

15. All economically-advanced countries, those of East and West alike, have a common responsibility to co-operate in attacking the fundamental problems confronting the developing countries. Progress towards political settlements and disarmament will contribute to this end by releasing resources and energies which are so badly needed for the advancement of human welfare.

16. The Council, agreeing that efforts should be continued to supply Greece and Turkey with defence assistance within the framework of the alliance, in order to help them maintain an effective contribution to the common defence, adopted a resolution recommending wider participation in this aid programme.

17. Ministers received a progress report on the activities of the special committee of defence ministers which was created by the Council in 1965. A further report will be submitted to the Council during the ministerial session in December.

18. In view of the importance of science and technology to the military strength of the alliance and the economic vitality of its members, ministers noted with satisfaction the recently agreed improvements in procedures for co-operation among members of the alliance in research, development and production of military equipment. They encouraged member countries to bring suitable projects forward for co-operative action.

19. They noted that a meeting of defence ministers will be convened in July to review and carry forward the institution of force-planning procedures for projecting and adjusting annually a five-year programme.

20. A meeting of the Council at ministerial level will be held in December 1966.

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