

**2007/2**

**The role of the United Nations system in providing full and productive employment and decent work for all**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the outcomes of the 1995 World Summit for Social Development,<sup>1</sup> the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly<sup>2</sup> and the 2005 World Summit,<sup>3</sup>

*Recalling also* the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2006,<sup>4</sup>

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/265 of 30 June 2006 and 61/16 of 20 November 2006,

*Recalling* its decision 2006/274 of 15 December 2006, with regard to the theme of the coordination segment of its substantive session of 2007, “The role of the United Nations system in promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all”,

*Recalling also* that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, is recognized as an important instrument for achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all,

*Bearing in mind* the coordinating role of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, including in respect of the Toolkit for Mainstreaming Employment and Decent Work developed by the International Labour Organization,

*Recognizing* that full and productive employment and decent work for all are key elements of poverty reduction strategies that facilitate the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and that they require a multidimensional focus that incorporates Governments, the private sector, civil society organizations, representatives of employers and workers, international organizations and, in particular, the agencies of the United Nations system and the international financial institutions,

1. *Requests* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to continue their efforts to mainstream the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all in their policies, programmes and activities with a view to sustained and well-coordinated follow-up of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2006;<sup>4</sup>

2. *Requests* the functional and regional commissions of the United Nations to continue to address the challenge of full and productive employment and decent work for all in the various dimensions of the international development agenda and

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<sup>1</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>2</sup> General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

<sup>3</sup> See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

<sup>4</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/61/3/Rev.1), chap. III.

to assess the impact of policies in their specific areas of competence on the achievement of employment and decent work for all;

3. *Encourages* all relevant agencies of the United Nations system to collaborate in using, adapting and evaluating the application of the Toolkit for Mainstreaming Employment and Decent Work developed by the International Labour Organization and endorsed by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

4. *Invites* the International Labour Organization to assist the agencies of the United Nations system and to serve as a resource for improving their understanding and application of the toolkit;

5. *Invites* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies and the international financial institutions to develop, with the assistance of the International Labour Organization, mechanisms for sharing their pertinent expertise on the employment and decent work agenda and for assessing the impact of relevant policies and programmes on employment and decent work for all, with special attention to women and youth;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as appropriate within their respective mandates, to assess and adopt in their action plans the three-phased approach to promoting the goals of full employment and decent work for all presented in the report of the Secretary-General entitled “The role of the United Nations system in promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all”;<sup>5</sup>

7. *Invites* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies and the international financial institutions to promote, in close cooperation with the International Labour Organization, a greater awareness and understanding of, with a view to better implementing, the decent work agenda, including its four objectives;

8. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as appropriate within their respective mandates, to coordinate their employment and decent work-related activities and programmes in order to promote coherent and mutually supportive multidisciplinary and multisectoral approaches, including approaches mainstreaming gender;

9. *Also requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including non-resident agencies, and invites the international financial institutions, as appropriate within their existing mandates, to promote synergies and strategic collaboration, involving relevant stakeholders, including Governments and representatives of employers and workers, for the formulation and delivery of specific outcomes relating to full and productive employment and decent work goals at the country level in support of national strategies and programmes, including the decent work country programmes driven by the International Labour Organization;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as the Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to encourage the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to review the integration and implementation of the policies and plans to achieve the goals of productive employment and decent work for all, including women and youth, and in this context requests that they be brought to the attention

of Member States and the relevant governing bodies of United Nations organizations.

*34th plenary meeting  
17 July 2007*