



**Report on the capacity
of the regional economic commissions
for a unified approach to development**

**Geneva
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REPORT ON
THE CAPACITY OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS
FOR A UNIFIED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT

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Joint Inspection Unit

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A. Introduction

1. This report has been prompted by the concern voiced by Member States at the United Nations General Assembly and in its Economic and Social Council on the need and importance of a unified approach to economic and social aspects of development. Their concern, as indicated in this report, has resulted in a large number of resolutions being adopted on the subject by both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.^{1/}
2. The Inspectors share this concern on a subject that is vital and of direct relevance to the international effort in the developing countries for the success of the UN Second Development Decade. This concern, together with their own experiences with several development projects in the field, has led them to review the progress that has been made, particularly in the UN regional economic commissions pursuant to the resolutions of ECOSOC and the General Assembly.
3. In its resolution 2681 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, the General Assembly confirmed "the need for a unified approach to development analysis and planning, which would fully integrate the economic and social components in the formulation of policies and programmes at the national and international levels". It requested "those bodies responsible for the implementation of the international development strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, as well as for the various social and economic long-term plans and programmes worked out within the United Nations system in the context of the Decade and for the review and appraisal of objectives and policies during the Decade, to aim at the most effective integration of policy measures across the different sectors, based inter alia on the principles and guidelines embodied in the unified approach".
4. Also on 11 December 1970, the General Assembly adopted resolutions 2686 and 2687, which stressed the role of the regional economic commissions in the Second United Nations Development Decade and made it clear that these bodies were among those called upon by resolution 2681 to apply a unified approach to economic and social development.^{2/} Resolution 2686 noted "the importance of the unified or integrated socio-economic approach to development which the

^{1/} See Annex I.

^{2/} Social development according to UN terminology includes the population situation, social welfare, health, food and nutrition, housing, building and physical planning, education, employment, prices and wages, social security, social defence, community development and regional development.

regional economic commissions have adopted and will be called upon to put into practice, particularly in the context of the international development strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade". It then recommended that the Economic and Social Council consider renaming the regional commissions, designating them as economic and social commissions, rather than simply as economic commissions, since it considered "that the renaming of the regional economic commissions to correspond with the true nature of their activities in the economic and social fields would further emphasize the importance of the integrated socio-economic approach to development, particularly in the developing countries".

5. The report of the meeting of the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions held in July 1971 (E/5039) stated that the four regional economic commissions had considered at their respective regular sessions the General Assembly's proposal that they be renamed, and that they had all expressed their desire to retain their present names. Paragraph 54 of the report reads as follows: "There was also agreement at the executive secretaries' meeting that, as the names of the commissions were well established, there was no need to change them as long as, in practice, the social aspects of development were given due consideration in the commissions' activities. In the case of ECA, ECAFE and ECLA, the terms of reference themselves provide that their activities should take into account the inter-relationship between economic and social factors".

B. Discussion of the problem

6. The Inspectors do not, of course, wish to take a position concerning the renaming of the regional economic commissions. However, they are of the view that, despite the statements contained in paragraph 54 of the report of the meeting of executive secretaries quoted above, the actual situation in the regional economic commissions does not today reflect the desire of the Assembly that the commissions put into practice a unified or integrated socio-economic approach to development, and in fact such an approach is essentially non-existent.

7. This conclusion of the Inspectors is based both upon interviews with competent officials of the United Nations and upon an examination of the work programmes of the regional economic commissions. In the field, meetings were

held with high-ranking officials of ECA, ECAFE and ECLA. Resident representatives of UNDP and officials of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) were also consulted.

8. UN Secretariat officials consulted at Headquarters were members of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and included staff of the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies, the Social Development Division, the Population Division, the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, and other units. Conversations were also held with the appropriate officials of UNDP. In Geneva the Inspectors had discussions with senior officials of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, the Division of Social Affairs and the Economic Commission for Europe.^{3/}

9. The above-mentioned consultations and an examination of the work programmes of the regional economic commissions failed to disclose any instance in which a commission was putting into practice, to any significant extent, the unified or integrated socio-economic approach to development recommended by the General Assembly. It is true that some regional commissions were placing more emphasis than others on the social aspects of development problems, but these aspects were being treated in isolation from the economic aspects.

10. When one examines the history, the staffing, and the organizational structure of the regional economic commissions, it is not surprising that thus far little attention has been paid to the unified approach. The commissions have, from the beginning, been almost solely economically oriented, and this orientation has been so built into them that it has been difficult to make the adjustment to a unified approach in which social aspects are considered and integrated with economic aspects.

11. It is true that from time to time the commissions have recognized the need to give more emphasis to the social aspects of development; for example, at the fifty-first session of ECOSOC, the representative of ECAFE stated that "as an old region with a vast population, Asia had tremendous social problems, and

^{3/} It is interesting to note that, although social problems are not included in ECE's terms of reference, special attention is being paid to the "unified approach"; in 1972 a seminar was held on Methods used in Long-Term Social Planning and Policy Making.

it was not enough to achieve targets of economic growth without tackling problems such as the distribution of wealth, the level of living, health and housing".^{4/} But the fact remains that little appears to have been done or to be contemplated to change the situation.

12. The extent to which the regional commissions are oriented towards the economic aspects of development as opposed to the social aspects emerges clearly when one examines the magnitude of the funds expended by the commissions for economic and social activities. The Consolidated Statement of Main Activity and Programme in the Economic and Social Field for the year 1973 (UN Budget Estimates for 1973, Volume III, which also contains the figures for 1971 and 1972), shows these differences between amounts spent on economic activities and on social activities; ECA is spending on social activities only \$642,000 from an amount of \$4,534,000 for its total programme; ECAFE, of a total sum of \$4,247,000, is spending only \$588,000 on social activities; ECLA, of a total expenditure of \$3,975,000, is devoting only \$278,000 to social activities. In other words, only 14 per cent of the ECA budget is concerned with activities in the social field; the corresponding figures for ECAFE and ECLA are 14 and 7 per cent respectively.

13. One of the primary reasons for the failure of the commissions to place more emphasis on the social aspects of development - and accordingly on a unified approach - becomes evident when one examines the staffing pattern of the commissions. Of a total of 118 established professional posts for the Programme of Activity, ECA has only 19 posts in the social field (14 posts for Social Development, 2 for Population and 3 for Housing, Building and Planning); ECAFE, from a total of 118 posts for the Programme of Activity, has 17 for the social field (8 for Social Development, 6 for Population and 3 for Housing, Building and Planning); and of a total of 102 established professional posts for the Programme of Activity, ECLA has only 8 posts for social development. In view of this situation, it is not surprising that little attention is paid to integrating the social with the economic aspects of development problems which are being dealt with by the vast majority of the staff members of the commissions.

^{4/} The Conference of African Planners (Addis Ababa, October 1972) adopted a resolution recommending action to the Conference of Ministers to be held in Accra from 19-23 February supporting the idea of a unified approach to development. The text of the resolution is to be found in Annex III.

14. A second major element in the situation is the fact that the structure of the regional economic commissions makes it extremely difficult for them to adapt to the unified approach to development. ECLA, for instance, has eight economic divisions or programmes of activity (Economic Development and Research Division; Trade Policy Division; Statistical Division; Industrial Development; Joint ECLA-FAO Agricultural Division; Energy and Natural Resources Programme; Transport Programme; Latin American Regional Centre for Economic Projections); it has only one social division. ECAFE has eight economic divisions (Industry and Natural Resources; International Trade; Transport and Communication; Research and Planning; Statistics; Water Resources Development; Joint ECAFE-FAO Agricultural Division; and Public Administration Unit) and only two social divisions (Social Development and Population). ECA has sixteen economic divisions (Economic Research and Planning; Economic Co-operation; Trade; Fiscal and Monetary Affairs; Industry and Housing; Natural Resources; Energy; Mineral Resources; Cartographic Unit; Transport, Communication and Tourism; Water Resources Unit; Statistics; ECA-FAO Agricultural Division; Public Administration Section; Fiscal and Monetary Affairs; Science and Technology) and three social divisions (Human Resources; Population Programme; and Housing, Building and Physical Planning). If such a structure is maintained it is unlikely that a shift from isolated economic and social approaches to an integrated socio-economic approach will develop rapidly.

15. This so-called "vertical structure" of the regional economic commissions and its sectoral (by economic sectors) compartmentalization make difficult the intersectoral approach, even in the economic field. Naturally, the difficulties are even more pronounced when an attempt is made to integrate economic and social activities. Further, the structure discourages the commissions from co-operating with or participating in inter-disciplinary programmes with organizations such as the specialized agencies operating in fields of activity such as health, education, agriculture, etc..

16. Thirdly, to the knowledge of the Inspectors, neither ESA nor any other body of the UN family has developed guidelines or methodologies that could be applied by the regional economic commissions in the integrated socio-economic approach. That lack of guidelines makes even more difficult the task of the commissions.

17. Moreover, the failure of the regional economic commissions to put into practice a unified approach has resulted in a lack of adequate attention being given to a matter which is particularly important in the developmental process, namely the legal and institutional framework in which development takes place. From time to time, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have emphasized the need to have in mind the legal and institutional problems which must be solved if development is to proceed successfully.^{5/} The commissions today are not staffed or organized to deal adequately with this problem in a unified approach to development. Accordingly, the Inspectors were not surprised to find only a few instances in which development projects or studies included consideration of the legal and institutional aspects.

C. Conclusions

18. The Inspectors consider that continuing existing practice and failing to recognize the social as well as the economic aspects of development could seriously impair the effectiveness of the United Nations activities in developing and in developed countries.

19. The Inspectors agree that the unified approach to development creates for the regional economic commissions not only structural problems but also staff or personnel problems and methodological working problems. The structure is obsolete; it is difficult to find expertise in the economic field with social tendencies, and vice versa; and even the methodology to enable people in different fields of human knowledge to work together has not yet been developed in depth.

20. The structure of the regional economic commissions should be modernized to facilitate the working together, at least in certain fields, of economists and social experts. For that purpose, serious consideration should be given to the creation of horizontal structures.

21. As regards the personnel problem, there are, among others, three possibilities: decentralization of the ESA^{6/}; outposting of personnel according to the programme of work; and reaching a more balanced distribution (economic

^{5/} See ECOSOC resolution 1494 (XLVIII) and General Assembly resolutions 2542 (XXIV), 2718 (XXV), 3018 (XXVII), etc.

^{6/} From 319 established posts for Programme of Activity, ESA has 43 posts for Social Development, 25 posts for Population and 26 posts for Housing, Building and Planning (Budget Estimates 1973, Volume III, pages 15-17).

versus social) in the permanent staff of the regional economic commissions. Such a balance should be reached as soon as possible.

22. Methodologies of analysis which encompass qualitative as well as quantitative factors in a more satisfactory manner than in the past should be developed as soon as possible by the UN.

23. The Economic and Social Council should play a leading role in the implementation of the unified approach inside the UN family system.

24. The regional economic commissions should, in the unified approach, also look into the legal and institutional framework of development. The Inspectors believe that the interrelationship between law and development is of the utmost importance since development projects can be implemented only within the framework of legal institutions, national or regional as the case may be. Projects on land reform, investments, housing and building, industry, social security, etc., are doomed to failure if the need of legal changes is not taken into account.

D. Recommendations

1. The regional economic commissions should give priority attention to the adoption of a unified approach to development; special attention should be paid in the new approach, to the legal and institutional framework of development.
2. When particular projects or programmes are considered at commission sessions, consideration should be given to whether or not the action proposed represents an appropriate unified approach to the problem.
3. The regional commissions should review their organizational structures and so modify them that they are capable of putting into effect a unified or integrated approach to development.
4. The executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions should review their staffing patterns in consultation with Headquarters and attempt to effect the changes necessary to improve significantly the proportion of staff capable of dealing with the integrated aspects of development.
5. The regional centres in charge of social and economic planning should also pay special attention to the unified approach and, in their teaching courses, place emphasis on the training of experts with qualifications to work in interdisciplinary projects or studies.

6. The United Nations Committee for Development Planning should evolve guidelines or methodologies for the application of a unified approach to development. These guidelines or methodologies could be very useful not only to the regional economic commissions but to the specialized agencies and other UN bodies which are moving towards integrated action in the development field. They should be put also at the disposal of governments at their request. The Committee should make use of relevant research undertaken by the UN Research Institute for Social Development.

Annex I

LIST OF MAIN REFERENCES ON "UNIFIED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT"

(a) UN General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions adopted between 1965 and 1972

Resolution 2035 (XX)	1965	GA
Resolution 1139 (XLI)	1966	ECOSOC
Resolution 2293 (XXII)	1967	GA
Resolution 1320 (XLIV)	1968	ECOSOC
Resolution 2436 (XXIII)	1968	GA
Resolution 1409 (XLVI)	1969	ECOSOC
Resolution 2542 (XXIV)	1969	GA
Resolution 1494 (XLVIII)	1970	ECOSOC
Resolution 2626 (XXV)	1970	GA
Resolution 2681 (XXV)	1970	GA ^{1/}
Resolution 2718 (XXV)	1970	GA
Resolution 1581 (L)	1971	ECOSOC
Resolution 1601 (LI)	1971	ECOSOC
Resolution 1669 (LII)	1972	ECOSOC
Resolution 1672 (LII)	1972	ECOSOC
Resolution 1727 (LIII)	1972	ECOSOC
Resolution 3018 (XXVII)	1972	GA

(b) Reports

- UN Secretary-General statements:
 - Foreword to the UN Development Decade (E/3613) 1962
 - Report on the work of the Organization (A/8701) 1972
- Second United Nations Development Decade (A/8124) 1970
- Report of the Special Rapporteurs on technical co-operation activities in social development (E/CN.5/432) 1968
- World plan of action for the application of science and technology to development (E/4962/Rev.1) 1971
- ACAST's regional plan for Latin America, 1972

^{1/} See Annex II for full text.

- Committee for Development Planning:
 - Report on the Sixth Session (E/4776) 1970
 - Report on the Seventh Session (E/4990) 1971
 - Report on the Eighth Session (E/5126) 1972
- Report of the International Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare (E/CONF.55/11) 1968
- Report on the meeting of experts on social policy and planning (E/CN.5/455) 1970
- Seminar on methods used in long-term social planning and policy making (ECON. ADVISERS/SOCIAL SEM./Working Paper 16) 1972
- Proceedings of the Conference of European Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare (E/CONF.64/7) 1972
- Report of the Expert Group Meeting on a Unified Approach to Development Analysis and Planning, 1972
- Preliminary report on Unified Approach to Development Analysis and Planning (E/CN.5/477) 1972
- Report of the Fourth Session of the Conference of African Planners (E/CN.14/575, E/CN.14/CAP.4/13) 1972^{2/}
- Report of the Secretary-General on the Expert Group Meeting on a Unified Approach to Development Analysis and Planning (E/CN.5/490) 1973^{3/}

^{2/} See Annex III for full text.

^{3/} Background paper for the discussion of the unified approach in the twenty-third session of the Commission for Social Development (February 1973) in which the unified approach was discussed in depth.

Annex II

TEXT OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2681 (XXV) ADOPTED 11 DECEMBER 1970
ON UNIFIED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2436 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, in which it endorsed the guidelines for an integrated approach to the goals and programmes for the Second United Nations Development Decade contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1320 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968,

Recalling further its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969 containing the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, in which it drew particular attention to the importance of planning for social progress and development as an integral part of balanced over-all development planning,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 1409 (XLVI) of 5 June 1969, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to review and evaluate all means at his disposal to further the integrated aims of the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Meeting of Experts on Social Policy and Planning in National Development^{1/},

1. Confirms the need for a unified approach to development analysis and planning which would fully integrate the economic and social components in the formulation of policies and programmes at the national and international levels;

2. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1494 (XLVIII) of 26 May 1970, in which the Council emphasized the views expressed in the report of the Meeting of Experts on Social Policy and Planning in National Development on the aims and content of such an approach;

3. Supports, in particular, the views of the experts regarding the need to include in such an approach components which are designed:

(a) To leave no sector of the population outside the scope of change and development;

(b) To effect structural change which favours national development and to activate all sectors of the population to participate in the development process;

(c) To aim at social equity, including the achievement of an equitable distribution of income and wealth in the nation;

^{1/} E/CN.5/445 and Corr.1.

(d) To give high priority to the development of human potentials, including vocational and technical training, the provision of employment opportunities and meeting the needs of children;

the above criteria to be borne in mind in development analysis and planning processes, as well as in their implications, according to the particular developmental needs of each country;

4. Requests those bodies responsible for the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade^{2/}, as well as for the various social and economic long-term plans and programmes worked out within the United Nations system in the context of the Decade and for the review and appraisal of objectives and policies during the Decade, to aim at the most effective integration of policy measures across the different sectors, based, inter alia, on the principles and guidelines embodied in the unified approach;

5. Further requests the Economic and Social Council to ensure the contribution of the Commission for Social Development to the aspects of the International Development Strategy directly related to matters within the Commission's competence;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to suggest, in co-operation with other organizations of the United Nations system and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, specific measures for the refinement and unification of methods for collecting and evaluating social data and information at the national and international levels, in the context of the study requested by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1494 (XLVIII);

7. Further requests the Secretary-General, in the context of the above-mentioned study, to evolve methods and techniques for the application of a unified approach to development, to be put at the disposal of Governments at their request;

8. Stresses the need, in the context of the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade, for financial and technical assistance to support initiatives leading to the achievement of a unified approach to development.

^{2/} Resolution 2626 (XXV).

Annex III

CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN PLANNERS, ADDIS ABABA, OCTOBER 1972
TEXT OF RESOLUTION ON UNIFIED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT ANALYSIS AND PLANNING
(E/CN.14/575)

The Conference, ...

Fully aware that economic growth in the past decade had been sparse and uneven and that in spite of the large expenditure on development, large parts of the population of African countries have been completely left out of the development efforts leading to an increase in unemployment and the widening of income differentials, etc.,

Convinced that the final aim of development is improvement in the conditions of life of the total population of African countries and not the mere growth of economic aggregates,

States that African countries should adopt a "Unified Approach to Development Analysis and Planning" as a more realistic approach to achieving a more coherent process of economic and social transformation,

Urges all African countries to co-operate effectively with UNRISD and other international agencies under whose auspices this project is being implemented,

Further urges African countries to establish the necessary research and training machinery for undertaking the in-depth micro-studies that such an approach demands.

Annex IV

SELECTED EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS ON UNIFIED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT

1. The need for a change

(a) Statements made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations:

"Our perception of the problems of the developing countries must change. The distinction between economic and social progress may even become an impediment to effective action. In many countries poverty and mass unemployment are so widespread and affect so critically the social equilibrium that they constitute, in themselves, blocks to further development. It is no longer possible to rely on the assumption that an expanding modern sector will eventually absorb the mass of people and provide them with decent living standards." (Report on the Work of the Organization, 1972)

"We are learning that development concerns not only man's material needs, but also the improvement of the social conditions of his life and his broad human aspirations. Development is not just economic growth, it is growth plus change." (Foreword to the UN Development Decade, E/3613, 1962)

(b) Address to ECOSOC by the President of the World Bank, 18 October 1972:

"We are talking about hundreds of millions of desperately poor people. We are talking about 40 per cent of entire populations. Development is simply not reaching them in any decisive degree. Their countries are growing in gross economic terms. But their individual lives are stagnating in human terms. ... The task for the Governments of the developing countries is to reorient their development policies in order to attack directly the personal poverty of the most deprived 40 per cent of their populations. This they can do without abandoning their goals of vigorous economic growth. But they must be prepared to give greater priority to establishing growth targets in terms of essential human needs."

2. The root of the present problem

Report of the Meeting of Experts on Social Policy and Planning (E/CN.5/455)

(a) Planning methods based on conventional economic concepts:

"It has been common in the past to draw a distinct line between economic phenomena on the one hand and social ones on the other, opposing social to economic development, economic objectives to social objectives and economic factors to social factors, etc.. This is partly due to the rather narrow

approach to the development process characteristic of past thinking in economics which rely heavily in simplistic econometric models with highly aggregated variables. ... This approach using relatively simple models with easily quantifiable variables, such as GNP, capital investment, exports and imports, leads to a neglect of certain very important factors and aspects of the development process. Thus, neglected are all matters relating to differences of income and levels of living - between classes, regions, sectors, age group, town and country - matters relating to human development - health, education, children - and matters relating to consumption - nutrition, housing, social services."

(b) Compartmentalization:

"Within the United Nations this compartmentalization is also clearly visible, and it threatens to have negative consequences. In its analytical work, the United Nations should move as fast as possible in the direction of more unified treatment, for which a system of "economic" development analysis centred upon the concept of a growth rate in production, modified by subsequent addition to, or emphasis in the importance of "social factors" bearing upon an alleged "social development" is no satisfactory substitute."

3. Effects on the application of science and technology and on human environment

Statement of the Advisory Committee "World Plan of Action" (E/4962/Rev.1)

"Economic development, and particularly industrialization, if implemented without due application of a unified approach - in other words, of integrated and balanced economic and social planning for development - too often gives rise to many social problems and thus retards development. If due consideration is not given to integrated and balanced economic and social development and to appropriate social values, economic advances, and particularly industrialization, may not constitute the solution of basic social problems and may give rise to new ones."

4. Recommended steps towards a solution

Report of the Special Rapporteurs (E/CN.5/432)

(a) The concept and methodology of integrated development:

"THE UNITED NATIONS FAMILY OF ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD VIGOROUSLY ADVANCE THE CONCEPT AND METHODOLOGY OF INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT AND SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PUT THIS POLICY INTO PRACTICE IN THEIR TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMMES.

The United Nations should advance at the international level planning methods that will help developing countries to achieve higher rates of development. This is important in order to raise the level of performance in the field of development assistance of the United Nations system as a whole, since the effectiveness of the assistance provided by the specialized agencies and international financial institutions is affected in no small measure by the leadership of the United Nations in the vital areas of over-all development policy and planning."

(b) Training:

"The Rapporteurs believe it to be vitally important that a socio-economic planning approach, especially devised for developing countries, be advanced by the United Nations.

This should be backed up by:

- The training by the United Nations of specialists in cross-sectoral or human resources planning^{1/};
- The training by the specialized agencies of sectoral planning experts; and
- Appropriate orientation of the UNDP officers to enable them to promote integrated development planning more effectively at the country level."

(c) Appraisal of the Development Projects:

- Report of the Committee for Development Planning (E/4990)

"The following areas are the most relevant for an over-all appraisal of the performance of developing countries in achieving the economic and social objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade: (a) output of goods and services, (b) demographic trends, (c) creation of employment opportunities and reduction of unemployment and under-employment, (d) over-all consumption, (e) education, (f) housing, (g) health, (h) well-being of children, (i) integration of women in the development effort, (j) investment and saving, (k) foreign trade, shipping and other invisibles and financial and other transfers (including the relative extent of external indebtedness). Too often the

^{1/} Social planning, as referred to in this report, concerns the consideration of the interrelationships among social sectors (education, manpower, health, housing, social welfare etc.) and the relationship between the economic and social sectors of development. The role of the social planner is to assist in determining priorities and targets within the social field, allocations of resources to social sectors and social policies and measures to ensure efficient implementation of over-all development plans.

process of development itself, and in particular the crowding of the population into expanding cities which accompanies industrialization, has accentuated different forms of poverty; unemployment and under-employment, casual labour, poor diet, diseases and intolerable living conditions."

- Report of the Expert Group Meeting on a Unified Approach to Development Analysis and Planning, Stockholm, November 1972

"The importance of a unified approach springs from an awareness of the grave social, economic and political problems facing the developing countries at the present time. The rapid growth in the labour force, the growing demand for change as a result of spreading education and improved communications, the movement of population to the cities, the failure of large parts of the population to participate in development, the slowness of social reform - these and many other forces are generating acute tensions throughout most of the developing countries. The growth of these tensions has in fact been a notable feature of the First Development Decade and has contributed to a sense of dissatisfaction with the results achieved during that period. But even more important, there is the strong possibility that such tensions are likely to gain in intensity in the period ahead. The unified approach, in other words, reflects concern for the outcome of the Second Development Decade, as well as disappointment with results of the First."