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Agenda item 1

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION
OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit the provisional agenda for the twenty-eighth session of the Economic and Social Council, which was considered by the Council at its 1066th meeting during the twenty-seventh session.

Any further items proposed for the twenty-eighth session in accordance with rule 13 will be reported by the Secretary-General to the Council for consideration at the first meeting of the session, when the Council adopts its sessional agenda.

The twenty-eighth session of the Council will be convened on Tuesday, 30 June 1959, at 11 a.m. at Geneva. The Technical Assistance Committee will convene at Geneva on 29 June, as agreed by the Council at its 1066th meeting.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

to be convened at Geneva on 30 June 1959

1. Adoption of the sessional agenda
2. World economic situation
 - (a) Survey of the world economic situation
 - (b) Consideration of the reports of the regional economic commissions
 - (c) General Assembly requests pertaining to international co-operation in economic fields
3. World social situation
 - (a) Report of the Social Commission
 - (b) Survey of programmes of social development
 - (c) General Assembly resolution 1283 (XIII) entitled "International health and medical research year"
4. General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole
 - (a) Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency
 - (b) Concentration of activities and General Assembly resolution 1272 (XIII) on control and limitation of documentation
 - (c) Appraisal report on the scope, trend and cost of the United Nations programmes in the economic, social and human rights fields
 - (d) Concerted action
5. Economic development of under-developed countries
6. Report of the Governing Council of the Special Fund
7. Technical assistance
8. International commodity problems
9. Report of the Transport and Communications Commission
10. Report of the Commission on Human Rights
11. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women
12. Programme of advisory services in the field of human rights
13. Question of a draft declaration on freedom of information
14. International control of narcotic drugs
15. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
16. Non-governmental organizations

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17. Calendar of conferences for 1960
18. Financial implications of actions of the Council
19. Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly
- 20.* Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council
- 21.* Elections
- 22.* Work of the Council in 1960

* To be considered at the resumed twenty-eighth session (to take place during or shortly after the fourteenth regular session of the General Assembly). /...

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA
FOR THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

1. Adoption of the sessional agenda

Under rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the Council is required to adopt its agenda for the session on the basis of the provisional agenda considered by it at the twenty-seventh session under rule 11, and any items on the supplementary list referred to in rule 13.

The arrangement of business at the session, approved by the Council at its 1066th meeting on 24 April, is contained in document E/L.828/Rev.1.

2. World economic situation

(a) Survey of the world economic situation

The Council will have before it the following documents:

- (i) The World Economic Survey, 1958 (E/3244) and a review of economic developments in the Middle East, 1957-1958 (E/3256). Part I of the Survey will deal with international commodity problems. The Survey will include an analysis of the replies received from Governments to the questionnaire issued in connexion with it. The Secretary-General will also put before the Council a preliminary report on the work carried out to date on the measurement of short-term changes in the level of world economic activity, as requested in Council resolution 690 C (XXVI);
- (ii) the Economic Survey of Europe, 1958 (E/ECE/345) the Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1958, (1959.II.F.1) and the Economic Survey of Latin America, 1958 (E/CN.12/498 and Add.1 and Corr.1).

(b) Consideration of the reports of the regional economic commissions

The Council will have before it the annual reports of the Economic Commission for Europe (E/3227), the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (E/3214), the Economic Commission for Latin America (E/3246) and the Economic Commission for Africa (E/3201).

The reports of ECE, ECAFE and ECLA will contain the Commission's observations on the proposed amendments to their terms of reference which were referred to them by the Council at the twenty-sixth session (E/SR.1032) for their consideration and advice.

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Pursuant to paragraphs 13 and 14 of the annex to Council resolution 664 (XXIV), the Secretary-General will also report to the Council (E/3250) on the relationship between the work of the regional economic commissions and the United Nations programmes in the social field.

(c) General Assembly requests pertaining to international co-operation in economic fields

The Council will consider under this sub-item:

- (i) General Assembly resolution 1321 (XIII) on objectives and means of international economic co-operation. For this purpose, the Council will have before it the replies received from Governments to the Secretary-General's request, made pursuant to paragraph (a) of the resolution, for their views on the desirability of formulating, in the light of the provisions of the Charter and of the resolutions contained in the Compendium (E/3202) prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1157 (XII) and of any other relevant international declarations, a statement of the economic objectives of the United Nations and of the means of international co-operation. The Council will also have before it the above-mentioned Compendium.
- (ii) General Assembly resolution 1322 (XIII) on promotion of international co-operation in the field of trade.

3. World social situation

(a) Report of the Social Commission

The Commission will report to the Council on its twelfth session held from 27 April to 15 May 1959. Its report will include a review of action taken and proposals for future action in implementation of resolution 663 B (XXIV) and regarding the future programme of the United Nations in the field of social defence (Council resolution 693 (XXVI) annex). The reports prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolutions 663 D (XXIV) and 694 C I (XXVI) on progress in the field of community development, and to General Assembly resolution 1162 (XII) on the participation of women in community development, forms part of the report (E/CN.5/334 and Add.1 to 4) of the Secretary-General to the Social Commission on progress made by the United Nations in the social field during 1957-1958 and proposals for the programme of work for 1959-1960. They will come to the Council's attention under this sub-item. /...

(b) Survey of programmes of social development

The Survey (E/CN.5/332) has been prepared by the Secretary-General, pursuant to Council resolutions 585 H (XX) and 663 E (XXIV).

The Council will also consider under this sub-item General Assembly resolution 1258 (XIII) on the formulation of social policies related to economic development.

(c) General Assembly resolution 1283 (XIII) entitled "International Health and Medical Research Year"

The Council will have before it the views of the World Health Organization prepared in response to the invitation contained in the above resolution.

4. General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole

(a) Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

The Council will have before it a report by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (E/3247) on its sessions in October 1958 and May 1959, the annual reports of the International Labour Organisation (E/3245 and Add.1), the Food and Agriculture Organization (E/3251), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (E/3242), the World Health Organization (E/3235), the International Civil Aviation Organization (E/3238 and Add.1), the Universal Postal Union (E/3216), the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization (E/3231), a preliminary report from the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization and a report from the International Atomic Energy Agency (E/3248).

The annual reports of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (E/3198 and Add.1), the International Finance Corporation (E/3199 and Add.1) and the International Monetary Fund (E/3797 and Add.1 and Corr.1) will also be available as background information.

Pursuant to Council resolution 694 A (XXVI), the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (E/3247) will contain a progress report on the results of its review of its machinery and procedures.

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In addition the Council will have before it a report (E/3186) on the consultations which took place between the Committee of the Council established by resolution 694 F (XXVI) and representatives of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

General Assembly resolution 1283 (XIII) entitled "International health and medical research year", which will be considered by the Council under item 3 above, will also be before the Council in connexion with this sub-item.

(b) Concentration of activities and General Assembly resolution 1272 (XIII) on control and limitation of documentation

The Council will have before it further observations on its work programme, to be prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 693 B (XXVI). It will also consider under this sub-item the passages on the subject of concentration of activities included by the specialized agencies in their 1959 reports in response to Council resolution 693 A (XXVI).

The reports of the Economic Commission for Europe (E/3227), the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (E/3214), the Economic Commission for Latin America (E/3246), the Economic Commission for Africa (E/3201), the Commission on International Commodity Trade (E/3225), the Social Commission, the Population Commission (E/3207), the Commission on Human Rights (E/3229), the Commission on the Status of Women (E/3228) and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/3254) will also be available to the Council, as will the recommendations for future arrangements for handling the remaining activities hitherto performed by the Transport and Communications Commission which will be included in the Commission's final report, in accordance with Council resolution 693 B (XXVI), paragraph 6 (see also item 9 below).

The reports of the regional and functional commissions include comments on General Assembly resolution 1272 (XIII) on control and limitation of documentation.

In accordance with the decision contained in paragraph 19 of the annex to Council resolution 693 (XXVI), the Council also will consider, in the light of the five-year appraisal of programmes, whether the Secretary-General's consolidated statement of work programmes (see item 17 below) might be dispensed with or alternatively be produced not annually but at two yearly or three yearly intervals.

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(c) Appraisal report on the scope, trend and costs of the United Nations programmes in the economic, social and human rights fields

The Secretary-General will submit to the Council, pursuant to its resolutions 665 C (XXIV) and 694 D (XXVI), an appraisal of the scope, trend and costs of the United Nations programmes in the economic, social and human rights fields for the period 1959 to 1964 (E/3260); detailed appraisals for each sector of the Secretariat's work will appear as an annex (E/3260/Add.1).

(d) Concerted action

As requested by the Council in resolutions 694 C II and III (XXVI), the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (E/3247) will deal with the possibilities of concerted action in various fields of activity.

The report to be prepared by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the specialized agencies concerned, in accordance with Council resolution 694 C I (XXVI), on the progress and prospects of the plan of concerted action in the field of community development, which will be before the Council in connexion with item 3, "World social situation", will also be available to the Council in connexion with the present sub-item.

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In connexion with item 4, the Council will also receive a report (E/3261) on the progress of the survey on main trends of scientific research in the field of natural sciences, to be made in co-operation with UNESCO and other specialized agencies concerned and the IAEA, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1260 (XIII) on the Co-ordination of results of scientific research.

5. Economic development of under-developed countries

Under this item the Council will have before it:

(a) a study (E/3249) prepared by the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 824 (IX) as amended by General Assembly resolution 1035 (XI), on the international flow of private capital covering the years 1956-1958;

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- (b) a further study in the series of studies concerning the taxation in capital-exporting and capital-importing countries of foreign private investments, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 825 (IX) and 1032 (XI);
- (c) a report (E/3255) prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 662 A (XXIV) presenting information concerning international economic assistance for the less developed countries;
- (d) a progress report, prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 614 C (XXII), dealing with techniques of resources and requirements surveys;
- (e) an interim report (E/3258) prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 1316 (XIII) on International co-operation for economic development of under-developed countries;
- (f) an analytical summary (E/3259) of various means to accelerate economic growth in less developed countries through international action, prepared by the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1323 (XIII), on the basis of the records of the work of United Nations economic bodies during the recent years and other appropriate materials, including information to be received from Governments in response to General Assembly resolution 1316 (XIII);
- (g) a report, to be prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 711 A (XXVII), on the feasibility and potential usefulness of collecting, analysing and disseminating the experience obtained in multilateral, regional, bilateral and national technical assistance projects and related activities in the field of industrialization and energy resources.

6. Report of the Governing Council of the Special Fund

The Governing Council will report to the Economic and Social Council in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 1240 (XIII).

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7. Technical assistance

The Council will consider under this item:

(a) United Nations activities under the regular and expanded programmes

The Secretary-General will report to the Council under General Assembly resolutions 200 (III), 304 (IV), 418 (V) and 926 (X) on United Nations activities under the regular and expanded programmes (E/3236).

In accordance with Council resolution 697 (XXVI), he will also report on the regular programme activities of the United Nations under General Assembly resolutions 723 (VIII) and 1024 (XI) concerning operations in the field of public administration (E/3230).

The Council will also receive an oral report by the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1256 (XIII), concerning the provision of operational and executive personnel.

(b) Expanded programme

The Technical Assistance Committee will report to the Council on its sessions in November 1958 (E/3191) and July 1959. The report on the July session will include inter alia the Committee's comments on the report of the Technical Assistance Board (E/TAC/84) on country programming procedures (Council resolution 700 (XXVI)) as well as its comments on the question of allocation of administrative and operational services costs between the regular and Expanded Programme budgets (resolution 702 (XXVI)).

The annual report of TAB to TAC (E/3226) will also be before the Council for its information.

The report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on its sessions in October 1958 and May 1959 (E/3247) will contain sections dealing with various questions which relate to the Expanded Programme.

The report to be prepared by the Secretary-General in pursuance of Council resolution 688 (XXVI) on technical assistance for narcotics control, which will be considered by the Council under item 13, international control of narcotic drugs, will also be available to the Council for its discussions under item 7.

The Council will also consider under this item General Assembly resolutions 1255 C and E (XIII), 1259 (XIII) and 1320 (XIII).

8. International commodity problems

The Council will consider under this item:

- (a) the report (E/3225) of the Commission on International Commodity Trade, on its session in March 1959;
- (b) a report by the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements.

9. Report of the Transport and Communications Commission

In accordance with Council resolution 693 B (XXVI), paragraph 6, the Commission will submit to the Council a final report on its work, including recommendations for future arrangements for handling the remaining activities hitherto performed by the Commission.

10. Report of the Commission on Human Rights

The Council will have before it the report of the Commission (E/3229) on its fifteenth session, held from 16 March to 10 April 1959.

11. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women

The Council will have before it the report of the Commission (E/3228) on its thirteenth session, held from 9 to 27 March 1959.

12. Programme of advisory services in the field of human rights

The Council will have before it the report (E/3253) to be prepared by the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 926 (X), paragraph 4.

The reports of the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women also contain chapters on advisory services.

13. Question of a draft declaration on freedom of information

The Council, in its resolution 720 (XXVII), decided to place the question of a draft declaration on freedom of information on the agenda for its twenty-eighth session.

The records of the Council's discussion of this matter at its twenty-seventh session are contained in documents E/SR.1061, 1062 and 1066, E/AC.7/SR.387 and 388 and E/3239 and Corr.1.

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14. International control of narcotic drugs

The Council will have before it:

- (a) the report (E/3254) of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fourteenth session, convened on 27 April 1959;
- (b) the report of the Permanent Central Opium Board on statistics of narcotics for 1957 and the work of the Board in 1958 (E/OB/14);
- (c) a report by the Secretary-General, pursuant to Council resolution 688 (XXVI), on technical assistance for narcotics control. This report will also be available to the Council in connexion with its discussion of item 7 above.

15. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The annual report will be presented by the High Commissioner to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Statute of the Office of the High Commissioner (General Assembly resolutions 428 (V) and 727 (VIII)). In accordance with Council resolution 672 (XXV), the report or reports of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme will be attached to the annual report.

16. Non-governmental organizations

The Council will have before it reports of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on hearings and applications for hearings under rules 84, 85 and 86.

17. Calendar of conferences for 1960

The Council will have before it a draft calendar of conferences prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences established by Council resolution 174 (VII).

18. Financial implications of actions of the Council

In accordance with rule 34 and General Assembly resolution 533 C (VI), the Secretary-General will report to the Council, in the light of decisions taken at the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth sessions, on work programmes and costs of the economic and social activities of the United Nations during 1960.

19. Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly

The Secretary-General will issue a working paper on the subject of the arrangements to be made for the preparation of the report.

20.* Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council

The Secretary-General will submit to the Council for confirmation the names of representatives of members of functional commissions nominated or renominated since the close of the twenty-seventh session.

21.* Elections

Under this item the Council will be required:

- (a) to elect six members of the Governing Council of the Special Fund, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1240 (XIII), paragraphs 13 to 15;
- (b) to elect three members of the Technical Assistance Committee, under the terms of Council resolution 647 (XXIII);
- (c) to elect the seven members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, in accordance with rule 82 of the rules of procedure of the Council.

22.* Work of the Council in 1960

In accordance with Council resolution 557 B II (XVIII), the agenda for the resumed part of the session includes:

- (a) allocation of items to sessions of the Council during the forthcoming year on the basis of a draft programme submitted by the Secretary-General;
- (b) the disposal of items arising out of the fourteenth regular session of the General Assembly;
- (c) the establishment of dates for opening debate on items allocated to the twenty-ninth session.

* To be considered at the resumed twenty-eighth session (to take place during or shortly after the fourteenth regular session of the General Assembly).