

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ES/II/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Humanitarian Affairs: Special Economic, Humanitarian and Disaster Relief Assistance

SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Council

SUBMITTED BY: Ghana

The Economic and Social Council

1 *Noting with deep concern* the resurgence of polio outbreaks in countries that have already been
2 declared polio free,

3 *Realizing* that polio is a devastating disease that primarily affects children, frequently leaving
4 them crippled or dead,

5 *Confident* that polio can be eradicated from the world with well-planned, well-managed
6 programs and sufficient aid,

7 *Understanding* that an effective strategy to eliminate world disease has already been developed,
8 implemented, and been successful in the campaign against small pox,

9 *Recognizing* that as long as polio exists, the citizens of all Member States are at risk from polio
10 outbreaks,

11 1. *Applauds* current action by the World Health Organization for the formation of the Global
12 Polio Eradication Initiative and its progress in eliminating this disease from the world;

13 2. *Affirms* the need to develop a more effective program to prevent re-infection in countries
14 declared clear of polio;

15 3. *Declares* accordingly that measures which have proven effective for eradicating other
16 diseases such as smallpox should be employed once again in order to eliminate polio from the world;

17 4. *Recommends* the WHO implement a program of mass vaccination in Member States that have
18 had polio infections within the last year with the approval of these Member States and individual
19 citizens;

20 5. *Further requests* that WHO provide a program of surveillance and containment based on the
21 program used to eradicate small pox be developed along the following guidelines:

- 22 (a) Neighborhood water-testing for the disease in infected communities;
- 23 (b) Treatment of all cases with symptoms of the disease as polio, with consent of the patient,
24 until proven otherwise;
- 25 (c) Vaccination of every community within a 16-kilometer radius of an infection;
- 26 (d) Posting of United Nations medical officers to live in at risk communities;
- 27 (e) Creation of a list of villages at high risk for future outbreak and monitor them closely for
28 four to six weeks;
- 29 (f) Receive regular feedback from field workers at all levels;
- 30 6. *Encourages* the training of fieldworkers as follows:
- 31 (a) Workers undergo United Nations training simulation in which the workers must trace the
32 source of an outbreak, locate all people who came in contact with infected persons when
33 contagious, and carry out the aforementioned containment operations;
- 34 (b) Volunteer trainees play the role of chief of state, watch against infection from neighboring
35 areas, investigate sources of infection, and decipher confusing or conflicting reports;
- 36 7. *Calls on* UNICEF, and WHO to provide adequate funding as in past disease control programs,
37 to ensure the timely containment and elimination of this disease;
- 38 8. *Proclaims* that the world does not need to endure the paralysis and death of its children due to
39 polio.

Passed by consensus without absetntions