and the specialized agencies in support of a project by the Government of Lebanon to introduce substitutes for cannabis cultivation;<sup>68</sup> and in yet a further instance by Governments to each other, with the assistance of the international bodies concerned, in regulating the movement of psychotropic substances.<sup>69</sup>

#### H. Technical assistance in the field of international law

23. At the twenty-first session, the General Assembly decided to alter the title of the programme it had established in this field in 1965,<sup>70</sup> to the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, and to continue its operation in substantially the same terms, inviting at the same time Member States, interested bodies and individuals to make voluntary contributions for the purpose.<sup>71</sup> In similar decisions in subsequent years during the period under review, the phrase "in the conduct of the Programme, it is desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by the international organizations concerned, by Member States and others" was included in the resolutions,<sup>72</sup> with the addition, in one instance, of the words "in accordance with the procedures and rules of United Nations technical assistance programmes or other relevant rules and consistent with the purposes and direction of the Programme."<sup>73</sup>

<sup>54</sup>See *Repertory, Supplement No. 1*, vol. II, under Article 66 (2), para. 8.

<sup>55</sup>G A resolution 2447(XXIII). See also G A resolution 2497(XXIV).

<sup>56</sup>G A resolution 2449(XIII).

<sup>57</sup>E S C resolution 1232(XLII). See also E S C resolution 1331(XLIV).

<sup>58</sup>E S C resolution 1421(XLVI).

<sup>59</sup>E S C resolution 1338(XLIV).

<sup>60</sup>E S C resolution 1330(XLIV).

<sup>61</sup>E S C resolution 1209(XLII).

<sup>62</sup>G A resolution 2448(XXIII).

<sup>63</sup>G A resolution 2445(XXIII).

<sup>64</sup>See *Repertory, Supplement No. 3*, vol. II, under Article 66 (2), para. 28.

<sup>65</sup>G A resolution 2547 A (XXIV).

<sup>66</sup>G A resolution 2434(XXIII).

<sup>67</sup>E S C resolution 1290(XLIV).

<sup>68</sup>E S C resolution 1292(XLIV).

<sup>69</sup>E S C resolution 1401(XLVI).

<sup>70</sup>See *Repertory, Supplement No. 3*, vol. II, under Article 66 (2), para. 33.

<sup>71</sup>G A resolution 2204(XXI).

<sup>72</sup>See G A resolutions 2313(XXII), 2464(XXIII) and 2550(XXIV).

<sup>73</sup>G A resolution 2313(XXII).

### I. Technical assistance in the field of population activities

24. The General Assembly at its twenty-first session, following the 1965 World Population Conference, instituted by its resolution 2211(XXI)<sup>74</sup> a programme covering training, research, information and advisory services in the field of population, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1084(XXXIX).<sup>75</sup> Under the Assembly's resolution, the Secretary-General was requested to pursue the activities specified within the limits of available resources, and the Council and the specialized agencies were enjoined to assist, when requested, in further developing and strengthening national and regional facilities for training, research, information and advisory services in the field of population.

25. In July 1967, the Secretary-General established the United Nations Trust Fund for Population Activities, based on voluntary contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals, to supplement resources provided under the regular budget of the United Nations and the various United Nations programmes of technical co-operation.<sup>76</sup> The Council emphasized population programmes at its forty-third session and urged all organizations within the United Nations system to make every effort, within their competence, to develop and render more effective their programmes in the field of population, including training, research, information and advisory services.<sup>77</sup> At its forty-fifth session, the Council recommended that UNDP give due consideration to applications submitted for financing projects designed to assist developing countries in dealing with population problems, and requested the Secretary-General, *inter alia*, to give special attention to further developing those aspects of the work in population fields which would be of direct benefit to the developing countries, especially advice and technical assistance requested by Governments in population fields within the context of economic, social and health policies.<sup>78</sup>

### J. Provision of services of an emergency character through specially created bodies

26. During the period under review, the General Assembly continued to call upon Governments to make the most generous efforts to meet the anticipated needs of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), as well as to urge non-contributing Governments to contribute

<sup>74</sup>In which it, *inter alia*, commended the Economic and Social Council for convening the Conference.

<sup>75</sup>E S C resolution 1084(XXXIX) called the attention of the General Assembly to the need for the United Nations to carry out an intensified and expanded programme of activities in the field of population.

<sup>76</sup>See G A (XXIII), Suppl. No. 1, chap. VII, sec. 3.

<sup>77</sup>E S C resolution 1279(XLIII).

<sup>78</sup>E S C resolution 1347(XLV).

<sup>79</sup>G A resolutions 2154(XXI), 2341(XXII), 2252(ES-V), 2452(XXIII) and 2535(XXIV).

and contributing Governments to increase their contributions.<sup>79</sup> The resolutions included expressions of thanks to the Commissioner General of the Agency and to the specialized agencies and private organizations for their efforts in assisting the refugees, together with directions to take such measures, including rectification of the relief rolls, as would ensure the most equitable distribution of relief based on need. In three of the above instances<sup>80</sup> the Assembly also endorsed the efforts of the Commissioner-General to extend assistance to other persons in the area who had been displaced as a result of the June 1967 hostilities.

27. The mandate of UNRWA was extended by the General Assembly, at its twenty-third session, until 30 June 1972.<sup>81</sup>

28. At its twenty-second session, the General Assembly decided to continue the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for a further period of five years from 1 January 1969.<sup>82</sup> The Economic and Social Council, at the request of the Assembly,<sup>83</sup> decided to enlarge the membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees by one African State.<sup>84</sup>

29. Several requests were made, during the period under review, by the General Assembly to the High Commissioner concerning refugees, particularly in Africa. By resolution 2197(XXI), he was requested to continue to provide international protection to refugees and to promote permanent solutions to their problems by facilitating voluntary repatriation or re-settlement in countries of asylum, and by furnishing aid to such countries for the purpose. He was requested to bear in mind the ever-increasing number of refugees in Africa,<sup>85</sup> to give special attention to new groups of refugees, especially in Africa,<sup>86</sup> and to continue his efforts to achieve, by closer co-operation with specialized agencies and other members of the United Nations system, a speedy and satisfactory solution to the refugee problems.<sup>87</sup> Member States of the United Nations and the specialized agencies were urged at the same time to lend their support to the High Commissioner's task, in particular by providing the necessary financial means or increasing their annual contributions to the refugee programme.<sup>88</sup>

### \*\*K. Some characteristics of services provided to Governments by the United Nations

#### \*\*L. Services at the request of the specialized agencies

<sup>80</sup>G A resolutions 2252(ES-V), 2452(XXIII) and 2535(XXIV).

<sup>81</sup>G A resolution 2452 B (XXIII).

<sup>82</sup>G A resolution 2294(XXII).

<sup>83</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>84</sup>E S C resolution 1288(XLIII).

<sup>85</sup>G A resolution 2294(XXII).

<sup>86</sup>G A resolution 2399(XXIII).

<sup>87</sup>G A resolution 2594(XXIV).

<sup>88</sup>G A resolutions 2197(XXI), 2294(XXII), 2399(XXIII) and 2594(XXIV).

## \*\*II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE