

special rapporteurs undertake this study and to that end we fully support Council Resolution 1227 (XLII) which invites Member States, the UNDP, UNICEF and the Specialized Agencies to cooperate with the rapporteurs in carrying out this task. It is most important in our view that a critical assessment be undertaken of current programs and methods and that ways be found to strengthen working relationships. Indeed it is requisite to the wise disposition of financial resources and to the integration of effort that is basic to success.

The report also notes another significant step that will enhance the Commission's ability to prepare policy recommendations for consideration by the Economic and Social Council and through that Council by the General Assembly. I refer to the preparation of policy reports by the Specialized Agencies in cooperation with the Secretary-General, the first of which, prepared by the World Health Organization, was considered at the Commission's 18th Session. These reports will provide a built-in mechanism by which the Commission for Social Development can review policy and evaluate progress in specific fields of activity. This is information and evaluation that we regard as absolutely necessary to the subsequent preparation of sound inter-sectoral policy.

A word should be said about the work program of the Commission for Social Development, in other words, that portion of the work of the Secretariat that relates directly to the Commission - studies, training programmes and the like. From time to time reservations have been expressed as to the practical results achieved and in consequence of this, and in keeping with Resolution 1139 (XLI), certain revisions have been made. My delegation finds itself in agreement with the gradual revisions and is of the view that the work program proposed by the Commission and approved by ECOSOC reflects a satisfactory balance between the needs of broad long range policy formulation, and the more specific sectoral activity. We believe, however, that the Commission may need to give more attention in future to the establishment of priorities, a task which we realize is most difficult to accomplish to the satisfaction of all delegations. While some delegations have had reservations regarding the work program, there can be little disagreement as to the value of the periodic reports on the World Social Situation. While there has been debate on the feasibility of producing the report every three years, there has been little criticism of its essential importance. Unless there is accurate information on the overall social situation and current trends, the effectiveness of national and international development can hardly be assessed. In this regard, it is self-evident that the development of adequate statistical data in both the economic and social spheres is absolutely basic if the World Social Situation Report is to become an accurate progress report on development. And in my delegation's view, this is and must continue to be the essential function of the Report. We further believe that the inevitable and fundamental relationships between reports on economic conditions and reports on social conditions, must be taken into consideration. If it is accepted that economic growth should be measured in terms of social progress, and my delegation believes that it should, there would be considerable merit in a greater integration of the reports.