

UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

REPORT OF THE
GOVERNING COUNCIL
on the work of its eleventh session

11-24 May 1983

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION
SUPPLEMENT No. 25 (A/38/25)



UNITED NATIONS
New York, 1983

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[Original: English]

[12 August 1983]

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL ON ITS ELEVENTH SESSION*

(11-24 May 1983)

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* The full report on the work of the session, containing, inter alia, chapters on the discussions in plenary meetings and in the sessional committees, has been distributed to Governments as document UNEP/GC.11/18.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The eleventh session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was held at UNEP headquarters, Nairobi, from 11 to 24 May 1983. The Council adopted the present report at the 10th meeting of the session, on 24 May 1983.

CHAPTER I

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening of the session

2. The eleventh session was opened by Mr. V. Kozlov (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic), President of the Council at its tenth session.

B. Attendance

3. The following States members of the Governing Council 1/ were represented at the session:

Argentina	Malaysia
Australia	Mexico
Botswana	Morocco
Brazil	Netherlands
Burundi	Nigeria
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Oman
Canada	Pakistan
Chile	Papua New Guinea
China	Peru
Colombia	Philippines
Egypt	Poland
Finland	Saudi Arabia
France	Senegal
Germany, Federal Republic of	Spain
Ghana	Sri Lanka
Greece	Switzerland
Hungary	Thailand
Iceland	Uganda
India	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Indonesia	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Italy	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ivory Coast	United Republic of Tanzania
Jamaica	United States of America
Japan	Venezuela
Kenya	Yugoslavia
Lesotho	Zaire
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	

4. The following States not members of the Governing Council were represented:

Algeria	Czechoslovakia
Angola	Democratic Kempuchea
Austria	Denmark
Bangladesh	Ethiopia
Belgium	Gabon
Benin	Gambia
Costa Rica	Holy See
Cyprus	Iran, Islamic Republic of

Iraq
Ireland
Israel
Jordan
Kuwait
Liberia
Malawi
New Zealand

Norway
Republic of Korea
Rwanda
Somalia
Sudan
Sweden
Tunisia
Turkey

5. The African National Congress (ANC), the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) and the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) were represented as observers.

6. The following United Nations bodies and Secretariat units were represented:

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA)
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (UNCHS)
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO)

The World Food Programme (WFP) was also represented.

7. The following specialized agencies were represented:

International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
World Health Organization (WHO)
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was also represented.

8. The following other intergovernmental organizations were represented:

Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALESCO)
Commonwealth Secretariat
Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA)
European Economic Community (EEC)
Inter-American Development Bank
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
League of Arab States
Organization of African Unity (OAU)
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)

9. In addition, 42 non-governmental organizations were represented by observers.

C. Election of officers

10. At the opening meeting of the session, on 11 May 1983, the Council elected the following officers by acclamation:

<u>President:</u>	Mr. M. Holdgate (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
<u>Vice-Presidents:</u>	Mr. E. Szenes (Hungary) Mr. J. C. Arlía (Argentina) Mr. T. Khoshoo (India)
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. F. Matholoane (Lesotho)

D. Credentials

11. In accordance with rule 17, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Council, the Bureau examined the credentials of the delegations attending the eleventh session. The Bureau found the credentials in order and so reported to the Council, which approved the Bureau's report at the 8th meeting of the session, on 23 May.

12. No statements were made on this item in plenary. An exchange of letters concerning the presence of a representative of Democratic Kampuchea at the session appears in annex II.

E. Agenda

13. At the opening meeting of the session, the Council adopted the following provisional agenda for the session, as approved at its tenth session: 2/

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organization of the session:
 - (a) Election of officers;
 - (b) Agenda and organization of the work of the session.
3. Credentials of representatives.
4. Executive Director's report.
5. State-of-the-environment report 1983.
6. Co-ordination questions.
7. Programme matters.
8. Co-ordination and follow-up on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification.

9. The Environment Fund:
 - (a) Implementation of the Fund programme in 1982;
 - (b) Management of the Environment Fund;
 - (c) Financial report and accounts for the biennium 1980-1981 ended 31 December 1981;
 - (d) Project and programme evaluation.
10. Administrative and budgetary matters.
11. Provisional agenda, date and place of the twelfth session of the Governing Council.
12. Other business.
13. Adoption of the report.
14. Closure of the session.

F. Organization of the work of the session

14. At the opening meeting of the session, the Council considered the question of the organization of the work of the session in the light of the suggestions made by the secretariat in the annotations to the provisional agenda and the timetable of meetings suggested by the Executive Director (UNEP/GC.11/1/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2).

15. At the same meeting, the Council decided to establish two Sessional Committees and to allocate agenda items to them as follows:

Sessional Committee I: Agenda items 7 and 8;

Sessional Committee II: Agenda items 9 and 10.

It was agreed that the Committees would be chaired by Mr. Khoshoo (India) and Mr. J. C. Arlía (Argentina) respectively.

16. The Council further decided to establish an informal working group to consider the periodicity and duration of Council sessions and the preparation of an environmental perspective document. The meetings of the group would be open-ended, but the Council appointed a core group of 18 representatives, a third of the membership of the Council, with the following regional breakdown: African Group - five seats; Asian Group - four seats; Eastern European Group - two seats; Latin American and Caribbean Group - three seats; Western European and Others Group - four seats. It was decided that the group would elect its own officers. The group was requested to present draft decisions on the two topics to the Bureau for further discussion.

G. Work of the Committees

17. Committee I held 14 meetings from 12 to 21 May. At its 1st meeting, it elected Mr. M. Mutua-Kihu (Kenya) as Rapporteur.

18. Committee II held seven meetings from 11 to 20 May. At its 2nd meeting, it elected Mr. A. Daniel Weygandt (United States of America) as its Rapporteur.

19. The core of the informal working group was composed of representatives of the following countries: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Burundi, Egypt, Finland, Ghana, India, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America. It held five meetings on the periodicity and duration of Council sessions, and three on the preparation of the environmental perspective. At its first meeting it elected Mr. V. Grover (India) as its Chairman, Mr. S. Evteev (USSR) as its Vice-Chairman and Mr. A. Isaacs (Jamaica) as its Rapporteur. The group did not present a formal report, but forwarded draft decisions on the two topics entrusted to it to the Bureau.

CHAPTER II

MATTERS REQUIRING THE SPECIFIC ATTENTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND/OR THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

A. Date and place of the twelfth session of the Governing Council

20. At the 9th plenary meeting of the session, on 23 May 1983, the Governing Council decided, bearing in mind its decisions 11/2 and 11/1, section VII, that its twelfth session would be held at Nairobi from 16 to 29 May 1984.

B. Action with respect to resolutions of the General Assembly

21. By paragraph 1 of section I of decision 11/1 of 24 May 1983, the Governing Council noted the call made by the General Assembly (resolution 37/202 of 20 December 1982, para. 6) for reports on results achieved in applying the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and decided to consider the subject under an appropriate item on the agenda of its twelfth session.

22. By paragraph 2 of the same section of the decision, the Council noted the request of the General Assembly (decision 37/442 of 20 December 1982, sect. VI, (b)) that the Secretary-General submit a report on the implementation of sections III to VIII of the annex to Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, requested the Executive Director to invite the attention of the Assembly to the relevant views of the Governing Council as expressed at previous sessions, and decided to revert to the matter at its thirteenth session with a view to considering any further views it might wish to express. At previous sessions, the Council's views were expressed in decisions 6/1 of 24 May 1978, section II, paragraph 10, 3/ and section VIII; 7/1 of 3 May 1979, section II, paragraphs 5-10, and section III; 8/1 of 29 April 1980, section IV, paragraph 5; 9/3 of 26 May 1981, section V; 10/1 of 31 May 1982, section III (which was noted by the Assembly in decision 37/442); and 10/2 of 31 May 1982.

C. Periodicity and duration of Governing Council sessions

23. By decision 11/2 of 23 May 1983, the Governing Council considered that, in view of the requirement by the General Assembly in resolutions 32/197 (annex, para. 43) and 37/234 of 21 December 1982 (annex, art. III, regulation 3.12) that the Council review the programme budget in odd years and the medium-term plan in even years, it was not feasible for the Council to meet biennially, and decided that there should be no Council session in 1986, on an experimental basis, and that in 1987 the Council should decide finally on the periodicity of its sessions in the light of the experience gained in the previous year.

24. Since the General Assembly, in its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, decided that the Governing Council should report to it annually, through the Economic and Social Council, this decision could not be put into effect without the Assembly's endorsement. Apart from the Governing Council's own report, moreover, other reports which in response to various General Assembly resolutions would normally be submitted to it on behalf of the Council at its forty-first session,

in 1986, were: the biennial report on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (resolutions 32/172 of 19 December 1977 and 35/73 of 5 December 1980), the annual report on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Saharan region (resolutions 33/88 of 15 December 1978, 34/187 of 18 December 1979, 35/72 of 5 December 1980, 36/190 of 17 December 1981 and 37/125 of 20 December 1982); and the annual report on the status of international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment (resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975).

25. Apart from the above requirements for annual reporting by the Governing Council to the General Assembly, the Council itself is also required, on an annual basis, to:

(a) Review and approve the programme of utilization of resources of the Environment Fund (resolution 2997 (XXVII), sect. I, para. 2 (g));

(b) Consider the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination submitted to it in discharge of the responsibilities assumed by the Committee pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977.

26. The views on periodicity and duration of Governing Council sessions expressed by delegations at the Council's eleventh session are reflected in the proceedings of that session (UNEP/GC.11/18, chap. III, paras. 17 and 18. An account of the adoption of the decision is contained in the present report (chap. III, paras. 38-40).

D. Process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective

27. The action by the Governing Council in response to the request made of it by the General Assembly in paragraph 8 of resolution 37/219 of 20 December 1982, is contained in decision 11/3, to which is annexed a draft resolution recommended to the Assembly for consideration and adoption.

28. The views on this issue expressed by delegations during the Governing Council's eleventh session are reflected in the proceedings of that session (UNEP/GC.11/18, chap. III, paras. 16 and 19-26). An account of the adoption of the Council's decision is contained in the present report (chap. III, paras. 41-46).

E. International conventions and protocols in the field of the environment

29. By decision 11/7 of 24 May 1983, part two, section B.V, paragraph 1, the Governing Council authorized the Executive Director to transmit his report on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, together with the sixth supplement to the register of such conventions and protocols, to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session in accordance with resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975.

F. Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

30. By decision 11/7, part seven, section A, paragraph 3, the Governing Council invited the General Assembly to consider expanding the role of the Consultative Group for Desertification Control to include also information exchange. Relevant comments made by delegations during the debate in Sessional Committee I at the Council's eleventh session are reflected in the proceedings of that session (UNEP/GC.11/18, chap. VI, paras. 143 and 144). An account of the adoption of the decision is contained in the present report (chap. III, paras. 91-93).

31. By decision 11/7, part seven, section B, paragraph 5, the Governing Council invited the General Assembly to consider:

(a) Expanding the mandate of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office into the area of dealing with the environmental consequences of drought, in addition to those of desertification, in the Sudano-Sahelian region as a whole;

(b) Working out appropriate institutional and other relevant arrangements which would enable that Office to be charged with such an additional responsibility.

32. By paragraph 4 of the same section, the Governing Council authorized the Executive Director, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/125 of 20 December 1983, to submit his report on the implementation of the Plan of Action in the Sudano-Sahelian region, and the decision thereon, on behalf of the Council, to the Assembly at its thirty-eighth session through the Economic and Social Council.

CHAPTER III

ADOPTION OF DECISIONS

Programme policy and implementation (decision 11/1)

33. At the 10th meeting of the session, on 24 May, the Council had before it a draft decision on this subject proposed by the Bureau (UNEP/GC.11/L.16 and Corr.1).

34. In connection with the reference in section II, paragraph 7 (a) of the draft decision to "expert scientists", the Executive Director replied to a question concerning the method used by UNEP to identify and select such experts. Following the Executive Director's explanation, the representatives of India and Pakistan requested him to provide them with copies of the list of experts on the UNEP roster.

35. In connection with section V of the draft decision, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics sought an assurance that, when the proposed conference to be jointly convened with world industry was organized, UNIDO would be invited to play an active part. He also expressed the hope that provision would be made for extensive participation by representatives of industry in the centrally-planned economies.

36. In connection with section VII of the draft decision, the representative of Pakistan expressed the hope that the Executive Director would follow the procedure vis-à-vis non-governmental organizations which the Council had agreed upon earlier in its discussion of part three, section C, of decision 11/7 on programme matters.

37. The Council adopted the draft decision by consensus.

Periodicity and duration of Governing Council sessions (decision 11/2)

38. At the 8th meeting of the session, on 23 May, the Council considered a draft decision on this matter proposed by the Bureau (UNEP/GC.11/L.9). The Executive Director said he took it that the task entrusted to him in paragraph 4 of the decision involved ensuring that the substance of the environment chapter of the United Nations medium-term plan corresponded with the substance of the system-wide medium-term environment programme, as approved by the Council at its tenth session. There was no question of modifying the actual structure of the medium-term programme, which had been adopted by the General Assembly. The Council agreed to that understanding.

39. The representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the African Group placed on record that the Group favoured annual sessions of the Council, which would make it possible to follow closely the activities of UNEP, maintain momentum in advancing the environmental cause and continue the activities undertaken during the past decade.

40. The Council adopted the draft decision by consensus.

Process of preparation of the environmental perspective (decision 11/3)

41. At the 8th meeting of the session, on 23 May, the Council considered a draft decision on this subject submitted by the Bureau (UNEP/GC.11/L.11). The Executive Director confirmed that the holding of meetings of the intersessional intergovernmental preparatory committee would not result in any net increase in the United Nations regular budget, since savings from the new arrangements for Governing Council sessions and the abolition of the intersessional informal consultations would offset the cost of the committee's meetings. In response to a question concerning the body to which the Special Commission would report, the Executive Director said that, since the Council itself would not be meeting in 1986, use could be made of the intersessional committee for such purposes. The report of the Special Commission would of course be brought before the Governing Council at its next full session, and the Council would thereafter report on it to the General Assembly.

42. The draft decision was adopted by consensus.

43. The representative of the USSR, speaking on behalf of the group of socialist countries, placed on record their understanding that the Special Commission would work very closely with the intergovernmental intersessional committee, and that feedback between the two bodies would be ensured; that the election of the chairman and vice-chairman of the Commission would be agreed with Governments; that if a Government so wished, the appointment of members of the Commission would be cleared with that Government; and that the report of the Commission would be circulated only after it had been approved by the Governing Council.

44. The President said he took it that the Soviet representative meant that the Commission's report would be circulated only after it had been considered by the Council.

45. At the 10th meeting, the President presented to the Council a formula and method proposed by the Bureau for use in deciding upon the membership of the intergovernmental intersessional preparatory committee. In determining the number of members from each region, the Bureau suggested that each should be allocated roughly half of the number of seats allocated to it in the full Council. The Bureau proposal therefore involved the following regional breakdown:

Africa	8 seats
Asia	7 seats
Eastern Europe	3 seats
Latin America and the Caribbean	5 seats
Western Europe and others	7 seats

46. The Council agreed to the proposal made by the Bureau, and the President requested the members of the regional groups to initiate consultations for the purpose of selecting countries to fill the seats allocated to each region.

Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea (decision 11/4)

47. At the 8th meeting of the session, on 23 May, the Council considered a draft decision on this subject submitted by the Arab, African and Asian Groups (UNEP/GC.11/L.10).

48. The representative of the United States of America called for a vote on the draft decision, saying that her Government opposed the draft decision, as it had opposed General Assembly resolution 37/122, because its conclusions were premature and its formulation unbalanced. The reports of both the Executive Director and the Secretary-General showed that the project was still at the feasibility stage, and described only possible effects of the canal. The issue was not one which should have come before the Council, but should be decided in discussions between the two States involved. The regrettable precedent of UNEP involvement in a bilateral issue undercut the image of UNEP as a technical body.

49. The representative of Israel emphasized that the negative impacts of the proposed project would be both manageable and moderate, because concern for the environment had been a guiding principle throughout the design of the project. The proposed project, which was still at the stage of feasibility studies, would not be approved until further studies had been completed and the matter investigated in depth. The environmental consequences would continue to receive priority consideration in every stage of the process. In adherence to the principles of conduct drawn up by UNEP for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious use of shared natural resources, Israel called upon its neighbour Jordan to co-operate in the development of their shared resource, and reiterated its willingness to co-operate with Jordan in the planning, construction and use of the canal.

50. The representative of China said that the canal project would brutally trample upon the rights and interests of the Palestinian people, infringe Jordan sovereignty and cause serious damage to the people and ecosystem of occupied Arab territory.

51. The representative of Jordan said that the canal project was destructive and harmful to the economy and rights and interests of Jordan, threatening the people of both Jordan and Palestine. The possibility that nuclear reactors might be constructed along the canal was a particular cause for concern, since Israel had not signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, and had refused to allow IAEA personnel to inspect its nuclear installations.

52. The representative of the USSR, speaking on behalf of the Eastern European Group, said that the project was not only illegal and violated the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine and Jordan, but would also cause irreparable ecological and economic damage. The draft decision was also directed against Israel's attempts to tighten its hold on occupied Arab territory. The parallels of the Panama and Suez Canals should not be forgotten.

53. The representative of Iraq pointed out that the Gaza Strip was in neither of the two States between which bilateral discussions had been recommended.

54. The President then put the draft decision to the vote. At the request of the representative of Oman, the vote was taken by roll-call. The draft decision was adopted by 45 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions. Voting was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Italy, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Jamaica, Japan, Papua New Guinea and Switzerland.

55. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, speaking on behalf of the countries of the European Communities which were members of the Governing Council, said that, in accordance with views set out at the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, the delegations of those countries had voted in favour of the draft decision.

56. The representative of Canada said that his Government opposed the project because it lacked the prior agreement of all concerned and was contrary to accepted practice and international law.

57. The representatives of Jamaica, Japan and Papua New Guinea said that they had abstained in the vote on the draft decision as they had received no instructions from their Governments. The representative of Japan subsequently informed the secretariat that, had instructions been received in time, he would have voted in favour of the draft decision. The secretariat was also informed by the representatives of Colombia and the Philippines that, had they been present during the vote, they would have voted in favour of the draft decision.

Impacts of apartheid on the environment (decision 11/5)

58. At the 8th meeting of the session, on 23 May, the Council considered a draft decision on this subject submitted by the African Group (UNEP/GC.11/L.14).

59. The representative of France, supported by the representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, requested the sponsors to modify certain political references in the preamble of the draft decision to enable her to give it her full support. On behalf of the sponsors, the representative of Egypt declined to do so; the wording used was the same as in Council decision 10/7.

60. The representative of China observed that the South African régime was persisting with its policy of apartheid, whose environmental impacts were causing serious problems for the people of South Africa and its neighbours.

61. The draft decision was adopted by consensus.

62. The representative of France expressed regret that the sponsors of the draft had been unwilling to accede to her request. If the draft decision had been put to the vote, she would have voted against it. The representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America associated themselves with that statement.

63. The representative of Greece said that, if the draft decision had been put to the vote, he would have abstained.

64. The representative of Senegal said that there was no disagreement about the damage that apartheid inflicted on the environment. Those who wished to weaken the wording of the decision were seeking to protect the perpetrators of apartheid. In fact, the terms used in the decision fell short of those normally used in United Nations resolutions.

Arms and the environment (decision 11/6)

65. At the 8th meeting of the session, on 23 May, the Council considered a draft decision on this subject submitted by the African and Asian Groups with the exception of Japan (UNEP/GC.11/L.13). The draft decision was adopted by consensus.

66. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, speaking on behalf of the countries of the European Communities which were members of the Council, said that questions relating to peace and security should be dealt with in more appropriate forums, and that UNEP should devote its scarce resources to environmental issues. For reasons explained at the time, the delegations of the European Community countries had abstained in the vote on General Assembly resolutions 35/8 and 36/7. If the draft decision had been put to the vote, those delegations would have abstained.

67. The representative of the United States of America reiterated his concern at the introduction of the question of arms and the environment in the Governing Council. The question was an important one, but was not within the competence of UNEP and was better dealt with in other bodies, thus avoiding the diversion of energies from important technical work.

68. The representatives of Canada, Iceland, Switzerland and Japan associated themselves with the remarks made by the representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States of America.

69. The representative of Czechoslovakia, supported by the representative of the Byelorussian SSR, disagreed that the issue should be neglected in UNEP and left to other agencies. It was an important issue, and it was appropriate that the Council should consider it.

70. The representative of China said that his Government had consistently supported real disarmament and opposed sham disarmament. The Governing Council should reinforce its appeal in paragraph 1 of the decision by emphasizing that the super-Powers should be first to stop the arms race and disarm.

Programme matters (decision 11/7)

Assistance to the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (decision 11/8)

Regional programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean (decision 11/9)

71. Decisions 11/7 to 11/9 were adopted on the recommendation of Sessional Committee I. Except as indicated below, the decisions were approved in the Committee and adopted by the Council, at the 10th plenary meeting, on 24 May 1983, by consensus and without comment. In the Committee the Assistant Executive Director, Office of the Environment Fund and Administration, responding to a request that the financial implications of each draft decision be indicated, warned that no additional implications over and above those contained in the programme budget document (UNEP/GC.11/7 and Corr.1), as approved by the Council as an overall framework for activities, could be entertained.

Programme matters (decision 11/7)

72. Sessional Committee I was informed by its Chairman that all the draft decisions before it, except for those on assistance to the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme and on regional programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean (decisions 11/8 and 11/9) would be amalgamated under the above heading.

Part one: Programme budget and general matters

73. In Committee I the draft decision, proposed by the Chairman, was approved by consensus as amended by the delegations of Algeria, Brazil, India, the Netherlands, Pakistan on behalf of the Asian Group, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

74. In plenary, the Council approved a proposal by the representative of France for the deletion of a paragraph reflecting a request to the Executive Director made in the Committee (see chap. VI, para. 184 below) on the grounds that it was superfluous to remind the Executive Director of his responsibilities in that respect.

Part two: Environment and development

A. Industry and environment

75. Committee I considered the draft decision, submitted by the delegations of Egypt, France, India, Mexico, the Netherlands and the United States of America, as revised by the expanded Bureau. Following the incorporation of amendments proposed by an informal drafting group composed of the delegations of Canada, Jamaica, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, the draft decision was approved by consensus.

B. Environmental law

76. Committee I considered the draft decision, submitted by the delegations of Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, India, Kenya, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, the Philippines, Spain, Sweden and Yugoslavia, as revised by

the expanded Bureau. The draft decision, as revised by the Netherlands and amended by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America in section I, amended by Egypt on behalf of the African Group in section III, and amended by Brazil on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group in section IV, was approved by consensus. The delegation of Pakistan reserved its position with respect to the amendments incorporated in section IV. A representative of the Office of the Environment Fund and Administration noted that provision for holding future meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts for the Elaboration of a Global Framework Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer could be accommodated within the programme budget.

77. In plenary, the Executive Director requested Governments willing to provide financial resources and/or facilities for the meetings referred to in sections I and II of the decision to communicate their willingness to the secretariat before the end of July 1983.

Part three: Environmental awareness

A. Environmental education and training in the Asia and the Pacific region

78. Committee I considered the draft decision, submitted by the Asian Group, as revised by the expanded Bureau. A representative of the Office of the Environment Fund and Administration said that the decision could be implemented within available resources. The draft decision was then approved by consensus.

79. In plenary, the Executive Director said he intended to provide the assistance called for in paragraph 1 of the decision in consultation and co-operation with relevant organizations of the United Nations system. Regarding the meeting referred to in paragraph 2, as well as various other meetings called for in the decisions recommended by Sessional Committee I, he pointed out that the Environment Fund was not in a position to support experts' participation.

B. Environmental education and training in Latin America and the Caribbean

80. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the Latin American and Caribbean Group and revised by the expanded Bureau, was approved by consensus.

C. Information

81. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the delegations of Australia, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, was reformulated, following considerable discussion, by a small working group consisting of the sponsors and the delegations of Egypt and Malaysia, and then approved by consensus. A representative of the Office of the Environment Fund and Administration noted that the cost of one consultant to undertake the proposed review, approximately \$50,000, could be accommodated within existing financial resources.

82. In plenary the Executive Director, responding to queries by the representative of the Netherlands concerning when any recommendations which the cost-effectiveness study might yield regarding Mazingira could be implemented, said that the UNEP Contracts Committee had recommended that a contract be concluded for publication of

the magazine until 1985, with a review by the Editorial Board in August/September 1983 designed to reduce the costs; at the time of that review, he would recommend that the contract not be extended beyond the end of 1984, pending the Governing Council's decision on the matter.

83. The representative of the Soviet Union, supported by the representative of Brazil, proposed that the project reports referred to in paragraph 6 of the draft decision should be distributed only to Governments, which in turn would distribute them to scientific institutions and non-governmental organizations. The representative of Canada expressed serious concern at that proposal, which he said would place unwarranted restrictions on the dissemination of information by UNEP. Following a discussion in which the delegations of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Pakistan and the United States of America took part, the Council agreed to a proposal by the President that the paragraph be amended to read as in annex I below. The decision was then adopted by consensus. The Executive Director said that the secretariat would seek an indication from Governments as to the institutions and organizations in their countries to which the reports should be distributed.

D. Public information in Africa and Asia and the Pacific

84. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the African Group under the title "Public information in Africa", was approved by consensus in revised form, with the Asian Group and the delegation of France as additional sponsors.

85. In plenary a subparagraph relating to distribution of project reports was deleted on the grounds that it was covered by section C, paragraph 6.

Part four: Oceans

A. Global marine environment: Co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

86. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the Latin American and Caribbean Group, was approved by consensus as revised in the expanded Bureau and amended by the delegation of the Netherlands.

B. Expansion and implementation of the regional seas programme

87. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the Asian and Latin American and Caribbean Groups and revised by the expanded Bureau, was approved by consensus as further revised by the delegation of Sri Lanka. A representative of the Office of the Environment Fund and Administration said that the decision could be implemented within the existing budgetary allocation for regional seas.

Part five: Water

88. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the African Group, was approved by consensus as amended by the delegations of Pakistan and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

89. In plenary the representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the African Group, said that the allocations for the water programme in the 1984-1985 programme budget should be increased.

Part six: Terrestrial ecosystems: genetic resources

90. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the delegations of Australia, Belgium, Kenya, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America and revised by the expanded Bureau, was adopted by consensus after further revision by the delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Part seven: Arid and semi-arid land ecosystems and desertification control: desertification in Africa

- A. Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification
- B. Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region

91. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the African Group and revised by the expanded Bureau, was approved by consensus as further revised by the delegation of Egypt on behalf of the sponsors, following a suggestion by the representative of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, and amended by the delegation of the Netherlands.

92. In plenary, the Executive Director pointed out that, since it was the General Assembly which, by resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, had established the terms of reference of the Consultative Group for Desertification Control, the expansion of the Group's mandate implied in part A, paragraph 2, of the draft decision would require a decision of the Assembly. He also requested clarification concerning what policies, programmes and projects it was envisaged the Group would evaluate, and pointed out that the review of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification was the responsibility of the Governing Council.

93. At the suggestion of the representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the African Group, paragraph 2 was divided into two paragraphs so worded as to indicate clearly the responsibility of the General Assembly for expanding the mandate of the Consultative Group, and omitting the reference to evaluation by the Group of specific policies, programmes and projects undertaken in implementation of the Plan of Action. The representatives of the Netherlands and the United States of America said they could accept the deletion of that reference, which had deliberately been left unspecified, on the understanding that the issue could be raised again either at the thirty-eighth session of the Assembly or at the Governing Council's twelfth session in the context of the review of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action. In their view, it was important to seek ways of strengthening the role of the Consultative Group and enabling it to assist the Council's deliberations by providing an element of policy guidance.

Part eight: Regional activities

A. Regional programmes in Africa

94. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the African Group, was approved by consensus as amended by the delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

B. Regional activities in Asia and the Pacific

95. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the Asian Group and revised by the expanded Bureau, was approved by consensus on the understanding, stated by a representative of the Office of the Environment Fund and Administration, that no additional financial implications could be absorbed within the 1984-1985 programme budget in respect of paragraph 3.

C. Year of the Trees (1988) for Asia and the Pacific

96. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the Asian Group, was approved by consensus as revised by the delegation of Pakistan.

97. In plenary the representative of Jordan stated that the two decisions under regional programmes relating to the Asia and Pacific region should be understood as covering also the Arab countries in Asia.

D. Regional activity in Europe

98. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the delegations of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Hungary, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and amended by the Bureau, was approved by consensus.

Part nine: Implementation

99. Part nine of the draft decision was adopted by consensus in plenary.

Assistance to the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (decision 11/8)

100. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the Asian Group and revised by the expanded Bureau, was adopted by consensus.

Regional programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean (decision 11/9)

101. In Committee I the draft decision, submitted by the Latin American and Caribbean Group, was approved by consensus as amended by the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Environment Fund (decision 11/10)

Additional resources for dealing with serious environmental problems in developing countries (decision 11/11)

Programme and programme support costs (decision 11/12)

102. These three decisions were adopted by consensus at the 8th meeting of the session, on 23 May, on the recommendation of Sessional Committee II.

Notes

1/ The membership of the Governing Council was determined by elections held at the 84th plenary meeting of the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly, held on 5 December 1980, the 64th plenary meeting of the thirty-sixth session, held on 19 November 1981, and the 70th plenary meeting of the thirty-seventh session, held on 17 November 1982 (decisions 35/313, 36/314 and 37/312).

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), p. 117.

3/ The report referred to in that paragraph was transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbols E/1978/110.

ANNEX

Decisions adopted by the Governing Council at its eleventh session

Decision number	Title	Date of adoption	Page
11/1	Programme policy and implementation	24 May 1983	22
11/2	Periodicity and duration of Governing Council sessions	23 May 1983	26
11/3	Process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective	23 May 1983	28
11/4	Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea	23 May 1983	31
11/5	Impacts of <u>apartheid</u> on the environment	23 May 1983	32
11/6	Arms and the environment	23 May 1983	33
11/7	Programme matters	24 May 1983	34
11/8	Assistance to the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme	24 May 1983	50
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11/11	Additional resources for dealing with serious environmental problems in developing countries	23 May 1983	54
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Other decision

Provisional agenda, date and place of the twelfth session of the Governing Council

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11/1. Programme policy and implementation

The Governing Council,

Having considered

- (a) The introductory report of the Executive Director and its addenda, 1/
- (b) The annual report of the Executive Director, 2/
- (c) The report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination 3/ and the Executive Director's report on the fifth joint meeting of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the bureau of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the bureau of its Governing Council, 4/

I. POLICY MATTERS

1. Notes the request in General Assembly resolution 37/202 of 20 December 1982 on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, calling inter alia upon the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to report on the results achieved in their respective sectors, and decides to consider the subject under an appropriate item on the agenda of its twelfth session;
2. Notes that the General Assembly, in section VI of its decision 37/442 of 20 December 1982 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, decided to review the implementation of all aspects of its resolution 32/197 at its thirty-ninth session, and requested the Secretary-General, in that regard, to submit a report, including as appropriate proposals for further action, on the implementation of sections III to VIII of the annex to resolution 32/197; requests the Executive Director to invite the attention of the General Assembly to the relevant views of the Governing Council as expressed at previous sessions; and decides to revert to the matter at its thirteenth session with a view to considering any further views which it might wish to express on the matter;
3. Notes other resolutions of the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, and of the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in 1982, which called specifically for action by the United Nations Environment Programme, and the follow-up and implementation of certain of those resolutions envisaged by the Executive Director;
4. Recalls its decision 10/26 of 31 May 1982 on additional resources for dealing with serious environmental problems in developing countries, and notes the two-pronged approach being followed by the Executive Director in implementing, on an experimental basis, the activities envisaged in the decision;
5. Requests the Executive Director, in co-operation with Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue to promote and increase the exchange of information and experience with respect to the integration of environmental considerations in development activities, with a view to better co-ordination of efforts, avoidance of duplication and enhanced general understanding of the concept of sustainable development;

6. Reaffirms its views expressed at its tenth session regarding the regional presence of the United Nations Environment Programme in the Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and West Asia regions, and agrees that the presence should continue to be maintained on the present basis in the European region;

7. Expresses its appreciation of the annual report presented by the Executive Director, and requests him to continue to submit similar reports to the Council at future sessions;

8. Encourages the Executive Director to continue, within available resources, an exploration of new information technology and its use in support of the Programme's information role, and requests him to report to the Council at its twelfth session on progress in this matter;

II. STATE-OF-THE-ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA REPORTS

1. Notes with appreciation the Executive Director's report on the state of the environment for 1983, 5/

2. Reiterates its decision 10/1, section II, of 31 May 1982 on future state-of-the-environment reports;

3. Decides that the topic to be considered in the 1984 report on the state of the environment will be "The environment in the dialogue between and among developed and developing countries";

4. Requests the Executive Director to ensure that the report also contains an analysis of emerging environmental issues of global significance which fall within the purview of the Programme's activities;

5. Also requests the Executive Director to report on major environmental events in the bimonthly Report to Governments and, if he considers it appropriate, to include a description and analysis of any exceptional major environmental events during the preceding year in his annual state-of-the-environment report;

6. Also requests the Executive Director to ensure that the annual state-of-the-environment reports are presented in a printed, illustrated form, appealing to both policy-makers and the public, so as to ensure their wide distribution and enable them to serve as a basis for substantive debate in the Council and for facilitating decision-making by Governments;

7. Requests the Executive Director, in regard to the preparation and presentation of environmental data, and within available resources, to:

(a) Evaluate in consultation with the other United Nations agencies, Governments and expert scientists, the list of indicators annexed to his note on the preparation and presentation of environmental data, 6/ and make specific proposals to the Council at its twelfth session on the final choice of global, regional and national indicators and on the frequency with which they should be revised;

(b) Make specific proposals to the Council at its twelfth session on:

- (i) How, and according to what timetable, selected indicators might be published, so as to bring the trends alive to the world community;
- (ii) How an index of environmental data might be produced in co-operation with the United Nations Statistical Office;
- (iii) How concrete assessment statements of major environmental problems might be produced;

8. Further requests the Executive Director to consider the potential role of the Programme in facilitating, inter alia, the monitoring of acidity of rainfall in developing countries where the extent of the acid rain problem is as yet unascertained, and the review, in conjunction with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Commission of the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, of the environmental implications of the disposal of radioactive wastes at sea;

III. CO-ORDINATION

1. Expresses its appreciation of the annual report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to the Governing Council at its eleventh session;
2. Requests the Executive Director to convey to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination a sense of the value the Council attaches to its annual reports, and in so doing recalls its previous decisions on the matter;
3. Notes the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Atomic Energy Agency; 7/

IV. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME AND THE UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT)

1. Notes the report of the Executive Director on the fifth joint meeting of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the bureau of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the bureau of its Governing Council;
2. Recognizes the desirability of the closest co-operation between the Programme and the Centre;
3. Expresses satisfaction at the continuing co-operation between the secretariats of the Centre and the Programme, and requests the Executive Director to intensify, and where possible increase, such co-operation;
4. Requests the Executive Director to invite the Centre to participate in the programme efforts undertaken with respect to the development of environmental guidelines for solid waste disposal;

5. Further requests the Executive Director to ensure and promote wide dissemination and use of those guidelines, as well as of the guidelines for environmentally sound human settlement planning, and to consult Governments and relevant organizations on possible ways and means of assisting developing countries in that respect;

6. Expresses the view that annual meetings of the joint bureaux, as provided for in General Assembly resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977 and 35/77 B of 5 November 1980, are no longer necessary after 1984;

7. Requests the Executive Director, in consultation with the Executive Director of the Centre, to ensure that the above view is brought to the attention of the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventh session;

V. INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT

1. Welcomes the Executive Director's call at the Council's eleventh session to industry to convene, in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme, an international conference which would consider ways in which industry might contribute more fully and effectively to environmentally sound development; promote a broad exchange of information and experience on technologies and institutional approaches to industrial development, including industrial pollution control, recycling of wastes and low-waste and non-waste technologies; and consider ways in which the extensive technical resources of industry in both developed and developing countries can be mobilized and applied more effectively to environmental management, including the identification of constraints and opportunities;

2. Requests the Executive Director to help ensure the widest possible participation in the conference by industry, Governments, international organizations and other appropriate groups, as well as geographical balance, so that it can meet a broad spectrum of immediate interest and needs;

3. Requests the Executive Director to ensure, within available resources, that all participants have the opportunity to receive before the conference the principal documents produced by the Programme which are of relevance to the agenda items of the conference;

VI. PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE

Welcomes the initiative of the Executive Director, within available resources, to convene jointly with the Inter-Parliamentary Union a parliamentary conference on the environment, and requests him to intensify his consultations with the Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to ensure a successful conclusion to that effort;

VII. RELATIONSHIP WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. Recalls its decision 10/1, section IV, of 31 May 1982, and notes with appreciation the Executive Director's initiatives in relation to non-governmental organizations;

2. Encourages the Executive Director to continue his dialogue and expand the United Nations Environment Programme's working relationship with environmental non-governmental organizations, and extend it, as appropriate, to those whose principal mandate is not directly environmental;

3. Notes the intention of the Executive Director to support to the extent possible a global meeting of environmental and developmental non-governmental organizations, to be convened in the near future;

VIII. DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

1. Approves the Executive Director's recommendation that at its twelfth session the Governing Council devote two days to a detailed assessment of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

2. Also approves the procedure recommended by the Executive Director for the preparation of the assessment and its related information campaign, and urges him to ensure that the documentation being prepared for that assessment includes a thorough analysis of the state of implementation of the principal components of the Plan, the lessons learned and the priorities for future action.

10th meeting
24 May 1983

11/2. Periodicity and duration of Governing Council sessions

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decisions 7/1, section III, of 3 May 1979 and 10/1, section III, of 31 May 1982,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the subject, 8/

Conscious of the need for cost savings and streamlining of its activities,

Bearing in mind the tasks entrusted to the Governing Council by the General Assembly in its resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and 37/234 of 21 December 1982,

1. Considers that, in view of the requirement by the General Assembly in resolutions 32/197 and 37/234 that the Governing Council review the programme budget in odd years and the medium-term plan in even years, it is not at present feasible for the Council to meet biennially;

2. Decides:

(a) That, as from 1984, sessions of the Governing Council shall be of a maximum duration of eight working days;

(b) That, at each regular session, there shall be a Committee of the Whole focusing on either administrative and budgetary questions or programme matters;

(c) That there shall be no session of the Governing Council in 1986, on an experimental basis, and that the Executive Director shall take this into account in preparing for the thirteenth session of the Council;

(d) That in 1987 the Council shall decide finally on either option for the periodicity of its sessions in the light of the experience gained in the previous years;

3. Decides also to discontinue forthwith the present system of intersessional informal consultations with Governments, and, with a view to providing the requisite continuity of co-ordination and co-operation between member States and the secretariat of the Programme:

(a) To invite permanent representatives to the Programme at Nairobi and/or Government-designated officials to meet the Executive Director at least three times a year to consider administrative and budgetary and programme matters, and to review progress in the implementation of the programme and Governing Council decisions, as well as specific issues proposed by the permanent representatives or the Executive Director; meetings would last as necessary and should take place in each quarter, except that in which the session of the Governing Council takes place; 9/

(b) To recommend to the permanent representatives and/or Government-designated officials that they establish, from among themselves and upon the nomination of their respective groups, a core group of 18 members having due regard to considerations of equitable geographical distribution; 10/ the meetings of the core group at which attendance will be open-ended, shall be held more frequently than those of its parent body to discuss among the participants or with the Executive Director specific items of importance to the Governing Council; the tasks of the core group should include facilitating the preparations for Governing Council sessions, monitoring and advising on the implementation of Governing Council decisions, and putting in effect the work programme established for the group by the Governing Council; the permanent representatives and/or Government-designated officials are invited to make recommendations to the Governing Council, through the Executive Director;

4. Authorizes the Executive Director to review the necessary changes required in the environment chapter of the United Nations medium-term plan to make it conform with the system-wide medium-term environment programme approved by the Governing Council, 11/ and to present those changes to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its behalf;

5. Requests the Executive Director to take the necessary measures for the implementation of this decision.

8th meeting
23 May 1983

11/3. Process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective

The Governing Council,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 37/219 of 20 December 1982, reiterated the importance it attached to the development of the Environmental Perspective to the year 2000 and beyond, and requested the Governing Council at its eleventh session to make, on the basis of a report by the Executive Director, concrete recommendations on the modalities for preparing the Environmental Perspective,

Recalling also that the Governing Council at its session of a special character in 1982 invited the Governing Council at its tenth session to recommend the establishment of a special commission to be financed through voluntary contributions, inter alia to propose long-term environmental strategies for achieving sustainable development to the year 2000 and beyond, 12/

Recalling further that the Governing Council at its tenth session decided to review the question of the future development of the Environmental Perspective, and requested the Executive Director to submit a report to it at its eleventh session, in the light of the outcome of consultations with Governments on how they could best contribute to the future development of the Environmental Perspective, 13/

Noting with appreciation the report of the Executive Director on the process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective, 14/

1. Notes the proposals of the Executive Director relating to the Special Commission and the relationship which should obtain between the Special Commission and the Governing Council, including a subsidiary organ to be established by the Governing Council; 15/

2. Decides to establish, subject to approval by the General Assembly of the financial implications, an open-ended intergovernmental intersessional preparatory committee, as one of the points recommended by the Executive Director in his report, 16/ to assist it in carrying out its mandate in regard to the Environmental Perspective; considers that the committee should hold a first substantive session in May 1984 in conjunction with the twelfth session of the Council, noting from chapter II, paragraph 9, above that the cost of the intersessional intergovernmental preparatory committee will not result in any net increase in the regular budget of the United Nations; and decides to consider the timing of future sessions of the Committee in the light of a progress report by the Executive Director to the twelfth session of the Council;

3. Affirms that the Environmental Perspective shall be prepared by the Governing Council through its intergovernmental intersessional preparatory committee and transmitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council by the Governing Council, which in so doing shall benefit from its consideration of relevant proposals developed by the Special Commission;

4. Decides that on matters within the mandate and purview of the United Nations Environment Programme, the report of the Special Commission should in the first instance be considered by the Governing Council, for transmission to the General Assembly together with its comments, and for use as basic material in the preparation for adoption by the General Assembly of the Environmental Perspective;

5. Recommends the draft resolution annexed to the present decision to the General Assembly for consideration and adoption.

8th meeting
23 May 1983

Annex

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR ACTION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective
to the year 2000 and beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling the importance it has attached at previous sessions to the development of the Environmental Perspective to the year 2000 and beyond,

Recalling also its request to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its eleventh session to make concrete recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in 1983, on the modalities for preparing the Environmental Perspective, 17/

1. Notes with satisfaction decision 11/3 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective, adopted on 23 May 1983; 18/

2. Welcomes the desire of the Governing Council to develop the Environmental Perspective and transmit it to the General Assembly for adoption, benefiting in carrying out that function from its consideration of relevant proposals made by a special commission;

3. Approves the decision of the Governing Council to establish, to assist it in fulfilling its mandate in regard to the Environmental Perspective and to report to it in that respect, an intergovernmental intersessional preparatory committee to articulate to the Commission at an early stage in the latter's work the Governing Council's expectations regarding the matters which it hopes will inter alia receive consideration by the Commission; 18/ notes that the Commission, at a preliminary stage in the formulation of its conclusions on matters within the mandate and purview of United Nations Environment Programme, should make them known to the committee with a view to giving consideration to any views of the committee thereon; and notes from chapter II, paragraph 9, of the report of the Governing Council on the work of its eleventh session that the cost of the intersessional intergovernmental preparatory committee will not result in any net increase in the regular budget of the United Nations; 19/

4. Welcomes also the intention of a number of Governments to support the preparation of the Environmental Perspective by facilitating the establishment of the Special Commission, through the provision of voluntary contributions for its financing;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and with Governments, and after such other appropriate consultations as they deem necessary, to name the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission, who will subsequently select the members of the Commission and accordingly establish the Commission, which should co-operate closely with the intergovernmental intersessional preparatory committee; the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should have experience of policy making at the highest level, demonstrated interest in environmental and developmental issues, and the capacity to attract attention to the work of the Commission, and should represent both developed and developing countries;

6. Expresses its view that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, in selecting the members of the Commission, should take fully into account the need for appropriate geographical distribution and regional balance in membership and the importance of ensuring that at least half of the members of the Commission are from the developing countries, as well as the need to consult as appropriate with representatives of Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry, the scientific community and others concerned with the environment;

7. Requests the Executive Director to establish an interim special account under the financial regulations of the United Nations to which voluntary contributions would be credited and from which disbursements would be made for the purposes of the establishment of the Commission, custody over and responsibility for the account to be transferred to the Commission, in accordance with its procedures, upon its establishment;

8. Suggests that the Commission, when established, should focus mainly on the following terms of reference for its work:

(a) To propose long-term environmental strategies for achieving sustainable development to the year 2000 and beyond;

(b) To recommend ways in which concern for the environment may be translated into greater co-operation among developing countries and between countries at different stages of economic and social development and lead to the achievement of common and mutually supportive objectives which take account of the interrelationships between people, resources, environment and development;

(c) To consider ways and means by which the international community can deal more effectively with environmental concerns, in the light of the other recommendations in its report;

(d) To help to define shared perceptions of long-term environmental issues and of the appropriate efforts needed to deal successfully with the problems of protecting and enhancing the environment, a long-term agenda for action during the coming decades, and aspirational goals for the world community, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the session of a special character of the Governing Council in 1982;

9. Further suggests that, in fulfilling its terms of reference, the Commission should:

(a) Maintain an exchange of views with the scientific community, environmentalists and all other sections of public opinion, particularly youth, concerned with the environment, and those concerned with the relationship between development and environment;

(b) Receive the views of Governments, principally through the Governing Council and its intergovernmental intersessional preparatory committee, and through contacts with national leaders, opinion makers and concerned international figures;

(c) Maintain links with other intergovernmental bodies within and outside the United Nations system, while however using the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Designated Officials for Environmental Matters as the channels of communication with the United Nations system; the willingness of the Administrative Committee to assist should be communicated to the Commission;

(d) Take account of the scope of environmental issues as defined by the United Nations system-wide medium-term environment programme 20/ and as reflected in the efforts of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Environment Programme, in the field of the environment;

(e) Make full use of relevant existing reports and material;

10. Considers that the Commission should make available a report on environment and the global problématique to the year 2000 and beyond, including proposed strategies for sustainable development, within a period of two years from its establishment;

11. Decides that, on matters within the mandate and purview of the United Nations Environment Programme, the report of the Commission should in the first instance be considered by the Governing Council of the Programme, for transmission to the General Assembly together with its comments, and for use as basic material in the preparation for adoption by the General Assembly of the Environmental Perspective;

12. Further decides that, on those matters which are under consideration and/or review by the General Assembly itself, the Assembly itself will consider the relevant aspects of the report of the Commission;

13. Recognizes that the Special Commission may in addition address its report, after consideration by the Governing Council or the intergovernmental intersessional preparatory committee, also to other forums, intergovernmental and non-governmental, or to Governments, individuals and the general public, as it sees fit, it being understood that the report of the Commission will not be binding on Governments.

11/4. Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 36/150 of 16 December 1981 and 37/122 of 16 December 1982,

Bearing in mind the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm, 1972) 21/ and the Nairobi Declaration of 1982 regarding the protection and enhancement of the environment, 22/

Recognizing that the proposed canal to be constructed partly through the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian territory occupied in 1967, would violate the principles of international law and effect the interests of the Palestinian people,

Confident that the canal linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Dead Sea, if executed by Israel, will cause direct, serious, detrimental and irreparable damage to man and his environment in Jordan and to Jordan's rights and legitimate vital interests in the economic, agricultural, demographic and ecological fields,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director on the subject, 23/
2. Recalls the General Assembly's demand in its resolution 37/122 that Israel not construct this canal and cease forthwith all actions and/or plans taken towards the implementation of the project;
3. Recalls that in the same resolution the General Assembly called upon all States, specialized agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations not to assist, directly or indirectly, in preparations for and the execution of this project;
4. Requests the Executive Director to facilitate the work of the Secretary-General in monitoring and assessing, on a continuing basis, all aspects - especially ecological ones - of the adverse effects on Jordan and on the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, arising from the implementation of the Israeli decision to construct the canal, as well as in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, and to report to the Governing Council at its twelfth session on the implementation of the present decision.

8th meeting
23 May 1983

11/5. Impacts of apartheid on the environment

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decision 9/9 of 26 May 1981 on solidarity with the victims of apartheid in southern Africa,

Recalling also its decision 10/7 of 28 May 1982 on impacts of apartheid on the environment,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Executive Director on the impacts of apartheid on the environment, 24/

Aware of the fact that apartheid is a crime against mankind and that it represents a great threat to peace and international understanding between peoples and countries of the world,

Recognizing the need for greater understanding and appreciation of the real and potential impacts of the apartheid and bantustan policies on the people of South Africa and the neighbouring States with respect to their human environment in more specific terms such as land, natural resources, human settlements and the questions of fundamental human rights, human health and physical, mental and social well-being,

Recognizing further that such knowledge and information are vitally necessary in order to understand the full dimensions of the damage which the apartheid and bantustan policies of South Africa have caused and still continue to cause to millions of people in southern Africa,

Bearing in mind the views expressed on the matter by delegations to the Governing Council at its eleventh session,

1. Reaffirms its sympathy and solidarity with the victims of apartheid for the hardships and deprivation to which they are subjected;
2. Further reaffirms its condemnation of the apartheid system in its various manifestations;
3. Calls upon the world community to exercise its moral obligation to bring this historical injustice to a quick end;
4. Requests the Executive Director to continue to monitor developments pertaining to environmental impacts of apartheid, with specific reference to industry in both urban and rural areas (urban townships and bantustans);
5. Further requests the Executive Director, in conjunction with other United Nations agencies, to respond to appeals for assistance from national liberation movements for victims of apartheid with respect to their educational and project needs on environmental issues for which budgetary provision should be made in terms of the programme priorities of the United Nations Environment Programme.

8th meeting
23 May 1983

11/6. Arms and the environment

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 35/8 of 30 October 1980 and 36/7 of 27 October 1981, Governing Council decisions 9/4 of 25 May 1981 and 9/8 of 26 May 1981, resolution III of 18 May 1982 adopted at the session of a special character and decision 10/13 of 31 May 1982,

Aware that the continuing increase in the production, stockpiling and risk of use of weapons of mass destruction and the development of new types of weapons not only pose a major threat to the environment and even to life on earth, but also compete for limited resources that could be better used for constructive purposes, including development,

1. Appeals to Governments and the world community as a whole to do their utmost to halt the arms race and thereby prevent a major threat to man and his environment;

2. Notes with satisfaction the contribution in this field made by the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency and by other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

3. Requests the Executive Director to take the necessary action for the implementation of the section on the arms race and the environment in the system-wide medium-term environment programme; 25/

4. Further requests the Executive Director to ensure, within available resources, that the environmental implications of existing and new types of armaments and warfare are taken into account in the relevant documents discussed at the United Nations General Assembly and in the Committee on Disarmament;

5. Requests the Executive Director to report to it at its twelfth session on the implementation of the present decision.

8th meeting
23 May 1983

11/7. Programme matters

PART ONE: PROGRAMME BUDGET AND GENERAL MATTERS

The Governing Council,

Having considered the programme budget of the United Nations Environment Programme for the first biennium of the system-wide medium-term environment programme, 1984-1985, 26/

1. Takes note of the structure and contents of the document;

2. Commends the organizations of the United Nations system for their contribution in the preparation of the document and in particular for providing budgetary data, and urges them to provide continuing support to the Executive Director in the future preparation of similar documents;

3. Approves the overall framework for activities contained in the programme budget document;

4. Requests the Executive Director, in implementing the programme, to be guided by the advice given by the Governing Council, in respect of priorities, and in particular:

(a) To assign priority I to ongoing activities, but with a view to reducing or phasing out the support of the Programme as rapidly as possible if funding constraints require overall programme reductions;

(b) To ensure that the programme is directed towards practical action, pilot projects and training, and to place correspondingly less emphasis on activities with a purely documentary output;

(c) To exercise restraint in allocating funds to activities with respect to natural disasters in the biennium 1984-1985;

(d) In the field of environmental awareness, to increase the emphasis given to environmental education, training and public information;

(e) To ensure that priority I continues to be allocated to the important work on Earthwatch, especially the programme of the Global Environmental Monitoring System;

(f) To ensure that priority I is accorded to all aspects of the ongoing regional seas programmes and to the south Asia regional seas programme;

(g) To ensure that priority I is accorded to the water programme;

(h) To ensure that priority I is accorded to work on arid and semi-arid lands and desertification control;

(i) To ensure that priority I is accorded to all activities under regional and technical co-operation, which should also include support for and assistance to regional and subregional programmes;

5. Approves the apportionment among the 10 programmes outlined in the document;

6. Further requests the Executive Director to maintain a balance between the different budget sublines, as reflected in the programme budget document;

7. Requests the Executive Director, at future sessions, to prepare and submit to the Council for appropriate decision at the end of the session a corrigendum to the programme budget document reflecting the results of the debate during the session;

8. Further requests the Executive Director to finalize the draft plan of action for the implementation of the World Soils Policy, together with its financial plan, and submit these to the Council at its twelfth session;

9. Takes note of resolution 136 (1982) of the Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe; 27/

10. Takes note of resolution LDC 13 (7) adopted at the Seventh Consultative Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter; 28/

11. Requests the Executive Director to finalize a financial plan for the implementation of the draft global plan of action for the conservation, management and utilization of marine mammals and submit it to the Council at its twelfth session;

12. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director on the progress made in the implementation of decision 10/25 A of 31 May 1982; 29/

13. Takes note also of the priorities for the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985; 30/

14. Requests the Executive Director to transmit Sessional Committee I's comments on the priorities 31/ to the Secretary-General;

PART TWO: ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

A. Industry and environment

The Governing Council,

Bearing in mind resolution I of the Council at its session of a special character, 32/ in which the Council stressed, inter alia, the importance of addressing environmental problems associated with industrialization and also of involving the extensive capabilities of industry to a greater degree in the anticipation and solution of those problems,

1. Endorses the strategy and general approach proposed by the Executive Director in the industry and transportation component of the programme budget document;

2. Encourages the Executive Director to maintain a balanced consultative process, involving Governments, the United Nations system, industry and relevant international organizations, to ensure that activities sponsored by the Programme in the industrial sector constitute a coherent and sharply focused programme, are efficiently conducted and are fully co-ordinated with relevant activities of other international and regional organizations;

B. Environmental law

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decisions 9/13 of 26 May 1981 and 10/14, 10/17, 10/21, 10/22, 10/23 and 10/24 of 31 May 1982,

Having considered the reports of the Executive Director on programme matters and other documents in the field of environmental law, 33/

Noting with appreciation the progress so far made in the implementation of the environmental law programme, in particular the follow-up to the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Meeting of Senior Government Officials Expert in Environmental Law, held at Montevideo from 28 October to 6 November 1981, 34/

Conscious of the need for effective and timely implementation of the Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law, 35/ in particular the part upon which work has been initiated,

Appreciating the financial support given by, inter alia, the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland for holding expert group meetings in the context of the implementation of the Montevideo Programme,

I

Protection of the ozone layer

1. Expresses appreciation of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts for the Elaboration of a Global Framework Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, including its work on annexes and protocols to such a convention;

2. Requests the Executive Director to convene a third session of the Ad Hoc Working Group in 1983 and, if required, a fourth session in 1984, with a view to having the Working Group, if possible, complete its work and transmit an agreed draft text of such a convention, through the Executive Director and the Governing Council, to the General Assembly;

3. Calls upon Governments and international organizations concerned to participate fully in the above-mentioned sessions;

4. Appeals to Governments to provide the necessary financial resources and/or facilities for the sessions;

5. Further requests the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twelfth session on the progress made with respect to the finalization of the draft convention, and to make recommendations with a view to its possible adoption;

II

Other topics of the Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law

1. Expresses satisfaction that work has been initiated in connection with the preparation of guidelines and principles on:

(a) The protection of the marine environment against pollution from land-based sources;

(b) Environmentally sound transport, handling (including storage) and disposal of toxic and dangerous wastes;

(c) The exchange of information relating to trade in and use and handling of potentially harmful chemicals, in particular pesticides;

2. Requests the Executive Director to ensure the continuation of adequate preparatory work on the meetings to be held on these topics;

3. Calls upon Governments and international organizations concerned to participate fully in the above-mentioned meetings and in the preparatory work for them;

4. Appeals to Governments to provide the necessary financial resources and/or facilities in order to ensure the full and timely implementation of the above-mentioned and, as appropriate, the remaining parts of the Montevideo Programme, including the development of national environmental legislation;

III

Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law

Decides, subject to the availability of additional funds, to entrust the Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law established under decision 91 (V) of 25 May 1977 with the task of developing principles and guidelines with regard to environmental impact assessment;

IV

International treaties and other agreements in the field of the environment

1. Calls upon all States not yet parties to existing conventions and protocols in the field of the environment to consider early adherence to them, and in particular to conventions in the field of nature conservation, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the 1979 Amendment thereto, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat, the 1982 Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, and the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage;

2. Appeals to all contracting parties to promote the effective implementation of the above-mentioned conventions and protocols;

3. Appeals to all States to take appropriate measures to ensure compliance with the international legal obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment, as that obligation is reflected in the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, and in other international agreements;

V

Information on environmental law

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, 36/ and authorizes him to transmit it, together with the sixth supplement to the register of international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, 37/ to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session in accordance with resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975;

2. Requests the Executive Director to make available to the Governing Council at its twelfth session a consolidated and updated register of international treaties and other agreements in the field of the environment in all official languages of the Governing Council;

3. Further requests the Executive Director, in co-operation with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as appropriate, to continue the collection and dissemination of information concerning international and national legal instruments and machinery in the field of the environment, in particular the publication of national profiles in the Handbook of Environmental Legislation and Machinery;

PART THREE: ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

A. Environmental education and training in the Asia and the Pacific region

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decisions 9/12 of 26 May 1981, which identified environmental education and training and technical assistance as a priority for developing countries, 10/25 A of 31 May 1982 on environmental education and training in Africa, and 10/25 B of 31 May 1982 on environmental training for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Aware of the importance of environmental education and training in the management of development and the environment,

Conscious of the need to increase public awareness of environmental issues,

1. Requests the Executive Director to assist the countries of the Asia and the Pacific region, within available resources, in:

(a) Identifying and promoting national, regional and subregional institutions and programmes, as well as programmes of non-governmental organizations offering environmental education and training, in the Asia and Pacific region with a view to consideration in future bienniums of strengthening them and evoking greater and responsible community participation;

(b) Incorporating environmental subjects into curricula of all institutions of learning at all levels of education, and into adult education;

2. Also requests the Executive Director to convene, within available resources, a meeting of experts from Governments, the academic community and the scientific community within the region to develop a programme of action for environmental education and training, as well as public awareness, in the region;

B. Environmental education and training in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Governing Council,

Recognizing the importance of environmental education and training activities in the management of development and the environment,

Recalling its decision 10/25 B of 31 May 1982,

Recognizing in addition the need to contribute to the efforts being undertaken in Latin America and the Caribbean in the fields of environmental education and training, with a view to strengthening the actions of the Network of Environmental Training Institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. Commends the administrative structure of the Network of Environmental Training Institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean, which has proved an appropriate and effective instrument for the implementation of its actions;
2. Recommends to Governments that they should intensify support for the Network and co-operate with the Co-ordination Unit in the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, by means of scholarships and joint publications, giving impetus to the operation of a fund for fellowships and services;
3. Requests the Executive Director to disseminate information on the experience of the Network so that the results already achieved can serve as a guide for similar efforts in other developing regions;
4. Recommends to the Executive Director, bearing in mind the catalytic role of the United Nations Environment Programme, that he continue financial support to the Network, especially in its initial phase, by increasing, within available resources, support for environmental training;

C. Information

The Governing Council,

Recognizing that an effective information programme is essential to the fulfilment of the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme to catalyse environmental action on the world scene, and is an inherent element in the environment programme,

Aware that environmental information is of particular importance in the promotion of sustainable development policies, especially in developing countries,

Noting that information programmes are most effective when directed to practical and technical needs,

Noting also that in the programme budget for 1984-1985 the section on environmental awareness is larger than any other section,

Concerned that, despite significant investment of resources from the Environment Fund, the information activities of the United Nations Environment Programme have not been as forceful and effective, nor have they reached as wide an audience, as is desirable,

1. Notes with satisfaction the statement made by the Executive Director 38/ that a reform of public information activities is being undertaken inter alia to streamline the publications programme, so as to ensure closer co-operation with, and dissemination of information through, non-governmental organizations and better communication of information to the regions and media;

2. Recommends that such reform be based on a cost-effectiveness analysis to be commissioned from a consultant specializing in the field of information and communications technologies, whose terms of reference should include examination of the target groups for the various information activities, the present and projected impact thereof, current estimated costs and suggested improvements, especially in relation to the needs of developing countries;

3. Requests that this cost-effectiveness analysis should pay particular attention to the viability of Mazingira;

4. Further requests the Executive Director to communicate the results of the cost-effectiveness analysis to Governments, and to seek their views in order that he may report to the Council at its twelfth session;

5. Urges that the United Nations Environment Programme extend its support for regional information activities;

6. Requests the Executive Director to ensure that reports resulting from projects sponsored by the Programme are distributed to Governments and, within available resources and whenever appropriate, to scientific institutions and non-governmental organizations, especially in developing countries;

D. Public information in Africa and Asia and the Pacific

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution I adopted on 18 May 1982 at its session of a special character, and decision 10/9 B of 28 May 1982,

Noting with appreciation the intention of the Executive Director to carry out a reform of public information activities, 38/

Requests the Executive Director:

(a) To provide for a well-oriented public information programme to suit the needs of the African and Asia and the Pacific regions;

(b) To improve the circulation of publications of the United Nations Environment Programme so as to reach the greatest possible number of readers;

(c) To explore, with the aid of experts from the regions, the best possible methods of adapting the appropriate available public information material, including audio-visual presentations, on critical environmental issues, and to take necessary action to enable it to reach the greatest possible number of people;

PART FOUR: OCEANS

A. Global marine environment: co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

The Governing Council,

Noting the information provided by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on its ongoing and planned programmes in the fields of marine pollution research and monitoring, 39/

Recognizing the value of such information as a basis for the discharge by the Governing Council of its overall co-ordinating function,

Considering that a joint approach by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission on matters of interest to both organizations will contribute to the optimum use of resources and skills available to them, and will be of benefit to member States,

Aware of resolutions XII 20 and 21 adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its twelfth session,

1. Notes the co-operation existing since 1975 between the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme;
2. Encourages the Commission to continue to report periodically to the Governing Council on its own work and that of its subsidiary bodies, particularly on matters concerning the marine environment;
3. Encourages further co-operation and co-ordination within available resources between the Programme and the Commission on projects of mutual interest on a global basis, such as the regional seas programme, the Programme for the Global Investigation of Pollution in the Marine Environment and the Marine Pollution Monitoring System;

B. Expansion and implementation of the regional seas programme

The Governing Council,

Recalling recommendations of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment 32 and 33 on mammals, 46 to 48 on international co-operation in the field of living marine resources, and 86 to 91 on the monitoring and study of marine pollution, its effects and appropriate remedies, 40/

Recalling its own previous decisions on the regional seas programme,

Recalling the recommendations of intergovernmental conferences on the marine environment, including the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region held at Cartagena, Colombia,

Welcoming all the regional action plans already adopted for the environmental protection of regional seas,

Noting also the consultations carried out in accordance with Council decision 10/20 of 31 May 1982 among members of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme concerning a regional seas programme,

1. Requests the Executive Director to designate the South Asian Seas as a region to be included in the regional seas programme in close collaboration with the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme and Governments in the region, and to assist in the formulation of a plan of action for the environmental protection of the South Asian Seas;

2. Urges all member States to give fullest support to the adoption and ratification of relevant conventions and protocols for the protection and development of the regional marine environment and coastal areas;

3. Invites participating member States to pay their contributions in support of the implementation of the existing regional seas action plans;

4. Urges all Governments, the organizations of the United Nations system, and other intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations to extend their full support to the countries concerned in their efforts to combat coastal erosion and marine pollution;

5. Calls upon the Executive Director to provide adequate funds to the regional seas programme, as a high priority;

PART FIVE: WATER

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution I, section III C, adopted on 18 May 1982 at its session of a special character,

Further recalling the Mar del Plata Action Plan on Water Development and Administration, 41/

1. Requests the Executive Director to sharpen the focus of the water programme by promoting, through the involvement of the relevant agencies, attention to:

(a) Water pollution control measures;

(b) Waste water management, including recycling of waste water;

(c) Rational water management, including river basin management;

(d) Support for the implementation of the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, and support to Governments in order to achieve those objectives;

(e) Development of inland fisheries and aquaculture;

2. Further requests the Executive Director to accord high priority to training workshops, programmes and institution-building in the above-mentioned areas, for developing countries;

PART SIX: TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS: GENETIC RESOURCES

The Governing Council,

Noting that in the proposed programme budget of the United Nations Environment Programme for the first biennium (1984-1985) of the system-wide medium-term environment programme priority has been given to the continued collection and registration of crop and tree genetic resources and related wild strains,

Noting further that in the programme second priority has been given to the establishment of gene banks and registers for animal breeds,

Concerned at the increasing genetic erosion in the world, which can have dangerous effects on, inter alia, world food production, the production of medicines and other pharmaceutical products, and other benefits for mankind,

Convinced of the need to preserve genetic diversity through protection of animal and plant habitats, wildlife management and plant conservation programmes and intensive study and cataloguing of animal and plant species, including those which may at present be of little economic value,

1. Requests the Executive Director, in co-operation with Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue to promote the in situ conservation of endangered animal and plant genetic resources;
2. Further requests the Executive Director to encourage the relevant international organizations to extend coverage of registers and gene banks to include all endangered plant and animal genetic resources;

PART SEVEN: ARID AND SEMI-ARID LAND ECOSYSTEMS AND
DESERTIFICATION CONTROL: DESERTIFICATION IN AFRICA

A. Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 32/170 and 32/172 of 19 December 1977, 33/88 and 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979, 35/73 of 5 December 1980, 36/190 of 17 December 1981, 37/147 of 17 December 1982 and 37/216, 37/218 and 37/220 of 20 December 1982,

Recalling also Governing Council decision 10/14, section VII, of 31 May 1982, on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Reiterating its profound concern over the continuing critical impact of the desertification process in the developing countries, especially in Africa,

Deeply concerned about the slow implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

1. Invites all Governments and international organizations concerned and interested to facilitate the task of the Consultative Group for Desertification Control to enable it to achieve the objectives assigned to it;

2. Appeals to all concerned Governments and organizations to exert every effort to support and strengthen the role of the Consultative Group;

3. Invites the General Assembly to consider expanding the role of the Consultative Group to include also information exchange;

4. Appeals to countries to contribute financially to the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, thus bringing into effect General Assembly resolution 33/116 C, section IX, of 29 January 1979, which created the Special Account for that purpose;

5. Requests the Executive Director to pursue his efforts to persuade Governments to make their views known in reasonable time, in particular with special reference to the provision of additional resources for the financing of the Plan of Action;

B. Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region

The Governing Council,

Noting with appreciation the steps undertaken by the Executive Director to implement the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region,

Recalling its decisions 9/22 B of 26 May 1981 and 10/18 of 31 May 1982 on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region,

1. Expresses its satisfaction at the progress made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in assisting the Governments of the region, on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme, and under the joint venture with the United Nations Development Programme, in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region;

2. Appeals to all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to give due consideration to strengthening efforts and support for desertification control in the region;

3. Requests the Executive Director to continue the support of the United Nations Environment Programme for the joint venture at a level commensurate with the pressing needs of the Sudano-Sahelian region;

4. Authorizes the Executive Director to submit his report on the implementation of the Plan of Action in the Sudano-Sahelian region, 42/ and the present decision, on behalf of the Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session through the Economic and Social Council;

5. Invites the General Assembly to consider:

(a) Expanding the mandate of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office into the area of dealing with the environmental consequences of drought, in addition to those of desertification, in the Sudano-Sahelian region as a whole;

(b) Working out appropriate institutional and other relevant arrangements which would enable that Office to be charged with such an additional responsibility;

PART EIGHT: REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

A. Regional programmes in Africa

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/188 of 18 December 1979 and Governing Council decisions 9/12 of 26 May 1981 and 10/4, 10/6, 10/25 A and 10/26 of 31 May 1982,

1. Requests the Executive Director to accord high priority in the provision of assistance to African countries to dealing with the most urgent environmental problems in Africa, namely:

(a) Desertification and problems connected to it and to arid and semi-arid lands;

(b) Provision of safe water supply and waste water management;

(c) Problems of terrestrial ecosystems, especially protection of forests, reforestation and soil management;

(d) Environmental aspects of food production systems and prevention of food losses;

(e) Public awareness of environmental issues, and environmental education and training;

(f) Protection of the marine environment and conservation of marine resources;

as well as to the following issues, which are also of primary importance:

(g) Development of alternative environmentally sound energy resources;

(h) Wildlife conservation and development of national parks and reserves;

(i) Environment and development and environmental management;

(j) Environmental aspects of mining and industrial development;

2. Invites the Governments of the region to convene, in co-operation with regional organizations and institutions, an African environmental conference to discuss national environmental priorities and identify common problems worthy of a regional programme of action to deal with serious environmental problems in Africa;

3. Requests the Executive Director to instruct the Regional Office for Africa to provide secretariat services for the conference;

B. Regional activities in Asia and the Pacific

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decisions 10/2, 10/4, 10/6 and 10/26 of 31 May 1982 and resolution I adopted on 18 May 1982 at its session of a special character, in which the Council inter alia requested the Executive Director to ensure that the planning and implementation of environmental activities are responsive to regional and subregional needs, to consider the possibility of utilizing the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific as a forum for periodic consultations among Governments in the region, and to continue to provide, at the present level, institutional support to the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific commensurate with its needs,

Further recalling the action taken on the aforementioned decisions, in response to the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-second session in May 1982, by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1982/160 of 28 July 1982 and by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/234 of 21 December 1982,

Keeping in mind that both in terms of area and population the Asia and the Pacific region constitutes the largest of all the five regions (with an area of 31 million square kilometres and a population of approximately 2.5 billion, or 56 per cent of the world's population), and has the most complex and severe environmental problems intimately linked with poverty, degradation of resources and development,

Noting with appreciation the work done by the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in integrating environmental dimensions in the Commission's programmes and implementing several other priority environmental programmes,

Noting also the decision of the Environment Experts Group of the Association of South-East Asian Nations at its sixth meeting, held at Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in March 1983, approving the Association's Environment Programme II with the following priority areas: 1. Environmental management including environmental impact assessment; 2. Nature conservation including the establishment of heritage parks and reserves; 3. Industry and environment; 4. Environmental education and training; 5. Environmental information and environmental data; 6. Marine environment; 7. Remote sensing,

Taking into account resolution 224 (XXXVIII) of the Commission on the incorporation of environmental considerations into the Commission's economic and social development activities, relating to strengthening the regional activity including support to subregional and regional programmes and institutional support to the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit at the present level,

1. Requests the Executive Director to provide, within available resources, financial support towards the strengthening of regional activity, including support to regional and subregional programmes and to the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

2. Requests the Executive Director to accord high priority in the provision of assistance to regional activities in Asia and the Pacific, and to the priority areas identified in the Environment Programme II of the Association of South-East Asian Nations;

3. Also requests the Executive Director to assist in seeking further support and funds from bilateral as well as multilateral sources for the activities enumerated in that Programme, especially for environmental training and education and nature conservation;

C. Year of the Trees (1988) for Asia and the Pacific

The Governing Council,

Recognizing the serious state of deforestation and degradation of forest resources in the member countries of the region covered by the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme,

1. Commends the initiatives taken by the countries of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, at their first Governing Council meeting, to overcome the deforestation problem in the region by designating 1988 as Year of the Trees for South Asia;

2. Invites other countries in the Asia and the Pacific region to consider designating 1988 as Year of the Trees;

3. Requests the Executive Director to support, within available resources, the formulation of projects and programmes by the secretariat of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme in connection with the Year of the Trees, and to assist in soliciting support from donor agencies for the implementation of those activities;

D. Regional activity in Europe

The Governing Council,

Noting the importance of the support provided by the United Nations Environment Programme for the activities of the Economic Commission for Europe in the field of the environment, as well as its co-ordinating and catalytic role,

Recalling that in its co-ordinating and catalytic role the Programme should consider supporting international environmental activities during the initial period,

Recalling also its decision 8/16 A of 29 April 1980, in which it requested the Executive Director to consider favourably requests by the Executive Secretary of the Commission for support to specific projects during the implementation of the decisions of the High-level Meeting within the framework of the Commission,

Welcoming the entry into force in March 1983 of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution adopted at the High-level Meeting,

Welcoming also the Programme's intention, which was expressed to the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems at their eleventh session, of maintaining its present level of support for the Commission's activities,

Noting with satisfaction the results of the co-operation in recent years between the Programme and the Commission in the implementation of the co-operative programme for the monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transport of pollutants in Europe, and the Declaration on Low- and Non-waste Technology and the Reutilization and Recycling of Wastes, which constitute an important practical contribution to the implementation of the system-wide medium-term environment programme and are of global significance,

Noting the intention of the Senior Advisers to consider the possibility of developing a strategy for environmental protection and rational utilization of natural resources in the Commission's member countries to the year 2000 and beyond, which might become part of the Environment Programme's global nature conservation strategy,

Taking into account the decisions of the Commission at its thirty-eighth session on co-operation in the field of environmental protection and improvement and air pollution, as well as the report of the Senior Advisers at their eleventh session,

1. Invites the Executive Director to continue to co-operate closely with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe on environmental issues;
2. Requests the Executive Director to repond favourably to the recommendations of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems for a continuation of financial support from the United Nations Environment Programme for the European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme, in the minimal amount required and on a transitional basis, not to extend past 1984;
3. Urges the contracting parties to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution to reach agreement at the first meeting of its Executive Body on the financial arrangements for implementing the Convention (including the European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme);
4. Further requests the Executive Director to consider favourably, within available resources, requests by the Executive Secretary of the Commission for support to appropriate projects;

PART NINE: IMPLEMENTATION

The Governing Council,

Invites the Executive Director to inform the Governing Council at its twelfth session of the work carried out in the implementation of the present decision.

10th meeting
24 May 1983

11/8. Assistance to the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decisions 10/4, 10/6 and 10/26 of 31 May 1982, and resolution I adopted on 18 May 1982 at its session of a special character,

Noting with satisfaction the extent of co-operation among the member countries of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, as well as the support extended by the United Nations Environment Programme, especially through its Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific,

1. Requests the Executive Director to accord high priority, in the provision of assistance to the South Asia region, to projects within the framework of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme;

2. Also requests the Executive Director to assist in seeking further support and funds from bilateral as well as multilateral sources for the activities of the Co-operative Programme, especially for the priority areas of:

- (a) Environment and development, and environmental impact assessment;
- (b) Environment and energy;
- (c) Environment and education;
- (d) Marine ecosystems;

3. Further requests the Executive Director to inform the Governing Council at its twelfth session of progress in the implementation of the present decision.

10th meeting
24 May 1983

11/9. Regional programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decisions 9/21 of 26 May 1981, 10/2 of 31 May 1982, 10/3 of 28 May 1982 and 10/19 and 10/25 B of 31 May 1982,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Executive Director for convening the Meeting of Government-nominated Experts on Regional Environmental Programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean at Buenos Aires from 14 to 17 March 1983, for the general purpose of arriving at concrete recommendations for intraregional co-operation in the field of the environment, and for providing secretariat support through the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean;

2. Decides:

(a) To support the strengthening of regional and subregional activities in Latin America and the Caribbean within the general policy of, and resources available to, the programme of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(b) To urge Governments and international organizations to strengthen their efforts to support the ongoing programmes, co-ordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme, of the Latin American Environmental Training Network, the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the South-East Pacific and the Action Plan of the Caribbean Environment Programme;

(c) To recommend that future intergovernmental meetings on the environment in the Latin America and Caribbean region be preceded by meetings of high-level experts designated by Governments, convened by the Executive Director, for the purpose of considering the technical aspects of regional and subregional environmental programmes;

(d) To request the Executive Director that the objectives of the regional and subregional programmes designated as of common interest which were adopted at the Meeting of Government-nominated Experts, and which appear in the report of the Meeting, 43/ be considered within the framework of the medium-term plan of the United Nations Environment Programme, and that he consider the possibility of an early start on their implementation;

(e) To invite the various regional intergovernmental agencies and the organizations of the United Nations system according to their mandate, to participate in the formulation and implementation of the programmes;

(f) To invite also, after consultation with Governments, the participation of those non-governmental organizations which can support the formulation and implementation of the programmes;

(g) To request the Executive Director that intraregional co-operation in the implementation of regional environmental programmes be given special consideration so as to strengthen the regional component of the system-wide medium-term environment programme.

10th meeting
24 May 1983

11/10. The Environment Fund

The Governing Council,

Having considered the financial report and audited accounts of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the biennium 1980-1981 ended 31 December 1981 44/ and the financial report and interim accounts (unaudited) of the Environment Fund for the first year of the biennium 1982-1983 ended 31 December 1982, 45/ as well as the reports of the Executive Director on the implementation of the Fund programme in 1982, 46/ the management of the Environment Fund, 47/ the Revolving Fund (Information), 48/ the management of trust funds and other funds 49/ and project and programme evaluation, 50/

1. Takes note of the financial report and audited accounts of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the biennium 1980-1981 ended 31 December 1981, and of the financial report and interim accounts (unaudited) for the first year of the biennium 1982-1983 ended 31 December 1982;

2. Takes note also of the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the Fund programme in 1982;
3. Expresses its appreciation to Governments that have contributed to the Environment Fund, and particularly to those that have done so for the first time in 1982 and 1983 and to those that have increased their contribution for those years;
4. Reiterates its appeal to all Governments that have not yet pledged a contribution to the Environment Fund for 1983 to do so as soon as possible;
5. Again appeals to all Governments to pay their contributions as near as possible to the beginning of the year to which they relate;
6. Reaffirms the desirability of achieving a Fund programme during the period of the system-wide medium-term environment programme, 1984-1989, based on available resources of \$42.5 million per annum in 1982 prices, increased to take account of inflation in subsequent years in accordance with the rate used in compilation of the regular budget;
7. Calls upon all Governments to make firm pledges of contributions for the years 1984 and 1985 before the end of 1983, and to increase such contributions to enable a Fund programme based on total contributions of \$85 million in those two years to be achieved;
8. Renews its appeal to Governments that do not contribute to the Environment Fund in fully convertible currency to pay a part of their contribution in convertible currency for 1984 and an increasing proportion thereof in convertible currency in each year thereafter;
9. Reiterates its request to the Executive Director to make the most effective use of all currencies, taking into account the need for balanced project selection;
10. Endorses the proposal of the Executive Director that contributions outstanding in respect of the period 1978-1981 for which no confirmation of intention to pay has been received should be deleted from the estimate of resources; 51/
11. Endorses also the recommendation that the period of the system-wide medium-term environment programme (1984-1989) be regarded as a single medium-term plan period for the purpose of estimating resources of the Fund under the conditions for the estimation of future resources and their apportionment, paragraph 2 (d); 52/
12. Further urges Governments to support Fund programme activities in which they are particularly interested by making counterpart contributions to individual projects under rule 204.1 of the Financial Rules of the Fund;

13. Endorses the recommendation that the Environment Fund's input in staff time financed from the programme and programme support costs budget should be regarded as sufficient contribution by the Environment Fund for purposes of accepting counterpart funds for projects under the provisions of rule 204.1 of the Financial Rules of the Fund;

14. Reiterates its wish that the Executive Director should aim to arrange that the allocations for the programme and programme support costs budget do not exceed 33 per cent of the estimated contributions for any given year;

15. Approves an appropriation of \$70 million for Fund programme activities and of \$2 million for Fund programme reserve activities for the biennium 1984-1985;

16. Decides to apportion the appropriation for Fund programme and Fund programme reserve activities as follows:

	<u>1984-1985</u> (Thousands of US dollars)	<u>Percentage</u>
Health and human settlements	7 150	10.21
Environment and development	8 050	11.50
Earthwatch	8 500	12.14
Terrestrial ecosystems	10 800	15.44
Oceans	7 400	10.58
Water	3 000	4.29
Desertification	6 700	9.57
Arms race and the environment	400	0.57
Environmental awareness	12 000	17.13
Regional support	<u>6 000</u>	<u>8.57</u>
Total Fund programme activities	<u>70 000</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Fund programme reserve	<u>2 000</u>	
Total	<u>72 000</u>	

17. Requests the Executive Director to allocate available resources to the different budget lines so far as possible in proportion to the approved apportionment;

18. Reconfirms the Executive Director's authority to adjust the apportionment by 20 per cent in each budget line, within the overall appropriation for Fund programme activities in 1984-1985;

19. Stresses again the need to maintain the liquidity of the Fund at all times;

20. Authorizes the Executive Director to enter into forward commitments of up to \$16 million for Fund programme activities in the years 1986-1987;
21. Takes note of the report on the Revolving Fund (Information);
22. Authorizes the Executive Director to allocate from the Fund programme reserve to the Revolving Fund (Information) the amount required to bring the uncommitted balance of the latter at 1 January 1984 to the sum of \$100,000;
23. Takes note of the report on the management of trust funds and other funds;
24. Approves the extension for a further two years until 31 December 1985 of trust funds established under the rules of the Environment Fund, as follows:
 - (a) The Regional Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates;
 - (b) The Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution;
 - (c) The Trust Fund for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;
 - (d) The Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the West and Central African Region;
 - (e) The Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme;
 - (f) The Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the East Asian Seas;
25. Urges Governments to pay their contribution to the trust funds as near as possible to the beginning of the calendar year to which the contribution applies;
26. Takes note with satisfaction of the report on project and programme evaluation, and ~~encourages~~ the Executive Director to continue strengthening evaluation activities.

8th meeting
23 May 1983

11/11. Additional resources for dealing with serious environmental problems in developing countries

The Governing Council,

1. Takes note of the Executive Director's note on dealing with serious environmental problems in developing countries 53/ and of the results of his consultations with Governments and international organizations, 54/

2. Requests the Executive Director to pursue his efforts to obtain additional resources for dealing with serious environmental problems in developing countries, without, however, necessarily concentrating on the specific proposals contained in his reports to the Governing Council at its ninth 55/ and tenth 56/ sessions, and to report in the context of decision 10/26 to the Council at its twelfth session.

8th meeting
23 May 1983

11/12. Programme and programme support costs

A

Performance report on the programme and programme support costs budget for the biennium 1982-1983

The Governing Council,

1. Takes note of the performance report of the Executive Director on the programme and programme support costs budget for the biennium 1982-1983, and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 57/
2. Notes with approval the efforts that have been made to reduce expenditure;
3. Notes the concern of the Executive Director at the low level of resources and his statement that it would not be possible to continue implementing the programme at that level during the coming bienniums without seriously impairing efficiency;
4. Approves the revised appropriation level of \$20,600,000 with the programme and object-of-expenditure distribution proposed by the Executive Director.

8th meeting
23 May 1983

B

Programme and programme support costs budget for the biennium 1984-1985

The Governing Council,

Having considered the Executive Director's estimates for the programme and programme support costs budget for the biennium 1984-1985 and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 58/

1. Takes note, without prejudice to any decision the General Assembly may take on the matter at its thirty-eighth session, of the proposal of the Executive Director to recommend to the General Assembly the transfer of four Principal Officer (D-1), four Senior Officer (P-5), five Second Officer (P-3) and one

Associate Officer (P-2) posts, together with ten supporting local-level posts, from the programme and programme support costs budget of the Environment Fund to the relevant section of the United Nations regular budget, effective 1 January 1984;

2. Approves the redeployment of four Senior Officer (P-5) posts, together with four supporting local-level posts, from the regional advisory services project, financed from Fund programme activities, and the redeployment of six local-level posts from the regional information services project, financed from Fund programme activities, to the programme and programme support costs budget of the Environment Fund;

3. Approves the reclassification of one Second Officer (P-3) post to First Officer (P-4) in the environmental programmes programme, and of two Second Officer (P-3) posts to First Officer (P-4) in the conference services programme;

4. Further approves:

(a) The appropriation of \$26,020,000 for the programme and programme support costs budget for the biennium 1984-1985 on the subprogramme and object-of-expenditure pattern as proposed; 59/

(b) An increased appropriation of up to a maximum of \$1.6 million for the programme and programme support costs budget equivalent to the cost of any of the posts referred to in paragraph 1 above which are not approved by the General Assembly for 1984-1985;

5. Requests the Executive Director to reflect any increase within the limit laid down in paragraph 4 (b) above in his performance report for 1984-1985;

6. Reiterates its wish that the Executive Director should aim to arrange that the allocations for the programme and programme support costs budget do not exceed 33 per cent of the estimated contributions for any given year;

7. Further requests the Executive Director to administer the appropriation for the programme and programme support costs budget 1984-1985 with the utmost economy and restraint consistent with the effective implementation of the programme, bearing in mind the availability of resources, and to report to the Governing Council at its thirteenth session on the implementation of the programme and programme support costs budget during the first year of the biennium 1984-1985.

8th meeting
23 May 1983

C

Personnel policies

The Governing Council,

Takes note of the report of the Executive Director on personnel policies. 60/

8th meeting
23 May 1983

Other decision

Provisional agenda, date and place of the twelfth session
of the Governing Council

At the 9th plenary meeting of the session, on 23 May, the Council decided that, in accordance with rules 1, 2 and 4 of its rules of procedure, and bearing in mind decisions 11/2, on the periodicity and duration of Council sessions, and 11/1, section VIII, on a detailed assessment of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, its twelfth session would be held at Nairobi from 16 to 29 May 1984, to be preceded by informal consultations among heads of delegation in the afternoon of 15 May 1984. That period would allow for two additional days for consideration of the comprehensive assessment of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification. The Council approved the following provisional agenda for the session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organization of the session:
 - (a) Election of officers;
 - (b) Agenda and organization of the work of the session.
3. Credentials of representatives.
4. Executive Director's annual and introductory reports.
5. Co-ordination questions, including the review of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.
6. State-of-the-environment report 1984.
7. Programme matters:
 - (a) Performance between two sessions of the Council;
 - (b) Matters requiring reporting to or guidance by the Governing Council.
8. Review of the implementation of the Fund programme in 1983 and of the financial report and interim accounts (unaudited) for the biennium 1982-1983 ended 31 December 1983.
9. Comprehensive assessment of the status of desertification and of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification.
10. Provisional agenda, date and place of the thirteenth session of the Governing Council.
11. Other business.
12. Adoption of the report.
13. Closure of the session.

Notes

- 1/ UNEP/GC.11/3 and Corr.1, Add.1 and Supplement, Add.2 and Corr.1, Add.3 and Corr.1 and 2, Add.4 and Supplement, Add.5 and Supplement, Add.6 and Add.7.
- 2/ UNEP/GC.11/2.
- 3/ UNEP/GC.11/5.
- 4/ UNEP/GC.11/6.
- 5/ UNEP/GC.11/4 and Corr.1.
- 6/ UNEP/GC.11/4/Add.1/Supplement, annex I.
- 7/ UNEP/GC/INFORMATION/6/Add.7.
- 8/ UNEP/GC.11/3/Add.1 and Supplement.
- 9/ The meetings of permanent representatives and/or Government-designated officials or of the core group will not require translation or interpretation.
- 10/ The distribution suggested by the Council, in line with the distribution of its own membership as laid down in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), is as follows: Africa - 5; Asia - 4; Eastern Europe - 2; Latin America - 3; Western Europe and others - 4.
- 11/ UNEP/GC.10/7 and Corr.1.
- 12/ Resolution II adopted by the Council at its session of a special character.
- 13/ Council decision 10/5.
- 14/ UNEP/GC.11/3/Add.3 and Corr.1 and 2.
- 15/ UNEP/GC.11/3/Add.3, paras. 24-27 and annex, paras. 7-9.
- 16/ Ibid., annex, paras. 1-5.
- 17/ Resolution 37/219 of 20 December 1982.
- 18/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/38/25), annex, pp. 28-29.
- 19/ Ibid., chap. II, para. 9.
- 20/ UNEP/GC.10/7 and Corr.1.
- 21/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. I.
- 22/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part one, annex II.

23/ UNEP/GC.11/3/Add.4 and Supplement.

24/ UNEP/GC.11/3/Add.6.

25/ UNEP/GC.10/7, sect. XV.

26/ UNEP/GC.11/7 and Corr.1.

27/ UNEP/GC.11/SC.I/INF.1.

28/ UNEP/GC.11/SC.I/INF.2.

29/ UNEP/GC.11/8/Add.2, paras. 1-3.

30/ UNEP/GC.11/SC.I/L.1.

31/ Ibid., chap. V., sect. L.

32/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part one, annex I, pp. 25-40.

33/ UNEP/GC.11/8 and Add.1 and 2, UNEP/GC.11/9 and Corr.1 and UNEP/GC/INFORMATION/5/Supplement 6.

34/ UNEP/GC.10/5/Add.2, annex, chap. I.

35/ Ibid., annex, chap. II.

36/ UNEP/GC.11/9 and Corr.1.

37/ UNEP/GC.11/INFORMATION/5/Supplement 6.

38/ UNEP/GC.11/3/Add.7.

39/ IOC/INF-523.

40/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14), chap. II.

41/ Report of the United Nations Water Conference, Mar del Plata, 14-25 March 1977 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.II.A.12 and corrigendum), chap. I.

42/ UNEP/GC.11/10/Add.1.

43/ UNEP/IG.40/6, annex VII.

44/ UNEP/GC.11/L.1.

45/ UNEP/GC.11/L.2 and Corr.1.

46/ UNEP/GC.11/2, chap. V and annex V.

47/ UNEP/GC.11/12 and Add.2.

- 48/ UNEP/GC.11/12 and Add.1.
- 49/ UNEP/GC.11/13 and Add.1.
- 50/ UNEP/GC.11/14.
- 51/ UNEP/GC.11/2, chap. V, para. 13.
- 52/ Governing Council decision 10 (II).
- 53/ UNEP/GC.11/3/Add.5.
- 54/ UNEP/GC.11/3/Add.5/Supplement.
- 55/ UNEP/GC.9/10/Add.2.
- 56/ UNEP/GC.10/11/Add.1.
- 57/ UNEP/GC.11/15 and UNEP/GC.11/L.3 respectively.
- 58/ UNEP/GC.11/16 and Corr.1 and UNEP/GC.11/L.4 respectively.
- 59/ UNEP/GC.11/16, table 19.
- 60/ UNEP/GC.11/17.