THE FINANCING OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Report by the Board of Governors

1. Pursuant to General Conference resolution GC(XXV)/RES/388, in which the Conference requested the Board of Governors to

   (a) take the necessary measures so that technical assistance is funded through the Regular Budget of the Agency or through other comparably predictable and assured resources,

   (b) take appropriate steps so that technical assistance funds are increased in order to respond adequately to meet increasing financial requirements for the maximum possible number of technically sound projects and to enable progress in technical assistance to keep pace with the progress in other main activities of the Agency, and

   (c) report to the General Conference at its twenty-sixth regular session and annually thereafter on the actions taken with regard to the implementation of these requests and on the actions proposed for the following years,

the matter was considered by the Board in February. The Board agreed that its Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen should arrange for consultations with the Members of the Board in order to determine the most harmonious way of implementing the General Conference resolution.

2. In the absence of the Chairman, the two Vice-Chairmen undertook a series of informal consultations in April; subsequently, the Chairman himself consulted informally with a number of Board Members. In the course of the consultations, some representatives maintained the view that the Agency's technical co-operation programme should be financed from the Regular Budget and other representatives maintained the view that the financing of technical co-operation should continue to be on a voluntary basis.
3. The Chairman reported to the Administrative and Budgetary Committee that there had emerged from those consultations a consensus that, for the years 1984, 1985 and 1986, the figures of US $22.5, 26 and 30 million respectively be adopted as indicative planning figures for the target for voluntary contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund.

4. The Board resumed its consideration of the matter in June and confirmed the consensus to continue, for the years 1984, 1985 and 1986, the practice of recommending indicative planning figures which would serve in fixing targets for voluntary contributions to the Technical Assistance and Co-operation Fund. As to the specific figures for these years, it decided to recommend US $22.5, 26 and 30 million respectively.