

**UNITED NATIONS**  
**ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**  
—  
**REPORT OF THE**  
**GOVERNING COUNCIL**

—  
**(Session of a special character  
and tenth session)**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION  
SUPPLEMENT No. 25 (A/37/25)



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**NOTE**

**Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.**

[27 August 1982]

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[Original: Spanish]

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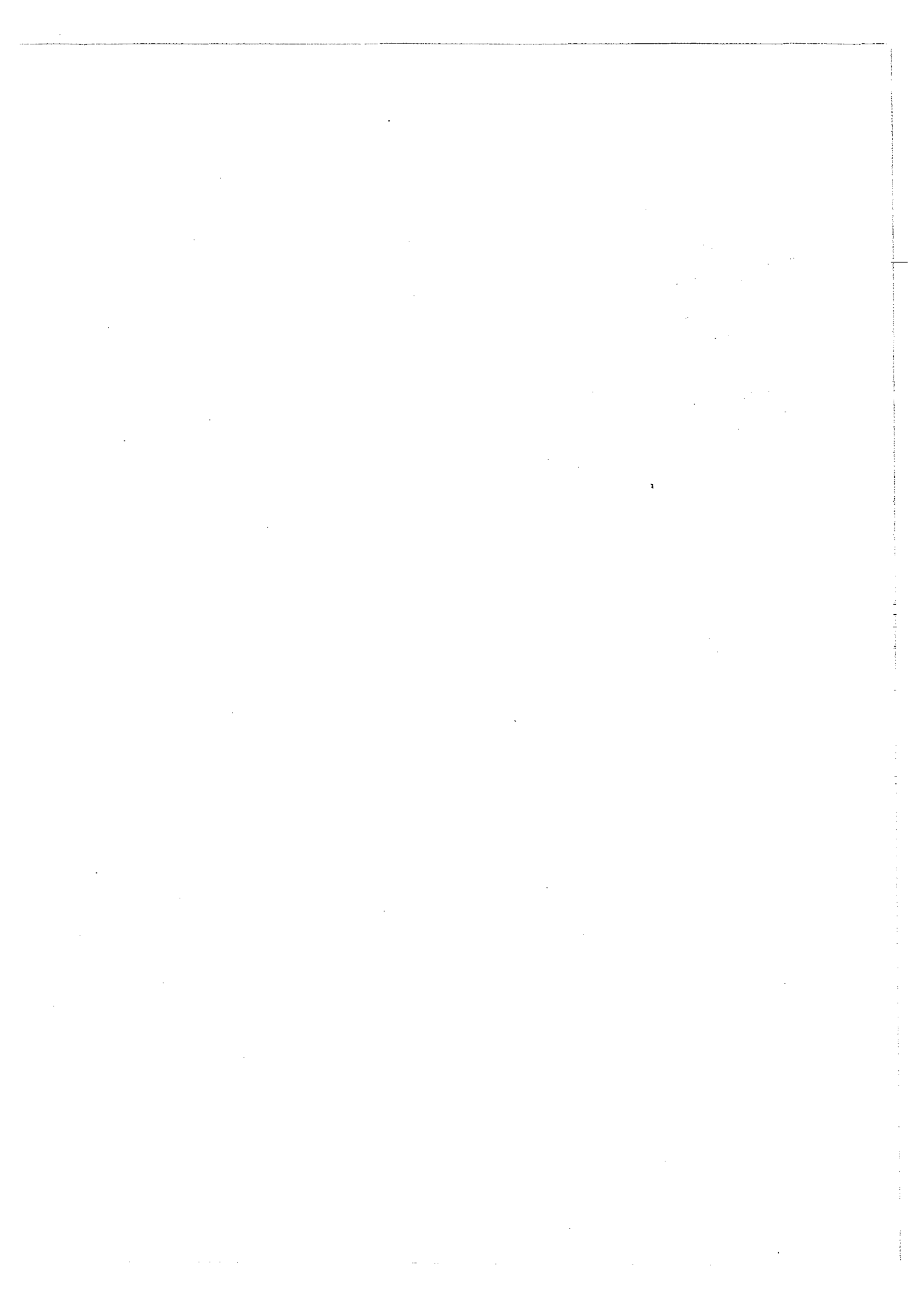
\* The full report on the work of the session, containing inter alia chapters on the discussions in plenary meetings and in the sessional committees, has been distributed to Governments as document UNEP/GC.10/14 and Corr.1.

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Part One

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL ON ITS SESSION  
OF A SPECIAL CHARACTER  
(10-18 May 1982)

INTRODUCTION

1. The report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on its session of a special character convened in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 35/74 of 5 December 1980 and 36/189 of 17 December 1981 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm, June 1972) is herewith submitted to the General Assembly.

2. The session of a special character of the Governing Council was held at UNEP headquarters, Nairobi, from 10 to 18 May 1982. The present report was adopted by the Council at the 13th meeting of the session, on 18 May 1982.

## CHAPTER I

### ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

#### A. Opening of the session

3. In the absence of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the session was opened by his representative, the Executive Director of UNEP.

4. The session was then addressed by H.E. Daniel arap Moi, President of Kenya and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, who said that there was a direct relationship between widespread poverty and environmental degradation that must not be ignored. Only when poverty was relieved could work begin in earnest to restore and conserve the environment. Moreover, there was no lack of intellectual, technological and material resources which could be deployed to help meet basic human needs throughout the world: what was lacking was political will to tackle the problem. He also drew attention to the population explosion in many parts of the developing world, which made it essential to shift from the safe ground of talking about human health and well-being and recognize that the central issue was that of human survival. Continuation of present trends would lead to total collapse; they must be halted and where possible reversed. Against a background of inadequate support to UNEP in the past, he urged all countries to co-operate with it in the years to come, and to enable it to play a more active, fearless role as a warning system and pressure group.

5. The Executive Director read out messages from His Majesty King Baudouin I, King of the Belgians, Zhao Ziyang, Premier of the State Council of China, H.E. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, H.E. Fernando Belaunde Terry, President of Peru, and His Majesty Charles XVI Gustaf, King of Sweden, as well as from the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

#### B. Adoption of the rules of procedure

6. At the 1st plenary meeting of the session, on 10 May 1982, the Governing Council adopted the rules of procedure for the session of a special character as decided upon by the General Assembly in resolution 36/189 (UNEP/GC(SSC)/3).



### C. Attendance

7. The following States 1/\* were represented at the session:

Algeria	Germany, Federal	Peru
Argentina	Republic of	Philippines
Australia	Ghana	Poland
Austria	Greece	Portugal
Bahrain	Guinea	Republic of Korea
Bangladesh	Holy See	Romania
Barbados	Hungary	Rwanda
Belgium	Iceland	Saudi Arabia
Benin	India	Senegal
Botswana	Indonesia	Seychelles
Brazil	Iraq	Somalia
Bulgaria	Ireland	Spain
Burundi	Israel	Sri Lanka
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Italy	Sudan
Canada	Ivory Coast	Swaziland
Chad	Jamaica	Sweden
Chile	Japan	Switzerland
China	Jordan	Thailand
Colombia	Kenya	Togo
Comoros	Kuwait	Tunisia
Costa Rica	Lebanon	Turkey
Cyprus	Lesotho	Uganda
Czechoslovakia	Liberia	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Democratic Kampuchea	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Malawi	United Arab Emirates
Democratic Yemen	Malaysia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Denmark	Mali	United Republic of Tanzania
Ecuador	Mauritania	United States of America
Egypt	Mexico	Uruguay
Ethiopia	Morocco	Venezuela
Finland	Netherlands	Yugoslavia
France	New Zealand	Zaire
Gabon	Nicaragua	Zambia
Gambia	Nigeria	Zimbabwe
German Democratic Republic	Norway	
	Oman	
	Pakistan	
	Papua New Guinea	

8. The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Pan-African Congress of Azania were also represented by Observers.

9. The United Nations Secretariat was represented by the Assistant Secretary-General, Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, and representatives of the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, the Department of Public Information and the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

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\* The notes to the present text are to be found at the end of the text following paragraph 122.

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

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

The World Food Programme (WFP) was also represented.

11. The following specialized agencies were represented:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)  
International Labour Organisation and Office (ILO)  
International Maritime Organization (IMO)  
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.

12. The following other intergovernmental organizations were represented:

African Development Bank (ADB)  
African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO)  
Commonwealth Secretariat  
Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA)  
Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLOC-EA)  
European Economic Community (EEC)  
International Centre for Training and Education in Environmental Sciences (CIFCA)  
League of Arab States  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)  
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)  
World Tourism Organization

13. In addition, 47 international and 66 other non-governmental organizations were represented by observers in accordance with the practices normally followed by the Governing Council.

14. In letters to the President of the Council dated 14 May 1982, the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic objected to the inclusion in the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany of officials from the Federal Environmental Agency in Berlin (West). The objection was contested by the representative of the United States of America, writing also on behalf of the representatives of France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in a letter to the President of the

Council dated 17 May 1982, and by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, in a letter to the President dated 17 May 1982. The four letters are reproduced in annex III.

**D. Election of the President of the session**

15. At the opening meeting of the session of a special character, the Governing Council elected as President, by acclamation, the Hon. Peter Oloo-Aringo (Kenya).

16. At the invitation of the President, the Council was then addressed by H.E. Mr. Ingemund Bengtsson, Speaker of the House of the Swedish Parliament and President of the Stockholm Conference, and by Mr. Maurice Strong, Secretary-General of the Stockholm Conference and first Executive Director of UNEP.

**E. Organizational and procedural matters**

**1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

17. The Council adopted the draft provisional agenda for the session of a special character as approved by the General Assembly. 2/ The agenda as adopted read as follows:

- "1. Opening of the session.
- "2. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
- "3. Election of the President of the session.
- "4. Organizational and procedural matters: 136/
  - "(a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
  - "(b) Election of officers other than the President.
- "5. Credentials of representatives.
- "6. Review of the major achievements in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Human Environment.
- "7. Future perspectives, action and international co-operation in the field of the environment, and major environmental trends to be addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme over the next 10 years.
- "8. Adoption of the report of the session.
- "9. Closure of the session.

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"136/ Statements in plenary meeting are expected to be made in accordance with decision 9/2 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme."

18. The Council agreed that agenda items 6 and 7 would be discussed in the context of a general debate in plenary. It also agreed to establish an open-ended Committee of the Whole to formulate, for consideration and adoption by the Council meeting in plenary session, a draft decision or decisions on agenda items 6 and 7 in the light of statements made during the general debate, and an open-ended Working Group to formulate a brief declaration for consideration and adoption by the Council meeting in plenary session.

19. The Committee of the Whole held eight meetings from 10 to 17 May 1982. At the 1st meeting, it elected Mr. Martin W. Holdgate (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as Chairman and Mr. Arnold B. Caoili (Philippines) as Rapporteur, and adopted a programme of work and timetable. The Committee had before it the documentation considered by the Governing Council in plenary session under agenda items 6 and 7. It took as the basis for its work option I in the draft proposed action by the Governing Council (UNEP/GC(SSC)/2/Add.1) and amendments thereto submitted by a number of delegations (UNEP/GC(SSC)/CW/L.2, L.3, L.4 and Corr.1, L.6, L.7 and L.8). After extensive discussion, the Committee decided to recommend adoption by the Governing Council the draft of the text which appears in annex I to the present report as resolution I. Regarding section III, paragraph 2 (c) of the draft decision, the delegation of Greece proposed the addition of "and other" before "difficulties", and reserved its position regarding the wording accepted. The delegation of the United States of America reserved its position on section III, paragraph 2 (j) pending the completion of the work of the Working Group on the draft declaration. The delegation of Belgium stated that it interpreted section VI, paragraph 7 (c) as in no way calling in question the global character of the responsibilities of UNEP and the budgetary implications deriving therefrom.

20. The Working Group held four meetings from 11 to 17 May 1982. At its 1st meeting, the Working Group elected Dr. Manuel López Portillo y Ramos (Mexico) as Chairman and H.E. Jan Witek (Poland) as Rapporteur. The Working Group reviewed documents UNEP/GC(SSC)/L.1, L.2 and Add.1 and 2, and agreed, with the exception of two bracketed parts on which consensus was not reached, on a text which it recommended that the Governing Council adopt by consensus as the Nairobi Declaration. One delegation, referring to paragraph 10 of that text, stated that the African group and several other delegations had expressed concern that the catalytic role of UNEP had not been satisfactory, and should be strengthened by expanding it to include implementation of programmes in certain areas. That delegation said that the Executive Director should report on that possibility at its eleventh session.

## 2. Election of officers other than the President

21. At the 1st meeting of the session, the Council elected the following officers by acclamation:

Vice-Presidents: Mr. Abdul Rehaman Abdallah Al-Awadi (Kuwait)  
Mr. Jaroslav Sobisek (Czechoslovakia)  
Mr. Göte Svensson (Sweden)

Rapporteur: Mr. Sálvano Briceño (Venezuela)

#### F. Credentials of representatives

22. In accordance with rule 17, paragraph 2 of the rules of procedure for the session, the Council, at the 1st plenary meeting, decided to appoint to its Credentials Committee the same members as those of the Credentials Committee at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, namely, China, Ghana, the Netherlands, the Niger, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America. At the 5th plenary meeting, on 12 May 1982, the Council, having been informed by the President that the Niger, Panama and Paraguay were not present at the session, appointed Ecuador, Peru and Senegal in their stead.

23. The Credentials Committee held its 1st meeting on 14 May 1982 and elected Mr. Emmanuel Y. Agorsor (Ghana) as its Chairman. The Committee held two meetings, and in its report (UNEP/GC(SSC)/L.9) recommended a draft resolution for adoption by the Council (adopted as resolution VI - see annex I, p. 29). Introducing the report, the Chairman of the Credentials Committee drew attention to the inadvertent omission of Hungary from the list of delegations on behalf of which the representative of the Soviet Union had made the statement reflected in paragraph 10. The Governing Council approved the report of the Committee at the 13th meeting of the session, on 18 May 1982.

#### G. Special statements

24. The Council was addressed by H.E. Gaafar Mohamed Nimeri, President of Sudan, H.E. Mobutu Sese Seko, President of Zaire, and H.R.H. Prince Claus of the Netherlands. It also heard a statement delivered on behalf of H.M. Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman. A message from Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan was circulated.

25. The President of Zaire said that many current environmental problems were due to the lack of a global perspective and integrated approach. The fundamental question of the extent to which man could modify his environment without danger could be answered only by Governments. Education would play a vital role in arriving at that answer, and considerable work was needed to establish and develop environmental education programmes. Furthermore, it was essential to provide a comprehensive legal framework to deal with environmental problems, and the Zairean proposal for a World Charter for Nature was designed to contribute an element of that framework.

26. Prince Claus of the Netherlands pointed out that some of the most urgent and dramatic environmental problems were rooted in a single cause: poverty. The gap between needs and resources available in developing countries, particularly the poorest, was steadily widening. Mankind individually and collectively must shoulder responsibility for tackling poverty, or all would suffer the grave consequences of destruction of the environment. The Council should exploit the opportunity offered by the session of a special character to review the role of UNEP in the light of 10 years' experience and turn it into a prime mover in environmental matters, both among Governments and among peoples.

27. The President of the Sudan called for immediate measures to ensure the conservation and proper use of energy. The use of solar energy, in particular, would help to conserve fossil fuel reserves, lessen pollution, protect the world's forests and contain migration to the cities by establishing a balance between rural and urban development. He also called upon all political leaders to work towards putting an end to the arms race, which would release scientific knowledge and human energies that could be directed towards ensuring a better life for all based on a healthy environment.

28. The Sultan of Oman said that the most important environmental problems were those relating to the sources of water, energy and food; the development of rural and urban communities; the limitation of the arms race; and all kinds of environmental pollution, particularly those leading to unfavourable climatic changes and those which might lead to physiological changes in man, animals and plants. It was important to expedite the development of international legislation for the protection and improvement of the environment, to devise simple models for environmental impact statements for use in developing countries and simple methods for use by them in evaluating and combating such impact, and to simplify the language used in environmental reports of international organizations and translate the relevant terminology into many languages so as to improve communication among countries.

## CHAPTER II

### GENERAL DEBATE

29. In discussing agenda items 6 and 7 at the 2nd to 12th plenary meetings of the session, the Council had before it documents UNEP/GC(SSC)/2 and Corr.1 (Russian only) and Corr.2 and Add.1, UNEP/GC(SSC)/INF.1 and Corr.1 (Chinese and English only) and Corr.2 and Add.1 and Corr.1 (Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish only) and UNEP/GC(SSC)/INF.2 and Corr.1 (Arabic, English and French only).

30. In his introductory statement, the Executive Director said that the task of the session was to give new impetus to the environment movement for the next decade. Since the Stockholm Conference, increasing knowledge had confirmed some ideas and refuted others, and had also revealed new areas of concern - for example, desertification. Perceptions, too, had evolved: emphasis was now less on the changes in the environment themselves than on their causes and impacts; its various components were more clearly perceived as resources to be conserved, and their interrelatedness was more generally acknowledged.

31. As in 1972, poverty remained the worst form of pollution, but the then revolutionary concept of environment-based development was now generally accepted, with numerous strategies and plans for putting it into effect, notable among them the World Conservation Strategy. However, progress in the application of the concepts developed was far from satisfactory, and the planet's capacity to meet increasing needs was being undermined by loss of agricultural land, depletion of tropical forests, pollution and waste disposal.

32. Even without allowing for the new environmental problems that would inevitably emerge, the magnitude of those the world already faced made more effective efforts to deal with them essential. On the basis of the expansion in environmental awareness, and of the co-operation developing among nations under a variety of treaties and other arrangements, he was confident that an improved response would be achieved. The commitment of international and national development assistance institutions to funding only sustainable projects was a landmark. Moreover, it had been conclusively demonstrated that environmental protection paid in cash terms, creating jobs and stimulating growth without causing any significant inflation. More attention should be paid to the development of environmental accounting, which, by treating soil, air, water and gene pools as national assets, would help to correct "environmental deficit financing", and to promote peace by taking into account the impairment of security by resource exhaustion. The danger posed by environmental degradation to global peace and human survival was recognized, and it was clearly in the interests of the rich nations to invest in the environmental security of the developing countries.

33. The actions recommended in document UNEP/GC(SSC)/2 to avert the impending environmental crisis were to be undertaken by the whole United Nations system, and above all by Governments. The amount of money required to implement them, while large, was only some 5 per cent of current arms race expenditure. In promoting political and resource commitments to match the greater understanding of the environment, UNEP would continue the exercise of its catalytic and co-ordinating role, under the policy guidance of the Council, both within the United Nations system and through its contacts with non-governmental organizations and the scientific community. The secretariat was working on ways of improving its catalytic function. However, the crucial factor in improving its performance was to increase the resources available to the Environment Fund. The uncertainty as to the amount and timing of contributions was a crippling factor whose seriousness Governments should consider.

34. The choice facing nations in 1982 was an unprecedented one - to carry on as they were and face by the year 2000 an environmental catastrophe whose impact would be as devastating and irreversible as that of nuclear war, or to begin a serious co-operative effort to use the world's resources rationally and fairly. The Stockholm promise that of "all things in the world, people are the most precious" remained true, and the potential to meet the needs of those people was there. The environmental crisis could be solved, and the session of a special character was a once-in-a-decade opportunity for Governments to demonstrate that they and their peoples had the will to do so.

35. At the outset of the general debate, delegations agreed that the session of a special character should provide a forum for evaluating the environmental situation in the light of changing circumstances; determining the issues requiring urgent attention and vigorous action; and, in the "spirit of Nairobi", undertaking renewed efforts to ensure that the earth was maintained as a suitable place for human life for present and future generations.

36. It was generally felt that substantial progress had been achieved in some areas, thanks to the efforts of UNEP and other international organizations and the significant increase in national awareness of environmental issues. Differences of views between developed and developing countries with regard to environmental perceptions had to a large extent faded over the last 10 years, and the concepts of sustainable development and rational management of natural resources were now widely accepted as the cornerstones of environmental policies. That progress was reflected in the formal recognition in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade that the protection and enhancement of the environment should be considered an integral part of development policies. While that new environmental awareness would not in itself solve problems, it would provide at least some of the impetus needed to ensure that the immediate steps which had to be taken to cure the financial and economic woes confronting Governments would not be to the detriment of the long-term soundness of the global and national environment.

37. At the national, regional and international levels, substantial bodies of legislation and new institutional machinery had been developed to deal with environmental issues. The need to integrate environment and development policies more closely was enjoying growing recognition by public and Governments alike, and industry was increasingly incorporating environmental considerations into all aspects of its activities. In industrialized countries, in particular, it was becoming increasingly clear that forward-looking environmental policies generated development, created employment, allowed for better land management, limited wastes and led to substantial savings. Non-governmental organizations throughout the world had contributed to the promotion of environmental values, which could be said to have become part of the dominant value system in many countries.

38. The past 10 years had also seen an enormous advance in the understanding of the importance of energy considerations that had culminated in the decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy in 1981.



39. Many delegations described measures adopted by their Governments in the past 10 years in the legislative, administrative, institutional and scientific fields for the protection and improvement of the environment, in many cases as a direct result of the Stockholm Conference. Several also mentioned steps taken by their Governments in the field of international environmental co-operation, at the bilateral or multilateral level, stressing in particular their ratification of or accession to international or regional environmental instruments.

40. In the review of the implementation of the Stockholm Action Plan, it was observed that the Plan might have been rather over-ambitious and somewhat unclear where priorities were concerned. While some of its recommendations had led to satisfactory progress at the national and international levels, implementation of others had not progressed beyond a rather preliminary stage. None the less, it was suggested that the principles of the Stockholm Declaration might be considered as a "code of environmental conduct" for the present and for the future. Delegations by and large expressed their continuing support for the Declaration and the Plan of Action as valid expressions of the international community's common will to deal with environmental problems in a co-operative manner.

41. It was also noted that other important documents had emerged since Stockholm, such as the World Conservation Strategy, which had been prepared by UNEP, the World Wildlife Fund and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and whose launching and implementation were strongly supported, and the Declaration of Environmental Principles and Procedures Relating to Economic Development, which had been signed by several multilateral development financing institutions. Several delegations endorsed the World Charter for Nature, the objectives of which were germane to both the Stockholm Declaration and Plan of Action and the World Conservation Strategy, and which would be considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. Reference was also made in that connection to General Assembly resolution 35/8 entitled "Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations".

42. Over the past 10 years, UNEP had emerged as a significant institution with a deep sense of commitment to world-wide environmental concerns. Lack of progress in some areas was often more a reflection of the newness of the environmental cause than the result of inherent shortcomings in the UNEP programme. More specifically, UNEP had been instrumental in heightening public and governmental perception on a wide range of environmental issues, and in stimulating the efforts of other United Nations bodies through bilateral and thematic joint programming and the preparation of the system-wide medium-term environment programme. As was evident in the documentation submitted at the session of a special character, one of the major achievements of UNEP had been the progressive establishment, through its environmental assessment and monitoring programmes, of a centre for environmental information, which should provide a basis for better understanding of the scope, seriousness and interrelatedness of environmental problems. UNEP had also taken some useful initiatives in such global areas as the atmosphere, for example, with regard to the buildup of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and the possible depletion of the ozone layer. Such initiatives were particularly commendable because global solutions to environmental problems were very difficult to achieve, given the divergences of interest and concerns among countries and differences in perceptions and capabilities.

43. Nevertheless, it was generally felt that, in spite of those notable achievements, the environmental situation at the outset of the 1980s was bleak in a number of respects. While certain threats to the environment identified in 1972 might be perceived as less serious, others persisted, some had worsened and new

ones had emerged. The continued degradation of land and water resources, resulting from very extensive deforestation, denudation, soil erosion, flooding, waterlogging and salinization, premature siltation of reservoirs and loss of ground water, constituted the most serious single threat to the global environment and represented a grave danger to the well-being and indeed the survival of many developing countries. Another area of serious concern was the deplorable condition of human settlements in most developing countries, particularly with regard to the failure to meet even minimum standards for sanitation and drinking water.

44. The momentum of the relatively rapid progress of the 1970s would be difficult to maintain in the 1980s in the light of the present economic, financial and political difficulties facing the world community. Many delegations referred to political competition, apartheid, the arms race and the development of weapons of mass destruction as conditions which drained valuable resources, misdirected skills, technology and research away from the needs of sustainable development. One delegation pointed out that it was particularly the super-Powers which were developing weapons of mass destruction, and added that aggression and expansion should be included in the list of deleterious conditions which, taken together, presented a grave threat to the peace and security of mankind. It was also noted that the direct environmental impact of war was being felt in various countries in which armed conflict was continuing. In the same context, reference was made to a range of problems which were caused by the persistence of remnants of war. At the same time, although the peaceful use of nuclear energy had grown much more slowly than had been expected in 1972, the threat of environmental catastrophe resulting from the use of nuclear weapons had worsened considerably.

45. It was observed that one of the major causes of inadequate progress in the environmental field was that the international community had not put into effect a genuinely concerted policy for the environment. It was mentioned that environmental problems in developing countries were largely due to the present unjust international economic order. Too few countries carried out activities as an integral part of a comprehensive programme and consciously directed themselves towards common objectives. Progress in environmental awareness had not necessarily led to the formulation and implementation of adequate measures for the integration of the environmental dimension in economic policies. There had often been inadequate foresight and understanding among policy-makers of the long-term costs of environmental degradation as well as the long-term benefits of environmental protection measures. Another source of difficulties had been that responses had sometimes been influenced by pessimistic projections, which had perhaps led to the squandering of scarce resources on inappropriate measures rather than the careful study of practical and effective ways in which the world might be improved.

46. It was frequently stated that, while many problems remained in developed countries - where, in some cases, environmental quality standards might even have been lowered for economic reasons - by far the most serious problems were those affecting the third world, where underdevelopment, poverty, unemployment, food and energy shortages, the growth of huge cities and of populations combined to create intolerable pressures on the resource base and continuing environmental degradation. Aggravating those pressures was the fact that in real terms global development assistance counted for less and less, while real needs among recipients continued to escalate. Some delegations pointed out that their development aid had increased, with related benefits also in terms of environmental protection.

47. Delegations pointed out that the growing seriousness of widespread problems such as desertification, soil erosion, scarcity of water and deterioration of its quality, deforestation and pollution would require a massive mobilization of resources on a global scale in the 1980s if irreversible damage to the resource base of the planet was to be avoided. Providing developing countries with means to solve their problems was one of the basic challenges of the 1980s, and the key to enabling them to reconcile the twin needs of environmental protection and development in the years ahead. A number of delegations said that achievement of that crucial objective called for the full establishment of a new international economic order, without which the continued inequalities and distortions inherent in the current system of international economic relations would hamper the capacity of developing countries to manage and develop their resource base in a sustainable way. Unless genuine efforts in that direction were made by all States, environmental problems would worsen on a global scale as a result of mounting pressures on the environment resulting from the widespread poverty affecting the bulk of the world population. The achievement of the goal was dependent on the political will of all Governments.

48. It was generally stressed that effective international action in the field of the environment and the formulation and implementation of adequate national environment programmes could only be achieved in an atmosphere of peace in the world, through the prevention of aggressive war and the application of effective disarmament measures which would enable resources currently wasted on armaments to be switched to peaceful purposes. Hope was expressed that the forthcoming second special session of the General Assembly on disarmament might open the way to progress in that crucial area.

49. There was general agreement that economic and social progress was essential to the effective implementation of environmental protection policies. Stress was, however, laid on the need for a new approach to economic and social progress, based on careful stewardship of the earth's resources and a concern for the interests of future generations. The guiding principle of such development should be the achievement of sustainable economic and social progress, not only within the limits imposed by nature, but also, and above all, in the context of respect for and protection of mankind; it should have man as the focus, and operate in harmony with the environment. Work should therefore begin as soon as possible on a global strategy for sustainable development which, while respecting human needs and the human person, should ensure a balance between man and the environment.

50. It was stated that where environmental problems transcended the boundaries of any one nation, the nations concerned should be actively involved in the search for generally acceptable solutions. In the long term, environmental protection and enhancement were best organized on a preventive basis, necessarily calling for interdisciplinary planning by all parties concerned, as well as the integration of environmental considerations at all stages of development planning. It was also pointed out that environmental protection measures were as important in times of difficulty as in times of economic prosperity; environmental action must take due account of problems such as unemployment, inflation and poverty, and could in fact contribute to their alleviation. Incentive/disincentive systems, where applicable in economic decision-making, might also be harnessed to encourage environmentally sound decisions, and appropriate international environmental guidelines and methodologies should be developed to provide a framework for national action.

51. There was broad agreement on the need to make a direct attack on poverty, which was the main source of environmental degradation in the third world.

Breaking the vicious circle of extreme poverty would help to unravel the tangled interrelationships between population, resources, development and the environment. In entering a new decade, it was necessary not only to define objectives for the future but also to ensure their attainment through well-defined programmes adapted to the specific circumstances of developing countries. Those countries must be supported in their efforts to protect and enhance the environment to achieve an ecological balance. Development assistance was thus essential, but care must be taken to ensure that it had no adverse environmental effects. Important aspects of such aid were the transfer of appropriate technologies adapted to the circumstances of each region or country, and the transmittal of information which could contribute significantly to the formulation of environmentally sound development strategies. That was important not only to help developing countries avoid mistakes made by the industrialized world and prevent duplication of research, but also because, while developed countries had, through experience, attained a large measure of success in devising technological solutions to environmental problems, developing countries were often not in a position to do so. It was also said that the developed countries should take pollution control measures to minimize environmental damage in developing countries.

52. It was pointed out that various developing countries had evolved their own technologies or adapted imported ones, which should prove highly appropriate to other countries in similar circumstances. The sharing of information on such technologies would form a very valuable facet of technical co-operation among developing countries. Some developing countries had already taken steps to promote indigenous development strategies, and were placing emphasis on training and education as tools for the transformation of human resources into employable labour.

53. Some delegations expressed regret that the multitude of environmental activities launched over the past 10 years had not always had an immediate and practical impact for developing countries, and that the methods available to tackle problems in those countries were still inadequate to respond to their priority concerns. It was suggested that UNEP should in future pay special attention to the three priority areas, namely the control of pollution, the management of natural and living resources and the improvement of sanitary and drinking water conditions in the developing countries.

54. A number of delegations emphasized that an effective renewal of the momentum of Stockholm would require a strengthening and perhaps a restructuring of UNEP and increased support, financial, political and scientific, for the environment programme. Some other delegations stressed the importance of conserving the unique role of UNEP as the central catalyst and co-ordinator for environmental affairs in the United Nations system. The deliberations of the Governing Council should be reoriented to provide better opportunities for discussion and decisions on the action required to tackle environmental problems. Criteria might also be established to guide decisions on the projects in which UNEP should participate, and mechanisms set up to ensure continuous government participation in deciding which programmes should be undertaken in collaboration with UNEP and how the resources of the Environment Fund should be used for that purpose. UNEP needed the assistance of all the specialized agencies and the full support of the General Assembly; closer co-operation with non-governmental organizations was also required. UNEP should be organized in such a way that requests for environmental advice and proposals for specific projects could be processed at short notice, and procedures should be established for providing immediate assistance to countries facing environmental threats.

55. Several delegations said that UNEP possessed the necessary authority and resources for the effective discharge of the tasks assigned to it, and that, while playing a central role in the solution of global environmental problems, it should, since those resources were limited, concentrate on key areas and on the development of an overall strategy to promote sustainable development. It was suggested that its attention should be focused on three main tasks: the monitoring of, and assistance in, the implementation of programmes of action on problems of global concern, such as the loss of genetic materials, monitoring of the world ocean, the loss of crop lands, soil degradation, desertification and deforestation; the monitoring and promotion of action to control hazardous wastes and transboundary pollution, and assistance to developing countries in dealing with the most urgent problems of resource management and environmental protection. It was also suggested that UNEP should step up its efforts to develop a system of global environmental management, with special attention to transboundary problems. Further attempts should also be made to develop compatible environmental quality and impact assessment standards, as well as a comprehensive environmental code as a guide for transnational corporations. One delegation suggested that there was a need to draw up guidelines and devise environmental management techniques for the control, rehabilitation and improvement of freshwater ecosystems (inland waters).

56. Several delegations took the view that renewed efforts should be made to solve the problem of toxic chemicals in the environment. Attention was drawn to the list of dangerous substances and processes prepared by the Executive Director, and the need was stressed for the development of guidelines and codes of conduct for international trade in potentially harmful chemicals. The question of the disposal of toxic wastes also deserved more attention, as did the increasingly alarming problem of trade in toxic chemicals from developed to developing countries, which in the view of some speakers were used as dumping grounds not only for dangerous chemicals but also for unsafe pharmaceuticals and other potentially hazardous products, such as baby food formulas.

57. Special emphasis was placed on the crucial importance of environmental training and education, both for developing and for industrialized countries, and UNEP was urged to intensify its activities in that area, taking particular account of the interests of the younger generation. Other activities frequently mentioned by delegations as deserving special attention from UNEP in the coming decade were the progressive development of environmental law, in line with the conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Meeting of Senior Government Officials Expert in Environmental Law, the preservation of genetic diversity, the strengthening of the industry and environmental programme, the promotion of alternative energy technologies, and active participation in the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade.

58. UNEP could help improve the quality of development co-operation by encouraging the development of simple methods for evaluating programmes from the environmental standpoint. A number of delegations stated that it should set up machinery to assist both donors and recipients in planning development co-operation programmes aimed at tackling the worst environmental problems and to channel development assistance funds earmarked for the promotion of environmental protection in developing countries to appropriate projects, the results of which could also be evaluated, with the help of UNEP where appropriate. It was also stated that UNEP should assist in the transfer of know-how by promoting, or at least disseminating information on, pilot projects on appropriate technology.

59. It was broadly agreed that if future priorities were to be tackled effectively, a stronger commitment was needed, not only by UNEP but by individual Governments and bilateral donor agencies, which must ensure that plans and declarations adopted at the international level were actually implemented and, where appropriate, converted into international legal instruments.

60. It was proposed by several delegations that a special commission composed of eminent persons should be established to prepare guidelines for future environmental policies by studying environmental protection measures from a long-term and comprehensive standpoint. It would explore the concept of the ideal global environment for the twenty-first century, and formulate strategies for its realization. It was also proposed that there should be a decade on the environment, one year of which should be designated as the International Year for the Environment. During that Year intensive public information and other activities would be undertaken to increase the world's awareness of environmental problems.

61. Some delegations stated that work should begin as soon as possible on a global strategy for sustainable development. The work, which should be initiated by the General Assembly, should be carried out by an independent commission with active government participation.

62. Several delegations referred to the need to strengthen the catalytic role of UNEP and expressed the view that unless that role was redefined to include practical assistance and direct involvement in the execution of projects, UNEP would fail to have the desired impact in many developing countries. It was also stated, however, that given the limited resources at its disposal, UNEP should strive to avoid dispersal of effort, concentrate on global issues and avoid direct aid or executing agency activities, which would run counter to its mandate. Doubts were also expressed about certain activities upon which UNEP had embarked which it was felt either exceeded or were not completely in accordance with its mandate; such activities could only be undertaken on a national or regional basis, and should not be extended to the global level.

63. There was broad recognition that regional consciousness was increasing, and that the regional dimension was becoming more and more fundamental to the implementation of the UNEP work programme. While addressing global issues was a basic aspect of the responsibilities of UNEP, regional and subregional environmental problems, especially in the developing world, should receive more attention, especially in the context of programmes which had already started, such as the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Environment Programme (ASEP), the South Asian Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). One delegation drew attention to the declaration adopted by the South Pacific Conference on the Human Environment held in March 1982 in Rarotonga, which marked the formal launching of the next phase of SPREP. Several references were also made to the regional seas programmes as an excellent example of decentralization of UNEP activities towards the regions. Reference was also made to meetings held recently in Latin America, one on the problems of desertification in Latin America and the Caribbean, another aimed at promoting regional awareness of environmental issues and encouraging co-ordinated actions to solve them, held to help prepare for the two 1982 sessions of the Governing Council, and a third convened to facilitate the national, regional and international exchange of views among environment and development specialists. Mention was also made of the 1979 High-level Meeting on the Environment which had

been held as a follow-up to the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and had already yielded positive results in the area of regional co-operation, and the first ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment, held in Manila in 1981. In Africa, the Lagos Plan of Action had identified priority areas for Africa, where concrete initiatives would be undertaken.

64. It was suggested that the next environmental decade, or the "Nairobi decade" as one speaker described it, should reflect the environmental needs and concerns of developing countries and lead to more regional and subregional programmes as part of the implementation of the Stockholm Action Plan. Several suggestions were made for the strengthening of the regional offices of UNEP. It was also stated that the regional commissions had an important role to play, especially in the dissemination of environmental information to developing countries. One delegation suggested the establishment of regional funds within the Environment Fund, and another the inclusion of regional components in the various UNEP programmes, as a step towards regionalization. The opening of a "special window" to finance regional environmental programmes in developing countries was also advocated. Other delegations felt the need to strengthen the clearing-house function of UNEP.

65. Several delegations stressed that, for UNEP to be able to discharge its important functions effectively, it should have adequate funds at its disposal. They deplored the fact that, despite some welcome increases announced during the session, contributions to the Fund were still inadequate.

66. Representatives of United Nations organs, regional commissions and the specialized agencies made statements stressing in particular the activities they had carried out in the area of environment, particularly since the Stockholm Conference.

67. In a statement presented on behalf of over 100 organizations throughout the world, a spokesman for non-governmental organizations attending the session emphasized the human consequences of environmental degradation, stressed the need to forge new patterns of development, denounced war as the most serious of all threats to the environment and reaffirmed their readiness to work for the improvement of the environment. They further expressed the hope that Governments would be much more vigorous in their support of UNEP, and that UNEP would develop more effective measures for liaison with citizen organizations.

68. The representative of Greece, speaking in exercise of the right of reply, and referring to the terms in which the representative of Turkey had mentioned the High Commissioner of Cyprus, said that the High Commissioner was the legitimate representative of the Republic of Cyprus, which was a sovereign State and a full State Member of the United Nations. It was well known that Turkey had invaded Cyprus and that Turkish troops were still there, despite various United Nations resolutions on the matter. He deplored the distortions introduced by the representative of Turkey.

69. The representative of Turkey, also speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said the statement of the representative of Greece was an abuse of the right of reply, since Turkey's statement had referred only to the statements of the representative of the Greek Cypriot community, and never to Greece. He also said that the credentials of the so-called representative of Cyprus had not been countersigned by a Turkish Cypriot Vice-President, as the constitution demanded. Reference had been made to refugees, but not to the 60,000 Turkish Cypriots who had

been displaced since 1963. As for the application of resolutions, decisions taken in the absence of representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community were not valid.

70. The representative of Cyprus, also speaking in exercise of the right of reply, pointed out that his credentials, being perfectly legitimate, had been accepted without comment in the Credentials Committee. As for the question of refugees, the existence of Turkish Cypriot refugees, if any, should also be attributed to the Turkish invasion.

71. The representative of Bangladesh drew attention to the mushrooming pockets of desertification in his country, resulting from diversion of the waters of the Ganges. The representative of India deplored the fact that a purely bilateral matter unconnected with the subject at hand should have been brought before the Council. He also pointed out that the areas referred to were in fact suffering from flooding and waterlogging rather than desertification. Subsequently, the representatives of Bangladesh and India refuted each other's views.

72. The representative of Democratic Kampuchea said that the Vietnamese army of occupation was systematically destroying and plundering the Kampuchean economy, and evidence had been provided of the use of chemical and biological weapons. The Vietnamese actions were possible only as a result of protection and support from the Soviet Union. He appealed to the Council and the international community to deny Viet Nam international assistance as long as its aggression in Kampuchea continued.

#### Action by the Governing Council

73. At the 13th meeting of the session, on 18 May 1982, the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, speaking on behalf of the Arab Group, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Environmental consequences of the Israeli project to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea", which had been submitted by the African Group, the Arab Group, India and Pakistan, subsequently joined by the Asian Group as a whole and Yugoslavia (UNEP/GC(SSC)/L.6).

74. The representative of Israel challenged the competence of the Council to adopt the draft decision, since the issue had already been discussed in the General Assembly and his Government had transmitted to the Secretary-General a report which dealt inter alia with the environmental effects of the project. He therefore called for a vote under rule 44 of the rules of procedure.

75. By a vote of 54 in favour and 2 against, with 28 abstentions, the Council decided that it was competent to adopt the draft decision.

76. The representative of the United States, speaking in explanation of vote, said that the session of a special character had been convened to discuss the definition of international environmental goals for the remainder of the century. He therefore deplored the introduction of extraneous political issues which diluted the significance of the occasion and risked diverting UNEP from its unique and essential role. The draft decision was unnecessary, inappropriate and unconnected with the matters before the Council.

77. The representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the sponsors, announced that the expression "the adverse environmental implications" in the operative paragraph of the draft decision should be replaced by "any adverse environmental implications".



78. The representative of Belgium, speaking on behalf of the member countries of the European Communities, said that those countries had voted in favour of General Assembly resolution 36/150. However, the inclusion of the word "adverse" in the present draft amounted to prejudging the issue, and those countries, except Greece, would have to abstain in any vote on the draft unless it was deleted. A similar statement was made by the representative of Sweden on behalf of the Nordic countries.

79. The representative of Nigeria said that the sponsors were not concerned about the positive effects of the project; the word "adverse" should therefore remain.

80. The representative of Israel pointed out that no final decision had yet been taken to proceed with the project, which was still in the feasibility study and research stage. All its environmental implications would be studied, as they were for all development projects in Israel, before such a decision was made. Israel had a major chemical industrial project and tourist facilities on the Dead Sea, at the same level as Jordanian projects in the area, and full flood protection would be afforded by existing and planned dykes. The project's effects on the chemical composition of the Dead Sea's waters would be negligible, if not non-existent. Lastly, he observed that Jordan had put forward at the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy a similar project to link the Dead Sea with the Red Sea, and there had on that occasion been no proposal for a study such as that called for in the draft resolution. His delegation would therefore oppose its adoption.

81. The representative of Jordan said that the representative of Israel had sought to conceal the true nature of the Israeli project, and to divert attention from it by referring to the Jordanian project. The Israeli project would have vast repercussions on the environment of the region, including Jordanian territory, and the energy generated by it would enable Israel to build additional nuclear facilities and produce weapons of mass destruction. That was the reason for Jordan's opposition to the project. His Government would have no objection to the team appointed to study the Israeli project visiting Jordan and studying as well any other project it wished to.

82. The representative of Saudi Arabia confirmed that the word "adverse" should be retained, and commented that the representative of Israel had spoken as if the project was to be undertaken in Israel: the site was in fact in the occupied territories.

83. The representative of Israel called for a vote on the draft resolution. At the request of the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, supported by the representative of Saudi Arabia, the vote was taken by roll-call. The draft resolution was adopted by 60 votes to 2, with 26 abstentions (see annex I, resolution IV). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka,

Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Comoros, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Holy See, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zimbabwe.

84. At the same meeting, the Council adopted by consensus a draft resolution (UNEP/GC(SSC)/L.7) submitted by the group of Latin American States (see annex I, resolution V).
85. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico introduced a draft resolution on arms and the environment, submitted by the delegations of Mexico and Sweden (UNEP/GC(SSC)/L.5/Rev.1).
86. The representative of Argentina questioned the competence of the Council to embark on a discussion of clearly political matters, which might jeopardize achievement of the purposes of the session of a special character. Besides, the draft resolution did not fairly assign responsibility for threats to the environment arising from the arms race, which most developing countries did not bear. He called for a vote on the draft resolution.
87. The representative of China said that the question at issue was already adequately covered in the reports of the Committee of the Whole and the Working Group.
88. The representative of Brazil said he did not consider that the operative paragraph of the draft would affect the way in which the issue was dealt with in the appropriate forums. His delegation could not support the draft, which assigned equal responsibility for the arms race and the threat of nuclear war to the developing countries and the nuclear Powers. The text was not in accordance with Brazil's position in disarmament forums, and the appeal to be conveyed to the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament was not compatible with the goals Brazil pursued.
89. The representative of the United States of America expressed doubts concerning the appropriateness of the draft resolution, but said that he would not oppose its adoption.
90. The representative of Uruguay said that, while he fully supported the motives which had led to the submission of the draft resolution, the question was under discussion in other forums in which Uruguay participated, and, in the absence of instructions from his Government, he would not participate in the vote.
91. The delegations of Bangladesh, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Saudi Arabia and the Sudan expressed support for the draft resolution.
92. The draft resolution was adopted by 56 votes to 4, with 15 abstentions (see annex I, resolution III).

93. The representative of China said that he had not participated in the vote because the session of a special character was an inappropriate forum for such matters, which were best left to the General Assembly, especially at its second special session devoted to disarmament. The draft also suffered from the fact that it referred to "war" rather than "aggressive war", made no distinction between just and unjust wars and did not emphasize the principal responsibility borne by the super-Powers.

94. The representative of the Soviet Union said that his delegation had voted for the draft resolution, and pointed out that responsibility for war, and especially nuclear war, would not fall solely on the super-Powers, as they were not alone in possessing nuclear weapons.

95. The representative of the Ukrainian SSR said her delegation fully supported the resolution. Expenditure on the arms race was a waste of resources which could be better spent for the benefit of both present and future generations.

96. The Governing Council then considered a draft resolution submitted by the Bureau on the establishment of a special commission on long-term environmental strategies. The President, recalling the extensive and delicate negotiations involving all regional groups which had resulted in the agreed text, appealed for its adoption by consensus.

97. The representative of Nigeria recalled that, under the terms of Governing Council decision 9/3 of 26 May 1981, section III, the Executive Director was to report to the Council at its tenth session on the results of consultations with Governments and international organizations regarding various options for the development of environmental perspectives and the Council would give further consideration to those issues at that session. It would be inappropriate to recommend a particular course of action before considering all the options and implications, and his delegation therefore did not believe that the draft resolution under consideration should be before the Council at its session of a special character.

98. The President said he interpreted that statement as challenging the competence of the Council to adopt the draft resolution, and put the question to the vote in accordance with rule 44 of the rules of procedure.

99. By 49 votes to 6, with 13 abstentions, the Council decided that it was competent to adopt the draft resolution.

100. The representative of Ethiopia said that his delegation was not clear as to the need for or mandate of the proposed special commission, and believed the issue would more appropriately be dealt with at the Council's tenth session.

101. The representative of the United Republic of Tanzania said his delegation was not in a position to vote in favour or otherwise on the draft resolution, since it had not had time to study the merits or demerits of the proposal.

102. The President then put the draft resolution to the vote.

103. The draft resolution was adopted by 40 votes to 14, with 8 abstentions (see annex I, resolution II).

## CHAPTER III

### ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

104. The Governing Council considered the draft report on the work of its session of a special character (UNEP/GC(SSC)/L.2) at the 12th and 13th meetings of the session, on 18 May 1982.
105. The representative of the Soviet Union placed on record his Government's disagreement with the Executive Director's assertion in his introductory statement, as reflected in paragraph 34 above, that mankind was threatened with an environmental catastrophe.
106. The representative of the Soviet Union, supported by other representatives, also rejected the allegation of the representative of Democratic Kampuchea, recorded in paragraph 72 above, that evidence had been provided of the use of chemical and biological weapons. That allegation was untrue; a United Nations team had investigated the matter, and had found nothing to substantiate it.
107. The Council then adopted the report, subject to the incorporation of amendments proposed during the discussion.
108. At the 13th meeting, the Council considered the report of the Committee of the Whole (UNEP/GC(SSC)/L.3 and Corr.1 and Add.1), as orally revised by the Rapporteur of the Committee, containing the text of a draft decision recommended for adoption by the Governing Council.
109. The delegation of Saudi Arabia, referring to section I, paragraph 3 (b) (iv) of the draft decision, suggested replacing the words "which places ... animal species" by "which focuses on and provides guidance for sustainable development through conservation of living resources", which more accurately reflected what the World Conservation Strategy did.
110. The delegation of Canada proposed the insertion of "reducing" before "and preventing": in the second line of the part entitled "Priority for action" in section III, paragraph 2 (b) and, for the sake of consistency, substituting "seas" for "oceans" at the end of that line. The delegation of Pakistan proposed adding "in urban centres" after "essential services" in the "Trends and problems" in section III, paragraph 2 (f), and the delegation of Saudi Arabia proposed the addition of "social and environmental support for the nomads"; at the end of the "Priority for action" in the same paragraph. The delegation of Canada proposed inserting "handling" after "safe trade" in paragraph 2 (g), under "Priority for action", and "transport", before "handling (including storage)" in the "Priority for action" in paragraph 2 (i).
111. The delegations of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Yugoslavia associated themselves with the reservation regarding section III, paragraph 2 (c) expressed in the Committee by the representative of Greece and recorded in paragraph 19 above.
112. The USSR delegation proposed deleting "and implement" in section IV, paragraph 1 (b), so that the beginning of the paragraph would be amended to read "Promote and co-ordinate appropriate policies ...".
113. The delegation of India proposed inserting the words "and/or other resources" after "funds" in section VI, paragraph 4 (b).

114. The representative of Belgium, speaking on behalf of the delegations of the States members of the European Economic Community, reiterated the reservation he had expressed in the Committee, as recorded in paragraph 19 above.

115. The Governing Council adopted the draft decision contained in the report of the Committee of the Whole, subject to the incorporation of the foregoing amendments and to the reservations recorded in paragraphs 111 and 114 above. For the text as adopted, see annex I, resolution I.

116. The Council then considered the report of the Working Group (UNEP/GC(SSC)/L.10), containing a draft of the Nairobi declaration. In view of the lengthy negotiations which had led to agreement on a consensus text, with the exception of the last sentence of paragraph 4 and the use of "could" or "should" in the first line of paragraph 6, it was agreed that no amendments would be entertained except to those parts on which consensus had not been reached.

117. The representative of France said that in her delegation's view it would have been more appropriate to call upon, rather than request, Governments to build on the progress so far achieved.

118. The representative of Venezuela, speaking on behalf of the delegations of Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru as well as his own, stated that the wording of paragraph 2 did not accurately reflect the environmental situation in the tropical forests of the Amazon basin and its implications.

119. The representative of the Soviet Union said that, in the same paragraph, it would have been more accurate to refer to "possible" changes in the ozone layer.

120. For the last sentence of paragraph 4, the Council agreed after lengthy discussion on a revised text proposed by the delegation of Yugoslavia. It also agreed on the use of the words "should, when appropriate" in paragraph 6.

121. The Council then adopted the Nairobi Declaration (see annex II).

#### IV. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

122. At the 13th meeting of the session, on 18 May 1982, after the customary exchange of courtesies, the President declared the session closed.

#### Notes

1/ In accordance with the terms of General Assembly resolution 35/74, the session of a special character was open to all States.

2/ General Assembly resolution 36/189, annex, sect. I.

Annex I

RESOLUTIONS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AT ITS  
SESSION OF A SPECIAL CHARACTER

Resolution I

The environment in 1982: retrospect  
and prospect

The Governing Council,

Having met in Nairobi from 10 to 18 May 1982 in a session of a special character to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,

Having taken into account the report of the Executive Director entitled "The environment in 1982: retrospect and prospect", a/

Reaffirming its commitment to the implementation of the Action Plan for the Human Environment adopted by the Stockholm Conference,

Convinced that the principles of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment are as valid today as they were in 1972, and, together with the principles adopted in Nairobi at the session of a special character, provide basic guidance for effective and sustained environment progress,

I

The major achievements in the implementation of the  
Action Plan for the Human Environment

I. Concludes that the past decade has seen:

(a) Increased awareness among Governments and the public of the implications of environmental change, and acceptance that environmental protection consists not only of pollution abatement, but also of the rational use of natural resources for sustainable development;

(b) Provision for the environment in many national constitutions and administrative structures, creation of new environmental programmes at regional and international levels, and the extension and intensification of existing ones;

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a/ UNEP/GC(SSC)/2 and Corr.1 (Russian only) and Corr.2.

(c) Increased co-operation and collaboration among and between Governments and international organizations on environmental assessment and management;

(d) Efforts to protect the environment slowed down somewhat towards the end of the decade because of financial difficulties experienced by some countries;

(e) A worsening of environmental problems in developing countries arising from the present international economic order which has slowed down their development and the protection of their environment;

2. Considers that the sector-by-sector review of the implementation of the Action Plan suggests a mixed record of achievement. An over-all assessment is that fair-to-good progress has been made in implementing some of the elements of the Action Plan, while in respect of other elements the record has been very modest;

3. Further considers that major achievements and failures in the implementation of the Action Plan appear to be:

(a) In the area of environmental assessment:

- (i) The Global Environmental Monitoring System is operating and expanding, although important gaps in the development, co-ordination, user applications and integration of the system components persists;
- (ii) The Global Atmospheric Research Programme has continued and international studies of climatic change and variability and of the applications of climate knowledge to human activity have been incorporated in the World Climate Programme;
- (iii) The International Referral System for sources of environmental information is functioning but has not adequately realized its objectives, in particular because the growth of user demand has been slow;
- (iv) The International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals has started to prove itself as an important centre for information on toxic chemicals;
- (v) The International Programme on Chemical Safety is providing toxicological assessments for an increasing number of substances, together with accelerated manpower development, guidelines for emergency response to chemical accidents and technical co-operation relating to control of toxic chemicals;



- (vi) Assessments of the environmental impacts of various sources of energy have been published;
  - (vii) A major report entitled The World Environment 1972-1982 has been published in conjunction with the session of a special character;
- (b) In the area of environmental management:
- (i) There has been progress in the formulation of regional environmental programmes, and Governments have concluded a number of important global and regional agreements as well as drawn up principles and guidelines, although in some cases there have been delays in their implementation or observance;
  - (ii) World-wide efforts have expanded to combat desertification, to improve water supply and management, and to improve human settlements although progress to implement the comprehensive United Nations action plans developed in each of these areas has remained slow;
  - (iii) Progress has been made in the implementation of international scientific programmes relating to the human environment, particularly the Programme on Man and the Biosphere and the International Hydrological Programme;
  - (iv) The World Conservation Strategy, which focuses on and provides guidance for sustainable development through conservation of living resources, is being used by an increasing number of Governments as a basis for national conservation programmes;
  - (v) There has been progress in conceptualizing the objectives of environmental management and in developing some of its tools, such as environmental impact assessment, cost-benefit analysis and cost-effectiveness analysis;
  - (vi) The need to take environmental considerations into account in the evaluation of development projects has been widely recognized;
  - (vii) Although progress has been made through the International Whaling Commission in reducing whale catch quotas, the call for a 10-year moratorium on commercial whaling has not been given effect;

- (viii) The Regional Seas Programme, which covers environmental assessment, environmental management, environmental law and supporting measures, including aspects of technical assistance and training, has been implemented with a satisfactory measure of success. Sufficient resources, continued planning and sustained commitment by Governments and International organizations are, however, necessary to maintain and extend the Programme;
  - (ix) Industry has had a number of achievements in reducing its adverse effects on the environment, but still needs to strive and be encouraged to assume fully a role commensurate with its capabilities. Environmental controls in industrial development, including measures for the improvement of the working environment, are still very weak in a large number of countries;
  - (x) The industry and environment programme of the United Nations system has identified the environmental impacts of a number of specific industries, and guidelines formulated to deal with them are being tested and applied: training programmes have been provided, and a supportive information service established and put into operation;
  - (xi) The draft principles of conduct in the field of the environment for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious utilization of natural resources shared by two or more States were the subject of United Nations General Assembly resolution 34/186 of 18 December 1979 and have not been widely used by Governments;
  - (xii) Inadequacies persist in redressing environmental problems of poverty and underdevelopment;
- (c) In the area of supporting measures:
- (i) Progress has been made by Governments and international organizations in encouraging environmental education, particularly following the Intergovernmental Conference on Environmental Education (Tbilisi, 1977). In the field of training, however, significant deficiencies persist. Moreover, there has been insufficient attention to environmental education, particularly at university and intermediate levels, as well as to training of workers, technicians and managers and to public education;

- (ii) Programmes of technical co-operation at the International level have increasingly included environmental components;
- (iii) World Environment Day (5 June) is now observed by almost all countries. The various member organizations of the United Nations system participate actively in a wide information programme catalysed by the Joint United Nations Information Committee. Despite the progress, however, the information programme is still inadequate and does not take sufficient account of regional needs;
- (iv) The United Nations Environment Programme and other organizations in the United Nations system have published many technical and general reports relevant to the environment. Coverage of environmental issues by the world media has expanded, particularly at the national level. Non-governmental organizations have made major contributions to increasing public awareness and knowledge of environmental issues. Continuation of these efforts remains important;
- (v) Despite extensive aid through bilateral and multilateral channels to assist with development programmes, it is recognized that the priorities of developing countries for dealing with their serious environmental problems still do not receive adequate attention;

(d) In the area of institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental co-operation:

The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the environment secretariat and the Environment Fund were established, and procedures for efficient co-ordination of environmental programmes in the United Nations system came into effect;

II

#### New perceptions of environmental issues

1. Considers that the following new perceptions which evolved during the past decade are generally accepted and, together with the Nairobi Declaration, complement the principles contained in the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment:

(a) Issues of disarmament and security in so far as they relate to the environment, because the role of the United Nations Environment Programme is to promote environmentally sound development in harmony with peace and security, need to receive appropriate attention;

(b) Wise use of resources and enlightened conservation strategies are consistent with the economic growth imperative and should be considered prerequisites for sustainable growth;

(c) Imaginative research into alternative consumption patterns, technological styles and land-use strategies, and the institutional, economic, juridical and educational framework to sustain them, are called for;

(d) The important interconnections between the components and processes which support the life of the planet should be taken seriously into account in development plans. Actions which benefit one area may cause unforeseen damage in others, and the possibility of such consequences should be considered at the planning stage;

(e) Because of the great space and time variability in environmental processes and the fallibility of models of technological and social change, environmental development and management should be planned in a flexible fashion. Unexpected changes should be detected at an early stage through continuous monitoring;

(f) Development plans should take account of the "outer limits" to the stability of environmental systems;

(g) Developments in the transfer of certain inappropriate technologies, export of toxic substances and hazardous materials and certain marketing arrangements, such as the patenting of seeds, can pose serious risks to the environment which need to be arrested;

(h) The United Nations system, involving especially the catalytic role of the United Nations Environment Programme, must address environmental problems of poverty and underdevelopment, particularly in the framework of the efforts being undertaken to establish the new international economic order;

### III

#### Major environmental trends, potential problems and priorities for action for the United Nations system, co-ordination by the United Nations Environment Programme, during the period 1982-1992

1. Considers that the United Nations system must be alert to and retain the necessary programme flexibility for addressing major environmental trends and problems which may emerge or become more pronounced during the coming decade;

2. The trends, problems and priorities for action which should receive attention by the United Nations system, and specifically through the system-wide programme activities co-ordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme, are listed below:

#### (a) Atmosphere

Trends and problems: Continued deterioration in urban air quality in developing countries and, in the case of some pollutants, in developed countries, long-range transport of air pollution, including SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions that give rise to acid rains, continued increase of CO<sub>2</sub>, other trace gases and particulates in the atmosphere, possible depletion of stratospheric ozone, possible effects of human activities on weather and climate, extreme meteorological events such as tropical cyclones, floods and droughts;

Priority for action: Integrated monitoring of atmospheric pollutants and their effects, development and promotion of appropriate global, regional and national programmes; guidelines or conventions to respond to these problems; improvement of early-warning indicators for extreme meteorological events; understanding of factors affecting climate, including ocean-atmosphere interactions;

#### (b) Oceans

Trends and problems: Increasing pollution of the seas with oil and other substances from land-based sources and from ships; pollution of estuaries and coastal waters; overfishing; environmentally inappropriate exploitation of marine and coastal resources, despite expansion of mariculture and protected areas;

Priority for action: Development and application of methods for monitoring, assessing, reducing and preventing: (i) pollution of the seas, including oil pollution; (ii) degradation of natural resources including mangrove and coral areas; development of new and strengthening of existing programmes and conventions for the environmental protection of regional seas; further development of plans and procedures for the management of

marine resources; further development of mariculture and the establishment of marine protected areas; and support for disaster mitigation;

(c) Water

Trends and problems: Depletion and deterioration of surface water and ground water with increasing demand for drinking, agriculture and industry, and rising pollution in most countries; continued acidification and eutrophication of fresh waters; environmental problems created by water development projects; inadequate water basin management; trans-boundary water pollution, and continued technical difficulties in management of surface waters and ground waters shared by two or more States;

Priority for action: Assistance in the implementation of the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, and in the promotion of guidelines for environmentally sound water management, including transboundary water management and pollution and related environmental aspects; management of inland fisheries and aquaculture; promotion of techniques for rational water management including river basin management, pollution control, recycling of domestic and industrial waste water and flood control, prevention of water waste; promotion of assessment of environmental impact of water resources development projects;

(d) Lithosphere

Trends and problems: Environmental impacts resulting from increased mineral extraction, especially by surface mining and quarrying, and from mining of coal, tar sands and oil shales, and disposal of waste; environmental hazards caused by earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tidal waves and landslides;

Priority for action: Encouragement of technology for economic use of minerals, including recycling; further development of methods of environmental impact assessment of mineral resource extraction; further development and promotion of improved methods for rehabilitation of land following mineral extraction, and satisfactory disposal or reutilization of wastes generated by human activities; further development of early-warning systems for volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tidal waves;

(e) Terrestrial biota and bioproductive systems

Trends and problems: Mounting world food demand only partially satisfied because of inadequacies of production and distribution; continued severe soil degradation and desertification as a result of inappropriate agricultural practices, erosion, and deforestation; loss of agricultural land as a result of urbanization, adverse impacts on land and water resources from increasing land-use conflicts between agricultural production, fuelwood and other energy crops, protected areas and human settlements; adverse effects of slash-and-burn agriculture or other inappropriate agricultural practices; loss of potentially valuable genetic resources, including wild flora and fauna, as a result of deforestation and use and commercialization of endangered species; adverse impacts of improper or increased use of fertilizers and pesticides; depletion of wetlands;

Priority for action: Monitoring and assessment of land conditions and capability in developing countries; monitoring and assessment of tropical ecosystems including changes in forest cover; formulation and promotion of programme activities for sustainable management of soils, tropical forests, genetic resources and for combating desertification; development of environmentally sound farming and forestry practices, including agroforestry, integrated pest management and proper use of fertilizers; prevention of post-harvest food losses; reutilization of agricultural and agro-industrial residues; development of appropriate international procedures and instruments for handling and use of and international trade in pesticides; promotion of implementation of national and regional plans of action following the World Conservation Strategy; protection of wetlands and the designation of biosphere reserves; promotion of planning of urban development taking into account the needs of agricultural development and conservation of natural resources;

(f) Population and human settlements

Trends and problems: Continued growth of human population despite some decline in the rate of world population increase; high rate of urbanization that outstrips the capacity of Governments to provide essential services in urban centres; growth of slums; disruption of rural communities and major inadequacies in rural services; environmental degradation due to the distortion of traditional patterns of pastoral nomadism;

Priority for action: Research into the interrelationship between population growth and the environment; development and promotion of application of guidelines for environmentally sound planning of rural and urban settlements, including provision of services and infrastructure; improvement of methods for safe disposal and re-use of urban wastes; social and environmental support for the nomads;

(g) Health

Trends and problems: Continued massive prevalence of infectious and parasitic diseases, malnutrition, inadequate safe water supplies, and lack of sanitation and food safety in developing countries; increased resistance of pathogens or their intermediary agents to chemical control; increase in disease incidence associated with development schemes; increasing number and prevalence of potentially toxic chemicals and residual micro-pollutants in the living and working environments; illnesses related to life-styles and the working environment; continued danger from trade in hazardous substances and inadequacies in their safe disposal;

Priority for action: Development of environmental health measures, including methods for the environmental control of disease vectors and parasites, and for improvement of sanitation in settlements, and improvement of hygiene, especially in developing countries; continued monitoring, notably in the Global Environmental Monitoring System, and preparation of procedures, principles and guidelines within the International Programme on Chemical

Safety; development and promotion of the application of procedures, principles or guidelines for safe trade, handling and transport of hazardous substances and disposal of hazardous wastes; follow-up to the list of dangerous substances and processes prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme;

(h) Energy

Trends and problems: Environmental impacts of continued increase in demand for fuelwood, expanding nuclear energy programmes and wastes generated in the production of energy; increasing use of coal; positive and negative aspects of intensified development and use of new and renewable sources of energy, and increase in energy plantations; some success in the development of energy conservation programmes;

Priority for action: Support for reforestation policies in developing countries, including encouragement of the use of fast-growing species; promotion of improved energy efficiency and conservation methods; development and promotion of guidelines for environmentally sound development of new and renewable sources of energy, and of nuclear energy; promotion of global strategies for energy conservation and diversification;

(i) Industry and other economic development

Trends and problems: Continuing risks of serious pollution and natural resource degradation from inappropriate industrial development and existing industries, despite some progress in the development of low and non-waste technology and of improved systems of pollution control; inefficiency in the use of natural resources and energy in industry and other programmes of economic development; inadequate environmental consideration in the siting and technologies of industrial and other economic activities, and in international trade and investments;

Priority for action: Development and promotion of guidelines for assessment of environmental impacts of industrial and other economic development (planning, siting, construction and operational control), for the improvement of the human environment, and for the rational use of natural resources with special emphasis on the development of non-waste and low-waste technologies; preparation of principles or guidelines for environmental management of industry for the transport, handling (including storage) and disposal of toxic and dangerous wastes, and for minimization of water pollution resulting from industry; promotion of integration of environmental considerations in the development process; evolution of principles, guidelines or codes of conduct for promotion of environmentally sound practices in international trade and investments; improvement in the access to technical achievements which are of practical promise for the management of the environment;

(j) Peace, security and the environment

Trends and problems: The continuing increase in the production, stockpiling and risk of use of weapons of mass destruction and the development of new types of chemical and bacteriological 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;

Priority for action: In support of the continuing efforts in the United Nations General Assembly, and especially in its special session on disarmament and the Disarmament Committee, to ensure that the environmental implications of existing and new types of armaments and warfare are taken into account;

#### IV

#### Basic orientations of the United Nations Environment Programme for 1982-1992

1. Considers that, on the basis of the new perceptions described in section II, the United Nations Environment Programme, which is the global environmental organization at Government level, in keeping with its mandate and with the support of organizations of the United Nations system, should focus its attention on three major areas and should:

(a) Stimulate, co-ordinate and catalyse monitoring and assessment of environmental problems of world-wide concern and initiate and co-ordinate international co-operation in dealing with such problems;

(b) Promote and co-ordinate appropriate policies and programmes for rational resource and environmental management as an integral part of economic and social development with particular attention to the needs of developing countries;

(c) Promote, co-ordinate and direct activities in the fields of information, education, training and national institution-building especially for developing countries, as well as the further development of environmental law and guidelines and methodologies of environmental management, and, where supplementary funds are available, assist in the implementation of these activities;

2. Further considers that with these three overall basic orientations in mind, the objectives of the Programme should be:

(a) In the area of environmental assessment;

(i) To improve early warning indicators of significant environmental changes;

(ii) To improve the planning and co-ordination of monitoring at the global and regional levels;

(iii) To produce concrete assessment statements for important environmental problems and their human health, social and economic implications;

- (iv) To **establish** better links between the Global Environmental Monitoring System, the International Referral System for sources of environmental information, the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals and national and International data centres;
  - (v) To promote the establishment of reliable global, regional and national environmental statistics and state of the environment reporting as a basis for evaluating major trends and deciding on any necessary action;
- (b) In the area of environmental management;
- (i) To promote environmentally sound patterns of development and to participate in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;
  - (ii) To strive for the improvement of cost/benefit and cost/effectiveness evaluation of environmental measures, environmental assessment of development activities and integrated physical planning for rational use of natural resources;
  - (iii) To promote the adoption and implementation by States of legal and other appropriate instruments for assessing the effects on the environment of potentially harmful activities under their jurisdiction and control, as well as the dissemination of information and the public use thereof;
  - (iv) To promote the development of more cost-effective solutions to environmental management problems, in particular such solutions adapted to the needs of developing countries;
  - (v) To develop guidelines for environmentally sound development planning;
  - (vi) To promote and continue to contribute to the activities of the United Nations system in the area of the interrelationships among population, resources, environment and development;
- (c) In the area of supporting measures;
- (i) To strengthen the existing arrangements within the United Nations Environment Programme and between it and the United Nations Development Programme and other organizations of the United Nations system with a view to enhancing the capacity of developing countries to deal with their environmental problems and concerns, including methodologies of sound environmental management, as part of their sustainable economic and social development;

- (ii) To promote and facilitate the strengthening, within countries, of institutional arrangements for effective assessment of environmental impact of development and environmental management;
- (iii) To promote, co-ordinate and catalyse, in co-operation with relevant institutions of the United Nations system, activities in the area of environmental education and training and public awareness with particular emphasis on:
  - a Application of new education methods and better teacher training programmes through research and institution-building and the integration of an environmental component into school curricula, and seeking to improve the quality of education and training through making adaptations to existing facilities;
  - b Increased training of specialists in various fields of environmental activities
  - c Better dissemination of information to the media, the general public and scientific audiences;
  - d Integration of an environmental component in the training of enterprise managers, technicians, skilled workers and decision-makers concerned with environmental and resource management;
- (iv) To encourage national and regional arrangements for the provision of information on crucial and emerging environmental issues, for example on the use of technology and products condemned in the country of origin;
- (v) To support Governments and non-governmental and youth organizations in their efforts to increase environmental awareness and to encourage Governments to provide for strong public participation in the planning and implementation of environmental activities;
- (vi) To encourage and facilitate the development of legal instruments relating to the environment at the national and international levels and to monitor their implementation; and, within its mandate, to promote the development of further guidelines, principles or agreements and to facilitate their application in areas of global and regional environmental concern in co-operation with the responsible international organizations;
- (vii) To encourage the further examination of economic measures, such as pricing policies, incentives and pollutant and effluent charges which may be applied to complement environmental regulations;

3. Considers also that in pursuing the above-mentioned objectives, the United Nations Environment Programme should be guided by the major environmental trends, potential problems and priorities for action identified in section III, and should concentrate in particular on: promotion of land and water management, including control of desertification and deforestation; protection of natural resources; promotion of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade; promotion of new and renewable sources of energy; promotion of regional seas programmes; prevention of environmental disturbances from air pollution; promotion of chemical safety and control of hazardous substances;

V

Planning and implementation of environmental activities

1. Solemnly urges Governments:

(a) To establish or strengthen national mechanisms for proper and timely identification and assessment of changes in the environment, including the national components of Earthwatch, especially their monitoring stations and their focal points for the International Referral System;

(b) To establish or strengthen national mechanisms for the integration of environmental considerations into development planning;

(c) To fit management techniques to environmental circumstances in dealing with sectoral problems;

2. Invites all Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to ensure that the priorities for action mentioned in section III above are accorded high priority within their respective programmes;

3. Requests the Executive Director, by means of close co-operation within the outside the United Nations system to ensure, in the planning and implementation of environmental activities, that:

(a) The basic orientations identified in section IV above, and in particular, the objectives contained in paragraph 2 thereof, with special emphasis on the needs of the developing countries, serve as primary guides and are accorded high priority;

(b) Such planning and implementation be responsive to regional and subregional needs and national conditions and capabilities;

(c) These activities are concrete, have fixed priorities, are realistic and within a realistic time-frame, where possible undertaken collaboratively, implemented within an administratively simple framework and with adequate technical and financial support;

4. Also invites the governing bodies of the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to integrate the major environmental trends over the next ten years effectively in their action plans, and, on the basis of those trends, in close co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme, to draw up appropriate measures for environmental protection with due regard to available resources;
5. Requests the administrative heads of the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their co-operation with the Executive Director in the effective implementation of approved programmes in the field of the environment for the next ten years;
6. Requests the Executive Director to intensify co-operation with intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations and, as appropriate, support their work, and to invite such organizations to intensify their efforts in the field of the environment;
7. Urges all donors to respond positively and increase their assistance, in accordance with established procedures and with the priorities of developing countries, to help meet their technical and financial requirements, particularly in their efforts aimed at evolving national programmes of research and development, technology, institutional approaches and machineries for dealing with environmental problems;

## VI

### Institutional arrangements for the United Nations Environment Programme

1. Considers that the institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of the environment - the Governing Council, the secretariat, the co-ordination process within the United Nations system through the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Environment Fund - are, generally speaking, adequate and appropriate;
2. Encourages Governments to keep under close and continuing review the functioning of these institutional arrangements and the implementation of the environmental activities of the organizations of the United Nations system with a view to improved co-ordination, programme strengthening and greater overall effectiveness and efficiency in their application of financial and manpower resources;
3. Considers that the catalytic, co-ordinating and stimulating role of the United Nations Environment Programme remains appropriate and will require the continuing attention of the Governing Council in the light of section IV, paragraph 1 (c), bearing in mind the responsibilities of other bodies of the United Nations system;

4. Invites the Governing Council, at its regular sessions, to:

(a) Give overall policy guidance on global, contemporary and emerging issues;

(b) Set priorities for the implementation of the programmes approved by it and assure that funds and/or other resources are made available in accordance with these priorities;

(c) Address itself more to governing bodies of other organizations of the United Nations system dealing with various environmental issues;

5. Requests the Executive Director, in preparing the system-wide medium-term environment programme in harmony with the procedures agreed to by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, to emphasize the process of thematic joint programming, to intensify his consultations with various organizations of the United Nations system in the further development of the programme, and to ensure that the relationships between the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme and its co-operating agencies and supporting organizations continue to be positive and constructive;

6. Stresses the important present and future role of the Environment Fund;

7. Stresses further that, in view of the basic orientations described in section IV above, renewed efforts are necessary, and therefore:

(a) Strongly appeals to Governments to ensure that their contributions are in line with those objectives and basic orientations;

(b) Requests the Executive Director to continue his campaign to broaden participation in and secure a higher level of contribution to the Fund, and seek other modalities of funding, and to continue his consultations with the Secretary-General to ensure application of the rationale for the distribution of the costs of the programme between the regular budget of the United Nations and the Environment Fund;

(c) Further requests the Executive Director to develop and put into effect mechanisms to ensure that budgetary measures are more responsive to regional, subregional and national needs.

13th meeting  
18 May 1982

Resolution II

Special commission on long-term environmental strategies

The Governing Council,

Meeting in a session of a special character,

Recognizing the need to assist the world community in better defining long-term environmental strategies,

1. Invites the Governing Council at its tenth session to recommend to the General Assembly, subject to examination and finalization of the question according to paragraph 3 below, that it establish a special commission to be financed through voluntary contributions;

2. Recommends that the task of the special commission should be, inter alia, to propose long-term environmental strategies for achieving sustainable development to the year 2000 and beyond. The Commission should present its report within two years, through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, to the General Assembly for consideration and action;

3. Requests the Executive Director to present to the Governing Council at its tenth session the question of establishing such a commission and its terms of reference and financial arrangements.

13th meeting  
18 May 1982

Resolution III

Arms and the environment

The Governing Council,

Meeting in a session of a special character,

Considering that:

(a) A major threat to the environment, of greater concern than a decade ago, is the possibility of a global confrontation. During the last decade, even local armed conflicts in many regions have brought about major environmental damage as well as massive displacement of populations. The human environment would greatly benefit from an atmosphere of peace and security,

(b) The accumulation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction poses serious environmental risks. Apart from causing human suffering and material destruction, modern systems of war cause environmental disruption on a large scale, and seriously affect the ecological balance of the areas where they are used. Already military preparations consume important amounts of financial, material and intellectual resources,

(c) Global nuclear war would signify largely unknown and unpredictable damage to earth's vital ecological systems, perhaps eroding the very basis of life,

(d) Environmental degradation by military activities can be prevented by disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, which would, apart from enhancing security, significantly expand the economic and social horizons of industrial and developing countries alike,

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

2. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to bring this appeal to the attention of the **General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament.**

13th meeting  
18 May 1982

#### Resolution IV

##### Environmental consequences of the Israeli project to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea

The Governing Council,

Meeting in a session of a special character,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/150 of 16 December 1981 on Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea, resolution 3 of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, of 8 August 1981, which denounced the Israeli project, and General Assembly resolution 33/110 of 8 December 1978 on the living conditions of the Palestinian people,

Affirming the necessity of implementing the provisions of the United Nations Charter and international law which affirm that action taken by occupying authorities to change the nature of the occupied territories is illegal,

Requests the Executive Director to prepare, in addition to the study requested of the Secretary-General by the General Assembly in paragraph 3



of its resolution 36/150 of 16 December 1981, a study on any adverse environmental implications resulting from the Israeli decision to change the nature and the environmental conditions of the occupied and Jordan territories, and to submit the contents of this study, as a separate report, to the Governing Council at its eleventh session.

13th meeting  
18 May 1982

Resolution V

Resolutions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Governing Council,

Meeting in a session of a special character,

Considering that the countries of the Latin American region, on the invitation of the Government of Mexico and with the support of the United Nations Environment Programme, held an Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean from 8 to 12 March 1982 in preparation for the session of a special character and the tenth session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Considering further that the purpose of the Governments of the Latin American and Caribbean region assembled at the above-mentioned Meeting was to formulate the policy principles that should guide the development of environmental activities in the region that the purpose of the Meeting was also to review the major achievements in the implementation of the Stockholm Action Plan for the Human Environment, and that it was the intention of the participants to draw up resolutions and recommendations with respect to the major environmental trends to be addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme over the forthcoming ten years,

Takes note of the resolutions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, contained in annex V to the final report of the Meeting, b/

Requests the Executive Director to transmit the resolutions of the Meeting to the Governing Council at its tenth session for its consideration.

13th meeting  
18 May 1982

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b/ UNEP/IG.33/5.

Annex

**RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL REGIONAL  
MEETING ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN  
(MEXICO CITY, 8-12 MARCH 1982)**

I. Resolution on environmental training in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Meeting,

Considering that, in accordance with the Stockholm Declaration, a healthy environment is the right of all, and that it is therefore the responsibility of Governments to adopt joint measures for programming environmental training and educational activities,

Recalling decisions 7/10, 8/14 and 9/20 B of the Governing Council of UNEP, which stress the need to establish a Network of Environmental Training Institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean;

Bearing in mind and expressing its agreement with the Network objectives established at the Montevideo Meeting in November 1981,

Bearing in mind also the conclusions of the meeting of the Interagency Environmental Training Working Group and of the meetings of the Group of Advisors for the Network held in Caracas in July 1981 and in Brasilia 19-25 January 1982;

Emphasizing the importance of the work being done by the Network Co-ordination Unit, of the ongoing collaboration lent by the International Centre for Training and Education in the Environmental Sciences (CIFCA) in the functioning of the Co-ordination Unit and the implementation of Network activities, and of the collaboration of CEPAL/CLADES in the gathering and ordering of information on environmental training institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean;

Recognizes the importance of the activities carried out by the Co-ordination Unit of the Regional Office for Latin America during the preparatory stage,

Aware of the need to ensure the effective and expeditious functioning of the Network of Environmental Training Institutions,

The Meeting

I. Reaffirms its unwavering support for the establishment and consolidation of the Environmental Training Network as a priority need of our countries, and requests the Governing Council of UNEP to consider its operation a permanent programme for environmental training in Latin America and the Caribbean and a pilot programme for possible general application;

2. Therefore requests UNEP to reinforce the Co-ordination Unit so as to enable it to carry out its tasks during this initial stage of organization of activities of the Network. It also recommends that the Governing Council of UNEP request the Executive Director to utilize and reinforce the support channels and advisory services offered by other agencies involved in environmental training activities, particularly UNESCO. In that context, it stresses the work being done by such agencies in the Interagency Working Group;
3. Requests UNEP to convoke a meeting in 1982 of the Group of Advisors for the Network, to be open to the entire region, for the purpose of subsequently submitting to the Governments the definitive structure and operation of the Network, in accordance with the resolutions of the next UNEP Governing Council;
4. Requests the support of the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean in obtaining from UNEP and other international agencies the funds required for the continuation of the Network during its initial stages;
5. Requests the Governing Council to continue lending the necessary support to the International Centre for Training on Environmental Sciences (CIFCA), and to adopt measures to ensure the continuation of the Centre's activities beyond 31 December 1982;
6. Requests the continued support of CEPAL/CLADES, both to conclude the Inventory of Institutions and Activities, and through the Co-ordination Unit, to make the information required by the institutions available on a permanent basis;
7. Requests the Regional Office to continue the programmed activities, in accordance with the provisionally defined priorities for the 1982 activities of the Network and the implementation methodology presented for that initial period;
8. Urges the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean to organize national agencies for implementation of the programme, both through the designation of focal points and through the establishment of mechanisms for co-ordination among the various national bodies that might make a contribution to the tasks of environmental training at a regional level;
9. Requests the institutions to provide logistic support for carrying out the activities of the Network, and requests the international financial agencies to give the necessary priority to the projects of environmental training presented by the Network;
10. Request of the Co-ordination Unit of ROLA and the institutions that comprise the Network the establishment of a Fund to cover fellowships and the exchange of experience among the institutions as one of the first steps in strengthening regional training activities.

2. Recommendation relative to Regional Programmes on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Meeting,

Reaffirming the importance of the community of Latin American and Caribbean countries to take steps for the protection and improvement of the environment and, specifically, their need for continued international collaboration to this end;

Recalling the resolutions of the General Assembly 35/74, 5 December 1980, and 36/189 of December 1981, concerning the convocation of a period of sessions of special character of the Governing Council of UNEP, open to all States to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Human Environment, held in Stockholm in June 1972,

Considering that the session of special character will include among the main items on its agenda: (a) an examination of the main achievements in the implementation of the Stockholm Plan of Action for Human Environment; and (b) outlook, action and international co-operation for the future in the sphere of environment and the main environmental trends that should be dealt with under the United Nations Environment Programme during the next ten years;

Realizing that this meeting has been convened by the Government of the United Mexican States, with the support of UNEP to attain the following general objective: to formulate the principles of a policy that will shape present and future development of environmental activities in Latin America and the Caribbean;

Recalling decision 9/21 entitled "Regional programmes and programme support" by the Governing Council of UNEP, in which the Executive Director is requested to support initiatives and activities of the subregional programmes for environment in the 1982-1983 biennium, to strengthen the capacity of regional offices of the United Nations Environment Programme to formulate and carry out programmes;

Having examined the contents of the document "Regional Programmes on the Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" (UNEP/IG.33/4 and Add.1), in which basic points are presented as well as proposals to strengthen regional co-operation on environmental matters;

Requests the Governing Council to authorize the Executive Director to convene a Government-Nominated Experts Meeting to elaborate a strategy for regional co-operation programmes on environmental matters and the priorities for implementing them, taking into account existing subregional programmes, as well as priorities indicated by national reports;

Also recommends that the regional and subregional approach are the most appropriate for confronting environmental problems of Latin America and the Caribbean due to the common ecological, cultural and socio-economic framework, as they would allow for the solution of similar or shared problems with multiplied potency;

Reaffirms their support to the existing subregional environmental action plans such as the Caribbean Environment Programme and the South-East Pacific;

Further recommends that the aims for future Intra-regional co-operation on environmental affairs include the strengthening of existing mechanisms for integration and the approval of specific agreements on co-operation in the environmental field;

Recommends that UNEP develops guidelines for regional environmental programmes in consultation with the Governments of the region;

Requests the Governing Council of UNEP to authorize the Executive Director of the Programme to take the necessary steps to make the Regional Office of UNEP for Latin America and the Caribbean the organism in charge of co-ordinating the programmes to be established;

Recommends the Governing Council of UNEP to ask the Executive Director of the Programme to present a report concerning the existing financial, institutional and legal arrangements which may be used for environmental regional programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean;

### 3. Resolution on institutional aspects and environment

#### The Meeting,

Recalling decision 9/21, which requests the Executive Director of UNEP "to strengthen the capacity of regional offices of the United Nations Environment Programme to formulate and implement programmes";

Recognizing the work accomplished to date by the UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the support given by the UNEP/CEPAL Unit for Development and the Environment, and by other agencies and organizations present in the region;

Recommends to the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean that they periodically convoke an Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean in order to establish policies and a strategy for the region in this field;

Requests the Executive Director of UNEP to lend the support of the Permanent Secretariat for these Intergovernmental Regional Meetings, through the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean;

Recommends to the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean that they study the possibility of holding Government-Nominated Experts Meetings sufficiently in advance of the Intergovernmental Regional Meetings to permit them to review the technical aspects of Regional Environmental Programmes;

Recommends to the members of the Governing Council of UNEP to study the possibility of convoking, as of 1982, the Governing Council to meetings every two years in order to attend the needs and requirements of the region in relation to geographic distance, financial situations and the various matters affecting the international community that require the attention of the States;

Decides that under the heading of regional presence, the Governing Council of UNEP be requested to authorize the Executive Director to strengthen the regional office in Latin America and the Caribbean by providing it with financial resources and personnel indispensable for full compliance with the functions required under the terms of this resolution and enabling it to serve as an effective instrument for the co-ordination of efforts at co-operation in the region.

#### Resolution VI

Credentials of representatives to the session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

The Governing Council,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

13th meeting  
18 May 1982

## Annex II

### NAIROBI DECLARATION

Adopted at the 13th meeting of the session on 18 May 1982

The world community of States, assembled in Nairobi from 10 to 18 May 1982 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm, having reviewed the measures taken to implement the Declaration and Action Plan adopted at that Conference, solemnly requests Governments and peoples to build on the progress so far achieved, but expresses its serious concern about the present state of the environment **worldwide**, and recognizes the urgent necessity of intensifying the efforts at the global, regional and national levels to protect and improve it.

1. The Stockholm Conference was a powerful force in increasing public awareness and understanding of the fragility of the human environment. The years since then have witnessed significant progress in environmental sciences; education, information dissemination and training have expanded considerably; in nearly all countries, environmental legislation has been adopted, and a significant number of countries have incorporated within their constitutions provisions for the protection of the environment. Apart from the United Nations Environment Programme, additional governmental and non-governmental organizations have been established at all levels, and a number of important international agreements in respect of environmental co-operation have been concluded. The principles of the Stockholm Declaration are as valid today as they were in 1972. They provide a basic code of environmental conduct for the years to come.

2. However, the Action Plan has only been partially implemented, and the results cannot be considered as satisfactory, due mainly to inadequate foresight and understanding of the long-term benefits of environmental protection, to inadequate co-ordination of approaches and efforts, and to unavailability and inequitable distribution of resources. For these reasons, the Action Plan has not had sufficient impact on the international community as a whole. Some uncontrolled or unplanned activities of man have increasingly caused environmental deterioration. Deforestation, soil and water degradation and desertification are reaching alarming proportions, and seriously endanger the living conditions in large parts of the world. Diseases associated with adverse environmental conditions continue to cause human misery. Changes in the atmosphere - such as those in the ozone layer, the increasing concentration of carbon dioxide, and acid rain - pollution of the seas and inland waters, careless use and disposal of hazardous substances and the extinction of animal and plant species constitute further grave threats to the human environment.

3. During the last decade, new perceptions have emerged: the need for environmental management and assessment, the intimate and complex interrelationship between environment, development, population and resources and the strain on the environment generated, particularly in urban areas, by increasing population have become widely recognized. A comprehensive and regionally integrated approach that emphasizes this interrelationship can lead to environmentally sound and sustainable socio-economic development.

4. Threats to the environment are aggravated by poverty as well as by wasteful consumption patterns: both can lead people to over-exploit their environment. The International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the establishment of a new international economic order are thus among the major instruments in the global effort to reverse environmental degradation. Combination of market and planning mechanisms can also favour sound development and rational environmental and resource management.

5. The human environment would greatly benefit from an international atmosphere of peace and security, free from the threats of any war, especially nuclear war, and the waste of intellectual and natural resources on armaments, as well as from apartheid, racial segregation and all forms of discrimination, colonial and other forms of oppression and foreign domination.

6. Many environmental problems transcend national boundaries and should, when appropriate, be resolved for the benefit of all through consultations amongst States and concerted international action. Thus, States should promote the progressive development of environmental law, including conventions and agreements, and expand co-operation in scientific research and environmental management.

7. Environmental deficiencies generated by conditions of underdevelopment including external factors beyond the control of the countries concerned, pose grave problems which can be combated by a more equitable distribution of technical and economic resources within and among States. Developed countries, and other countries in a position to do so, should assist developing countries, affected by environmental disruption in their domestic efforts to deal with their most serious environmental problems. Utilization of appropriate technologies, particularly from other developing countries, could make economic and social progress compatible with conservation of natural resources.

8. Further efforts are needed to develop environmentally sound management and methods for the exploitation and utilization of natural resources and to modernize traditional pastoral systems. Particular attention should be paid to the role of technical innovation in promoting resource substitution, recycling and conservation. The rapid depletion of traditional and conventional energy sources poses new and demanding challenges for the effective management and conservation of energy and the environment.



Rational energy planning among nations or groups of nations could be beneficial. Measures such as the development of new and renewable sources of energy will have a highly beneficial impact on the environment.

9. Prevention of damage to the environment is preferable to the burdensome and expensive repair of damage already done. Preventive action should include proper planning of all activities that have an impact on the environment. It is also important to increase public and political awareness of the importance of the environment through information, education and training. Responsible individual behaviour and involvement are essential in furthering the cause of the environment. Non-governmental organizations have a particularly important and often inspirational role to play in this sphere. All enterprises, including multinational corporations, should take account of their environmental responsibilities when adopting industrial production methods or technologies, or when exporting them to other countries. Timely and adequate legislative action is important in this regard.

10. The world community of States solemnly reaffirms its commitment to the Stockholm Declaration and Action Plan, as well as to the further strengthening and expansion of national efforts and international co-operation in the field of environmental protection. It also reaffirms its support for strengthening the United Nations Environment Programme as the major catalytic instrument for global environmental co-operation, and calls for increased resources to be made available, in particular through the Environment Fund, to address the problems of the environment. It urges all Governments and peoples of the world to discharge their historical responsibility, collectively and individually, to ensure that our small planet is passed over to future generations in a condition which guarantees a life in human dignity for all.

Annex III

LETTERS RELATING TO THE INCLUSION OF OFFICIALS FROM THE  
FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY IN THE DELEGATION OF THE  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

A. Letter dated 14 May 1982 from the head of the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the session of a special character of the Governing Council addressed to the President of the session

The list of participants at the session of a special character of the UNEP Governing Council includes among the members of the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany representatives of the Federal Environmental Agency, which has been established illegally in West Berlin.

The nomination of officials from this Agency as members of the delegation from the Federal Republic of Germany cannot be regarded otherwise than as an act designed to confuse the participants in the session of a special character of the UNEP Governing Council in order to legalize the State Institutes of the Federal Republic of Germany which have been established illegally in Berlin (West). The existence of such institutes is in direct contravention of the Quadripartite Agreement of 3 September 1971, in which it is laid down that Berlin (West) is not a constituent part of the Federal Republic of Germany and will not be governed by it in the future.

Attempts to draw such institutes into the orbit of international co-operation can only create unnecessary confusion and complications and hamper accomplishment of the tasks before the UNEP Governing Council at its session of a special character.

In view of the above, the Soviet delegation wishes to state that it does not recognize the credentials of the representatives of the agency referred to, and to request you, Sir, to take the necessary steps to ensure that this statement is duly reflected in the report of the present session.

(Signed) V. SOKOLOVSKI  
Head of the Delegation of the Union  
of Soviet Socialist Republics  
to the session of a  
special character

**B. Letter dated 14 May 1982 from the head of the delegation of the German Democratic Republic to the session of a special character of the Governing Council addressed to the President of the session**

I have the honour to draw your attention to the fact that the provisional list of participants of the session of a special character of the Governing Council of UNEP gives notice that the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany includes Mr. Lersner and Mr. Moecker from the Federal Environmental Agency which is illegally located in Berlin (West).

The appointment of officials of this agency as members of the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany cannot be regarded otherwise than as an act designed to misuse the authority of the session of a special character of the Governing Council of UNEP for the purpose of legalizing State Institutions of the Federal Republic of Germany which are illegally established in Berlin (West).

The location of these institutions in Berlin (West) contravenes directly the provisions of the Quadripartite Agreement of 3 September 1971 to the effect that Berlin (West) is not a constituent part of the Federal Republic of Germany and will continue not to be governed by it in future.

Attempts to involve such institutions in international co-operative endeavours can only create unnecessary misunderstandings and complications and hamper the fulfilment of the tasks that this session faces.

For this reason, the delegation of the German Democratic Republic cannot recognize the legality of the inclusion of Mr. Lersner and Mr. Moecker in the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany.

I kindly request you to have this letter duly reflected in the report on the session of a special character of the Governing Council of UNEP.

**(Signed) Guido THOMS**  
Head of Delegation of the German Democratic  
Republic to the Session of a special  
character of the Governing Council  
of UNEP

C. Letter dated 17 May 1982 from the head of the delegation of the United States of America to the session of a special character of the Governing Council addressed to the President of the session

I have learned from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany that you have received communications from the delegations of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Germany Democratic Republic, challenging the inclusion of certain representatives of the Federal Environmental Agency of the Federal Republic of Germany in that country's delegation. The delegations of France and the United Kingdom join me in contesting the erroneous interpretation of the Quadripartite Agreement advanced in those communications.

The establishment of the Federal Environmental Agency in the Western Sectors of Berlin was approved by the British, French and American authorities acting on the basis of their supreme authority. These authorities are satisfied that the Federal Environmental Agency does not perform in the Western Sectors of Berlin acts in exercise of direct State authority over the Western Sectors of Berlin. Neither the location nor the activities of that agency in the Western Sectors of Berlin, therefore, contravene any of the provisions of the Quadripartite Agreement. Furthermore there is nothing in the Quadripartite Agreement which supports the contention that residents of the Western Sectors of Berlin may not be included in the Federal Republic of Germany delegations to international conferences. In fact, annex IV of the Quadripartite Agreement stipulates that, provided matters of security and status are not affected, the Federal Republic of Germany may represent the interests of the Western Sectors of Berlin at international conferences and that residents of the Western Sectors of Berlin may participate jointly with participants from the Federal Republic of Germany in international exchanges. Moreover, it is for the Federal Republic of Germany alone to decide on the composition of their delegation.

The letter from the Soviet delegation contains an incomplete and therefore misleading reference to the Quadripartite Agreement. The relevant passage of the Quadripartite Agreement provides that the ties between the Western Sectors of Berlin and the Federal Republic of Germany will be maintained and developed, taking into account that these sectors continue not to be a constituent part of the Federal Republic of Germany and not to be governed by it.