

ARTICLE 64

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ARTICLE 64

TEXT OF ARTICLE 64

1. The Economic and Social Council may take appropriate steps to obtain regular reports from the specialized agencies. It may make arrangements with the Members of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies to obtain reports on the steps taken to give effect to its own recommendations and to recommendations on matters falling within its competence made by the General Assembly.

2. It may communicate its observations on these reports to the General Assembly.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. The structure of this study is similar to that of Article 64 in the *Repertory* and its *Supplements Nos. 1, 2 and 3*. Of the whole range of forms and subject matters which the reporting by the specialized agencies may present, under the provisions of the Agreements with them,¹ the present study continues to deal primarily with the annual reports by the agencies and modifications and expansions of these reports.

¹See *Repertory*, vol. III, under Article 64, paras. 1-4.

I. GENERAL SURVEY

A. Reports from the specialized agencies

2. During the period under review, the Council, in accordance with the established procedure, considered the annual reports of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the context of its consideration of questions relating to the programmes and activities in the economic, social and technical co-operation and related fields of the United Nations system.

3. The results of the Council's consideration of these reports are embodied in its resolutions 1277(XLIII), 1371(XLV) and 1458(XLVII). In resolution 1277(XLIII) the Council took note with appreciation of the annual reports and summaries thereof of the specialized agencies and the annual report of IAEA and invited the agencies to include in their annual reports to the Council information on further progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the specialized agencies which called for joint action.

4. In part B of resolution 1277(XLIII), the Economic and Social Council recalled paragraph 6 of its resolution 1172(XLI) of 5 August 1966, which emphasized in particular that "it would be desirable . . . to devote particular attention to the examination of specific fields of activity common to the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency". The Council considered that it would be desirable to have at its disposal more extensive and more detailed information on the questions and specific problems involved in co-ordination among the specialized agencies and IAEA. It further acknowledged the efforts already made by the agencies to provide it with items of information on such questions and problems. The Council also noted that the regrouping, in a separate chapter of their analytical

reports, of the information supplied on co-ordination by most of the specialized agencies had appreciably improved the presentation of those questions, and invited the specialized agencies and IAEA to continue to present the information on co-ordination in a separate chapter of their analytical reports as well as to increase the scope of that chapter. The Council further invited the specialized agencies to give the following questions and problems of co-ordination fuller treatment in their reports for 1968: agricultural education, population problems, vocational training in connexion with industrialization, oceanographic activities and statistical research and publications.

5. In resolution 1371(XLV), after noting with satisfaction the development of interagency co-operation in past years and the progress made towards solving certain difficult problems of co-ordination, the Council recalled resolution 1277 B (XLIII) of 4 August 1967 in which the specialized agencies concerned had been invited to give fuller treatment in their reports for 1968 to certain problems, and took note with appreciation of the annual reports and summaries thereof of the specialized agencies and of IAEA.

6. In resolution 1458(XLVII), the Council took note with appreciation of annual reports and summaries thereof and decided to dispense with the circulation to its members of the full annual reports of the specialized agencies and IAEA on the understanding that copies would be available for reference purposes during the Council's session. It therefore requested the specialized agencies and IAEA to continue to submit analytical summaries of their reports and to ensure that these analytical summaries contained, in so far as possible, comparable information. It also requested the CPC, in consultation with those agencies, to review the format of the analytical summaries in order to ensure that they provided the information required by the Council.

B. Reports from Members of the United Nations on steps taken to give effect to recommendations of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly on economic and social matters

7. In its resolution 1458(XLVII) the Council recalled the discussion held at its forty-sixth session on the desirability of rationalizing requests for information from Member States in the field of human rights and

took note of the list prepared by the Secretariat and transmitted by the CPC, containing requests from Member States for such information. It called upon the Commission on Human Rights to review, and in so far as possible to consolidate, the types of information being sought from Governments in the field of human rights, without in any way limiting the effective operation of the Commission.

II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE

A. Reports from the specialized agencies

1. REGULAR REPORTS FROM THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

8. At the Council's request,² the CPC, during the second part of its third session (June 1969), reviewed existing practices for the submission by the specialized agencies of annual reports on their activities.

9. The CPC noted that each organization was currently supposed to submit both an annual report, which was usually prepared for the organization's own purposes and made available to the Council, and an analytical summary, which was prepared specially for the Council in accordance with a format that had been worked out by the ACC at the Council's request.

10. The CPC agreed that the total documentation being submitted to the Council in that connexion was much too great and proposed that the Council should adopt the following measures to deal with the problem:

(a) That the Council should dispense with the circulation to its members of the full annual reports of the specialized agencies and IAEA;

(b) That the specialized agencies and IAEA should be requested to continue submitting analytical summaries of their reports;

(c) That the Council should request the specialized agencies and IAEA to review the consistency and comparability of their analytical summaries so that they each would provide the Council with similar information;

(d) That those agencies should continue to supply a limited number of their full annual reports for reference purposes during Council meetings;

(e) That the Council should request the CPC, in consultation with the specialized agencies and IAEA, to review the format of the analytical summaries in order to ensure that they would provide the information required by the Council. The summaries should include analyses of co-ordination problems and recommendations for action by the Council;

(f) That the Council should request the specialized agencies and IAEA to provide the same type of documentation on co-ordination questions that each agency secretariat submitted to its governing body;

(g) That the representatives of the specialized agencies and IAEA, when introducing their annual analytical summaries to the CPC, should be requested to concentrate on questions of programming and co-ordination, and should indicate their programme priorities.

11. The Council acted on those recommendations in its resolution 1458(XLVII) (see paragraph 6 above).

****2. REPORTS BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ON STEPS TAKEN TO GIVE EFFECT TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

****3. OBSERVATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL UNDER ARTICLE 64 (2)**

****B. Reports from Members of the United Nations on steps taken to give effect to recommendations of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly on economic and social matters**

²E/L.1249, Suggestion No. 21 (mimeographed) and E S C (XLVI), 1596th mtg.