of its officers and of the Secretary-General, any resolutions or decisions by which recurrent items or reports had been requested, with a view to determining whether the interval between such items or reports could be extended or whether some of them could be dispensed with.

Finally, the Council, in its decisions relating to the regional economic commissions, requested them to consider ways and means of reducing the volume of their reports to the Council, and requested the Secretary-General to take this into account when preparing draft sections of reports for the consideration of their subsidiary bodies.

The decisions of the Council on measures to improve the organization of its work were taken without the adoption of formal resolutions.

DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES

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CHAPTER XIV

POPULATION QUESTIONS

TECHNICAL AID IN 1969

The resources provided through the United Nations Fund for Population Activities made it possible to expand United Nations technical cooperation activities in 1969 in dealing with various population questions.

Ten population programme officers, appointed in January 1969, visited 46 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East to assist Governments in preparing projects in the population field.

Expanded population programmes for Asia and Africa were initiated early in 1969 with the establishment of separate divisions in the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), respectively.

At the request of the Government of India, a team of experts was appointed in January 1969 for a three-month period to evaluate that Government's family planning programme in relation to India's over-all plans for economic and social development.

A consultative mission on family planning completed a three-week assignment in the United Arab Republic in February 1969, at the request of the Government, to identify the needs for assistance.

At the request of the Government of Algeria, a joint mission of the United Nations and the World Health Organization (WHO) visited that country from June to mid-August 1969 to elaborate programmes for maternal and child health services and for improved training of medical and para-medical personnel, and to assist in the further clarification of the relationship between demographic conditions and economic development at the national and regional levels.

The United Nations and WHO participated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in a mission to Malaysia, from 15 July to 10 August 1969, to advise on the national family planning programme.

A joint United Nations/WHO mission carried out a three-week assignment in Western Samoa, in August and September 1969, to consider the possibility of setting up family planning services.

The Government of Indonesia requested the assistance of the United Nations, the Interna-
tional Bank for Reconstruction and Development and WHO in setting up a far-reaching family planning programme; a five-man team of experts spent two months in Indonesia, from September to November 1969.

A mission on training for family planning, organized by the United Nations in collaboration with UNESCO and the Pan American Health Organization visited a number of countries in Central America and the Caribbean, from the end of September 1969 for about two months, to assess, among other things, the needs for the inter-disciplinary training of staffs engaged in family planning programmes.

The three regional demographic training and research centres supported by the United Nations in Chile, India and the United Arab Republic continued to provide basic training facilities for students. An increased number of fellowships and experts were provided through the additional resources available from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. Advisory services and expert assistance continued to be furnished on request through regional advisers in the ECAFE region, in Africa and in the Middle East, through the staff of the Latin American Demographic Centre, and through the provision of experts to Governments.

MEETINGS AND SEMINARS

An Ad Hoc Committee of Experts on Programmes in Demographic Aspects of Social Development met in New York (7-11 April 1969) to advise the Secretary-General on the formulation of specific programmes of research and technical work in this field, one of the five priority areas that the Population Commission of the Economic and Social Council had previously recommended for intensified activity.

A consultative group of experts on the holding of a third World Population Conference met at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 14 to 16 April 1969 to advise the Secretary-General on the desirability of organizing another World Population Conference.

An interregional seminar on application of demographic data and studies to development planning was held in Kiev, the Ukrainian SSR, from 15 to 25 September 1969, in co-operation with the Government of the Ukrainian SSR, to promote the practical use of demographic statistics and demographic studies for the purposes of policy formulation and planning in developing countries.

An inter-agency Working Group on Demographic Projections met in Rome, Italy, on 12 and 13 September 1969 to discuss the provisional results of revisions of world-wide projections on population by sex and age and by urban and rural classifications.

The second session of the Sub-Committee on Population of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 29 to 31 October 1969.

In Bangkok, Thailand, ECAFE convened a Working Group on Projections of Populations of Sub-National Areas (14-23 May 1969) and a seminar on evaluation of family planning programmes (24 November-12 December 1969). Financial assistance from the Government of Denmark was provided for the seminar. In May 1969, ECA convened the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the 1971 African Population Conference, and from 2 to 9 June 1969 it held a seminar on the application of demographic data and analysis to development planning. Both met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

DECISIONS OF POPULATION COMMISSION

At its fifteenth session, held in Geneva (3-14 November 1969), the Economic and Social Council’s Population Commission reviewed United Nations population activities since 1967, and drew up priorities of work for the five-year period 1970-74.

The review included major decisions, coordination of activities, organization and resources, as well as the progress of research and technical work, programmes for improvement of demographic statistics, technical co-operation, the world population situation, demographic projections in relation to economic and social development, measures and policies affecting fertility, technical meetings, and proposals for five-year and two-year programmes of work.

Among other things, the Commission recommended the implementation of technical co-operation programmes in the five-year period and the fast expansion of such projects during 1970 and 1971, through: (a) expansion of assistance in developing economic, social and other measures in the population field, including family planning; (b) assistance in developing na-
tional projects and research needed for policy formulation; (c) launching of a series of well-balanced and mutually supporting projects at the country and regional levels; (d) increased emphasis on training of national personnel needed for national population programmes; and (e) further strengthening of the United Nations infrastructure to enable it to meet the needs for an expanding programme of technical co-operation.

The Commission unanimously recommended, inter alia, principles and policies to be applied to the United Nations technical co-operation activities financed by the United Nations budget, by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, which had been set up in 1967.

The Commission approved four draft resolutions for final approval by the Economic and Social Council in 1970. They concerned: (1) population policies and the Second United Nations Development Decade; (2) the convening of a third World Population Conference (in 1974); (3) the designation of 1974 as World Population Year; and (4) work programmes and priorities in the field of population.

By the first draft resolution, the Council would, among other things, call upon the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade to give full consideration to national policies aimed at achieving more desirable rates of population growth in appropriate parts of the world and at the voluntary acceptance by parents of smaller families as essential aspects of development strategy for the eventual achievement of satisfactory per capita economic growth to promote human welfare and dignity. The Council would also request the Secretary-General to continue to study the relationship of population growth to economic and social development with special reference to the increase of gross national product and to improving national per capita income and standards of living, and to disseminate widely the major results of such studies.

By the second draft resolution, the Council would approve the proposal that a third World Population Conference be convened in 1974 under the auspices of the United Nations, with representatives of Member States of the United Nations and specialized agencies, their technical advisers, and selected specialists as participants.

By the Commission's third resolution, the year of the third World Population Conference, 1974, would be designated World Population Year, to focus attention on the various aspects of population problems and national and international efforts to deal with them.

By the fourth draft resolution on work programmes and priorities in the population field, the Council would, among other things: invite the regional economic commissions to expand their activities in the population field and to invite United Nations organizations to strengthen their collaboration and co-ordination; call upon all United Nations Member States to participate in the 1970 World Population Census Programme; and to develop their vital statistics in accordance with the proposed World Programme for Improvement of Vital Statistics; and urge interested Governments to give full attention to population programmes in development planning and policy-making, utilizing the available resources to this end.

The Council was also asked to request the Secretary-General: to pursue the work programme recommended by the Population Commission and give special attention to technical co-operation at country and regional levels; to promote the 1970 round of population censuses and, with all available resources, to assist Governments in implementing them as an aid to development planning and policy-making in developing countries; and to conduct a second inquiry among Governments concerning population trends, economic and social development, and their policies and action programmes.

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CHAPTER XV

SOCIAL QUESTIONS

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY

Declaration on Social Progress and Development

On 11 December 1969, the General Assembly adopted a Declaration on Social Progress and Development and called for national and international action to use it as a common base for social development policies.

The President of the General Assembly stated that, in adopting the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, the Assembly had taken a significant step in pursuance of the objective of promoting social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, as set out in the United Nations Charter. The Declaration, he said, was the first international instrument to provide clear guidelines not only for social policies but also for the integration of economic and social action for the improvement of the social environment and the well-being of the individual. The President expressed his confidence that the impact of the Declaration would go far beyond the period of the Second United Nations Development Decade and that its influence would be felt at both the international and the national levels for a long time to come.

A draft Declaration on Social Progress and Development was prepared by the Commission for Social Development in pursuance of a General Assembly resolution of 19 December 1966.1 Following directions given by the Economic and Social Council on 6 June 1967,2 the Commission completed the draft of the Declaration at its nineteenth session (5 February-2 March 1968).3 This draft text consisted of a preamble and three parts, dealing, respectively, with principles, objectives, and means and methods. The text was entitled "Draft Declaration on Social Development."

The Economic and Social Council considered the draft Declaration at its forty-fourth session (6-31 May 1968) and decided to transmit the text without modifications, together with observations made during the Council's debate and amendments proposed by various members of the Council, to Members of the United Nations for their comments and, subsequently, to the General Assembly.4

Later in 1968, the General Assembly's Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee amended the title of the draft Declaration to "Draft Declaration on Social Progress and Development." On 29 October 1968, the Committee unanimously approved the preamble to the draft Declaration. On 12 November 1968, it

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1 See Y.U.N., 1966, pp. 369-70, text of General Assembly resolution 2215 (XXI).
4 Ibid.