

1999/8. Functioning of the Statistical Commission

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 8 (I) of 16 February 1946 and 8 (II) of 21 June 1946 concerning the establishment and terms of reference of the Statistical Commission and 1566 (L) of 3 May 1971, in which the Council further refined the terms of reference, and resolution 1306 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968, by which the Council established the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination and gave it its initial task,

Welcoming the series of reviews that the Statistical Commission has carried out since 1993 on its role and functioning and that of its Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Recognizing the need to provide for more continuity of the Commission's decision-making and oversight of the global statistical process,

Recognizing also the need for a more flexible and rapid response to emerging and topical developments in international statistics than is possible through the biennial meetings of the Statistical Commission,

Wishing to enable the Statistical Commission to carry out on a more continuous basis its role in following up the statistical implications of the major United Nations conferences and summits and the agreed conclusions of the high-level and coordination segments of the Economic and Social Council and of its resolutions, thus providing enhanced support to the Council in carrying out its own responsibilities in this area,

1. *Decides* that the Statistical Commission shall meet annually, beginning in 2000, for a period of four working days in New York, and decides that the small additional cost shall come from existing resources;

2. *Also decides* that, with immediate effect, the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination shall cease to function.

*39th plenary meeting
26 July 1999*

1999/9. Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 1998/221 of 23 July 1998 and General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985,

1. *Welcomes* the generous offer of the Government of Germany to host the Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in 2002;

2. *Decides* that the Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names will be held in Germany from 27 August to 5 September 2002.

*39th plenary meeting
26 July 1999*

1999/10. Population growth, structure and distribution

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the commitment of Member States to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,¹³

Recalling the recommendations of the Programme of Action relating to population growth, structure and distribution,

Recalling also that the theme for the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development was population growth, structure and distribution, with special emphasis on sustained economic growth and sustainable development, including education, and noting the importance of the issues related to, *inter alia*, youth, ageing and migration, as well as the need for data collection,

Requests 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 may benefit by comparing experiences and by understanding the factors underlying changing demographic circumstances, and calls upon Governments to continue to facilitate the work of the Population Division in this regard.

*39th plenary meeting
26 July 1999*

1999/11. Long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling paragraph 17 of its agreed conclusions 1998/1 of 17 July 1998,⁶ in which the Council noted the need to develop, through a strategic framework, when appropriate, a comprehensive approach to countries in crisis, in which key aspects of durable recovery, peace-building, all human rights, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences, were included,

Recalling also that the development of such a comprehensive approach must involve national authorities as well as the United Nations system, donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and that national authorities must take a leading role in all aspects of the recovery plan,

Recalling further its resolution 1999/4 of 7 May 1999, by which it created an Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, with the mandate of submitting to the Council at its substantive session of 1999, for its consideration, its recommendations on how to ensure that international community assistance to the efforts to support the Government of Haiti in achieving sustainable

¹³ *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

development is adequate, coherent, well coordinated and effective,

Reaffirming the leading role of the Government of Haiti in all aspects of the recovery plans for Haiti,

Having examined the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti,¹⁴

Emphasizing the need to develop a strategic framework and a comprehensive approach for a long-term United Nations programme of support for Haiti,

Emphasizing also that capacity-building is a key element to enable Governments and civil society to manage their affairs and effectively absorb international assistance in post-conflict situations,

Stressing the vital link between national stability and economic and social development,

Taking note of the request by the Government of Haiti for international electoral assistance for its plans to organize and hold the forthcoming legislative, local and presidential elections,

Bearing in mind the importance of the role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with regard to human rights issues in Haiti and of the work of the independent expert on Haiti of the Commission on Human Rights,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti,¹⁴ and welcomes its recommendations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Government of Haiti and making use of the existing United Nations presence in Haiti, to take the necessary steps to develop on a priority basis a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti in such areas as education, peace-building, poverty eradication, social integration, productive employment, trade, durable recovery and sustainable development, aimed particularly at reinforcing capacity-building objectives in both governmental and civil society institutions;

3. *Requests* the programmes, funds and agencies of the United Nations system, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, other multilateral institutions and regional organizations, bilateral donors, including within the Consultative Group meetings led by the World Bank, non-governmental organizations and the rest of the donor community to continue to support and to work in close collaboration with the Government of Haiti for the purpose of elaborating and supporting the long-term strategy and programme for Haiti, including prioritizing sustainable development and capacity-building objectives;

4. *Urges* that the coordination of the work of the organizations of the United Nations system in Haiti continue to function through the resident coordinator mechanism, since it has proved to be an adequate means for effective coordination, and that such coordination should be further

strengthened through the completion of the common country assessment and subsequent preparation of a United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Haiti, which will provide the elements to define an effective long-term United Nations development assistance programme for the country;

5. *Recommends* that the long-term programme of support for Haiti address the issues of capacity-building of governmental institutions, especially in areas such as governance, the promotion of human rights, the administration of justice, the electoral system, law enforcement, police training and other areas of social and economic development, which would enable the Government of Haiti to adequately and effectively coordinate, manage, absorb and utilize international assistance and development aid;

6. *Also recommends* that the long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti also address the issue of capacity-building in civil society institutions, particularly community-based organizations, labour unions and professional associations;

7. *Urges* the United Nations system to continue to support the preparations for legislative, local and presidential elections in Haiti, including supporting financially the ongoing efforts of the Government of Haiti to organize those elections;

8. *Recommends* to the General Assembly to review all aspects of the mandate and operations of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti in the light of the situation in Haiti and to consider renewing the mandate of the United Nations component of the Mission;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to coordinate with the Government of Haiti other modalities under which reinforced support from the international community can be ensured for the electoral processes;

10. *Urges* the United Nations system to continue to work in the areas of consolidation of democracy and training and professionalization of the national police force of Haiti, and, to that end, recommends to the General Assembly to consider devising a United Nations special training and technical assistance programme for the Haitian National Police;

11. *Recommends* to the General Assembly to consider requesting the Secretary-General to continue his good offices in Haiti through his Representative and to maintain the existence of the office there, which would also have the responsibility of managing any new civilian mission mandated by the United Nations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2000, and to the appropriate United Nations intergovernmental bodies, an integrated synthesis report on the elaboration and implementation of the long-term programme of support for Haiti, including observations and recommendations on the work of the relevant United Nations bodies in their respective areas of competence.

*41st plenary meeting
27 July 1999*

¹⁴ E/1999/103.