

**1997/257. Advisory services, technical cooperation and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights**

At its 38th plenary meeting, on 22 July 1997, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/46 of 11 April 1997.<sup>39</sup>

(a) Approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General:

- (i) To allocate to the human rights programme, in the context of the budgetary planning for the biennium 1998–1999, additional human and financial resources for the enlargement of the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights in order to meet the substantially increased demand;
- (ii) In accordance with section II, paragraph 16, of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>46</sup> and in cooperation with the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights as advisory body, to continue to ensure more efficient management of the Voluntary Fund, strict and transparent project management rules, periodic evaluations of the programme and projects and the dissemination of evaluation results, including programme implementation and financial accounting reports, as well as to arrange for the holding of information meetings open to all Member States and organizations directly involved in the advisory services and technical cooperation programme;
- (iii) To continue to provide the necessary administrative assistance for the Board of Trustees, to arrange meetings of the Board and to ensure that its conclusions are reflected in the annual report to the Commission on technical cooperation in the field of human rights;

(b) Approved the Commission's request to the Board of Trustees to continue to exercise its full mandate as advisory body to promote and solicit contributions to the Voluntary Fund and to continue to assist the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in monitoring, reviewing and improving the implementation of technical cooperation projects, the conduct of comprehensive needs assessments and the monitoring of ongoing and evaluation of completed projects, as well as the Commission's invitation to the Chairman of the Board to address the Commission.

<sup>39</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 3 (E/1997/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>46</sup> See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.