

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL DURING ITS FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

ECONOMIC QUESTIONS

1304 (XLIV). Report of the Statistical Commission

The Economic and Social Council

1. Takes note of the report of the Statistical Commission on its fifteenth session;¹
2. Endorses the work programme contained therein.
*1529th plenary meeting,
31 May 1968.*

1305 (XLIV). Industrial censuses for 1973

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the need for data on the structure and activities of industry on a world-wide basis for purposes of economic and social development,

Noting that the Statistical Commission has made recommendations for a system of industrial statistics for use by Member States,

Recommends that States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies compile basic data on industry for 1973 or a year close to 1973, taking into account as far as possible the international recommendations on this subject.

*1529th plenary meeting,
31 May 1968.*

1306 (XLIV). International statistical work programme and co-ordination

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking account of the discussions at the fifteenth session of the Statistical Commission on the subject of the statistical activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies,

Recognizing that in many countries progress is being made in the integration and co-ordination of data in a comprehensive system which responds to the requirements of economic and social policy, administration and development and that parallel progress is required at the international level,

Emphasizing that the work of the international agencies in the field of statistics is relied upon by national statistical offices for a wide range of purposes,

Conscious of the interdependence of national economies and the consequent need for systematic international statistics descriptive of the role of each nation in the world economy,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the executive heads of the specialized agencies;

¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10 (E/4471).*

(a) To take steps to promote arrangements to ensure the development of an integrated and co-ordinated international statistical programme, based on longer-term planning than is now in effect, thus contributing to the efficiency of national statistical systems in both developed and developing countries, as well as to the effective use of resources at the international level;

(b) To arrange for joint consultations between representatives of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and a working group consisting of the Chairman and two additional members of the Statistical Commission, with a view to the working group providing a report for members of the Statistical Commission prior to its sixteenth session on the progress made in establishing an integrated programme and in ensuring the necessary co-ordination in fields where its absence is greatest;

2. Further requests the Secretary-General to keep the Economic and Social Council informed of the progress made, through its Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;

3. Requests the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to review the results of the consultations provided for in paragraph 1 (b) above and to express its views on the direction of the future work of the Statistical Commission in regard to co-ordination.

*1529th plenary meeting,
31 May 1968.*

1307 (XLIV). World Programme for the Improvement of Vital Statistics

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the report of the Population Commission on its fourteenth session,² the report of the Statistical Commission on its fifteenth session³ and of resolution 14 (XIII) adopted by the Statistical Commission at its thirteenth session,⁴

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1710 (XVI) of 19 December 1961 on the United Nations Development Decade, which requested the Secretary-General to develop proposals for the intensification of action in the fields of economic and social development, with particular reference to the need to review facilities for the collection, collation, analysis and dissemination of statistical and other information required for charting economic and social development and for providing a constant measurement of progress towards the objectives of the Decade,

² *Ibid., Supplement No. 9 (E/4454).*

³ *Ibid., Supplement No. 10 (E/4471).*

⁴ *Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13 (E/4045), para. 168.*

Further recalling its resolution 469 D (XV) of 27 April 1953, which recommended that Governments give attention to the importance of developing vital statistics to meet demographic, economic, public health and social needs and its resolution 1084 (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965, which endorsed the recommendations of the Population Commission on the long-range programme of work in the fields of population, including its recommendations with regard to the increase and improvement of demographic statistics, and drew the attention of the Statistical Commission to the recommendations and suggestions of the Population Commission relating to activities in their fields of interest,

Recognizing the striking deficiencies in vital statistics, especially in developing countries, and the fact that these deficiencies in coverage and quality represent a serious gap in world demographic knowledge required for analysing the trends in population size and characteristics,

Being aware that vigorous efforts must be exerted by the United Nations, the specialized agencies, the regional economic commissions and Member States to push forward the development of reliable civil registers of vital events, not only for the statistical use of the records but also because they serve as legal instruments for:

(a) Proof of nationality, as provided in article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁵ adopted in 1948,

(b) Proof of name and nationality, as provided in Principle 3 of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child,⁶ adopted in 1959,

(c) Proof of marriage, consent to marriage and age at marriage, as provided in the Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages,⁷ opened for signature in 1962,

(d) Proof of divorce, as provided in Council resolution 1068 F (XXXIX) of 16 July 1965, and because they assist in the provision of health and social services and in governmental assistance,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a World Programme for the Improvement of Vital Statistics, utilizing every means at his disposal, including the provision, on request, of technical assistance under the United Nations Development Programme;

2. *Recommends* that:

(a) States Members of the United Nations endeavour to establish a system of vital records and statistics, or to improve the existing system, to the level where it will yield, in particular, reliable statistics of births and deaths, adequate, *inter alia*, to meet the needs of economic and social development planning and especially to provide the statistical base for planning the development and utilization of human resources as called for in Council resolution 1274 (XLIII) of 4 August 1967;

(b) In developing this system, international standards be followed as closely as possible, with only such

⁵ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III) of 10 December 1948.

⁶ General Assembly resolution 1386 (XIV) of 20 November 1959.

⁷ General Assembly resolution 1763 A (XVII) of 7 November 1962, annex.

changes as may be necessary to meet special national needs;

(c) Attention be paid to integrating the recommended vital statistics system into the general statistical system and relating the vital statistics with the population censuses so that the maximum utility may be obtained with a given cost.

*1529th plenary meeting,
31 May 1968.*

1308 (XLIV). Fifth report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Notes with appreciation* the fifth report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development;⁸

2. *Endorses* the work programme contained in the fifth report of the Advisory Committee.

*1529th plenary meeting,
31 May 1968.*

1309 (XLIV). Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development: report on science education

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Notes with appreciation* the first report on science education prepared by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development;⁹

2. *Commends* the suggestions contained in the first report of the Advisory Committee on science education, for consideration by the appropriate bodies, including in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

*1529th plenary meeting,
31 May 1968.*

1310 (XLIV). Questions relating to science and technology

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Takes note* of the reports regarding sub-items (c) "Environmental pollution"¹⁰ and (d) "Conservation and rational use of the environment"¹¹ of item 5 of its agenda;

2. *Decides* to consider these reports further at a later session of the Council.

*1529th plenary meeting,
31 May 1968.*

⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8 (E/4461 and E/4461/Add.1).*

⁹ *Ibid.*, *Forty-fourth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 5, document E/4448.

¹⁰ Report submitted by the World Health Organization (E/4457 and Add.1) and Comments by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development on the report submitted by the World Health Organization (E/4482).

¹¹ Report submitted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (E/4458).