

**1998/42. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 47/199 of 22 December 1992 and 50/120 of 20 December 1995 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

*Recalling also* the role of the Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that policies formulated by the General Assembly, in particular during the triennial policy review of operational activities, are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

*Noting* the progress made and the work that remains to be accomplished by the United Nations system in the full implementation of the provisions contained in Assembly resolution 50/120,

*Recalling* Council resolution 1996/42 of 26 July 1996, in which the Council urged all funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations development system to identify measurable targets to strengthen their monitoring and evaluation capabilities and to incorporate those targets into their respective management plans so as to implement Assembly resolution 50/120,

---

<sup>135</sup> The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (UNEP/FAO/PIC/CONF/5, annex III) was signed at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, held at Rotterdam, the Netherlands, on 10 and 11 September 1998.

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 52/203 of 18 December 1997, in particular paragraph 9 thereof, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, when presenting his comprehensive report on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system at the fifty-third session of the Assembly, to make recommendations for the implementation of reform initiatives on operational activities, bearing in mind the views of Member States,

*Strongly reaffirming* the need for a substantial increase in resources for operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries,

*Stressing* the need for continuous overall improvement in the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of the United Nations system in delivering its development assistance, and welcoming steps that have been taken towards that end,

*Noting* the urgency of a productive outcome from the current discussions on funding strategies being pursued by the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes towards reversing the declining trend in core resources,

*Considering* the linkage that exists between the recommendations made in the report of the Secretary-General, on advancement of women: implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development,<sup>104</sup> and the triennial policy review of operational activities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;<sup>136</sup>

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when finalizing his report for submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, to take into account the views and comments expressed by States during the operational activities segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, when finalizing his report, to take into account the discussions on funding strategies currently taking place in the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, when preparing recommendations for the next triennial policy review, to consider the implications of steps adopted by the United Nations system to implement reform initiatives on operational activities, as agreed in General Assembly resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, taking fully into account the views expressed by States in conjunction with work that remains to be completed pursuant to Assembly resolution 50/120;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when finalizing his report, to provide an analysis of the state of the implementation of resolution 50/120 and related resolutions on operational activities and to make appropriate recommendations;

---

<sup>136</sup> E/1998/48 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, when finalizing his report, to take into account relevant aspects of agreed conclusions 1998/1 of 17 July 1998, adopted at the humanitarian affairs segment of the substantive session of the Council;<sup>137</sup>

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in his report to the General Assembly, taking into account the discussions in the Council on item 3 (a) of the agenda for its substantive session of 1998, entitled "Advancement of women: implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development", and the outcome thereof, to include a section on mainstreaming a gender perspective in the operational activities of the United Nations system, containing recommendations to that end;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in accordance with the coordination, guidance and oversight roles of the Council in the implementation by the United Nations system of the triennial policy review of operational activities, to make recommendations, when finalizing his report, on the possible themes that could be discussed at the working-level meetings of the operational activities segments of the substantive sessions of 1999, 2000 and 2001 of the Council, taking into account the necessary preparatory work for the following triennial policy review;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to undertake, as appropriate, in close consultation and collaboration with recipient Governments and donors, impact evaluations of the themes on operational activities identified by the General Assembly for discussion at future sessions of the Council;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the continued participation of the specialized agencies and regional commissions of the United Nations system and the ongoing collaboration with the World Bank in relevant aspects of United Nations operational activities on the basis of the national priorities of the recipient countries.

*47th plenary meeting  
31 July 1998*