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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF THE
SEA-BED AND THE OCEAN FLOOR BEYOND
THE LIMITS OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION
Economic and Technical Sub-Committee

Programme of work

Note by the Chairman

1. In accordance with the terms of reference given by the General Assembly to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction, as specified in operative paragraph 6 of resolution 2574 B (XXIV), the Economic and Technical Sub-Committee is required to study the economic and technical conditions, as well as the rules for the exploitation of the resources of the sea-bed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction in the context of the régime to be set up, and to formulate recommendations to this effect to be submitted to the General Assembly.
2. The Sub-Committee could usefully undertake its task on the basis of the report prepared by the Secretariat on "Government measures pertaining to the development of mineral resources on the continental shelf" (A/AC.138/21 and Corr.1), taking into consideration the work carried out by the Sub-Committee in 1969 (A/7622, p. 43-78) and the comments made at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly (A/C.1/SR.1673 to 1683 and A/C.1/SR.1708 to 1710).
3. As far as its programme of work is concerned, the Sub-Committee could, at its March 1970 session, follow the pattern adopted by the Secretariat in the above-mentioned report, which comprises the following four chapters:
 - (a) National practices and machinery
 - (b) Operating rights
 - (c) Operating obligations
 - (d) Government share in proceeds.

4. When considering these chapters, the Sub-Committee will not confine itself to a study of the features common to existing measures but will seek to use the experience acquired by States in order to determine which measures might be conducive to promoting the development of the resources of the sea-bed and the ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, taking into account the special interests and needs of the developing countries, whether land-locked or coastal.
