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THIRD REGULAR SESSION

Item 6 of the provisional agenda GC(III)/72)

GENERAL COMMITTEE

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS TO COMMITTEES

An additional item for the agenda

Note by the Director General

- 1. On 21 September 1959 the Board of Governors made a request to the Director General, under Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, to communicate to the General Committee in its name the proposal that the General Conference should include in the agenda for its third regular session an item entitled "The principles to govern the provision of technical assistance by the Agency".
- 2. The Board requested the Director General to inform the General Committee that it had devoted a number of meetings to the discussion of this subject during recent months, and that these discussions had culminated in a decision which the Board took on 15 September whereby it agreed provisionally on certain interim principles to be followed in 1960, pending the elaboration of more definite criteria, a task which the Board intends to undertake in the near future. The text of the Board's decision was as follows:
 - 1. To agree provisionally on the following interim principles to govern the provision of experts, equipment and supplies for technical assistance projects during 1960:
 - (a) Two time limits should be set namely the end of January and the end of May for the receipt of requests to enable the Board to consider them within the framework of the

- annual programme; and 60 per cent of the Agency's estimated technical assistance funds should be allocated to projects submitted by the end of January;
- (b) When approving projects extending over several years, the Board should act on the understanding that the financial implications of such projects would be subject to review in each ensuing year with due regard to the need for priority for such projects; and
- (c) Taking into consideration the total estimated resources available to the Agency for expenditure on the provision of experts, equipment and supplies during 1960, and in the light of the pattern of the requests received, the Board will consider all technical assistance requests with a view to ensuring an appropriate balance between:
 - (i) The provision of experts; and
 - (ii) The provision of equipment and supplies insofar as they form an integral part of a technical assistance project.
- 2. To agree provisionally that in order to provide a gradual transition to a procedure whereby requests for projects to be approved for the programme in any year should be submitted by 30 January of the preceding year, requests falling within the programme for the year 1961 should be submitted in outline by 30 January 1960 and in a complete form by 10 July 1960.