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FOLLOW-UP TO ECOSOC AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS ON ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARDS OF THE UNITED NATIONS FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

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1. Article VI of the World Food Programme General Regulations, adopted by the FAO Conference (Resolution 11/97 of 17 November 1997) and by the United Nations General Assembly (Decision 52/449 of 18 December 1997), specifies the powers and functions of WFP's Executive Board.
2. Paragraph 1 of Article VI states: "The Board shall, within the framework of these General Regulations, be responsible for providing intergovernmental support and specific policy direction to and supervision of the activities of WFP in accordance with the overall policy guidance of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the FAO Conference, the Economic and Social Council and the Council of FAO, and for ensuring that WFP is responsive to the needs and priorities of recipient countries. The Board will be subject to the general authority of the Economic and Social Council and the Council of FAO".
3. Paragraph 3 indicates the Board's reporting obligations: "The Board shall provide a concise report annually on WFP's programmes, projects and activities including major decisions of the Board to the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council and the Council of FAO".
4. In regard to the annual reporting mandates for the operational activities segment of its substantive session, ECOSOC recalled General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and 52/203 of 18 December 1997, and ECOSOC resolutions 1994/33 of 28 July 1994 and 1995/51 of 28 July 1995, and adopted resolution 1998/27 of 28 July 1998—"Reporting of the United Nations funds and programmes to the Economic and Social Council". In this resolution, ECOSOC emphasized the need for more analytical and issue-oriented reporting, focusing on matters arising from implementation of the reform programmes of the Secretary-General.
5. At its Fifty-fourth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 54/16 on the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) endorsing a strengthened system of follow-up to JIU reports and recommendations. The resolution requests, among other things, that governing bodies of participating organizations review more closely recommendations and ensure a follow-up system is put in place. At its Second Regular Session of 2000, the Board took note of the information on follow-up required by the JIU and encouraged the Secretariat and the Unit to continue discussions with a view to developing a system of follow-up to the JIU recommendations. The dialogue is in process.
6. At its substantive session of 2000, ECOSOC adopted resolution 2000/20 in which it called for specific actions to be taken by the Executive Boards of United Nations funds and programmes in implementing General Assembly resolution 53/192 on triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.



7. At the same session, ECOSOC adopted resolution 2000/27, “Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels.” The Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP discussed the follow-up to this resolution at their joint sessions, 29 January to 6 February, 2001, in New York.
8. The Secretariat has prepared the attached chart listing the relevant ECOSOC and General Assembly resolutions. Those paragraphs that call for consideration and follow-up action by Executive Boards of funds and programmes are reproduced for information.
9. As requested by the Executive Board in its decision 1999/EB.1/17, the Executive Director will report to the Board at its Annual Session of the year 2001 on follow-up action taken by WFP in compliance with the mandates contained in those resolutions.



**ECOSOC AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS WHICH CALL FOR REPORTS AND/OR FOLLOW-UP ACTION
BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARDS OF THE UNITED NATIONS FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES**

ECOSOC				
Number of resolution and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title—paragraphs
RES.1994/33 28 July 1994				Operational activities segment of ECOSOC
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 4:</u> Requests the Executive Boards of the United Nations development funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and the coordinating bodies of the Secretariat to contribute to the triennial policy review of operational activities, in accordance with the provisions of Assembly resolution 48/162 (see section II of this chart)
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 7:</u> Requests the funds and programmes, through their Executive Boards, to include in their annual reports to the Council, which should have a common structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a section outlining measures taken in the implementation of the provisions of the triennial policy review of operational activities b) a section on the activities and measures undertaken within designated theme for the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment
RES.1995/51 28 July 1995				Overall guidance on operational activities for development to the United Nations funds and programmes
	no	yes	ongoing	<u>Para. 5:</u> Requests the Executive Boards of the United Nations development funds and programmes, in establishing their priorities, to take fully into account the relevant conclusions and recommendations of United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with their respective mandates, also bearing in mind national plans and priorities and relevant General Assembly resolutions




ECOSOC

Number of resolution and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title—paragraphs
RES.1995/51 28 July 1995 (continue)	no	yes	ongoing	<u>Para. 6:</u> Requests the United Nations funds and programmes to improve coherence in their country programmes, inter alia, by considering the possibility of joint or consecutive meetings of the Executive Boards, where practicable, on country programmes, and by improving the link between their country programmes and the country strategy notes, where in place, bearing in mind the need for cooperation between external donors and the United Nations funds and programmes in this field
	yes	yes	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 8:</u> Requests the Executive Boards, in their reports to the Council, to identify specific problems, opportunities and areas in which the Council could provide cross-sectoral coordination and overall guidance on a system-wide basis, and to make appropriate proposals, which should be further analysed as a basis for recommendations to the Council, to ensure that the policies formulated by the General Assembly, particularly during the triennial policy review of operational activities, are appropriately implemented on a system-wide basis
	yes	yes	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 10:</u> Requests the United Nations funds and programmes, in the context of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy, to report jointly to the Council through the Secretary-General on questions relating to coordination, cooperation and the division of labour, and on other issues they consider appropriate
RES.1998/27 28 July 1998	Report of the United Nations funds and programmes to the Economic and Social Council			
	yes		annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 1:</u> Requests the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to ensure that the heads of these funds and programmes include in their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, prepared in accordance with Council Resolution 1994/33, a thorough analysis of problems encountered and lessons learned, with emphasis on issues arising from the implementation of the SG's reform, the triennial policy review and the follow-up to conferences, so as to allow the Council to fulfil its co-ordinating role
			annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 2:</u> Requests the Executive Boards, when considering the annual reports of the heads of the United Nations fund and programmes to the Council, to identify specific problems, opportunities and areas in which the Council could provide cross-sectoral co-ordination and overall guidance on a system-wide basis and to make appropriate proposals in line with Council resolution 1995/51



ECOSOC


Number of resolution and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title—paragraphs
RES.1998/27 28 July 1998 (continue)	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para 4:</u> Invites the Secretary-General to arrange for submission by the executive heads of the funds and programmes, in consultation with the United Nations Development Group, to the substantive session of the Council each year, a concise consolidated list of issues which are central to the improved coordination of operational activities, and on which the funds and programmes seek consideration by and guidance from the Council, particularly in regard to the triennial policy review and to include in the list recommendations whenever possible
 RES.1998/44 31 July 1998	no	yes	participate in joint meetings annually	<u>Para 6:</u> Notes that consecutive and/or joint meetings of the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, bearing in mind their respective mandates, could provide a useful forum for board-level discussion of the issues arising from the reporting requirements mentioned in paragraph (...) 4 (see full text of the resolution)
	no	yes	ongoing	Integrated and co-ordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination and management role of the Economic and Social Council: <u>Para. 7:</u> Invites its (ECOSOC) Bureau and secretariat to convey the outcome of its deliberations to the executive boards of the funds and programmes, and requests the executive boards to take into account the Council's guidance on the co-ordinated implementation of conferences, in accordance with their respective mandates and priorities
RES.2000/19 28 July 2000	no	yes	May 2001	Funding operational activities for development of the United Nations system <u>Para.15:</u> Reaffirms that South-South cooperation, including technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, offers viable opportunities for the advancement of developing countries, and in this context reiterates its request that the Executive Boards of the funds and programmes review, with a view to considering an increase in, the allocation of resources for activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries

ECOSOC

Number of resolution and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title—paragraphs
RES.2000/27 28 July 2000	no	yes	ongoing	<p>Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels</p> <p><u>Para.4:</u> Urges countries, the United Nations funds and programmes, the Secretariat, bilateral funding agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions and regional funding agencies to work closely together to implement these recommendations and to mobilize the required resources and coordinate their efforts to support national statistical capacity-building in developing countries, in particular in least developed countries</p>
	yes	yes	ongoing	<p><u>Para.6:</u> Calls upon the United Nations funds and programmes, functional and regional commissions and specialized agencies, to keep under review the full range of indicators used in their reports and information networks with full participation and ownership of Member States, with a view to avoiding duplication, as well as ensuring the transparency, consistency and reliability of these indicators</p>
	yes	yes	Jan. 2001	<p><u>Para.7:</u> Requests the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, with the support of the Statistics Division of the Secretariat, to review as a matter of urgency the Common Country Assessment indicator frameworks and report thereon to the Council at its substantive session of 2001</p>
RES.2000/20 28 July 2000	no	yes	ongoing	<p>Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/192 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system</p> <p><u>Para.3:</u> Notes the progress achieved in simplification and harmonization of programming cycles and procedures, and calls on the funds and programmes and specialized agencies involved in the coordination efforts in the field to take further steps to enhance and ensure the sustainability of this process, in particular in the area of decentralization and financial management</p>




ECOSOC

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RES.2000/20 28 July 2000 (continue)	no	yes	ongoing	<u>Para.4:</u> Requests the Secretary-General, as part of the preparation of the next triennial policy review of 2001, to assess, in full and close cooperation with programming countries, the extent to which such harmonization and simplification have benefited the programme countries, <i>inter alia</i> , through greater coordination and synergy in programme design and implementation. Paragraph 4 of the resolution also requests that obstacles encountered be assessed, and appropriate recommendations be made for consideration at the next triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, utilizing, <i>inter alia</i> , the ongoing management process and an assessment of the joint mid-term review, joint evaluation and joint programme experiences, as appropriate
	no	yes	ongoing	<u>Para.6:</u> Stresses the importance of ensuring full government participation in the formulation and the implementation of the Common Country Assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework. In addition, it urges the funds and programmes, in full and close consultation and cooperation with them, to continue to review these processes at the country level with a view to effecting streamlining and simplification so as to reduce the administrative and financial costs to the recipient Governments as well as to the United Nations system
	no	yes	ongoing	<u>Para.7:</u> Notes the progress and the challenges with regard to the Common Country Assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, as highlighted in the report of the Secretary-General. It also encourages the funds and programmes to ensure that the United Nations Development Assistance Framework promotes a country-driven, collaborative and coherent response by the United Nations system so as to achieve a greater impact at the country level fully consistent with, and in support of, national priorities
	yes	yes	ECOSOC 2001	<u>Para.16:</u> Requests the funds and programmes to submit to the Council, through their Executive Boards, information and analyses in respect of the extent to which cross-cutting themes and goals emerging from global conferences have been integrated into their programme priorities in a coherent manner, as well as in respect of specific steps taken to develop complementary and collaborative approaches with other United-Nations organizations in promoting the implementation of global targets, to assist the Secretary-General in the preparation of his report to the General Assembly through the Council on this issue


ECOSOC				
Number of resolution and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title—paragraphs
RES.2000/20 28 July 2000 (continue)	yes	yes	annually	<u>Para.22</u> : Recommends that the practice of holding joint meetings of the Bureaux of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme be continued, with a view to improving the impact of these meetings. In this regard, it requests the funds and programmes to examine the possibility of having joint reports prepared by their secretariats for these meetings, focused on some issues of specific joint interest, so as to ensure an effective follow-up of the resolutions of the Council and the General Assembly concerning the coordination of operational activities for development and to report thereon to the Council at its substantive session of 2001



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Number of resolution and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title—paragraphs
RES.48/162 20 Dec. 1993				Further measures for the restructuring and revitalisation of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<p><u>Section III. 3 of the Annex</u></p> <p><u>Para. 29:</u> In order to ensure an effective and efficient interaction between the Assembly, the Council and the individual Executive Boards, each Board is to submit an annual report on its programmes and activities to the Council at its substantive session. This report will include a section which follows a common structure on the basis of specific areas designated by the Council or the Assembly</p>
 RES.50/227 24 May 1996				Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<p><u>Para. 12:</u> The governing bodies of each programme and fund coordinated by the Economic and Social Council (United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Population Fund and World Food Programme) shall adopt, in the context of their programme arrangements and financial plans, a specific and realistic target for core resources, based on the needs arising from their agreed programmes and priorities, as well as the specific mandates of each programme and fund. On this basis, and in accordance with relevant decisions taken by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, the governing bodies of each programme and fund shall take decisions on their own funding arrangements. The importance of non-core resources as a mechanism to enhance the capacity of the United Nations development system and to supplement the means available for operational activities for development is also recognized</p>
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<p><u>Para. 62:</u> (...) the governing boards should be requested to highlight in their respective reports to the Council the issues requiring examination and identify action to be taken</p>
	yes	no	ongoing	<p><u>Para. 76:</u> (...) the executive boards should, on a continuous basis, consider adjustments to their agendas, reporting procedures and format, as well as reviewing the number and scheduling of meetings and sessions, with a view to continuing the rationalization of the working methods of the boards</p>

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Number of resolution and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title—paragraphs
RES.50/227 24 May 1996 (continue)	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 77:</u> Governing bodies (...) should (...) describe in their reports how the overall policy guidance and coordination provided by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have been implemented, as well as their specific recommendations for further action
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 78:</u> The effective participation of (...) observer member States and observer States in the sessions of the executive boards should be facilitated. (...) executive boards should review their arrangements and working methods and, where applicable, their rules of procedure (...)
 RES.52/100 12 Dec. 1997				Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action
	no	yes	ongoing	<u>Para.12:</u> Invites other intergovernmental bodies, such as the governing bodies of the United Nations funds and programmes, to monitor the way in which the concerned agencies, funds and programmes implement gender mainstreaming in their respective medium-term plans and programme budgets, including at the field level
RES.52/203 18 Dec. 1997				Operational activities for development of the United Nations
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 6:</u> Calls upon the governing bodies of UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and WFP to adopt a specific and achievable target for core resources for the period 1999/2001, taking into account the relationship between their programme arrangements and financial plans
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para.10:</u> Requests the funds and programmes in their regular reporting on the triennial policy review to the General Assembly through ECOSOC, to include in their reports, to the extent possible and in a clearly identifiable way, actions taken to implement adopted reform measures of the Secretary-General, including an analysis of the implications of those reforms for operational activities as well as for inter-agency coordination

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Number of resolution and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title—paragraphs
RES.53/192 15 Dec. 1998				Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
	yes	yes	to be determined	<u>Para. 32:</u> Urges the funds and programmes to put in place specific measures and timetables to advance the simplification and harmonization of procedures, and to report on these to their respective governing bodies
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 58:</u> Reaffirms that the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system should take appropriate action for the full implementation of the present resolution, and requests the executive heads of those funds, programmes and specialized agencies to submit a yearly progress report to their governing bodies on measures taken and envisaged for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as appropriate recommendations
	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	<u>Para. 59:</u> Invites the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to ensure that the heads of these funds and programmes include in their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, prepared in accordance with Council resolution 1994/33 of 28 July 1994, a thorough analysis of problems encountered and lessons learned, with emphasis on issues arising from the implementation of the Secretary-General's reform programme, the triennial policy review and the follow-up to international conferences, so as to allow the Council to fulfil its coordinating role



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Number of resolution and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title—paragraphs
RES.54/16 29 Oct. 1999				Joint Inspection Unit
	yes	no	to be determined	<p><u>Para.4:</u> Endorses the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit, as contained in annex I to the annual report of the Unit for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997. In this connection, it invites the Unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To send reminders/notices for the implementation of recommendations to the Executive Heads of the participating organizations b) To include in its annual reports approved recommendations that have not been implemented
	yes	no	annually	<u>Para.5:</u> Requests that the system be implemented expeditiously

