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**ARTICLE 62 (1)**

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## TEXT OF ARTICLE 62 (1)

The Economic and Social Council may make or initiate studies and reports with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters and may make recommendations with respect to any such matter to the General Assembly, to the Members of the United Nations and to the specialized agencies concerned.

### INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. The present study is organized in the same manner as the study of Article 62 (1) in the *Repertory* and its *Supplements Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8*.

2. The study of Article 62 (1) is concerned primarily with studies and reports either initiated or prepared on direct recommendations by the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly, Member States and the specialized agencies. The study also provides detail on other means and methods used by the Economic and Social Council to collect data and information. Recommendations made by the Council to bodies other than the General Assembly, Member States and other organizations associated with the United Nations are included as well.

3. Recommendations of the Council under other Articles of the Charter of the United Nations are included insofar as they have a bearing on the exercise by the Council of its powers under Article 62 (1).

### I. GENERAL SURVEY

#### A. Studies and reports

##### 1. GENERAL

4. During the period under review, the Economic and Social Council continued to exercise its power of initiating studies and reports. As in the past, the Council initiated studies and reports mostly on its own initiative but also on the recommendation of its subsidiary organs<sup>1</sup> or upon the open invitation of the General Assembly.<sup>2</sup>

5. The Council maintained its practice of initiating various types of studies and reports, including analytic studies,<sup>3</sup> comparative analyses,<sup>4</sup> analyses,<sup>5</sup> in-depth analyses,<sup>6</sup> national case studies,<sup>7</sup> research reports<sup>8</sup> and surveys.<sup>9</sup> It continued to request the collection of

views<sup>10</sup> and information,<sup>11</sup> responses to questionnaires<sup>12</sup> and contributions to the provision of data.<sup>13</sup>

6. The Council also continued its practice of initiating the preparation of, inter alia,<sup>14</sup> preliminary reports,<sup>15</sup> comparative reports,<sup>16</sup> final reports,<sup>17</sup> updated reports, comprehensive reports,<sup>18</sup> analytical and comprehensive reports,<sup>19</sup> integrated synthesis reports,<sup>20</sup> periodic reports<sup>21</sup> and annual reports.<sup>22</sup>

7. The Council continued to call for studies and reports on many of the international economic, social,

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/22.

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/24.

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/22.

<sup>4</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/24.

<sup>5</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/55.

<sup>6</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/2.

<sup>7</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/27.

<sup>8</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/12.

<sup>9</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/11.

<sup>10</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/27.

<sup>11</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/2.

<sup>12</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/16.

<sup>13</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/51.

<sup>14</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/37.

<sup>15</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/11.

<sup>16</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/2.

<sup>17</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/37.

<sup>18</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/29.

<sup>19</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/56.

<sup>20</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/11.

<sup>21</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/23.

<sup>22</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/24.

cultural and related matters that had been covered in previous periods. Among the subjects covered were poverty eradication and capacity-building,<sup>23</sup> strengthening regional support into the twenty-first century for persons with disabilities,<sup>24</sup> equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities,<sup>25</sup> children with disabilities,<sup>26</sup> prevention and control of AIDS,<sup>27</sup> action against corruption,<sup>28</sup> the role of criminal law in protection of the environment,<sup>29</sup> international migration and development,<sup>30</sup> regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields,<sup>31</sup> administration of juvenile justice,<sup>32</sup> protection of the heritage of indigenous people,<sup>33</sup> the Middle East peace process,<sup>34</sup> the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan,<sup>35</sup> Palestinian women,<sup>36</sup> science and technology for development,<sup>37</sup> the demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs<sup>38</sup> and penal reform.<sup>39</sup>

8. During the period under review, the Council called for studies and reports on many new subjects, including a system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 2002-2005,<sup>40</sup> effective crime prevention,<sup>41</sup> reconstruction and revitalization of the United Nations in economic, social and related fields,<sup>42</sup> mediation and restorative justice measures in criminal justice,<sup>43</sup> establishment of a clearing house for international projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,<sup>44</sup> a long-term programme of support for Haiti,<sup>45</sup> the 2000 World Population and

Housing Census Programme,<sup>46</sup> expansion of the United Nations guidelines for consumer protection to include sustainable consumption,<sup>47</sup> various issues concerning HIV/AIDS,<sup>48</sup> further work for the advancement of women's rights and the revitalization of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,<sup>49</sup> further measures to prevent illegal trafficking in children and to establish penalties appropriate to such offences<sup>50</sup> and regulation of explosives for the purpose of crime prevention and public health and safety,<sup>51</sup>

9. The Council focused on follow-up to the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and on the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration. In that regard, the Council authorized several studies and reports regarding the status of women, including Palestinian women,<sup>52</sup> and the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan.<sup>53</sup>

10. The Council also requested and initiated many reports and studies regarding different aspects of the AIDS pandemic.<sup>54</sup> During the period under review, the Council broadened its horizons in the fight against that pandemic and created the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) solely to initiate studies, make reports and initiate partnerships in the fight against the pandemic.

## 2. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

11. In accordance with its previous practice, the Economic and Social Council assigned the preparation of studies and reports to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consultation and collaboration with specialized agencies, organizations associated with the United Nations and other entities. The Council continued to allocate such tasks to its regional<sup>55</sup> and functional<sup>56</sup> commissions.

<sup>23</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/5.

<sup>24</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/4.

<sup>25</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/19.

<sup>26</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/20.

<sup>27</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/2.

<sup>28</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/14.

<sup>29</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/10.

<sup>30</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/2.

<sup>31</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/7.

<sup>32</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/28.

<sup>33</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/24.

<sup>34</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/52.

<sup>35</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/14.

<sup>36</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/30.

<sup>37</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/4.

<sup>38</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/19.

<sup>39</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/27.

<sup>40</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/16.

<sup>41</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/25.

<sup>42</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/1.

<sup>43</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/26.

<sup>44</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/12.

<sup>45</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/4.

<sup>46</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/7.

<sup>47</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/7.

<sup>48</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/2.

<sup>49</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/54.

<sup>50</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/26.

<sup>51</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/17.

<sup>52</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/30.

<sup>53</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/14.

<sup>54</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/2.

<sup>55</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/41.

<sup>56</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/46.

12. In certain instances, the Council requested that the Secretary-General prepare reports and studies with specified specialized agencies.<sup>57</sup> The Secretary-General was also requested to cooperate with other organizations and entities<sup>58</sup> and to prepare reports and studies with States regardless of whether or not the State was a Member State.<sup>59</sup>

13. The Council also maintained its practice of inviting Governments,<sup>60</sup> States<sup>61</sup> and Member States<sup>62</sup> in general to undertake the preparation of studies and reports.

14. In accordance with its previous practice, the Council occasionally entrusted the preparation of studies and reports to special rapporteurs,<sup>63</sup> departments,<sup>64</sup> programmes<sup>65</sup> and other entities.<sup>66</sup> For example, in its resolution 1999/10, the Council requested the Population Division of the Secretariat to continue its research on population growth, structure and distribution, including levels, trends, determinants, consequences and policies, while giving due attention to issues related to, inter alia, youth, ageing, migration and data collection, so that Governments might benefit by comparing experiences and by understanding the factors underlying changing demographic circumstances.

15. The Council continued its practice of specifying sources of material to be used in studies and reports similar to those described in the study on Article 62 (1), in the *Repertory* and its previous *Supplements*.<sup>67</sup> For example, to take into account provisions enumerated in General Assembly resolutions,<sup>68</sup> the efforts made and the experience gained,<sup>69</sup> the work already under way elsewhere in the United Nations system,<sup>70</sup> the report of

an intergovernmental group of experts<sup>71</sup> and information received by Governments.<sup>72</sup>

16. As in the past, studies and reports were submitted to the Council,<sup>73</sup> its functional commissions,<sup>74</sup> committees,<sup>75</sup> ad hoc committees<sup>76</sup> and the General Assembly.<sup>77</sup>

17. The Council continued to take action on studies and reports similar to those actions taken in the past.<sup>78</sup> For instance, the Council took note of<sup>79</sup> studies and reports and requested the Secretary-General to circulate such material for information.<sup>80</sup>

## B. Recommendations

### 1. GENERAL

18. During the period under review, the Economic and Social Council did not expressly refer to Article 62 (1) of the Charter of the United Nations as a basis for making recommendations. The terminology used by the Council did not appear to follow any general pattern. However, particular terminology may have been considered more appropriate with regard to the substance of recommendations and the type of action recommended. The terms “urges”<sup>81</sup> and “calls upon”<sup>82</sup> were frequently used in recommendations addressed to States, whereas the term “recommends”<sup>83</sup> was used mostly when addressing the General Assembly. The term “invites”<sup>84</sup> was repeatedly employed in recommendations to the specialized agencies.

<sup>57</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/44.

<sup>58</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/30.

<sup>59</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/21.

<sup>60</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/4.

<sup>61</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/21.

<sup>62</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/24.

<sup>63</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/24.

<sup>64</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/10.

<sup>65</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/51.

<sup>66</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/30.

<sup>67</sup> See *Repertory, Supplements Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8*, vol. IV, under Article 62 (1).

<sup>68</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/50.

<sup>69</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/41.

<sup>70</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/9.

<sup>71</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/14.

<sup>72</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/41.

<sup>73</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/48.

<sup>74</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/23.

<sup>75</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/22.

<sup>76</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/14.

<sup>77</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/42.

<sup>78</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/27.

<sup>79</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/41.

<sup>80</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/8.

<sup>81</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/7.

<sup>82</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>83</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/59.

<sup>84</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/4.

## 2. TO STATES

19. As in the past, the Economic and Social Council addressed Member States in general,<sup>85</sup> categories or groups of Member States<sup>86</sup> and particular Member States<sup>87</sup> relating to the issue under consideration. In the same manner, the Council addressed Governments<sup>88</sup> and States,<sup>89</sup> as well as the international community on several occasions.<sup>90</sup>

20. The Council continued its practice of addressing States<sup>91</sup> in conjunction with specialized agencies, organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system, and governmental, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, bilateral and multilateral agencies, regional and subregional organizations, enterprises, services, programmes, national and international institutions, research institutes and transnational organizations. In one instance,<sup>92</sup> the Council called on Member States, as well as relevant organizations, to strengthen their efforts to cooperate with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in the development and implementation of subregional strategies. In another instance,<sup>93</sup> the Council urged Member States, other entities of the United Nations system and relevant intergovernmental organizations to continue their efforts to implement effectively the guidelines for consumer protection.

21. During the period under review, the Council continued to make recommendations to States covering the same subjects as discussed in its previous sessions on the following issues: HIV/AIDS,<sup>94</sup> the demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific purposes,<sup>95</sup> youth,<sup>96</sup> crime prevention and criminal justice,<sup>97</sup> the Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar,<sup>98</sup> implementing the declaration on granting independence to colonial countries and

peoples,<sup>99</sup> the role of criminal law in protection of the environment<sup>100</sup> and the Middle East peace process.<sup>101</sup>

22. The Council also made several recommendations on subjects not previously addressed to States, such as effective crime prevention,<sup>102</sup> mediation and restorative justice measures in criminal justice,<sup>103</sup> establishment of a clearing house for international projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,<sup>104</sup> a long-term programme of support for Haiti,<sup>105</sup> the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme,<sup>106</sup> expansion of the United Nations guidelines for consumer protection to include sustainable consumption,<sup>107</sup> various issues concerning HIV/AIDS,<sup>108</sup> further work for the advancement of women's rights and the revitalization of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,<sup>109</sup> further measures to prevent illegal trafficking in children and to establish penalties appropriate to such offences,<sup>110</sup> regulation of explosives for the purpose of crime prevention and public health and safety,<sup>111</sup> measures on the prevention and control of illicit trafficking in motor vehicles,<sup>112</sup> international cooperation against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions,<sup>113</sup> measures to regulate firearms for the purpose of combating illicit trafficking in firearms,<sup>114</sup> international cooperation aimed at the reduction of prison overcrowding and the promotion of alternative sentencing,<sup>115</sup> penal reform,<sup>116</sup> administration of juvenile justice<sup>117</sup> and recommendations on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled

<sup>85</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/59.

<sup>86</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/26.

<sup>87</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/5.

<sup>88</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/26.

<sup>89</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/9.

<sup>90</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/40.

<sup>91</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/45.

<sup>92</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/17.

<sup>93</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/53.

<sup>94</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/52.

<sup>95</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/33.

<sup>96</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/18.

<sup>97</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/24.

<sup>98</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/48.

<sup>99</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/38.

<sup>100</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/10.

<sup>101</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/52.

<sup>102</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/24.

<sup>103</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/26.

<sup>104</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/12.

<sup>105</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/4.

<sup>106</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/7.

<sup>107</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/7.

<sup>108</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/2.

<sup>109</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/54.

<sup>110</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/26.

<sup>111</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/17.

<sup>112</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/29.

<sup>113</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/25.

<sup>114</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/18.

<sup>115</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/23.

<sup>116</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/27.

<sup>117</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/28.

“Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace in the Twenty-First Century”.<sup>118</sup>

23. The recommendations of the Council envisaged a variety of actions, such as implementation of guidelines,<sup>119</sup> recommendations,<sup>120</sup> programmes<sup>121</sup> and strategies,<sup>122</sup> establishment of national measures,<sup>123</sup> participation in meetings<sup>124</sup> and negotiations,<sup>125</sup> undertaking of cooperation,<sup>126</sup> providing of information to certain entities,<sup>127</sup> the taking or adoption of practical, institutional, educational, organizational and other measures,<sup>128</sup> the taking or support of certain actions and activities,<sup>129</sup> consideration of,<sup>130</sup> giving of attention<sup>131</sup> or giving priority<sup>132</sup> to certain issues and the donation of contributions<sup>133</sup> and assistance.<sup>134</sup>

24. The Council also encouraged States to revise their legislation.<sup>135</sup> In resolution 1997/22, the Council urged countries to review and evaluate their legislation and legal principles, procedures, policies and practices relating to criminal matters, in a manner consistent with their legal systems, to determine if they had a negative impact on woman and, if they had such an impact, to modify them in order to ensure that women were treated fairly by the criminal justice system.

25. The Council also invited States to cooperate with entities of the United Nations system<sup>136</sup> and other organizations.<sup>137</sup>

26. In a few instances, the Council envisaged limitations on the implementation of its

recommendations. In its resolution 1997/22, the Council urged States to continue to make every effort possible to implement fully the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan by taking the most appropriate legislative, regulatory and administrative measures, including those aimed at prevention.

### 3. TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

27. During the period under review, recommendations to the General Assembly were related to many new subjects, including a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti,<sup>138</sup> the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>139</sup> illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition,<sup>140</sup> action against corruption,<sup>141</sup> drug demand reduction,<sup>142</sup> gender equality,<sup>143</sup> establishment of a clearing house for international projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice<sup>144</sup> and work for the advancement of women’s rights and the revitalization of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.<sup>145</sup>

28. As in the past, the Council’s recommendations addressed to the General Assembly envisaged various actions, including the adoption of draft resolutions<sup>146</sup> and guidelines,<sup>147</sup> the proclamation of years<sup>148</sup> and decades<sup>149</sup> and the initiation of a comprehensive process for the preparation of an international cooperation strategy on criminal matters.<sup>150</sup>

### 4. TO THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

29. The Economic and Social Council continued its practice of addressing particular specialized agencies,<sup>151</sup> specialized agencies in general,<sup>152</sup> specialized agencies in conjunction with organizations

<sup>118</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/50.

<sup>119</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/7.

<sup>120</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/24.

<sup>121</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/26.

<sup>122</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1997/18 and 1998/12.

<sup>123</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/17.

<sup>124</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/22.

<sup>125</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/46.

<sup>126</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/20.

<sup>127</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/23.

<sup>128</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/17.

<sup>129</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/52.

<sup>130</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/28.

<sup>131</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1995/27 and 1999/14.

<sup>132</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1996/30 and 1998/7.

<sup>133</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1995/19, 1996/11 and 1997/38.

<sup>134</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1995/30, 1995/42 and 1996/5.

<sup>135</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/10.

<sup>136</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1996/13 and 1999/27.

<sup>137</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/18.

<sup>138</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/11.

<sup>139</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/20.

<sup>140</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/21.

<sup>141</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/22.

<sup>142</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/29.

<sup>143</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/50.

<sup>144</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/12.

<sup>145</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/54.

<sup>146</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/3.

<sup>147</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/8.

<sup>148</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1997/18, 1997/44, 1997/47 and 1998/28.

<sup>149</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1995/47 and 1998/31.

<sup>150</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/26.

<sup>151</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1998/2 and 1999/30.

<sup>152</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1998/38.

and other entities, whether or not part of the United Nations system, and States.<sup>153</sup> In resolution 1998/38, the Council requested the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Non-Self-Governing Territory.

30. The Council continued to make recommendations to the specialized agencies relating to such issues as the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples,<sup>154</sup> Palestinian women<sup>155</sup> and science and technology development.<sup>156</sup>

31. The recommendations to the specialized agencies also dealt with several new issues including children with disabilities<sup>157</sup> and the administration of juvenile justice.<sup>158</sup>

32. The recommendations to the specialized agencies envisaged a variety of actions, including the development of policies<sup>159</sup> and programmes,<sup>160</sup> the implementation of plans of action<sup>161</sup> and guidelines,<sup>162</sup> participation in meetings,<sup>163</sup> inclusion of items on their agenda,<sup>164</sup> the giving of assistance<sup>165</sup> and the exchange of experience and information.<sup>166</sup>

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<sup>153</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1996/37 and 1997/31.

<sup>154</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/66.

<sup>155</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/5.

<sup>156</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/4.

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<sup>157</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/20.

<sup>158</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1997/30.

<sup>159</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1996/18 and 1998/12.

<sup>160</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/27.

<sup>161</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1997/55 and 1997/66.

<sup>162</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1995/10 and 1997/7.

<sup>163</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1995/63.

<sup>164</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1996/26.

<sup>165</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolutions 1997/35 and 1997/40.

<sup>166</sup> See, e.g., E S C resolution 1999/18.