

1998/46

Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997,

1. *Adopts* the texts contained in annexes I, II and III to the present resolution;
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the functional commissions for the interest they have taken in reviewing their working methods and encourages them to continue to do so, taking into account the suggestions and recommendations appearing in annex II to the present resolution and to adopt practices best suited to their mandates, priorities and responsibilities;
3. *Welcomes* the reform measures undertaken by the regional commissions and encourages them to continue to undertake, under the aegis of their respective intergovernmental bodies, further measures to enhance their efficiency and effectiveness as presented in annex III to the present resolution;
4. *Decides* to continue its deliberations on pending issues pursuant to the mandates given to it, as contained in General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B;
5. *Also decides* to hold, at its resumed substantive session of 1998, elections for the composition of the bodies as laid down in annex I to the present resolution, so that these bodies are fully constituted from 1 January 1999, and requests its Bureau to work out appropriate mechanism for the holding of the elections for this purpose;
6. *Further decides* to bring the present resolution to the attention of the General Assembly in pursuance of paragraph 70 of annex I to Assembly resolution 50/227 and paragraphs 9 and 10 of Assembly resolution 52/12 B.

*47th plenary meeting
31 July 1998*

Annex I

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B

Committee for Development Planning

7. The Committee for Development Planning shall be renamed the Committee for Development Policy and shall continue to be a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council.

8. It shall comprise twenty-four independent experts with a good mix of expertise, who are to be drawn from the fields of economic development, social development and environmental protection, in order to avoid the need to engage the assistance of consultants and so as to reflect an adequate geographical and gender balance. Membership should include those who are able to contribute on emerging issues and to the multilateral process. The experts should be nominated by the Secretary-General, after consultation with interested Governments, and approved by the Economic and Social Council. The term of office is to be three years.

9. The Committee shall continue the triennial review of the status of least developed countries, and shall meet on this issue once every three years.

10. The Economic and Social Council should decide on an appropriate work programme for the Committee for Development Policy. In January/February of each year, the Council, at the time of deciding the themes for its substantive session, should advise the Committee about the theme(s) to be considered at the Committee's annual session, not to exceed five working days, to be held in April/May. The Committee will submit its report to the Council at its substantive session in July. The report will also include the Committee's proposals to the Council concerning its work programme for the following year, for consideration and approval at the next organizational session of the Council in January/February.

11. The General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council can also propose, through the Council, issues for consideration by the Committee for Development Policy.

12. Dissemination of information on the Committee's work should be improved, including, *inter alia*, by establishing an Internet Web site and through a presentation by its Bureau on the outcome of its deliberations.

13. In undertaking its responsibilities, the Committee on Development Policy should, in addition to holding its formal meetings, explore the scope for effective preparations for their deliberations via informal networking arrangements. The Secretariat should provide assistance in this regard.