

Commission reflects the growing recognition that "social objectives" must be in the forefront of all our planning, and that, in securing and maintaining this focus, a strong and viable functional Commission for Social Development plays an essential role. The details of this reappraisal have been reported on a number of occasions. I need only emphasize at this time that the two distinct but related responsibilities of the Commission, namely, to advise ECOSOC on broad social policy questions, and to formulate specific programmes of practical assistance to member states, have been enunciated and agreed upon.

We recognize, Madam Chairman, that these responsibilities can be carried out successfully only if States serving on the Commission nominate appropriately qualified representatives, and if sufficient resources, both direct and indirect, are made available to implement the necessary work programmes. In this connection, I would point again to the fact that the Commission is responsible, in addition to its broad planning function, for certain sectoral programmes which are primarily or uniquely the responsibility of the United Nations. We believe it essential that recognition be given to these two aspects of the work programme by those responsible for allocating the regular budget and other funds. We share the concern, expressed by several representatives at the ECOSOC meetings, that only one-sixth of the available United Nations resources for economic and social development is directed to the social sector.

Turning momentarily to the 1965 Report on the World Social Situation, my delegation merely wishes to express its approval of the action taken by the Council as reported in paragraph 365 of the ECOSOC Report. As is noted, the 1965 Report offers a number of practical guidelines which will be of use to international agencies and to Member States in evaluating their methods of promoting economic and social change. As a technical document, the Report serves as a reminder of the complexity of the phenomenon of change and development, about which we still know comparatively little. It is only common sense, therefore, that we make every effort to learn from past experience.

Madam Chairman, the 1965 Report on the World Social Situation is an example of the type of research which enables the Commission for Social Development to speak with authority based on facts rather than assumptions. This series of reports and others of a similar character are coming to represent valuable tools for the development of meaningful social policy. It is also worth noting that the Report itself represents the combined effort of the United Nations Secretariat, the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.