

برنامج
الأغذية
العالمي



Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial

World
Food
Programme

Programa
Mundial
de Alimentos

**Executive Board
First Regular Session**

Rome, 8 - 10 February 2000

INFORMATION NOTES

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



Distribution: GENERAL

WFP/EB.1/2000/INF/11

25 January 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

This document is printed in a limited number of copies. Executive Board documents are available on WFP's WEB site (http://www.wfp.org/eb_public/EB_Home.html).

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

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 General Assembly (Decision 52/449 of 18 December 1997), specifies the powers and functions of the 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. Within the framework of the United Nations reform process, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), during its substantive session of 1998, acknowledged the need for enhanced interaction between the Council and the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes. It debated ways in which to improve the Council’s ability to fulfil its role in providing overall coordination and guidance for operational development funds and programmes on a system-wide basis.
5. 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.
6. At its Fifty-third session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 53/192 on triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system. In paragraph 59 of this resolution, the General Assembly invited the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to include in their annual reports to ECOSOC 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.



7. ECOSOC, at its substantive session of 1999, adopted resolution 1999/6 on the same issue, in which it called for more specific actions to be taken by the Executive Boards of United Nations funds and programmes in implementing General Assembly resolution 53/192.
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 2000 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 FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

I – ECOSOC

Number and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title – Paragraphs
RES.1994/33 28 July 1994	yes	no	annually to ECOSOC	Operational activities segment of 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: 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	no	yes	ongoing	Overall guidance on operational activities for development to the United Nations funds and programmes. <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;
	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;

I – ECOSOC

Number and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title – Paragraphs
RES.1995/51 28 July 1995 (continue)	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				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;
	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;

I – ECOSOC

Number and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title – Paragraphs
RES.1998/27 (continue)	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)
RES.1998/44 31 July 98	no	yes	ongoing	Integrated and co-ordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits. • 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.1998/26	no	yes	ongoing	Advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development. <u>Para. 13:</u> Requests the governing bodies of the United Nations funds and programmes to monitor the implementation of gender mainstreaming in their programme of work, including in the budgeting of their respective organizations;
	yes	yes	as appropriate	<u>Para. 14:</u> Requests the respective governing bodies to ensure the development of integrated monitoring and evaluation of gender mainstreaming activities to facilitate an early identification of problems and to develop effective responses thereto, and requests the United Nations funds and programmes to evaluate the impact of their gender mainstreaming activities, in cooperation with the national governments concerned, and to report thereon;
	yes	yes	as appropriate	<u>Para. 15:</u> Requests the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, within their mandates and the priorities set by their respective governing bodies, to establish internal funding targets for gender mainstreaming wherever they do not exist, and requests that, where they do exist, more determined efforts be made to reach their own targets and to report regularly to their respective governing bodies thereon;

I – ECOSOC

Number and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title – Paragraphs
RES.1998/26 (continue)	yes	no	to be determined	<u>Para. 20:</u> Welcomes the work undertaken by the Inter-Agency committee on Women and Gender Equality in implementing General Assembly resolution 52/100, and, in this regard, requests the funds and programmes to submit proposals for the implementation of paragraphs 12 and 40 of Assembly resolution 52/100 to their respective governing bodies. (See section II of this chart)
RES.1999/6	yes	no	ECOSOC 2000	Operational Activities for development: progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/192.
	yes	no	regularly	<u>Para. 12:</u> Requests the programmes, funds and agencies of the United Nations system to examine ways to further simplify their programming procedures and instruments (...) and to report on the progress made to the Economic and Social Council in 2000 (...); <u>Para. 15:</u> Requests the programmes and fund to submit to the Council through their executive boards information and analyses of the extent to which the cross-cutting themes and goals emerging from global conferences have been integrated into their programme priorities in a coherent manner, as well as on specific steps taken to develop complementary and collaborative approaches with other United Nations organizations in promoting the implementation of global targets;
	no	yes	to be determined	<u>Para. 21:</u> (...) requests the members of United Nations Development Group to consult their respective governing bodies (...) on issues related to their further involvement in the development of common premises and services (...)
	no	yes	to be determined	<u>Para. 28:</u> (...) requests the executive boards of the programmes and funds to review, with a view to considering an increase, the allocation of resources for activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries;
	yes	no	report annually to EB	<u>Para. 29:</u> Recommends that the practice of holding joint meetings of the bureau of the Economic and Social Council and the bureaux of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations International Children's Fund and the World Food Programme be continued, and requests the respective bureaux to report on the meetings to their governing bodies.

I – ECOSOC

Number and date of adoption	Report requested	Other action	Timing	Title – Paragraphs
RES.1999/50	no	yes	special session to be held in June 2000	<p>Preparation for the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the Twenty-first century”.</p> <p><u>Para. 4:</u> Encourages all entities of the United Nations system, including the programmes, funds and specialized agencies, and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, to be involved actively in preparatory activities and to participate at the highest level in the special session, (...) to accelerate implementation of the Platform for Action and address new and emerging trends.</p>
RES.1999/55	yes	no	to be determined	<p>Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits.</p> <p><u>Para. 8:</u> Welcomes the efforts made by some of the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies to address relevant aspects of themes from conferences to ensure greater coherence and complementarity in their work, including at the country level, and requests that further efforts be made in this regard and that the results of their deliberation be brought to the attention of the Council;</p>
	no	yes	ongoing	<p><u>Para. 20:</u> Urges countries, United Nations funds and programmes, the United Nations Secretariat, bilateral funding agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions and regional funding agencies to work together closely in order to mobilize the required resources to support national statistical capacity-building in developing countries and coordinate their statistical capacity-building programmes;</p>
	yes	no	ECOSOC 2000	<p><u>Para. 22:</u> Decides to assess, at the coordination segment of its substantive session of 2000, the progress made within the United Nations system through the conference reviews, in the promotion of an integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields as a possible contribution to the Millennium Assembly;</p>
	yes	no	ECOSOC 2000	<p><u>Para. 23:</u> Invites the functional and regional commissions, funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and encourages non-governmental organizations to make substantive contributions to the review of the Council.</p>

II – GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Number 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>

II – GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Number 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 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.

II – GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Number 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.