



Resolution 653 (1977)¹

**6th Seminar on International Voluntary Service (Strasbourg,
8-12 November 1976)**

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Having taken note of the proceedings and conclusions of the 6th Seminar on International Voluntary Service, held in Strasbourg from 8 to 12 November 1976 ;
2. Affirming that voluntary service has a unique role to play in stimulating economic and social development both in industrialised countries and in the developing world ;
3. Considering that Council of Europe member states bear a special responsibility in the field of development cooperation and the contribution of voluntary service ;
4. Underlining the importance of conveying effectively to European public opinion an accurate picture of the conditions in the developing world, their causes and the concrete solutions proposed ;
5. Conscious of the value which individual volunteers may derive from the opportunity to express in a practical form their concern for others and their solidarity with those with whom they work,
6. Commends to the consideration of all interested bodies the conclusions of the 6th Seminar ;
7. Decides to transmit the conclusions of the 6th Seminar to the appropriate UN specialised agencies, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the European Economic Community, and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development ;
8. Invites its Committee on Social and Health Questions to consider the possibility of commissioning a study on the present structures and activities of domestic development services in Europe and the potential offered by closer cooperation between them ;
9. Confirms its desire to co-operate with the Regional Conference on International Voluntary Service, in particular by being represented on the committee of the Regional Conference by one of its members to be appointed by the Committee on Social and Health Questions ;
10. Instructs its Committee on Social and Health Questions to organise a seminar, to be held not later than 1979, on some aspect of voluntary service to be determined by the committee in due course.

1. Assembly debate on 26 April 1977 (2nd Sitting) (see [Doc. 3962](#), report of the Committee on Social and Health Questions). Text adopted by the Assembly on 26 April 1977 (2nd Sitting).

