

Decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2006, Ministerial Declarations and Presidential Statements that are of relevance to UNICEF: oral report

Background note

The Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment: creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment

- Elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
- Promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.
- Prevent all forms of violence against women and girls...and investigate, prosecute and punish perpetrators.
- Give youth a real and equal opportunity to find full and productive employment.
- Importance of promoting and attaining goals of universal and equitable access to quality education...and the access of all to primary health care...address the impact of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.
- Develop systems of social protection.

Progress in implementing General Assembly resolution 59/250 on the TCPR of operational activities for development

- Has grown from a mid-term procedural resolution to an inter-governmental mid-term review of TCPR implementation with detailed instructions for preparation of 2007 TCPR.
- Sets out in preambulars a succinct, clear overview of the importance of the TCPR, the characteristics of operational activities in the United Nations system, the purpose of United Nations reform and the basis for evaluation and assessment of operational activities.
- **FUNDING:** stresses the importance of core resources and notes shortcomings of other resources; requests a consolidated overview of costs of the Resident Coordinator function, improved collection and presentation of funding data, and assessment of the multi-year funding framework.

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- **CAPACITY-BUILDING:** stresses need for improved United Nations effort, notes the establishment of UNDG working group on capacity development, the importance of national execution and the need for greater technology transfer.
- **TRANSACTION COSTS AND EFFICIENCY:** acknowledges efforts in this regard and in the establishment of joint office pilots and representation of non-resident agencies, urges further work in a list of areas, including alignment of regional coverage.
- **CCA/UNDAF:** welcomes work towards greater coherence at country level and role of Resident Coordinators in representing the system.
- **RESIDENT COORDINATOR SYSTEM:** recognizes the need for the entire system to provide support; the need for improved training; the development of a comprehensive accountability framework.
- **COUNTRY-LEVEL CAPACITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM:** underscores the need to reduce administrative and procedural burdens at country level.
- **EVALUATION:** stresses the importance of national ownership of evaluations and the need to assess the country level UNDAF.
- **REGIONAL DIMENSION:** requests information on progress made in alignment of regional coverage by funds, programmes and specialized agencies.
- **GENDER:** notes the lack of progress in this area and calls for more to be made.
- **SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION:** calls for more to be done, including uniform standards among United Nations agencies.
- **TRANSITION FROM RELIEF TO DEVELOPMENT:** calls for more to be done, including in the area of data collection and analysis.
- A concluding section on **GUIDELINES FOR THE NEXT TCPR:** sets out a comprehensive and lengthy list of requirements to report on the various sectors outlined above.

Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

- Reaffirms the linkages of the Monterrey Consensus and the 2005 Global Summit outcome with the high-level spring meeting of ECOSOC and the Bretton Woods Institutions, as well as preparing the latter in such a way as to facilitate participation by all and to ensure high-level attendance.

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

- Stresses the United Nations system should make efforts to enhance existing humanitarian capacities, knowledge and institutions, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries.
- Emphasizes the importance of strengthening health sector humanitarian response capacity.
- Welcomes the establishment of the Central Emergency Response Fund.

Other resolutions with relevance to the work of UNICEF include: **follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development; Implementation of the Programme of Action for the LDCs for the Decade 2001-2010; Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti; resolution on sustained economic growth for social development, including the eradication of poverty and hunger; Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Burundi; Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau; assessment of the ad hoc advisory groups of ECOSOC on African countries emerging from conflict; mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system; United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force; and the role of ECOSOC in the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits.**