



United Nations

Resolution 1994/24

Economic and Social Council

1994/24. Joint and co-sponsored United Nations programme on human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1993/51 on the coordination of United Nations activities related to HIV/AIDS,

Taking note of the decisions of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Bank to undertake a joint and co-sponsored United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS, on the basis of co-ownership, collaborative planning and execution, and an equitable sharing of responsibility,

Noting that the World Health Organization is to be responsible for the administration in support of the programme, including during the transition period,

Emphasizing that the global HIV/AIDS epidemic affects every country of the world and that its magnitude and impact are greatest in developing countries,

Emphasizing also the urgent need to mobilize fully all United Nations system organizations and other development partners in the global response to HIV/AIDS, in a coordinated manner and according to the comparative advantages of each organization,

1. Endorses the establishment of a joint and co-sponsored United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS, as outlined in the annex to the present resolution, subject to further review by April 1995 of progress made towards its implementation;
2. Calls for the full implementation of the programme by January 1996, and requests that a report confirming its implementation be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1996;
3. Notes that further details of the programme are being developed by the Inter-Agency Working Group that has been established by the six co-sponsors;
4. Invites the six co-sponsors to take immediate steps to transform the Inter-Agency Working

Group into a formally constituted Committee of Co-sponsoring Organizations, comprising the heads of those organizations or their specifically designated representatives, which would function under a rotational chairmanship, establish a transition team and assume interim responsibility, inter alia, for overseeing the transition process leading to the full implementation of the programme;

5. Also invites the six co-sponsors, through the Committee, to initiate action to fill the position of director of the joint and co-sponsored programme as soon as possible, through an open, wide-ranging search process, including consultation with Governments and other concerned parties, and to submit their nominee to the Secretary-General, who will make the appointment;

6. Urges the six co-sponsors, through the Committee, to initiate, as soon as possible, programme activities at the country level, as well as any other programme elements on which there is already full consensus;

7. Stresses that priority should be given to the programme's activities at the country level, where the response to the urgent needs and problems posed by HIV/AIDS should be focused, and underlines the importance of the programme's country-level operations' functioning within the framework of national plans and priorities and a strengthened resident coordinator system, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/199;

8. Also stresses that during the transition process, the ongoing HIV/AIDS activities of each of the six co-sponsors should be maintained and/or enhanced, bearing in mind the need for these activities to fit within national AIDS programmes and the general framework of the joint and co-sponsored programme;

9. Requests the six co-sponsors, through the Committee, to produce the following by January 1995, for the consideration of the Economic and Social Council and other concerned parties: a comprehensive proposal specifying the programme's mission statement and the terms and conditions of co-ownership, and detailing the programme's organizational, programmatic, staffing, administrative and financial elements, including proposed budgetary allocations, and to attach to this proposal an annex containing the proposed legal document that the six co-sponsors will sign to establish the programme formally;

10. Encourages the active involvement of the Task Force on HIV/AIDS Coordination during the programme's detailed development phase, through the direct provision of assistance to the Committee, in accordance with the Committee's requirements;

11. Requests the President of the Economic and Social Council to organize, in cooperation with the Committee of Co-sponsoring Organizations, informal open-ended consultations to be held as soon as possible for the purpose of deciding on the specific composition of the programme coordinating board that will govern the programme, interacting periodically with the Committee during the transition period to facilitate progress towards programme implementation, and reviewing the detailed programme proposal after it is received from the Committee, with a view to making appropriate recommendations on the proposal not later than April 1995.

44th plenary meeting 26 July 1994

Annex

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

1. The co-sponsored United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS represents an internationally coordinated response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The programme comprises the following United Nations system organizations: the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Bank. The programme has been formally endorsed by the Executive Boards of the World Health Organization (resolution EB93.R5) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (resolution 144EX-5.1.5); the other four co-sponsors have also committed themselves to full participation.
2. The fundamental characteristics that define the programme are set out below.

I. OBJECTIVES

3. The objectives of the programme are to:
 - (a) Provide global leadership in response to the epidemic;
 - (b) Achieve and promote global consensus on policy and programmatic approaches;
 - (c) Strengthen the capacity of the United Nations system to monitor trends and ensure that appropriate and effective policies and strategies are implemented at the country level;
 - (d) Strengthen the capacity of national Governments to develop comprehensive national strategies and implement effective HIV/AIDS activities at the country level;
 - (e) Promote broad-based political and social mobilization to prevent and respond to HIV/AIDS within countries, ensuring that national responses involve a wide range of sectors and institutions;
 - (f) Advocate greater political commitment in responding to the epidemic at the global and country levels, including the mobilization and allocation of adequate resources for HIV/AIDS-related activities.
4. In fulfilling these objectives, the programme will collaborate with national Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, groups of people living with HIV/AIDS, and United Nations system organizations.

II. CO-SPONSORSHIP

5. The HIV/AIDS epidemic is a global concern. Inter-agency cooperation is vital for ensuring the mobilization of resources and the effective implementation of a coordinated programme of activities throughout the United Nations system.
6. The programme will draw upon the experience and strengths of the six co-sponsors to develop its strategies and policies, which will be incorporated in turn into their programmes and activities. The co-sponsors will share responsibility for the development of the programme, contribute equally to its strategic direction and receive from it policy and technical guidance relating to the implementation of their HIV/AIDS activities. In this way, the programme will also serve to harmonize the HIV/AIDS activities of the co-sponsors.

7. The programme will be managed by a director, who will focus on the programme's overall strategy, technical guidance, research and development, and the global budget. The co-sponsors will contribute to the resource needs of the programme at levels to be determined. The World Health Organization will be responsible for the administration in support of the programme.

8. Other United Nations system organizations concerned with the HIV/AIDS epidemic may be encouraged to join the programme as co-sponsors in the future.

III. FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

9. The programme will build on the capacities and comparative advantages of the co-sponsors. At the global level, the programme will provide support in policy formulation, strategic planning, technical guidance, research and development, advocacy and external relations. This will include normative activities relating to HIV/AIDS in areas such as social and economic planning, population, culture, education, community development and social mobilization, sexual and reproductive health, and women and adolescents.

10. At the country level, the programme will provide support to the resident coordinator system. Co-sponsors will incorporate the normative work undertaken at the global level on policy, strategy and technical matters into their HIV/AIDS activities, consistent with national plans and priorities. An important function of the programme will be to strengthen national capacities to plan, coordinate, implement and monitor the overall response to HIV/AIDS. The participation in the programme of six organizations of the United Nations system will ensure the provision of technical and financial assistance to national activities in a coordinated multisectoral manner. This will strengthen intersectoral coordination of HIV/AIDS activities and will facilitate further incorporation of these activities in national programme and planning processes.

11. While the programme will not have a uniform regional structure, it will support intercountry or regional activities that may be required in response to the epidemic, utilizing regional mechanisms of the co-sponsors where appropriate.

IV. FLOW OF PROGRAMME FUNDS

12. Funds for programme activities at the global level will be obtained through appropriate common global means. Contributions to the programme will be channelled in accordance with the global budget and work plan.

13. Funding for country-level activities will be obtained primarily through the existing fund-raising mechanisms of the co-sponsors. These funds will be channelled through the disbursement mechanisms and procedures of each organization.

V. FIELD-LEVEL COORDINATION

14. It is recognized that national Governments have the ultimate responsibility for the coordination of HIV/AIDS issues at the country level. To this end, the arrangements of the programme for coordinating HIV/AIDS activities will complement and support national development planning.

15. The coordination of field-level activities will be undertaken through the United Nations resident coordinator system within the framework of General Assembly resolutions 44/211 and 47/199. This will involve a theme group on HIV/AIDS established by the resident coordinator and comprising representatives of the six co-sponsors and other United Nations system organizations. The chairperson of the theme group will be selected by consensus from among the United Nations system representatives. It is intended that the theme group will help the United Nations system integrate more effectively its efforts with national coordination mechanisms. To support the coordination process, in a number of countries the programme will recruit a country staff member, who will assist the chairperson of the theme group in carrying out his or her functions.

VI. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

16. A programme director will be appointed by the Secretary-General upon the recommendation of the co-sponsors. This will follow a search process undertaken by the co-sponsors which will include consultation with Governments and other interested parties. The director will report directly to the programme coordinating board, which will serve as the governance structure for the programme. Annual reports prepared by the director will be submitted to the board and will also be made available to the governing body of each of the co-sponsors.

17. The composition of the programme coordinating board will be determined on the basis of open-ended consultations, as outlined in operative paragraph 11 of the present resolution. In exercising its governance role, the board will have ultimate responsibility for all policy and budgetary matters. It will also review and decide upon the planning and execution of the programme. Its detailed responsibilities and meeting schedule will be specified in a document containing its terms of reference, which is currently being prepared.

18. The programme will also have a committee of co-sponsoring organizations, which will serve as a standing committee of the board. It will comprise one representative from each of the co-sponsors. The committee will meet regularly and will facilitate the input of the co-sponsors into the strategy, policies and operations of the programme.

19. Through consultation with interested non-governmental organizations, a mechanism will be established to ensure their meaningful participation in the programme, so that they can provide information, perspectives and advice to the board, based on their experience and involvement with HIV/AIDS issues.



United Nations

Decision 1995/223

Economic and Social Council

1995/223. Joint and co-sponsored Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

1. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 5 May 1995, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Programme Coordination Board of the Joint and Co-sponsored Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) should comprise 22 elected members. The distribution of seats would be as follows:

- (a) Five seats for African States;
- (b) Five seats for Asian States;
- (c) Two seats for Eastern European States;
- (d) Three seats for Latin American and Caribbean States;
- (e) Seven seats for Western European and other States.

2. The Council further decided to continue informal consultations on the following questions:

- (a) Representation on the Programme Coordination Board of the six co-sponsoring organizations and non-governmental organizations;
- (b) Which body or bodies would conduct elections subsequent to the first election, which would be conducted by the Economic and Social Council.

3. This decision should be read in conjunction with the report on the consultations coordinated by the Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Richard Butler AM, 1/ and statements made by other representatives on the same occasion and at the time of the adoption of the present decision.

Note

1/ E/1995/60.



United Nations
Economic and Social Council

Resolution 1995/2

1995/2. Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1994/24 of 26 July 1994 concerning the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations programme on human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) which was established to provide an internationally coordinated response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, to provide global leadership in response to the epidemic and to achieve and promote global consensus on policy and programmatic approaches to the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Recalling further that the Programme is charged with promoting broad-based political and social mobilization to prevent and respond to HIV/AIDS within countries, ensuring that national responses involve a wide range of sectors and institutions, and advocating greater political commitment in responding to the epidemic at the global and country levels, including the mobilization and allocation of adequate resources for HIV/AIDS activities.

Emphasizing the urgent need to make the Programme operational as soon as possible, but no later than January 1996,

1. Welcomes the report of the Committee of Co-sponsoring Organizations of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, 1/ which will be of assistance in the future consideration of the operations of the new programme, while recognizing the modifications that have been made to the arrangements set out in the report, as outlined by the Chairperson of the Committee, and the need for the Programme to operate in accordance with the provisions of Council resolution 1994/24;
2. Endorses the arrangements outlined in section VI of the report (Governance and management) and decides to add the following to the functions of the Programme Coordinating Board listed in paragraph 101 of the report:
 - (a) To establish broad policies and priorities for the Programme, taking into account the provisions of the General Assembly resolution 47/199 of 22 December 1992;
 - (b) To make recommendations to the co-sponsoring organizations regarding their activities in support of the Programme, including those of mainstreaming;
3. Requests the Programme Coordinating Board to give detailed consideration to the report of the

Committee of Co-sponsoring Organizations and to agree on the modalities for implementation of the arrangements set out in that report, taking into account the changes referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above;

4. Calls upon the co-sponsoring organizations, as soon as possible, to finalize and sign a legal document in the form of a memorandum of understanding outlining the responsibilities and functions of the co-sponsors, consistent with the provisions of Council resolution 1994/24, and to submit that document to the Council, through the Programme Coordination Board at its first substantive session, for consideration at a resumed session;

5. Requests the Executive Director of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on MV/AIDS to report on the status of implementation of the new programme, through the Board, to the Council early in 1996;

6. Decides that each of the six co-sponsors will participate in the work of the Programme Coordination Board and have full rights, except the right to vote;

7. Decides further that five non-governmental organizations will be invited to take part in the work of the Programme Coordination Board, in accordance with the report on the informal consultations on arrangements with regard to non-governmental organizations, submitted to the Council by the Permanent Representative of Australia and annexed to the present resolution;

8. Calls upon each of the six co-sponsoring organizations to give their full support to the establishment of, transition to and smooth functioning of the Joint and Co-sponsored Programme;

9. Appeals to all Governments, international institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to support the Programme with adequate contributions to its resources;

10. Decides that the participation, as observers, of Member States and non-member States that are not members of the Board, in the work of the Board, should be consistent with the rules of procedure of the Council.

Annex

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE WORK OF THE PROGRAMME COORDINATION BOARD: REPORT ON THE INFORMAL CONSULTATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1. The meeting on 9 June 1995 considered the question of the final arrangements for the Programme Coordination Board, particularly the participation of non-governmental organizations, and the report of the Committee of Co-sponsoring Organizations of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. The Board is a governance structure composed of Member States, with the participation of the six co-sponsors and eligible non-governmental organizations.

2. The deliberations of the meeting are summarized in the following terms:

(a) Non-governmental organizations would be invited to take part in the work of the Programme Coordination Board. Such invitations would need to be reviewed periodically. Non-governmental organizations invited should be those either in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or in relationship with one of the six co-sponsoring organizations or on the roster of non-governmental organizations dealing with matters pertaining to HIV/AIDS, in accordance with the rules, procedures and well-established practice of the United Nations system;

(b) The process of identification of the non-governmental organizations that sought to participate in the work of the Board would be determined by the non-governmental organizations themselves. The Board would formally approve the nomination of those organizations;

(c) There would be five such non-governmental participants, three from developing countries and two from developed countries and countries with economies in transition;

(d) In making the selection, non-governmental organizations would be encouraged to seek competent and relevant representatives, for example participation by groups concerned with economic and social development and groups representing people affected by HIV/AIDS;

(e) The need for rotation among non-governmental organizations was recognized; the appointment of an individual organization should not exceed three years;

(f) Non-governmental organizations would be advised of the terms and conditions of their participation. It would be made clear to them that such participation would include:

A seat at the table with 6 representatives of the Committee of Co-sponsoring Organizations and the 22 Member States;

Non-governmental organizations would be able to speak;

Non-governmental organizations would have no negotiating role;

Non-governmental organizations would not participate in any part of the formal decision-making process, including the right to vote, which is reserved for representatives of Governments;

(g) These arrangements for the participation of non-governmental organizations are not to be regarded as setting a precedent;

(h) Funding would be made available for the representatives of developing countries and for each of the three non-governmental organizations from developing countries to cover the costs of one representative each to attend Board meetings. Such funds would cover the cost of daily subsistence allowance and travel only and would be based on existing eligibility criteria.

3. It was also recommended that the Economic and Social Council should review the Programme at its organizational session for 1996.

Notes

1/ See E/1995/71.