



UNEP Legislative Authority



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*United Nations Environment Programme*



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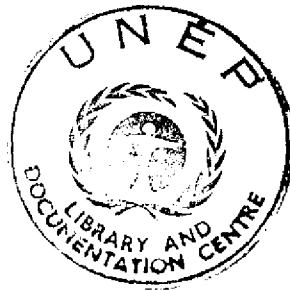
# Compendium of Legislative Authority

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

COMPENDIUM  
OF  
LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

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**REPORT OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE  
ON THE  
HUMAN ENVIRONMENT**

(A/Conf. 48/14/Rev.1)

Stockholm, 5 - 16 June 1972

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## Chapter I

DECLARATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE  
ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

*The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,*

*Having met at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,*

*Having considered the need for a common outlook and for common principles to inspire and guide the peoples of the world in the preservation and enhancement of the human environment,*

1

*Proclaims that:*

1. Man is both creature and moulder of his environment, which gives him physical sustenance and affords him the opportunity for intellectual, moral, social and spiritual growth. In the long and tortuous evolution of the human race on this planet a stage has been reached when, through the rapid acceleration of science and technology, man has acquired the power to transform his environment in countless ways and on an unprecedented scale. Both aspects of man's environment, the natural and the man-made, are essential to his well-being and to the enjoyment of basic human rights—even the right to life itself.

2. The protection and improvement of the human environment is a major issue which affects the well-being of peoples and economic development throughout the world; it is the urgent desire of the peoples of the whole world and the duty of all Governments.

3. Man has constantly to sum up experience and go on discovering, inventing, creating and advancing. In our time, man's capability to transform his surroundings, if used wisely, can bring to all peoples the benefits of development and the opportunity to enhance the quality of life. Wrongly or heedlessly applied, the same power can do incalculable harm to human beings and the human environment. We see around us growing evidence of man-made harm in many regions of the earth: dangerous levels of pollution in water, air, earth and living beings; major and undesirable disturbances to the ecological balance of the biosphere; destruction and depletion of irreplaceable resources; and gross deficiencies, harmful to the physical, mental and social health of man, in the man-made environment, particularly in the living and working environment.

4. In the developing countries most of the environmental problems are caused by under-development. Millions continue to live far below the minimum levels required for a decent human existence, deprived of adequate food and clothing, shelter and education, health and sanitation. Therefore, the developing coun-

tries must direct their efforts to development, bearing in mind their priorities and the need to safeguard and improve the environment. For the same purpose, the industrialized countries should make efforts to reduce the gap themselves and the developing countries. In the industrialized countries, environmental problems are generally related to industrialization and technological development.

5. The natural growth of population continuously presents problems for the preservation of the environment, and adequate policies and measures should be adopted, as appropriate, to face these problems. Of all things in the world, people are the most precious. It is the people that propel social progress, create social wealth, develop science and technology and, through their hard work, continuously transform the human environment. Along with social progress and the advance of production, science and technology, the capability of man to improve the environment increases with each passing day.

6. A point has been reached in history when we must shape our actions throughout the world with a more prudent care for their environmental consequences. Through ignorance or indifference we can do massive and irreversible harm to the earthly environment on which our life and well-being depend. Conversely, through fuller knowledge and wiser action, we can achieve for ourselves and our posterity a better life in an environment more in keeping with human needs and hopes. There are broad vistas for the enhancement of environmental quality and the creation of a good life. What is needed is an enthusiastic but calm state of mind and intense but orderly work. For the purpose of attaining freedom in the world of nature, man must use knowledge to build, in collaboration with nature, a better environment. To defend and improve the human environment for present and future generations has become an imperative goal for mankind—a goal to be pursued together with, and in harmony with, the established and fundamental goals of peace and of worldwide economic and social development.

7. To achieve this environmental goal will demand the acceptance of responsibility by citizens and communities and by enterprises and institutions at every level, all sharing equitably in common efforts. Individuals in all walks of life as well as organizations in many fields, by their values and the sum of their actions, will shape the world environment of the future. Local and national governments will bear the greatest burden for



large-scale environmental policy and action within their jurisdictions. International co-operation is also needed in order to raise resources to support the developing countries in carrying out their responsibilities in this field. A growing class of environmental problems, because they are regional or global in extent or because they affect the common international realm, will require extensive co-operation among nations and action by international organizations in the common interest. The Conference calls upon Governments and peoples to exert common efforts for the preservation and improvement of the human environment, for the benefit of all the people and for their posterity.

## II

### Principles

*States the common conviction that:*

#### *Principle 1*

Man has the fundamental right to freedom, equality and adequate conditions of life, in an environment of a quality that permits a life of dignity and well-being, and he bears a solemn responsibility to protect and improve the environment for present and future generations. In this respect, policies promoting or perpetuating *apartheid*, racial segregation, discrimination, colonial and other forms of oppression and foreign domination stand condemned and must be eliminated.

#### *Principle 2*

The natural resources of the earth, including the air, water, land, flora and fauna and especially representative samples of natural ecosystems, must be safeguarded for the benefit of present and future generations through careful planning or management, as appropriate.

#### *Principle 3*

The capacity of the earth to produce vital renewable resources must be maintained and, wherever practicable, restored or improved.

#### *Principle 4*

Man has a special responsibility to safeguard and wisely manage the heritage of wildlife and its habitat, which are now gravely imperilled by a combination of adverse factors. Nature conservation, including wildlife, must therefore receive importance in planning for economic development.

#### *Principle 5*

The non-renewable resources of the earth must be employed in such a way as to guard against the danger of their future exhaustion and to ensure that benefits from such employment are shared by all mankind.

#### *Principle 6*

The discharge of toxic substances or of other substances and the release of heat, in such quantities or concentrations as to exceed the capacity of the environment to render them harmless, must be halted in order

to ensure that serious or irreversible damage is not inflicted upon ecosystems. The just struggle of the peoples of all countries against pollution should be supported.

#### *Principle 7*

States shall take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas by substances that are liable to create hazards to human health, to harm living resources and marine life, to damage amenities or to interfere with other legitimate uses of the sea.

#### *Principle 8*

Economic and social development is essential for ensuring a favourable living and working environment for man and for creating conditions on earth that are necessary for the improvement of the quality of life.

#### *Principle 9*

Environmental deficiencies generated by the conditions of under-development and natural disasters pose grave problems and can best be remedied by accelerated development through the transfer of substantial quantities of financial and technological assistance as a supplement to the domestic effort of the developing countries and such timely assistance as may be required.

#### *Principle 10*

For the developing countries, stability of prices and adequate earnings for primary commodities and raw materials are essential to environmental management since economic factors as well as ecological processes must be taken into account.

#### *Principle 11*

The environmental policies of all States should enhance and not adversely affect the present or future development potential of developing countries, nor should they hamper the attainment of better living conditions for all, and appropriate steps should be taken by States and international organizations with a view to reaching agreement on meeting the possible national and international economic consequences resulting from the application of environmental measures.

#### *Principle 12*

Resources should be made available to preserve and improve the environment, taking into account the circumstances and particular requirements of developing countries and any costs which may emanate from their incorporating environmental safeguards into their development planning and the need for making available to them, upon their request, additional international technical and financial assistance for this purpose.

#### *Principle 13*

In order to achieve a more rational management of resources and thus to improve the environment, States should adopt an integrated and co-ordinated approach to their development planning so as to ensure that development is compatible with the need to protect and improve environment for the benefit of their population.

*Principle 14*

Rational planning constitutes an essential tool for reconciling any conflict between the needs of development and the need to protect and improve the environment.

*Principle 15*

Planning must be applied to human settlements and urbanization with a view to avoiding adverse effects on the environment and obtaining maximum social, economic and environmental benefits for all. In this respect, projects which are designed for colonialist and racist domination must be abandoned.

*Principle 16*

Demographic policies which are without prejudice to basic human rights and which are deemed appropriate by Governments concerned should be applied in those regions where the rate of population growth or excessive population concentrations are likely to have adverse effects on the environment of the human environment and impede development.

*Principle 17*

Appropriate national institutions must be entrusted with the task of planning, managing or controlling the environmental resources of States with a view to enhancing environmental quality.

*Principle 18*

Science and technology, as part of their contribution to economic and social development, must be applied to the identification, avoidance and control of environmental risks and the solution of environmental problems and for the common good of mankind.

*Principle 19*

Education in environmental matters, for the younger generation as well as adults, giving due consideration to the underprivileged, is essential in order to broaden the basis for an enlightened opinion and responsible conduct by individuals, enterprises and communities in protecting and improving the environment in its full human dimension. It is also essential that mass media of communications avoid contributing to the deterioration of the environment, but, on the contrary, disseminate information of an educational nature on the need to protect and improve the environment in order to enable man to develop in every respect.

*Principle 20*

Scientific research and development in the context of environmental problems, both national and multinational, must be promoted in all countries, especially the developing countries. In this connexion, the free flow of up-to-date scientific information and transfer of experience must be supported and assisted, to facilitate the solution of environmental problems; environmental

technologies should be made available to developing countries on terms which would encourage their wide dissemination without constituting an economic burden on the developing countries.

*Principle 21*

States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

*Principle 22*

States shall co-operate to develop further the international law regarding liability and compensation for the victims of pollution and other environmental damage caused by activities within the jurisdiction or control of such States to areas beyond their jurisdiction.

*Principle 23*

Without prejudice to such criteria as may be agreed upon by the international community, or to standards which will have to be determined nationally, it will be essential in all cases to consider the systems of values prevailing in each country, and the extent of the applicability of standards which are valid for the most advanced countries but which may be inappropriate and of unwarranted social cost for the developing countries.

*Principle 24*

International matters concerning the protection and improvement of the environment should be handled in a co-operative spirit by all countries, big and small, on an equal footing. Co-operation through multilateral or bilateral arrangements or other appropriate means is essential to effectively control, prevent, reduce and eliminate adverse environmental effects resulting from activities conducted in all spheres, in such a way that due account is taken of the sovereignty and interests of all States.

*Principle 25*

States shall ensure that international organizations play a co-ordinated, efficient and dynamic role for the protection and improvement of the environment.

*Principle 26*

Man and his environment must be spared the effects of nuclear weapons and all other means of mass destruction. States must strive to reach prompt agreement, in the relevant international organs, on the elimination and complete destruction of such weapons.

*21st plenary meeting  
16 June 1972*

## Chapter II

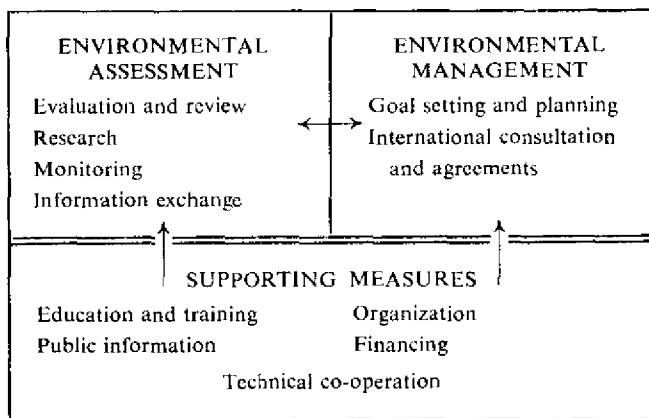
## ACTION PLAN FOR THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

## A. Framework for environmental action

The recommendations adopted by the Conference for the substantive items on the agenda of the Conference are set out in chapter II, section B, below.<sup>1</sup> The recommendations have been grouped, in section C, in an Action Plan that makes it possible to identify international programmes and activities across the boundaries of all subject areas. The broad types of action that make up the Plan are:

- (a) The global environmental assessment programme (Earthwatch);
- (b) Environmental management activities;
- (c) International measures to support the national and international actions of assessment and management.

The framework of the Action Plan is illustrated in the following diagram.



## B. Recommendations for action at the international level

The texts of the recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (see chapter X) are given below.<sup>1</sup>

## PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Recommendation 1*

The planning, improvement and management of rural and urban settlements demand an approach, at all levels, which embraces all aspects of the human environ-

<sup>1</sup> For the correspondence between the numbers of the recommendations as they appear in chapter II, section B, and the numbers of the recommendations as adopted by the Conference, see annex V below.

ment, both natural and man-made. Accordingly, *it is recommended:*

(a) That all development assistance agencies, whether international, such as the United Nations Development Programme and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, regional or national, should in their development assistance activities also give high priority within available resources to requests from Governments for assistance in the planning of human settlements, notably in housing, transportation, water, sewerage and public health, the mobilization of human and financial resources, the improvement of transitional urban settlements and the provision and maintenance of essential community services, in order to achieve as far as possible the social well-being of the receiving country as a whole;

(b) That these agencies also be prepared to assist the less industrialized countries in solving the environmental problems of development projects; to this end they should actively support the training and encourage the recruitment of requisite personnel, as far as possible within these countries themselves.

*Recommendation 2*

1. *It is recommended* that Governments should designate to the Secretary-General areas in which they have committed themselves (or are prepared to commit themselves) to a long-term programme of improvement and global promotion of the environment.

(a) In this connexion, countries are invited to share internationally all relevant information on the problems they encounter and the solutions they devise in developing these areas.

(b) Countries concerned will presumably appoint an appropriate body to plan such a programme, and to supervise its implementation, for areas which could vary in size from a city block to a national region; presumably, too, the programme will be designated to serve, among other purposes, as a vehicle for the preparation and launching of experimental and pilot projects.

(c) Countries which are willing to launch an improvement programme should be prepared to welcome international co-operation, seeking the advice or assistance of competent international bodies.

2. *It is further recommended:*

(a) That in order to ensure the success of the programme, Governments should urge the Secretary-General to undertake a process of planning and co-ordination whereby contact would be established with

nations likely to participate in the programme; international teams of experts might be assembled for that purpose;

(b) That a Conference/Demonstration on Experimental Human Settlements should be held under the auspices of the United Nations in order to provide for co-ordination and the exchange of information and to demonstrate to world public opinion the potential of this approach by means of a display of experimental projects;

(c) That nations should take into consideration Canada's offer to organize such a Conference/Demonstration and to act as host to it.

### *Recommendation 3*

Certain aspects of human settlements can have international implications, for example, the "export" of pollution from urban and industrial areas, and the effects of seaports on international hinterlands. Accordingly, *it is recommended* that the attention of Governments be drawn to the need to consult bilaterally or regionally whenever environmental conditions or development plans in one country could have repercussions in one or more neighbouring countries.

### *Recommendation 4*

1. *It is recommended* that Governments and the Secretary-General, the latter in consultation with the appropriate United Nations agencies, take the following steps:

(a) Entrust the over-all responsibility for an agreed programme of environmental research at the international level to any central body that may be given the co-ordinating authority in the field of the environment, taking into account the co-ordination work already being provided on the regional level, especially by the Economic Commission for Europe;

(b) Identify, wherever possible, an existing agency within the United Nations system as the principal focal point for initiating and co-ordinating research in each principal area and, where there are competing claims, establish appropriate priorities;

(c) Designate the following as priority areas for research:

- (i) Theories, policies and methods for the comprehensive environmental development of urban and rural settlements;
- (ii) Methods of assessing quantitative housing needs and of formulating and implementing phased programmes designed to satisfy them (principal bodies responsible: Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, regional economic commissions and United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut);
- (iii) Environmental socio-economic indicators of the quality of human settlements, particularly in terms of desirable occupancy standards and residential densities, with a view to identifying their time trends;

(iv) Socio-economic and demographic factors underlying migration and spatial distribution of population, including the problem of transitional settlements (principal bodies responsible: Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Centre for Housing, Building and Planning), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations);

(v) Designs, technologies, financial and administrative procedures for the efficient and expanded production of housing and related infra-structure, suitably adapted to local conditions;

(vi) Water supply, sewerage and waste-disposal systems adapted to local conditions, particularly in semi-tropical, tropical, Arctic and sub-Arctic areas (principal body responsible: World Health Organization);

(vii) Alternative methods of meeting rapidly increasing urban transportation needs (principal bodies responsible: Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Resources and Transport Division and Centre for Housing, Building and Planning));

(viii) Physical, mental and social effects of stresses created by living and working conditions in human settlements, particularly urban conglomerates, for example the accessibility of buildings to persons whose physical mobility is impaired (principal bodies responsible: International Labour Organisation, World Health Organization, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat).

2. *It is further recommended* that Governments consider co-operative arrangements to undertake the necessary research whenever the above-mentioned problem areas have a specific regional impact. In such cases, provision should be made for the exchange of information and research findings with countries of other geographical regions sharing similar problems.

### *Recommendation 5*

*It is recommended:*

(a) That Governments take steps to arrange for the exchange of visits by those who are conducting research in the public or private institutions of their countries;

(b) That Governments and the Secretary-General ensure the acceleration of the exchange of information concerning past and on-going research, experimentation and project implementation covering all aspects of human settlements, which is conducted by the United Nations system or by public or private entities, including academic institutions.

### *Recommendation 6*

*It is recommended* that Governments and the Secretary-General give urgent attention to the training of those who

are needed to promote integrated action on the planning, development and management of human settlements.

*Recommendation 7*

*It is recommended:*

(a) That Governments and the Secretary-General provide equal possibilities for everybody, both by training and by ensuring access to relevant means and information, to influence their own environment by themselves;

(b) That Governments and the Secretary-General ensure that the institutions concerned shall be strengthened and that special training activities shall be established, making use of existing projects of regional environmental development, for the benefit of the less industrialized countries, covering the following:

- (i) Intermediate and auxiliary personnel for national public services who, in turn, would be in a position to train others for similar tasks (principal bodies responsible: World Health Organization, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Centre for Housing, Building and Planning), United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations);
- (ii) Specialists in environmental planning and in rural development (principal bodies responsible: Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Centre for Housing, Building and Planning), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations);
- (iii) Community developers for self-help programmes for low-income groups (principal body responsible: Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Centre for Housing, Building and Planning));
- (iv) Specialists in working environments (principal bodies responsible: International Labour Organisation, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Centre for Housing, Building and Planning), World Health Organization);
- (v) Planners and organizers of mass transport systems and services with special reference to environmental development (principal body responsible: Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Resources and Transport Division)).

*Recommendation 8*

*It is recommended* that regional institutions take stock of the requirements of their regions for various environmental skills and of the facilities available to meet those requirements in order to facilitate the provision of appropriate training within regions.

*Recommendation 9*

*It is recommended* that the World Health Organization increase its efforts to support Governments in planning for improving water supply and sewerage services through its community water supply programme, taking account,

as far as possible, of the framework of total environment programmes for communities.

*Recommendation 10*

*It is recommended* that development assistance agencies should give higher priority, where justified in the light of the social benefits, to supporting Governments in financing and setting up services for water supply, disposal of water from all sources, and liquid-waste and solid-waste disposal and treatment as part of the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade.

*Recommendation 11*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General ensure that, during the preparations for the 1974 World Population Conference, special attention shall be given to population concerns as they relate to the environment and, more particularly, to the environment of human settlements.

*Recommendation 12*

1. *It is recommended* that the World Health Organization and other United Nations agencies should provide increased assistance to Governments which so request in the field of family planning programmes without delay.

2. *It is further recommended* that the World Health Organization should promote and intensify research endeavour in the field of human reproduction, so that the serious consequences of population explosion on human environment can be prevented.

*Recommendation 13*

*It is recommended* that the United Nations agencies should focus special attention on the provision of assistance for combating the menace of human malnutrition rampant in many parts of the world. Such assistance will cover training, research and development endeavours on such matters as causes of malnutrition, mass production of high-protein and multipurpose foods, qualitative and quantitative characteristics of routine foods, and the launching of applied nutrition programmes.

*Recommendation 14*

*It is recommended* that the intergovernmental body for environmental affairs to be established within the United Nations should ensure that the required surveys shall be made concerning the need and the technical possibilities for developing internationally agreed standards for measuring and limiting noise emissions and that, if it is deemed advisable, such standards shall be applied in the production of means of transportation and certain kinds of working equipment, without a large price increase or reduction in the aid given to developing countries.

*Recommendation 15*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate United Nations bodies, formulate programmes on a world-wide basis to assist countries to meet effectively the requirements of growth of human settlements and to improve the quality of life in existing settlements, in particular, in squatter areas.

*Recommendation 16*

The programmes referred to in recommendation 15 should include the establishment of subregional centres to undertake, *inter alia*, the following functions:

- (a) Training;
- (b) Research;
- (c) Exchange of information;
- (d) Financial, technical and material assistance.

*Recommendation 17*

*It is recommended* that Governments and the Secretary-General take immediate steps towards the establishment of an international fund or a financial institution whose primary operative objectives will be to assist in strengthening national programmes relating to human settlements through the provision of seed capital and the extension of the necessary technical assistance to permit an effective mobilization of domestic resources for housing and the environmental improvement of human settlements.

*Recommendation 18*

*It is recommended* that the following recommendations be referred to the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator for his consideration, more particularly in the context of the preparation of a report to the Economic and Social Council:

1. *It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and in consultation with the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental bodies:

(a) Assess the over-all requirements for the timely and widespread distribution of warnings which the observational and communications networks must satisfy;

(b) Assess the needs for additional observational networks and other observational systems for natural disaster detection and warnings for tropical cyclones (typhoons, hurricanes, cyclones etc.) and their associated storm surges, torrential rains, floods, tsunamis, earthquakes etc.;

(c) Evaluate the existing systems for the international communication of disaster warnings, in order to determine the extent to which these require improvement;

(d) On the basis of these assessments, promote, through existing national and international organizations, the establishment of an effective world-wide natural disaster warning system, with special emphasis on tropical cyclones and earthquakes, taking full advantage on existing systems and plans, such as the World Weather Watch, the World Meteorological Organization's Tropical Cyclone Project, the International Tsunami Warning System, the World-Wide Standardized Seismic Network, and the Desert Locust Control Organization;

(e) Invite the World Meteorological Organization to promote research on the periodicity and intensity of the occurrence of droughts, with a view to developing improved forecasting techniques.

2. *It is further recommended* that the United Nations Development Programme and other appropriate international assistance agencies give priority in responding

to requests from Governments for the establishment and improvement of natural disaster research programmes and warning systems.

3. *It is recommended* that the Secretary-General ensure that the United Nations system shall provide to Governments a comprehensive programme of advice and support in disaster prevention. More specifically, the question of disaster prevention should be seen as an integral part of the country programme as submitted to, and reviewed by, the United Nations Development Programme.

4. *It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take the necessary steps to ensure that the United Nations system shall assist countries with their planning for pre-disaster preparedness. To this end:

(a) An international programme of technical co-operation should be developed, designed to strengthen the capabilities of Governments in the field of pre-disaster planning, drawing upon the services of the resident representatives of the United Nations Development Programme;

(b) The United Nations Disaster Relief Office, with the assistance of relevant agencies of the United Nations, should organize plans and programmes for international co-operation in cases of natural disasters;

(c) As appropriate, non-governmental international agencies and individual Governments should be invited to participate in the preparation of such plans and programmes.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

*Recommendation 19*

*It is recommended* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in co-operation with other relevant international organizations, should include in its programme questions relating to rural planning in relation to environmental policy, since environmental policy is formulated in close association with physical planning and with medium-term and long-term economic and social planning. Even in highly industrialized countries, rural areas still cover more than 90 per cent of the territory and consequently should not be regarded as a residual sector and a mere reserve of land and manpower. The programme should therefore include, in particular:

(a) Arrangements for exchanges of such data as are available;

(b) Assistance in training and informing specialists and the public, especially young people, from primary school age onwards;

(c) The formulation of principles for the development of rural areas, which should be understood to comprise not only agricultural areas as such but also small- and medium-sized settlements and their hinterland.

*Recommendation 20*

*It is recommended* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in co-operation

with other international agencies concerned, strengthen the necessary machinery for the international acquisition of knowledge and transfer of experience on soil capabilities, degradation, conservation and restoration, and to this end:

(a) Co-operative information exchange should be facilitated among those nations sharing similar soils, climate and agricultural conditions;

(i) The Soil Map of the World being prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Society of Soil Science should serve to indicate those areas among which transfer of knowledge on soil potentialities and soil degradation and restoration would be most valuable;

(ii) This map should be supplemented through the establishment of international criteria and methods for the assessment of soil capabilities and degradations and the collection of additional data based upon these methods and criteria. This should permit the preparation of a World Map of Soil Degradation Hazards as a framework for information exchange in this area;

(iii) Information exchange on soil use should account for similarities in vegetation and other environmental conditions as well as those of soil, climate, and agricultural practices;

(iv) The FAO Soil Data-Processing System should be developed beyond soil productivity considerations, to include the above-mentioned data and relevant environmental parameters, and to facilitate information exchange between national soil institutions, and eventually soil-monitoring stations;

(b) International co-operative research on soil capabilities and conservation should be strengthened and broadened to include:

(i) Basic research on soil degradation processes in selected ecosystems under the auspices of the Man and the Biosphere Programme. This research should be directed as a matter of priority to those arid areas that are most threatened;

(ii) Applied research on soil and water conservation practices under specific land-use conditions with the assistance of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and, where appropriate, other agencies (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization and International Atomic Energy Agency);

(iii) Strengthening of existing research centres and, where necessary, establishment of new centres with the object of increasing the production from dry farming areas without any undue impairment of the environment;

(iv) Research on the use of suitable soils for waste disposal and recycling; the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the World Health Organization should enter

into joint consultations regarding the feasibility of an international programme in this area;

(c) These efforts for international co-operation in research and information exchange on soils should be closely associated with those of the UNDP/WMO/FAO/UNESCO programme of agricultural biometeorology, in order to facilitate integration of data and practical findings and to support the national programmes of conservation of soil resources recommended above;

(d) It should moreover be noted that in addition to the various physical and climatic phenomena which contribute to soil degradation, economic and social factors contribute to it as well; among the economic contributory factors, one which should be particularly emphasized is the payment of inadequate prices for the agricultural produce of developing countries, which prevents farmers in those countries from setting aside sufficient savings for necessary investments in soil regeneration and conservation. Consequently, urgent remedial action should be taken by the organizations concerned to give new value and stability to the prices of raw materials of the developing countries.

#### *Recommendation 21*

*It is recommended* that Governments, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency, strengthen and co-ordinate international programmes for integrated pest control and reduction of the harmful effects of agro-chemicals:

(a) Existing international activities for the exchange of information and co-operative research and technical assistance to developing countries should be strengthened to support the national programmes described above, with particular reference to:

(i) Basic research on ecological effects of pesticides and fertilizers (MAB);

(ii) Use of radio-isotope and radiation techniques in studying the fate of pesticides in the environment (joint IAEA/FAO Division);

(iii) Evaluation of the possibility of using pesticides of biological origin in substitution for certain chemical insecticides which cause serious disturbances in the environment;

(iv) Dose and timing of fertilizers' application and their effects on soil productivity and the environment (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations);

(v) Management practices and techniques for integrated pest control, including biological control (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and World Health Organization);

(vi) Establishment and/or strengthening of national and regional centres for integrated pest control, particularly in developing countries (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and World Health Organization);

(b) Existing expert committees of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization on various aspects of pest control should be convened periodically:

- (i) To assess recent advances in the relevant fields of research mentioned above;
- (ii) To review and further develop international guidelines and standards with special reference to national and ecological conditions in relation to the use of chlorinated hydrocarbons, pesticides containing heavy metals, and the use and experimentation of biological controls;

(c) In addition, *ad hoc* panels of experts should be convened, by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and, where appropriate, the International Atomic Energy Agency, in order to study specific problems, and facilitate the work of the above-mentioned committees.

#### *Recommendation 22*

*It is recommended* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, under its "War on Waste" programme, place increased emphasis on control and recycling of wastes in agriculture:

(a) This programme should assist the national activities relating to:

- (i) Control and recycling of crop residues and animal wastes;
- (ii) Control and recycling of agro-industrial waste;
- (iii) Use of municipal wastes as fertilizers;

(b) The programme should also include measures to avoid wasteful use of natural resources through the destruction of unmarketable agricultural products or their use for improper purposes.

#### *Recommendation 23*

*It is recommended* that Governments, in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other agencies and bodies, establish and strengthen regional and international machinery for the rapid development and management of domesticated livestock of economic importance and their related environmental aspects as part of the ecosystems, particularly in areas of low annual productivity, and thus encourage the establishment of regional livestock research facilities, councils and commissions, as appropriate.

#### *Recommendation 24*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure that the United Nations bodies concerned cooperate to meet the needs for new knowledge on the environmental aspects of forests and forest management:

(a) Where appropriate, research should be promoted, assisted, co-ordinated, or undertaken by the Man and the Biosphere Programme (UNESCO), in close co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Meteorological Organization, and with the collaboration of the International Council of Scientific Unions and the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations;

(b) Research on comparative legislation, land tenure, institutions, tropical forest management, the effects of the international trade in forest products on national forest environments, and public administration, should be sponsored or co-ordinated by FAO, in co-operation with other appropriate international and regional organizations;

(c) The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in conjunction with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other appropriate international organizations, should give positive advice to member countries on the important role of forests with reference to, and in conjunction with, the conservation of soil, watersheds, the protection of tourist sites and wildlife, and recreation, within the over-all framework of the interests of the biosphere.

#### *Recommendation 25*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure that continuing surveillance, with the co-operation of Member States, of the world's forest cover shall be provided for through the programmes of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

(a) Such a World Forest Appraisal Programme would provide basic data, including data on the balance between the world's forest biomass and the prevailing environment, and changes in the forest biomass, considered to have a significant impact on the environment;

(b) The information could be collected from existing inventories and on-going activities and through remote-sensing techniques;

(c) The forest protection programme described above might be incorporated within this effort, through the use of advanced technology, such as satellites which use different types of imagery and which could constantly survey all forests.

#### *Recommendation 26*

*It is recommended* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations co-ordinate an international programme for research and exchange of information on forest fires, pests and diseases:

(a) The programme should include data collection and dissemination, identification of potentially susceptible areas and of means of suppression; exchange of information on technologies, equipment and techniques; research, including integrated pest control and the influence of fires on forest ecosystems, to be undertaken by the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations; establishment of a forecasting system in co-operation with the World Meteorological Organization; organization of seminars and study tours; the facilitation of bilateral agreements for forest protection between neighbouring countries, and the development of effective international quarantines;

(b) Forest fires, pests and diseases will frequently each require separate individual treatment.



*Recommendation 27*

*It is recommended* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations facilitate the transfer of information on forests and forest management:

(a) The amount of knowledge that can usefully be exchanged is limited by the differences of climatic zones and forest types;

(b) The exchange of information should, however, be encouraged among nations sharing similarities; considerable knowledge is already exchanged among the industrialized nations of the temperate zone;

(c) Opportunities exist, despite differences, for the useful transfer of information to developing countries on the environmental aspects of such items as: (i) the harvesting and industrialization of some tropical hardwoods; (ii) pine cultures; (iii) the principles of forest management systems and management science; (iv) soils and soil interpretations relating to forest management; (v) water régimes and watershed management; (vi) forest industries pollution controls, including both technical and economic data; (vii) methods for the evaluation of forest resources through sampling techniques, remote sensing, and data-processing; (viii) control of destructive fires and pest outbreaks; and (ix) co-ordination in the area of the definition and standardization of criteria and methods for the economic appraisal of forest environmental influences and for the comparison of alternative uses.

*Recommendation 28*

*It is recommended* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations strengthen its efforts in support of forestry projects and research projects, possibly for production, in finding species which are adaptable even in areas where this is exceptionally difficult because of ecological conditions.

*Recommendation 29*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General ensure that the effect of pollutants upon wildlife shall be considered, where appropriate, within environmental monitoring systems. Particular attention should be paid to those species of wildlife that may serve as indicators for future wide environmental disturbances, and an ultimate impact upon human populations.

*Recommendation 30*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General ensure the establishment of a programme to expand present data-gathering processes so as to assess the total economic value of wildlife resources.

(a) Such data would facilitate the task of monitoring the current situation of animals endangered by their trade value, and demonstrate to questioning nations the value of their resources;

(b) Such a programme should elaborate upon current efforts of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the

United Nations and might well produce a yearbook of wildlife<sup>2</sup> statistics.

*Recommendation 31*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General ensure that the appropriate United Nations agencies co-operate with the Governments of the developing countries to develop special short-term training courses on wildlife<sup>2</sup> management:

(a) Priority should be given to conversion courses for personnel trained in related disciplines such as forestry or animal husbandry;

(b) Special attention should be given to the establishment and support of regional training schools for technicians.

*Recommendation 32*

*It is recommended* that Governments give attention to the need to enact international conventions and treaties to protect species inhabiting international waters or those which migrate from one country to another:

(a) A broadly-based convention should be considered which would provide a framework by which criteria for game regulations could be agreed upon and the over-exploitation of resources curtailed by signatory countries;

(b) A working group should be set up as soon as possible by the appropriate authorities to consider these problems and to advise on the need for, and possible scope of, such conventions or treaties.

*Recommendation 33*

*It is recommended* that Governments agree to strengthen the International Whaling Commission, to increase international research efforts, and as a matter of urgency to call for an international agreement, under the auspices of the International Whaling Commission and involving all Governments concerned, for a 10-year moratorium on commercial whaling.

*Recommendation 34*

*It is recommended* that Governments and the Secretary-General give special attention to training requirements in the management of parks and protected areas:

(a) High-level training should be provided and supported:

(i) In addition to integrating aspects of national parks planning and management into courses on forestry and other subjects, special degrees should be offered in park management; the traditional forestry, soil and geology background of the park manager must be broadened into an integrated approach;

(ii) Graduate courses in natural resources administration should be made available in at least one major university in every continent;

<sup>2</sup> Whereas elsewhere in this report the expression "wildlife" is meant to include both animals and plants, it should be understood here to be restricted to the most important animals.

(b) Schools offering courses in national park management at a medium-grade level should be assisted by the establishment or expansion of facilities, particularly in Latin America and Asia.

*Recommendation 35*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure that an appropriate mechanism shall exist for the exchange of information on national parks legislation and planning and management techniques developed in some countries which could serve as guidelines to be made available to any interested country.

*Recommendation 36*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure that the appropriate United Nations agencies shall assist the developing countries to plan for the inflow of visitors into their protected areas in such a way as to reconcile revenue and environmental considerations within the context of the recommendations approved by the Conference. The other international organizations concerned may likewise make their contribution.

*Recommendation 37*

*It is recommended* that Governments take steps to co-ordinate, and co-operate in the management of, neighbouring or contiguous protected areas. Agreement should be reached on such aspects as mutual legislation, patrolling systems, exchange of information, research projects, collaboration on measures of burning, plant and animal control, fishery regulations, censuses, tourist circuits and frontier formalities.

*Recommendation 38*

*It is recommended* that Governments take steps to set aside areas representing ecosystems of international significance for protection under international agreement.

*Recommendation 39*

*It is recommended* that Governments, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations where indicated, agree to an international programme to preserve the world's genetic resources:

(a) Active participation at the national and international levels is involved. It must be recognized, however, that while survey, collection, and dissemination of these genetic resources are best carried out on a regional or international basis, their actual evaluation and utilization are matters for specific institutions and individual workers; international participation in the latter should concern exchange of techniques and findings;

(b) An international network is required with appropriate machinery to facilitate the interchange of information and genetic material among countries;

(c) Both static (seed banks, culture collection etc.) and dynamic (conservation of populations in evolving natural environments) ways are needed.

(d) Action is necessary in six interrelated areas:

- (i) Survey of genetic resources;
- (ii) Inventory of collections;

(iii) Exploration and collecting;

(iv) Documentation;

(v) Evaluation and utilization;

(vi) Conservation, which represents the crucial element to which all other programmes relate;

(e) Although the international programme relates to all types of genetic resources, the action required for each resource will vary according to existing needs and activities.

*Recommendation 40*

*It is recommended* that Governments, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations where indicated, make inventories of the genetic resources most endangered by depletion or extinction:

(a) All species threatened by man's development should be included in such inventories;

(b) Special attention should be given to locating in this field those areas of natural genetic diversity that are disappearing;

(c) These inventories should be reviewed periodically and brought up to date by appropriate monitoring;

(d) The survey conducted by FAO in collaboration with the International Biological Programme is designed to provide information on endangered crop genetic resources by 1972, but will require extension and follow-up.

*Recommendation 41*

*It is recommended* that Governments, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations where indicated, compile or extend, as necessary, registers of existing collections of genetic resources:

(a) Such registers should identify which breeding and experiment stations, research institutions and Universities maintain which collections;

(b) Major gaps in existing collections should be identified where material is in danger of being lost;

(c) These inventories of collections should be transformed for computer handling and made available to all potential users;

(d) In respect of plants:

(i) It would be expected that the "advanced varieties" would be well represented, but that primitive materials would be found to be scarce and require subsequent action;

(ii) The action already initiated by FAO, several national institutions, and international foundations should be supported and expanded.

(e) In respect of micro-organisms, it is recommended that each nation develop comprehensive inventories of culture collections:

(i) A cataloguing of the large and small collections and the value of their holdings is required, rather than a listing of individual strains;

(ii) Many very small but unique collections, sometimes the works of a single specialist, are lost;

(iii) Governments should make sure that valuable gene pools held by individuals or small institutes are also held in national or regional collections.

(f) In respect of animal germ plasm, it is recommended that FAO establish a continuing mechanism to assess and maintain catalogues of the characteristics of domestic animal breeds, types and varieties in all nations of the world. Likewise, FAO should establish such lists where required.

(g) In respect of aquatic organisms, it is recommended that FAO compile a catalogue of genetic resources of cultivated species and promote intensive studies on the methods of preservation and storage of genetic material.

#### *Recommendation 42*

*It is recommended* that Governments, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations where indicated, initiate immediately, in co-operation with all interested parties, programmes of exploration and collection wherever endangered species have been identified which are not included in existing collections:

(a) An emergency programme, with the co-operation of the Man and the Biosphere Programme, of plant exploration and collection should be launched on the basis of the FAO List of Emergency Situations for a five-year period;

(b) With regard to forestry species, in addition to the efforts of the Danish/FAO Forest Tree Seed Centre, the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations, and the FAO Panel of Experts on Forest Gene Resources, support is needed for missions planned for Latin America, West Africa, the East Indies and India.

#### *Recommendation 43*

*It is recommended* that Governments, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations where indicated:

1. Recognize that conservation is a most crucial part of any genetic resources programme. Moreover, major types of genetic resources must be treated separately because:

(a) They are each subject to different programmes and priorities;

(b) They serve different uses and purposes;

(c) They require different expertise, techniques and facilities;

2. In respect of plant germ plasms (agriculture and forestry), organize and equip national or regional genetic resources conservation centres:

(a) Such centres as the National Seed Storage Laboratory in the United States of America and the Vavilov Institute of Plant Industry in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics already provide good examples;

(b) Working collections should be established separately from the basic collections; these will usually be

located at plant and breeding stations and will be widely distributed;

(c) Three classes of genetic crop resources must be conserved:

(i) High-producing varieties in current use and those they have superseded;

(ii) Primitive varieties of traditional pre-scientific agriculture (recognized as genetic treasures for plant improvement);

(iii) Mutations induced by radiation or chemical means;

(d) Species contributing to environmental improvement, such as sedge used to stabilize sand-dunes, should be conserved;

(e) Wild or weed relatives of crop species and those wild species of actual or potential use in rangelands, industry, new crops etc. should be included;

3. In respect of plant germ plasms (agriculture and forestry), maintain gene pools of wild plant species within their natural communities. Therefore:

(a) It is essential that primeval forests, bushlands and grasslands which contain important forest genetic resources be identified and protected by appropriate technical and legal means; systems of reserves exist in most countries, but a strengthening of international understanding on methods of protection and on availability of material may be desired;

(b) Conservation of species of medical, aesthetic or research value should be assured;

(c) The network of biological reserves proposed by UNESCO (Man and the Biosphere Programme) should be designed, where feasible, to protect these natural communities;

(d) Where protection in nature becomes uncertain or impossible, then means such as seed storage or living collections in provenance trials or botanic gardens must be adopted;

4. Fully implement the programmes initiated by the FAO Panels of Experts on forest gene resources in 1968 and on plant exploration and introduction in 1970;

5. In respect of animal germ plasms, consider the desirability and feasibility of international action to preserve breeds or varieties of animals:

(a) Because such an endeavour would constitute a major effort beyond the scope of any one nation, FAO would be the logical executor of such a project. Close co-operation with Governments would be necessary, however. The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources might, logically, be given responsibility for wild species, in co-operation with FAO, the Man and the Biosphere Programme (UNESCO), and Governments;

(b) Any such effort should also include research on methods of preserving, storing, and transporting germ plasm;

(c) Specific methods for the maintenance of gene pools of aquatic species should be developed;

(d) The recommendations of the FAO Working Party Meeting on Genetic Selection and Conservation of Genetic Resources of Fish, held in 1971, should be implemented;

6. In respect of micro-organism germ plasms, co-operatively establish and properly fund a few large regional collections:

(a) Full use should be made of major collections now in existence;

(b) In order to provide geographical distribution and access to the developing nations, regional centres should be established in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the existing centres in the developed world should be strengthened;

7. Establish conservation centres of insect germ plasm. The very difficult and long process of selecting or breeding insects conducive to biological control programmes can begin only in this manner.

#### *Recommendation 44*

*It is recommended* that Governments, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations where indicated, recognize that evaluation and utilization are critical corollaries to the conservation of genetic resources. In respect of crop-breeding programmes, it is recommended that Governments give special emphasis to:

(a) The quality of varieties and breeds and the potential for increased yields;

(b) The ecological conditions to which the species are adapted;

(c) The resistance to diseases, pests and other adverse factors;

(d) The need for a multiplicity of efforts so as to increase the chances of success.

#### *Recommendation 45*

*It is recommended* that Governments, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations where indicated:

1. Collaborate to establish a global network of national and regional institutes relating to genetic resource conservation based on agreements on the availability of material and information, on methods, on technical standards, and on the need for technical and financial assistance wherever required:

(a) Facilities should be designed to assure the use of the materials and information: (i) by breeders, to develop varieties and breeds both giving higher yields and having higher resistance to local pests and diseases and other adverse factors; and (ii) by users providing facilities and advice for the safest and most profitable utilization of varieties and breeds most adapted to local conditions;

(b) Such co-operation would apply to all genetic resource conservation centres and to all types mentioned in the foregoing recommendations;

(c) Standardized storage and retrieval facilities for the exchange of information and genetic material should be developed:

(i) Information should be made generally available and its exchange facilitated through agreement on methods and technical standards;

(ii) International standards and regulations for the shipment of materials should be agreed upon;

(iii) Basic collections and data banks should be replicated in at least two distinct sites, and should remain a national responsibility;

(iv) A standardized and computerized system of documentation is required;

(d) Technical and financial assistance should be provided where required; areas of genetic diversity are most frequently located in those countries most poorly equipped to institute the necessary programmes;

2. Recognize that the need for liaison among the parties participating in the global system of genetic resources conservation requires certain institutional innovations. To this end:

(a) *It is recommended* that the appropriate United Nations agency establish an international liaison unit for plant genetic resources in order:

(i) To improve liaison between governmental and non-governmental efforts;

(ii) To assist in the liaison and co-operation between national and regional centres, with special emphasis on international agreements on methodology and standards of conservation of genetic material, standardization and co-ordination of computerized record systems, and the exchange of information and material between such centres;

(iii) To assist in implementing training courses in exploration, conservation and breeding methods and techniques;

(iv) To act as a central repository for copies of computerized information on gene pools (discs and tapes);

(v) To provide the secretariat for periodic meetings of international panels and seminars on the subject; a conference on germ plasm conservation might be convened to follow up the successful conference of 1967;

(vi) To plan and co-ordinate the five-year emergency programme on the conservation of endangered species;

(vii) To assist Governments further, wherever required, in implementing their national programmes;

(viii) To promote the evaluation and utilization of genetic resources at the national and international levels;

(b) *It is recommended* that the appropriate United Nations agency initiate the required programme on micro-organism germ plasm:

(i) Periodic international conferences involving those concerned with the maintenance of and research

on gene pools of micro-organisms should be supported;

- (ii) Such a programme might interact with the proposed regional culture centres by assuring that each centre places high priority on the training of scientists and technicians from the developing nations; acting as a necessary liaison; and lending financial assistance to those countries established outside the developed countries;
- (iii) The international exchange of pure collections of micro-organisms between the major collections of the world has operated for many years and requires little re-enforcement;
- (iv) Study should be conducted particularly on waste disposal and recycling, controlling diseases and pests, and food technology and nutrition;

(c) *It is recommended* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations institute a programme in respect of animal germ plasm to assess and maintain catalogues of the economic characteristics of domestic animal breeds and types and of wild species and to establish gene pools of potentially useful types;

(d) *It is recommended* that the Man and the Biosphere project on the conservation of natural areas and the genetic material contained therein should be adequately supported.

#### *Recommendation 46*

*It is recommended* that Governments, and the Secretary-General in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other United Nations organizations concerned, as well as development assistance agencies, take steps to support recent guidelines, recommendations and programmes of the various international fishing organizations. A large part of the needed international action has been identified with action programmes initiated by FAO and its Intergovernmental Committee on Fisheries and approximately 24 other bilateral and multilateral international commissions, councils and committees. In particular these organizations are planning and undertaking:

(a) Co-operative programmes such as that of LEPOR (Long-Term and Expanded Programme of Oceanic Research), GIPME (Global Investigation of Pollution in the Marine Environment) and IBP (International Biological Programme);

(b) Exchange of data, supplementing and expanding the services maintained by FAO and bodies within its framework in compiling, disseminating and co-ordinating information on living aquatic resources and their environment and fisheries activities;

(c) Evaluation and monitoring of world fishery resources, environmental conditions, stock assessment, including statistics on catch and effort, and the economics of fisheries;

(d) Assistance to Governments in interpreting the implications of such assessments, identifying alternative management measures, and formulating required actions;

(e) Special programmes and recommendations for management of stocks of fish and other aquatic animals

proposed by the existing international fishery bodies. Damage to fish stocks has often occurred because regulatory action is taken too slowly. In the past, the need for management action to be nearly unanimous has reduced action to the minimum acceptable level.

#### *Recommendation 47*

*It is recommended* that Governments, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other United Nations organizations concerned, as well as development assistance agencies, take steps to ensure close participation of fishery agencies and interests in the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. In order to safeguard the marine environment and its resources through the development of effective and workable principles and laws, the information and insight of international and regional fishery bodies, as well as the national fishery agencies are essential.

#### *Recommendation 48*

*It is recommended* that Governments, and the Secretary-General in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other United Nations organizations concerned, as well as development assistance agencies, take steps to ensure international co-operation in the research, control and regulation of the side effects of national activities in resource utilization where these affect the aquatic resources of other nations:

(a) Estuaries, intertidal marshes, and other near-shore and in-shore environments play a crucial role in the maintenance of several marine fish stocks. Similar problems exist in those fresh-water fisheries that occur in shared waters;

(b) Discharge of toxic chemicals, heavy metals, and other wastes may affect even high-seas resources;

(c) Certain exotic species, notably the carp, lamprey and alewife, have invaded international waters with deleterious effects as a result of unregulated unilateral action.

#### *Recommendation 49*

*It is recommended* that Governments, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other United Nations organizations concerned, as well as development assistance agencies, take steps to develop further and strengthen facilities for collecting, analysing and disseminating data on living aquatic resources and the environment in which they live:

(a) Data already exist concerning the total harvest from the oceans and from certain regions in respect of individual fish stocks, their quantity, and the fishing efforts expended on them, and in respect of their population structure, distribution and changes. This coverage needs to be improved and extended;

(b) It is clear that a much greater range of biological parameters must be monitored and analysed in order to provide an adequate basis for evaluating the interaction of stocks and managing the combined resources of many stocks. There is no institutional constraint on this

expansion but a substantial increase in funding is needed by FAO and other international organizations concerned to meet this expanding need for data;

(c) Full utilization of present and expanded data facilities is dependent on the co-operation of Governments in developing local and regional data networks, making existing data available to FAO and to the international bodies, and formalizing the links between national and international agencies responsible for monitoring and evaluating fishery resources.

#### *Recommendation 50*

*It is recommended* that Governments, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other United Nations organizations concerned, as well as development assistance agencies, take steps to ensure full co-operation among Governments by strengthening the existing international and regional machinery for development and management of fisheries and their related environmental aspects and, in those regions where these do not exist, to encourage the establishment of fishery councils and commissions as appropriate.

(a) The operational efficiency of these bodies will depend largely on the ability of the participating countries to carry out their share of the activities and programmes;

(b) Technical support and servicing from the specialized agencies, in particular from FAO, is also required;

(c) The assistance of bilateral and international funding agencies will be needed to ensure the full participation of the developing countries in these activities.

#### *Recommendation 51*

*It is recommended* that Governments concerned consider the creation of river-basin commissions or other appropriate machinery for co-operation between interested States for water resources common to more than one jurisdiction.

(a) In accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, full consideration must be given to the right of permanent sovereignty of each country concerned to develop its own resources;

(b) The following principles should be considered by the States concerned when appropriate:

(i) Nations agree that when major water resource activities are contemplated that may have a significant environmental effect on another country, the other country should be notified well in advance of the activity envisaged;

(ii) The basic objective of all water resource use and development activities from the environmental point of view is to ensure the best use of water and to avoid its pollution in each country;

(iii) The net benefits of hydrologic regions common to more than one national jurisdiction are to be shared equitably by the nations affected;

(c) Such arrangements, when deemed appropriate by the States concerned, will permit undertaking on a regional basis:

(i) Collection, analysis, and exchanges of hydrologic data through some international mechanism agreed upon by the States concerned;

(ii) Joint data-collection programmes to serve planning needs;

(iii) Assessment of environmental effects of existing water uses;

(iv) Joint study of the causes and symptoms of problems related to water resources, taking into account the technical, economic, and social considerations of water quality control;

(v) Rational use, including a programme of quality control, of the water resource as an environmental asset;

(vi) Provision for the judicial and administrative protection of water rights and claims;

(vii) Prevention and settlement of disputes with reference to the management and conservation of water resources;

(viii) Financial and technical co-operation of a shared resource;

(d) Regional conferences should be organized to promote the above considerations.

#### *Recommendation 52*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure that appropriate United Nations bodies support government action with regard to water resources where required:

1. Reference is made to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Resources and Transport Division), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/International Hydrological Decade, the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut. For example:

(a) The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has established a Commission on Land and Water Use for the Middle East which promotes regional co-operation in research, training and information, *inter alia* on water management problems;

(b) The World Health Organization has available the International Reference Centre for Waste Disposal located at Dübendorf, Switzerland, and International Reference Centre on Community Water Supply in the Netherlands;

(c) The World Meteorological Organization has a Commission on Hydrology which provides guidance on data collection and on the establishment of hydrological networks;

(d) The Resources and Transport Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Secretariat, has the United Nations Water Resources Development Centre;

(e) The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is sponsoring the International

Hydrological Decade programme of co-ordinated research on the quality and quantity of world water resources.

2. Similar specialized centres should be established at the regional level in developing countries for training research and information exchange on:

(a) Inland water pollution and waste disposal in co-operation with the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut;

(b) Water management for rain-fed and irrigated agriculture, by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in co-operation with the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut;

(c) Integrated water resources planning and management in co-operation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Resources and Transport Division), the regional economic commissions, and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut.

#### *Recommendation 53*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure that the United Nations system is prepared to provide technical and financial assistance to Governments when requested in the different functions of water resources management:

(a) Surveys and inventories;

(b) Water resources administration and policies, including:

- (i) The establishment of institutional frameworks;
- (ii) Economic structures of water resources management and development;
- (iii) Water resources law and legislation;
- (c) Planning and management techniques, including:
  - (i) The assignment of water quality standards;
  - (ii) The implementation of appropriate technology;
  - (iii) More efficient use and re-use of limited water supplies;

(d) Basic and applied studies and research;

(e) Transfer of existing knowledge;

(f) Continuing support of the programme of the International Hydrological Decade.

#### *Recommendation 54*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to establish a roster of experts who would be available to assist Governments, upon request, to anticipate and evaluate the environmental effects of major water development projects. Governments would have the opportunity of consulting teams of experts drawn from this roster, in the first stages of project planning. Guidelines could be prepared to assist in the review and choices of alternatives.

#### *Recommendation 55*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to conduct an exploratory programme to assess the actual and potential environmental effects of water management upon the oceans, define terms and estimate the costs for a comprehensive programme of action, and establish and maintain as far as possible:

(a) A world registry of major or otherwise important rivers arranged regionally and classified according to their discharge of water and pollutants;

(b) A world registry of clean rivers which would be defined in accordance with internationally agreed quality criteria and to which nations would contribute on a voluntary basis:

- (i) The oceans are the ultimate recipient for the natural and man-made wastes discharged into the river systems of the continents;
- (ii) Changes in the amount of river-flow into the oceans, as well as in its distribution in space and time, may considerably affect the physical, chemical and biological régime of the estuary regions and influence the oceanic water systems;
- (iii) It would be desirable for nations to declare their intention to have admitted to the world registry of clean rivers those rivers within their jurisdiction that meet the quality criteria as defined and to declare their further intention to ensure that certain other rivers shall meet those quality criteria by some target date.

#### *Recommendation 56*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General provide the appropriate vehicle for the exchange of information on mining and mineral processing.

(a) Improved accessibility and dissemination of existing information is required; the body of literature and experience is already larger than one would think.

(b) Possibilities include the accumulation of information on: (i) the environmental conditions of mine sites; (ii) the action taken in respect of the environment; and (iii) the positive and negative environmental repercussions.

(c) Such a body of information could be used for prediction. Criteria for the planning and management of mineral production would emerge and would indicate where certain kinds of mining should be limited, where reclamation costs would be particularly high, or where other problems would arise.

(d) The appropriate United Nations bodies should make efforts to assist the developing countries by, *inter alia*, providing adequate information for each country on the technology for preventing present or future environmentally adverse effects of mining and the adverse health and safety effects associated with the mineral industry and by accepting technical trainees and sending experts.

#### *Recommendation 57*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure proper collection, measurement and analysis

of data relating to the environmental effects of energy use and production within appropriate monitoring systems.

(a) The design and operation of such networks should include, in particular, monitoring the environmental levels resulting from emission of carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide, oxidants, nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), heat and particulates, as well as those from releases of oil and radioactivity;

(b) In each case the objective is to learn more about the relationships between such levels and the effects on weather, human health, plant and animal life, and amenity values.

#### *Recommendation 58*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to give special attention to providing a mechanism for the exchange of information on energy:

(a) The rationalization and integration of resource management for energy will clearly require a solid understanding of the complexity of the problem and of the multiplicity of alternative solutions;

(b) Access to the large body of existing information should be facilitated:

(i) Data on the environmental consequences of different energy systems should be provided through an exchange of national experiences, studies, seminars, and other appropriate meetings;

(ii) A continually updated register of research involving both entire systems and each of its stages should be maintained.

#### *Recommendation 59*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure that a comprehensive study be promptly undertaken with the aim of submitting a first report, at the latest in 1975, on available energy sources, new technology, and consumption trends, in order to assist in providing a basis for the most effective development of the world's energy resources, with due regard to the environmental effects of energy production and use: such a study to be carried out in collaboration with appropriate international bodies such as the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

#### *Recommendation 60*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, in co-operation with Governments concerned and the appropriate international agencies, arrange for systematic audits of natural resource development projects in representative ecosystems of international significance to be undertaken jointly with the Governments concerned after, and where feasible before, the implementation of such projects.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Projects might include new agricultural settlement of sub-tropical and tropical zones, irrigation and drainage in arid zones, tropical forestry development, major hydroelectric developments, land reclamation works in tropical lowland coastal areas, and settlement of nomads in semi-arid zones. The cost of audits in developing countries should not be imputed to the costs of the resource development projects but financed from separate international sources.

#### *Recommendation 61*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, in co-operation with Governments concerned and the appropriate international agencies, provide that pilot studies be conducted in representative ecosystems of international significance to assess the environmental impact of alternative approaches to the survey, planning and development of resource projects.

#### *Recommendation 62*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, in co-operation with Governments concerned and the appropriate international agencies, provide that studies be conducted to find out the connexion between the distribution of natural resources and people's welfare and the reasons for possible discrepancies.

#### *Recommendation 63*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure that international development assistance agencies, in co-operation with recipient Governments, intensify efforts to revise and broaden the criteria of development project analysis to incorporate environmental impact considerations.

#### *Recommendation 64*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take steps to ensure that the United Nations agencies concerned undertake studies on the relative costs and benefits of synthetic *versus* natural products serving identical uses.

#### *Recommendation 65*

*It is recommended* that the Man and the Biosphere Programme be vigorously pursued by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in co-operation with other United Nations organizations and other international scientific organizations.

#### *Recommendation 66*

*It is recommended* that the World Meteorological Organization initiate or intensify studies on the inter-relationships of resource development and meteorology.

#### *Recommendation 67*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, in co-operation with interested Governments and United Nations specialized agencies, take the necessary steps to encourage the further development of remote-sensing techniques for resources surveys and the utilization of these techniques on the basis of proper international arrangements.

#### *Recommendation 68*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the appropriate agencies of the United Nations and other international organizations, promote jointly with interested Governments the development of methods for the integrated planning and management of natural resources, and provide, when requested, advice to Governments on such methods, in accordance with the particular environmental circumstances of each country.



*Recommendation 69*

*It is recommended* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations expand its present programme on the stabilization of marginal lands.

## IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTANTS OF BROAD INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

### A. POLLUTION GENERALLY

*Recommendation 70*

*It is recommended* that Governments be mindful of activities in which there is an appreciable risk of effects on climate, and to this end:

(a) Carefully evaluate the likelihood and magnitude of climatic effects and disseminate their findings to the maximum extent feasible before embarking on such activities;

(b) Consult fully other interested States when activities carrying a risk of such effects are being contemplated or implemented.

*Recommendation 71*

*It is recommended* that Governments use the best practicable means available to minimize the release to the environment of toxic or dangerous substances, especially if they are persistent substances such as heavy metals and organochlorine compounds, until it has been demonstrated that their release will not give rise to unacceptable risks or unless their use is essential to human health or food production, in which case appropriate control measures should be applied.

*Recommendation 72*

*It is recommended* that in establishing standards for pollutants of international significance, Governments take into account the relevant standards proposed by competent international organizations, and concert with other concerned Governments and the competent international organizations in planning and carrying out control programmes for pollutants distributed beyond the national jurisdiction from which they are released.

*Recommendation 73*

*It is recommended* that Governments actively support, and contribute to, international programmes to acquire knowledge for the assessment of pollutant sources, pathways, exposures and risks and that those Governments in a position to do so provide educational, technical and other forms of assistance to facilitate broad participation by countries regardless of their economic or technical advancement.

*Recommendation 74*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, drawing on the resources of the entire United Nations system, and with the active support of Governments and appropriate scientific and other international bodies:

(a) Increase the capability of the United Nations system to provide awareness and advance warning of deleterious effects to human health and well-being from man-made pollutants;

(b) Provide this information in a form which is useful to policy-makers at the national level;

(c) Assist those Governments which desire to incorporate these and other environmental factors into national planning processes;

(d) Improve the international acceptability of procedures for testing pollutants and contaminants by:

(i) International division of labour in carrying out the large-scale testing programmes needed;

(ii) Development of international schedules of tests for evaluation of the environmental impact potential of specific contaminants or products. Such a schedule of tests should include consideration of both short-term and long-term effects of all kinds, and should be reviewed and brought up to date from time to time to take into account new knowledge and techniques;

(iii) Development and implementation of an international intercalibration programme for sampling and analytical techniques to permit more meaningful comparisons of national data;

(e) Develop plans for an International Registry of Data on Chemicals in the Environment based on a collection of available scientific data on the environmental behaviour of the most important man-made chemicals and containing production figures of the potentially most harmful chemicals, together with their pathways from factory *via* utilization to ultimate disposal or recirculation.

*Recommendation 75*

*It is recommended* that, without reducing in any way their attention to non-radioactive pollutants, Governments should:

(a) Explore with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Health Organization the feasibility of developing a registry of releases to the biosphere of significant quantities of radioactive materials;

(b) Support and expand, under the International Atomic Energy Agency and appropriate international organizations, international co-operation on radioactive waste problems, including problems of mining and tailings and also including co-ordination of plans for the siting of fuel-reprocessing plants in relation to the siting of the ultimate storage areas, considering also the transportation problems.

*Recommendation 76*

*It is recommended:*

(a) That a major effort be undertaken to develop monitoring and both epidemiological and experimental research programmes providing data for early warning and prevention of the deleterious effects of the various environmental agents, acting singly or in combination, to which man is increasingly exposed, directly or indirectly, and for the assessment of their potential risks to human health, with particular regard to the risks of mutagenicity, teratogenicity and carcinogenicity. Such programmes should be guided and co-ordinated by the World Health Organization;

(b) That the World Health Organization co-ordinate the development and implementation of an appropriate international collection and dissemination system to correlate medical, environmental and family-history data;

(c) That Governments actively support and contribute to international programmes for research and development of guidelines concerning environmental factors in the work environment.

*Recommendation 77*

*It is recommended* that the World Health Organization, in collaboration with the relevant agencies, in the context of an approved programme, and with a view to suggesting necessary action, assist Governments, particularly those of developing countries, in undertaking co-ordinated programmes of monitoring of air and water and in establishing monitoring systems in areas where there may be a risk to health from pollution.

*Recommendation 78*

*It is recommended* that internationally co-ordinated programmes of research and monitoring of food contamination by chemical and biological agent be established and developed jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, taking into account national programmes, and that the results of monitoring be expeditiously assembled, evaluated and made available so as to provide early information on rising trends of contamination and on levels that may be considered undesirable or may lead to unsafe human intakes.

*Recommendation 79*

*It is recommended:*

(a) That approximately 10 baseline stations be set up, with the consent of the States involved, in areas remote from all sources of pollution in order to monitor long-term global trends in atmospheric constituents and properties which may cause changes in meteorological properties, including climatic changes;

(b) That a much larger network of not less than 100 stations be set up, with the consent of the States involved, for monitoring properties and constituents of the atmosphere on a regional basis and especially changes in the distribution and concentration of contaminants;

(c) That these programmes be guided and co-ordinated by the World Meteorological Organization;

(d) That the World Meteorological Organization, in co-operation with the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), continue to carry out the Global Atmospheric Research Programme (GARP), and if necessary establish new programmes to understand better the general circulation of the atmosphere and the causes of climatic changes whether these causes are natural or the result of man's activities.

*Recommendation 80*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General ensure:

(a) That research activities in terrestrial ecology be encouraged, supported and co-ordinated through the

appropriate agencies, so as to provide adequate knowledge of the inputs, movements, residence times and ecological effects of pollutants identified as critical;

(b) That regional and global networks of existing and, where necessary, new research stations, research centres, and biological reserves be designated or established within the framework of the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) in all major ecological regions, to facilitate intensive analysis of the structure and functioning of ecosystems under natural or managed conditions;

(c) That the feasibility of using stations participating in this programme for surveillance of the effects of pollutants on ecosystems be investigated;

(d) That programmes such as the Man and the Biosphere Programme be used to the extent possible to monitor: (i) the accumulation of hazardous compounds in biological and abiotic material at representative sites; (ii) the effect of such accumulation on the reproductive success and population size of selected species.

*Recommendation 81*

*It is recommended* that the World Health Organization, together with the international organizations concerned, continue to study, and establish, primary standards for the protection of the human organism, especially from pollutants that are common to air, water and food, as a basis for the establishment of derived working limits.

*Recommendation 82*

*It is recommended* that increased support be given to the Codex Alimentarius Commission to develop international standards for pollutants in food and a code of ethics for international food trade, and that the capabilities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization to assist materially and to guide developing countries in the field of food control be increased.

*Recommendation 83*

*It is recommended* that the appropriate United Nations agencies develop agreed procedures for setting derived working limits for common air and water contaminants.

*Recommendation 84*

*It is recommended* that Governments make available, through the International Referral System established in pursuance of recommendation 101 of this Conference, such information as may be requested on their pollution research and pollution control activities, including legislative and administrative arrangements, research on more efficient pollution control technology, and cost-benefit methodology.

*Recommendation 85*

*It is recommended* that any mechanism for co-ordinating and stimulating the actions of the different United Nations organs in connexion with environmental problems include among its functions:

(a) Development of an internationally accepted procedure for the identification of pollutants of international

significance and for the definition of the degree and scope of international concern;

(b) Consideration of the appointment of appropriate intergovernmental, expert bodies to assess quantitatively the exposures, risks, pathways and sources of pollutants of international significance;

(c) Review and co-ordination of international co-operation for pollution control, ensuring in particular that needed measures shall be taken and that measures taken in regard to various media and sources shall be consistent with one another;

(d) Examination of the needs for technical assistance to Governments in the study of pollution problems, in particular those involving international distribution of pollutants;

(e) Encouragement of the establishment of consultation mechanisms for speedy implementation of concerted abatement programmes with particular emphasis on regional activities.

## B. MARINE POLLUTION

### *Recommendation 86*

*It is recommended* that Governments, with the assistance and guidance of appropriate United Nations bodies, in particular the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution (GESAMP):

(a) Accept and implement available instruments on the control of the maritime sources of marine pollution;

(b) Ensure that the provisions of such instruments are compiled with by ships flying their flags and by ships operating in areas under their jurisdiction and that adequate provisions are made for reviewing the effectiveness of, and revising, existing and proposed international measures for control of marine pollution;

(c) Ensure that ocean dumping by their nationals anywhere, or by any person in areas under their jurisdiction, is controlled and that Governments shall continue to work towards the completion of, and bringing into force as soon as possible of, an over-all instrument for the control of ocean dumping as well as needed regional agreements within the framework of this instrument, in particular for enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, which are more at risk from pollution;

(d) Refer the draft articles and annexes contained in the report of the intergovernmental meetings at Reykjavik, Iceland, in April 1972 and in London in May 1972 to the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Seabed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction at its session in July/August 1972 for information and comments and to a conference of Governments to be convened by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations before November 1972 for further consideration, with a view to opening the proposed convention for signature at a place to be decided by that Conference, preferably before the end of 1972;

(e) Participate fully in the 1973 Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) Conference

on Maritime Pollution and the Conference on the Law of the Sea scheduled to begin in 1973, as well as in regional efforts, with a view to bringing all significant sources of pollution within the marine environment, including radioactive pollution from nuclear surface ships and submarines, and in particular in enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, under appropriate controls and particularly to complete elimination of deliberate pollution by oil from ships, with the goal of achieving this by the middle of the present decade;

(f) Strengthen national controls over land-based sources of marine pollution, in particular in enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and recognize that, in some circumstances, the discharge of residual heat from nuclear and other power-stations may constitute a potential hazard to marine ecosystems.

### *Recommendation 87*

*It is recommended* that Governments:

(a) Support national research and monitoring efforts that contribute to agreed international programmes for research and monitoring in the marine environment, in particular the Global Investigation of Pollution in the Marine Environment (GIPME) and the Integrated Global Ocean Station System (IGOSS);

(b) Provide to the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as appropriate to the data-gathering activities of each, statistics on the production and use of toxic or dangerous substances that are potential marine pollutants, especially if they are persistent;

(c) Expand their support to components of the United Nations system concerned with research and monitoring in the marine environment and adopt the measures required to improve the constitutional, financial and operational basis under which the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission is at present operating so as to make it an effective joint mechanism for the Governments and United Nations organizations concerned (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Meteorological Organization, Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, United Nations) and in order that it may be able to take on additional responsibilities for the promotion and co-ordination of scientific programmes and services.

### *Recommendation 88*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, together with the sponsoring agencies, make it possible for the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution (GESAMP):

(a) To re-examine annually, and revise as required, its "Review of Harmful Chemical Substances", with a view to elaborating further its assessment of sources, pathways and resulting risks of marine pollutants;

(b) To assemble, having regard to other work in progress, scientific data and to provide advice on scientific aspects of marine pollution, especially those of an interdisciplinary nature.

*Recommendation 89*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General ensure:

(a) That mechanisms for combining world statistics on mining, production, processing, transport and use of potential marine pollutants shall be developed along with methods for identifying high-priority marine pollutants based in part on such data;

(b) That the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution (GESAMP), in consultation with other expert groups, propose guidelines for test programmes to evaluate toxicity of potential marine pollutants;

(c) That the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency encourage studies of the effects of high-priority marine pollutants on man and other organisms, with appropriate emphasis on chronic, low-level exposures;

(d) That the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, explore the possibility of establishing an international institute for tropical marine studies, which would undertake training as well as research.

*Recommendation 90*

*It is recommended* that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, jointly with the World Meteorological Organization and, as appropriate, in co-operation with other interested intergovernmental bodies, promote the monitoring of marine pollution, preferably within the framework of the Integrated Global Ocean Station System (IGOSS), as well as the development of methods for monitoring high-priority marine pollutants in the water, sediments and organisms, with advice from the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution (GESAMP) on intercomparability of methodologies.

*Recommendation 91*

*It is recommended* that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission:

(a) Ensure that provision shall be made in international marine research, monitoring and related activities for the exchange, dissemination, and referral to sources of data and information on baselines and on marine pollution and that attention shall be paid to the special needs of developing countries;

(b) Give full consideration, with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization, the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Hydrographic Organization and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea and other interested and relevant organizations, to the strengthening of on-going marine and related data and information exchange and dissemination activities;

(c) Support the concept of development of an interdisciplinary and interorganizational system primarily involving centres already in existence;

(d) Initiate an interdisciplinary marine pollution data and scientific information referral capability.

*Recommendation 92*

*It is recommended:*

(a) That Governments collectively endorse the principles set forth in paragraph 197 of Conference document A/CONF.48/8<sup>4</sup> as guiding concepts for the Conference on the Law of the Sea and the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) Marine Pollution Conference scheduled to be held in 1973 and also the statement of objectives agreed on at the second session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Marine Pollution, which reads as follows:

“The marine environment and all the living organisms which it supports are of vital importance to humanity, and all people have an interest in assuring that this environment is so managed that its quality and resources are not impaired. This applies especially to coastal nations, which have a particular interest in the management of coastal area resources. The capacity of the sea to assimilate wastes and render them harmless and its ability to regenerate natural resources are not unlimited. Proper management is required and measures to prevent and control marine pollution must be regarded as an essential element in this management of the oceans and seas and their natural resources”;

and that, in respect of the particular interest of coastal States in the marine environment and recognizing that the resolution of this question is a matter for consideration at the Conference on the Law of the Sea, they take note of the principles on the rights of coastal States discussed but neither endorsed nor rejected at the second session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Marine Pollution and refer those principles to the 1973 Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization Conference for information and to the 1973 Conference on the Law of the Sea for such action as may be appropriate;

(b) That Governments take early action to adopt effective national measures for the control of all significant sources of marine pollution, including land-based sources, and concert and co-ordinate their actions regionally and where appropriate on a wider international basis;

(c) That the Secretary-General, in co-operation with appropriate international organizations, endeavour to provide guidelines which Governments might wish to take into account when developing such measures.

*Recommendation 93*

*It is recommended* that any mechanism for co-ordinating and stimulating the actions of the different United Nations

<sup>4</sup> See annex III.

organs in connexion with environmental problems include among its functions over-all responsibility for ensuring that needed advice on marine pollution problems shall be provided to Governments.

*Recommendation 94*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, with the co-operation of United Nations bodies, take steps to secure additional financial support to those training and other programmes of assistance that contribute to increasing the capacity of developing countries to participate in international research, monitoring and pollution-control programmes.

EDUCATIONAL, INFORMATIONAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

*Recommendation 95*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General make arrangements for the United Nations system:

(a) To provide countries on request with the necessary technical and financial assistance in preparing national reports on the environment, in setting up machinery for monitoring environmental developments from the social and cultural standpoint and, in particular, in drawing up national social, educational and cultural programmes;

(b) To support and encourage projects for continuing co-operation among national social, educational and cultural programmes, including their economic aspects, in an international network. The organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic Social Office in Beirut, will be called upon to participate in this activity, as will other international governmental and non-governmental agencies;

(c) To organize the exchange of information on experience, methods and work in progress in connexion with continuous social diagnosis, particularly at the regional level and between regions with common problems;

(d) To facilitate the development of social and cultural indicators for the environment, in order to establish a common methodology for assessing environmental developments and preparing reports on the subject;

(e) To prepare, on the basis of the national reports on the state of, and outlook for, the environment, periodic reports on regional or subregional situations and on the international situation in this matter.

The activities described above could be co-ordinated by the new bodies for environmental co-ordination, taking into account the priorities agreed upon according to the resources available. International bodies responsible for technical and financial co-operation and assistance could also help in carrying out these tasks.

*Recommendation 96*

1. *It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, the organizations of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the other international agencies con-

cerned, should, after consultation and agreement, take the necessary steps to establish an international programme in environmental education, interdisciplinary in approach, in school and out of school, encompassing all levels of education and directed towards the general public, in particular the ordinary citizen living in rural and urban areas, youth and adult alike, with a view to educating him as to the simple steps he might take, within his means, to manage and control his environment. A programme of technical and financial co-operation and assistance will be needed to support this programme, taking into account the priorities agreed upon according to the resources available. This programme should include, among other things:

(a) The preparation of an inventory of existing systems of education which include environmental education;

(b) The exchange of information on such systems and, in particular, dissemination of the results of experiments in teaching;

(c) The training and retraining of professional workers in various disciplines at various levels (including teacher training);

(d) Consideration of the formation of groups of experts in environmental disciplines and activities, including those concerning the economic, sociological, tourist and other sectors, in order to facilitate the exchange of experience between countries which have similar environmental conditions and comparable levels of development;

(e) The development and testing of new materials and methods for all types and levels of environmental education.

2. *It is further recommended* that United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, under the Man and the Biosphere Programme, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Meteorological Organization and all the organizations concerned, including the scientific unions co-ordinated by the International Council of Scientific Unions, should develop their activities in studying desirable innovations in the training of specialists and technicians and, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, should encourage the institution, at the regional and the international level, of courses and training periods devoted to the environment.

3. *It is further recommended* that international organizations for voluntary service, and, in particular, the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service, should include environmental skills in the services they provide, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme through the United Nations Volunteer Programme.

*Recommendation 97*

1. *It is recommended* that the Secretary-General make arrangements:

(a) To establish an information programme designed to create the awareness which individuals should have

of environmental issues and to associate the public with environmental management and control. This programme will use traditional and contemporary mass media of communication, taking distinctive national conditions into account. In addition, the programme must provide means of stimulating active participation by the citizens, and of eliciting interest and contributions from non-governmental organizations for the preservation and development of the environment;

(b) To institute the observance of a World Environment Day;

(c) For the preparatory documents and official documents of the Conference to be translated into the widest possible range of languages and circulated as widely as possible;

(d) To integrate relevant information on the environment in all its various aspects into the activities of the information organs of the United Nations system;

(e) To develop technical co-operation, particularly through and between the United Nations regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut.

2. *It is also recommended* that the Secretary-General and the development agencies make arrangements to use and adapt certain international development programmes—provided that this can be done without delaying their execution—so as to improve the dissemination of information and to strengthen community action on environment problems, especially among the oppressed and underprivileged peoples of the earth.

#### *Recommendation 98*

*It is recommended* that Governments, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization and the other international and regional intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies concerned, should continue the preparation of the present and future conventions required for the conservation of the world's natural resources and cultural heritage. In the course of this preparatory work, Governments should consider the possibility of putting into operation systems of protection for elements of the world heritage, under which those Governments that wish to save elements of their national heritage of universal value would be able to obtain from the international community, on request, the technical and financial assistance required to bring their efforts to fruition.

#### *Recommendation 99*

1. *It is recommended* that Governments should:

(a) Noting that the draft convention prepared by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization concerning the protection of the world natural and cultural heritage marks a significant step towards the protection, on an international scale, of the environment, examine this draft convention with a view to its adoption at the next General Conference of UNESCO;

(b) Whenever appropriate, sign the Convention on Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance;

2. *It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, in consultation with the competent agencies of the United Nations system and the non-governmental organizations concerned, make arrangements for a detailed study of all possible procedures for protecting certain islands for science;

3. *It is recommended* that a plenipotentiary conference be convened as soon as possible, under appropriate governmental or intergovernmental auspices, to prepare and adopt a convention on export, import and transit of certain species of wild animals and plants.

#### *Recommendation 100*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General make arrangements:

(a) To be kept informed of national pilot schemes for new forms of environmental management;

(b) To assist countries, on request, with their research and experiments;

(c) To organize the international exchange of information collected on this subject.

#### *Recommendation 101*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General take the appropriate steps, including the convening of an expert meeting, to organize an International Referral Service for sources of environmental information, taking into account the model described in paragraphs 129 to 136 of the report on educational, informational, social and cultural aspects of environmental issues (A/CONF.48/9), in order to assist in the successful implementation of all the recommendations made in respect of those aspects of environmental issues and of most of the recommendations envisaged in the other substantive subject areas covered in the Conference agenda.

## DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

#### *Recommendation 102*

*It is recommended* that the appropriate regional organizations give full consideration to the following steps:

(a) Preparing short-term and long-term plans at regional, subregional and sectoral levels for the study and identification of the major environmental problems faced by the countries of the region concerned as well as the special problems of the least developed countries of the region and of countries with coastlines and inland lakes and rivers exposed to the risk of marine and other forms of pollution;

(b) Evaluating the administrative, technical and legal solutions to various environmental problems in terms of both preventive and remedial measures, taking into account possible alternative and/or multidisciplinary approaches to development;

(c) Preparation, within the framework of international agreements, of legislative measures designed to protect marine (and fresh-water) fisheries resources within the limits of their national jurisdiction;

(d) Increasing and facilitating, in the context of development and as proposed in the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development, the acquisition and distribution of information and experience to member countries through global and regional co-operation, with particular emphasis on an international information referral networks approach and on a regular exchange of information and observation among the regional organizations;

(e) Establishing facilities for the exchange of information and experience between less industrialized countries which, although situated in different regions, share similar problems as a result of common physical, climatic and other factors;

(f) Encouraging the training of personnel in the techniques of incorporating environmental considerations into developmental planning, and of identifying and analysing the economic and social cost-benefit relationships of alternative approaches;

(g) Establishing criteria, concepts and a terminology of the human environment through interdisciplinary efforts;

(h) Establishing and disseminating information on the significant environmental problems of each region and the nature and result of steps taken to cope with them;

(i) Providing and co-ordinating technical assistance activities directed towards establishing systems of environmental research, information and analysis at the national level;

(j) Assisting developing countries, in co-operation with appropriate international agencies, in promoting elementary education, with emphasis on hygiene, and in developing and applying suitable methods for improving health, housing, sanitation and water supply, and controlling soil erosion. Emphasis should be placed on techniques promoting the use of local labour and utilizing local materials and local expertise in environmental management;

(k) Encouraging the appropriate agencies and bodies within the United Nations to assist the developing countries, at their request, in establishing national science, technology and research policies to enable the developing countries to acquire the capacity to identify and combat environmental problems in the early planning and development stages. In this respect, special priority should be accorded to the type of research, technology and science which would help developing countries speed up, without adverse environment effects, the exploration, exploitation, processing and marketing of their natural resources.

#### *Recommendation 103*

*It is recommended* that Governments take the necessary steps to ensure:

(a) That all States participating in the Conference agree not to invoke environmental concerns as a pretext for discriminatory trade policies or for reduced access to markets and recognize further that the burdens of the environmental policies of the industrialized countries should not be transferred, either directly or indirectly,

to the developing countries. As a general rule, no country should solve or disregard its environmental problems at the expense of other countries;

(b) That where environmental concerns lead to restrictions on trade, or to stricter environmental standards with negative effects on exports, particularly from developing countries, appropriate measures for compensation should be worked out within the framework of existing contractual and institutional arrangements and any new such arrangements that can be worked out in the future;

(c) That the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade, among other international organizations, could be used for the examination of the problems, specifically through the recently established Group on Environmental Measures and International Trade and through its general procedures for bilateral and multilateral adjustment of differences;

(d) That whenever possible (that is, in cases which do not require immediate discontinuation of imports), countries should inform their trading partners in advance about the intended action in order that there might be an opportunity to consult within the GATT Group on Environment Measures and International Trade, among other international organizations. Assistance in meeting the consequences of stricter environmental standards ought to be given in the form of financial or technical assistance for research with a view to removing the obstacles that the products of developing countries have encountered;

(e) That all countries agree that uniform environmental standards should not be expected to be applied universally by all countries with respect to given industrial processes or products except in those cases where environmental disruption may constitute a concern to other countries. In addition, in order to avoid an impairment of the access of the developing countries to the markets of the industrialized countries because of differential product standards, Governments should aim at world-wide harmonization of such standards. Environmental standards should be established, at whatever levels are necessary, to safeguard the environment, and should not be directed towards gaining trade advantages;

(f) That the Governments and the competent international organizations keep a close watch on medium- and long-term trends in international trade and take measures with a view to promoting:

- (i) The exchange of environmental protection technologies;
- (ii) International trade in natural products and commodities which compete with synthetic products that have a greater capacity for pollution.

#### *Recommendation 104*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General ensure:

(a) That appropriate steps shall be taken by the existing United Nations organizations to identify the major threats to exports, particularly those of developing countries, that arise from environmental concerns, their character and severity, and the remedial action that may be envisaged;

(b) That the United Nations system, in co-operation with other governmental and non-governmental agencies working in this field, should assist Governments to develop mutually acceptable common international environmental standards on products which are considered by Governments to be of significance in foreign trade. Testing and certification procedures designed to ensure that the products conform to these standards should be such as to avoid arbitrary and discriminatory actions that might affect the trade of developing countries.

*Recommendation 105*

*It is recommended* that the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other international bodies, as appropriate, should, within their respective fields of competence, consider undertaking to monitor, assess, and regularly report the emergence of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade as a result of environmental policies.

*Recommendation 106*

*It is recommended:*

(a) That the Secretary-General, in co-operation with other international bodies as appropriate, should examine the extent to which the problems of pollution could be ameliorated by a reduction in the current levels of production and in the future rate of growth of the production of synthetic products and substitutes which, in their natural form, could be produced by developing countries; and make recommendations for national and international action;

(b) That Governments of the developing countries consider fully the new opportunities that may be offered to them to establish industries and/or expand existing industries in which they may have comparative advantages because of environmental considerations, and that special care be taken to apply the appropriate international standards on environment in order to avoid the creation of pollution problems in developing countries;

(c) That the Secretary-General, in consultation with appropriate international agencies, undertake a full review of the practical implications of environmental concerns in relation to distribution of future industrial capacity and, in particular, to ways in which the developing countries may be assisted to take advantage of opportunities and to minimize risks in this area.

*Recommendation 107*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, in collaboration with appropriate international agencies, ensure that a study be conducted of appropriate mechanisms for financing international environmental action, taking into account General Assembly resolution 2849 (XXVI).

*Recommendation 108*

It is being recognized that it is in the interest of mankind that the technologies for protecting and improving the environment be employed universally, *it is recommended* that the Secretary-General be asked to undertake studies, in consultation with Governments and appropriate international agencies, to find means by which

environmental technologies may be made available for adoption by developing countries under terms and conditions that encourage their wide distribution without constituting an unacceptable burden to developing countries.

*Recommendation 109*

*It is recommended* that the Secretary-General, in collaboration with appropriate international agencies, take steps to ensure that the environmental considerations of an international nature related to the foregoing recommendations be integrated into the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade in such a way that the flow of international aid to developing countries is not hampered. Recommendations for national action, proposed by the Secretary-General of the Conference, shall be referred to Governments for their consideration and, when deemed appropriate, should be taken into account in the review and appraisal process during the consideration of matters for national action as included in the International Development Strategy. It should further be ensured that the preoccupation of developed countries with their own environmental problems should not affect the flow of assistance to developing countries, and that this flow should be adequate to meet the additional environmental requirements of such countries.

**C. The Action Plan**

All of the recommendations approved by the Conference for action at the international level (see section B above) are rearranged in the following Action Plan for the Human Environment within the approved framework (see section A above). The recommendations which, before and during the Conference, had been dealt with sectorally, by subject area, are redistributed below, according to function, into the three components of the Action Plan: the global environmental assessment programme (Earthwatch), the environmental management activities, and the supporting measures.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EARTHWATCH)

This category includes the functions listed below:

*Evaluation and review:* to provide the basis for identification of the knowledge needed and to determine that the necessary steps be taken:

Recommendations: 4, 11, 14, 18, 21, 30, 41, 44, 46 (c, d), 48, 49, 54, 55, 60, 61, 63, 70, 74, 75, 81, 85, 88, 91 (a), 92 (c), 93, 94, 95 (d, e), 106, 109.

*Research:* to create new knowledge of the kinds specifically needed to provide guidance in the making of decisions:

Recommendations: 4, 12, 13, 16 (b), 18 (c), 20 (b, c), 21, 23, 24 (a, b), 26, 28, 41, 42, 43 (5. b, c), 45 (2. b), 48, 49, 51 (c), 52, 53 (d), 59, 62, 64, 65, 66, 68, 73, 74 (d), 76, 78, 79 (d), 80 (a-c), 84, 85, 87, 88, 89, 94, 95 (d), 102 (a. i), 106 (c), 108.

*Monitoring:* to gather certain data on specific environmental variables and to evaluate such data in order to



determine and predict important environmental conditions and trends:

Recommendations: 18 (1. a-e), 20 (a. iv), 25, 29, 30, 40, 45, 46 (a-c), 49, 51 (c. i, ii), 52 (1. c), 55, 57, 67, 73, 74, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 87, 90, 91, 94, 95, 102, 104, 105, 108.

*Information exchange:* to disseminate knowledge within the scientific and technological communities and to ensure that decision-makers at all levels shall have the benefit of the best knowledge that can be made available in the forms and at the times in which it can be useful:

Recommendations: 2, 4, 5, 16 (c), 19 (a), 20 (a, c), 21 (a), 26, 27, 35, 37, 39, 41, 45, 46 (b), 49, 51 (c), 52, 53 (c), 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 73, 74 (b), 84, 91, 95 (c), 96 (b), 97, 100 (c), 101, 102 (d, e, h, i), 108.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

This category covers functions designed to facilitate comprehensive planning that takes into account the side effects of man's activities and thereby to protect and enhance the human environment for present and future generations.

Recommendations: 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 (3, 4), 19, 20 (d), 21, 22, 23, 27, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 61,

63, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 75 (b), 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 88, 92, 93, 94, 96 (b), 98, 99, 100 (a), 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109.

#### SUPPORTING MEASURES

This category relates to measures required for the activities in the other two categories (environmental assessment and environmental management).

*Education, training and public information:* to supply needed specialists, multidisciplinary professionals and technical personnel and to facilitate the use of knowledge in decision-making at every level.

Recommendations: 6, 7, 8, 13, 16, 18 (4), 19 (b), 31, 34, 73, 89 (d), 93, 94, 95 (e), 96, 97, 102 (f).

#### *Organizational arrangements:*

Recommendations: 4 (1), 7 (b), 16, 18, 20 (b. iii), 21 (a. vi), 23, 26, 31 (b), 33, 34 (b), 41, 43 (2, 6, 7), 45, 49, 50, 51, 52 (2), 79, 85, 87 (c), 89 (d), 91, 93, 94, 101, 102 (e).

#### *Financial and other forms of assistance:*

Recommendations: 1, 2 (1. c), 10, 12, 13, 15, 16 (d), 18 (2, 4), 19 (b), 21 (a), 34 (b), 36, 43 (b), 45, 46 (d), 49, 50, 51 (c. viii), 53, 73, 74, 77, 85 (d), 93, 94, 95, 96, 97 (1. e, 2), 98, 100 (b), 102 (i, j, k), 107, 108.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

**1972**

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## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### 2994 (XXVII). UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of the international community to take action to preserve and enhance the environment and, in particular, the need for continuous international co-operation to this end,

*Recalling* its resolutions 2398 (XXIII) of 3 December 1968, 2581 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969, 2657 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2849 (XXVI) and 2850 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971,

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>1</sup> held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, and the report of the Secretary-General thereon,<sup>2</sup>

*Expressing its satisfaction* that the Conference and the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment succeeded in focusing the attention of Governments and public opinion on the need for prompt action in the field of the environment,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment;
2. *Draws the attention* of Governments and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme<sup>3</sup> to the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment<sup>4</sup> and refers the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>5</sup> to the Governing Council for appropriate action;
3. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the recommendations for action at the national level referred to them by the Conference for their consideration and such action as they might deem appropriate;
4. *Designates* 5 June as World Environment Day and urges Governments and the organizations in the United Nations system to undertake on that day every year world-wide activities reaffirming their concern for the preservation and enhancement of the environment, with a view to deepening environmental awareness and to pursuing the determination expressed at the Conference;
5. *Takes note with appreciation* of resolution 4 (I) of 15 June 1972<sup>6</sup> adopted by the Conference on the convening of a second United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and refers this matter to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme with the request that the Council study this matter, taking into account the status of implementation of the Action Plan and future developments in the field of the environment, and report its views and recommendations to the General Assembly so that the Assembly can take a decision on all aspects of the matter not later than at its twenty-ninth session.

*2112th plenary meeting  
15 December 1972*

### 2995 (XXVII). CO-OPERATION BETWEEN STATES IN THE FIELD OF THE ENVIRONMENT

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* principle 20 as contained in the draft text of a preamble and principles of the declaration on the human environment,<sup>7</sup> referred to it for consideration by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,

*Recalling* its resolution 2849 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 entitled "Development and environment",

*Bearing in mind* that, in exercising their sovereignty over their natural resources, States must seek, through effective bilateral and multilateral co-operation or through regional machinery, to preserve and improve the environment,

1. *Emphasizes that*, in the exploration, exploitation and development of their natural resources, States must not produce significant harmful effects in zones situated outside their national jurisdiction;

<sup>1</sup> A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1.

<sup>2</sup> A/8783 and Add.1, Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.2.

<sup>3</sup> See resolution 2997 (XXVII), sect. I.

<sup>4</sup> A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. I.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. IV.

<sup>7</sup> See A/CONF.48/4, annex. See also A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. X, sect. D.

2. *Recognizes* that co-operation between States in the field of the environment, including co-operation towards the implementation of principles 21 and 22 of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>8</sup> will be effectively achieved if official and public knowledge is provided of the technical data relating to the work to be carried out by States within their national jurisdiction, with a view to avoiding significant harm that may occur in the environment of the adjacent area;

3. *Further recognizes* that the technical data referred to in paragraph 2 above will be given and received in the best spirit of co-operation and good-neighbourliness, without this being construed as enabling each State to delay or impede the programmes and projects of exploration, exploitation and development of the natural resources of the States in whose territories such programmes and projects are carried out.

*2112th plenary meeting  
15 December 1972*

### **2996 (XXVII). INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF STATES IN REGARD TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* principles 21 and 22 of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment<sup>9</sup> concerning the international responsibility of States in regard to the environment,

*Bearing in mind* that those principles lay down the basic rules governing this matter,

*Declares* that no resolution adopted at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly can affect principles 21 and 22 of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

*2112th plenary meeting  
15 December 1972*

### **2997 (XXVII). INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION**

*The General Assembly,*

*Convinced* of the need for prompt and effective implementation by Governments and the international community of measures designed to safeguard and enhance the environment for the benefit of present and future generations of man,

*Recognizing* that responsibility for action to protect and enhance the environment rests primarily with Governments and, in the first instance, can be exercised more effectively at the national and regional levels,

*Recognizing further* that environmental problems of broad international significance fall within the competence of the United Nations system,

*Bearing in mind* that international co-operative programmes in the field of the environment must be undertaken with due respect for the sovereign rights of States and in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and principles of international law,

*Mindful* of the sectoral responsibilities of the organizations in the United Nations system,

*Conscious* of the significance of regional and subregional co-operation in the field of the environment and of the important role of the regional economic commissions and other regional intergovernmental organizations,

*Emphasizing* that problems of the environment constitute a new and important area for international co-operation and that the complexity and interdependence of such problems require new approaches,

*Recognizing* that the relevant international scientific and other professional communities can make an important contribution to international co-operation in the field of the environment,

*Conscious* of the need for processes within the United Nations system which would effectively assist developing countries to implement environmental policies and programmes that are compatible with their development plans and to participate meaningfully in international environmental programmes,

*Convinced that*, in order to be effective, international co-operation in the field of the environment requires additional financial and technical resources,

*Aware* of the urgent need for a permanent institutional arrangement within the United Nations system for the protection and improvement of the environment,

<sup>8</sup> A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. I.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*

*Aware* of the urgent need for a permanent institutional arrangement within the United Nations system for the protection and improvement of the environment,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>10</sup>

## I

### GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

1. *Decides* to establish a Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, composed of fifty-eight members elected by the General Assembly for three-year terms on the following basis:

- (a) Sixteen seats for African States;
- (b) Thirteen seats for Asian States;
- (c) Six seats for Eastern European States;
- (d) Ten seats for Latin American States;
- (e) Thirteen seats for Western European and other States;

2. *Decides* that the Governing Council shall have the following main functions and responsibilities:

(a) To promote international co-operation in the field of the environment and to recommend, as appropriate, policies to this end;

(b) To provide general policy guidance for the direction and co-ordination of environmental programmes within the United Nations system;

(c) To receive and review the periodic reports of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, referred to in section II, paragraph 2, below, on the implementation of environmental programmes within the United Nations system;

(d) To keep under review the world environmental situation in order to ensure that emerging environmental problems of wide international significance receive appropriate and adequate consideration by Governments;

(e) To promote the contribution of the relevant international scientific and other professional communities to the acquisition, assessment and exchange of environmental knowledge and information and, as appropriate, to the technical aspects of the formulation and implementation of environmental programmes within the United Nations system;

(f) To maintain under continuing review the impact of national and international environmental policies and measures on developing countries, as well as the problem of additional costs that may be incurred by developing countries in the implementation of environmental programmes and projects, and to ensure that such programmes and projects shall be compatible with the development plans and priorities of those countries;

(g) To review and approve annually the programme of utilization of resources of the Environment Fund referred to in section III below;

3. *Decides* that the Governing Council shall report annually to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, which will transmit to the Assembly such comments on the report as it may deem necessary, particularly with regard to questions of co-ordination and to the relationship of environmental policies and programmes within the United Nations system to overall economic and social policies and priorities;

## II

### ENVIRONMENT SECRETARIAT

1. *Decides* that a small secretariat shall be established in the United Nations to serve as a focal point for environmental action and co-ordination within the United Nations system in such a way as to ensure a high degree of effective management;

2. *Decides* that the environment secretariat shall be headed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, who shall be elected by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Secretary-General for a term of four years and who shall be entrusted, *inter alia*, with the following responsibilities:

(a) To provide substantive support to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(b) To co-ordinate, under the guidance of the Governing Council, environmental programmes within the United Nations system, to keep their implementation under review and to assess their effectiveness;

(c) To advise, as appropriate and under the guidance of the Governing Council, intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system on the formulation and implementation of environmental programmes;

<sup>10</sup> A/8783 and Add.1, Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.2.

(d) To secure the effective co-operation of, and contribution from, the relevant scientific and other professional communities in all parts of the world;

(e) To provide, at the request of all parties concerned, advisory services for the promotion of international co-operation in the field of the environment;

(f) To submit to the Governing Council, on his own initiative or upon request, proposals embodying medium-range and long-range planning for United Nations programmes in the field of the environment;

(g) To bring to attention of the Governing Council any matter which he deems to require consideration by it;

(h) To administer, under the authority and policy guidance of the Governing Council, the Environment Fund referred to in section III below;

(i) To report on environmental matters to the Governing Council;

(j) To perform such other functions as may be entrusted to him by the Governing Council;

3. *Decides* that the costs of servicing the Governing Council and providing the small secretariat referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be borne by the regular budget of the United Nations and that operational programme costs, programme support and administrative costs of the Environment Fund established under section III below shall be borne by the Fund;

### III

#### ENVIRONMENT FUND

1. *Decides* that, in order to provide for additional financing for environmental programmes, a voluntary fund shall be established, with effect from 1 January 1973, in accordance with existing United Nations financial procedures;

2. *Decides* that, in order to enable the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to fulfil its policy-guidance role for the direction and co-ordination of environmental activities, the Environment Fund shall finance wholly or partly the costs of the new environmental initiatives undertaken within the United Nations system—which will include the initiatives envisaged in the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>11</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, with particular attention to integrated projects, and such other environmental activities as may be decided upon by the Governing Council—and that the Governing Council shall review these initiatives with a view to taking appropriate decisions as to their continued financing;

3. *Decides* that the Environment Fund shall be used for financing such programmes of general interest as regional and global monitoring, assessment and data-collecting systems, including, as appropriate, costs for national counterparts; the improvement of environmental quality management; environmental research; information exchange and dissemination; public education and training; assistance for national, regional and global environmental institutions; the promotion of environmental research and studies for the development of industrial and other technologies best suited to a policy of economic growth compatible with adequate environmental safeguards; and such other programmes as the Governing Council may decide upon, and that in the implementation of such programmes due account should be taken of the special needs of the developing countries;

4. *Decides* that, in order to ensure that the development priorities of developing countries shall not be adversely affected, adequate measures shall be taken to provide additional financial resources on terms compatible with the economic situation of the recipient developing country, and that, to this end, the Executive Director, in co-operation with competent organizations, shall keep this problem under continuing review;

5. *Decides* that the Environment Fund, in pursuance of the objectives stated in paragraphs 2 and 3 above, shall be directed to the need for effective co-ordination in the implementation of international environmental programmes of the organizations in the United Nations system and other international organizations;

6. *Decides* that, in the implementation of programmes to be financed by the Environment Fund, organizations outside the United Nations system, particularly those in the countries and regions concerned, shall also be utilized as appropriate, in accordance with the procedures established by the Governing Council, and that such organizations are invited to support the United Nations environmental programmes by complementary initiatives and contributions;

7. *Decides* that the Governing Council shall formulate such general procedures as are necessary to govern the operations of the Environment Fund;

<sup>11</sup> A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. II

## IV

## ENVIRONMENT CO-ORDINATION BOARD

1. *Decides* that, in order to provide for the most efficient co-ordination of United Nations environmental programmes, an Environment Co-ordination Board, under the chairmanship of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, shall be established under the auspices and within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;

2. *Further decides* that the Environment Co-ordination Board shall meet periodically for the purpose of ensuring co-operation and co-ordination among all bodies concerned in the implementation of environmental programmes and that it shall report annually to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

3. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system to adopt the measures that may be required to undertake concerted and co-ordinated programmes with regard to international environmental problems, taking into account existing procedures for prior consultation, particularly on programme and budgetary matters;

4. *Invites* the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Economic and Social Office at Beirut, in co-operation where necessary with other appropriate regional bodies, to intensify further their efforts directed towards contributing to the implementation of environmental programmes in view of the particular need for the rapid development of regional co-operation in this field;

5. *Also invites* other intergovernmental and those non-governmental organizations that have an interest in the field of the environment to lend their full support and collaboration to the United Nations with a view to achieving the largest possible degree of co-operation and co-ordination;

6. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure that appropriate national institutions shall be entrusted with the task of the co-ordination of environmental action, both national and international;

7. *Decides* to review as appropriate, at its thirty-first session, the above institutional arrangements, bearing in mind, *inter alia*, the responsibilities of the Economic and Social Council under the Charter of the United Nations.

2112th plenary meeting  
15 December 1972

*At its 2112th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1972, the General Assembly, in pursuance of section I, paragraph 1, of the above resolution, elected the fifty-eight members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme.*

*The following States were elected:* ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BRAZIL, BURUNDI, CAMEROON, CANADA, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHILE, CHINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, FRANCE, GABON, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF, GHANA, GUATEMALA, ICELAND, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN, IRAQ, ITALY, JAMAICA, JAPAN, JORDAN, KENYA, KUWAIT, LEBANON, MADAGASCAR, MALAWI, MEXICO, MOROCCO, NETHERLANDS, NICARAGUA, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PERU, PHILIPPINES, POLAND, ROMANIA, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, SOMALIA, SPAIN, SRI LANKA, SUDAN, SWEDEN, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, TUNISIA, TURKEY, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, VENEZUELA and YUGOSLAVIA.

*The General Assembly then selected by the drawing of lots the members of the Governing Council to serve for three years, for two years and for one year.*

*As a result of the above election, the composition of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for 1973 will be as follows:* ARGENTINA,\* AUSTRALIA,\*\*\* AUSTRIA,\*\* BRAZIL,\*\* BURUNDI,\*\*\* CAMEROON,\*\* CANADA,\* CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,\*\*\* CHILE,\*\*\* CHINA,\* CZECHOSLOVAKIA,\* FRANCE,\* GABON,\* GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC,\*\*\* GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF,\*\* GHANA,\* GUATEMALA,\* ICELAND,\*\* INDIA,\*\* INDONESIA,\* IRAN,\*\* IRAQ,\*\*\* ITALY,\*\* JAMAICA,\* JAPAN,\*\* JORDAN,\*\*\* KENYA,\*\* KUWAIT,\*\* LEBANON,\* MADAGASCAR,\*\*\* MALAWI,\*\* MEXICO,\*\*\* MOROCCO,\* NETHERLANDS,\*\*\* NICARAGUA,\*\*\* NIGERIA,\*\*\* PAKISTAN,\*\*\* PERU,\*\* PHILIPPINES,\* POLAND,\*\*\* ROMANIA,\*\* SENEGAL,\*\*\* SIERRA LEONE,\* SOMALIA,\*\* SPAIN,\* SRI LANKA,\*\*\* SUDAN,\* SWEDEN,\* SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC,\* TUNISIA,\*\* TURKEY,\*\*\* UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,\*\* UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,\*\*\* UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA,\*\*\* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,\*\* VENEZUELA\*\* and YUGOSLAVIA.\*

\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1973.

\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1974.

\*\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1975.



*At the same meeting, in pursuance of section II, paragraph 2, of the above resolution, the General Assembly, on the nomination of the Secretary-General,<sup>12</sup> elected Mr. Maurice F. STRONG Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.*

## **2998 (XXVII). CRITERIA GOVERNING MULTILATERAL FINANCING OF HOUSING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>13</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 1393 (XIV) of 20 November 1959, 1508 (XV) of 12 December 1960, 1676 (XVI) of 18 December 1961, 1917 (XVIII) of 5 December 1963, 2036 (XX) of 7 December 1965, 2598 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 and 2718 (XXV) of 15 December 1970.

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1170 (XLI) of 5 August 1966,

*Mindful* of the aims expressed in the Preamble of the Charter of the United Nations to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples, as well as in Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter,

*Taking into account the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development,<sup>14</sup>*

*Considering* the important role assigned to housing as part of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,<sup>15</sup>

*Further recalling* resolution 2718 (XXV) in which the General Assembly set out broad directions and measures essential for the improvement of human settlements,

*Noting* the report of the Secretary-General entitled *Proposals for Action on Finance for Housing, Building and Planning,*<sup>16</sup>

*Taking into account* the annual report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for 1970,<sup>17</sup> in which the Bank, *inter alia*, considered that priority should be given to housing and human settlements,

*Taking note* of the policy statement on urbanization of 1972 of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the need to establish appropriate national finance institutions to mobilize domestic capital to finance these activities.

*Reaffirming* in particular recommendations 1, 15, 16 and 17 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>18</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,

1. *Recommends* that all development assistance agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development should in their development assistance activities also give high priority to requests from Governments for assistance in housing and human settlements;

2. *Recommends* that, in its lending policies in this sector, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development should provide funds on terms and conditions which fully reflect the unique nature and characteristics of housing and related investments.

3. *Recommends* that in establishing criteria for eligibility for loans under more favourable terms and conditions the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development should take into account, in addition to economic and monetary criteria, such critical socio-economic factors as levels of unemployment, rates of urban growth, population density, and the general condition of the housing stock in the developing countries;

4. *Further recommends* that as a matter of priority the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, in agreement with requesting Governments, should implement its stated policy of providing seed capital loans on favourable terms, taking into account the recommendations in paragraph 3 above, for the establishment of domestic financial institutions and organizations to mobilize and allocate capital for housing and related investments;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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<sup>12</sup> See A/8965.

<sup>13</sup> A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1.

<sup>14</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.71.II.A.18.

<sup>15</sup> Resolution 2626 (XXV).

<sup>16</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.IV.4.

<sup>17</sup> International Bank for Reconstruction and Development-International Development Association, *Annual Report, 1970* (Washington, D.C.).

<sup>18</sup> See A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. II.

### 2999 (XXVII). ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL FUND OR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>19</sup>

*Concerned* with the lack of improvement in the deplorable world housing situation, particularly the critical shortage of low-cost housing or minimal standards of housing in developing countries,

*Aware* that the environment cannot be improved in conditions of poverty, one of the palpable manifestations of which is the substandard quality of human settlements, particularly in developing countries,

*Recognizing* the need for intensified and more concrete international action to strengthen national programmes in the planning, improvement and management of rural and urban settlements, thereby narrowing the growing gap between housing needs and available supply and improving the environmental quality of human settlements,

*Noting* the report of the Secretary-General entitled *Proposals for Action on Finance for Housing, Building and Planning*,<sup>20</sup>

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1170 (XLI) of 5 August 1966 and 1507 (XLVIII) of 28 May 1970 on a proposed international institution to support domestic savings and credit facilities in housing,

*Noting in particular* recommendation 17 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment,<sup>21</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, that Governments and the Secretary-General should take immediate steps to establish an international fund or financial institution that would provide seed capital and technical assistance for the effective mobilization of domestic resources for housing and the environmental improvement of human settlements,

1. *Endorses* in principle the establishment of an international fund or financial institution for the purpose envisaged in recommendation 17 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the views expressed on this subject at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly, to prepare a study on the establishment and operations of such a fund or institution, together with his recommendations and proposals, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its twenty-ninth session through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Invites* the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to collaborate in the preparation of the study referred to in paragraph 2 above.

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### 3000 (XXVII). MEASURES FOR PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE ENVIRONMENT

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting* the report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>22</sup>

*Cognizant* of the effective contribution of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and the Preparatory Committee for the conference,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Government of Sweden for acting as host to the Conference,

*Convinced* that actions at the national level can complement and perfect the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>23</sup> adopted by the Conference,

*Recalling* its resolution 2849 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 entitled "Development and environment" and the set of recommendations of the Conference pertaining to development and environment,<sup>24</sup>

*Recalling further* paragraphs 2 (e) and 5 (d) of Conference resolution 1 (I) of 15 June 1972<sup>25</sup> on institutional and financial arrangements,

*Bearing in mind* Economic and Social Council resolution 1718 (LIII) of 28 July 1972,

1. *Stresses* the importance of action at the national level for protecting and enhancing the environment;

<sup>19</sup> A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1.

<sup>20</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.IV.4.

<sup>21</sup> See A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. II.

<sup>22</sup> A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II, sect. B.

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III. Paragraphs 2 (e) and 5 (d) were incorporated in resolution 2997 (XXVII) without change (see sect. I, para. 2 (e), and sect. II, para. 2 (d), of that resolution).

2. *Calls upon* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme<sup>26</sup> to explore at its first session ways and means of promoting effective regional programmes in the field of the environment;

3. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in formulating environmental programmes, to ensure the compatibility of the implementation of these programmes with:

(a) The policy measures and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade<sup>27</sup> relating to science and technology;

(b) Policy measures and objectives that are to be recommended by the Committee on Science and Technology for Development upon consideration of the *World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development*;<sup>28</sup>

4. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Committee on Review and Appraisal to keep this matter under review and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the steps taken with regard to paragraph 3 above.

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### 3001 (XXVII). UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE-EXPOSITION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* resolution 2718 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, in which it recommended broad directions and measures essential for the improvement of human settlements,

*Noting* the urgency of the world-wide human settlement problems, present and future,

*Taking into account the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development*,<sup>29</sup>

*Considering* the important role assigned to housing as part of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,<sup>30</sup>

*Recognizing* the need for international efforts to develop new and additional approaches to these problems, especially in the developing countries,

*Desiring* to maintain the momentum of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in this area through a conference-exposition on human settlements, the preparation for which should generate a review of policies and programmes for human settlements, national and international, and should result in the selection and support of a series of demonstration projects on human settlements sponsored by individual countries and the United Nations,

*Taking into account* recommendation 2.2 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>31</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,

1. *Decides* to hold a United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements;

2. *Accepts* the offer of the Government of Canada to act as host to the Conference-Exposition in 1975;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme<sup>32</sup> at its first session a report containing a plan for, and anticipated costs of, the Conference-Exposition.

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### 3002 (XXVII). DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2849 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 entitled "Development and environment",

*Considering* its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 on institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental co-operation,

<sup>27</sup> Resolution 2626 (XXV).

<sup>28</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.71.II.A.18.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>30</sup> Resolution 2626 (XXV).

<sup>31</sup> See A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. II.

<sup>32</sup> See resolution 2997 (XXVII), sect. I.

*Noting* the set of recommendations of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment pertaining to development and environment,<sup>33</sup>

*Reaffirming* the importance of implementing the objectives and policy measures of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade<sup>34</sup> and the need to provide adequate resources for their fulfilment,

*Bearing in mind* that the funds available to the international community for research and action in the fields of the protection and enhancement of the environment will tend to be scarce in relation to the needs,

1. *Stresses* that, in the implementation and financing of the objectives set forth in section III, paragraphs 2 and 3, of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), such environmental measures and programmes as may also constitute a necessary part of the process of accelerating the economic development of developing countries should receive special consideration in the formulation of programmes and priorities by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

2. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme in formulating environmental programmes to ensure, in accordance with the principles set forth in General Assembly resolution 2849 (XXVI), the compatibility of these programmes with the objectives and policy measures of global strategies and sectoral guidelines for the economic development of developing countries as defined by the United Nations;

3. *Calls upon* the Economic and Social Council to discharge its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations and section 1, paragraph 3, of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), in such a way as to enhance the attainment of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and to ensure that the development priorities of the developing countries set out in the International Development Strategy are in no way adversely affected or distorted;

4. *Recommends* respect for the principle that resources for environmental programmes, both within and outside the United Nations system, be additional to the present level and projected growth of resources contemplated in the International Development Strategy, to be made available for programmes directly related to developmental assistance;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report providing a comprehensive picture within the United Nations system of the distribution and patterns of growth of resources and programmes in various fields, including funds for special purposes, in order to permit an evaluation of their conformity with the over-all policies and priorities of development as established in the relevant decisions of the Council and the Assembly.

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### **3003 (XXVII). INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR THE MOST OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION IN THE FIELD OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* recommendation 38 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>35</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,

*Recalling also* that one main purpose of the Conference was to increase the awareness among Governments and public opinion about the importance and urgency of the problems of the environment,

*Recognizing* that effective international co-operation in the field of the environment should be firmly based on action at the national level,

*Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Iran in setting aside an area constituting an ecosystem of global importance to be placed in joint trust with an international agency and in establishing an annual prize by that Government for the most outstanding contribution in the field of the environment to be awarded through the United Nations.

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<sup>33</sup> See A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. II, sect. B.

<sup>34</sup> Resolution 2626 (XXV).

<sup>35</sup> See A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. II.

**3004 (XXVII). LOCATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT SECRETARIAT<sup>36</sup>**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling its resolutions 2398 (XXIII) of 3 December 1968, 2581 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969, 2657 (XXV) of 7 December 1970 and 2850 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 on the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,*

*Noting with appreciation the report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>37</sup> in particular the recommendation on the establishment of the environment secretariat,*

*Noting also the report of the Secretary-General on the location of the proposed environment secretariat,<sup>38</sup>*

*Considering that the headquarters of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies are all located in the developed States in North America and Western Europe,*

*Convinced that in order to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples, in accordance with the Preamble of the Charter of the United Nations, the activities and headquarters or secretariats of United Nations bodies or agencies should be located having regard, *inter alia*, to equitable geographical distribution of such activities, headquarters or secretariats,*

1. *Decides to locate the environment secretariat in a developing country;*
2. *Further decides to locate the environment secretariat in Nairobi, Kenya.*

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<sup>36</sup> See resolution 2997 (XXVII), sect. II.

<sup>37</sup> A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1.

<sup>38</sup> A/8783/Add.1 and Corr.1 and Add.2.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

**1973**

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# DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

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its first session

- 1 (I) Action Plan for the Human Environment: programme development  
and priorities  
(agenda item 6)

Report of the Environment Co-ordination Board  
(agenda item 8)

The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director entitled "Action Plan for the Human Environment: programme development and priorities", a/ the report of the Environment Co-ordination Board on its first session b/ and the policy statement made by the Executive Director at the opening meeting of the first session of the Governing Council, c/

Taking into account the views expressed by its members and on the basis of its consideration of the above-mentioned reports:

I. GENERAL POLICY OBJECTIVES

1. Reiterates that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and the Action Plan of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, the general policy objectives of the United Nations Environment Programme shall be:

(a) To provide, through interdisciplinary study of natural and man-made ecological systems, improved knowledge for an integrated and rational management of the resources of the biosphere, and for safeguarding human well-being as well as ecosystems;

(b) To encourage and support an integrated approach to the planning and management of development, including that of natural resources, so as to take account of environmental consequences, to achieve maximum social, economic and environmental benefits;

(c) To assist all countries, especially developing countries, to deal with their environmental problems and to help mobilize additional financial resources for the purpose of providing the required technical assistance, education, training and free flow of information and exchange of experience, with a view to promoting the full participation of developing countries in the national and international efforts for the preservation and enhancement of the environment;

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a/ UNEP/GC/5.

b/ UNEP/GC/7.

c/ UNEP/GC/L.10.

## II. PARTICULAR POLICY OBJECTIVES

2. Notes, as guidelines for the United Nations Environment Programme, the following detailed objectives, which, however, have not been fully discussed, and are not exhaustive:

- (a) To anticipate and prevent threats to human health and well-being posed by contamination of food, air or water;
- (b) To detect and prevent serious threats to the health of the oceans through controlling both ocean-based and land-based sources of pollution, and to assure the continuing vitality of marine stocks;
- (c) To improve the quality of water for human use, in order that all persons may have access to water of a quality compatible with requirements of human health;
- (d) To help Governments in improving the quality of life in rural and urban settlements;
- (e) To prevent the loss of productive soil through erosion, salination or contamination; to arrest the process of desertification and to restore the productivity of desiccated soil;
- (f) To help Governments in managing forest resources so as to meet present and future needs;
- (g) To anticipate natural disasters and to help Governments in mitigating their consequences;
- (h) To assist Governments in anticipating and in preventing adverse effects of man-induced modifications of climate and weather;
- (i) To encourage and support the development of sources and uses of energy which assure future levels of energy adequate to the needs of economic and social development while minimizing deleterious effects on the environment;
- (j) To help to ensure that environmental measures taken by industrialized countries do not have adverse effects on international trade, especially the economic trade or other interests of developing countries, and to help developing countries maximize opportunities which may arise for them as a result of changes in comparative advantages induced by environmental concerns;
- (k) To preserve threatened species of plant and animal life, particularly those which are important to human life and well-being;
- (l) To help Governments identify and preserve natural and cultural areas which are significant to their countries and which form part of the natural and cultural heritage of all mankind;
- (m) To help Governments take into account in development planning the relationship between population growth, density and distribution and available resources and environmental effects;

(n) To help Governments increase public awareness through better education and knowledge of environmental concerns and facilitate wide participation in and support for environmental action;

### III. PROGRAMME PRIORITIES FOR ACTION BY THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

3. Notes that the quality of human life must constitute the central concern of this Programme and that therefore the enhancement of the total human habitat and the study of environmental problems having an immediate impact on man should be given the highest priority in the over-all programme;

4. Decides that the major functional tasks of the Programme consist of the identification and assessment of the major environmental problems for which "Earthwatch" will be one of the important instruments, environmental management activities and supporting measures, the most important of which are:

(a) The provision of technical assistance to Governments in evaluating their environmental needs and in planning and carrying out measures to meet them;

(b) The provision of assistance for the training of personnel who will require specialized skills in order to participate in the development and application of measures - including environmentally sound technologies - for the protection and enhancement of the environment, with particular emphasis on planning and management;

(c) The provision of financial and other forms of support to strengthen national and regional institutions which can contribute significantly to the international institutional network required for carrying out agreed measures under the programme;

(d) The provision of information and related material in support of national programmes of public information and education in the environmental field and the provision of assistance to governmental or non-governmental efforts aiming at increased availability of environmental information related to development;

Taking into account the need:

(a) To improve human health and well-being;

(b) To conserve and enrich the productive resources that sustain life on this planet;

(c) To understand the effect of man's interaction with other components of the biosphere;

(d) To ensure a more efficient integration of developmental and environmental concerns,

(e) To give special consideration to activities which will particularly benefit developing countries;

5. Considers that the administrative criteria which should govern the choice of priority areas for action by the Executive Director are:

(a) The universal significance of the problem;

(b) The urgency of the problem;

(c) Consideration of work already being done within and outside the United Nations system;

(d) The possibilities of making a significant contribution with available resources;

(e) The likelihood of improving international environmental co-operation,

6. Decides that action should be started by the Executive Director in the subject areas mentioned below:

7. Notes that the subject areas of the programme are arranged below in order of priority as they relate directly to the immediate physical condition of the human being and to problems of the environment;

8. Further notes that the lists within each subject area are neither exhaustive nor in strict priority order and that action in one subject area does not preclude the initiation of action in the subject areas below it or the development of programmes adjusted to the needs of particular regions,

9. Requests the Executive Director to prepare concrete proposals, within the capacity of and the resources available to the United Nations Environment Programme, for programme activities together with an evaluation of the feasibility of their immediate implementation, methods of implementation and costs, for consideration at its second session;

10. Asks the Executive Director to pay particular attention to the detailed topics within the priority areas whose importance was emphasized during the Governing Council's debates;

11. Recognizes that paragraph 12 (c) below is interrelated with the other priority subject areas, and requests the Executive Director to proceed immediately with integrating this subject with the other subject areas as well as to develop action programmes specifically for this item;

12. Further requests the Executive Director to perform the following tasks:

(a) Human settlements, human health, habitat and well-being

(i) To prepare by the second session of the Governing Council the report on the establishment of an international fund or financial institution for human settlements which is required by General Assembly resolution 2999 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972;

(ii) To take note of General Assembly resolution 2998 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and to express interest in the findings arising therefrom and to report to the Governing Council accordingly;

- (iii) To encourage and support programmes aimed at raising the level of health and eliminating endemic diseases which are due to environmental conditions especially those relating to under-development;
  - (iv) To anticipate and prevent threats to human health and well-being posed by contamination of food, air and water; and to co-operate with organizations concerned in establishing criteria for the relevant pollutants;
  - (v) To promote, encourage and support the development of new low-cost technologies with potential for widespread application in waste disposal and water treatment, particularly in tropical areas;
  - (vi) To assist developing countries, in co-operation with appropriate agencies, in developing and applying low-cost methods for meeting the environmental aspects of their housing needs. Emphasis should be laid on labour-intensive measures and methods utilizing local materials;
  - (vii) To promote studies related to the special problems of transitional settlements, including the socio-economic factors of rural-urban migration;
  - (viii) To help in providing adequate potable water supply in urban and rural settlements;
  - (ix) To ensure that due attention is given to environmental aspects of population densities;
- (b) Land, water and desertification
- (i) To mount a concerted programme to help countries control the loss of productive soil through erosion, salination, desertification and laterization, and to help them in land reclamation which is ecologically compatible, with special emphasis to be laid on arresting the spread of deserts;
  - (ii) To help countries assess soil degradation caused by mining operations, and to assist them in the prevention and remedy of such degradation;
  - (iii) To help countries prevent the loss of productive soils caused by pollution and to help them abate existing soil pollution;
  - (iv) To support and encourage concerted research programmes to develop, manage and conserve ecological systems, particularly arid lands and tropical forests, special account being taken for support of initiatives by Governments in their national and regional programmes;
  - (v) To support, encourage and initiate national and international efforts for efficient drought forecasting and help countries in mitigating the consequences of drought;
  - (vi) To help countries prevent or remedy the pollution of water, and to develop safe methods of waste recycling;

- (vii) To help the development of water resources to meet the present and future requirements of water of high quality;
  - (viii) To support and encourage national and international efforts for assessing environmental effects of agricultural chemicals on man and ecological systems and for avoiding their undesirable effects;
  - (ix) To initiate assessment of trends of forestation and deforestation;
- (c) Education, training, assistance and information
- (i) To support and encourage the development of effective mechanisms for collecting, analysing and disseminating information bearing on environmental problems available in scientific, technical and legal literature and in various research institutions, keeping in mind the special needs of developing countries;
  - (ii) To support and encourage the training of experts in various environmental fields, especially in developing countries to help in development of local expertise;
  - (iii) To encourage environmental education and information at all levels in order to help increase consciousness and appreciation of environmental matters among the masses;
  - (iv) To support and encourage the development of relevant research capabilities in developing countries on environmental problems;
  - (v) To continue further development of the scope, structure and capacity of the International Referral System with special consideration for timely and appropriate access by the developing countries, free of charge, to this facility;
  - (vi) To promote and support the organization of national, regional and international symposia, seminars and workshops for techniques of environmental education and research;
- (d) Trade, economics, technology and transfer of technology
- (i) To help ensure that environmental measures adopted by Governments do not needlessly create non-tariff barriers to trade, especially to the disadvantage of developing countries, to help the developing countries maximize opportunities and assess risks which may arise for them as a result of changes in comparative advantage induced by environmental concerns, and to examine ways of offsetting possible negative trends in trade consequent upon environmental measures taken by developed countries;
  - (ii) To assess the feasibility of, and if appropriate to create, a global "early warning" system to provide notice to countries whose trade may be affected by environmental measures being planned by others or the health of whose populations may be affected by the export of environmentally harmful substances;

- (iii) To examine the degree to which the location of new industry is being or may be influenced by environmental factors and the risks and opportunities this may create especially for developing countries;
  - (iv) To examine the optimum uses which may be developed for such natural products as fibres, rubber and forest products and to recommend measures for national and international action, in co-operation with other international bodies as appropriate, and to examine the extent to which problems of pollution could be ameliorated by a reduction in the current levels of production and in the future rate of growth of the production of synthetic products and substitutes which in their natural form could be produced by developing countries;
  - (v) To take steps, in collaboration with other appropriate agencies, to encourage developed countries to make increased capital assistance available to developing countries so that extra costs of introducing environmentally-sound technologies by them are covered;
  - (vi) To assist countries, as appropriate, in the formulation of guidelines for project appraisal which take into account the environmental aspects;
  - (vii) To encourage the exchange of information and co-operation in the field of low-waste and non-waste technology;
  - (viii) To encourage training of personnel in the techniques of incorporating environmental considerations into development planning, and of identifying and analysing the economic and social cost-benefit relationships of alternative approaches;
  - (ix) To encourage comprehensive studies designed to safeguard against possible negative effects of the international transfer of technology particularly from the developed to the developing countries; and to evaluate the effectiveness of such safeguards as may be devised;
- (e) Oceans
- (i) To carry out objective assessments of problems affecting the marine environment and its living resources in specific bodies of water;
  - (ii) To prepare a survey of the activities of international and regional organizations dealing with conservation and management of the living resources of the oceans;
  - (iii) To assist nations in identifying and controlling land-based sources of pollution, particularly those which reach the oceans through rivers;
  - (iv) To stimulate international and regional agreements for the control of all forms of pollution of the marine environment, and especially agreements relating to particular bodies of water;
  - (v) To urge the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization to set a time-limit for the complete prohibition of international oil discharge in the seas, as well as to seek measures to minimize the probability of accidental discharges;

- (vi) To develop a programme for the monitoring of marine pollution and its effects on marine ecosystems, paying particular attention to the special problems of specific bodies of water including some semi-enclosed seas, if the nations concerned so agree;
- (vii) To urge the International Whaling Commission to adopt a 10-year moratorium on commercial whaling;

(f) Conservation of nature, wildlife and genetic resources

- (i) To promote the protection and conservation of plants and animals, especially rare or endangered species;
- (ii) To support ecological investigations on ecosystem processes in relation to the impact of human activities;
- (iii) To promote the identification and conservation of unique natural sites and especially representative samples of natural ecosystems;
- (iv) To initiate the preparation of a comprehensive catalogue of threatened species and varieties of crop plants, fish, domestic animals, and micro-organisms, and to co-operate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in its programmes for genetic resource conservation;
- (v) To support regional and national institutions in developing countries for promoting the collection, evaluation and conservation of gene pools of plants and animals for maintaining genetic diversity for the future use of mankind;
- (vi) To promote the development, on an entirely voluntary basis, of a register of clean rivers;

(g) Energy

To collect detailed information on the problem of the world's energy crisis, which is highly complex and has many unforeseen ramifications, for presentation to the Governing Council at its next session;

13. Invites the Executive Director to assemble information and identify capabilities regarding the other areas of the action plan with a view to reaching a stage that permits the formulation of concrete programmes for their implementation;

14. Further requests the Executive Director, in formulating environmental programmes, to ensure their compatibility with the International Development Strategy and with the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development; and invites him to report to the Council at its next session on the steps taken in this respect to enable the Council to report on the subject to the General Assembly in accordance with paragraph 4 of its resolution 3000 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972;



## IV. FUTURE PLAN OF ACTION OF UNEP

15. Notes the intention of the Executive Director to initiate preliminary work in the following areas which may lead to specific proposals for consideration by the Governing Council at a later date:

- (a) Possible outer limits to changes which man's activities may engender in some elements of the biosphere;
- (b) Beneficial use of weather and climate modification technologies;
- (c) Particular environmental problems of specific industries;
- (d) "Eco-development" designed to support the efforts of the people living in villages and other rural settlements to better understand and utilize in their own development the basic natural resources and human skills available in their own environment;
- (e) Arrangements by which Member States can reach agreement on standards and laws, and other processes to ensure that they perceive the safe limits of natural processes at work in the biosphere and warn them of impending risks;

## V. PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME

16. Invites Member States to provide the Executive Director with information about their national environmental activities relevant to the programme;

17. Further invites Governments to participate actively in the processes of consultation initiated by the Executive Director for the formulation of the programme;

18. Invites the components of the United Nations system to supply the Executive Director on a regular basis with information on their current and planned activities in the field of the environment, so that he may use this information in programme planning, to avoid duplication and promote co-operation;

19. Requests the Executive Director to keep the Council fully informed on all activities within and outside the United Nations system which are relevant to the United Nations Environment Programme;

20. Welcomes the co-operative consultations between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other components of the United Nations system and commends the Environment Co-ordination Board for the constructive beginning it has made in contributing to the work of the Governing Council;

21. Welcomes arrangements initiated by the Executive Director to facilitate regional participation in the programme;

22. Considers that the identification of problems and the implementation of environmental actions should take due regard of geographical, regional and national

conditions and that furthermore, in areas of common geographic concern, bilateral or multilateral co-operation between nations could, if necessary, be supported by the Programme; such support must be envisaged taking fully into account the work done by the regional and subregional organizations;

23. Requests the Executive Director, while making maximum use of the resources of the entire United Nations system, in the achievement of programme objectives, to draw upon those appropriate organizations outside it, national and international, governmental and non-governmental, in all parts of the world, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII);

#### VI. ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENTS IN DEALING WITH THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

24. Authorizes the Executive Director to proceed promptly with the implementation of his proposals regarding the support of environmental actions in the various countries, particularly the developing countries, through extending technical assistance, helping with the organization of training programmes, supporting the development of institutional capabilities, mobilizing additional financial resources and encouraging and supporting the development and widest possible dissemination of new, environmentally-sound technologies.

#### VII. EARTHWATCH

##### (1) Monitoring

25. Invites Governments, the organizations of the United Nations system and the international scientific community to contribute to the preparation of early initiation of the monitoring portion of Earthwatch;

26. Decides that a monitoring system should be developed first for pollutants liable to affect weather and climate, and persistent and widely distributed substances liable to accumulate in living organisms and move through ecological systems, particularly along pathways leading to man; and that internationally agreed upon "primary protection standards" should be developed as a basis for assessing the significance of pollution levels for human health;

27. Acknowledges that the monitoring process should concern itself not only with chemical pollutants but also with the identification, by all appropriate means, of those environmental problems affecting the developmental process, such as vector-borne diseases;

28. Requests the Executive Director to take the necessary steps for the convening of a technical intergovernmental meeting in 1974 to assist in the identification of pollutants of international significance, and for defining the aims, general principles and intercalibration requirements for monitoring these pollutants, and to develop monitoring programmes for submission to the Governing Council;

29. Welcomes the invitation extended by the Government of Kenya to act as host to that meeting in Nairobi.

(2) International Referral System

30. Authorizes the Executive Director to initiate the pilot phase of the International Referral System drawing upon the expertise of both developed and developing countries and of international organizations concerned, and requests him to report the preliminary results to the second session of the Governing Council to permit further consideration by the Council prior to any final decision on this matter.

VIII. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

31. Authorizes the Executive Director to provide secretariat services for the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in accordance with its article XII, and further asks the Executive Director to give assistance as appropriate in the preparation of other international conventions in the environmental field.

IX. PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

32. Invites Governments to consider, in the light of their countries' particular circumstances, the establishment or strengthening of institutions and activities designed to improve public awareness of environmental concerns;

33. Requests the Executive Director to ensure that the activities of the Environment Programme are designed to complement and support national programmes in this area;

34. Commends the actions taken by Governments and the Executive Director to mark World Environment Day, recognizes it as a valuable means for increasing public awareness and invites all Governments to participate in its future observance.

17th meeting  
22 June 1973

2 (I) General procedures governing the operations of the Fund  
of the United Nations Environment Programme  
(agenda item 7 (a))

The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

Adopts the following general procedures governing the operations of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme:

CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

The Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme was established by the General Assembly under resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, hereinafter referred to as "the resolution". d/ The present general procedures are formulated in pursuance of section III, paragraph 7, thereof, which provides that the Governing Council shall formulate such general procedures as are necessary to govern the operations of the Fund.

Article I

Definitions

For the purposes of these general procedures, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) "Fund" means the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme established by the resolution;

(b) "Governing Council" means the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(c) "Government" means the Government of any State which is eligible for membership of the Governing Council;

(d) "Co-operating agency" means the United Nations, a specialized agency or the International Atomic Energy Agency when co-operating in the Fund Programme or in a project, or when carrying out activities in co-operation with the Fund within the meaning of the resolution;

(e) "Supporting organization" means an organization outside the United Nations system, as referred to in section III, paragraph 6, of the resolution, when carrying out activities supported by the Fund;

(f) "ACABQ" means the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(g) "The Secretary-General" means the Secretary-General of the United Nations or the officer to whom he has delegated authority or responsibility for the matter in question;

d/ The text of the resolution will be annexed to the printed version of the general procedures.

(h) "The Executive Director" means the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme or the officer to whom he has delegated authority or responsibility for the matter in question;

(i) "Fund Programme" means the programme of utilization of resources of the Fund to which reference is made in section I, paragraph 2 (g) of the resolution;

(j) "Fund Programme Activities" mean the constituent parts of the Fund Programme which have been approved by the Governing Council for the apportionment of resources;

(k) "Project" means an activity separately identified within a Fund Programme Activity and is for management purposes a single financial transaction for a specific purpose and a finite period of time;

(l) "Project document" means a formal document covering a project, as defined in paragraph (k) above, which includes the objectives, a work plan, a budget, pertinent background and supporting data and any special arrangements applicable to the execution of the said project;

(m) "Financial Reserve" means the reserve account established to ensure the financial liquidity and integrity of the Fund, to compensate for uneven cash inflows, and to meet such other similar requirements as may from time to time be decided upon by the Governing Council;

(n) "Fund Programme Reserve" means the reserve established each year at a level sufficient to meet unforeseen needs, to finance unanticipated projects or phases of projects, and to meet such other purposes as may be determined by the Governing Council;

(o) "Resources" available to the Fund consist of:

(i) Voluntary contributions pledged or paid by Governments, and those paid by supporting organizations and non-governmental sources;

(ii) Miscellaneous income;

(p) "Allocation" means the authority given by the Executive Director to assign resources from the Fund for one or more specific purposes;

(q) "Commitment" means the full extent of any liability entered into by the Executive Director or under authority delegated by him in regard to projects within the allocations issued;

(r) "Expenditure" means the disbursement of funds by the Executive Director for the discharge of a commitment or a part thereof.

## CHAPTER II. THE RESOURCES OF THE FUND

### Article II

#### Resources

The financial resources of the Fund shall be derived from voluntary contributions, and other sources as defined in the Financial Rules.

Article IIIPledges

1. Governments may pledge contributions to the Fund at any time.
2. Voluntary contributions may be pledged either on an annual basis or for a number of years. Whenever possible, Governments will pledge their contributions for a number of years.
3. At the request of the Governing Council, the Secretary-General shall convene a Pledging Conference at which Governments may announce their contributions to the Fund.

Article IVManagement of resources

The resources of the Fund shall be acquired, authorized, administered, used and disposed of in conformity with the Financial Rules.

Article VTrust funds

Within the framework of the Fund, trust funds may be established by the Executive Director with the approval of the Governing Council for specified purposes consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the Fund. The purpose and limits of each trust fund shall be clearly defined. The Financial Rules shall apply to any trust fund established under this article.

## CHAPTER III. APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUND PROGRAMME

Article VIResponsibilities of the Governing Council and of the Executive Director

1. The Governing Council shall provide general policy guidance with a view to ensuring that the resources of the Fund are employed with maximum efficiency and effectiveness in pursuance of the purposes of the Fund. To this end, projects may be approved on the basis of estimates of future resources and their apportionment under such conditions as may be laid down by the Governing Council on the recommendation of the Executive Director.
2. The Executive Director shall prepare and submit annually to the Governing Council the Fund Programme and detailed Fund Programme Activities together with a medium-term plan incorporating estimates of resources and expenses. The Fund Programme Activities presented to the Governing Council shall incorporate as much detail as is feasible, including operational activities envisaged and estimates of expenditure.
3. The Governing Council shall approve the Fund Programme and shall exercise effective control over its constituent Fund Programme Activities, apportioning

resources to them and controlling their use. In so doing, the Governing Council shall authorize the necessary allocation of funds to cover the following main categories of expenditure:

- (a) Fund Programme Activities;
- (b) Fund Programme Reserve activities;
- (c) Programme Support costs;
- (d) Administrative costs of the Fund.

4. When approving the Fund Programme Activities the Governing Council shall, if it so decides, request the Executive Director to submit to it for consideration and approval, without prejudice to pre-programming activities, any or all projects to be carried out within approved Fund Programme Activities.

5. Subject to paragraph 4 above, the Executive Director, on behalf of and under the authority of the Governing Council, shall approve projects within the apportionment of resources for Fund Programme Activities, and allocate funds for such projects within the approved Fund Programme. However, the Executive Director shall submit to the Governing Council any project which, because of its policy implications or magnitude, deserves the Governing Council's consideration and approval. The Executive Director shall also submit to the Governing Council for approval any project which he considers should be executed directly by the Executive Director.

6. The Governing Council shall be informed at each session of all projects approved in the interval which has elapsed since its previous session, and of progress made in the implementation of projects.

7. In addition to exercising such responsibilities for the approved Fund Programme as may be delegated to him by the Governing Council, the Executive Director shall be responsible and accountable to the Governing Council for all phases and aspects of the implementation of the Fund Programme as provided in article VII below.

#### Article VII

##### The Executive Director

1. The Fund shall be administered by the Executive Director under the policy guidance of the Governing Council. The Executive Director shall have over-all responsibility for the operations of the Fund, including direct responsibility and accountability to the Governing Council for the management and implementation of the Fund Programme in all its aspects. He shall have sole authority to submit the proposed Fund Programme to the Governing Council.

2. He shall have authority on behalf of the Fund and under the authority of the Governing Council to enter into such arrangements, including contractual agreements, consistent with these general procedures and with the Financial Rules, as may be necessary or appropriate for the efficient and effective operation of the Fund.

Article VIIIFormulation of projects

1. The Executive Director shall formulate on a continuous basis such projects as are necessary to accomplish the Fund Programme Activities approved by the Governing Council within the limits of the resources available to the Fund, taking due account of the special needs of the developing countries.
2. The objectives which a project is designed to achieve shall be identified by the Executive Director and included in the project document, as shall be the follow-up action expected to be taken consequent on the completion of the project. The establishment of a basis for such follow-up action may in appropriate cases be a suitable objective for a project.
3. In the project document, the Executive Director shall describe all financial, technical, managerial and other resources required for the successful implementation of the project.
4. Arrangements for the execution of projects shall accord with general guidelines to be approved by the Governing Council on the recommendation of the Executive Director.
5. Detailed arrangements for the execution of each project, including a budget estimate showing the financial implications of the project in its entirety, shall be specified in the project document.
6. Apart from his regular consultations with Governments, the Executive Director shall periodically consult the Environment Co-ordination Board, especially on matters relating to this article.

Article IXSelection of co-operating agencies and supporting organizations

The Executive Director shall designate the co-operating agencies and supporting organizations that are necessary for the implementation of each project, giving particular attention to the capacity available within the United Nations system.

Article XResponsibility for the provision of resources

The project document shall identify the Governments, co-operating agencies and supporting organizations which have assumed responsibility for providing the various resources mentioned in article VIII, paragraph 3, above and the role they will assume in the implementation of the project in question.

Article XIExecution of projects

1. Where necessary to ensure the maximum effectiveness of the Fund Programme or to increase its capacity, and with due regard to the cost factor and the need to



make effective use of the capacity of the United Nations system, use may appropriately be made, with due regard to the principle of equitable geographic distribution, of suitable services obtained from governmental and non-governmental sources, including individual experts, the procurement of equipment, supplies, and services, and the provision of training facilities available in countries in which projects are being implemented. In selecting these services, preference will be given, with due respect to the need to ensure the effective and efficient use of the Fund, to securing the services of experts, other personnel, equipment, supplies, training facilities and other services from the developing countries.

2. The Executive Director is authorized to carry out projects, subject in each case to the approval of the Governing Council as provided in article VI, paragraph 5, above.

#### Article XII

#### Capacity within the United Nations Environment Programme for the implementation of the resolution

The Fund shall be utilized to ensure the development and maintenance within the United Nations Environment Programme of such capacity as may be necessary for the adequate implementation of the resolution, and the decisions of the Governing Council.

#### Article XIII

#### Facilities provided by agencies

For services additional to those of his staff, the Executive Director shall rely, as appropriate, on the existing facilities of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

#### Article XIV

#### Reports

The Executive Director shall submit annual and, where appropriate, special reports to the Governing Council in accordance with his accountability for the implementation of the Fund Programme in all its aspects and with emphasis on the concept of performance reporting.

17th meeting  
22 June 1973

3 (I) Review and approval of the Fund Programme for 1973-1974  
(agenda item 7 (b))

## A

The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

Decides to approve for 1973, and to approve provisionally for 1974, the proposals of the Executive Director concerning the Financial Reserve, the Fund Programme Reserve, the Programme Support costs and the Administrative costs of the Fund as presented in document UNEP/GC/8 (paras. 9, 16, 17 and 22, respectively), noting the Executive Director's declared intent to endeavour to effect savings in the budgets in the amounts recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 22 of document UNEP/GC/L.9, and with the understanding that he would fully report to the Governing Council at its second session on the results of his attempts to do so; and with the further understanding that the appropriations for 1974 would be reviewed by the Governing Council at its second session on the basis of revised and fully documented proposals and estimates.

## B

The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

1. Decides to apportion resources, to be available until the second session of the Governing Council, by Fund Programme Activities in accordance with the table below;

2. Requests the Executive Director to undertake appropriate programming and preprogramming activities, utilizing the Fund in accordance with this apportionment as applied to the subjects listed in the table and described further in decision 1 (I) above;

3. Authorizes the Executive Director to adjust the apportionment of funds among the budget lines in the following table, to an extent not exceeding 20 per cent in any one line, should it become necessary to do so to preserve the integrity of the Programme:

	<u>(million dollars)</u>
A. Human settlements, human health, habitat and well-being	1.2
B. Land, water and desertification	1.0
C. Education, training, assistance and information	0.8
D. Trade, economics, technology and transfer of technology	0.5
E. Oceans	0.6
F. Conservation of nature, wildlife, and genetic resources	0.5
G. Energy	0.1
<u>Earthwatch</u>	
A. Monitoring	0.3
B. International Referral System	0.2
Other programme development including future plan of action of UNEP	<u>0.3</u>
	5.5

17th meeting  
22 June 1973

4 (I) United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements  
(agenda item 9)

## A

The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

Having considered the documentation submitted concerning the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements, e/

Taking into account the views expressed in the debate concerning this matter,

1. Considers that the Conference-Exposition represents an important step in a continuing process of developing and implementing programmes to improve the environment of human settlements;

2. Decides to recommend the following for consideration by the General Assembly:

(1) The General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session should endorse the recommendations contained in documents UNEP/GC/6 and Add.1 and UNEP/GC/L.2 regarding the purposes, objectives and anticipated costs of the Conference-Exposition. The main purposes of the Conference-Exposition should be:

(a) To stimulate innovation, serve as a means for the exchange of experience, and ensure the widest possible dissemination of new ideas and technologies in the field of human settlements;

(b) To formulate and make recommendations for an international programme in this field which will assist Governments;

(c) To stimulate interest in developing appropriate financial systems and institutions for human settlements among those making financial resources available and those in a position to use such resources.

(2) The Secretary-General of the United Nations should be entrusted with the over-all responsibility for the Conference-Exposition, bearing in mind the views expressed during the debates of the Governing Council at its first session.

(3) A preparatory committee for the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements, consisting of up to 58 highly qualified members, should be established by the General Assembly at its next session to advise the Secretary-General. Its membership would take into account equitable geographic distribution, and would be drawn from Member States represented on the Governing Council, taking into consideration the membership of the Committee for Housing, Building and Planning.

(4) The Preparatory Committee would, inter alia, have the responsibility of assisting the Secretary-General in clarifying and defining the objectives of the Conference-Exposition.

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e/ Documents UNEP/GC/6 and Add.1 and UNEP/GC/L.2.

(5) The Secretary-General of the United Nations should be requested to appoint, as soon as possible, a Secretary-General for the Conference-Exposition to report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations through the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and to work in close co-operation with the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions and the heads of the specialized agencies concerned and to set up immediately a small conference secretariat, to be located at United Nations Headquarters, drawing upon the resources of the United Nations system, especially those of the UNEP secretariat and the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning.

(6) The Secretary-General of the Conference-Exposition should be authorized to convene panels of experts as required during the preparatory process; and in view of the limited time available for preparations for the Conference, should invite Governments to indicate to the Secretary-General of the Conference-Exposition, on or before 30 June 1974, which of their demonstration projects they wish to propose for selection as United Nations Human Settlements Demonstration Projects, and for presentation at the Conference-Exposition.

(7) In order to facilitate the preparations for the Conference-Exposition:

(a) The United Nations, the specialized agencies concerned, the regional economic commissions, the United Nations Economic and Social Office at Beirut and the World Bank Group should be invited to collaborate closely and to assist, as appropriate, in the work of the preparatory committee, including the organizing of regional or subregional meetings;

(b) Concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should be urged to lend every possible assistance;

(c) All means should be employed to bring to world-wide attention the nature and importance of the problems of human settlements;

(d) The Secretary-General should take concrete steps to enable participating countries to play an active role in these preparations.

(8) The Secretary-General should keep the Governing Council and the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, informed of the progress of preparations and should submit in due course a final report on the Conference-Exposition, including an assessment of results and proposals for follow-up.

(9) Since a vigorous information programme is necessary to ensure the success of the Conference-Exposition, the Secretary-General should prepare a programme and estimated cost for consideration by the General Assembly.

## B

### The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

1. Notes the financial implications for the United Nations of holding the Conference-Exposition as set out in the report of the Secretary-General; f/

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f/ UNEP/GC/6/Add.1.

2. Recommends that the basic costs of the Conference-Exposition be met by the regular budget of the United Nations and that a portion of the costs, especially as regards the "Exposition and Preparatory Process", be met by the Environment Fund;

3. Gives interim approval to that part of the costs to be borne by the Fund which is necessary before the second session of the Council, when a more detailed review of total of such costs should be undertaken, in order to enable work on the Conference-Exposition to start immediately;

4. Suggests that the Secretary-General explore all avenues to keep the cost of the Conference-Exposition within reasonable limits.

15th meeting  
21 June 1973

Rules of procedure  
(agenda item 4)

At its 1st meeting, on 12 June 1973, the Governing Council decided to use on an interim basis the draft rules of procedure, with the amendment relating to draft rule 18 (UNEP/GC/3 and Corr.1). At its 13th meeting, on 20 June 1973, the Governing Council decided to request the secretariat to communicate with Governments as soon as possible after the session, inviting them to transmit their comments in writing on the draft rules by 31 October 1973, such comments to be incorporated in a document to be circulated well before the second session. It further decided to establish a working group consisting of representatives of the German Democratic Republic, India, Kenya, Mexico and Sweden, which would meet before the second session and, on the basis of the draft rules and the comments of Governments thereon, recommend a set of rules for consideration and adoption by the Council at its second session.

Other matters arising from resolutions adopted by the General Assembly  
at its twenty-seventh session  
(agenda item 10)

1. Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment

The Governing Council decided at its 12th meeting, on 19 June 1973, to defer consideration of this matter until a future session.

2. Action at the national level

At its 12th meeting, on 19 June 1973, the Governing Council decided to request the secretariat to look into the ways in which the flow of information that might be provided by Governments concerning their national environmental policies, programmes and institutions, might best be organized and to report to the Governing Council on its findings. It invited Governments to submit information to the Executive Director concerning activities relevant to the programme.

### 3. Question of convening a second United Nations Conference on the Human Environment

At its 12th meeting, on 19 June 1973, the Governing Council decided to defer consideration of this question until its second session. It took note of the offers of the Governments of Japan and Mexico to act as host to a second conference.

#### Organization of the work of future sessions of the Governing Council (agenda item 11)

At its 15th meeting, on 21 June 1973, the Governing Council decided that it should normally hold one regular session annually, the session to last for two weeks and to be held in Nairobi during the period February/March.

The Governing Council noted that it was the intention of the Executive Director to make use of expert groups which would include government representatives and which would help the UNEP secretariat in formulating programme proposals and preparing documentation of the required quality for consideration by the Governing Council.

With regard to the establishment of preparatory machinery for sessions of the Governing Council, it was agreed that, without prejudice to any long-term arrangements which might eventually be decided, there might be a need for a meeting in advance of the second session of the Governing Council to consider with the Executive Director, on an informal basis, some of the important aspects of his comprehensive programme proposals before their formal consideration at that session. This would be an ad hoc meeting of the members of the Council. It was further agreed that, if such a meeting should be considered necessary and feasible, the President would determine, with the concurrence of the other members of the Bureau and in consultation with the Executive Director, its date, duration and place. In doing so, the President would take account of the views expressed by members of the Council and also of the availability of the necessary documents.

#### Provisional agenda, date and place of the second session of the Governing Council (agenda item 12)

At its 16th meeting on 22 June 1973, the Governing Council adopted the following provisional agenda for its second session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Agenda and organization of the work of the session.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. Rules of procedure.

6. Introductory report by the Executive Director.
7. Report of the Environment Co-ordination Board.
8. The Environment Programme:
  - (a) Review of environmental programmes within the United Nations system (in the light of General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII), 3000 (XXVII) and 3002 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972);
  - (b) Approval of activities within the Environment Programme and their implications for the Fund Programme.
9. Matters arising from the General Procedures governing the operation of the Fund.
10. Financial and budgetary matters:
  - (a) Report on the implementation of the Fund Programme in 1973;
  - (b) Review and approval of the Fund Programme 1974-1975;
  - (c) Review of the Secretary-General's proposals regarding UNEP in the regular budget of the United Nations.
11. Human Settlements:
  - (a) United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements: progress report;
  - (b) Establishment of an international fund or financial institution for human settlements: report by the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 2999 (XXVII)).
12. Question of convening a second United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (General Assembly resolution 2994 (XXVII)).
13. Other matters arising from resolutions of the General Assembly.
14. Preparatory process of Governing Council sessions.
15. Provisional agenda, date and place of the third session of the Governing Council.
16. Other business.
17. Report of the Governing Council to the General Assembly.
18. Closure of the session.

The Governing Council noted that its second session would be held at Nairobi from 11 to 22 March 1974.

## RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

### 1820 (LV). INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT CO-OPERATION

#### *The Economic and Social Council*

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its first session;<sup>1</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions of the Governing Council contained in that report and commends them to the General Assembly;
3. *Considers* that the Governing Council should as far as possible proceed quickly with the detailed consideration of programme activities within the broad priority areas identified at its first session, as contained in its decision 1 (I);<sup>2</sup>
4. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it request the Governing Council at its second session, at which detailed work programmes including proposals from the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for activities to be supported by the Environment Fund will be considered, to organize its work in such a way that substantive discussions on these programme activities and their funding can be held;
5. *Expresses once again its gratitude* to the Government of Kenya, and its appreciation of the detailed preparations designed to ensure all necessary arrangements for the success of the second session of the Governing Council and the effective functioning of the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme.

*1878th plenary meeting  
9 August 1973*

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<sup>1</sup>*Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025); transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbol E/5373.*

<sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, annex 1.



## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### 3054 (XXVIII). CONSIDERATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION IN THE SUDANO-SAHELIAN REGION STRICKEN BY DROUGHT AND MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE BENEFIT OF THAT REGION

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note with satisfaction* of the note by the Secretary-General<sup>1</sup> on the economic and social situation in the Sudano-Sahelian region stricken by drought and measures to be taken for the benefit of that region,

*Recalling* its resolutions 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971 and 2959 (XXVII) of 12 December 1972 on assistance in cases of natural disaster and other disaster situations,

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1759 (LIV) of 18 May 1973 and 1797 (LV) of 11 July 1973 in which the Council appealed to all Member States and to all the international organizations and programmes concerned within the United Nations system to devote the largest possible volume of their financial, technical and other resources to meeting the requests of Governments of affected countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region for medium-term and long-term assistance, as soon as such requests are submitted,

*Noting* the prompt and pertinent measures taken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with the help of other institutions and donor countries, to organize and supervise emergency relief operations in the affected region,

*Noting also with appreciation* the dispatch, at the request of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, of a multi-donor mission to visit the Sahelian countries in order to assess their food and nutritional requirements for 1973 - 1974,

*Noting with concern* the great and disquieting magnitude of the effects of the drought in the Sudano-Sahelian region, in particular the enormous loss of human lives and livestock, and the serious shortages of food-stuffs,

*Considering* that these countries are among the poorest countries and that their agro-pastoral economy has been seriously damaged by the drought,

*Aware* that the transport problem constitutes a major obstacle in these countries,

*Considering* that it is essential that the international community assist these countries to ensure, as a matter of urgency, their recovery and their economic expansion through a rapid and substantial increase in their agricultural, agro-industrial and pastoral production,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the international assistance given to these countries during the emergency phase by Governments, international organizations and voluntary agencies;

2. *Welcomes* the complete co-operation of all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, and all the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned;

3. *Notes with interest* the establishment, within the United Nations Secretariat, of a Special Sahelian Office responsible for co-ordinating the medium-term and long-term assistance activities of the organizations of the United Nations system, invites them to co-operate fully with that Office and authorizes the Secretary-General to utilize the necessary resources for carrying out that work;

4. *Notes also with interest* the recommendations and resolutions of the heads of State of the drought-stricken countries, including the medium-term and long-term action programme, and the establishment of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, which is to co-ordinate national and regional action;

5. *Urges* all Member States, and the developed countries in particular, to take promptly all measures necessary to help these countries to implement the medium-term and long-term measures identified by them by supplying long-term financial assistance on very favourable terms and by simplifying procedures for the granting of assistance;

6. *Invites* the Governments of developed countries and the international financial institutions to adapt the terms and volume of their assistance to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region to the needs of these countries, their financial situation and their external indebtedness, not excluding the consolidation of debts in the multilateral sphere;

7. *Invites* all the international financing institutions, in particular the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Finance Corporation, the International Development Association and the

<sup>1</sup> A/9178.

African Development Bank, to intensify, as a matter of urgency, their assistance to these countries by appropriating additional investment and development funds for their projects and programmes aimed at rebuilding and improving their production, in accordance with the national and regional priorities established by these countries;

8. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to grant high priority during the 1970s to regional development programmes directly or indirectly concerned with the drought problem, particularly those for developing livestock breeding, increasing food production and developing water resources in the Sudano-Sahelian region;

9. *Invites* the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, in collaboration with the other organizations concerned within the United Nations system, to intensify current research on developing grain varieties suitable for the Sudano-Sahelian region and to give its full financial and technical support to the establishment of national and regional institutions designed to produce better knowledge of and solutions for short-term and long-term problems created by the drought;

10. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to give priority to the search for a medium-term and long-term solution to the problems of desert encroachment in the countries bordering on the Sahara and other areas with similar geographical conditions and to take all necessary measures to help the countries concerned to implement their action programme;

11. *Requests* the developed countries and the specialized agencies of the United Nations to grant those countries affected by the drought which do not enjoy them benefits similar to those given to the least developed countries with respect to the specific consequences of the drought and until those consequences are eliminated;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation to use their experience of emergency relief operations in continuing advance planning and the provision of temporary assistance in order to overcome the problems of supply, storage and distribution in 1974;

13. *Appeals* to Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to give the most favourable response possible to the recommendations made by the mission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to ensure that the food and nutritional needs of the populations of these countries are met in 1973 - 1974;

14. *Invites* all other organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the International Labour Organisation, the World Health Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, to devote as much as possible of their resources, within their respective programmes, to responding to requests for assistance from countries in the Sudano-Sahelian region for reconstructing the economies of these countries;

15. *Further invites* all Member States to give substantial financial and technical assistance for the improvement and construction of road and rail networks at the national and regional levels;

16. *Urges* the Secretary-General to give effective help to the mobilization of the resources and efforts of the international community and of the international financial institutions with a view to the complete and rapid implementation of the action programme decided on by the countries concerned;

17. *Invites* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to co-operate fully with the co-ordination system set up by the Permanent Inter-State Committee, in liaison with the Special Sahelian Office;

18. *Invites* the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue intensifying their efforts, under the guidance of the Secretary-General, to ensure full co-ordination of the assistance provided by or through those agencies, organizations and programmes to the drought-stricken countries;

19. *Invites* Member States and the Secretary-General to continue providing the Permanent Inter-State Committee with all the support it needs to carry out the task assigned to it;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report periodically on the efforts of the international community to aid in the reconstruction and economic and social development of the drought-stricken Sudano-Sahelian region and to report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

### 3128 (XXVIII). UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE-EXPOSITION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its decision, in resolution 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, to hold a United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements,

*Noting* the importance and priority given to the problems of human settlements by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,<sup>2</sup>

*Noting further* the full support for the Conference-Exposition expressed by the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning at its eighth session, held at Geneva in October 1973, the comments of the Committee regarding the Conference-Exposition and the offer of its expertise,<sup>3</sup>

*Having considered* the recommendations of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first session<sup>4</sup> arising from the report of the Secretary-General<sup>5</sup> prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 3001 (XXVII) and from the report of the meeting of experts held at Vancouver, Canada, from 8 to 12 May 1973,<sup>6</sup> as well as the comments of the Economic and Social Council thereon,<sup>7</sup>

*Stressing* the urgent need for early and co-ordinated action by members of the international community to safeguard and improve the quality of life in human settlements in view of accelerating urbanization throughout the world, which is often accompanied by rural depopulation,

*Bearing in mind* the importance to the over-all objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade<sup>8</sup> of the improvement in the quality of life in human settlements in developing countries as an integral component in the process of development,

*Welcoming* the co-operative participation of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning in the detailed planning for the Conference-Exposition,

*Requesting* that the Secretary-General take into account, in the preparations for the Conference-Exposition, the results and recommendations of other international conferences, including the World Population Conference to be held in 1974,

1. *Decides* that the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements will take place in Vancouver, Canada, from 31 May to 11 June 1976;

2. *Endorses* in general the recommendations put forth by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the purposes, objectives and method of financing of the Conference-Exposition;

3. *Affirms* that the main purpose of the Conference-Exposition should be to serve as a practical means to exchange information about a broad background of environmental and other concerns which may lead to the formation of policies and actions by Governments and international organizations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assume the over-all responsibility for the Conference-Exposition, bearing in mind the views expressed during the debates of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first session;

5. *Establishes* a Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements, to advise the Secretary-General, consisting of highly qualified representatives nominated by the Governments of the following Member States: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to set up immediately a small conference secretariat, drawing upon the resources of the United Nations system, especially those of the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and to appoint at an early date a Secretary-

<sup>2</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14).

<sup>3</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/5447)*.

<sup>4</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025)*, annex 1, decision 4 (I).

<sup>5</sup> UNEP/GC/6 and Add.1.

<sup>6</sup> For the report of the Executive Director on the meeting of experts, see UNEP/GC/L.2.

<sup>7</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/9003 and Corr.1)*, chap. XIII. See also E/AC.6/SR.666.

<sup>8</sup> Resolution 2626 (XXV).

General who will report through the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and work in close co-operation with the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions and the executive heads of the specialized agencies;

7. *Invites* the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the regional economic commissions to collaborate closely with the Secretary-General in the preparations for the Conference-Exposition and to assist, as appropriate, in the work of the Preparatory Committee, in order to be fully able to share in the results of the Conference-Exposition and in the action following therefrom;

8. *Urges* the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to lend every possible assistance in the preparations for the Conference-Exposition;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the regional economic commissions, in collaboration with the Preparatory Committee, to take the necessary steps, as part of the preparations for the Conference-Exposition, to bring to global attention the nature and relative importance of the problems of human settlements;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit brief progress reports, through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions.

2199th plenary meeting  
13 December 1973

### 3129 (XXVIII). CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF THE ENVIRONMENT CONCERNING NATURAL RESOURCES SHARED BY TWO OR MORE STATES

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* principles 21, 22 and 24 of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>9</sup> held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,

*Recalling* its resolutions 2995 (XXVII), 2996 (XXVII) and 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 relating to co-operation between States in the field of the environment, to international responsibility of States in regard to the environment and to the establishment of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, respectively,

*Reaffirming* the duty of the international community to adopt measures to protect and improve the environment, and particularly the need for continuous international collaboration to that end,

*Convinced* of the need to pursue, in the field of the environment, the elaboration of international norms conducive to the achievement of those purposes,

*Taking note with satisfaction* of the important Economic Declaration adopted by the Fourth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Algiers from 5 to 9 September 1973,<sup>10</sup>

*Conscious* of the importance and urgency of safeguarding the conservation and exploitation of the natural resources shared by two or more States, by means of an effective system of co-operation, as indicated in the above-mentioned Economic Declaration of Algiers,

1. *Considers* that it is necessary to ensure effective co-operation between countries through the establishment of adequate international standards for the conservation and harmonious exploitation of natural resources common to two or more States in the context of the normal relations existing between them;

2. *Considers further* that co-operation between countries sharing such natural resources and interested in their exploitation must be developed on the basis of a system of information and prior consultation within the framework of the normal relations existing between them;

3. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in keeping with its function of promoting international co-operation according to the mandate conferred upon it by the General Assembly, to take duly into account the preceding paragraphs and to report on measures adopted for their implementation;

4. *Urges* Member States, within the framework of their mutual relations, to take fully into account the provisions of the present resolution.

2199th plenary meeting  
13 December 1973

<sup>9</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14), chap. I.

<sup>10</sup> A/9330 and Corr.1, p. 57.

**3130 (XXVIII). CRITERIA GOVERNING MULTILATERAL FINANCING OF HOUSING  
AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its first session,<sup>11</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 1393 (XIV) of 20 November 1959, 1508 (XV) of 12 December 1960, 1676 (XVI) of 18 December 1961, 1917 (XVIII) of 5 December 1963, 2036 (XX) of 7 December 1965, 2598 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, 2718 (XXV) of 15 December 1970 and 2997 (XXVII), 2999 (XXVII), 3000 (XXVII), 3001 (XXVII) and 3002 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1170 (XLI) of 5 August 1966,

*Mindful* of the aims expressed in the Preamble and in Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter of the United Nations concerning the employment of international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

*Considering* the important role assigned to housing as part of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,<sup>12</sup>

*Further recalling* that in its resolution 2718 (XXV) the General Assembly set out broad directions and measures essential for the improvement of human settlements,

*Reaffirming* in particular recommendations 1, 15, 16 and 17 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>13</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,

*Noting* the high priority accorded to human settlements and human health, habitat and well-being by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first session,

*Noting* the rapid deterioration of the world-wide human settlement situation and its effect on the quality of life of vast numbers of people,

*Recognizing* the need for international efforts to develop new and additional approaches to these problems, especially in the developing countries,

*Recalling* its resolution 2998 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

*Noting* that the report of the Secretary-General<sup>14</sup> shows no evidence of the identification or establishment of new criteria, as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 2998 (XXVII),

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake, as a matter of priority, the comprehensive analytical study envisaged in General Assembly resolution 2998 (XXVII), which would provide new criteria governing lending and interest rates for housing and human settlements by international institutions;

2. *Recommends* that any new criteria should also be applicable in principle to any institution or arrangement emanating from resolution 2999 (XXVII) or from any other action by the General Assembly regarding the financing of housing and human settlements;

3. *Requests* the collaboration and co-operation of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme with the Secretary-General in undertaking the above-mentioned study;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*2199th plenary meeting  
13 December 1973*

**3131 (XXVIII). REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2994 (XXVII), 2997 (XXVII) and 3000 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

<sup>11</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025).*

<sup>12</sup> Resolution 2626 (XXV).

<sup>13</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14), chap. II.

<sup>14</sup> A/9163.

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its first session,<sup>15</sup>

*Reaffirming* that the quality of human life must constitute the central concern of the United Nations Environment Programme and that therefore the enhancement of the total human habitat and the study of environmental problems having an immediate impact on man should be given the highest priority in the over-all programme,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its first session;

2. *Endorses* the decisions adopted by the Governing Council,<sup>16</sup> in particular the criteria and the priorities as contained in decision 1 (I) of 22 June 1973.

2199th plenary meeting  
13 December 1973

### 3132 (XXVIII). FUND OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* section III of its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 by which it established the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Noting* the statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the current status of the Fund and his appeal for early contributions,<sup>17</sup>

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Governments which have so far contributed or pledged contributions,

*Appeals* to Governments to extend their continuing support to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme in order to make the Programme fully operational.

2199th plenary meeting  
13 December 1973

### 3133 (XXVIII). PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2995 (XXVII) and 2996 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 3000 (XXVII) and 3002 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, as well as its resolutions 2750 C (XXV) of 17 December 1970 and 3067 (XXVIII) of 16 November 1973,

*Also recalling* principle 7 of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>18</sup> held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,

*Taking note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its first session,<sup>19</sup> held from 12 to 22 June 1973, in which the subjects of oceans and genetic resources are among programme priorities,

*Noting* the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and other Matters, concluded on 29 December 1972, and the recently concluded International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973,

1. *Emphasizes* the need for protecting and conserving the total living resources of ocean space through concerted environmental action;

2. *Stresses* that both national and international action is needed to preserve and enhance the quality of ocean life and to protect the resources of the marine environment;

3. *Underlines* the fact that a number of the world's important living ocean resources are at present threatened by depletion for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is overfishing in certain areas of the world's seas and oceans;

4. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to consider and decide upon making a detailed survey of the living marine resources of the world's seas and oceans threatened with

<sup>15</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025).*

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, annex. I.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, *Twenty-eighth Session, Second Committee*, 1563rd meeting, paras. 2-15.

<sup>18</sup> *See Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14), chap. I.

<sup>19</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025).*

depletion, to be carried out by the United Nations Environment Programme in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and to be submitted to the Governing Council at its third session;

5. *Further requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to direct special attention to the question of environmental protection of the seas and oceans, in particular its living marine resources, and to report thereon, as well as on the implementation of the present resolution, to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of the task of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea in relation to the preservation of the marine environment, taking into account recommendation 92 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>20</sup> as approved by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

2199th plenary meeting  
13 December 1973

## ELECTION OF NINETEEN MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

(Item 19)

The General Assembly, in pursuance of section I, paragraph 1, of its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, elected nineteen members to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of ARGENTINA, CANADA, CHINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, FRANCE, GABON, GHANA, GUATEMALA, INDONESIA, JAMAICA, LEBANON, MOROCCO, the PHILIPPINES, SIERRA LEONE, SPAIN, the SUDAN, SWEDEN, the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC and YUGOSLAVIA.

The following States were elected: ARGENTINA, CANADA, CHINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, FRANCE, GABON, GHANA, GUATEMALA, INDONESIA, IVORY COAST, JAMAICA, LEBANON, MOROCCO, PHILIPPINES, SIERRA LEONE, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC and YUGOSLAVIA.

2199th plenary meeting  
13 December 1973

*As a result of the above election, the composition of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for 1974 will be as follows:* ARGENTINA,\*\*\* AUSTRALIA,\*\* AUSTRIA,\* BRAZIL,\* BURUNDI,\*\* CANADA,\*\*\* CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,\*\* CHILE,\*\* CHINA,\*\*\* CZECHOSLOVAKIA,\*\*\* FRANCE,\*\*\* GABON,\*\*\* GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC,\*\* GERMANY (FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF),\* GHANA,\*\*\* GUATEMALA,\*\*\* ICELAND,\* INDIA,\* INDONESIA,\*\*\* IRAN,\* IRAQ,\*\* ITALY,\* IVORY COAST,\*\*\* JAMAICA,\*\*\* JAPAN,\* JORDAN,\*\* KENYA,\* KUWAIT,\* LEBANON,\*\*\* MADAGASCAR,\*\* MALAWI,\* MEXICO,\*\* MOROCCO,\*\*\* NETHERLANDS,\*\* SIERRA LEONE,\*\*\* PAKISTAN,\*\* PANAMA,\*\* PERU,\* PHILIPPINES,\*\*\* POLAND,\*\* ROMANIA,\* SENEGAL,\*\* SIERRA LEONE,\*\*\* SOMALIA,\* SPAIN,\*\*\* SRI LANKA,\*\* SWEDEN,\*\*\* SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC,\*\*\* TUNISIA,\* TURKEY,\*\* UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,\* UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,\*\* UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON,\* UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA,\*\* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,\* VENEZUELA\* and YUGOSLAVIA.\*\*\*

<sup>20</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14), chap. II.

\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1974.

\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1975.

\*\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1976.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

**1974**



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# DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

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Environment Programme at its second session

5 (II) Programme policy and implementation

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decision 1 (I) of 22 June 1973, which was subsequently endorsed by Economic and Social Council resolution 1820 (LV) of 9 August 1973 and by General Assembly resolution 3131 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973,

Having considered:

- (a) The introductory report of the Executive Director, a/
- (b) The note by the Executive Director concerning the compatibility of the environment programme with policy measures and objectives in the field of science and technology, b/
- (c) The report of the Environment Co-ordination Board on its second session, c/
- (d) The introductory statement of the Executive Director, d/
- (e) The statement of the Executive Director on programme activity centres, e/

Taking into account the views expressed during the session on questions of programme policy and implementation,

1. Decides to select specific areas of concentration, within the priorities approved at the first session, in which programme activities should be carried out, and further decides, taking due account of the global character of the Programme, that the areas of concentration should be selected in close conformity with the general criteria adopted at the first session of the Governing Council and in the light of the following considerations:

- (a) The Programme should be action-oriented and based on the best possible scientific information and advice;
- (b) The Programme should be compatible with the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade f/and the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development; g/

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a/ UNEP/GC/14.

b/ UNEP/GC/22.

c/ UNEP/GC/15.

d/ UNEP/GC/L.18.

e/ UNEP/GC/L.20.

f/ General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV).

g/ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.71.II.A.18.

(c) There should be an appropriate balance between, on the one hand, the activities undertaken by the Members of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and, on the other, the national activities of regional or international significance, as well as among activities responding to the needs of different geographic and ecological regions and of countries at different stages of development and with different economic and social systems; such a balance may be assured through continuing consultations by the Executive Director with Governments and all other parties concerned;

(d) Special emphasis should be placed on satisfying the needs of developing countries;

(e) Special attention should be paid to the development of institutional capabilities, particularly in the developing world, both by utilizing existing institutions and by supporting the development of new capabilities where required;

2. Approves the process and methods of programme development and implementation described in the Executive Director's introductory report and elaborated in his introductory statement, in particular the programmatic approach and the catalytic role of the United Nations Environment Programme;

3. Notes with approval the intention of the Executive Director to establish a few programme activity centres, as a means of dealing with specific problems, under his direction and on an experimental basis, after consultations with Governments, members of the United Nations system and other organizations and institutions concerned;

4. Reaffirms that the function of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme should be primarily that of a catalyst in providing initial financing for the development of programme activities, which may then require much larger amounts of money than would be available solely from the Fund, and that of a source of the additional resources required to give an environmental dimension to development activities of international significance;

5. Takes note of the report of the Environment Co-ordination Board on its second session and urges the Board to provide the Executive Director with effective assistance in his task of co-ordinating environment activities within the United Nations system.

27th meeting  
21 March 1974

6 (II) Compatibility of the programme with the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and with the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development

The Governing Council,

Having considered the note by the Executive Director on the compatibility of the environment programme with policy measures and objectives in the field of science and technology, h/

h/ UNEP/GC/22.

1. Considers that the environment programme, as at present conceived, is compatible with and promotes the objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development;

2. Draws the attention of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly to the note by the Executive Director and the opinion expressed above, in connexion with their consideration of the implementation of Assembly resolutions 3000 (XXVII) and 3002 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972;

3. Recommends that, in order to ensure the continuing compatibility of the programme with the International Development Strategy, the Executive Director participate in the process of review and appraisal of the Strategy.

27th meeting  
21 March 1974

7 (II) Review of the environmental situation and of activities relating to the environment programme

The Governing Council,

Having considered the proposals made by the Executive Director in his note on the review of the environmental situation and of activities relating to the environment programme, i/

1. Notes the framework proposed by the Executive Director for the review of the environmental situation and of activities relating to the environment programme;

2. Requests the Executive Director:

(a) To take the necessary steps to establish, in close collaboration with other members of the United Nations system and in consultation with Governments, an interagency task force which would devise a methodical way of providing data concerning system-wide activities relating to the environment for the purpose of the recurrent review;

(b) To formulate guidelines for national reports on current environmental activities;

3. Requests the Executive Director to ensure that a more advanced phase of the review is presented to the Governing Council at its third session, covering in full at least one of the priority areas defined by the Council at its first session;

4. Invites Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, to co-operate fully with the Executive Director in the preparation of the review by supplying the necessary data requested by him;

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i/ UNEP/GC/14/Add.1 and Corr.1.

5. Requests the organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations to communicate to the United Nations Environment Programme, through appropriate procedures, the relevant information - including the total of specific financial allocations - on their activities in all areas which may concern the Programme, as well as all the data which would permit it to discharge its responsibilities;

6. Recommends that the Governments represented in the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system should take the steps necessary for all this information to reach the United Nations Environment Programme within suitable time-limits;

7. Further requests the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its third session regarding the response to these recommendations.

29th meeting  
22 March 1974

8 (II) Approval of activities within the environment programme, in the light, inter alia of their implications for the Fund programme

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The Governing Council,

Having considered the proposals of the Executive Director with regard to its programme,

Decides to adopt the proposals for future action contained in the report of the Executive Director j/ in the light of the context for action and reports on initiated action contained therein and the considerations of Sessional Committee, k/ with the following observations:

#### I. PRIORITY SUBJECT AREAS OF THE PROGRAMME

##### 1. Human settlements, human health, habitat and well-being

###### Human settlements and habitat

(a) Actions taken in this area should be focused on technological, administrative, legislative and economic solutions aimed at equality, better health conditions, social well-being and public participation in the development process. Social, economic and technological aspects should, as far as possible, be integrated in the programme activities of UNEP.

(b) The solution of the human settlements problem should be considered as closely connected with the socio-economic development of individual countries. It is necessary to regulate land use and prevent land speculation.

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j/ UNEP/GC/14/Add.2.

k/ For the report of the Sessional Committee, see annex III below.

On this basis, actions in this area should be focused on the development and dissemination of environmentally-sound technologies, with particular emphasis on methods of waste disposal and regrading, water supply and sewage treatment. Special care should be taken to promote the use of local materials as well as of labour-intensive and low-cost building techniques. Industrial methods of construction may be introduced step-by-step where appropriate in order to meet future demands for housing.

(c) Attention should be paid to the problem of ever-increasing rural-to-urban migration within the process of growing urbanization.

(d) Support should be given to the efforts proposed by the Executive Director to launch an action-oriented programme, which would include pilot projects, aimed at improving and rehabilitating slums and other marginal settlements. Due attention should be paid to the need for integrated development, including the economic, physical and social aspects and to mobilizing public participation in tackling the problems of environmental degradation.

(e) Selection of data and exchange of information and experience regarding human settlement problems and adequate solution are of primary importance. The Programme should develop appropriate mechanisms to enable the best possible use to be made of the research undertaken and experience accumulated, especially among developing countries, so that the knowledge already available might be best utilized. To this end, the Executive Director should look into the possibility of assisting in the establishment of networks of centres specializing in human settlement research and related activities.

(f) The Programme should not only actively participate in the United Nations Conference-Exposition of Human Settlements to be held in 1976, but also develop action-oriented projects for the development of human settlements without necessarily waiting for the convening of the Conference-Exposition. Those projects could, however, provide input to the Conference-Exposition.

(g) The Programme should co-operate closely in the above activities with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as well as other appropriate organizations of the United Nations system.

#### Human health and well-being

(h) A concerted programme for the eradication of endemic diseases should be developed as soon as possible, paying particular attention to the control of vectors with a water-borne phase and to developing methods of control by other than chemical means.

(i) The World Health Organization should be invited to give high priority to its programme for the development of environmental health criteria and standards and, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to the development of food standards through the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

(j) The Executive Director should pay due attention to the development of indices for monitoring environmental health effects and epidemics:

(k) Urgent steps, which would involve the convening of a group of experts, including experts from governmental and international organizations, should be taken for the establishment of the international register of potentially toxic chemicals.

(l) Urgent steps should be taken, in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, towards the development of environmentally-sound pest management which would include the collection and dissemination among developing countries of existing data concerning the control of pests by non-chemical methods. Programmes undertaken by groups of countries to initiate pilot projects to test new methods and provide training on their application should be encouraged.

## 2. Land, water and desertification

(a) First priority should be given to the establishment of integrated research programmes on arid and semi-arid lands. Work in this field should be carried out on a regional basis through studies, meetings and the creation of programme activity centres.

(b) Particular attention should be paid to the Sudano-Sahelian region. In the light of General Assembly resolution 3054 (XXVIII) of 17 October 1973, and because of the urgency of immediate intervention, the Executive Director is requested to treat this region afflicted by drought as a priority area of concentration within the programme and activities planned for 1974.

(c) Tropical woodland and forest ecosystems should be given due attention and should be considered as resources in an economic and industrial context as well as from the point of view of conservation. Guidelines for their rational management and utilization should be developed.

(d) Efforts should be made to ensure that all available knowledge and data in these areas are fully utilized, in co-operation with relevant activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and of the Man and Biosphere programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization relating to arid lands, forests and other ecosystems, and full co-ordination should be ensured in this respect.

(e) Consideration should be given to initiating the preparation of a world map of soil degradation and hazards.

(f) Research on the impact of man and climate on the process of desertification should be encouraged.

(g) In the area of water, the Programme's main concern and activities should be in the field of water quality, its role in the field of water resources being confined mainly to one of active participation in the co-ordination machinery established by the United Nations, including the preparatory work for the United Nations Water Conference to be held in 1977.

(h) The Programme should initiate joint consultations with the relevant organizations of the United Nations system with a view to establishing a homogeneous environmental programme in the field of water quality.



### 3. Trade, economics, technology and transfer of technology

(a) There should be a considerable reorganization of the material presented under the headings of trade, economics, technologies, rational use of earth resources, eco-development and alternative strategies for development and environment. To that end, the Executive Director should submit to the Council at its third session a new format for consideration of programme activities in those fields which would be consistent with the context for action as outlined in chapter II, section 3, paragraph 4 of the Executive Director's report. 1/

(b) High priority should be given to the relationship between technologies, environment and comprehensive development planning. Action, including a comprehensive investigation of the problems and possibilities of low waste and non-waste technologies, as well as in the transfer and adaptation at the lowest feasible cost of environmentally-sound technologies, particularly to developing countries, and support for the creation of indigenous research and development capabilities, was specially singled out. The various implications, especially the economic, environmental and other costs and benefits to each party, of the transfer of selected highly polluting technologies from one country to another, with particular reference to the transfer of such technologies to developing countries, should be investigated.

(c) High priority should be given to the action planned with regard to the socio-economic impact of environmental measures -- including the need for increased capital assistance - in order to facilitate the introduction of environmentally-sound technologies into developing countries.

(d) Guidelines should be elaborated for the integration of the environmental dimension in future development projects, on the basis, inter alia, of the assessment of ongoing or completed projects, with the aim of ensuring that the inclusion of environmental parameters does not adversely affect development priorities.

(e) There is a need to identify industries or industrial processes in which developing countries may have comparative advantage because of environmental considerations. Assistance should be given to developing countries in studies directed to take explicit account of the economic and environmental and other costs and benefits of a particular industrial location, particularly in the case of highly-polluting industries.

(f) Besides notifying countries of environmental measures which may affect their trade or economies, the early warning system could enable prior consultations to be conducted between countries introducing environmental measures and countries likely to be affected by them.

(g) The Programme should, where appropriate, make a contribution to environmental questions relating to trade, bearing in mind responsibilities

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1/ UNEP/GC/14/Add.2

of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in this area, and to this end should co-operate, as appropriate, with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the regional development banks and the regional economic commissions.

(h) When carrying out programme activities in the area of industrial location, and industrial pollution generally, the Executive Director should ensure that representatives of Governments and public sector industry are consulted along with representatives of private industry.

#### 4. Oceans

(a) In view of the many activities of numerous other agencies in this field, the United Nations Development Programme should concentrate on the co-ordination of these activities and on the protection of the marine environment.

(b) Priority should be given to regional activities, with the possible establishment of programme activity centres in the Mediterranean. The importance of activities in the Caribbean, the Baltic, the Persian Gulf, the Indonesian and Philippines archipelagoes, and parts of the Atlantic and Pacific was stressed.

(c) The Programme should encourage and support the preparation of regional agreements or conventions on the protection of specific bodies of water from pollution, particularly from land-based sources. High priority should be given to supporting activities to protect living resources and prevent pollution in the Mediterranean.

(d) The survey of living marine resources called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 3133 (XXVIII) should be begun immediately by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on behalf of the Programme.

(e) The Programme should make a constructive contribution to the third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. The Conference is urged to continue to attach importance to its work relating to the preservation of the marine environment taking into account, in particular, the contents of General Assembly resolution 3133 (XXVIII) on the protection of the marine environment and the positions of Member States as expressed during the debate and on the adoption of that resolution of the General Assembly.

(f) The Programme should promote the study, conservation and wise management of living resources, including whales and other marine mammals. Research should also be encouraged on the effects of climate on the oceans and their resources, on the effects of pollution on living organisms and on ocean dynamics as a factor in pollution transport.

## 5. Conservation of nature, wildlife and genetic resources

(a) Particular attention should be given to the protection of endangered species of fauna and flora. In this connexion, the Executive Director should take steps to encourage the early ratification of the 1973 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and to assist in the conservation of migratory species and others not adequately covered by existing conventions.

(b) For the preservation of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, biomes and habitats, efforts should be made to expand the network of terrestrial and marine parks, in which studies of the relevant ecosystems should be encouraged. Emphasis should be placed on arid lands, forests, wetlands and marine areas. The Executive Director is requested, in co-operation with appropriate international organizations, to promote studies leading to concrete action facilitating the exploration, protection and conservation of nature in the humid equatorial zones.

(c) The preservation of the diversity of genetic resources should be one of the most important objectives of the Programme. Specific attention should be given to establishing a genetic resources network and gene banks.

## 6. Energy

The results of the sixth special session of the General Assembly on the problems of raw materials and development should be taken into account in the collection of detailed information on energy sources and requirements, which was begun in response to the mandate given by the first session of the Governing Council, and in the development of programme proposals for the Programme, which should concentrate on the environmental consequences of alternative patterns of energy generation and use and be carried on in close co-operation with the United Nations bodies concerned and with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

## II. FUNCTIONAL TASKS

### 1. Environmental assessment: Earthwatch

(a) Global Environmental Monitoring System. actions taken with regard to this functional task should be in accordance with the provisions set out below:

#### The Governing Council

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Kenya for serving as host to the Intergovernmental Meeting on Monitoring, held in Nairobi from 11 to 20 February 1974;

2. Authorizes the Executive Director, in continuing consultation with Governments, to continue to design, develop and begin to implement the Global Environmental Monitoring System for monitoring priority pollutants, related environmental factors and other significant environmental aspects, and to that end to take necessary administrative steps, including appointment of appropriate staff, and to call upon the advice of meetings of experts;

3. Advises the Executive Director to investigate the possibility, where appropriate and on the basis of voluntary participation, of implementing the Global Environmental Monitoring System on a regional basis;

4. Instructs the Executive Director to establish contacts as appropriate with Governments wishing to co-operate with the United Nations Environment Programme in these activities, and authorizes him to provide assistance to Governments, especially in developing countries, to enable them to participate in these activities;

5. Instructs the Executive Director to study and analyse the report of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Monitoring, m/ together with the reservations expressed, and in the light of experience gained in the interim to present a progress report to the Governing Council at its third session on the action taken in pursuance of paragraphs 2 to 4 above;

6. Decides to consider at its third session, as a matter of priority, the report of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Monitoring, together with the report of the Executive Director and such additional information and material as he may deem appropriate to bring to the attention of the Council.

(b) International Referral System: actions taken with regard to this functional task should be in accordance with the provisions set out below:

The Governing Council

1. Notes with interest the recommendations of the Executive Director concerning the International Referral System for sources of environmental information;

2. Requests the Executive Director to continue to consult with Governments wishing to participate in the System;

3. Authorizes the Executive Director to develop, on the basis of continuing consultation with Governments, the International Referral System for sources of environmental information and to provide the necessary resources and staff at the United Nations Environment Programme headquarters for this purpose;

4. Agrees that in the development of the system particular attention should be paid to the organization of services in ways which are well adapted to the needs of developing countries, and to the need

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m/ UNEP/GC/24.

to relate the system to the over-all requirements, information handling structures and public information techniques of the United Nations Environment Programme as a whole;

5. Notes that many of the background documents pertaining to the system, including various listings, are at an early stage of development and require further discussions with Member States in all the relevant languages of the United Nations;

6. Instructs the Executive Director to take preparatory action in consultation with Governments to establish a network of national and regional focal points set up by Governments wishing to participate in the system, and authorizes him to provide assistance as appropriate to facilitate the participation of developing countries.

7. Instructs the Executive Director to report as a matter of priority to the third session of the Governing Council on the actions he has taken in pursuance of paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 above.

(c) The Executive Director should consider moving forward, in a manner similar to his application of the Global Environmental Monitoring System and International Referral System, with the other functional aspects of Earthwatch which involve related research and evaluation, so that the interactions among these complementary functions may properly lead to environmental assessments which provide the basis for environmental management activities.

## 2. Environmental management

(a) The concept of and methodology for 'eco-development,' viewed as a united, comprehensive process encompassing cultural, social, technological, political and environmental dimensions, should be elaborated, inter alia, on the basis of a few pilot projects in different developing countries;

(b) A panel of experts, including experts from Governments and international organizations, should be convened in order to assist in the formulation of criteria for the evaluation of development projects and their consequences, taking into account the results of planned pilot actions and post-audits;

(c) The Programme should co-operate closely with relevant United Nations bodies working in the field of development planning, particularly the Department of Economic and Social Affairs;

(d) The Programme should make progress in all components of environmental management.

## 3. Supporting measures: information, education training and technical assistance

(a) The importance of activities in this area, which are applicable to all priority areas of the programme, calls for action at regional, national and specialized levels;

(b) Emphasis should be given to the preparation of textbooks, designing curricula and teaching aids and to the training of communicators such as journalists and broadcasters.

(c) Technical assistance should be directed towards strengthening national and regional capabilities in environmental protection, education and training through institution building and the development of relevant policies.

(d) Specific criteria for the provision of technical assistance should be developed.

(e) An over-all international framework for the implementation of these activities should be developed in order to enable the large number of potential contributors of training and technical assistance activities to optimize their input.

(f) There is a need for continued collaboration with United Nations agencies and other bodies in this area. In particular, co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization should be actively developed in the field of general environmental education.

### III. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROGRAMME

#### 1. "Outer limits"

(a) The Executive Director should continue his activities in seeking to increase knowledge and understanding of "outer limits", particularly climatic change and biological tolerances;

(b) Action with regard to weather modification should be in accordance with the provision set out below:

#### The Governing Council

Decides that the Executive Director should consult with the World Meteorological Organization and other scientific and legal experts as necessary on the desirability of developing general principles and operative guidelines on man-induced weather modification, including its operational and research aspects. Any joint plan for a future course of action which may be decided might include the convening of an intergovernmental working group of scientific and legal experts to draft the set of principles and guidelines, with adequate background documentation for such a group being provided by the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme.

#### 2. Natural disasters: action should be in accordance with the provisions set out below:

#### The Governing Council,

Bearing in mind the great impact of natural disasters on the social and economic development of many countries,

Realizing their implications for the planning, building and management of human settlements,

Noting that natural disasters also have implications for activities contemplated by the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. Decides to include the topic of early warning and preparedness planning for natural disasters among the priority areas for action by the United Nations Environment Programme;

2. Requests the Executive Director to prepare, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, an action programme for consideration by the Governing Council at its third session.

### 3. Particular environmental problems of specific industries

Consultations on particular environmental problems of specific industries should continue, and it must be kept in mind that there is a need to take into account the views of employees and trade unions, and of State-owned as well as private industries, and also the work being done in this field by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development on the understanding that contacts with Governments should be maintained at all stages of these consultations and that eventual institutional measures which might be taken should be based on the consent of the Member States concerned.

### 4. Eco-development

The concept of "eco-development" (on which immediate action is proposed in the section on environmental management above) should be further elaborated, methodologies worked out for testing the concept in developing regions, and the subject area elaborated as a basis for a supporting service linked to environmental assessment and management.

### 5. Development of the international law of the environment: action should be in accordance with the provisions set out below:

The Governing Council,

Noting the proposals of the Executive Director for the future development of the programme relating to the development of the international law of the environment, n/

Considering that, in the development of international environmental law, there will be a need for consultation with experts in many specialized

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n/ UNEP/GC/14/Add.2, chap. IV, sect. 7.

fields of law, as well as experts in the various fields of environmental knowledge,

Directs the Executive Director to take into account the following considerations:

(a) The solutions to many environmental problems are dependent on adequate law relating to the environment, taking into due account regional requirements and approaches;

(b) The development of international environmental law requires the collaboration of Governments and intergovernmental bodies;

(c) The Programme has no formal mandate in this connexion; however, it can facilitate this development by initiating appropriate consultations between experts;

(d) In initiating such consultations, there is a need to inform all Governments, as well as intergovernmental bodies concerned with the environment, in order that the viewpoint of all interested Governments and the widest possible range of expertise may be brought to bear on this problem.

## B

### The Governing Council

1. Invites Governments and the organizations of the United Nations system to adopt the measures that may be required to undertake the Programme; in particular, it invites the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system to include in their normal budget totals the necessary allocations and to request the executive heads of those bodies to take the actions necessary in order to carry out their appropriate portions of the work of the environment programme;

2. Invites the regional economic commissions, in co-operation with other appropriate regional bodies, to continue intensifying their efforts directed towards contributing to the implementation of the Programme;

3. Welcomes the offers of co-operation received from other intergovernmental and the non-governmental organizations that have an interest in the field of the environment, and the steps they have already taken in this direction, and invites them to lend their full support to the implementation of the Programme;

4. Requests the Executive Director to address on its behalf to Governments, the organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional economic commissions, and to the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to which reference is made above, recommendations regarding the particular activities contained in the Programme adopted by the Governing Council which they should be invited to undertake in support of that Programme.



The Governing Council

1. Decides to give discretion to the Executive Director in the implementation of the Programme in the next year, bearing in mind the over-all programme priorities, to select areas of concentration within the priority subject areas and functional tasks listed in the above decisions;

2. Suggests that, in exercising this discretion, the Executive Director should pay particular attention

- (a) To the following areas, which are not listed in strict order of priority:
  - (i) Development of environmentally-sound technology related to human settlements, low-cost building techniques, water and waste treatment;
  - (ii) Technological and social solutions to human settlement problems especially in transitional settlements, pilot projects, eco-development;
  - (iii) Rural development, with special attention to rural-to-urban migration;
  - (iv) Register of potentially toxic chemicals;
  - (v) Trade, economics, technology and transfer of technology; - - - -
  - (vi) Environmentally sound pest management-pilot projects;
  - (vii) Management of arid and semi-arid lands and tropical forest ecosystems - problems of desertification;
  - (viii) Protection of the marine environment - regional activities;
  - (ix) Protection of endangered species - expansion of national parks systems;
  - (x) Conservation of wetlands and of waterfowl and other migratory species;
  - (xi) Conservation of genetic resources;
  - (xii) Eco-development;
- (b) To the following functional tasks:
  - (i) Global Environmental Monitoring System;
  - (ii) International Referral System;
  - (iii) Development of environmental management and assessment capabilities;
  - (iv) Education, information, training and technical assistance.

9 (II) Monitoring of radio-nuclides resulting  
from nuclear tests

The Governing Council,

Recalling resolution 3 (I) of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, o/

Considering the need to accomplish the objectives and principles of the Action Plan for the Environment and to preserve the health of populations,

Aware that the testing of nuclear weapons represents one of the greatest threats to man and his environment,

1. Reiterates the necessity for the observance and execution of resolution 3 (I) of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment;

2. Decides that the United Nations Environment Programme, in co-operation with the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system, should assign high priority in its Global Environmental Monitoring System to the monitoring of radio-nuclides resulting from nuclear tests and report regularly on this matter to the Governing Council.

29th meeting  
22 March 1974

10 (II) Conditions for the estimation of future resources  
and their apportionment

The Governing Council

Decides that:

(a) The duration of the medium-term plan to which reference is made in article VI, paragraph 2, of the General Procedures should be four years;

(b) Without prejudging the constitutional processes of the countries concerned, estimates of future resources should take into account:

(i) Resources earned before the planning period which have not been committed or are otherwise available;

(ii) Contributions formally pledged or paid by Governments for the period of the mid-term plan or a part thereof;

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o/ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14, p. 32.

- (iii) Firm indications communicated formally by Governments of their intention to make a contribution for the period of the mid-term plan or a part thereof;
- (iv) In respect of contributions pledged or paid by Governments for only part of the period of the mid-term plan, a projection for planning purposes of such contributions for the balance of the four-year period at the same level, or at an appropriate level determined after consultations with the Governments concerned;
- (v) Contributions formally pledged or paid by supporting organizations and non-governmental sources;

(c) Within the framework of the medium-term plan, projects may be approved on the basis of estimates of resources available for Fund Programme activities, for the first biennial cycle to the level of estimated resources, and for the second biennial cycle to amounts that will be determined for each of its two years by the Governing Council;

(d) The forward commitments for the third and fourth years in respect of projects contained in the medium-term plan need not be governed by the apportionment of resources approved for the first and the second year of the plan;

(e) Should it become necessary, the Governing Council may grant special authority to the Executive Director to enter into specific forward commitments beyond the authority approved in the medium-term plan;

(f) Within the framework of the medium-term plan, the apportionment of future resources available for Fund Programme activities will be made by the Governing Council at the session preceding the start of the biennial cycle in the light of the proposals for Fund Programme activities submitted by the Executive Director;

(g) At its sessions held during even years, the Governing Council will review the progress of the plan and take appropriate decisions which may be required by significant changes in programme priorities or in the availability of resources;

(h) The first medium-term plan will cover the years 1976-1979; in the interim, the Executive Director is authorized to enter into forward commitments of up to 100 per cent of the amount approved for Fund Programme activities in 1975 and of up to \$7 million for the year 1976 and \$4 million for the year 1977;

(i) The Executive Director shall present to the Governing Council at its third session suggestions for amendments to the General Procedures governing the operations of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme necessitated by the adoption of this decision.

29th meeting  
22 March 1974

11 (II) Establishment of a Revolving Fund (Information)The Governing CouncilDecides:

(a) To establish a Revolving Fund (Information) to finance the production of information materials in support of national programmes of public information and education in the environment field;

(b) That the Revolving Fund (Information) shall be constituted at a level of \$100,000 and authorizes the Executive Director to allocate this amount to the Revolving Fund (Information) from the Fund Programme Reserve for 1974;

(c) That the income from the sale or rental of information materials, the production of which was financed from the Revolving Fund (Information), shall be credited to the Revolving Fund (Information);

(d) That the income to the Revolving Fund (Information) during any financial period, when in excess of the expenditures debited to or the commitments incurred by the Revolving Fund (Information) during the period, shall be credited to the Fund Programme Reserve;

(e) To request the Executive Director to inform the Governing Council at each session of the transactions financed from the Revolving Fund (Information) and to present a balance sheet at the end of each financial year;

(f) That upon the receipt of that information the Governing Council shall decide on any change in the level of the Revolving Fund (Information);

(g) That the Executive Director shall provide and enforce rules governing the use of the Revolving Fund (Information) and shall report such rules to the Governing Council.

29th meeting  
22 March 1974

12 (II) Report on the implementation of the  
Fund Programme in 1973The Governing Council

Takes note with appreciation of the report on the implementation of the Fund Programme in 1973.

29th meeting  
22 March 1974

13 (II) Review and approval of the Fund Programme for 1974 and 1975

A

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed the proposals of the Executive Director concerning the Fund Programme for 1974 and 1975, p/

1. Decides that the financial reserve shall be constituted by deducting 7.5 per cent from voluntary contributions paid, up to \$1,650,000 and that the level of the financial reserve will be reviewed by the Governing Council at its third session;
2. Authorizes the allocation of \$18,000,000 in 1974 and \$20,000,000 in 1975 for Fund Programme Activities;
3. Authorizes the allocation of \$1,600,000 in 1974 and provisionally authorizes the allocation of \$900,000 in 1975 for Fund Programme Reserve activities, subject to review of the level of the Fund Programme Reserve by the Governing Council at its third session;
4. Authorizes the allocation of \$1,715,000 in 1974 and \$2,091,000 in 1975 for Programme support costs;
5. Authorizes the allocation of \$1,186,000 in 1974 and \$1,434,000 in 1975 for the administrative costs of the Fund;
6. Notes the Executive Director's declared intent to endeavour to effect savings in dollars and staff costs on the Programme support costs and the administrative costs of the Fund to the extent feasible, bearing in mind the need for effective implementation of the Programme as well as the concern for savings expressed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
7. Notes the Executive Director's declared intent to consult with the Secretary-General to establish the rationale for the allocation of expenses between the United Nations regular budget and the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and to report to the Governing Council at its third session.

B

The Governing Council

1. Takes note of the Executive Director's wish to embark on a pre-feasibility study on the environmental aspects of the construction of permanent headquarters for the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi,

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p/ UNEP/GC/17/Rev.1 and Corr.1

2. Requests the Executive Director to prepare a report, in consultation with the Secretary-General, for presentation to the Governing Council at its third session;

3. Authorizes the Executive Director to seek the assistance of outside experts, if required;

4. Further authorizes the Executive Director to draw on the Fund Programme Reserve for this purpose an amount in the order of \$50,000 and up to a limit of \$100,000. q/

C

The Governing Council

1. Approves the Executive Director's proposal concerning the apportionment of the allocation authorized for Fund Programme Activities; r/

2. Decides that the amount authorized for Fund Programme Activities in 1975 shall be increased from \$19 million to \$20 million, the additional \$1 million being entered specifically as an allocation for the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in the budget line "Human settlements, human health, habitat and well-being" for the year 1975;

3. Further decides to authorize the Executive Director to utilize some funds from the Fund Programme Reserve in 1974 for the financing of preparatory steps related to the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation.

29th meeting  
22 March 1974

14 (II) Review of the Secretary-General's proposals regarding the United Nations Environment Programme in the regular budget of the United Nations

The Governing Council

Takes note of the consolidated presentation of the proposed Fund Programme s/ as well as of section 16 regarding the United Nations Environment Programme in the regular budget of the United Nations for 1974-1975 as approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session.

29th meeting  
22 March 1974

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q/ This decision was adopted on the understanding that it provided for an indicative figure of \$50,000 and a maximum figure of \$100,000.

r/ UNEP/GC/17/Add.1, para. 29.

s/ UNDP/GC/17/Rev.1 and Corr.1, tables I and II.

15 (II) United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human SettlementsThe Governing Council

1. Takes note of the Executive Director's progress report concerning the work undertaken in preparation for the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements; t/
2. Requests the Executive Director to convey to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference-Exposition, through the Secretary-General of the Conference-Exposition, the wish that it pay due regard to the comments, ideas and suggestions expressed during the consideration of this item by the Governing Council at its second session; u/
3. Agrees to participate in the financing of the Exposition element of the Conference-Exposition and, to that end, requests the Executive Director to submit at its third session a complete budget;
4. Authorizes the Executive Director, in the intervening period, to use a sum of not more than \$1.5 million for 1974 and 1975 from the resources apportioned to the area of "Human settlements, human health, habitat and well-being" and requests the Executive Director to provide it, at its third session, with a precise accounting of the allocation of the sum in question;
5. Decides to consider, if necessary, at its third session any further financing of the Exposition, in the light of the budget referred to in paragraph 3 above and of the results of the efforts of the Executive Director, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference-Exposition, to obtain other substantial contributions.

27th meeting  
21 March 1974

16 (II) Establishment of an international institution for human habitat management and environmental design and improvement of human settlements, to be called International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation

A

The Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed international fund or financial institution for human settlements called for in General Assembly resolution 2999 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, v/

t/ UNEP/GC/18 and Corr. 1.

u/ See, Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025), chap. III.

v/ UNEP/GC/19; subsequently issued under the symbol A/9575.

Decides to recommend to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Establishment of an international institution for human habitat management and environmental design and improvement of human settlements, to be called 'International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation'"

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 2997 (XXVII), 2998 (XXVII) and 2999 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

"Reiterating its concern at the deplorable and deteriorating conditions of human settlements, particularly the critical shortage of shelter and environmental services for low-income groups in developing countries, in both urban and rural areas and the lack of relevant financing strategies,

"Bearing in mind the decision of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first session that human settlements, human health, habitat and well-being be given highest priority in its programme of activities,

"Reaffirming the importance of strengthening national environmental programmes relating to human settlements through the provision of seed capital accompanied by competent technical services to encourage the effective mobilization of domestic resources for shelter and the environmental improvement of human settlements,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed fund or financial institution for human settlements,

"1. Decides that a voluntary International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation be established as from 1 January 1975 in accordance with the provisions set forth below:

(a) The primary operative objective of the Foundation will be to assist in strengthening national environmental programmes relating to human settlements, particularly in the developing countries, through the provision of seed capital and the extension of the necessary technical and financial assistance to permit an effective mobilization of domestic resources for human habitat and environmental design and improvement of human settlements, including:

- (i) Stimulating innovative approaches to pre-investment, pre-project and financing strategies of human settlements activities, while drawing on the accumulated practical experience of both the public and private sectors for mobilization of financial resources for human habitat and human settlement projects;
- (ii) Organizing technical assistance services in human settlements and human habitat management, including training facilities and human habitat projects;
- (iii) Promoting the adaptation and transfer of appropriate scientific and technical knowledge on human settlements projects;



(b) Under the authority and guidance of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Executive Director of the Programme shall be responsible for administering the Foundation and providing the technical and financial services related to that institution;

(c) The Executive Director is instructed to prepare a plan and programme of operations for the Foundation, for approval by the Governing Council at its third session, which reflect the primary operative objectives of subparagraph (a) above;

(d) The Foundation will be initiated on 1 January 1975, by a single allocation of \$4 million over four years from the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, for purposes of seed capital and technical assistance, as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 2999 (XXVII) and for the operative objectives outlined in subparagraph (a) above;

(e) The Executive Director will undertake the establishment of programmes, guidelines and directives, in connexion with investments for the environmental design and improvement of the human habitat and settlements, in both urban and rural areas;

(f) The Executive Director will undertake to seek the co-operation and support of financial institutions in developed and developing countries, in fulfilment of the objectives of the Foundation;

(g) In addition to operational projects undertaken by the Foundation, the United Nations Environment Programme shall have, under its programme priority area on human settlements, human health, habitat and well-being, continuing financial involvement in research, technical assistance, training and demonstration projects;

"2. Invites the active participation and collaboration of the agencies and bodies within the United Nations system, as well as of regional financial and technical institutions, in the activities of the Foundation, particularly with regard to seed capital and the financing of operational human settlements projects, bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 2998 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 3130 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973;

"3. Authorizes the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to launch an international fund-raising appeal for a maximum funding of the Foundation;

"4. Notes that due regard must be had for the operations and activities of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in order to avoid duplication of effort within the United Nations system."

B

The Governing Council,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council, at its fifty-sixth session, is to consider an item entitled "Rationalization of activities and procedures within

the United Nations system", w/ which will include, inter alia, a review of the role of the system in the area of human settlements and related activities,

1. Invites the Economic and Social Council to consider, as a matter of urgency, decision A above on the establishment of an international institution for human habitat management and environmental design and improvement of human settlements, to be called International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, with a view to advising the General Assembly on ways in which the Foundation referred to therein might be established by drawing as much as possible on the posts and resources of existing units of the United Nations Secretariat;

2. Recommends that, in considering this matter, the Economic and Social Council should also propose to the General Assembly the necessary consequential changes in the role and functioning of the existing Centre for Housing, Building and Planning of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

27th meeting  
21 March 1974

17 (II) Question of convening a second United Nations conference on the human environment

The Governing Council,

Having studied the question of convening a second United Nations conference on the human environment, in response to General Assembly resolution 2994 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and in the light of resolution 4 (I) of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in June 1972,

Having considered the note by the Executive Director on the question, x/

1. Recommends that the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session should take note of the intention of the Governing Council to make a recommendation at a later session concerning the convening of a second United Nations conference on the human environment, taking into account the following considerations:

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w/ Explanatory note by the Executive Director. The correct title of the item on the agenda of the fifty-sixth session of the Economic and Social Council is:

"Rationalization of the work of the Council:

(a) Review of the terms of reference of the subsidiary bodies of the Council;

(b) Machinery for programme and co-ordination;

(c) Review of the rules of procedure of the Council and its subsidiary bodies;

(d) Strengthening of the capacity of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in connexion with public finance and financial institutions."

x/ UNEP/GC/21.

that:

(a) That, in establishing the United Nations Environment Programme by its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, the General Assembly has contributed significantly to the achievement of the objectives envisaged in resolution 4 (I) adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, by providing permanent machinery for international consultation, co-operation and exchange of views on environmental problems and by encouraging public awareness of environmental problems;

(b) That several United Nations conferences already planned or proposed, as well as the special sessions of the General Assembly to be held before its twenty-ninth and thirtieth regular sessions, may produce results which will have a bearing on the environmental activities of the United Nations system and on the institutional machinery for carrying out those activities;

2. Recommends that with due regard for the above considerations, the second conference be held, with possible participation at the ministerial level, at an appropriate time and place to be considered by the Governing Council at a later session, when the Governing Council should address a recommendation thereon to the General Assembly, taking into account the status of implementation and development of the programme activities of the United Nations Environment Programme.

25th meeting  
19 March 1974

18 (II) Implementation of the request addressed to the Governing Council by the General Assembly in its resolution 3129 (XXVIII), entitled "Co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States"

The Governing Council,

Recalling the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2849 (XXVI) of 10 December 1971 on development and environment, the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on Human Environment, held at Stockholm in 1972, and the important Economic Declaration adopted at the Fourth Conference of the Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Algiers in 1973,

Taking into account the functions and responsibilities vested in the Governing Council and the Executive Director by the General Assembly in its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, and taking note with satisfaction of the provisions of Assembly resolution 3129 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973, and particularly of the request therein addressed to the Governing Council,

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in co-operation with other organizations of the United Nations system, to prepare a study and make proposals to implement the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3129 (XXVIII) and to submit them in a report to the Governing Council at its third session, with the purpose also that the report be presented to the Assembly, at its thirtieth session, bearing in mind its requirement to be informed about the implementation of that resolution;

2. Further requests the Executive Director to take the necessary measures to ensure that the provisions of resolution 3129 (XXVIII) are taken into account in preparing and undertaking the relevant programme activities and to report to the Governing Council at its third session on the measures taken for the implementation of that resolution.

26th meeting  
20 March 1974

## 19 (II) Rules of procedure

### The Governing Council,

Having considered the report of its Working Group on Rules of Procedure y/ and, in particular, the draft rules of procedure recommended by the Working Group for its consideration, z/

Bearing in mind the views expressed by delegations during its consideration of the report of the Working Group,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of its Working Group on Rules of Procedure;
2. Adopts as its rules of procedure the text contained in the annex to that report;
3. Recognizes that, in so far as concerns the representation and participation of China in the Governing Council or its subsidiary organs, if any, the application of its rules of procedure must be consonant with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971, entitled "Restoration of the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations".

18th meeting  
11 March 1974

## Other decisions

### Action taken in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 2998 (XXVII)

At its 27th meeting, on 21 March 1974, the Governing Council took note of the information set out in the Executive Director's note aa/ and requested the Executive Director to collaborate and co-operate in the preparation of the study called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 3130 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973.

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y/ UNEP/GC/13.

z/ Ibid., annex.

aa/ UNEP/GC/20.

Declaration of the United Nations Conference  
on the Human Environment

At its 25th meeting, on 19 March 1974, the Governing Council requested the Executive Director to take the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment into account, as appropriate, in the development and implementation of the environment programme.

International prize for the most outstanding contribution  
in the field of the environment

At its 25th meeting, on 19 March 1974, the Governing Council approved the following arrangements for the purpose of giving effect to General Assembly resolution 3003 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and noted that these arrangements had been agreed to by the Government of Iran and the Executive Director:

- (a) The annual prize would be \$20,000 to be awarded "for the most outstanding contribution in the field of the environment". Individuals as well as institutions would be eligible for this prize;
- (b) The Secretary-General, in consultation with the Government of Iran, would set up an advisory selection committee consisting of five distinguished persons to advise him on the award;
- (c) The Secretary-General would consult with the Government of Iran before acting on the recommendations of the selection committee;
- (d) The selection committee could receive nominations of candidates for the award from Governments of States Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies, from the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, intergovernmental bodies and organizations and other appropriate bodies or persons;
- (e) The Government of Iran would be responsible for defraying the expenses of convening the selection committee and expenses related to the award of the prize;
- (f) The Government of Iran would establish a trust fund under the United Nations Financial Regulations to cover the amount of the annual prize and the financial implications thereof;
- (g) The selection committee would establish its own rules of procedure concerning the selection of candidates.

Preparatory process of Governing Council sessions

At its 26th meeting, on 20 March 1974, the Governing Council, taking into account the views expressed by delegations on this item, requested the Executive Director, without prejudice to the future organization of the work of the Council, to continue the practice of holding informal consultations with members of the Council to review the development and implementation of the Programme in preparation for its sessions. It suggested that the "mid-term" consultations which will precede the third session be held as early as possible before the session, taking into account the schedule for the preparation of the final documents.

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

At its 27th meeting, on 21 March 1974, the Governing Council approved the following provisional agenda for its third session:

1. Opening of the session
2. Election of officers
3. Agenda and organization of the work of the session
4. Credentials of representatives
5. Introductory report by the Executive Director
6. Report of the Environment Co-ordination Board
7. The environment programme
  - (a) Review of the environmental situation and of activities relating to the environment programme
  - (b) Approval of activities within the environment programme, in the light, inter alia, of their implications for the Fund Programme
  - (c) Determination of environmental elements for inclusion in the criteria for the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade
  - (d) The role of the United Nations Environment Programme in the attainment of the science and technology objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade and the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development
8. United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements: progress report
9. International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation: implementation of Governing Council decision 16 (II)
10. Matters arising from the General Procedures governing the operation of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme
11. Financial and budgetary matters
  - (a) Report on the implementation of the Fund Programme in 1974
  - (b) Approval of the medium-term plan for 1976-1979
  - (c) Review and approval of the Fund Programme for 1975, 1976 and 1977
  - (d) Review of the Secretary-General's proposals regarding the United Nations Environment Programme in the regular budget of the United Nations

12. Question of convening a second United Nations conference on the human environment
13. Implementation of the request addressed to the Governing Council by the General Assembly in its resolution 3129 (XXVIII)
14. Provisional agenda, date and place of the fourth session of the Governing Council
15. Other business
16. Report of the Governing Council to the General Assembly
17. Closure of the session

The Governing Council decided that its third session would be held at Nairobi from 6 to 21 February 1975. It was noted that the decision regarding the duration of the third session would have financial implications, which would be brought to the attention of the General Assembly, and would also be considered by the Economic and Social Council in the context of the calendar of United Nations meetings.

## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

### 1882 (LVII). ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its second session<sup>1</sup> and the report by the Secretary-General submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-seventh session,<sup>2</sup> also the report of the Secretary-General on the establishment of an international fund or financial institution for human settlements,<sup>3</sup>

1. *Decides* that the Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee of the Economic and Social Council shall meet inter-sessionally to hold consultations with the Secretary-General, in order to draw up a plan for the thorough rationalization of the international habitat and human settlements foundation whose establishment is recommended in paragraph 3 below, the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and other elements of the United Nations system, in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of decision 16 B (II) of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;<sup>4</sup>

2. *Further decides* that the Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee shall report to the Council at its resumed fifty-seventh session, in order that recommendations may be made to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session;

3. *Recommends* that the General Assembly should establish an international institution for human habitat management and environmental design and improvement of human settlements, to be called the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and that the Foundation should be established in accordance with decision 16 (II) of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme.

*1918th plenary meeting  
31 July 1974*

### 1883 (LVII). REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its second session,<sup>5</sup>

*Taking into account* the need for bringing the Programme into line with the relevant provisions of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974,

*Considering* the need to ensure co-operation in carrying out the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme and implementing its decisions,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its second session;

2. *Takes note* of the oral report presented to the Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee by the Secretary-General of the Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements on the preparations for that Conference-Exposition;<sup>6</sup>

3. *Invites* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to bear in mind the need for the Programme to be in line with both the International Development Strategy and the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development, and with the relevant provisions of

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/GC/26; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbol E/5485. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625)*.

<sup>2</sup> E/5538.

<sup>3</sup> A/9575; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbol E/5556.

<sup>4</sup> See UNEP/GC/26, annex I.

<sup>5</sup> UNEP/GC/26; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbol E/5485. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625)*.

<sup>6</sup> See E/AC.24/SR.527.



the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session;

4. *Invites* the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate actively in carrying out the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, allocating the necessary priorities for the maximum success of those activities.

*1918th plenary meeting  
31 July 1974*

## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### 3226 (XXIX). EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 3154 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973,

*Reaffirming* the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

*Concerned* about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which man is exposed,

*Conscious* of the continued need for compiling information about atomic radiation and for analysing its effects on man and his environment,

*Recalling* that, as is recognized in General Assembly resolution 2905 (XXVII) of 17 October 1972, the Scientific Committee can become an element of value in the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Bearing in mind* that the Scientific Committee noted that radio-active contamination from nuclear explosions needed to be kept under review in the light of both future data and increased knowledge of the mechanisms through which radio-active material spreads in the environment and is distributed in the human body,

*Noting* the intention of the Scientific Committee to include in its report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session a review of the genetic and somatic effects of ionizing radiation, environmental radio-activity, occupational exposure and medical irradiation,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the report submitted by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation;<sup>1</sup>

2. *Notes with concern* that there has been further radio-active contamination from nuclear weapon tests since the Scientific Committee submitted its last report;

3. *Notes* that the Scientific Committee has established an interim procedure for setting up a group of experts from among its members to carry out the additional responsibilities authorized by the General Assembly in resolution 3154 C (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973;

4. *Commends* the Scientific Committee for the valuable contributions it has made since its inception to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels and effects of atomic radiation;

5. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important co-ordination activities, to increase knowledge of the levels and effects of atomic radiation from all sources;

6. *Notes* the intention of the Scientific Committee to hold its twenty-fourth session in September 1975 at United Nations Headquarters;

7. *Notes with appreciation* that the Scientific Committee felt that its work could contribute significantly to the United Nations Environment Programme and that it expressed the hope that active co-operation with the Programme could be firmly established and maintained in the future;

8. *Draws the attention* of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to the report of the Scientific Committee and to the detailed information that the Committee is seeking in order to continue its assessment of radiation levels;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by the International Atomic Energy Agency, the specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations concerned;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Scientific Committee with the assistance necessary for the conduct of its work and the dissemination of its findings to the public.

*2280th plenary meeting  
12 November 1974*

<sup>1</sup>Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Annexes, agenda item 41, document A/9632.

### 3325 (XXIX). HABITAT: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 3128 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973,

*Fully conscious* of the importance, urgency and universality of the problems of human settlements,

*Noting with satisfaction* the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements,<sup>2</sup>

*Stressing* the need to pursue vigorously the preparations for the Conference,

*Affirming* that human settlements policies should be considered in the context of over-all economic and social development, taking into account the special needs of development in developing countries,

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its second session,<sup>3</sup>

*Having considered also* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>4</sup> called for in General Assembly resolution 3128 (XXVIII),

*Noting* that the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements held informal consultations from 28 to 31 May 1974,

1. *Decides* that the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements shall henceforth be known as Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

2. *Considers* that, for the Conference to achieve its objectives, it is essential that its agenda be selective, its organizational structure be simple and efficient, and its documentation be kept within reasonable limits;

3. *Agrees* that the Secretary-General should convene the first formal session of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements at United Nations Headquarters from 15 to 24 January 1975;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Preparatory Committee on its first formal session to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its third session;

5. *Reaffirms* its request to the Secretary-General to submit, through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, a brief progress report to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session.

*2321st plenary meeting  
16 December 1974*

### 3326 (XXIX). REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2849 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 and 2994 (XXVII), 2997 (XXVII), 3000 (XXVII) and 3002 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

*Bearing in mind* its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and its resolution 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

*Reaffirming* that both aspects of man's environment, the natural and the man-made, are vital to his well-being and to the exercise of basic human rights,

*Further reaffirming* that the protection, preservation and enhancement of the environment for present and future generations is the responsibility of all States,

*Conscious* that pollution and the degradation and exhaustion of natural resources are essential problems of the environment,

*Concerned* about the environmental impact of the irrational and wasteful exploitation and consumption of natural resources, particularly those of the developing countries, and about the fact that such exploitation and consumption represents a threat to these countries in the exercise of their permanent sovereignty over their natural resources,

*Convinced* of the need for and urgency of attaining rational and optimal exploitation and consumption of

<sup>2</sup> See A/9729, para. 5.

<sup>3</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625).*

<sup>4</sup> A/9729.

natural resources, of avoiding their waste and of controlling pollution, intensifying, to that end, international co-operation within the framework of collective ecological security,

*Fully conscious* of the importance and universality of environmental problems, including, *inter alia*, those pertaining to under-development, inequity and social injustice, and of the fact that, in order to attain an urgent and effective solution to all such problems, national measures as well as measures of co-operation at the international level should be adopted,

*Reaffirming* the interdisciplinary and intersectoral nature and approach of the United Nations Environment Programme, and recognizing the benefits that the implementation of such an approach may provide for the solution of the problems of international co-operation on the environment that affect Member States, particularly developing countries,

*Taking note* of the Cocoyoc Declaration,<sup>5</sup> adopted by the Symposium on Patterns of Resource Use, Environment and Development Strategies, held under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, at Cocoyoc, Mexico, from 8 to 12 October 1974,

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its second session<sup>6</sup> and being convinced of the need to continue to strengthen the Programme's activities and its co-ordinating functions,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its second session and of its adopted work programme;

2. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme:

(a) To conduct its activities, in its field of competence, in line with the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order;

(b) To adopt measures for intensifying efforts to facilitate the participation of institutions of developing countries in the preparation, development and implementation of the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme;

3. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, taking fully into account the permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources and on the basis of close co-operation and continuous consultations with all States:

(a) To ensure that, in the design, implementation and development of the Global Environment Monitoring System, on the basis of voluntary participation of Member States, its objective of detecting, with enough anticipation, impending changes, whether man-made or natural, occurring in any part of the environment and threatening to cause significant damage to man's well-being is fully taken into account, in order to provide Governments with a basis for immediate preventive action;

(b) To give attention, when considering the report on the International Referral System to be submitted to it by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, at its third session, to the needs especially of developing countries for information on the environment and, in particular, to such needs of countries affected by problems of degradation and depletion of their natural resources with respect to which the timely exchange and provision of adequate information, through the International Referral System, would facilitate the adoption of measures for their solution;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in keeping with the goals and objectives of the Programme:

(a) To prepare a report on the environmental impact resulting from the irrational and wasteful use of natural resources, as reflected in the current methods and forms of production and consumption, and to present it to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fourth session;

(b) To prepare the new formulation of the programme activities in the priority subject areas of trade, economics, technology and transfer of technology, which is to be submitted to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its third session, by bringing these activities into line with the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, in its field of competence;

(c) To prepare, in consultation with other organizations of the United Nations system, a study to include recommendations for putting into practice, at the earliest possible time, the concept of ecodevelopment as a planning method enabling developing countries to achieve accelerated and self-sustained development, taking into account, *inter alia*, their economic, political, social, geographical, ecological and regional conditions, for submission to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fourth session;

<sup>5</sup> A/C.2/292.

<sup>6</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625).

(d) To draw the attention of Governments to the "catalytic role" of the United Nations Environment Programme approved by the Governing Council at its second session,<sup>7</sup> as an effective means for the Programme to provide adequate solutions, particularly in the short term, to problems affecting a country or group of countries of one region or of different regions, and to submit a report to the Governing Council at its fourth session on the problems with respect to which this role could be utilized, principally for the benefit of developing countries;

(e) To accelerate consultations with the World Meteorological Organization and with jurists, scientists and other experts for the purpose of developing a set of general principles and operative guidelines on studies for man-induced weather modification and related environmental phenomena, including their operational and research aspects, and to report to the Governing Council on the subject at its fourth session;

(f) To submit to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environmental Programme, at its third session, a preliminary report on the legal aspects to which the organizations in the United Nations system have given attention, within the framework of their activities, and which may contribute to the identification, formulation and development of principles of international environmental law;

(g) To give equal priority in the implementation and development of the Global Environment Monitoring System to those environmental parameters different from pollutants which will facilitate the solution or prevention of environmental problems that affect or may affect principally developing countries;

(h) To bring the International Referral System to the attention of Member States as a means of enabling the Programme to effect the timely exchange and provision of information among themselves, or with the inter-governmental and private organizations, for the solution of environmental problems affecting them;

(i) To consult the Governments of developing countries regarding the problems and matters related to the environment on which they would be interested in receiving training and technical assistance, and to submit a report, with the replies received, to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fourth session, together with a summary of the experience achieved thus far in this area, in order to formulate a training and assistance programme based on the specific needs of that group of countries;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of co-ordination and active co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other organizations of the United Nations system in their activities in order to ensure effective attention and action with regard to the environmental needs and problems of Member States, especially developing countries, as requested by them.

2321st plenary meeting  
16 December 1974

### 3327 (XXIX). ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its solution 2999 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, in which it endorsed in principle the establishment of an international fund or financial institution for the purpose envisaged in recommendation 17 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment,<sup>8</sup>

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the establishment of an international fund or financial institution for human settlements,<sup>9</sup>

*Noting* decision 16 (II) of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme of 21 March 1974,<sup>10</sup> in which the Governing Council recommended to the General Assembly the establishment of a voluntary international habitat and human settlements foundation as from 1 January 1975,

*Noting also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1882 (LVII) of 31 July 1974, in which the Council recommended that the General Assembly should establish an international foundation for human habitat management and environmental design and improvement of human settlements, in accordance with decision 16 (II) of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Decides* that an international institution for human habitat management and environmental design and improvement of human settlements, to be called the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, annex I, decision 5 (II) of 21 March 1974.

<sup>8</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. II, sect. B.

<sup>9</sup> A/9575.

<sup>10</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625), annex. I.*

be established as from 1 January 1975 in accordance with the operative part of the draft resolution contained in decision 16 A (II) of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, which is produced in the annex to the present resolution.

2321st plenary meeting  
16 December 1974

## ANNEX

### OPERATIVE PART OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION CONTAINED IN DECISION 16 A (II) OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

*The General Assembly,*

1. *Decides* that a voluntary international habitat and human settlements foundation<sup>11</sup> be established as from 1 January 1975 in accordance with the provisions set forth below:

(a) The primary operative objective of the Foundation will be to assist in strengthening national environmental programmes relating to human settlements, particularly in the developing countries, through the provision of seed capital and the extension of the necessary technical and financial assistance to permit an effective mobilization of domestic resources for human habitat and environmental design and improvement of human settlements, including:

- (i) Stimulating innovative approaches to pre-investment, pre-project and financing strategies of human settlements activities, while drawing on the accumulated practical experience of both the public and private sectors for mobilization of financial resources for human habitat and human settlements projects;
- (ii) Organizing technical assistance services in human settlements and human habitat management, including training facilities and human habitat projects;
- (iii) Promoting the adaptation and transfer of appropriate scientific and technical knowledge on human settlements projects;

(b) Under the authority and guidance of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Executive Director of the Programme shall be responsible for administering the Foundation and providing the technical and financial services related to that institution;

(c) The Executive Director is instructed to prepare a plan and programme of operations for the Foundation, for approval by the Governing Council at its third session, which reflect the primary operative objectives of subparagraph (a) above;

(d) The Foundation will be initiated on 1 January 1975, by a single allocation of \$4 million over four years from the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, for purposes of seed capital and technical assistance, as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 2999 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and for the operative objectives outlined in subparagraph (a) above;

(e) The Executive Director will undertake the establishment of programmes, guidelines and directives, in connexion with investments for the environmental design and improvement of the human habitat and settlements, in both urban and rural areas;

(f) The Executive Director will undertake to seek the co-operation and support of financial institutions in developed and developing countries, in fulfilment of the objectives of the Foundation;

(g) In addition to operational projects undertaken by the Foundation, the United Nations Environment Programme shall have, under its programme priority area on human settlements, human health, habitat and well-being, continuing financial involvement in research, technical assistance, training and demonstration projects;

2. *Invites* the active participation and collaboration of the agencies and bodies within the United Nations system, as well of regional financial and technical institutions, in the activities of the Foundation, particularly with regard to seed capital and the financing of operational human settlements projects, bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 2998 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 3130 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973;

3. *Authorizes* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to launch an international fund-raising appeal for a maximum funding of the Foundation;

4. *Notes* that due regard must be had for the operations and activities of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in order to avoid duplication of effort within the United Nations system.

<sup>11</sup> Now called "United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation".

### 3337 (XXIX). INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3168 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1826 (LV) of 10 August 1973, in which was noted the need for new action to intensify international co-operation enabling all countries, in particular the developing countries, to benefit from the achievements of modern science and technology for the acceleration of their economic and social progress,

*Recalling further* its resolution 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, in section I, paragraph 2 (c), of which it recommended that the international community urgently take concrete measures to stem the spread of deserts and to assist the developing countries affected by the phenomenon to ensure the economic development of the areas affected,

*Noting* the relevant decisions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme which, *inter alia*, emphasized the need to undertake in-depth studies on the extent of the drought in Africa and draw up corresponding action programmes,

*Noting further* Economic and Social Council resolution 1878 (LVII) of 16 July 1974, in which the Council requested all the organizations of the United Nations system concerned to pursue their activities and efforts towards a broad, system-wide attack on the drought problem,

*Emphasizing* the need to ensure that all available knowledge in this area is fully utilized, in particular the experience available in the Office of Technical Co-operation at United Nations Headquarters, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Committee on Science and Technology of the Economic and Social Council,

*Fully aware* of certain activities in this area contemplated by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1898 (LVII) of 1 August 1974, and certain other activities initiated within the United Nations Environment Programme in accordance with section I.2 of Governing Council decision 8 A (II) of 22 March 1974,<sup>12</sup> but nevertheless aware also of the need for additional research to clarify a number of fundamental problems for the solution of which the requisite scientific knowledge is not yet available,

*Recognizing* the urgent need to prepare a world integrated programme of development research and application of science and technology to solve the special problems of desertification in all its ramifications and reclamation of land lost to desertification,

*Convinced* that work in this field should be carried out at the national, regional and global levels through studies and meetings at the appropriate technical levels,

*Convinced further* that an intergovernmental conference on desertification would provide the international community an opportunity to launch a broad plan of action with a view to resolving the problem of desertification,

1. *Decides*, as a matter of priority, to initiate concerted international action to combat desertification;
2. *Decides further* to convene in 1977 a United Nations Conference on Desertification to give impetus to the international action to combat desertification;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to authorize the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to establish immediately, under the authority of the Secretary-General, a small conference secretariat, drawing upon the resources of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Meteorological Organization;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the competent bodies of the United Nations concerned, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme, to convene an *ad hoc* interagency task force to assist the secretariat of the Conference in:
  - (a) The preparation of a world map of areas affected and areas likely to be affected by the process of desertification;
  - (b) The assessment of all available data and information on desertification and its consequences on the development process of the countries affected, through the enlisting of all the expertise available from public and private institutions and organizations of Member States, including ongoing and planned research, studies and activities within the United Nations system;

<sup>12</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625)*, annex I.

(c) The preparation of an effective, comprehensive and co-ordinated action programme against desertification, including the building-up of the indigenous and autonomous science and technology capacity in the areas concerned;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to keep the above-mentioned task force fully informed of the results of the work carried out in implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1898 (LVII);

6. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, within the framework of paragraph 4 above, to provide financial and technical assistance for undertaking the collection of data and information, analyses and studies on all aspects of the problem of desertification and on that basis, as part of the preparatory process for the Conference and in consultation with the governments concerned, to sponsor, in co-operation with the regional commissions, technical meetings at the regional and subregional levels as appropriate;

7. *Invites* all Member States to make available to the Conference secretariat, through the Secretary-General, relevant information on combating desertification;

8. *Invites* all the organizations of the United Nations system concerned, particularly those listed in the fifth preambular paragraph above, to take all appropriate measures to assist in the implementation of paragraph 4 of the present resolution;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*2323rd plenary meeting  
17 December 1974*

## **ELECTION OF NINETEEN MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

(Item 19)

The General Assembly, in pursuance of section I, paragraph 1, of its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, elected nineteen members to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of AUSTRIA, BRAZIL, GERMANY (FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF), ICELAND, INDIA, IRAN, ITALY, JAPAN, KENYA, KUWAIT, MALAWI, PERU, ROMANIA, SOMALIA, TUNISIA, THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and VENEZUELA.

The following States were elected: BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, EGYPT, FINLAND, GERMANY (FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF), INDIA, IRAN, ITALY, JAPAN, KENYA, LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC, MALAYSIA, ROMANIA, SUDAN, SWITZERLAND, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, VENEZUELA and ZAIRE.

*2321st plenary meeting  
16 December 1974*

*As a result of the above election, the composition of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for 1975 will be as follows: ARGENTINA,\*\* AUSTRALIA,\* BRAZIL,\*\*\* BURUNDI,\* CANADA,\*\* CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,\* CHILE,\* CHINA,\*\* COLOMBIA,\*\*\* CZECHOSLOVAKIA,\*\* EGYPT,\*\*\* FINLAND,\*\*\* FRANCE,\*\* GABON,\*\* GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC,\* GERMANY (FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF),\*\*\* GHANA,\*\* GUATEMALA,\*\* INDIA,\*\*\* INDONESIA,\*\* IRAN,\*\*\* IRAQ,\* ITALY,\*\*\* IVORY COAST,\*\* JAMAICA,\*\* JAPAN,\*\*\* JORDAN,\* KENYA,\*\*\* LEBANON,\*\* LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC,\*\*\* MALAYSIA,\*\*\* MADAGASCAR,\* MEXICO,\* MOROCCO,\*\* NETHERLANDS,\* NICARAGUA,\* NIGERIA,\* PAKISTAN,\* PANAMA,\* PHILIPPINES,\*\* POLAND,\* ROMANIA,\*\*\* SENEGAL,\* SIERRA LEONE,\*\* SPAIN,\*\* SRI LANKA,\* SUDAN,\*\*\* SWEDEN,\*\* SWITZERLAND,\*\*\* SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC,\*\* TURKEY,\* UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,\*\*\* UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,\* UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA,\* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,\*\*\* VENEZUELA,\*\*\* YUGOSLAVIA\*\* and ZAIRE.\*\*\**

\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1975.

\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1976.

\*\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1977.



**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

**1975**

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Environment Programme at its third session

20 (III) Programme policy and implementation

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decision 1 (I) of 22 June 1973, which was subsequently endorsed by Economic and Social Council resolution 1820 (LV) of 9 August 1973 and by General Assembly resolution 3131 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973,

Recalling also its decisions 5 (II) and 6 (II) of 21 March 1974, subsequently endorsed by Economic and Social Council resolution 1883 (LVII) of 31 July 1974 and by General Assembly resolution 3326 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974,

Taking fully into account, as adopted, General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 entitled, respectively, "Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order" and "Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order", General Assembly resolution 3343 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 entitled "Special session of the General Assembly devoted to development and international economic co-operation", and General Assembly resolution 3345 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 entitled "Research on the interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development",

Having considered:

- (a) The introductory report of the Executive Director, 1/
- (b) The introductory statement of the Executive Director, 2/
- (c) The report of the Environment Co-ordination Board on its third and fourth sessions, 3/
- (d) The report of the Executive Director on the determination of environmental elements for inclusion in the criteria for review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, 4/
- (e) The note by the Executive Director on the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in the attainment of the science and technology objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade and the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development, 5/

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1/ UNEP/GC/28.

2/ UNEP/GC/L.27.

3/ UNEP/GC/29.

4/ UNEP/GC/33.

5/ UNEP/GC/34 and Corr.1.

(f) The note by the Executive Director on resolutions of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly of relevance to the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, 6/

Taking into account the views expressed during its third session on questions of programme policy and implementation,

## I

1. Reaffirms the importance of the full application of the three-level programmatic approach as the basic process for the development of the programme and for the management of environmental issues within the United Nations system. In this approach:

Level One, through its presentation of the "state of the environment", seeks to identify emerging problems requiring the attention of Governments. The review in each priority subject area or functional task identified by the Governing Council seeks to display issues in relation to the activities being undertaken or planned to deal with them, and thus to help Governments to identify gaps in action, establish or revise objectives and priorities and allocate responsibilities for action;

Level Two (the programme) is based on the objectives and priorities established by Governments and defines a programme of action to meet these objectives. Basic tools in this regard are the "programme frameworks" which outline the conceptual approach followed in programming to meet the objectives, establish an operational framework and point out the principal actions to be taken and the principal "actors" involved. This provides the basis for the identification and elaboration within each programme framework of specific projects;

Level Three (the Fund programme) consists of those actions and projects identified within the programme framework at Level Two which are selected for support by the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme. Such support will normally consist of only a portion of the costs involved and will be based on the degree to which the provision of such support is likely to contribute to the implementation of the programme activity concerned. Funding in full is normally considered only in respect of relatively small projects undertaken as the initial stages of programme development, when preliminary work is required in the course of elaborating the programme in particular areas which may then lead to a large project;

2. Considers that full exchange of information on environmental problems and solutions is essential to environmental management by countries and at the regional and global levels, and that the institution of a management information system for the environment is a key element in the programmatic process and will be an important contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the defining and implementation of harmonized objectives by the United Nations system;

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6/ UNEP/GC/51 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1.

3. Requests the Executive Director to intensify his consultations at the regional level and to strengthen his participation in the consultative meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions and the heads of regional offices of specialized agencies and United Nations organs, bearing in mind the need for closer collaboration between the United Nations Environment Programme and the regional commissions in carrying out the mid-term review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade;

## II

1. Considers that it is essential to concentrate the efforts and available resources of the United Nations Environment Programme in the medium-term on ensuring the implementation of activities within coherent, balanced and integrated frameworks in selected areas;

2. Invites the governing bodies and executive heads of the organizations and organs of the United Nations system to formulate, following consultations between the executive heads of such organizations and organs and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, activities to implement in the medium-term the strategies approved by the Council, as contained in the frameworks set out in the environment programme, in respect of matters which fall within their respective mandates and to allocate the necessary resources for the purpose;

3. Decides that in general the resources of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme should be concentrated in support of large projects, each such project covering to the extent possible a particular activity within a programme framework for the medium-term; this should not, however, preclude support of small projects where the Executive Director considers these to be of a pre-programming or methodological character, or of particular significance, especially in support of small institutions in the developing countries;

4. Requests the Executive Director to seek to maintain a balance in the commitment of Fund resources in accordance with paragraph 1 (c) of Governing Council decision 5 (II);

5. Further requests the Executive Director to present to the Governing Council at its fourth session his views and recommendations regarding the methodology he has developed for the evaluation of the results of projects;

6. Calls upon all Governments to contribute generously to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme so as to ensure the availability of the necessary resources to enable the Fund to play the catalytic and innovative role envisaged for it, and to broaden the base of support for the Fund;

7. Approves the suggestion of the Executive Director regarding the environmental elements which should be included in the criteria for the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the second United Nations Development Decade, and urges that these elements be so included;

8. Approves also the role suggested for the United Nations Environment Programme by the Executive Director in the attainment of the science and

technology objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade and the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development; 7/

9. Considers that:

(a) The issues of population, resources, environment and development are interrelated problems. Solutions to these problems must form part of an integrated strategy directed towards harmonized objectives, to which the United Nations Environment Programme will contribute within the framework of its specific environmental tasks. Fundamental to these objectives is the importance of meeting the aspirations of man for the fulfilment of his basic needs;

(b) Environmental management implies sustainable development of all countries, aimed at meeting basic human needs without transgressing the outer limits set to man's endeavours by the biosphere;

(c) The United Nations Environment Programme must be concerned with prompt and effective implementation of co-ordinated and integrated strategies to enhance and safeguard the environment for the benefit of present and future generations of man. Elements of a balanced programme of the United Nations Environment Programme must be based upon continuous assessment of environmental concerns;

(d) The United Nations Environment Programme must remain the focal point for environmental activities within the United Nations system and, commensurate with this role, develop a capability in environmental affairs that is universally recognized;

(e) The United Nations Environment Programme has an important role to play in contributing to the studies on the possible restructuring of the United Nations system in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 3172 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973 and 3343 (XXIX).

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

21 (III) Environment and development

The Governing Council,

Welcoming the introductory statement by the Executive Director, 8/ and noting the views expressed during the debate on the environment-development complex of issues and the identification of environmental elements for inclusion in the criteria for review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

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7/ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.71.II.A.18.

8/ UNEP/GC/L.27.

Noting that the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and the previous sessions of the Governing Council, as well as recent international gatherings, such as the sixth special session of the General Assembly on raw materials and development, the World Population Conference, 1974, and the World Food Conference, have contributed significantly to a better understanding of environment-development relationships, nationally and internationally, and at the same time have shown all the complexity and great importance of these questions for the further evolution of national economies and of international economic relations,

Recognizing the need for a complex and integrated analysis of the over-all concept of development which would include the environmental dimension,

Welcoming the initial work being undertaken in this field by the United Nations Environment Programme towards arriving at a sound and comprehensive framework of environment-development relationships,

1. Decides to include the issue of the relationship between environment and development as a special item on the agenda of the fourth session of the Governing Council;

2. Authorizes the Executive Director to prepare a report on this matter for consideration by the Governing Council at its fourth session, enlisting the support of institutions and individual experts from various parts of the world and especially from developing countries.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

22 (III) Review of the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, section IV, paragraph 7, in which the Assembly decided to review as appropriate, at its thirty-first session, the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation, bearing in mind, inter alia, the responsibilities of the Economic and Social Council under the Charter of the United Nations,

Believing that the Governing Council, at its fourth session, should consider whether it is desirable to propose to the General Assembly any suggestions for the improvement of these institutional arrangements,

Believing furthermore that members of the Governing Council may wish to give due and careful consideration to any such proposals in close consultation with the Executive Director,

1. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of the fourth session of the Governing Council an item entitled "Review of the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation";



2. Urges its members to submit in writing to the Executive Director, preferably not later than 1 November 1975, any proposals for the improvement of the institutional arrangements;

3. Requests the Executive Director to hold further consultations, inter alia, during forthcoming annual informal consultations, with States members of the Governing Council with a view to considering and assessing proposals submitted in accordance with paragraph 2 above and soliciting their advice on formulating recommendations for consideration by the Governing Council;

4. Further requests the Executive Director to submit a full report on the results of the above-mentioned consultations, as well as his recommendations to this effect, for consideration by the Governing Council at its fourth session.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

### 23 (III) Informal consultations

#### The Governing Council

1. Decides that informal consultations with Governments shall be held twice each year, once for one day prior to the opening of the session of the Governing Council at Nairobi and once for three days at a date and place to be determined by the Executive Director in consultation with the members of the Bureau;

2. Requests the Executive Director to provide for the informal consultations in his budget estimates for each biennium;

3. Recommends that, for 1976, the informal consultations take place at Nairobi during the second half of January; the purpose of these consultations will be to exchange views on issues of policy and to consider items which would not normally be considered in depth at sessions of the Governing Council, for example, any difficulties facing the Executive Director in the implementation of Governing Council decisions and any proposals of the Executive Director for new programme activities; the informal consultations would not consider the documents prepared by the Executive Director for the forthcoming session of the Council, except for the "Review of institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation", as decided in paragraph 3 of decision 22 (III) of 2 May 1975.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

### 24 (III) International conventions and protocols in the field of the environment

#### The Governing Council,

Recalling that the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 9/ adopted at Stockholm on 16 June 1972, was intended, inter alia, to promote international law in the field of the environment,

9/ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14, chap. I.

Noting with satisfaction that a number of global and regional conventions and protocols in the field of the environment have been negotiated and adopted since the adoption of the Declaration, including the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and other Matter of 29 December 1972, 10/ the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, 11/ the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships of 2 November 1973, 12/ and the Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Land-Based Sources of 4 June 1974, 13/

Noting further with satisfaction that the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora will enter into force on 1 July 1975,

Concerned that a number of States have not yet ratified or acceded to existing international conventions or protocols in the field of the environment, with the result that such conventions or protocols have not yet received the wide acceptance and application they deserve,

1. Urges all States entitled to become parties to existing conventions and protocols in the field of the environment to do so as soon as possible;

2. Requests the depositaries of the Conventions mentioned above to inform the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme periodically of the status of acceptance of those conventions and protocols;

3. Requests the Executive Director to assist States, upon request, in preparing proposals for legislative or other measures necessary for the adherence to conventions in the field of environmental management;

4. Further requests the Executive Director to keep the Governing Council informed at each session of any new international conventions concluded in the field of the environment and of the status of existing conventions, with particular reference to ratifications, accessions and entry into force, as well as of the intention of various Governments to become parties to such conventions during the year of the Council's session.

39th meeting  
30 April 1975

25 (III) Protection of the marine environment: Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3133 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973 on the protection of the marine environment,

Bearing in mind its decision 8 (II) of 22 March 1974, in which it urged the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea to attach importance to

10/ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E/F.74.V.2, p. 464.

11/ Concluded in Washington, D.C., on 3 March 1973.

12/ ST/LEG/SER.B/18/Add.2, p. 318.

13/ Ibid., p. 335.

its work relating to the preservation of the marine environment, and the subsequent statement made by the Executive Director on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme to the Third Conference on the Law of the Sea at its second session at Caracas,

Deeply concerned that the development of ocean resources, including the sea-bed, not be accompanied by degradation of the marine environment, its life-supporting systems and its living resources,

Convinced that draft treaty articles for the protection of the marine environment should be produced before the end of the current session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea at Geneva,

1. Urges the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea to attach the highest priority to its efforts to incorporate in the draft treaties under its consideration effective provisions for the protection of the marine environment;

2. Directs the President, on behalf of the Governing Council, to communicate the text of the present decision immediately to the President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea at Geneva.

37th meeting  
24 April 1975

### 26 (III) Role of the Environment Co-ordination Board

The Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Environment Co-ordination Board on its third and fourth sessions, 14/

1. Welcomes the decision of the Board to seek ways of maximizing the benefits from the resources expended on United Nations system activities, and of evaluating the best means of using them, thus constituting a positive approach to co-ordination, as described in the Board's report;

2. Endorses the view of the Board that it is primarily a programming body;

3. Urges the Board to exercise full co-ordination in regard to the programmes of its members so as to ensure the incorporation of the environmental dimension in these programmes and the full implementation of the environment programme.

37th meeting  
24 April 1975

27 (III) Review of the environmental situation and of activities relating to the environment programme

The Governing Council,

Noting with gratitude the Level One report of the Executive Director, 15/

1. Approves the concepts for the development of a common environmental data base, as proposed by the Executive Director, which should be mutually compatible with the International Referral System and designed to serve as an effective source of management information for Governments, the United Nations Environment Programme and other parts of the United Nations system;

2. Decides that future presentations of the state of the environment report should include:

(a) An identification of the major environmental issues facing the world at the international, regional, subregional and, if possible, national levels;

(b) An account of:

(i) The way in which the aims of environmental development and protection are seen as an integral part of the development process in the context of the real needs of mankind;

(ii) The action taken and planned during the period of review in the field of environmental management;

(iii) The global and regional conventions concluded or being considered for the protection of the environment;

(iv) The legislation enacted and institutional mechanisms established at the national and international levels to deal with relevant environmental issues;

3. Requests the Inter-Agency Task Force on Data to accelerate its work towards establishing guidelines for the input of data from the United Nations system, other organizations and national sources into the common environmental data base;

4. Requests the Executive Director:

(a) Further to develop methods for the structured presentation of data in a condensed and analysed form as part of his report to the Governing Council on Level One activities;

(b) To encourage and support the further development of global models as a basis for assessing particular environmental concerns within the context of integrated environmental management;

(c) To prepare, taking into account the relevant views and comments of the Governing Council at its third session, reviews in the following priority subject areas and functional tasks along the lines of those prepared in the area "Land, water and desertification" by the fourth session of the Governing Council, to be held in 1976:

- (i) Oceans;
- (ii) Conservation of nature, wildlife and genetic resources; 16/
- (iii) Environment and development;

and by the fifth session of the Governing Council to be held in 1977:

- (iv) Human settlements and habitat;
- (v) Health of people and of the environment;
- (vi) Natural disasters;
- (vii) Environmental management;
- (viii) Environmental education and training;

5. Notes with satisfaction the large number of Governments which have set up national environmental bodies;

6. Notes with appreciation the response from Governments, United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental bodies to requests for information on their activities related to the environment programme;

7. Reiterates its invitation to all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, to co-operate fully with the Executive Director in the preparation of the review by providing the necessary data requested by him.

39th meeting  
30 April 1975

28 (III) Concepts for the development of the  
programme and Fund programme  
activities

The Governing Council,

Noting the framework adopted by the Executive Director in his programmatic approach to Levels Two and Three, the possible areas of concentration suggested

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16/ Formerly a separate priority subject area; now part of the new priority subject area "Terrestrial ecosystems, their management and control".

by the Executive Director in his introductory report, 17/ the restructuring and renaming of the two priority subject areas "Terrestrial ecosystems, their management and control" and "Environment and development" and the criteria for the role of the Fund in Level Three,

1. Requests the Executive Director, in the further development and execution of the programme, to take into account the following additional criteria for concentrating the programme's efforts in both Levels Two and Three:

(a) That resources (whether from the Fund or in terms of personnel or available expertise) are not overstretched to the point where effective action cannot be achieved;

(b) That support is likely to produce new or improved socio-economic, scientific and technical methodologies and solutions, relevant to all stages of development, of wide applicability within the context of international environmental co-operation;

(c) That effort is needed to fill gaps in the field of environmental development and protection, and that such effort will lead to a better understanding of the Programme's activities and of how they can be used to encourage and co-ordinate the wider systematic collection and dissemination of environmental knowledge, to stimulate supportive institutional arrangements for environmental education, training and management particularly in developing countries, and to promote a greater understanding of environmental matters of concern throughout the world;

(d) That support by the United Nations Environment Programme is likely to lead to the formulation and implementation of a carefully chosen number of highly concentrated spearhead programmes in a particular ecoregion or concerning a chosen ecological problem with member States, other parts of the United Nations system and other organizations, where programme objectives coincide;

(e) That in the future development of the concept of programme activity centres the need for the secretariat to keep a headquarters capability for effective programme management will be borne in mind, while using this concept to encourage national and regional participation in the programme, particularly by developing countries;

2. Requests the Executive Director to improve the lines of communication between the secretariat and all countries so that they may fully contribute to, and benefit from, the United Nations Environment Programme.

39th meeting  
30 April 1975

29 (III) Programme and Fund programme activitiesThe Governing Council,

Having considered the proposed programme and Fund programme activities as presented by the Executive Director,

Bearing in mind the needs of many countries for accelerated economic and social development which should be approached in accordance with sound principles of environmental management and protection,

1. Endorses, subject to the views and comments expressed at its third session, the proposed objectives, strategies and Fund programme activities in the various priority subject areas;
2. Considers that the solution of many environmental problems could be dealt with in the context of a new international economic order, the implementation of which could provide the basis for ensuring a considerable improvement in environmental quality, particularly in developing countries;
3. Requests the Executive Director to continue his efforts in the study of alternative patterns of development which do not transgress outer limits, in order to help to meet the needs of mankind, and in this connexion to initiate studies on pilot projects in ecocodevelopment in response to paragraph 4 (i) of General Assembly resolution 3326 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974;
4. Notes the progress the Executive Director has made towards developing a comprehensive concept of environmental management which permeates all priority subject areas of the programme, cuts across various sectors and disciplines, and is related to other functional tasks, and urges him to continue to encourage basic research on environmental management methodologies, with a view to developing guidelines and procedures for environmental management which the United Nations Environment Programme can offer at the global, regional and national levels, taking due account of the various kinds and levels of national and regional economic development, socio-economic structures, physical and ecological characteristics and socio-cultural goals;
5. Approves the Executive Director's intention to give high priority to environmental education and training, which have a central role in accomplishing the goals of the programme, and supports the proposed international conference on environmental education to be held in 1976 in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization, as well as the proposal of the Executive Director to establish on an experimental basis a programme activity centre on environmental education;
6. Authorizes the Executive Director to establish the proposed clearing house for technical assistance in co-operation with Governments, the United Nations Development Programme and the regional commissions, and to gather the related information in a manner which is in harmony with the common environmental data base and the International Referral System;

7. Agrees that public awareness is an indispensable pre-condition of effective environmental action and that world-wide communication of information is an important substantive component of the programme as a whole, and supports the Executive Director's intention to intensify awareness and appreciation of environmental issues by stimulating the flow of relevant information through mass communication media, as well as through a significant publishing activity;

8. Authorizes the Executive Director to establish a programme activity centre for the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals, to serve as an essential tool in optimizing the use of chemicals for human well-being while at the same time providing a global early warning system of undesirable environmental side effects;

9. Requests the Executive Director:

(a) To continue the intensive development of the different elements of the programme in the human settlements field with a view to arriving at practical solutions for environmentally sound policy formulation, planning and operation of human settlements, with special attention to the problems encountered in developing countries, and, in view of the widespread research in this field by numerous national and international organizations and institutions, to engage wherever possible the support and expertise of these institutions within or outside the United Nations system, with special regard to the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning;

(b) To initiate as soon as possible programme activities on environmentally sound and appropriate technologies;

(c) To increase the effort and attention devoted to the health of people and of the environment so that all countries can benefit from the use of environmental quality criteria, whether these are concerned with pollutants, endemic diseases, or other agents of environmental degradation;

(d) To pay special attention to ecological studies and improvement programmes dealing with particular ecosystems in relation to human communities and resource management, and to give high priority to the efforts directed towards the establishment of adequate networks of protected ecosystems, sites and samples that may otherwise be lost, and will provide valuable contributions to other aspects of the programme's activities, including conservation of genetic resources and endangered species and the development of environmental management;

(e) To support the establishment of training centres for water resources management, within the framework of the programme and for the benefit of all countries;

(f) To pay special attention, in the ongoing energy study, to the comparative assessment of the environmental and health effects of all relevant forms of energy production and use;

(g) To concentrate effort in the priority subject area of natural disasters on monitoring, early warning and community preparedness within the context of regional programmes;



(h) To give high priority to the consolidated development and improvement of Earthwatch, which consists of research, evaluation, monitoring and information exchange activities, to treat all these components both functionally, in terms of an integrated system, and programmatically, at Levels Two and Three, as part of each priority subject area which they serve, and to produce a detailed progress report in time for a thorough review at the fourth session of the Governing Council;

(i) To accelerate the development of the International Referral System and the Global Environmental Monitoring System by promoting the establishment of International Referral System focal points, particularly in developing countries, and by convening small groups of governmental experts to work in close harmony with the relevant United Nations bodies in designing and implementing the first stage of the Global Environmental Monitoring System, taking into account the views expressed by the Governing Council at its third session, and to report on the results of these efforts to the Council at its fourth session;

(j) To include, in the priority programme activities, the strengthening of the human and material potential of developing countries, in order to enable them to participate directly in all monitoring, surveying, research, development and implementation activities related to measures for environmental protection and management;

(k) To prepare for consideration by the Governing Council, at its fourth session, of the criteria for technical assistance;

10. Decides that new topics for inclusion in the programme should normally be considered within the context of the appropriate priority subject area or functional task, and not as a separate activity;

11. Further requests the Executive Director:

(a) To treat the section on "Trees" as part of the priority subject area "Terrestrial ecosystems, their management and control";

(b) To treat the section on "Outer limits" as part of the functional task "Environmental assessment: Earthwatch";

(c) To treat the section on "International environmental law" as an additional functional task, and to refer to it in future as "Environmental law";

12. Decides to exclude the remaining subjects dealt with under "Development of the programme";

13. Requests the various organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental, international and non-governmental bodies to continue to co-operate with the Executive Director in the implementation of the actions necessary to carry out the objectives and strategies of the United Nations Environment Programme, as reaffirmed by the Governing Council at its third session;

14. Invites all countries to co-operate with the Executive Director, at his request, by supplying, in an agreed fashion, environmentally relevant information for the maintenance of all information systems of the United Nations Environment Programme for global, regional and national use, especially in developing countries.

30 (III) Implementation of General Assembly resolution  
3337 (XXIX): International co-operation to  
combat desertification

The Governing Council,

Having considered the report 18/ of the Executive Director on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 on international co-operation to combat desertification,

1. Approves the proposals of the Executive Director concerning the proposed scope of, preparations for and documentation to be presented to the United Nations Conference on Desertification, including provision for financial support to encourage full participation by developing countries;

2. Recommends to the governing bodies of the relevant members of the United Nations system that they authorize their secretariats to provide for their participation in the conference secretariat and the ad hoc interagency task force required by General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX);

3. Recommends to the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme that it consider favourably the proposed financial support by that Programme for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX);

4. Authorizes the Executive Director to commit from the allocation for Fund programme activities of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, between the third and fourth sessions of the Governing Council, an amount of not more than \$500,000 for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX), and requests him to provide the Council, at its fourth session, with a precise accounting of the allocation of the sum in question;

5. Decides to increase the allocation for Fund programme activities by \$300,000 in 1975, and to increase provisionally the allocation for Fund programme activities in 1976 by \$200,000;

6. Decides also to consider the further financing of the programme of action and of the Conference at its fourth session, on the basis of a report by the Executive Director on progress made in the implementation of the General Assembly resolution, together with a detailed plan of expenditure for the period 1976-1977.

39th meeting  
30 April 1975

31 (III) Water resources

The Governing Council,

Taking into account its decision at its second session on the priority subject area of water, 19/

18/ UNEP/GC/51/Add.2 and Corr.1.

19/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625), annex I, decision 8 (II), sect. A.I, paras. 2 (g) and (h).

Considering that the rational use of water resources requires an integrated approach in which aspects relating to water quality are associated with those concerning water resources in general, particularly water quantity,

1. Decides that, in the field of water, the role of the United Nations Environment Programme is to stimulate, promote and co-ordinate activities related to the environmental and ecological aspects of water development programmes conducted by the specialized agencies and organs of the United Nations system, as well as by other international organizations concerned with the area of water quality and quantity, in order to satisfy human needs and to protect this resource for present and future generations;

2. Requests the Executive Director to continue to co-operate and participate actively in the preparations for the United Nations Water Conference to be held in Argentina in 1977.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

32 (III) Oceans: monitoring

The Governing Council,

Considering that inadequate knowledge of the physical, chemical and biological aspects of the oceans exists upon which to base environmental assessments of the impact of man's activities upon the oceans and their living resources,

Further considering that only meagre knowledge exists on the role of the oceans in regulating climate,

Decides that the proposed programme of the Executive Director for oceans should:

(a) Include ocean baseline stations, analogous to the atmospheric baseline stations, which could take the form of island stations, data buoys or ships of opportunity;

(b) Assist in the expansion of the Integrated Global Ocean Station System to include other pollutants in addition to petroleum hydrocarbons;

(c) Support education and training efforts that should enhance the participation of developing nations and thus improve the over-all effectiveness of the oceans programme.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

33 (III) Oceans: conservation of marine mammals

The Governing Council,

Noting that the Executive Director is providing support for the studies of the interagency Advisory Committee on Marine Resources Research,

Recognizing that a need exists to preserve marine ecosystems and to ensure the continued survival of different stocks of marine mammals,

Noting that the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment called for the International Whaling Commission to adopt a 10-year moratorium on commercial whaling and called for Governments to strengthen the Commission and to increase international research efforts, and that the Governing Council at its first meeting endorsed these recommendations, 20/

1. Requests the Executive Director to support the interagency Advisory Committee's Working Party on Marine Mammals and its symposium, scheduled to be held in 1976;

2. Further requests the Executive Director to support research on marine mammal populations and on whales and small cetaceans in particular.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

34 (III) Improvement of the human environment through the use of renewable energy resources

The Governing Council,

Aware that hundreds of millions of people live in the rural areas of the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, far removed from the mainstream of development activities, and in conditions of abject poverty, which cause degradation of the quality of life and hence of the social dimension of the human environment,

Noting that an input of energy on a comparatively small scale could provide the basic energy needs for the cooking of food, the pumping and desalination of water for drinking and irrigation, and the lighting of dwellings in such areas, which would lead to the enhancement of the quality of life and therefore of the social environment,

Recognizing that most of such rural areas have no fossil fuel resources, but possess, in varying degrees, renewable energy resources, such as solar energy, wind energy, hydro-power, biogas obtained from agricultural and animal wastes and wood from quick-growing trees, which could be harnessed to meet the energy needs of the local communities,

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20/ Ibid., Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025), annex I, decision 1 (I).

Believing that the existing state of the art of the appropriate technologies for harnessing renewable energy resources under the conditions prevailing in the rural areas of developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America could justify, on the basis of socio-economic considerations, the use of such technologies,

Conscious of the catalytic role of the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. Requests the Executive Director to accord high priority to the establishment in some of the typical rural areas of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, in co-operation with the Governments of the countries concerned and such agencies within and outside the United Nations system as may be considered appropriate, of a few demonstration centres which will harness, individually or in combination, locally available renewable resources of energy;

2. Authorizes the Executive Director to provide the necessary financial support from the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme towards the establishment of such demonstration centres;

3. Further requests the Executive Director to submit to the Governing Council, at its fourth session, a progress report on the implementation of the present decision.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

### 35 (III) Environmental law

The Governing Council,

Recalling the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 21/

Bearing in mind its decision 8 (II) of 22 March 1974,

Noting in particular its decision at its second session that the solutions to many environmental problems are dependent on adequate law relating to the environment, 22/

Convinced that the development of adequate environmental law is an indispensable supporting measure for the implementation of the policies, strategies and recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Noting with satisfaction the objectives and strategies relating to the programme of the United Nations Environment Programme in the field of environmental law,

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21/ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14, chap. I.

22/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625), annex I, decision 8 (II), sect. A.III, subsect. 5.

Requests the Executive Director to take such measures as may be necessary for the realization of the objectives and the implementation of the strategies mentioned above, emphasizing the preventive character of environmental law, and in particular to take measures designed to provide technical assistance to developing countries at their request for the development of their national environmental legislation.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

36 (III) Allocation of resources for Fund programme activities

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed the proposals of the Executive Director as outlined in his note on proposed Fund programme activities (revised 1975, proposed 1976-1977), 23/

1. Decides to apportion the allocation for Fund programme activities as follows, subject to the availability of voluntary contributions:

Areas	1975	1976	1977
Human settlements, human health	\$3,950,000	\$4,850,000	\$7,500,000
United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation	600,000	1,500,000	1,200,000
Terrestrial ecosystems, their management and control	4,400,000	5,900,000	6,800,000
Environment and development	2,500,000	3,550,000	5,000,000
Oceans	2,300,000	3,000,000	4,000,000
Energy	300,000	600,000	1,000,000
Natural disasters	200,000	200,000	200,000
Earthwatch	1,900,000	2,200,000	2,600,000
Environmental management	525,000	850,000	1,050,000
Supporting measures	3,000,000	3,900,000	5,200,000
Development of the programme	325,000	450,000	450,000
	20,000,000	27,000,000	35,000,000 <u>24/</u>

23/ UNEP/GC/32 and Corr.1-3.

24/ The total of this figure and the \$250,000 referred to in para. 2 (c) below was subsequently reduced, on the recommendation of Sessional Committee II, to \$32,500,000, in order not to exceed the proposed total allocation of \$82 million for Fund programme activities for the three-year period 1975-1977 (see decision 42 (III), sect. II, para. 1).

2. Decides further to supplement the above allocations as follows:

(a) An additional \$1,150,000 in 1975 and \$350,000 in 1976 for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

(b) \$300,000 in 1975 and provisionally \$200,000 in 1976 to finance the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Desertification;

(c) \$250,000 in 1975, \$250,000 in 1976 and \$250,000 in 1977 for data-gathering related to the preparation of the Level One report;

3. Requests the Executive Director to submit to the Governing Council at its fourth session proposals for consequent adjustments in the allocations for Fund programme activities and their apportionment for 1976 and 1977 within the framework of the over-all resources available for Fund programme activities in accordance with the medium-term plan;

4. Authorizes the Executive Director to adjust the apportionment of funds up to a maximum of 20 per cent on each line, if this should be necessary, in order to implement specific requirements identified by the Governing Council and to preserve the integrity of the programme as a whole;

5. Further authorizes the Executive Director to enter into forward commitments of up to \$9 million for the year 1978 and up to \$4 million for the year 1979, subject to the availability of voluntary contributions.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

37 (III) Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements

The Governing Council,

1. Takes note of the progress report on Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements; 25/

2. Approves an additional allocation of \$1.5 million from the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme towards the budget of Habitat, as requested in paragraphs 12 to 15 of the progress report.

36th meeting  
23 April 1975

38 (III) United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation

The Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the plan and programme of operations for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, 26/

Endorses the plan and programme of operations for the Foundation and authorizes the Executive Director to proceed with its implementation, taking fully into account the views expressed during the consideration by the Governing Council of the agenda item concerning the Foundation.

37th meeting  
24 April 1975

39 (III) Dissemination of information and mobilization of public opinion regarding the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation

The Governing Council,

Decides to recommend to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Dissemination of information and mobilization of public opinion regarding the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, establishing the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation as from 1 January 1975,

"Convinced that the dissemination of information and the mobilization of public opinion among Member States would be an important factor in creating greater awareness of the problems of human settlements and would thus promote the increased efforts required in the sphere of international co-operation,

"Reiterating the importance of publicity as an instrument for furthering the aims and purposes of the Foundation,

"1. Requests the Secretary-General to stimulate and intensify efforts to mobilize public opinion in all countries in support of the objectives and policies of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, having due regard to national policies, programmes and development priorities;



"2. Invites all States, the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as other non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of human settlements, to undertake or intensify, in co-operation with the Secretary-General and within their respective spheres of competence, the broad dissemination of information referred to above."

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

40 (III) General procedures governing the operations of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme 27/

The Governing Council

I

General guidelines for the execution of projects

1. Approves, as general guidelines for the execution of projects, the concepts put forward by the Executive Director in his note on the general guidelines for the execution of projects, 28/

2. Requests that, in the implementation of the guidelines, attention be paid to the views expressed by delegations during its third session;

II

Amendments to the general procedures and the Financial Rules of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme

1. Approves the following amendments to the general procedures governing the operations of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme:

Article I, paragraph (n)

Replace the words "each year" by the words "for each biennial budget cycle";

Article VI, paragraph 1

Add at the end of the paragraph a foot-note reading: "Governing Council decision 10 (II); see annex";

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27/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025), annex I, decision 2 (I).

28/ UNEP/GC/37.

Article VI, paragraph 2

Delete the word "annually" between the words "submit" and "to the Governing Council";

Article VI, paragraph 3

Replace subparagraphs (c) and (d) by the following new subparagraph (c): "Programme and programme support costs";

2. Notes that the following amendments will be introduced by the Secretary-General to the Financial Rules of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme: 29/

Rule 210.1

(a) Delete the words "each year" between the words "prepare" and "a budget";

(b) Replace the words "programme support costs and administrative costs of the Fund" by the words "programme and programme support costs (other than those borne by the regular budget of the United Nations)";

Rule 211.2

Replace subparagraphs (d) and (e) by the following new subparagraph (d) "Programme and programme support costs";

Rule 211.5

Replace the words "programme support costs and administrative costs of the Fund" by the words "programme and programme support costs";

Rule 212.1

Replace the words "programme support costs and administrative costs of the Fund" by the words "programme and programme support costs".

39th meeting  
30 April 1975

41 (III) Matters relating to the implementation of  
the Fund programme

The Governing Council

I

Implementation of the fund programme

1. Takes note of the report on the implementation of the Fund programme in 1974 30/ and of the report on Fund programme reserve activities in 1974; 31/
2. Requests the Executive Director to pay particular attention in the preparation of subsequent reports on the implementation of the Fund programme, to the comments made during the debate as reflected in the report of the Governing Council on its third session;

II

Financial report and accounts

1. Takes note of General Assembly resolution 3227 G (XXIX) of 12 November 1974 regarding the financial report and accounts of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the year ended 31 December 1973; 32/
2. Requests the Executive Director, after consultations with the Secretary-General, to present to the Governing Council at its fourth session his recommendations regarding the application of financial rule 214.1 with respect to the action required of the Council following its consideration of the financial report and accounts of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and of the report of the Board of Auditors;
3. Takes note of the comments presented by the Executive Director in part II of his note on the financial report and accounts of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and on the report of the Board of Auditors 33/ regarding the timing of the submission of audited accounts to the Governing Council.

39th meeting  
30 April 1975

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30/ UNEP/GC/40 and Corr.1-3.

31/ UNEP/GC/48.

32/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 7F (A/9607/Add.6).

33/ UNEP/GC/52.

42 (III) Financial and budgetary mattersThe Governing Council

## I

Level of the financial reserve

1. Decides that the level of the financial reserve should for each year be equivalent to approximately 8 per cent of the approved volume of expenditures for that year;
2. Decides further that the level of the financial reserve should be increased by adding to the existing reserve the required amount which will be deducted from the balance available at the beginning of the year and, if necessary, from the voluntary contributions paid in accordance with financial rule 209.1, which states that "the financial resources of the Fund are to be available at all times to the maximum extent possible for Fund programme purposes, subject only to the maintenance on a continuous basis of a financial reserve";

## II

Level of the Fund programme reserve

1. Decides that the level of the Fund programme reserve should be established for each biennial cycle in the year preceding the cycle and should be reviewed by the Governing Council at its sessions held during even years;
2. Authorizes an allocation of \$1 million for the Fund programme reserve for the year 1975;
3. Notes that the amount of \$1 million may be increased for subsequent years in order to meet increased costs owing to inflationary trends;
4. Notes that a higher amount may be authorized depending on the Council's decision to have additional tasks, as it may determine, financed from the Fund programme reserve;

## III

Revolving Fund (Information)

1. Takes note of the rules governing the use of the Revolving Fund (Information); 34/
2. Authorizes the Executive Director to allocate an amount of \$100,000 to the Revolving Fund (Information) from the Fund programme reserve for 1975;

Establishment of a rationale for the allocation of the expenses of the United Nations Environment Programme

1. Takes note of the Executive Director's note on the establishment of a rationale for the allocation of the expenses of the United Nations Environment Programme between the United Nations regular budget and the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, 35/ and approves this rationale for the biennium 1976-1977;

2. Requests the Executive Director to seek assurance from the Secretary-General that efforts will be made to reassess, for the biennium 1978-1979, the distribution of staff costs between the regular budget of the United Nations and the programme and programme support costs of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

## V

Medium-term plan

1. Approves the medium-term plan proposed by the Executive Director, 36/ subject to the adjustments rendered necessary by the decision concerning the level of the Fund programme reserve for 1976 and 1977;

2. Requests the Executive Director, having regard to the implementation of the medium-term plan, to review with Governments their voluntary contributions for the years 1977 to 1979;

## VI

Approval of the Fund programme in 1975 and 1976-1977

1. Authorizes the allocation of \$21,700,000 in 1975, \$27,800,000 in 1976 and \$32,500,000 in 1977 for Fund programme activities;

2. Authorizes the allocation of \$1 million in 1976 and \$1 million in 1977 for Fund programme reserve activities;

3. Authorizes the allocation of \$5,221,000 (including the provision of \$50,000 for the architectural and engineering survey for the construction of permanent headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme at Nairobi) for programme and programme support costs in 1975, and requests the Executive Director to take into consideration the comments made thereon during the debate at the third session of the Governing Council;

4. Authorizes the allocation of \$12,103,000 for programme and programme support costs for the biennium 1976-1977;

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35/ UNEP/GC/42.

36/ UNEP/GC/41/Add.2, table II, "Proposed allocation of resources 1973-1979".

Headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme  
and the construction of temporary premises

1. Takes note of the Executive Director's report on the pre-feasibility study on the environmental aspects of the construction of a permanent headquarters for the United Nations Environment Programme at Nairobi and the financing of an architectural and engineering survey, 37/ and approves an additional allocation of \$50,000 to the programme and programme support costs for 1975 for the detailed architectural and engineering survey mentioned in that report;
2. Endorses in principle the construction of temporary premises for the United Nations Environment Programme at Nairobi in accordance with the proposal contained in the Executive Director's note regarding the proposed construction of temporary premises for the United Nations Environment Programme at Nairobi; 38/
3. Approves a cash advance from the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme in the amount of \$1,150,000 for implementation of the project, to be recovered as outlined in the Executive Director's note;
4. Further approves an additional amount of \$220,000 for temporary assistance under the proposed budget for programme and programme support costs for the biennium 1976-1977;
5. Requests the Executive Director to report fully to the Governing Council at its fourth session on the steps he has taken to implement the above measures, and to provide full details on the financial aspects of the construction of temporary premises.

39th and 40th meetings  
30 April and 2 May 1975

43 (III) Question of convening a second United Nations  
conference on the human environment

The Governing Council,

Having considered the note by the Executive Director on the question of convening a second United Nations conference on the human environment, 39/

Recommends that a second United Nations conference on the human environment be scheduled for not earlier than 1980, and that its date and venue be considered when the Governing Council is in a position to address a recommendation to the General Assembly taking into account the review by the Assembly, at its thirty-first session, of the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation pursuant to its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and the results of the following conferences: the third session of the Third United

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37/ UNEP/GC/46.

38/ UNEP/GC/54.

39/ UNEP/GC/43.

Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, the fourth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (1976), Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (1976), the United Nations Water Conference (1977), the United Nations Conference on Desertification (1977) and others.

38th meeting  
25 April 1975

44 (III) Co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States

The Governing Council,

Noting with satisfaction the report of the Executive Director 40/ on co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States,

Expressing also its satisfaction at the work done by the Executive Director in carrying out the tasks entrusted to him for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3129 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973,

Taking also into consideration articles 3 and 30 of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974,

1. Notes with approval the recommendations and proposals for implementing General Assembly resolution 3129 (XXVIII) contained in the Executive Director's report; 40/

2. Requests the Executive Director to establish an intergovernmental working group of experts, to be drawn from among the member States of the Governing Council, selected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, in order to prepare, on the basis of the above recommendations and proposals and of other useful elements that it may have at its disposal, draft principles of conduct for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious exploitation of natural resources shared by two or more States, and to submit a report on progress made in this respect to the Governing Council for consideration at its next session, in order that it may be presented to the General Assembly of the United Nations;

3. Further requests the Executive Director to transmit his report to the General Assembly, the specialized agencies and other relevant organs of the United Nations system, including the International Law Commission, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations which may have an interest in this field, and to invite such specialized agencies and international governmental and non-governmental organizations to collaborate with the Executive Director on this subject;

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40/ UNEP/GC/44 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1 and 2.

4. Decides to place the question of co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States on the provisional agenda for its next session.

38th meeting  
25 April 1975

45 (III) Establishment of permanent missions to the United Nations Environment Programme

The Governing Council

1. Notes with appreciation the report made by the Executive Director in his introductory statement 41/ concerning the signing of the Headquarters Agreement between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Government of Kenya;
2. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Kenya for its assistance in establishing the United Nations Environment Programme headquarters at Nairobi;
3. Requests Governments to establish permanent missions to the United Nations Environment Programme as provided in article XII of the Headquarters Agreement.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

46 (III) Relationships with non-governmental organizations

The Governing Council

1. Takes note of the note by the Executive Director on relationships with non-governmental organizations; 42/
2. Requests the Executive Director to pursue the development of working relationships with those non-governmental organizations that have an interest in the field of the environment, and to report on the matter to the Governing Council at its fourth session.

38th meeting  
25 April 1975

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41/ UNEP/GC/L.27.

42/ UNEP/GC/53.



Other decisionsProvisional agenda, date and place of the  
Governing Council's fourth session

At its 40th meeting, on 2 May 1975, the Governing Council decided that its fourth session will be held at Nairobi from 30 March to 14 April 1976, and adopted the following provisional agenda for that session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Agenda and organization of the work of the session.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. (a) Introductory report by the Executive Director;  
(b) Review of the environmental situation.
6. Report of the Environment Co-ordination Board.
7. Programme matters:
  - (a) Review of activities relating to the environment programme;
  - (b) Review of the status of the programme;
  - (c) Review of Fund programme activities 1976-1977.
8. Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements: progress report.
9. United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation: progress report.
10. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX) on international co-operation to combat desertification: progress report.
11. Management of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and financial matters:
  - (a) Report on the implementation of the Fund programme in 1975;
  - (b) Review and approval of over-all level of Fund programme activities for 1976-1977;
  - (c) Procedural and regulatory matters;
  - (d) The audited 1974 accounts;
  - (e) Revised estimates for programme and programme support costs, 1976-1977;
  - (f) Review of the Fund programme 1976-1977 and of the medium-term plan 1976-1979;

12. Report on progress made on draft principles of conduct for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious exploitation of natural resources shared by two or more States.
13. Review of institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation.
14. Environment and development.
15. Provisional agenda, date and place of the fifth session of the Governing Council.
16. Other business.
17. Report of the Governing Council to the General Assembly.
18. Closure of the session.

## RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

### 1958 (LIX). REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME ON ITS THIRD SESSION

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its third session,<sup>1</sup>

*Having considered also* the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 on international co-operation to combat desertification,<sup>2</sup>

*Considering* the need to ensure co-operation in carrying out the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme and implementing its decisions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its third session and of the progress report by the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX) on international co-operation to combat desertification;

2. *Invites* the Executive Director of the Programme to continue to bear in mind the need for the Programme to be in line with the relevant provisions of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order<sup>3</sup> and of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States;<sup>4</sup>

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue their active co-operation in carrying out the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, allocating the necessary priorities and resources for the maximum success of those activities.

*1975th plenary meeting  
25 July 1975*

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP/GC/55; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbol E/5710. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/10025)*.

<sup>2</sup> E/5689.

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

<sup>4</sup> General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX).

## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### 3435 (XXX). UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling recommendations 24, 36, 37, 74, 85 and 102 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment<sup>1</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,

Recalling its resolutions 2995 (XXVII), 2996 (XXVII) and 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 concerning, *inter alia*, co-operation between States in the field of the environment, international responsibility of States in regard to the environment and the establishment of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling its resolution 3336 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, particularly paragraph 4 thereof,

Noting resolution IV of the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Lima from 25 to 30 August 1975,<sup>2</sup> condemning the colonialist Powers and/or aggressors that have neglected to remove the material remnants of wars and acts of aggression, such as mines, and demanding that they should remove such material remnants of their acts, indicate their whereabouts and provide technical assistance for their removal,

Recognizing that most developing countries have been subjected to foreign occupation and exposed to wars waged by certain colonialist Powers, thus incurring tremendous losses of lives and property,

Emphasizing that it is the duty of the international community to take adequate measures to protect and improve the environment, including, in particular, the continuation and strengthening of international co-operation in this field,

1. *Recognizes* that the development of certain developing countries has been impeded by the material remnants of those wars, the most important of which are mines, which continue to be present in their territories;

2. *Condemns* the colonialist Powers which have neglected to remove those material remnants of such wars, particularly mines, and considers them to be responsible for any material and moral damage suffered by the countries in which such mines were placed;

3. *Calls upon* those States which took part in those wars to make available forthwith to the affected State all information on the areas in which such mines were placed, including maps indicating the position of those areas, and on the types of mines;

4. *Calls upon* those States which created this situation to compensate forthwith the countries in which such mines were placed for any material and moral damage suffered by them as a result thereof and to take speedy measures to provide technical assistance for the removal of such mines;

5. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to undertake a study of the problem of the material remnants of wars, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment, and to submit a report on the subject to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*2432nd plenary meeting  
9 December 1975*

### 3436 (XXX). CONVENTIONS AND PROTOCOLS IN THE FIELD OF THE ENVIRONMENT

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>3</sup> adopted at Stockholm on 16 June 1972, which was intended, *inter alia*, to promote international law in the field of the environment,

<sup>1</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. II, sect. B.

<sup>2</sup> See A/10217 and Corr.1, annex I.

<sup>3</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. I.

*Recalling with appreciation* decisions 24 (III) of 30 April 1975 and 35 (III) of 2 May 1975 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,<sup>4</sup>

*Expressing the conviction* that the development of adequate environmental law is an essential supporting measure for the implementation of the policies, strategies and recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Noting with satisfaction* that a number of global and regional conventions and protocols in the field of the environment have been negotiated and adopted since the adoption of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,

*Concerned* that existing international conventions or protocols in the field of the environment have not yet received the wide acceptance and application they deserve,

*Convinced* of the need for further elaboration of conventions and protocols in the field of the environment,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to take such measures as may be necessary for the realization of the objectives and the implementation of the strategies relating to the programme of the United Nations Environment Programme in the field of national and international environmental law and, in particular, to take measures designed to provide technical assistance to developing countries, at their request, for the development of their national environmental legislation;

2. *Urges* all States entitled to become parties, as appropriate, to existing conventions and protocols in the field of the environment to do so as soon as possible;

3. *Requests* the depositaries of the conventions referred to above to inform the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme periodically of the status of those conventions;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to assist States, upon request, in preparing proposals for legislative or other measures necessary for their adherence to conventions in the field of environmental management;

5. *Further requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to keep the General Assembly informed annually of any new international convention concluded in the field of the environment and of the status of existing conventions, with particular reference to ratifications, accessions and entry into force, as well as of the intention to become parties to such conventions expressed by Governments during the year between sessions of the Council.

2432nd plenary meeting  
9 December 1975

### 3437 (XXX). REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2849 (XXVI), of 20 December 1971 and 2994 (XXVII), 2995 (XXVII), 2996 (XXVII), 2997 (XXVII), 3000 (XXVII) and 3002 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972.

*Recalling* its resolutions 3129 (XXVIII), 3131 (XXVIII) and 3133 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973,

*Recalling* the Declaration<sup>5</sup> and the Programme of Action<sup>6</sup> on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as well as the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,<sup>7</sup> which lay down the foundations of the new international economic order,

*Also recalling* its resolution 3326 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974,

*Reaffirming* that the protection, preservation and enhancement of the environment for present and future generations is a responsibility of all States,

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its third session,<sup>8</sup>

*Considering* the need to ensure co-operation in carrying out the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme and in implementing its decisions,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its third session;

<sup>4</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/10025)*, annex. 1.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 3201 (S-VI).

<sup>6</sup> Resolution 3202 (S-VI).

<sup>7</sup> Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

<sup>8</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/10025)*.

2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to bear in mind the need for the Programme to be in line with the relevant provisions of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, with the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and with the decisions of the General Assembly at its seventh special session;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more states;<sup>9</sup>

4. *Requests* the Executive Director, in consultation with the Governing Council, to continue to implement the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3326 (XXIX) in developing the work programme and the programme activities of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to inform the General Assembly, at its thirty-first session, of action taken pursuant to paragraph 7 of Assembly resolution 3226 (XXIX) of 12 November 1974, regarding co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue their active co-operation in carrying out the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, allocating the necessary priorities and resources for the maximum success of those activities.

*2432nd plenary meeting  
9 December 1975*

### 3438 (XXX). HABITAT: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3128 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973 and 3325 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 on the preparations for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

*Having noted with appreciation* the earlier reports of the Secretary-General called for in decision 4 (I), adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on 21 June 1973,<sup>10</sup> and in General Assembly resolution 3128 (XXVIII),<sup>11</sup>

*Recognizing* the important contributions to the preparations for the Conference made by the regional preparatory meetings,

*Noting with satisfaction* the active support given by Governments to the objective of the Conference and the assistance lent to its preparation by interested organs of the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Expressing its appreciation* for decision 37 (III),<sup>12</sup> adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on 23 April 1975, allocating additional funds to the audio-visual programme of the Conference with the view, in particular, of assisting developing countries in the preparation of their audio-visual presentations,

*Recognizing* the importance of ensuring that the global efforts for the improvement of human settlements be supplemented and made more effective by measures and programmes at the regional and subregional levels,

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its third session<sup>13</sup> and the relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council,<sup>14</sup>

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite:

(a) All States to participate in Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

(b) Representatives of organizations which have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the sessions and the work of all international conferences convened under its auspices, in the capacity of observers, in accordance with Assembly resolution 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974;

(c) Representatives of the national liberation movements recognized in its area by the Organization of African Unity, in the capacity of observers, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974;

<sup>9</sup> UNEP/GC/44 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1.

<sup>10</sup> A/9238.

<sup>11</sup> A/9729.

<sup>12</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/10025)*, annex I.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 25 (A/10025).

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 3 (A/10003), chap. IV, sect. F.

- (d) The specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as interested organs of the United Nations, to be represented at the Conference;
- (e) Interested regional intergovernmental organizations to be represented by observers;
- (f) Concerned non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;
2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to invite other directly concerned intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations of genuinely international character that may express the wish by 29 February 1976 to be represented by observers;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary arrangements are made for the effective participation in the Conference of the representatives referred to in paragraph 1, subparagraphs (b) and (c), above, including the requisite financial provisions for travel expenses, per diem allowances and audio-visual presentations;
4. *Notes with appreciation* the most recent report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Conference;<sup>15</sup>
5. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements that 29 February 1976 should be a day for the concentration of publicity on human settlements issues and the Conference;<sup>16</sup>
6. *Further notes* that the second session of the Preparatory Committee will be held at United Nations Headquarters from 12 to 23 January 1976;
7. *Approves* the provisional agenda of the Conference, as proposed in the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>17</sup>
8. *Decides* that the languages of the Conference shall be those used in the General Assembly and its Main Committees;
9. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee at its resumed first session for a proposed structure of the Conference which would include plenary meetings and three main committees meeting simultaneously,<sup>18</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary interpretation and other services;
10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the results of the Conference, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session;
11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the preparations that will have to be undertaken after the Conference to facilitate consideration of the recommendations of the Conference by the General Assembly at its thirty-first session.

2432nd plenary meeting  
9 December 1975

<sup>15</sup> A/10234.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 37.

<sup>17</sup> A/10234, annex I.

<sup>18</sup> A/10234, para. 11.

## ELECTION OF TWENTY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

(Item 19)

The General Assembly, in pursuance of section I, paragraph 1, of its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, elected twenty members to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of AUSTRALIA, BURUNDI, the CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHILE, the GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, IRAQ, JORDAN, MADAGASCAR, MEXICO, the NETHERLANDS, NICARAGUA, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, POLAND, SENEGAL, SRI LANKA, TURKEY, the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and the UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA.

The following States were elected: BELGIUM, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CYPRUS, GREECE, GRENADA, HUNGARY, IRAQ, KUWAIT, LIBERIA, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, PERU, POLAND, RWANDA, SOMALIA, THAILAND, TOGO, UGANDA, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and URUGUAY.

*2432nd plenary meeting  
9 December 1975*

*As a result of the above election, the composition of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for 1976 will be as follows: ARGENTINA,\* BELGIUM,\*\*\* BRAZIL,\*\* CANADA,\* CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,\*\*\* CHINA,\* COLOMBIA,\*\* CYPRUS,\*\*\* CZECHOSLOVAKIA,\* EGYPT,\*\* FINLAND,\*\* FRANCE,\* GABON,\* GERMANY (FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF),\*\* GHANA,\*\* GREECE,\*\*\* GRENADA,\*\*\* GUATEMALA,\* HUNGARY,\*\*\* INDIA,\*\* INDONESIA,\* IRAN,\*\* IRAQ,\*\*\* IVORY COAST,\* JAMAICA,\* JAPAN,\*\* KENYA,\*\* KUWAIT,\*\*\* LEBANON,\* LIBERIA,\*\*\* LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC,\*\* MALAYSIA,\*\* MEXICO,\*\*\* MOROCCO,\* NEW ZEALAND,\*\*\* PERU,\*\*\* PHILIPPINES,\* POLAND,\*\*\* ROMANIA,\*\* RWANDA,\*\*\* SIERRA LEONE,\* SOMALIA,\*\*\* SPAIN,\* SUDAN,\*\* SWEDEN,\* SWITZERLAND,\*\* SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC,\* THAILAND,\*\*\* TOGO,\*\*\* UGANDA,\*\*\* UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,\*\* UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,\*\*\* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,\*\* URUGUAY,\*\*\* VENEZUELA,\*\* YUGOSLAVIA\* and ZAIRE.\*\**

\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1976.

\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1977.

\*\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1978.

## ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

(Item 59)

At its 2432nd plenary meeting, on 9 December 1975, the General Assembly, on the nomination of the Secretary-General, elected Mr. Mostafa Kamal TOLBA Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for the unexpired portion of the term of Mr. Maurice STRONG, namely from 1 January to 31 December 1976.



**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

**1976**

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Environment Programme at its fourth session

47 (IV). Programme policy and implementation

The Governing Council,

Recalling its previous decisions on programme policy and implementation, 1/

Taking fully into account, as adopted, General Assembly resolutions 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation, 3437 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 on conventions and protocols in the field of the environment and 3517 (XXX) of 15 December 1975 on the mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Having considered:

- (a) The introductory statement of the Executive Director, 2/
- (b) The introductory report of the Executive Director, 3/
- (c) The report of the Executive Director on the state of the environment, 1976, 4/
- (d) The report of the Environment Co-ordination Board on its fifth session, 5/

Taking into account the views expressed during its fourth session on questions of programme policy and implementation,

I

1. Considers that the progress made in the implementation of the programme strategies fully justifies the three-level programmatic approach described in section I, paragraph 1, of its decision 20 (III) of 2 May 1975;

2. Calls upon the Executive Director to continue to develop and implement the programme along the same lines;

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1/ Decisions 1 (I) of 22 June 1973, 5 (II) of 21 March 1974 and 20 (III) of 2 May 1975.

2/ UNEP/GC/L.36.

3/ UNEP/GC/57 and Corr.1.

4/ UNEP/GC/58 and Corr.1.

5/ UNEP/GC/59 and Corr.1.

3. Endorses the list of concentration areas in the Executive Director's introductory report as a basis for programme formulation until the fifth session of the Governing Council;
4. Requests the Executive Director to keep the list of concentration areas under continuing review and to make recommendations to the Governing Council at its fifth and subsequent sessions regarding suggested modifications or additions to, or deletions from, that list;
5. Endorses the principles set forth by the Executive Director in his introductory statement to guide the future direction of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme;
6. Further endorses the efforts of the Executive Director to achieve a balance in the Fund programme between projects of different sizes, between global, regional and national activities, and between the needs of developed and developing countries;
7. Notes with satisfaction the progress made in strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Environment Programme at the regional level and introducing regional content into the programme, and requests the Executive Director to continue these processes in close consultation with the regional commissions of the United Nations;
8. Further notes the steps taken within the secretariat to improve internal co-ordination and ensure a cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary approach to environmental problems, and requests the Executive Director to maintain and develop that approach in the design and implementation of the programme;
9. Considers that the successful achievements of the United Nations Environment Programme in the field of protection of the environment in the Mediterranean region afford a concrete example of both the integrated approach and the proper co-ordinating role that should be the major concern of the Programme in its activities, and requests the Executive Director to ensure that the catalytic function, co-ordination and integration, as opposed to involvement in longer-term activities of a primarily executive character, always constitute the main contribution of the Programme in its endeavours to ensure the protection and improvement of the environment;
10. Welcomes the suggestion of the Executive Director that henceforth the annual state of the environment report should be selective in its treatment of subjects and that an analytical, comprehensive report on developments regarding each of these issues should be prepared every fifth year;
11. Considers that certain activities depend mainly for their proper functioning on full co-operation between Governments and the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme, and accordingly invites Governments to respond promptly and fully to the requests of the Executive Director for co-operation in undertaking activities endorsed by the Governing Council, for example with respect to sources of information for the International Referral System and the functioning of the technical assistance clearing-house, and requests the secretariat to be as precise as possible in formulating its requests for information and assistance;

12. Appreciates the progress made by the secretariat in the field of communication with Governments, but nevertheless expresses deep concern regarding the lack of regular flow of proper information to Governments about ongoing activities and results of projects funded by the United Nations Environment Programme, and in particular regarding the inadequate circulation of reports containing information that can be of use to Governments or regions other than those where the activities were carried out, and welcomes the intention of the Executive Director to give high priority to developing communications with Governments;

13. Endorses the intention of the Executive Director to develop the field of public information, inter alia through the publication of a quarterly journal, and requests him to report fully on progress made in this area to the Governing Council at its fifth session;

14. Considers that the catalytic role of the Environment Fund is prejudiced by the inadequacy of resources in hand, and urges Governments to respond to the appeal of the Governing Council for contributions to the Fund;

## II

1. Approves of the progress made by the Environment Co-ordination Board in securing close co-ordination and co-operation between various parts of the United Nations system in the implementation of the environment programme, considers that the Board is a programme co-ordinating body and invites the Board to carry out an analysis of its own activities with a view to ensuring the establishment of ways and means of more efficient and effective co-ordination;

2. Requests members of the Board to join with the Executive Director, singly or jointly, in developing and applying the concept of joint programming, thus helping to ensure that the catalytic role of the United Nations Environment Programme can be more effectively performed and the resources of the United Nations system marshalled to implement the programme;

3. Invites the Board to report on the steps taken by its members to implement the strategies endorsed by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme with respect to the various priority subject areas and functional tasks of the programme;

4. Invites the Board to report to the Governing Council at its fifth session its views on the catalytic role of the Programme and its Fund;

5. Approves the recommendation of the Board that the Inter-Agency Task Force on Data should continue as long as necessary and be designated as a subsidiary body of the Board, so that the Board may provide an overview of the subject to the Governing Council;

6. Requests the Executive Director to negotiate, as appropriate, with financial institutions and lending agencies regarding the financing by them of programmes relating to the environment, and to report to the Governing Council at its fifth session on the results achieved;

## III

1. Considers that the issues of population, resources, environment and development form an interrelated system and that solutions to problems arising in any one area must be developed with full consideration of the system as a whole;

2. Believes, therefore, that the environment should be a major consideration in international discussions on development, and that in deciding on measures to promote international co-operation to further development, Governments should ensure that environmental factors are given due recognition;

3. Requests the Executive Director to explore with bilateral and multilateral aid donors ways and means of ensuring that environmental considerations are taken into account in their policies and programmes;

4. Invites the governing bodies of the various United Nations organs and specialized agencies to consider how their programmes can implement, with little or no assistance from the Environment Fund, the strategies approved by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for the United Nations system as a whole;

## IV

1. Reaffirms that the greatest challenge today is to design development which, while satisfying basic human needs - beginning with the eradication of poverty - does not materially reduce environmental quality and does not transgress the global or regional outer limits imposed by the capacities of the biosphere;

2. Considers that the eradication of hunger is a foremost objective of the world community and that existing and proposed activities in the environment programme should seek to ensure that efforts to increase food production are carried out on an environmentally sound and sustainable basis, by taking full account of limitations imposed and opportunities offered by ecological factors;

3. Noting that problems of environmental pollution are universal, but different in every region, and that their eradication calls for urgent action at local, national and regional levels, as well as at the global level;

4. Urges Governments, international agencies and others to take steps to reduce the threats to human health and well-being posed by environmental pollution;

5. Considers that the information gained from environmental assessment can be successfully applied in environmental management and, since environmental management involves inserting a new - environmental - dimension into every stage of the decision-making process, urges Governments to ensure that environmental considerations are borne in mind in all their activities;

6. Urges all States entitled to become parties to existing conventions and protocols in the field of the environment to do so as soon as possible;

7. Expresses its hope that the negotiations during the reconvened Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea will give explicit recognition to environmental considerations in the various articles adopted by the Conference



concerning exploitation of the resources of the sea, and requests the President of the Governing Council to restate to the President of the Conference the concerns that the Council first expressed in its decision 25 (III) of 24 April 1975.

59th meeting  
14 April 1976

48 (IV). Review of the environmental situation and of activities relating to the environment programme

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decision 27 (III) of 30 April 1975,

Noting with gratitude the Level One report of the Executive Director, 6/

1. Endorses, subject to the comments made by delegations at the fourth session of the Governing Council, the action plans outlined in the reviews of the priority subject areas, and notes with satisfaction that these have been taken into account in the preparation of Level Two of the environment programme; 7/

2. Notes the initiatives taken by the Executive Director towards the development of environmental statistics and environmental data banks as a source of management information for Governments, and the action of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Data towards the development and co-ordination within the United Nations system of data information systems on environmental activities;

3. Requests the Executive Director:

(a) Actively to pursue the initiatives in the field of acquisition and use of environmental data, and to report on the progress made and on future prospects to the Governing Council at its fifth session;

(b) To submit to the Governing Council at its fifth session reviews of the following priority subject areas and/or functional tasks:

(i) Human settlements and habitat;

(ii) Health of people and of the environment;

(iii) Natural disasters;

and at its sixth session:

(iv) Environmental management;

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6/ UNEP/GC/60.

7/ UNEP/GC/61 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add. 1, Add.2 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.3.

(v) Environmental education and training;

(vi) Environment and development:

4. Notes with appreciation the response from Governments, United Nations organizations, other intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations to requests for information on their activities related to the environment programme;

5. Reiterates its invitation to all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, to co-operate fully with the Executive Director in the preparation of the review by providing the necessary data requested by him.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

49 (IV). Catalytic role of the United Nations Environment ProgrammeThe Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the catalytic role of the United Nations Environment Programme, prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 3326 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 8/

1. Endorses the Executive Director's conception of the catalytic role of the United Nations Environment Programme;
2. Notes the application of that role to date;
3. Authorizes the Executive Director to continue to bring the catalytic function to bear on appropriate areas and problems for the benefit of all countries, particularly the developing countries.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

50 (IV). Programme and Fund programme activitiesThe Governing Council,

Having considered the reports of the Executive Director on the status of the programme and on Fund programme activities, 1976-1977, 9/

1. Notes with approval the action taken and planned to implement the strategies for each priority area and functional task, and authorizes the Executive Director to continue the development and execution of the programme along those lines;
2. Notes the presentation, whereby each element of the strategy is separately summarized, and action taken and planned to implement it is then described, and welcomes the Executive Director's intention to review how the over-all presentation to the Governing Council of information on the programme and the budget can be further improved;
3. Notes with approval the objectives and strategies described in the Executive Director's report for living marine resources; 10/
4. Authorizes the Executive Director to develop activities under the title "Social outer limits" in association with other relevant activities of

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8/ UNEP/GC/82.

9/ UNEP/GC/61 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.3, and UNEP/GC/62 and Corr.1, respectively.

10/ UNEP/GC/61, paras. 206-207.

the programme, and to report to the Governing Council at its fifth session on action taken in this respect;

5. Notes the very important new strategy for water 11/ and the additions and amendments to the elements of the strategies agreed to by the Governing Council at its third session for:

- (a) Tropical woodland and forest ecosystems; 12/
- (b) Integrated approach to environment and development; 13/
- (c) Socio-economic impact of environmental measures and of their absence; 14/
- (d) Natural disasters; 15/
- (e) Environmental management; 16/
- (f) Information; 17/

6. Agrees to the Executive Director's proposals 18/ to encourage research into, inter alia, the following aspects of energy: methods of reclaiming strip-mined areas, environmental impacts of hydroelectric power and of non-traditional renewable sources of energy, and conservation of energy at the points of production and use, and requests him to co-ordinate a series of individual in-depth studies on the environmental impacts of the production, storage, transportation and use of all energy sources;

7. Notes the Executive Director's account 19/ of how the concepts of environmental assessment and environmental management, as well as supporting activities, have been applied in the Mediterranean, and requests the Executive Director further to develop work in the Mediterranean in accordance with this framework, while taking steps towards the progressive transfer of executive responsibility to the Governments of the region;

8. Decides that the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals should form part of Earthwatch, and requests the Executive Director to report in future on progress in this area as a component part of Earthwatch;

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11/ Ibid., para. 130.

12/ Ibid., para. 93.

13/ Ibid., para. 155.

14/ Ibid., para. 162.

15/ Ibid., paras. 220-226.

16/ Ibid., para. 318 (k).

17/ Ibid., para. 336.

18/ Ibid., para. 213.

19/ UNEP/GC/61/Corr.1 (chap. IV).

9. Requests the Executive Director to defer the convening of an expert meeting on the development of general principles and recommendations on weather modification until a date to be fixed in consultation with the World Meteorological Organization;

10. Further requests the Executive Director to increase the participation of research institutions in and experts from developing countries in carrying out studies which affect developing countries, in order to achieve satisfactory transfer of technology.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

51 (IV). Human settlements and habitat

The Governing Council,

Taking into account the importance of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements for more precise definition of several Fund programme activities,

Mindful of the size of the allocations proposed by the Council under the Fund programme for human settlements and habitat,

Requests the Executive Director to promote the necessary measures in connexion with Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements to ensure that the environmental dimensions of the planning and development of urban and rural human settlements and their implications for physical planning in many countries of the world in the coming decades are taken into consideration.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

52 (IV). Chemicals and physical agents in the environment

The Governing Council,

Noting that chemicals and physical agents in the environment are increasing in number and complexity,

Emphasizing the need for continuous programmes to protect all peoples against the effects of resulting environmental hazards,

Noting the progress made towards these objectives through co-operation with the World Health Organization,

Requests the Executive Director to give high priority to programmes for the establishment of health criteria and monitoring and for the International Register

of Potentially Toxic Chemicals, and to accelerate this action in close co-operation with the specialized agencies, particularly the World Health Organization, and with member States.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

53 (IV). Chemical substances and physical agents whose effects on the environment are unknown

The Governing Council,

Considering the serious environmental impact of chemical substances and physical agents released into the environment, whose effects, by disrupting vital processes, constitute an important part of the causes of current environmental problems,

Stressing the need not to aggravate this problem by releasing new substances whose direct and synergic effects in the short-, medium- and long-term are unknown,

Strongly appeals to all Governments to take adequate measures to ensure that new chemical substances and physical agents are properly evaluated before they are used and discharged into the environment, so as to ensure, to the maximum extent possible, that adverse direct or synergic effects in the short-, medium- and long-term are avoided.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

54 (IV). African tropical rain-forest ecosystem

The Governing Council,

Recognizing that tropical rain-forests are of vital ecological importance at the biospheric level, particularly in Africa,

Recognizing further the economic and social role played by the African tropical rain-forest in the well-being of all the peoples of the region,

Observing the ever-increasing pressure to which the African tropical rain-forest is subjected for lack of the knowledge and techniques needed for its rational utilization,

Noting that the United Nations Environment Programme has the opportunity and the necessary means to promote concerted action at the regional level with regard to training and integrated ecological research on the African tropical rain-forest, on the basis of the resolutions adopted at the Man and the Biosphere regional symposium, which was held at Kinshasa from 25 August to 5 September 1975, and was attended by all countries of central and west Africa,

Requests the Executive Director to take the necessary measures, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to launch a practical programme, in the form of pilot projects, for the promotion of applied and appropriate studies and research and for the training of the specialists essential to rational use of the African tropical rain-forest.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

55 (IV). Water resources

The Governing Council,

Having considered the reports of the Executive Director on the status of the programme and on Fund programme activities, 1976-1977, 20/

Conscious of the important role of the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system in promoting the rational management and use of water, in which the environmental, quantitative and qualitative aspects of the resource are taken into account at all stages of related activities,

Noting the progress made in the establishment of the Centre for Water Resources Management, which will start its activities early in 1977,

Having considered further the progress made in the preparations for the United Nations Water Conference,

1. Reaffirms its decision 31 (III) of 2 May 1975;
2. Approves the revised strategy 21/ in the top priority field of water resources submitted by the Executive Director to the Governing Council at its fourth session;
3. Requests the Executive Director to continue to participate actively in the preparations for the United Nations Water Conference, and in this respect:
  - (a) To continue to contribute to the Conference preparations, particularly regarding the environmental aspects of water use and the follow-up of the pertinent recommendations of the Action Plan for the Human Environment 22/ approved by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in 1972;

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20/ UNEP/GC/61 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.3, and UNEP/GC/62 and Corr.1, respectively.

21/ UNEP/GC/61, para. 130.

22/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14 and Corrigendum), chap. II, sect. B.

(b) To promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations Water Conference through the information activities of the Programme and through the information campaign for World Environment Day, 1976;

(c) To provide, at the same level as for the United Nations Conference on Desertification, for the travel expenditures of delegations of developing countries which may face special difficulties in this respect, so that they may attend the Conference;

(d) To continue to ensure adequate co-ordination between the United Nations Conference on Desertification and the United Nations Water Conference.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

#### 56 (IV). Protection of migratory birds

##### The Governing Council

1. Urges the Governments of countries in which migratory birds are shot or caught en masse in nets or by any other means to adopt, if they have not already done so, drastic, vigorous and urgent measures to put an immediate end to such practices;

2. Calls upon all Governments to take such measures as may be appropriate for the protection of migratory birds which pass through, stop in or nest in their territory.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

#### 57 (IV). Environmental problems of specific industries

##### The Governing Council,

Recognizing the importance of the priority subject area environment and development, and the need for attention to the environmental problems of specific industries,

Noting the results of the first two seminars convened by the Executive Director to discuss such problems, on the pulp and paper and aluminium industries, 23/ and the programme of further seminars which is planned,

Recognizing further the importance of adequate preparation for such seminars and adequate arrangements for follow-up,

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23/ For the reports of the seminars, see UNEP/GC(III)/INF.7 and UNEP/GC(IV)/INF.4, respectively.



1. Requests the Executive Director to ensure balanced representation at seminars from all countries concerned with the relevant industries, from intergovernmental organizations and from international non-governmental organizations such as those representing workers or employers in the relevant industry;

2. Calls upon such Governments and organizations to give full support to future seminars;

3. Further requests the Executive Director to arrange a consultative meeting with experts nominated by interested Governments and relevant organizations to discuss the objectives of the programme in relation to the environmental problems of specific industries and to evaluate the progress being made towards these objectives, including the arrangements made for follow-up and avoidance of duplication with the work of other international organizations, and to report to the Governing Council at its fifth session in the light of the conclusions of this meeting.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

58 (IV). Oceans: regional agreements

The Governing Council,

Having considered the reports of the Executive Director on the review of activities relating to the environment programme, the review of the status of the programme and proposed Fund programme activities, 1976-1977, 24/

Noting that the Governments of Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have a mutual interest in protecting from pollution the marine area to which they are all adjacent,

Noting further that the interest these States share with respect to the marine environment is purely of a regional nature,

1. Decides that immediate steps are necessary to protect the marine area mentioned above from pollution by oil from ships and sea-bed exploration and exploitation, and from pollution resulting from industrialization in the context of development activities;

2. Authorizes the Executive Director to pursue these objectives aided by any other specialized organization of the United Nations;

3. Approves the action of the Government of Kuwait in proceeding with

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24/ UNEP/GC/60, UNEP/GC/61 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.3, and UNEP/GC/62 and Corr.1, respectively.

preparatory work for convening a regional conference to protect the area in question against pollution, which may give rise to an agreement entitled:

"Kuwait Regional Agreement for Co-operation on the  
Protection of the Marine Environment from Pollution"

or such other words as may be decided upon at the time of the conference.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

59 (IV). Protection of whales

The Governing Council

Requests the Executive Director to approach the International Whaling Commission in order to:

- (a) Express the satisfaction of the Governing Council at recent advances in stock management;
- (b) Urge increased efforts for appropriate controls of further exploitation of whales at the twenty-eighth session of the Commission;
- (c) Re-emphasize concern with the conservation of whales as a global renewable resource.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

60 (IV). Renewable energy resources

The Governing Council,

Bearing in mind the strategy for energy as approved by the Governing Council at its third and fourth sessions, 25/

Considering that energy is an important element in the priority subject areas selected for concentrated effort under the programme, such as rational use of resources, environmentally sound technology, human settlements and ecodevelopment,

Noting that the technology for the utilization of solar, wind, geothermal and other non-conventional energy sources applies equally to arid and semi-arid regions,

Aware that the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Desertification will be seeking appropriate technology to control and reclaim the desert,

Recalling its decision 34 (III) of 2 May 1975 to establish a few demonstration centres harnessing renewable resources of energy for meeting the basic energy needs of the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America,

Appreciating the action of the Executive Director in selecting a few sites for the establishment of such demonstration centres,

1. Requests the Executive Director, in co-operation with the relevant United Nations bodies, to accelerate an active programme involving the rational utilization of renewable resources for energy generation which will have a positive impact on rural development, consistent with environmentally sound practices;

2. Urges the Executive Director to further the support of the United Nations Environment Programme for national and regional projects for harnessing renewable energy resources and authorizes him, in the light of the experience being acquired, to carry out a study on the possibility of establishing a programme activity centre on the subject and to report to the Governing Council at its fifth session on the results of his study;

3. Further urges the Executive Director to submit the relevant proposals to the United Nations Conference on Desertification;

4. Further requests the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its fifth session on progress made in the implementation of the present decision.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

61 (IV). Natural disastersThe Governing Council,

Concerned over the wide-ranging economic and social impact of natural disasters,

Recalling the recommendation of the seventh special session of the General Assembly calling upon the international community to pay special attention to natural disasters, which have severe economic, social and structural consequences, particularly in the least developed countries, 26/

Convinced that a concerted effort can and should be made to reduce the risk of natural disasters, which is inherent in the physical environment of many countries,

Recalling further the support given by the General Assembly to the formulation of an international strategy for disaster prevention, 27/

1. Decides that the following element shall be added to the strategy for natural disasters: 28/ "Early warning, prevention and mitigation of natural disasters, including support for the formulation of the international strategy for disaster prevention";
2. Authorizes the Executive Director to accelerate, between the fourth and fifth sessions of the Governing Council, the programme activities relating to the prevention, mitigation and control of natural disasters;
3. Requests the Executive Director:
  - (a) To consider and submit to the Governing Council at its fifth session proposals for increasing the allocation in 1977 for the priority area of natural disasters to meet the additional strategy element referred to in paragraph 1 above;
  - (b) To introduce disaster prevention dimensions into other areas of the environment programme, especially those relating to human settlements and health;
  - (c) To continue to co-operate closely in this field with the various United Nations bodies and agencies concerned;
  - (d) To report to the Governing Council at its fifth session, together with the Level One review on natural disasters, on the implementation of the present decision.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

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26/ General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, sect. II, para. 14.

27/ General Assembly resolution 3440 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, para. 5.

28/ UNEP/GC/61, para. 218.

62 (IV). Regret at the disaster suffered by GuatemalaThe Governing Council

1. Expresses its profound regret at the terrible earthquake disaster suffered by the Republic of Guatemala, which has caused enormous loss of human life and vast material damage,

2. Decides to encourage all bodies of the United Nations system to render Guatemala as much assistance as possible, within the limits of the provisions governing their competence, in order to mitigate the damage sustained by the natural and urban environment in that country, and to contribute to preventing similar disasters in the future;

3. Instructs the Executive Director to contact the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and the Government of Guatemala for the purpose of deciding what steps can be taken, and to communicate the present decision to the Government of Guatemala.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

63 (IV). EarthwatchThe Governing Council,

Continuing to recognize the major importance of Earthwatch to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Requests the Executive Director:

(a) To urge the Environment Co-ordination Board to establish as soon as possible subgroups on Earthwatch-related research and evaluation in its Working Group on Earthwatch;

(b) To develop and initiate the implementation of an integrated evaluation programme and interdisciplinary research programme as interacting component parts of Earthwatch, along with the Global Environmental Monitoring System, the International Referral System and the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals, and to report on progress in this respect to the Governing Council at its fifth session;

(c) To develop for presentation to the Governing Council at its fifth session an over-all plan for the Global Environmental Monitoring System which discusses:

(i) How the seven goals of the System will be integrated with one another, and the short-range and long-range implementation plans for each goal area;

(ii) The priority variables to be the subject of global monitoring within each goal area;

(iii) The flow of data from collection to final assessment;

(d) Request Governments to accelerate their activities in relation to the International Referral System, and in particular to submit sources of environmental information to the United Nations Environment Programme as soon as possible.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

64 (IV). Earthwatch: sulphur dioxide and other pollutants

The Governing Council,

Noting that a regional programme for monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transport of sulphur dioxide and other pollutants is under preparation under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Europe, in co-operation with the World Meteorological Organization,

Noting further that this programme would constitute an important regional contribution to the effort to ensure through the Global Environmental Monitoring System that data on selected significant environmental variables are collected in a systematic and continuous manner for the purpose of providing an evaluation of any observed short- and long-term trends in these critical variables,

Requests the Executive Director to take appropriate measures to ensure the co-operation of the United Nations Environment Programme with the above programme.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

65 (IV). Study of the ozone layer

The Governing Council,

Recognizing the potential impact that stratospheric pollution and a reduction in the ozone layer may have on mankind,

Noting with appreciation the statement on ozone by the representative of the World Meteorological Organization,

Further noting the plans of the World Meteorological Organization to execute, in co-ordination with other international organizations concerned, a project on ozone layer monitoring and research,

Conscious that other international organizations and individual Governments are also working on aspects of the ozone layer and stratospheric pollution,

Requests the Executive Director to convene a meeting of appropriate international, governmental and non-governmental organizations to review all aspects of the ozone layer, identify related ongoing activities and future plans, and agree

on a division of labour and a co-ordinating mechanism for, inter alia, the compilation of research activities and future plans and the collection of related industrial and commercial information, and to report to the Governing Council at its fifth session on the results of the meeting.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

66 (IV). Environmental law

The Governing Council,

Bearing in mind its decision 35 (III) of 2 May 1975,

Noting with satisfaction the objectives and strategies relating to the programme of the United Nations Environment Programme in the field of environmental law,

Requests the Executive Director to continue, together with existing activities in this area:

(a) The systematic collection, analysis and presentation of data and information relating to activities and international conventions and agreements in the field of environment, in collaboration with other organizations within and outside the United Nations system involved in similar activities;

(b) The development of the relevant principles contained in the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 29/ in particular through studies by a group of governmental and other experts on the specific aspects of the problem relating to liability for pollution and other environmental damage and compensation for such damage, taking into account inter alia the progress made in the work of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources Shared by Two or More States as well as the relevant work of other international governmental and non-governmental organizations and forums, especially that of the International Law Commission;

(c) The promotion of international agreements or conventions to deal with global and regional environmental concerns, as well as with specific environmental problems in given geographical contexts, and efforts to encourage international forums and organizations to take the environmental law aspect into account in their work;

(d) The provision of technical assistance and appropriate guidelines to countries, at their request, for the development of their legislation for the purposes of environmental planning and control;

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29/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. I.

(e) The encouragement of universities and other research institutions to include, in their curricula and work, studies of the principles and practice of environmental law.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

67 (IV). Status of conventions

The Governing Council,

Recognizing the continuing validity and urgency of the objective of completely eliminating the wilful and intentional pollution of the seas by oil and other noxious substances, and of minimizing accidental spills,

Recalling that the International Conference on Marine Pollution held in London in 1973 considered the implementation of the 1969 Amendments 30/ to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil of 12 May 1954 to be a major step towards the complete elimination of oil pollution,

Recalling also that the 1973 Conference and the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization at its ninth session have urged States to accept the 1969 Amendments as a matter of urgency, without awaiting the entry into force of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships of 2 November 1973, 31/

Noting that the 1969 Amendments are not yet in force, because too few States have so far accepted them,

1. Urges States which have not yet accepted the 1969 Amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil to do so without delay;

2. Further urges States to become parties as soon as possible to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships;

3. Requests the Executive Director to bring the present decision to the attention of Governments.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

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30/ Done at London on 21 October 1969. See International Legal Materials, vol. 9, p. 1, 1970. For the text of the Convention, see United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 327, No. 4714, p. 3.

31/ ST/LEG/SER.B/18/Add.2, p. 318.



68 (IV). Training and technical assistance

The Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on training and technical assistance on problems related to the environment, 32/

1. Requests the Executive Director to pursue the study of problems and matters related to the environment on which Governments of developing countries would be interested in receiving training and technical assistance, requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 3326 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, and to present his recommendations based on that study to the Governing Council at its fifth session;

2. Notes, taking into account the relationship of training and technical assistance to the various priority subject areas and the most appropriate ways of dealing with them, the criteria set by the Executive Director for the provision of technical assistance.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

69 (IV). Management of Fund programme activities 33/

The Governing Council,

Noting the desirability of designing ways to ensure the systematic financing of the implementation of the Fund programme,

1. Requests the Executive Director, in managing the Fund programme, and bearing in mind the special needs of developing countries, to give prior consideration to:

(a) Continuation of activities for which firm commitments have already been entered into, provided the Executive Director is satisfied that adequate progress towards their objectives is being made;

(b) Activities resulting from decisions of the Governing Council;

(c) Activities in the environmental field resulting from resolutions of the General Assembly;

(d) Activities required for the conclusion or effective implementation of international conventions in the field of the environment;

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32/ UNEP/GC/81.

33/ See also decision 76 A (IV) below.

2. Further requests the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its fifth session on the implementation of the present decision.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

70 (IV). Allocation of resources for Fund programme activities

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed the proposal of the Executive Director as outlined in his note on proposed Fund programme activities, 1976-1977, 34/

Taking into account the terms of its decisions on the level of Fund programme activities, 1976-1977 35/ and on management of Fund programme activities, 36/

1. Decides to apportion the allocation for Fund programme activities as follows:

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>
Human settlements and human health	6,300,000	7,150,000
Ecosystems	8,190,000	9,250,000
Environment and development	3,600,000	3,600,000
Oceans	3,600,000	3,150,000
Energy	550,000	600,000
Natural disasters	200,000	300,000
Earthwatch	3,400,000	3,350,000
Environmental management	450,000	550,000
Environmental law	300,000	300,000
Support	5,910,000	6,250,000
United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation	1,500,000	1,200,000
Total	<u>\$34,000,000</u>	<u>\$35,700,000</u>

34/ UNEP/GC/62 and Corr.1.

35/ Decision 76 A (IV).

36/ Decision 69 (IV).

2. Authorizes the Executive Director to adjust the apportionment of funds up to a maximum of 20 per cent on each line if this should be necessary to preserve the integrity of the programme;

3. Recalls its decision 36 (III) of 2 May 1975, in paragraph 5 of which it authorized the Executive Director to enter into forward commitments of up to \$9 million for the year 1978 and up to \$4 million for the year 1979.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

71 (IV). Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements

The Governing Council,

Having considered the progress report by the Secretary-General of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 37/

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in the preparations for the Conference,

Realizing that it will be the responsibility of the Habitat Conference to formulate specific recommendations, inter alia for further action with respect to the post-Conference use of audio-visual material prepared for the Conference,

1. Recommends that Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements consider favourably the offer made by the Government of Canada regarding the post-Conference use and dissemination of the audio-visual material prepared for the Conference;

2. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure that all preparations are made for the evaluation of, and immediate follow-up to, the audio-visual programme of the Conference, should the Conference decide on such an activity;

3. Requests the authorities concerned within the United Nations to give every support to the Secretary-General in the efforts called for in paragraph 2 above;

4. Authorizes the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, should this prove necessary and subject to the availability of funds, to allocate funds during 1976 in the amount of up to \$75,000 to permit, after consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the necessary extensions of contracts of members of the Habitat secretariat in order to support such recommendations as the Habitat Conference may make for:

- (a) The immediate post-Conference follow-up to the audio-visual programme;
- (b) The immediate dissemination of information on the Conference.

54th meeting  
9 April 1976

72 (IV). United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation

The Governing Council

I

1. Takes note of the Executive Director's progress report 38/ on the implementation of the plan and programme of operations of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;
2. Requests the Executive Director to take into account the views of member States expressed at the fourth session of the Governing Council in further developing the programme of activities of the Foundation, and to proceed in all appropriate ways to assess the needs of member States for assistance by the Foundation and to encourage voluntary contributions and other offers of support, making full use of the Advisory Board of the Foundation in this regard;
3. Decides to defer decision on the matter of setting a total target for voluntary contributions to the Foundation by Governments for consideration at its fifth session;

II

1. Approves the general procedures governing the operations of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, 39/ as amended during the debate at its fourth session and reproduced in the annex to the present decision;
2. Decides to review the general procedures at its fifth session in the light of experience gained and developments during the intervening period;

III

1. Notes with approval the budget report of the Executive Director on the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 1975-1977; 40/
2. Requests the Executive Director to take account of the comments made during the debate on the report at the fourth session of the Governing Council;
3. /Also/ requests the Executive Director to report further on this subject to the Governing Council at its fifth session.

55th and 56th meetings  
12 and 13 April 1976

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38/ UNEP/GC/65.

39/ UNEP/GC/66.

40/ UNEP/GC/64.

General procedures governing the operations of the United Nations  
Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation

Article I. Definitions

Section A. Definitions

For the purposes of these general procedures:

- (a) "Foundation" shall mean the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;
- (b) "Governing Council" shall mean the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;
- (c) "Government" shall mean the Government of any State that is eligible for membership in the Governing Council;
- (d) "Executive Director" shall mean the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme;
- (e) "Administrator" shall mean the Administrator of the Foundation;
- (f) "Project" shall mean an activity separately identified within the programme of activities, to be carried out for a specific purpose and a definite period of time;
- (g) "Programme of activities" shall mean a plan of activities including areas for projects in which the Foundation is to be involved, whether financed partially or wholly by the Foundation, and including pre-programme activities;
- (h) "Programme support costs" shall mean the costs of administration and management of the programme of activities, covering programme development and evaluation, and technical and administrative support of projects.

Article II. Objectives

Section B. Primary operative objectives

The primary operative objectives of the Foundation shall be to assist in strengthening national environmental programmes relating to human settlements, particularly in the developing countries, giving special consideration to those countries where there is clear indication of greater need for improvement of habitat and human settlements conditions, through the provision of seed capital and the extension of the necessary technical and financial assistance to permit an effective mobilization of domestic resources for human habitat and environmental design and improvement of human settlements, including:

(a) Stimulating innovative approaches to pre-investment pre-project and financing strategies for human settlements activities, while drawing on the accumulated practical experience of both the public and private sectors for mobilization of financial resources for human habitat and human settlements projects;

(b) Organizing technical assistance services in human settlements and human habitat management, including training facilities and human habitat projects;

(c) Promoting the adaptation and transfer of appropriate scientific and technical knowledge on human settlements projects.

### Article III. Organs of the Foundation

#### Section C. Governing Council and Executive Director

Under the authority and guidance of the Governing Council, the Executive Director shall be responsible for the general direction of the Foundation and for providing the necessary technical and financial services related to the Foundation. He shall be responsible to the Council for all phases and aspects of the operations and the financial resources of the Foundation.

#### Section D. The Administrator

1. The Executive Director shall appoint the Administrator of the Foundation, who shall have the rank of Assistant Secretary-General.

2. The Administrator shall be responsible to the Executive Director for the operation and management of the Foundation and its resources.

#### Section E. The Advisory Board

1. The Executive Director shall appoint an Advisory Board of about 15 members who will serve in their personal capacity and will be chosen on an equitable and representative basis. The Board shall meet under the chairmanship of the Executive Director. Members of the Board shall be appointed for a period of two years and may be subject to reappointment.

2. The Board shall advise the Executive Director and the Administrator on the operations of the Foundation.

### Article IV. Resources

#### Section F. Initial funding

The Foundation is to receive over a four-year period from 1 January 1975, an allocation of \$4 million from the Environment Fund.

Section G. Voluntary contributions

1. The resources of the Foundation shall be derived from voluntary contributions from Governments, from United Nations bodies and other international and regional institutions, as well as from private sources.

2. Voluntary contributions may be pledged at any time, either on an annual basis or, whenever possible, for a number of years.

3. The Executive Director shall from time to time, at the request of the Governing Council, and with the authority delegated to him by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, convene pledging conferences at which Governments may announce their contributions to the Foundation.

Section H. Participation in the United Nations Development Programme

The Foundation may administer, as an executing agency, funds made available for projects by the United Nations Development Programme.

Article V. Programme activitiesSection I. Preparation of the programme

The Executive Director shall biennially prepare and submit to the Governing Council a programme of activities with estimates of resources and expenditures. This programme shall indicate in general terms the projects to be carried out during the period to which it relates.

Section J. Approval of the programme

The Governing Council shall consider and approve the programme of activities, and shall allocate from the estimated resources of the Foundation funds to cover the following main categories of expenditures:

- (a) Projects;
- (b) Programme support costs.

Article VI. ProjectsSection K. Design of projects

1. The Executive Director, upon request from and in collaboration with the Governments concerned, shall formulate projects within the primary operative objective of the Foundation, in accordance with policy directives issued by the Governing Council pursuant to section N below. Projects may be of an operational or of a research, technical assistance, training or demonstrational character.

2. Projects may be designed to be carried out entirely by the Foundation, or in collaboration with other international or national agencies. In the selection of such agencies particular attention shall be given to the capacity available within the United Nations system.

Section L. Project documents

1. For each project, a project document shall be drawn up describing all financial, technical, managerial and other resources required for the successful implementation of the project, and stating clearly the responsibility for providing these resources from the Foundation, from participating Governments and from other agencies.

2. The project document shall be agreed to by the Executive Director on behalf of the Foundation, and by the Governments and agencies concerned.

Section M. Approval of projects

Each project shall be approved by the Executive Director, except that approval of the Governing Council shall be required for projects that:

(a) The Governing Council has indicated it wishes to consider itself;

(b) The Executive Director has submitted to the Council for consideration because of their policy implications or magnitude.

Section N. General policies

1. The Governing Council shall issue policy directives with a view to ensuring that the resources of the Foundation are utilized with maximum efficiency and effectiveness in pursuance of its primary operative objective.

2. The Executive Director shall establish programmes, guidelines and directives in connexion with investments for the environmental design and improvement of the human habitat and human settlements, in both urban and rural areas.

Section O. The Administrator and the staff of the Foundation

1. The staff of the Foundation shall be appointed for service specifically with the Foundation by the Executive Director, on the advice of the Appointment and Promotion Board of the United Nations Environment Programme pending the establishment of the Appointment and Promotion Board of the Foundation itself.

2. The appointment and promotion of the staff of the Foundation shall be subject to the provisions of the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules of the United Nations.



Section P. Trust funds

The Executive Director may establish trust funds to carry out specific purposes consistent with the primary operative objectives of the Foundation, which shall be administered in accordance with the financial rules of the Foundation.

Section Q. Reports

The Executive Director shall submit annual and, as appropriate, special reports to the Governing Council indicating:

- (a) The status of the resources of the Foundation;
- (b) The execution of the programme of activities;
- (c) The approval and execution of all projects.

Section R. Co-operation with other agencies

The Foundation shall maintain close working contacts with other international and regional bodies within and outside the United Nations system, particularly with financial institutions, as well as with bilateral and other national, private and public organizations whose interests and operations relate to human settlements activities.

73 (IV). United Nations Conference on DesertificationThe Governing Council,

Having considered, in its capacity as the preparatory body for the United Nations Conference on Desertification, the report of the Executive Director 41/ on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 on international co-operation to combat desertification,

1. Approves the proposals of the Executive Director concerning the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Desertification as they appear in his report;

2. Requests the Executive Director to take into account during these preparations the comments made by the various delegations during the debate at the fourth session of the Governing Council, particularly regarding the conciseness and clearness of the documents prepared for the Conference, the action-oriented nature of the recommendations to be included in the plan of action and the need for very early consultations with Governments on the contents of the various documents, especially the draft plan of action;

3. Calls upon the Governments concerned to co-operate fully with the secretariat of the Conference in the preparation of the case studies and in the consideration of the feasibility of the proposed transnational activities;

4. Approves the draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference 42/ for presentation to the Conference as the provisional rules for adoption under item 2 of its provisional agenda;

5. Invites the General Assembly at its thirty-first session to request the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to assume the responsibility of Secretary-General of the Conference, in addition to his other responsibilities as Executive Director;

6. Invites the General Assembly at its thirty-first session, when considering the administrative and financial implications for the United Nations regular budget of servicing the Conference, to give favourable consideration to authorizing the inclusion of Arabic as a working language of the Conference;

7. Further invites the General Assembly at its thirty-first session to approve the extension of invitations to the United Nations Conference on Desertification to all States and liberation movements in accordance with its established practice, to interested specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations indicating an interest to participate, and to those non-governmental organizations in consultative status with, the Economic and Social Council which inform the Executive Director of their interest in being represented by observers;

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41/ UNEP/GC/67 and Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1 and Add.3.

42/ UNEP/GC/67/Add.1.

8. Agrees to the draft provisional agenda for the Conference, 43/ subject to items 2-6 (a) being incorporated into one item entitled "Organisation of the work of the Conference", and recommends that the General Assembly at its thirty-first session approve the draft provisional agenda thus modified for presentation to the Conference for adoption;

9. Approves the financial implications of the preparations for the Conference and decides:

(a) To allocate from the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, towards the preparations for the Conference, the sum of \$1,023,500 in 1976 and \$1 million in 1977;

(b) To request the Executive Director to provide the Governing Council, at its fifth session, with a precise accounting of the allocation for 1976;

(c) To consider at its fifth session a revised estimate of the financial implications of the preparations for the Conference, on the basis of a report by the Executive Director on progress made during the period between the fourth and fifth sessions of the Governing Council, together with a detailed plan of expenditure during the year 1977;

10. Notes that the amount of \$392,500 under Fund programme activities forms part of the approved allocation for terrestrial ecosystems, their management and control for 1976-1977;

11. Urges the Executive Director, while ensuring maximum efficiency of the preparations for this very important Conference, to exert every effort to economize on the expenditure from the sums allocated according to paragraph 9 (a) above.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

74 (IV). Financial and budgetary matters

The Governing Council

I

Rationale for the allocation of the expenses of the  
United Nations Environment Programme

Takes note of the note by the Executive Director on the distribution of staff costs between the regular budget of the United Nations and the programme and programme support costs of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme; 44/

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43/ See annex II below.

44/ UNEP/GC/70.

Financial report and accounts

1. Takes note of and approves the financial report and accounts of the United Nations Environment Programme for the year ended 31 December 1974, 45/ and takes note of the comments of the Executive Director on the audit opinion of the Board of Auditors 46/ and on the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 47/ as set forth in his report;
2. Takes note of paragraph 4 of the note by the Executive Director on the financial report and accounts of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the year ended 31 December 1975; 48/
3. Endorses the Executive Director's utilization of savings under the programme and programme support costs of the Fund, which has resulted in an overexpenditure of \$269,986 against the appropriation for furniture and equipment to provide for requirements of furniture, equipment and other essential requirements arising from the move to temporary premises;

Headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme  
and the construction of temporary premises

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director on the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme and the construction of temporary premises, 49/ particularly paragraphs 4 and 7;
2. Expresses its deep appreciation to the Government of Kenya for its substantial financial contribution and its co-operation and support in the planning and construction of the temporary premises;
3. Decides that revenue derived from rental charges shall be applied towards repayment of the amount of \$1,150,000 advanced from the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme until the latter is fully repaid, and that thenceforth all such income shall be credited to miscellaneous income;
4. Authorizes an increase of \$221,000 in the programme and programme support costs budget of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the biennium 1976-1977 for the architectural and engineering study of the construction of a permanent headquarters for the United Nations Environment Programme at

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45/ UNEP/GC/71.

46/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 7F (A/10007/Add.6), chaps. I-III.

47/ A/10239, paras. 18-20.

48/ UNEP/GC/L.35.

49/ UNEP/GC/68/Add.2.

Nairobi, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 13 of its report. 50/

55th meeting  
12 April 1976

75 (IV). Matters relating to the implementation of the Fund programme

The Governing Council

I

Implementation of the Fund programme

Takes note of the report on the implementation of the Fund programme in 1975 51/ and requests the Executive Director to take appropriate account of the comments made during the debate, as reflected in the report of the Governing Council on its fourth session;

II

Methodology for the evaluation of Fund programme activities

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director on the methodology for the evaluation of Fund programme activities; 52/
2. Requests the Executive Director to be guided, in the evaluation of projects, by the comments made during the debate, as reflected in the report of the Governing Council on its fourth session;
3. Further requests the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at subsequent sessions on the results of evaluation carried out, and on developments in the application of the methodology referred to in paragraph 1 above.

55th meeting  
12 April 1976

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50/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 8A (A/10008/Add.1-28), document A/10008/Add.14.

51/ UNEP/GC/68 and Corr.1.

52/ UNEP/GC/83.

76 (IV). The Fund programmeA. Approval of the level of Fund programme activities in 1976-1977 53/The Governing Council,

Recalling section VI of its decision 42 (III) of 30 April and 2 May 1975 regarding the approval of the Fund programme in 1975 and 1976-1977,

1. Authorizes the allocation of \$34 million in 1976 and \$35.7 million in 1977 for Fund programme activities;
2. Instructs the Executive Director, in managing the resources of the Programme, to be guided by the anticipated cash inflows of voluntary contributions and to take due account of the level of available resources, and of the currency composition of those resources, in order to avoid a deficit situation.

55th meeting  
12 April 1976

B. Approval of the Fund programme for 1976-1977The Governing Council,

Firmly convinced of the international importance of environmental concerns,

Satisfied that the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme has played an important catalytic role in the initiation and support of activities aimed at the preservation and improvement of the environment,

Aware that payments to the Fund have fallen seriously behind the pace of Fund programme activities,

1. Approves the Fund programme for the years 1976 and 1977 proposed by the Executive Director 54/ in the context of the medium-term plan for the period 1976-1979 as approved by the Governing Council in section V, paragraph 1, of its decision 42 (III) of 30 April and 2 May 1975;
2. Decides to review at its fifth session the Fund programme for the years 1978 and 1979 in the context of its review and approval of the medium-term plan for the period 1978-1981;
3. Appeals to Governments which have not pledged contributions to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme to do so generously within their capacities;

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53/ See also decision 69 (IV) above.

54/ UNEP/GC/73/Corr.2, table 1, "Proposed allocation of resources, 1973-1979".

4. Urges Governments which have announced pledges to pay their pledges fully and promptly;

5. Requests Governments which have already pledged contributions to consider increasing the amount of their pledges, in the light of the demonstrated capacity of the Fund to perform the tasks assigned to it and taking into account the demands placed on it;

6. Further requests Governments which have announced pledges for an initial period ending in 1977 to consider the level of their pledges beyond that year;

7. Requests the Executive Director to review with Governments both the level and the terms of their voluntary contributions, taking into account rule 203.4 of the Financial Rules of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, with a view to obtaining increased resources which would permit the full implementation of the medium-term plan, and to report to the Governing Council at its fifth session on the results of this review;

8. Further requests the Executive Director, in view of the limited level of the financial reserve and of the difficulty of obtaining payment of voluntary contributions in the first quarter of the year, to ensure the availability of adequate resources to be carried over from 1976 to 1977.

55th meeting  
12 April 1976

77 (IV). Co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States

The Governing Council,

Having considered the progress report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources Shared by Two or More States 55/ on draft principles of conduct in the field of the environment for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious exploitation of natural resources shared by two or more States,

Recalling its decision 44 (III) of 25 April 1975, establishing the Working Group,

1. Expresses satisfaction at the progress made by the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources Shared by Two or More States in the preparation of draft principles of conduct in the field of the environment for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious exploitation of such natural resources;

2. Takes note of the report of the Working Group on the progress made at its first session, held at Nairobi from 12 to 22 January 1976;

3. Decides that the Working Group shall continue its work in 1976, and if necessary in 1977;
4. Authorizes the Executive Director to reconvene the Working Group;
5. Notes that the membership of the Working Group will remain unchanged;
6. Requests the Working Group to submit a report for consideration by the Governing Council at its fifth session, in order that it may be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

51st meeting  
6 April 1976



78 (IV). Institutional arrangementsA. Review of institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operationThe Governing Council,

Recalling that the General Assembly, by section IV of its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, decided to review as appropriate, at its thirty-first session, the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation,

Taking note of the relevant sections of the report of the Executive Director on the review of the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation, 56/

Taking account of the views of Governments as expressed in writing to the Executive Director and of the views expressed at the informal consultations held in Nairobi on 28 and 29 January 1976, all of which views are reflected in the Executive Director's report,

## I

Decides to advise the General Assembly at its thirty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, that in its view the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation contained in Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) - that is the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Environment secretariat, the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Environment Co-ordination Board - appear, after less than four years of operation, adequate and sound, and therefore should not be changed at this stage,

## II

1. Recognizes that there is nevertheless scope for improving methods of work without altering the established institutional arrangements;

2. Decides that, while continuing to meet annually, the Governing Council will, in adopting its agenda for its next and subsequent sessions, consider phasing items so that some issues are dealt with at length only at alternate sessions;

3. Further decides that, when considering requests to the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme, due regard will be given to the implications of such requests for the efficiency of the work of the Governing Council and the secretariat;

4. Reaffirms its view that the Programme should avoid involvement in any new long-term activities of a primarily executive character without the approval of the Governing Council;

5. Takes note of the Executive Director's intention to submit to the Governing Council at its fifth session proposals for a modest increase in staff, without departing from the principle of a small secretariat;

6. Notes with appreciation the Executive Director's efforts to bring about a better balance in the Fund programme, from the point of view of the size of projects, the participation of co-operating agencies and supporting institutions and the execution of internal projects, and national, regional and global projects;

7. Endorses the Executive Director's views on the catalytic function of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and hence the need for a close association between the Fund and the Bureau of the Programme;

8. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director and the report of the Environment Co-ordination Board, 57/ which demonstrate that the Board is already a useful instrument of programme co-ordination within the United Nations system in the environmental field, and of the plans of the Executive Director and the Board to develop further this aspect of the Board's work.

59th meeting  
14 April 1976

B. Possible restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system

The Governing Council,

Recalling its mandate under General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

Recalling further that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System, established by the General Assembly in resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, will report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session,

Taking note of the relevant paragraphs of the report of the Executive Director on the review of the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation, 58/

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57/ UNEP/GC/59 and Corr.1.

58/ UNEP/GC/75, part III, paras. 92-109.

Taking account of the views of Governments as expressed in writing to the Executive Director and of the views expressed at the informal consultations held in Nairobi on 28 and 29 January 1976, all of which views are reflected in the Executive Director's report,

Believing that its views should be framed within the confines of environmental concerns and recognizing that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly have a broader mandate to review all the economic and social sectors of the United Nations,

Decides to recommend to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, that whatever may be decided about the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, the following elements relating to the place of environmental considerations within the system should be observed, strengthened and given institutional visibility:

"The United Nations system should maintain, within a clearly identified institutional arrangement focused on the essential catalytic and co-ordinating role in the field of the environment, the capacity to:

- (a) Take responsibility for environmental issues of a global nature;
- (b) Provide guidance and leadership in international environmental affairs;
- (c) Offer suitable forums and facilities for treaty-making in the field of the environment at the global and regional levels;
- (d) Identify, through the programmatic approach, emerging environmental problems and propose solutions;
- (e) Manage a separate environment fund as an integral part of the programmatic process;
- (f) Advocate and articulate the interdependence of environment and development;
- (g) Respond to the environmental problems of both developed and developing countries;
- (h) Respond to the environmental problems of human settlements, which are an integral part of the human environment."

59th meeting  
14 April 1976

C. Review of the institutional arrangements for human settlements

The Governing Council,

Aware that Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, to be held at Vancouver in May and June 1976, will consider recommendations for the future organization of institutional arrangements within the United Nations system for human settlements,

Taking note of the relevant paragraphs of the report of the Executive Director on the review of the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation, 59/

Taking account of the views expressed at the informal consultations held in Nairobi on 28 and 29 January 1976, which are reflected in the Executive Director's report, and of the views expressed by the Governing Council at its various sessions,

1. Invites, without prejudice to the results of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, the delegations participating in that Conference to take the following into account when considering the institutional arrangements for human settlements within the United Nations system:

(a) The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in June 1972, proclaimed that both aspects of man's environment, the natural and the man-made, were essential to his well-being and to the enjoyment of basic human rights, even the right to life itself. The first recommendation of the Conference 60/ emphasized that the planning, improvement and management of rural and urban settlements demanded an approach, at all levels, embracing every aspect of the human environment, both natural and man-made;

(b) The linkage between the man-made environment and the natural environment is of prime importance, and their interrelationship must be considered in all forums dealing with international co-operation in order to ensure the improvement of the quality of life of all peoples;

2. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to present to the Habitat Conference specific options regarding institutional arrangements, based on technical and administrative studies.

59th meeting  
14 April 1976

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59/ UNEP/GC/75, part III, paras. 110-117.

60/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. II, sect. B, p. 6.

79 (1V). Environment and developmentThe Governing Council,

Having considered the interim reports of the Executive Director on environment and development, the environmental impact of the irrational and wasteful use of natural resources and ecocodevelopment, and the relevant implementation strategies, 61/

Recognizing the importance to present and future generations of environmentally sound development,

Conscious of the relationship between such development and the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 62/ the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States 63/ and the recommendations made by the General Assembly at its seventh special session regarding development and international economic co-operation, 64/ as adopted,

Aware that the preservation of a sound environment is an essential element of development conceived as a global improvement of the quality of human life,

Further aware that appropriate technology is a constantly varying concept because of the dynamism of technological innovations, the continuing assessment of which is difficult for the developing countries,

Recognizing further the relevance of ecocodevelopment in planning for both development and long-term sustainable use of the environment, and noting the preliminary conclusions contained in paragraph 30 of the Executive Director's report on ecocodevelopment, 65/

Concerned at the inadequate consideration of environmental implications in recent discussions of development by the international community,

Recalling section II, paragraph 7, of its decision 20 (III) of 2 May 1975, by which it approved the suggestion of the Executive Director regarding the environmental elements which should be included in the criteria for the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Aware that the forthcoming fourth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, the United Nations Water Conference and the United Nations Conference on Desertification, will have an important bearing on the development of the concept of environment and development,

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61/ UNEP/GC/76, UNEP/GC/79, UNEP/GC/80 and UNEP/GC/61, respectively.

62/ General Assembly resolution 3201 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974.

63/ General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974.

64/ General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975.

65/ UNEP/GC/80.

1. Appeals to States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency to reaffirm their commitment to the integration of environmental considerations in the context of development planning;
2. Urges the governing bodies of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other organizations of the United Nations system to take environmental considerations fully into account in making their recommendations for new goals and objectives for the remainder of the Second United Nations Development Decade;
3. Requests the Executive Director, taking into consideration the views expressed by the delegations at the fourth session of the Governing Council, to devote increased attention to the relationship between environment and development, including research into development of appropriate institutions, the implementation of relevant management techniques and the convening of regional and subregional intergovernmental meetings and seminars;
4. Authorizes the Executive Director to convene an intergovernmental expert group meeting in 1976 to consider, in the light of the comments of Governments and the observations made during the consideration of the subject at the fourth session of the Governing Council, the subject-matter of his reports on environment and development and on ecodevelopment, and his report on the environmental impact of the irrational and wasteful use of natural resources, with a view to preparing agreed criteria for assessing that environmental impact;
5. Draws the attention of the Executive Director to the desirability, within the over-all context of the programme and subject to the availability of funds, of giving special attention, as appropriate, to:
  - (a) Promoting the development of methodologies and parameters for assessing the environmental costs and benefits of development, including the social costs;
  - (b) Encouraging research in all countries, both developed and developing, aimed at promoting the rational use of natural resources, the development of appropriate technologies and a better understanding of the environmental impact of degradable and non-degradable toxic substances;
  - (c) Continuing to promote, in co-operation with the United Nations bodies concerned, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, studies based on ecodevelopment research and pilot projects, and to disseminate on a regular basis to Governments information on ecodevelopment, in particular the results of pilot projects carried out in this field;
  - (d) Promoting the development of methodology for environmentally sound rural and urban planning, and encouraging the establishment of a network of information exchanges among existing institutions interested in exchanging information on the subject;
  - (e) Developing, in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme, other United Nations bodies and international financial institutions, techniques

and methods of appraising the environmental aspects and foreseeable impacts of development programmes and projects;

6. Further requests the Executive Director:

(a) To prepare for submission to the Governing Council at its fifth session the reports of the meetings held in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4 above, together with his views and recommendations on how to implement the conclusions arrived at in those meetings;

(b) To submit a report indicating the level and the ways and means of assisting developing countries, in collaboration with the appropriate United Nations agencies, in establishing or upgrading, as appropriate, their standards for control of technological innovations on the basis of the observations contained in the fourth and fifth preambular paragraphs above;

(c) To inform the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, at its fourth session, of the work being done by the United Nations Environment Programme in the subject area environment and development, and of the relevant decisions of the Governing Council at its fourth session.

59th meeting  
14 April 1976

80 (IV). Study of the problem of the material remnants of wars, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment

The Governing Council,

Having considered the note by the Executive Director on the study of the problem of the material remnants of wars, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment, 66/

Recalling paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 3435 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

Realizing that the Governing Council has the responsibility to deal with the problem of the effect of mines on the human environment,

1. Takes note of the views regarding the scope of the study required by the above-mentioned resolution, as set out by the Executive Director in his note;

2. Welcomes the efforts currently being undertaken in the context of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts and the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, and urges that the discussions now taking place in the various relevant forums should aim at ensuring the maximum possible protection of the environment against damage caused by war;

3. Authorizes the Executive Director to proceed with the appropriate study, to commence by seeking information from Governments, taking into account the statistics prepared by Governments concerning the losses caused by mines, and to give due and careful consideration to such statistics in recommending the formulation of any guidelines;

4. Requests the Executive Director to consult with Governments regarding the feasibility and desirability of convening an intergovernmental meeting to deal with the environmental problems of the material remnants of wars;

5. Further requests the Executive Director to render assistance in the field of environmental protection to States, upon request, in preparing their own programmes for the elimination of mines in their territories;

6. Authorizes the Executive Director, on its behalf, to submit an interim report on the study to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session;

7. Agrees to consider the matter further at its fifth session, with a view to submitting the study to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

54th meeting  
9 April 1976

81 (IV). Relationships with non-governmental organizations

The Governing Council,

Having considered the note of the Executive Director on relationships with non-governmental organizations, 67/

1. Expresses appreciation to all non-governmental organizations which have taken part in environmental activities and have contributed to the programme activities of the United Nations Environment Programme and invites such organizations to continue to maintain close co-operation with the Programme;

2. Requests the Executive Director to develop further working relationships with those non-governmental organizations which have an interest in the field of the environment;

3. Invites the non-governmental organizations concerned, where possible, to work within and contribute to the programmatic guidelines developed by the United Nations Environment Programme.

52nd meeting  
7 April 1976



Other decisionsResolutions of the seventh special and thirtieth regular sessions  
of the General Assembly of relevance to the United Nations  
Environment Programme

At its 52nd meeting, on 7 April 1976, the Governing Council took note of General Assembly resolutions 3434 (XXX), 3435 (XXX), 3437 (XXX) and 3440 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, 3461 (XXX) and 3475 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, and 3506 (XXX), 3507 (XXX) and 3512 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, of the action already taken by the Executive Director with regard to those resolutions, and of his plans for further action.

Criteria governing multilateral financing of housing  
and human settlements

At its 50th meeting, on 6 April 1976, the Governing Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on criteria governing multilateral financing of housing and human settlements 68/ and of the related note by the Executive Director, 69/ and requested the Executive Director to convey its comments on the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, as the relevant part of the present report. The comments of the Governing Council are reported in chapter VI of the present report.

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

At its 56th meeting, on 13 April 1976, the Governing Council decided that its fifth session will be held at Nairobi from 9 to 25 May 1977, with informal consultations on 8 May.

At its 58th meeting, on 14 April 1976, the Council adopted the following provisional agenda for its fifth session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Agenda and organization of the work of the session.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. Executive Director's report and state of the environment:
  - (a) Introductory report of the Executive Director;

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68/ A/10225.

69/ UNEP/GC/78.

- (b) State of the environment report.
6. Report of the Environment Co-ordination Board.
  7. Programme matters:
    - (a) Review of the activities relating to the environment programme;
    - (b) Review of the status of the programme, including supporting measures;
    - (c) Review and approval of Fund programme activities for 1977 and 1978-1979.
  8. Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements - Review and follow-up activities.
  9. United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation:
    - (a) Progress report on the implementation of the plan and programme of operations of the Foundation;
    - (b) Revised estimates for programme support costs for the biennium 1976-1977 and proposed budget for programme support costs for the biennium 1978-1979.
  10. United Nations Conference on Desertification.
  11. Management of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and financial matters:
    - (a) Report on the implementation of the Fund programme in 1976, revised estimates for programme and programme support costs for the biennium 1976-1977 and proposed budget for programme and programme support costs for the biennium 1978-1979 and review and approval of the over-all level of Fund programme activities for 1977 and 1978-1979;
    - (b) Audited 1975 accounts;
    - (c) Review and approval of the Fund programme for 1977 and 1978-1979 and of the medium-term plan for the period 1978-1981.
  12. Report on progress made on draft principles of conduct for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious exploitation of natural resources shared by two or more States.
  13. Environment and development, including irrational and wasteful use of natural resources and ecocodevelopment.
  14. Report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3435 (XXX): study on the problem of the material remnants of war, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment.
  15. Resolutions of the thirty-first session of the General Assembly of relevance to the United Nations Environment Programme.

16. Provisional agenda, date and place of the sixth session of the Governing Council.
17. Other business.
18. Report of the Governing Council to the General Assembly.
19. Closure of the session.

Date and place of informal consultations with Governments

At its 58th meeting, on 14 April 1976, the Governing Council, recalling paragraph 1 of its decision 23 (III) of 2 May 1975, decided that the informal consultations to be held between its fourth and fifth sessions will take place at Geneva during January 1977, for the purpose of exchanging views on issues of policy and considering any other items on which the Executive Director may wish to report, and requested the Executive Director to provide for the administrative costs of the informal consultations in his budget estimates.

## ANNEX II

Draft provisional agenda for the United Nations Conference on  
Desertification agreed to by the Governing Council\*

1. Opening of the Conference and election of the President.
2. Organization of the work of the Conference:
  - (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure;
  - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
  - (c) Establishment of committees and other sessional bodies;
  - (d) Election of officers other than the President;
  - (e) Credentials of representatives to the Conference:  
appointment of the Credentials Committee.
3. General debate.
4. Processes and causes of desertification.
5. Plan of action to combat desertification.
6. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:  
report of the Credentials Committee.
7. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

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\* See annex I above, decision 73 (IV), para. 1; and E/5836/Add.1.

## RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

### 2013 (LXI). REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME ON ITS FOURTH SESSION

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme of the work of its fourth session<sup>1</sup> and the recommendations contained therein, including those submitted by the Governing Council in its capacity as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the United Nations Conference on Desertification, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 3337 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 entitled 'International co-operation to combat desertification' and 3511 (XXX) of 15 December 1975 entitled 'United Nations Conference on Desertification',

*Having further considered* the need to ensure a co-ordinated approach by those responsible for implementing the strategies contained in the environment programme as adopted by the Governing Council,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fourth session and also notes the statements made thereon by its Executive Director at the sixty-first session of the Economic and Social Council,<sup>2</sup>

2. *Invites* the General Assembly to approve the recommendations contained in that report, and in particular those relating to the United Nations Conference on Desertification contained in paragraphs 5 to 8 of decision 73 (IV) of the Governing Council;

3. *Invites* the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 3 of decision 55 (IV) of the Governing Council, which deals with the preparations for the United Nations Water Conference;

4. *Further invites* the attention of the General Assembly to paragraphs 1 and 2 of section III of decision 17 (IV) of the Governing Council in which that Council expresses the belief that the environment should be a major consideration in international discussions on development;

5. *Further invites* the General Assembly to take into consideration the comments of the Governing Council contained in chapter VI of its report, on the report of the Secretary-General on criteria governing multilateral financing of housing and human settlements<sup>3</sup> and the related note by the Executive Director;<sup>4</sup>

6. *Also invites* the attention of the General Assembly to decision 76B (IV) of the Governing Council, which *inter alia* appeals to Governments which have not pledged contributions to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme to do so generously within their capacities and urges Governments which have announced pledges to pay their pledges fully and promptly.

*2030th plenary meeting  
3 August 1976*

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/GC/85 and Corr. 1 - 3; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbols E/5836 and Corr.1 and 2 and E/5836/Add.1. For the final text of the report of the Governing Council, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25)*.

<sup>2</sup> See E/AC.6/SR.762 and E/AC.6/SR.765.

<sup>3</sup> A/10225.

<sup>4</sup> UNEP/GC/78.

## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### 31/10. EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 3410 (XXX) of 28 November 1975,

*Reaffirming* the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

*Concerned* about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which man is exposed,

*Conscious* of the continuing need for compiling information about atomic radiation and for analysing its effects on man and his environment,

*Noting* the intention of the Scientific Committee to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session a comprehensive report reviewing population exposures from natural radiation sources, from the production of power by nuclear fission and from the environmental contamination due to nuclear explosions, occupational exposure to radiation, medical irradiation, and the genetic and carcinogenic effects of ionizing radiation,

*Noting further* that the organizational responsibility for servicing the Scientific Committee has now been transferred from the Offices of the Secretary-General to the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation;<sup>2</sup>

2. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important co-ordination activities, to increase knowledge of the levels and effects of atomic radiation from all sources;

3. *Notes* the intention of the Scientific Committee to hold its twenty-sixth session at Vienna from 13 to 22 April 1977;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and non-governmental organizations;

5. *Requests* all Member States and the United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations concerned to supply to the Scientific Committee by the end of 1976 further data relevant to its work, with a view to facilitating the preparation by the Committee of its comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* the growing co-operation between the Scientific Committee and the United Nations Environment Programme, particularly on projects to which the Committee can make a significant contribution;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to provide the Scientific Committee with the full support necessary for the effective conduct of its work and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public.

*57th plenary meeting  
8 November 1976*

### 31/108. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON DESERTIFICATION

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3337 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, in which it decided to initiate concerted international action to combat desertification,

*Recalling further* its resolution 3511 (XXX) of 15 December 1975 on the United Nations Conference on Desertification,

*Having considered* the relevant parts of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fourth session relating to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX),<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For the decisions adopted on the reports of the Special Political Committee, see sect. X.B.2 below.

<sup>2</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda item 51, document A/31/229.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25), chap. VII and annex II.

Noting decision 73 (IV)<sup>4</sup> of 13 April 1976 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme acting in its capacity as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the Conference,

Noting also Economic and Social Council resolution 2013 (LXI) of 3 August 1976,

1. *Urges* Member States to continue to co-operate with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Desertification in the preparations for the Conference, including the case studies and the proposed transnational activities to combat desertification;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in addition to his other responsibilities as Executive Director, to assume the responsibility of Secretary-General of the Conference;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite:

(a) All States to participate in the Conference;

(b) Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the sessions and the work of all international conferences convened under its auspices in the capacity of observers, in accordance with Assembly resolution 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974;

(c) Representatives of the national liberation movements recognized in its region by the Organization of African Unity, in the capacity of observers, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974;

(d) The United Nations Council for Namibia to participate as an observer;

(e) The specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as interested organs of the United Nations, to be represented at the Conference;

(f) Interested intergovernmental organizations to be represented by observers;

(g) Interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to be represented by observers;

4. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to invite other interested non-governmental organizations that might have a specific contribution to make to the work of the Conference to be represented by observers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary arrangements are made for the effective participation in the Conference of the representatives referred to in paragraph 3 (b) and (c) above, including the requisite financial provisions for their travel expenses and *per diem*;

6. *Decides* to include Arabic as a language of the Conference;

7. *Approves* the provisional agenda for the Conference annexed to the present resolution;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the results of the Conference, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

101st plenary meeting  
16 December 1976

## ANNEX

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON DESERTIFICATION

1. Opening of the Conference and election of the President.
2. Organization of the work of the Conference:
  - (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure;
  - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
  - (c) Establishment of committees and other sessional bodies;
  - (d) Election of officers other than the President;
  - (e) Credentials of representatives to the Conference: appointment of the Credentials Committee.
3. General debate.
4. Processes and causes of desertification.
5. Plan of action to combat desertification.
6. Credentials of representatives to the Conference: report of the Credentials Committee.
7. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, annex I.

### 31/109. HABITAT: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3128 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973, 3325 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 and 3438 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 on the preparations for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

Considering that solutions to human settlements problems around the world are urgently required,

Bearing in mind the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order<sup>5</sup> and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States<sup>6</sup> and the importance for the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade of improving human settlements around the world as a major component in improving the quality of life,

Noting that Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements was held at Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976:

(a) To stimulate innovation, serve as a means for the exchange of experience and ensure the widest possible dissemination of new ideas and technologies in the field of human settlements,

(b) To formulate and make recommendations for an international programme in this field which will assist Governments,

(c) To stimulate interest in developing appropriate financial systems and institutions for human settlements among those making financial resources available and those in a position to use such resources, considering that the most appropriate and effective action for dealing with human settlements problems is action at the national level, but that such action will require assistance and co-operation between and among all States,

1. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to the Government of Canada for the excellent organization, facilities and generous hospitality provided for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

2. Expresses appreciation to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for the guidance as well as the generous support it provided for the Conference;

3. Takes note of the report of the Conference, including the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976,<sup>7</sup> the recommendations for national action<sup>8</sup> and the resolutions for international co-operation;<sup>9</sup>

4. Commends the Secretary-General of the Conference on the successful preparation and organization of the Conference;

5. Urges the Governments of all Member States to consider, on a priority basis, the recommendations for national action contained in the report and to take those recommendations into account when reviewing their existing policies and strategies in the field of human settlements;

6. Calls upon the regional commissions and urges all other international organizations within and outside the United Nations system to take intensified and sustained action in support of national efforts, including exchanges of information and assistance, at the request of Governments, in the formulation, design, implementation and evaluation of projects to improve human settlements;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to convene regional meetings, as appropriate, within the framework of the regional commissions, to establish guidelines for the co-ordination, within each region, of action to be taken in order to deal with human settlements and to report to the General Assembly on the results of their deliberations no later than at the thirty-second session;

8. Takes note of the notes by the Secretary-General transmitting reports on the regional meetings already held within the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Europe.<sup>10</sup>

101st plenary meeting  
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<sup>5</sup> Resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI); see also resolution 3362 (S-VII) entitled "Development and international economic co-operation".

<sup>6</sup> Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

<sup>7</sup> *Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum), chap. I.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III.

<sup>10</sup> A/C.2/31/5, A/C.2/31/9.



**31/111. REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourth session,<sup>11</sup> and the statement of the Executive Director introducing the report,<sup>12</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

*Recalling also* the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order<sup>13</sup> as well as the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,<sup>14</sup> which laid down the foundations of the new international economic order,

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolution 2013 (LXI) of 3 August 1976 relating to the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fourth session,

*Reaffirming* that there can be no sustained development or meaningful growth without a clear commitment at the same time to preserving the environment and promoting the rational use of natural resources, with an eye to the needs of future generations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourth session;

2. *Endorses* paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2013 (LXI) inviting attention to decision 55 (IV) of 13 April 1976 of the Governing Council,<sup>15</sup> concerning the active participation of the United Nations Environment Programme in the preparations for the United Nations Water Conference;

3. *Reaffirms* the belief expressed by the Governing Council in section III, paragraphs 1 and 2, of its decision 47 (IV) of 14 April 1976<sup>15</sup> that the environment should be a major consideration in international discussions on development;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the report of the Executive Director on the status of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme<sup>16</sup> and urges Governments to extend their continuing financial support to the Fund;

5. *Notes* the report of the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Executive Director on the study of the problem of the material remnants of war, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment<sup>17</sup> and requests the Governing Council to ensure its completion, taking into account the views expressed in the course of the consideration of this matter;

6. *Notes* the report of the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment<sup>18</sup> and reiterates the concern expressed in General Assembly resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 that existing international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment have not yet received the wide acceptance and application they deserve.

*101st plenary meeting  
16 December 1976*

**31/112. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL  
CO-OPERATION**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, particularly section IV thereof, in which it decided to review as appropriate, at the thirty-first session, the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation,

*Taking note* of decision 78 (IV) of 14 April 1976 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,<sup>19</sup>

*Recalling* that in its resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 it established the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System,

<sup>11</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25).*

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-first Session, Second Committee*, 19th meeting, paras. 1-20.

<sup>13</sup> Resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

<sup>14</sup> Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

<sup>15</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25)*, annex 1.

<sup>16</sup> UNEP/GC.57 and Corr.1.

<sup>17</sup> A/31/210.

<sup>18</sup> A/31/211.

<sup>19</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25)*, annex 1.

1. *Endorses* the view of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme that the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation, as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), namely, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the environment Programme, the environment secretariat, the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Environment Co-ordination Board, appear adequate and sound;

2. *Endorses also* the view expressed by the Governing Council in its decision 78 B (IV) that, in any decision about the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, the following elements relating to the place of environmental considerations within the system should be observed, strengthened and given institutional visibility:

The United Nations system should maintain, within a clearly identified institutional arrangement focused on the essential catalytic and co-ordinating role in the field of the environment, the capacity:

- (a) To take responsibility for environmental issues of a global nature;
- (b) To provide guidance and leadership in international environmental affairs;
- (c) To offer suitable forums and facilities for treaty-making in the field of the environment at the global and regional levels;
- (d) To identify, through the programmatic approach, emerging environmental problems and to propose solutions;
- (e) To manage a separate environment fund as an integral part of the programmatic process;
- (f) To advocate and articulate the interdependence of environment and development;
- (g) To respond to the environmental problems of both developed and developing countries;
- (h) To respond to the environmental problems of human settlements, which are an integral part of the human environment;

3. *Decides* to maintain at this stage the present arrangements, without prejudice to any decision the General Assembly might take as regards the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system.

*101st plenary meeting  
16 December 1976*

### 31/116. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,<sup>20</sup> in particular the annex to Conference resolution I on programmes for international co-operation,<sup>21</sup>

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2040 (LXI) of 5 August 1976,

*Recognizing* that the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System is considering proposals that would have implications for institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements,

*Considering* that the most appropriate and effective action for dealing with human settlements problems is action at the national level, but that action is also required at the regional and global levels with a view to improving the quality of life for all peoples, particularly in the developing countries,

*Recognizing also* that the momentum of the Conference must be maintained through further action and decisions within the United Nations system,

*Considering also* that co-operation in the field of human settlements is one of the important means of fostering the goals of over-all social and economic development,

*Taking into account* that further consideration is required with respect to definitive institutional arrangements for human settlements activities within the United Nations system,

#### I

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

1. *Takes into account* the paragraphs agreed to by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, as contained in the preamble and in sections I to IX of the annex to Conference resolution I, with due respect to the foot-note to section X of that annex;

<sup>20</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III.

2. *Decides* to defer until its thirty-second session the decision on the type of definitive intergovernmental body for human settlements and on the organizational link and location of the human settlements secretariat, when the guidelines from the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System will be in hand, the financial implications of alternative institutional arrangements will be worked out and studied in greater depth, and the regional consultations will have been completed;

## II

### INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

1. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System to make available to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session any conclusions it has reached in the light of its over-all responsibilities which might have implications for institutional arrangements for human settlements;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to devote the necessary time at the outset of its sixty-third session to the examination of the developments in human settlements and the follow-up to Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

3. *Recommends* that those meetings of the Economic and Social Council should be at the expert or highest appropriate level and with the active participation of all interested delegations and that the Council at its organizational session for 1977 should arrange the necessary modalities to this end;

4. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session, as part of its agenda, to consider the report of the Secretary-General referred to in section III, paragraph 1 below, together with the views of the *Ad Hoc* Committee and of the regional commissions, with a view to taking action on the recommendations of the Conference regarding institutional arrangements, bearing in mind the terms of reference contained in paragraphs 29 to 31 of the annex to Conference resolution 1;

5. *Further requests* the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session concrete recommendations on definitive institutional arrangements for human settlements within the United Nations;

6. *Decides* to take action on those recommendations, at the latest at its thirty-second session, taking into account the conclusions of the *Ad Hoc* Committee;

## III

### SECRETARIAT ARRANGEMENTS

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as an interim arrangement, to ensure, through the appropriate machinery of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the co-ordination of the work of all the United Nations bodies concerned with respect to their activities in the human settlements field and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session on the progress made;

2. *Requests* that, since definitive arrangements for human settlements are yet to be decided upon, the Secretary-General should take appropriate measures to ensure effective preparations for the discussions on human settlements questions at the sixty-third session of the Economic and Social Council, bearing in mind the contributions made by the relevant components of the United Nations system as represented in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;

3. *Requests* all the United Nations bodies concerned, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, to ensure that the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements are taken into account in their respective programmes related to human settlements and within their respective terms of reference, and to make their consultative services and resources available, as appropriate, for the implementation of national programmes of action and in strengthening regional co-operation in the field of human settlements;

## IV

### REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

*Requests*, in this regard, the United Nations bodies concerned, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, to give all possible support to the regional commissions in the strengthening of regional co-operation in the field of human settlements and further requests the regional commissions to report to the Economic and Social Coun-

cil at its sixty-third session on the results of regional co-operation in human settlements, including the progress made in the establishment of governmental regional committees on human settlements.

*101st plenary meeting  
16 December 1976*

## DECISIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

### 31/411. UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME

#### A

##### UNITED NATIONS HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION

At its 101st plenary meeting, on 16 December 1976, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,<sup>22</sup> decided to transmit to the Economic and Social Council, for consideration at its sixty-third session, the following draft resolution, together with the relevant part of the report of the Second Committee on item 60:<sup>23</sup>

##### *“United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation*

*“The General Assembly,*

*“Recalling its resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1914 (LVII) of 10 December 1974,*

*“Recalling further the objectives of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, as set out in the annex of resolution 3327 (XXIX), particularly with regard to its innovative character as well as its capacity to provide financial assistance and contribute services, technical assistance, equipment and materials for the improvement of human settlements and the management of the human habitat,*

*“Conscious of the need to maintain the integrity, flexibility and functional capacity of the Foundation,*

*“Desirous of promoting greater co-operation between the Foundation and the non-governmental organizations and appropriate financial or other institutions in implementing the objectives of the Foundation,*

*“Recognizing the importance of disseminating information among peoples and Member States and mobilizing public opinion in support of the objectives and policies of the Foundation, as called for in General Assembly resolution 3434 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,*

*“Noting the priority accorded to national action and regional and international co-operation for the improvement of human settlements, as a result of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976,*

*“1. Affirms the significant role of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in promoting the implementation of the objectives and recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;*

*“2. Invites the Foundation to promote regional co-operation for the improvement of human settlements;*

*“3. Invites further non-governmental organizations and financial and other institutions, as appropriate, to collaborate with the Foundation in order to facilitate the effective expansion of its services, information activities and programmes for human settlements;*

*“4. Urges Governments, especially those of developed countries, to support the Foundation on a voluntary basis in order to enable it to become a more effective instrument for the improvement of human settlements and for the promotion of the implementation of the objectives and recommendations of the Conference;*

*“5. Affirms that the Foundation should be appropriately strengthened so that it may achieve the full potential envisaged for it by the General Assembly.”*

#### B

##### CRITERIA GOVERNING MULTILATERAL FINANCING OF HOUSING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

At its 101st plenary meeting, on 16 December 1976, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,<sup>22</sup> took note of the report of the Secretary-General on criteria governing multilateral financ-

<sup>22</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 60, document A/31/415, para. 56.*

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, document A/31/415, sect. XI.

ing of housing and human settlements<sup>24</sup> and of the comments and note thereon submitted by the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme<sup>25</sup> and by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.<sup>26</sup>

### **31/312. ELECTION OF NINETEEN MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

At its 101st plenary meeting, on 16 December 1976, the General Assembly, in accordance with section I, paragraph 1, of its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, elected ARGENTINA, BANGLADESH, BULGARIA, CANADA, CHAD, CHINA, FRANCE, GHANA, GUATEMALA, INDONESIA, the IVORY COAST, JAMAICA, NORWAY, the PHILIPPINES, SENEGAL, SPAIN, the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, the UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA and YUGOSLAVIA members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1977 to fill the vacancies occurring on the expiration of the terms of office of ARGENTINA, CANADA, CHINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, FRANCE, GABON, GHANA, GUATEMALA, INDONESIA, the IVORY COAST, JAMAICA, LEBANON, MOROCCO, the PHILIPPINES, SIERRA LEONE, SPAIN, SWEDEN, the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC and YUGOSLAVIA.

As a result, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme is composed of the following States: ARGENTINA,\*\*\* BANGLADESH,\*\*\* BELGIUM,\*\* BRAZIL,\* BULGARIA,\*\*\* CANADA,\*\*\* CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE,\*\* CHAD,\*\*\* CHINA,\*\*\* COLOMBIA,\* CYPRUS,\*\* EGYPT,\* FINLAND,\* FRANCE,\*\*\* GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF,\* GHANA,\*\*\* GREECE,\*\* GRENADA,\*\* GUATEMALA,\*\*\* HUNGARY,\*\* INDIA,\* INDONESIA,\*\*\* IRAN,\* IRAQ,\*\* ITALY,\* IVORY COAST,\*\*\* JAMAICA,\*\*\* JAPAN,\* KENYA,\* KUWAIT,\*\* LIBERIA,\*\* LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA,\* MALAYSIA,\* MEXICO,\*\* NEW ZEALAND,\*\* NORWAY,\*\*\* PERU,\*\* PHILIPPINES,\*\*\* POLAND,\*\* ROMANIA,\* RWANDA,\*\* SENEGAL,\*\*\* SOMALIA,\*\* SPAIN,\*\*\* SUDAN,\* SWITZERLAND,\* SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC,\*\*\* THAILAND,\*\* TOGO,\*\* UGANDA,\*\* UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,\* UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,\*\* UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA,\*\*\* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,\* URUGUAY,\*\* VENEZUELA,\* YUGOSLAVIA\*\*\* and ZAIRE.\*

### **31/316. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

At its 107th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1976, the General Assembly, on the nomination of the Secretary-General, elected Mr. Mostafa Kamal TOLBA Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1977.

<sup>24</sup> A/10225.

<sup>25</sup> E/5852 and Add.1.

<sup>26</sup> UNEP/GC/78.

\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1977.

\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1978.

\*\*\*Term of office expires on 31 December 1979.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

**1977**

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its fifth session

82 (V). Programme policy and implementation

The Governing Council,

Reaffirming its previous decisions on programme policy and implementation, 1/

Taking fully into account General Assembly resolutions 31/111 of 16 December 1976 on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourth session, and 31/112 of 16 December 1976, on institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation,

Having considered:

- (a) The introductory statement of the Executive Director, 2/
- (b) The introductory report of the Executive Director, 3/
- (c) The report of the Executive Director on the state of the environment 1977, 4/
- (d) The report of the Environment Co-ordination Board on its sixth session, 5/
- (e) The report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on co-ordination questions in the activities of the Programme, 6/

Taking into consideration the views expressed during its fifth session on questions of programme policy and implementation,

Having special regard to its decisions on programme activities, 7/ on the programme of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and on the management of the Fund,

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1/ Decisions 1 (I), 5 (II), 20 (III) and 47 (IV).

2/ UNEP/GC/L.48.

3/ UNEP/GC/87.

4/ UNEP/GC/88 and Corr.1 and 2.

5/ UNEP/GC/89.

6/ UNEP/GC/L.47.

7/ Decisions 83 (V), 98 (V), 96 (V) and 97 (V), respectively.

## I

## State of the environment

1. Welcomes the new format adopted for the state of the environment report, and endorses the criteria for the choice of topics presented in that report; 8/
2. Draws the attention of Governments, United Nations organizations and other bodies to the conclusions of that report, and to the need for concerted national and international effort to deal with problems in the areas of ozone, environmental carcinogens, soil loss and firewood;
3. Notes the Executive Director's plans to initiate work leading to the production of the first quinquennial review on the state of the environment in 1982;

## II

Relationships of the secretariat with Governments  
and others

1. Approves the suggestion of the Executive Director that he should report in detail to the Council on a limited number of areas of the programme at each session with a view to covering the whole programme within the period of the medium-term plan, and decides that for the sixth session the Executive Director will report on the following areas: pollution and human health, arid lands - soil and water, regional seas, the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals, environmental education, and communication, reporting only very briefly on other topics;
2. Further approves the intention of the Executive Director to present for consideration by the Council at each session the areas on which he proposes to report in detail to the next session;
3. Requests the Executive Director to conduct consultations with Governments of member States of the Governing Council on the advisability and feasibility of the Council approving projects of the United Nations Environment Programme, and to report to the Council at its sixth session on the results of these consultations;
4. Notes the progress made in improving the quality of documents for the fifth session of the Governing Council, in particular the programme document and the new UNEP/GC/INFORMATION/- series;
5. Urges the Executive Director to intensify his efforts to reduce the length of documents and improve their quality further, taking into account the recommendations of the informal working group established during the fifth session of the Council to advise him on documentation, particularly as they relate to the type of information provided and the format of presentation, and to submit

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8/ UNEP/GC/88 and Corr.1 and 2, para. 6.

appropriate documentation for sessions of the Governing Council in every working language in accordance with the six-week rule;

6. Calls upon the Executive Director to develop further the means of maintaining regular communication on programme and related developments between the secretariat and Governments, in particular through effective liaison with national representatives accredited to the Programme, and through further improvements in Report to Governments, taking into account the recommendations of the informal working group on documentation;

7. Urges the Executive Director to strengthen the operational capacity of the regional offices in order to facilitate their relations with Governments and the implementation of their programmes;

8. Notes with appreciation the Executive Director's efforts to improve the channels of communication between the secretariat and the broad international constituency of the Programme, in particular through the development of an improved and expanded programme of publications, and urges the Executive Director to develop these channels further, using all possible efforts of mass media and non-governmental organizations and the relevant international scientific and other professional communities;

9. Requests the Executive Director to take into account, in planning the use of the opportunities provided by World Environment Day for communication with the public at large, the recommendations of the evaluation report 9/ and comments by Governments;

10. Urges Governments to co-operate with the Executive Director in promoting a network of "friends of the environment" to enhance public awareness of environmental issues and to disseminate information about the Programme and its activities;

11. Further urges Governments and others to respond promptly, as appropriate, to requests for information from the secretariat, which should be precise in specifying the information sought;

12. Further urges the secretariat to respond promptly to requests from Governments for information;

### III

#### Environment Co-ordination Board, joint programming and other co-ordination questions

1. Approves of the analysis carried out by the Environment Co-ordination Board of its purposes and ways of working, of the definition of the Board's function and of the Board's proposals to ensure the establishment of ways and means of more efficient and effective co-ordination;

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9/ See UNEP/GC/90 and Corr.1, para. 597.

2. Notes the progress made in joint programming, and emphasizes the need to ensure that the catalytic role of the Programme is more effectively performed and that the resources of the United Nations system are better marshalled to implement the programme;

3. Welcomes in particular the progress made, through joint programming and in other ways, in strengthening the links between the Programme and the regional commissions of the United Nations, and stresses the importance of further developing regional co-operation for environmental activities;

4. Agrees to the Environment Co-ordination Board's recommendation 10/ that in future more emphasis should be given in joint programming to the consideration of subjects in which a number of agencies have an interest, and urges agencies and United Nations organs to co-operate fully with the Executive Director in this endeavour;

5. Requests the Executive Director to submit agreed memoranda of understanding on joint programming between the Programme and other agencies of the United Nations system to the Governing Council for information and comment;

6. Notes the report made by the Board on the steps taken by its members to implement the strategies of the environment programme, 11/ and requests the Executive Director to develop this method of presentation further, in consultation with the Board;

7. Invites the governing bodies of all organizations within the United Nations system to authorize their executive heads to collaborate fully with the Executive Director, through the Environment Co-ordination Board and otherwise, by:

(a) Contributing to the development of specific objectives for environmental programmes within the United Nations system;

(b) Identifying the extent to which their activities contribute to these objectives;

(c) Providing total and annual cost estimates and projected completion dates for projects implemented by them;

(d) Identifying, through joint programming, gaps which need to be filled by the United Nations Environment Programme;

(e) Reviewing progress annually and preparing each year a co-ordinated up-dated work plan;

8. Further requests the Executive Director to produce each year a programme document containing the information referred to in paragraph 7 above;

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10/ UNEP/GC/89, para. 19.

11/ UNEP/GC/89/Add.1.

9. Requests the Executive Director also to take into consideration the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions when co-ordinating environmental activities within the United Nations system;

## IV

## International forums

Considers that, while the subject of the environment has received some attention in international forums during the course of the previous year, it is important for Governments further to harmonize the policies they adopt towards the environment in the Governing Council and in other intergovernmental forums, and thus to ensure that decisions which the Governing Council takes, especially in the area of environment and development, are reflected in the actions of these other forums;

## V

## Assessment of environmental risks

1. Requests the Executive Director to report to the Governments concerned and, if necessary, through the Governing Council and in other appropriate ways, to the world community, when there is sufficient evidence to suggest that there is a potentially great risk to the environment;

2. Believes that in respect of environmental risks, the role of the United Nations Environment Programme, in co-operation with the relevant members of the United Nations system, should also include the identification of alternative courses of action which are less environmentally harmful and the promotion of appropriate international agreements;

3. Notes that the ultimate responsibility for environmental management rests with Governments, and that it is through the actions which they take, individually and collectively, that environmental protection and enhancement can be attained and the purposes of the environment programme achieved;

## VI

## Goals for 1982

1. Approves the list of goals for 1982 proposed by the Executive Director in his introductory statement 12/ and decides that it should consider these goals further at its sixth session;

2. Invites Governments to express their preliminary views on the proposed list in writing or at the informal consultations in January 1978;

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12/ UNEP/GC/L.48.

3. Endorses the intention of the Executive Director to undertake a thorough analysis of the status of projects supported by the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme before entering into new commitments.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

83 (V). Programme activities

The Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the environment programme, 13/

I

1. Notes with approval the efforts of the Executive Director to improve the presentation of the programme and, in particular, the consolidated presentation of the three levels of the programmatic process;

2. Calls upon the Executive Director further to improve the quality of the programme document, taking into account the recommendations of the informal working group on documentation;

II

1. Notes the summary of the Level One reviews for human settlements and habitat, the health of people and of the environment and natural disasters, 14/ and invites the Executive Director, in the further development of work plans in those areas, to take full account of their conclusions;

2. Notes with appreciation the response from Governments, United Nations organizations, other intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations to requests for information on their activities relevant to the environment programme;

3. Reiterates its invitation to all Governments, United Nations organizations, other intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, to co-operate fully with the Executive Director in the preparation of the reviews by providing him with the information which he requests;

4. Notes with satisfaction the endeavours by various members of the United Nations system to develop new activities, or reorient existing ones, to ensure the implementation of the various strategies adopted by the Council, and urges the governing bodies of the relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to

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13/ UNEP/GC/90 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2; UNEP/GC/91.

14/ UNEP/GC/90 and Corr.1, paras. 170-178, 198-201 and 540-545.

authorize their executive heads to continue and further develop their fruitful co-operation with the Executive Director in this respect.

### III

1. Approves the revised objectives and strategies for Level Two for the International Referral System 15/ and human settlements and habitat 16/ and the proposed objectives and strategies for the assessment of basic human needs; 17/
2. Approves the new formulation of the concentration area within the integrated approach to environment and development, including ecodevelopment; 18/
3. Invites the Executive Director to continue to concentrate most of the available resources on certain action-oriented parts of the programme already selected at the fourth session of the Governing Council, while continuing to keep under review the priorities in this respect and reporting to the Council accordingly;
4. Endorses the activities and associated actions which have been taken, or are proposed, in the Executive Director's reports on the environment programme, subject only to any modifications or amendments implied in other decisions taken on parts of the programme by the Council;
5. Requests the Executive Director, in implementing the programme, to take into account the views expressed by the Governing Council in the course of its consideration of the environment programme.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

#### 84 (V). Environmental assessment

##### A

##### Earthwatch

##### The Governing Council,

Recalling its decision 29 (III) of 2 May 1975, in which it requested the Executive Director to give high priority to the consolidated development and

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15/ Ibid., para. 71.

16/ Ibid., para. 180.

17/ Ibid., para. 112.

18/ Ibid., para. 398 (b).



improvement of Earthwatch and to treat all components both functionally, in terms of an integrated system, and programmatically,

Realizing that monitoring, information exchange, research and evaluation are essential to enable Earthwatch to provide environmental assessments as the basis for sound environmental management,

Recognizing that increasing evidence of the adverse effects of man's activities on the environment demonstrates an immediate need for assessments of the short-term and long-term impacts of these effects,

Noting that the interdisciplinary nature of Earthwatch components makes close co-ordination necessary,

Calls upon the Executive Director to establish, as soon as possible, effective working links among the components of Earthwatch as an integrated system, in order to discharge the Earthwatch programme's assessment responsibilities.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

## B

### Monitoring of pollutants

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decision 63 (IV) of 13 April 1976,

Noting that the Executive Director's introductory statement 19/ refers, among goals for 1982, to a fully operational Global Environmental Monitoring System with results evaluated and published,

Aware that the development of an adequate evaluation system can only be expected to evolve with time and experience,

Aware further that for one or two of the priority pollutants determined by the Intergovernmental Meeting on Monitoring, 20/ which met in 1974, monitoring has been conducted on a relatively widespread basis for a number of years,

Requests the Executive Director to undertake a pilot study to illustrate evaluation techniques with respect to national and international data for one of

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19/ UNEP/GC/L.48.

20/ UNEP/GC/24, table 1.

the priority pollutants, and to report to the Governing Council at its sixth session on the results achieved.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

## C

Outer limits: ozone layer

The Governing Council,

Recalling that the Meeting of Experts designated by Governments, Intergovernmental and Non-Governmental Organizations on the Ozone Layer, held at Washington, D.C. from 1 to 7 March 1977, recommended 21/ the adoption of a world plan of action on the ozone layer and the establishment by the United Nations Environment Programme of a committee to exercise a broad co-ordinating and catalytic role aimed at the integration and co-ordination of research efforts related to the ozone layer,

Taking fully into account the recommendations of the Meeting of Experts 22/ that the committee should convene with sufficient regularity to meet its responsibilities and should make recommendations relevant to the continuing development and co-ordination of the Action Plan to the Executive Director, who will report these to the Governing Council,

Noting that progress is being achieved under the ozone monitoring and research programme of the World Meteorological Organization,

Recalling that it is necessary to collect more scientific information about the actual state of the ozone layer,

Realizing that current research on the ozone layer is producing new scientific information, which should be reported to the Governing Council at each session,

1. Calls upon the Executive Director to initiate action to co-ordinate and integrate research efforts related to the ozone layer, and to establish a Co-ordinating Committee on the Ozone Layer, which should meet for the first time late in 1977;

2. Urges Governments, international agencies and others to support the World Plan of Action on the Ozone Layer and to support and participate in the Co-ordinating Committee on the Ozone Layer.

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21/ UNEP/WG.7/25/Rev.1, annex III, sect. 4, paras. 2 and 3.

22/ Ibid., para. 3.

85 (V). Human and environmental healthThe Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director, in particular the section dealing with human health, 23/

Recognizing that health is a basic human need and an integral part of the quality of life,

Noting the progress accomplished, in co-operation with the World Health Organization, in the programme for human and environmental health,

Aware that there have been unethical practices concerning the distribution of chemicals, drugs, cosmetics and food unfit for human consumption,

Conscious that there exists an urgent need for all countries to develop measures to protect themselves,

Further aware that there is need for harmonious co-operation between manufacturers and exporters of chemicals, foods, drugs and cosmetics, as well as between exporting and importing countries,

1. Requests the Executive Director to continue to give high priority to the protection of human and environmental health and to co-operate closely with United Nations bodies, especially the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation, in this field, paying special attention to the problems, in both developed and developing countries, of contaminants, both chemical and biological, of food, and to epidemiology and the control of chronic diseases of all kinds (especially parasitic diseases) as far as they relate to environmental factors;

2. Urges Governments to take steps to ensure that potentially harmful chemicals, in whatever form or commodity, which are unacceptable for domestic purposes in the exporting country, are not permitted to be exported without the knowledge and consent of appropriate authorities in the importing country;

3. Requests the Executive Director, in co-operation with the competent organizations of the United Nations system, especially the Codex Alimentarius Commission, to assist developing countries in developing and strengthening their capabilities for evaluating chemicals, foods, drugs and cosmetics being distributed within their countries.

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86 (V). Terrestrial ecosystems

## A

Ecosystems of arid and semi-arid lands

The Governing Council,

Noting with satisfaction the priority assigned by the United Nations Environment Programme to terrestrial ecosystems, which constitute a concentration area, in particular arid and semi-arid lands' ecosystems, which are characterized by their fragility,

Considering that arid and semi-arid regions cover more than 40 per cent of the earth's surface, containing more than 13 per cent of the world's population, and that these proportions may become even larger in the years ahead if a programme for the protection of the endangered areas is not established as soon as possible,

Considering further that this danger applies particularly to the lands of the Sahelian and other regions of Africa, which have for many years been afflicted by drought and will soon be subject to progressive deterioration into savannah, which may make these fertile lands arid,

Recalling the importance of the United Nations Conference on Desertification,

Requests the Executive Director to examine the possibility of extending the integrated project on arid lands to the Sahelian and North African regions threatened by desertification by establishing applied research pilot projects in these regions.

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## B

Training in tropical ecology

The Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the recent development of the activities of the environment programme and the proposals for activities to be undertaken,

Considering the increased importance which should be assigned to projects of the United Nations Environment Programme in the coming years in the developing countries, and particularly in Africa,

Noting with satisfaction the importance attached to the training of tropical

ecologists in Africa on the occasion of the meeting held at Kinshasa in 1975, organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme,

Considering the need of the developing countries, particularly in Africa, for specialists in ecology to implement national programmes for the management of natural resources and ecosystems,

Requests the Executive Director, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to continue his support for the training of specialists in tropical ecology.

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## C

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in  
Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

The Governing Council,

Noting with satisfaction the programme activities in wildlife and protected areas, 24/

Bearing in mind the profound significance of wildlife to human survival, as an economic, nutritional and cultural resource, as an indicator of environmental health and as an essential component of ecosystems,

Bearing in mind also that many species are threatened by extinction through international trade,

Believing that the protection of endangered species is a matter of high priority for national and international efforts,

Noting that article XII, paragraph 1, of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora 25/ states that the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme shall provide a secretariat for the Convention,

Noting with satisfaction that 35 States are now parties to the Convention, and that more will soon ratify or accede to it,

1. Recognizes, with appreciation, the contribution made by the United

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24/ Ibid., paras. 382-392.

25/ Concluded in Washington, D.C., on 3 March 1973.

Nations Environment Programme to date in providing secretariat services for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;

2. Resolves that adequate means are essential for proper implementation of the Convention;

3. Requests the Executive Director to provide further secretariat capabilities based on the analysis presented in the resolution concerning the secretariat of the Convention adopted by the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention. 26/

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87 (V). Environment and development

A

Industry and environment

The Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on environment and development, 27/

Conscious of the environmental problems of industry and of the need for industrialization to take place within an environmentally sound framework,

Recognizing the widespread concern about the impact of industrial activities on the environment,

Conscious of the need of the developing countries for urgent development of guidelines, criteria, advice and technical assistance in the field of industry and the environment,

Taking into account the review by the consultative meeting of experts, convened in December 1976, of the objectives and progress of the industry programme 28/ and the Executive Director's proposals for future activity in this area, 29/

1. Requests the Executive Director, while ensuring a permanent process of communications and consultations on environmental aspects of industries between the United Nations Environment Programme, appropriate international organizations, Governments and industries:

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26/ The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, held at Berne, Switzerland, from 2 to 6 November 1976, adopted resolution 2 on the secretariat of the Convention.

27/ UNEP/GC/90 and Corr.1, paras. 394-459.

28/ Ibid., paras. 442 and 443.

29/ Ibid., paras. 446-448.

(a) To follow up the reviews already undertaken, on the lines proposed in the programme document, 30/ and to inform the Governing Council at its sixth session of the conclusions reached;

(b) To proceed with the review of the environmental problems associated with the remaining major industrial sectors, including chemicals, iron and steel, and non-ferrous metals, bearing in mind, inter alia:

- (i) Problems and the specific needs of countries, especially the developing ones;
- (ii) The extent to which these problems and needs have already been studied and solutions found;
- (iii) Situations requiring further study, and organizing such studies by appropriate means on an international basis;

(c) To disseminate the resulting information by consolidating it and incorporating it in published reports, with conclusions and recommendations for the attention of the Governing Council, which can be used as a guide for the organization of technical assistance and training courses for policy-makers and plant operators in countries where such industries exist or their establishment is planned;

2. Further requests the Executive Director to expand this programme activity to ensure that it is developed and geared to the increasing needs of developing countries, and to convene, preferably in developing countries and with the involvement, as appropriate, of interested international organizations, consultative meetings of experts on industry and the environment, with major participation from developing countries, to exchange information with a view to producing practical recommendations and criteria on environmental impact assessments applicable to and relevant to the needs of the developing countries;

3. Further requests the Executive Director, in conjunction with the International Referral System or by other means, to take steps to develop a continuous exchange of experience and information between developed and developing countries on environmental problems associated with industrialization and methods for their solution.

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30/ Ibid., paras. 449-454.

## Improvement of the working environment

The Governing Council,

Considering that the improvement of the quality of the working environment constitutes an essential element in the improvement of the human environment,

Recognizing that a new, comprehensive approach to development, aiming to satisfy human needs on a sustainable basis, should include the promotion of creative employment and the raising of the quality of life of workers in their working and living environments,

Bearing in mind that the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 3201 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, implies the pursuit of social justice and equal opportunities in relations within, as well as between nations,

Recalling that the Cocoyoc Declaration, 31/ adopted by the United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Symposium on Patterns of Resource Use, Environment and Development Strategies, recognizes the right of workers to participate in decisions affecting the basis of their existence,

Further recalling that the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation approved in November 1975 a document 32/ on the contribution of the ILO to the United Nations programme, which provides provides guidelines for a coherent action programme of the ILO concerning the environment, in collaboration with UNEP and with its support, and adopted in 1976 the International Programme for the Improvement of Working Conditions and Environment, 33/

Further recalling that the International Labour Conference, at its sixty-first session, adopted on 21 June 1976 a resolution on working conditions and the environment,

1. Urges the Executive Director to integrate the principles and objectives related to the improvement of the working environment fully into the general framework of the environment programme to be submitted to the Governing Council at future sessions;
2. Requests the Executive Director to collaborate with the International Labour Organisation and other United Nations bodies concerned, and with the appropriate organizations of workers and employers, in the development of an action programme for the improvement of the working and living environment of workers in

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31/ A/C.2/292.

32/ GB.198/10/6/7.

33/ GB.200/PFA/10/8.



industry, including agriculture and other sectors, and to inform the Governing Council at its sixth session of the results achieved.

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88 (V). Oceans

A

International conventions against marine pollution

The Governing Council,

Considering the desirability of promoting any measure designed to reduce pollution of the seas,

Further considering that a number of international conventions have been concluded for this purpose,

Considering nevertheless that the application of these conventions is still limited, in that not all interested States have yet become parties to them,

Recommends that States which have not yet acceded to these conventions do so as soon as possible.

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B

Whaling

The Governing Council,

Noting that the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment called for the International Whaling Commission to adopt a 10-year moratorium on commercial whaling and called for Governments to strengthen the Commission and to increase international research efforts, 34/ and that the Governing Council had repeatedly endorsed these recommendations, 35/

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34/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14, chap. II, recommendation 33.

35/ Decisions 1 (I), para. 12 (e) (vii), of 22 June 1973, 33 (III) of 2 May 1975 and 59 (IV) of 13 April 1976.

Further noting the emphasis expressed by the Scientific Consultation on Marine Mammals in Bergen, Norway, in 1976, regarding the continuing need for improved information about whale and cetacean stocks,

1. Welcomes the efforts of the International Whaling Commission in the field of conservation and management of whales;
2. Requests the Executive Director to call upon the International Whaling Commission at its twenty-ninth session to agree on the dates for the planned conference concerning new arrangements for the effective conservation of all cetaceans;
3. Further requests the Executive Director to extend the support, as appropriate, to research activities with respect to the conservation and effective management to conserve whales and other cetaceans.

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## C

Regional seas programme: Africa

The Governing Council,

Considering the increased importance which should be attached to regional seas programmes,

Aware of the acute threat posed to the marine environment by pollution in the Gulf of Guinea,

Noting with satisfaction the action taken by the Executive Director in sending a mission to the region to undertake exploratory studies on the subject of marine pollution, 36/

Determined to combat marine pollution in the region in accordance with existing international conventions,

Recognizing that the elimination of pollution in the marine environment requires broad international co-operation and technical and scientific resources,

Considering that necessary steps should be undertaken for the development of an action plan and a regional agreement to prevent and abate pollution in the Gulf of Guinea,

1. Authorizes the Executive Director to pursue action in this area by

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36/ See UNEP/GC/90 and Corr.1, paras. 507-508.

convening, before the sixth session of the Governing Council, in co-operation with the Governments, the Ocean Economics and Technology Office of the United Nations Secretariat and other United Nations bodies and governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, such meetings as may be necessary to prepare for a regional conference of the States concerned, which will consider a draft action plan and all related questions;

2. Requests the Executive Director, to this end, to provide the technical and financial support of the Programme necessary for the preparation and holding of the necessary meetings.

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## D

Regional seas programme: Asia

The Governing Council,

Noting with approval the activities implemented by the Executive Director in accordance with Governing Council decisions 50 (IV) and 58 (IV) of 13 April 1976, 37/

Having considered the report submitted by the Executive Director to the Governing Council at its fifth session,

Noting also the positive interest manifested by the Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand in developing a scientific programme for the management of their seas,

Observing that this programme, although regional in character, could have results that are of broader significance,

1. Decides that steps are urgently needed to formulate and establish a scientific programme involving research, prevention and control of marine pollution and monitoring for this regional seas programme;

2. Invites the Executive Director to assist the countries concerned, as soon as possible, with the preparatory and other work required for this purpose;

3. Authorizes the Executive Director to apply such resources as may be required in conjunction with the appropriate specialized organizations of the United Nations system.

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37/ Ibid., para. 505.

89 (V). Environmental aspects of natural disaster prevention and preparedness

The Governing Council,

Recalling earlier General Assembly resolutions 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971 and 3440 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 requesting the United Nations organs and other bodies concerned to co-operate with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in the formulation of an international strategy for natural disaster prevention and preparedness,

Bearing in mind Governing Council decision 61 (IV) of 13 April 1976,

Noting the report of the Executive Director on the review of the priority subject area "natural disasters", 38/

Commending the efforts of the Executive Director in promoting interagency co-operation, especially with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and other relevant bodies,

1. Requests the Executive Director to continue co-operation and joint programming in the field of disaster prevention and preparedness with the various United Nations agencies and bodies, such as the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs,
2. Urges the Executive Director to focus the particular attention of the programme on an early warning system for prevention of and preparedness for natural disasters and activities geared to limiting their environmental impact;
3. Further requests the Executive Director to collaborate with the various United Nations agencies and bodies concerned in revising the plan of action on the environmental aspects of natural disasters on the basis of the Level One review, and to inform the Governing Council at its sixth session of progress achieved.

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90 (V). Supporting measures: education and training

The Governing Council,

Considering the need for better facilities to promote the rapid development of environmental education and training in the developing countries,

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38/ Ibid., paras. 540-545.

Recalling its decision 29 (III) of 2 May 1975, which supported the intention of the Executive Director to set up a programme activity centre for environmental education and training on an experimental basis,

Noting the establishment by the Executive Director of a technical assistance clearing-house facility in the environmental field, and his development of a fellowship programme,

Bearing in mind the need for co-ordination, as appropriate, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

1. Welcomes the establishment by the Executive Director of a regional programme activity centre for environmental education and training in Africa;
2. Endorses the Executive Director's intention 39/ to establish similar centres in other regions and, in particular requests him to consider the early establishment of such a centre in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;
3. Further endorses the Executive Director's intention 39/ to establish a global programme activity centre by 1982;
4. Calls upon the Executive Director to co-operate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other United Nations bodies in the promotion of environmental education, within the guidelines arising from the intergovernmental conference on environmental education, to be held at Tbilisi in October 1977;
5. Requests the Executive Director, in co-operation with other competent United Nations bodies, to continue to extend technical and financial assistance to developing countries, in furtherance of environmental education and training, for the purposes of supporting local institutions, organizing seminars and granting scholarships and fellowships.

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91(V). Environmental law

The Governing Council,

Recalling the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 40/

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39/ Ibid., para. 567.

40/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and Corr.1, chap. I.

Desiring to promote the further development of international law related to the protection of the environment,

Desiring also to develop further the relevant principles contained in the Declaration as they relate to liability for pollution and other environmental damage and compensation for such damage,

Bearing in mind its decisions 35 (III) of 2 May 1975 and 66 (IV) of 13 April 1976,

Noting the report of the Group of Experts on Liability for Pollution and Other Environmental Damage and Compensation for Such Damage, 41/

Requests the Executive Director to:

(a) Convene as soon as possible a small working group on environmental law, composed of government experts, to examine and further pursue, inter alia, the work undertaken in accordance with Governing Council decision 66 (IV);

(b) Recommend to the group topics for study during the period from 1977 to 1979, taking into account and reviewing, inter alia, the conclusions contained in the report of the Group of Experts on Liability for Pollution and Other Environmental Damage and Compensation for Such Damage;

(c) Actively assist the work of the Group, in particular by taking into account the work and schedule of meetings of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources Shared by Two or More States;

(d) Submit a progress report to the Governing Council at its sixth session.

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92 (V). United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements  
Foundation: policies and resources

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, establishing the mandate for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,

Bearing in mind the implications of the institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements laid down in General Assembly resolution 31/116 of 16 December 1976,

Taking note of the Executive Director's progress report on the implementation of the plan and programme of operations of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, 42/

Convinced that the Foundation requires adequate funds in order to discharge its mandate effectively,

1. Reaffirms the policies and guidelines governing the operations of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in the discharge of its mandate, and the Foundation's concern with sound environmental development;
2. Appeals to all Governments to contribute generously to the resources of the Foundation;
3. Requests the Executive Director to intensify his efforts to obtain funds for the Foundation from private and other non-governmental sources;
4. Invites the General Assembly, bearing in mind the Executive Director's proposal in his progress report 43/ for a target of \$US 50 million for the Foundation and the views expressed by Governments at the fifth session of the Council, to consider at its thirty-second session setting a target for total voluntary contributions by Governments for the years 1978-1981;
5. Further invites the General Assembly, at its thirty-second session, to request the Secretary-General to consider convening, during the thirty-third session, a pledging conference for voluntary contributions by Governments to the Foundation if pledges to meet the minimum target are not forthcoming.

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93 (V). United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation:  
support for regional action programmes on human settlements

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 31/114 of 16 December 1976 and General Assembly decisions 31/411 A and B of 16 December 1976,

Noting with satisfaction the measures taken at the regional level to implement the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements for international co-operation on human settlements,

Recognizing that action is being taken to establish regional intergovernmental committees on human settlements to be responsible for the formulation of regional policies and their implementation at subregional and national levels,

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42/ UNEP/GC/93.

43/ Ibid., para. 49.

Considering the role of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in supporting regional and subregional projects in the human settlements field and in the joint programming exercises with the regional commissions,

Recalling the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 on the special role of the Foundation as an international entity for innovatively mobilizing technical and financial resources for human settlements, for serving as a financial intermediary and for providing seed capital,

Bearing in mind the provisions of General Assembly resolution 31/116 of 16 December 1976 and the decision of the Governing Council at its fifth session on the financial and budgetary matters affecting the Foundation, 44/

Requests the Executive Director to ensure that the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation:

(a) Assists the regional and subregional intergovernmental bodies in the formulation of requests for assistance from the appropriate bilateral and multilateral agencies, and that the Foundation's staff and resources are allocated as necessary for that purpose;

(b) Establishes an information service for housing and human settlements financing, to assist developing countries in establishing links with the principal financial institutions at regional and global levels, including the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation and the United Nations Development Programme, and to improve their effective access to the international capital markets;

(c) Supports as appropriate, at the regional level, studies and meetings in the field of housing finance policy, and housing finance, in co-operation with the regional intergovernmental committees, the secretariats of the regional commissions and with the regional development banks;

(d) Promotes, through existing institutions, the utilization at the regional, subregional and national levels of materials, tools, equipment and specialized skills, as well as facilities for training, information and professional exchange, to assist and accelerate national programmes for human settlements improvement.

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94 (V). United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation:  
budgetary and administrative matters

The Governing Council,

I

1. Takes note of the unaudited financial report and accounts of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the year ended 31 December 1976; 45/
2. Takes note with approval of the budget report 46/ of the Executive Director and requests him to report further on this subject to the Governing Council at its sixth session;
3. Decides that, pending its consideration at its sixth session of the Executive Director's proposed budget for programme support costs for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the biennium 1978-1979, 47/ the Executive Director should, in the interim period from 1 January to 30 June 1978, maintain expenditures for programme support costs at approximately the 1977 level, and that beyond 1 July 1978, expenditures will be in accordance with the approved budget for the biennium 1978-1979;

II

1. Invites the Secretary-General to ensure that the current consultations between the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Administration and Management result in concrete proposals, which will be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly for approval, so as to enable the Secretary-General to promulgate financial rules of the Foundation for the financial control of the whole range of the Foundation's operations;
2. Approves the following amendments to the general procedures governing the operations of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation: 48/

Article I, paragraph (h)

Replace ", covering programme development and evaluation," by "(including programme development and evaluation)";

Article III, section D, paragraph 1

Amend the first paragraph to read: "The Administrator of the Foundation, who

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45/ UNEP/GC/L.42.

46/ UNEP/GC/94, sect. I.

47/ Ibid., sect. II.

48/ See annex to Governing Council decision 72 (IV) of 12 and 13 April 1976.

shall have the rank of Assistant Secretary-General, shall be appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the recommendation of the Executive Director";

Article IV, section G, paragraph 3

Replace "at the request of the Governing Council, and with the authority delegated to him by the Secretary-General of the United Nations" by "at the request of the General Assembly and upon recommendation from the Governing Council";

Article VI, section M, subparagraph (a)

Replace "has submitted" by "may, from time to time, submit" and insert "its" before "consideration";

Article VI, section O

Change the title to "The staff of the Foundation" and, in paragraph 1, delete "pending the establishment of the Appointments and Promotion Board of the Foundation itself";

Article VI, section P

Amend the section to read: "In administering trust funds established within the framework of the Foundation, the Executive Director may establish subaccounts to carry out specific activities consistent with the purposes and operative objectives of the Foundation; such subaccounts shall be maintained in accordance with the Financial Rules of the Foundation".

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24 May 1977

95 (V). United Nations Conference on Desertification

The Governing Council,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director in his capacity as Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, 49/

Having considered also the draft plan of action to combat desertification, 50/

Having noted the supplementary reports by the Executive Director, 51/

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49/ UNEP/GC/95 and Corr.1.

50/ UNEP/GC/95/Add.1.

51/ UNEP/GC/95/Add.2, 3 and 4.

1. Requests the Executive Director to provide the Governing Council at its sixth session with a precise accounting of the allocation for 1977 for the United Nations Conference on Desertification;
2. Approves the proposals by the Executive Director on the preparation of documentation to be presented to the Conference;
3. Requests the Executive Director to identify, for consideration at the Conference, actions based on practical projects to combat desertification, which could be carried out in specific areas in which national Governments have confirmed their interest and committed support;
4. Notes the intention of the Executive Director, as Secretary-General of the Conference, to revise the second draft of the plan in the light of the comments and recommendations made at the regional preparatory meetings and at the fifth session of the Governing Council, in its capacity as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the Conference, as a basis for discussion at the Conference;
5. Urges Governments:
  - (a) To secure all possible means available at the national level by establishing, if necessary ad hoc national committees to make the practical aims of the Conference widely known;
  - (b) To ensure the highest possible political and technical levels of participation at the Conference;
6. Decides to consider at its sixth session, on the basis of the report by the Secretary-General of the Conference and taking account of agreement by Governments which have allocated priority to desertification problems within their development plans, recommendations of the Conference appropriate for action by the United Nations Environment Programme within its existing resources;
7. Calls on all Governments, especially those whose development plans include provision for desertification problems, and on the relevant United Nations agencies, to give their fullest co-operation in making the Conference recommendations widely known.

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24 May 1977

96 (v). Matters relating to the management of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme

The Governing Council,

Having considered the reports of the Executive Director on the implementation of the programme of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme in 1976 and on evaluation of Fund projects, 52/

1. Expresses its satisfaction at the high level of payments against pledges achieved in 1976, and appeals to Governments to maintain the same record of prompt payments in 1977 and future years;

2. Endorses the intention of the Executive Director to consolidate the programme of the Fund in 1977, leading towards greater concentration in 1978 and 1979;

3. Requests the Executive Director, in approving projects on the basis of their potential to fulfil the catalytic role of the United Nations Environment Programme, and in the formulation of future projects, to give careful consideration to the requirements of developing countries, in line with his efforts to raise the implementation capacity of the Programme;

4. Welcomes the introduction of the UNEP/FUND/PROJECTS/- series, and requests the Executive Director in preparing these documents to take into account the considerations expressed in the annex to the present decision;

5. Endorses the intention of the Executive Director to devote Fund resources to joint activities with co-operating agencies based on the results of joint programming exercises, and to develop, in particular, multiagency projects in line with the recommendations of the Environment Co-ordination Board;

6. Requests the Executive Director, in his continuation of the evaluation exercise, to take account of the observations made in the debate on this subject, and in particular to pay special regard to programme evaluation as an important part of the exercise, and to report regularly to the Governing Council at each session on the progress of this work;

7. Requests the Executive Director, in future reports, to provide more information on the type of evaluation used in project assessment showing information on the type of evaluation used in project assessment and indicating clearly the practical advantages achieved by the project.

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#### ANNEX

1. The Governing Council expects that the following information will be included in the UNEP/FUND/PROJECTS/- series of documents:

- (a) For all newly-approved projects:
  - (i) A statement of objectives and anticipated impact;
  - (ii) Information on the role and degree of involvement of co-operating agencies and supporting organizations, if any, and the place of the project within their over-all programmes;
  - (iii) The proposed work-plan;

- (iv) The relationship of the project to others in which the United Nations Environment Programme is or has been involved;
- (v) Critical dates in the implementation of the project;
- (vi) A forecast of global costs for the duration of the project and for each physical year of operation, with an indication of the apportionment of costs in percentage terms to the Programme, as well as to co-operating agencies and supporting organizations;
- (b) For all ongoing projects upon completion of major phases:
  - (i) A report on the degree of progress towards the stated objectives;
  - (ii) A restatement of the relationship of the project to others in which the Programme is participating and to the over-all programmes of co-operating agencies and supporting organizations;
  - (iii) A revised time-phasing, if necessary, and an explanation of any departure from the originally proposed schedule;
  - (iv) A statement, in annual terms, of expenditures by both the Programme and co-operating agencies and supporting organizations with, if necessary, a revised forecast of anticipated costs;
- (c) For all completed projects:
  - (i) A statement of the results achieved;
  - (ii) A comparison of results to the stated objectives, taking into account the views of co-operating agencies and supporting organizations;
  - (iii) The impact of the project on others in which the Programme is or has been involved, as well as on the over-all programmes of co-operating agencies and supporting organizations;
  - (iv) A review of the actual schedule which the project followed and any lessons which this may have taught;
  - (v) Recapitulation of costs, both as a total and in annual terms, for the project as a whole as well as for the contributions of UNEP and co-operating agencies and supporting organizations.

2. For ease of reference, the documentation on implementation of the Fund programme prepared for the Governing Council at each session should contain a list by number and date of all UNEP/FUND/PROJECTS/- documents issued since the previous session of the Governing Council.

97 (V). Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme: financial, administrative and budgetary matters

## A

Financial reports and accounts and construction of permanent headquarters for the United Nations Environment Programme

The Governing Council

## I

1. Takes note of and approves the financial report and accounts of the United Nations Environment Programme for the year ended 31 December 1975; 53/
2. Takes note of the comments of the Executive Director on the audit opinion of the Board of Auditors 54/ and of the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as set forth in its report; 55/
3. Calls upon the Executive Director to make a further report to the Governing Council at its sixth session on the action that he has taken to complete the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee;

## II

1. Notes the unaudited financial report and accounts of the United Nations Environment Programme for the year ended 31 December 1976; 56/
2. Recognizes that the United Nations Board of Auditors need not submit a formal audit report to the General Assembly and hence to the Governing Council to cover the first year of a biennium;
3. Considers nevertheless that comments on the documents could usefully be sought from the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

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53/ UNEP/GC/97. For the printed text, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 7F (A/31/7/Add.6 and Corr.1).

54/ UNEP/GC/97.

55/ A/31/140, paras. 29-31.

56/ UNEP/GC/L.43.

## III

Takes note of the progress report of the Executive Director on the architectural and engineering study of the construction of a permanent headquarters for the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi. 57/

74th meeting  
24 May 1977

## B

Programme and programme support costs, 1976-1977 and 1978-1979

The Governing Council,

Having considered the performance report on programme and programme support costs budget 1976-1977 of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the period 1 January to 30 June 1976, 58/ the proposed budget for programme and programme support costs of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for 1978-1979, 59/ and the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the performance report, the rationale for the distribution of staff costs between the regular budget of the United Nations and the programme and programme support costs budget of the Fund, and the proposed budget, 60/

1. Approves the performance report;
2. Takes note of section V of General Assembly resolution 31/208 of 22 December 1976;
3. Requests the Executive Director to take into consideration the conclusions of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in preparing future budget submissions under the regular budget of the United Nations and the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;
4. Agrees to the creation of the eight new posts (two P-4, two P-3 and four local level) requested by the Executive Director for environmental programmes for the Division of Communication and for the Fund Policies, Resources and Evaluation Division;

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57/ UNEP/GC/100.

58/ UNEP/GC/99, sect. 1.

59/ UNEP/GC/99/Add.1.

60/ UNEP/GC/L.44, L.45 and L.46.

5. Recognizes the need for a post of legal liaison officer, (P-4) and secretary (local level) as proposed by the Executive Director, and requests the Executive Director to take the necessary action in line with the comments of paragraph 9 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 61/

6. Agrees to the proposed reclassification of a P-3 post to P-4 to provide a deputy to the Chief of the General Services Section;

7. Requests the Executive Director, in view of the great importance of the Programme's regional activities to achieve equitable representation as between the regional offices at the earliest possible date and, at the same time, to conduct a review of regional representation, taking into account the specific needs of each region and the Governing Council at its sixth session on the results of the review and any additional budgetary requirements needed to meet the goal of equitable representation;

8. Approves, in view of the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the transfer to the regular budget of five Professional posts (one P-5, three P-4 and one P-3) and four local level posts;

9. Approves an allocation of \$US 14,944,880 for the programme and programme support costs budget for 1978-1979.

74th meeting  
24 May 1977

98 (V). Programme of the Fund of the United Nations  
Environment Programme

A

Approval of the medium-term plan 1978-1981

The Governing Council,

Having considered the proposed medium-term plan for 1978-1981, 62/

Reaffirming that the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme has proved its worth and should be maintained as one of the four main elements of the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation within the United Nations system,

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61/ UNEP/GC/L.46.

62/ UNEP/GC/98 and Corr.1 and 2.



1. Approves the medium-term plan for 1978-1981 for Fund programme activities; 63/
2. Agrees with the intention of the Executive Director to seek voluntary contributions for the years 1978-1981 at the global level, as proposed in the plan;
3. Recognizes that in the normal course of events these levels will be reviewed by the Governing Council in the light of contributions received;
4. Urges all Governments to indicate their intentions to contribute to the Environment Fund at as early a date as possible;
5. Requests the Executive Director to make every effort to broaden the base of contributions to the Fund, and urges those Governments which have not yet contributed to the Fund to do so;
6. Further requests the Executive Director to ensure that an adequate cash carry-over is maintained from year to year;
7. Further requests the Executive Director, in view of the constant ceiling on expenditure on Fund programme activities proposed in the medium-term plan, to identify the bottle-necks in the process of appraisal, implementation and evaluation of programmes and projects and to submit a report to the Governing Council at its sixth session containing proposals for remedial measures with a view to raising the capacity of the Programme to achieve a higher annual level of expenditure within the levels of Fund programme activities as approved from year to year.

74th meeting  
24 May 1977

B

Approval of programme activities of the Fund of the United Nations  
Environment Programme for 1977 and for 1978-1979

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed the proposals of the Executive Director as outlined in his report on proposed programme activities of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme 1978-1979, 64/

1. Authorizes an allocation for Fund programme activities of \$US 35,700,000 in 1977, \$31,600,000 in 1978 and \$30,000,000 in 1979;

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63/ Ibid., Corr.2, table 1.

64/ UNEP/GC/90 and Corr.1.

2. Decides to apportion the allocation for Fund programme activities as follows:

(In United States dollars)

<u>Areas</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>
Human settlements and human health	5,810,000	5,850,000
Ecosystems	7,620,000	7,400,000
Environment and development	1,600,000	1,200,000
Oceans	4,000,000	3,190,000
Energy	570,000	570,000
Natural disasters	550,000	500,000
Earthwatch	4,100,000	4,860,000
Environmental management	800,000	700,000
Environmental law	340,000	340,000
Support	4,800,000	4,730,000
United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation	700,000	-
Environmental data	710,000	660,000
	<u>31,600,000</u>	<u>30,000,000</u>
Total		

3. Authorizes the Executive Director to adjust the apportionment of funds up to a maximum of 20 per cent on each line, if this should be necessary to preserve the integrity of the programme;

4. Authorizes an annual allocation of \$US 1 million for Fund programme reserve activities in 1977, 1978 and 1979;

5. Further authorizes the Executive Director to allocate from the Fund programme reserve to the Revolving Fund (Information) the amount required to bring the uncommitted balance of the Revolving Fund (Information) at 1 January 1978 to the sum of \$100,000, provided that the Revolving Fund (Information) continues to be operated on a sound commercial basis;

6. Authorizes the increase of the financial reserve to \$3,600,000 for 1977;

7. Authorizes the Executive Director to make forward commitments of up to \$US 9 million in 1980 and up to \$4 million in 1981.

74th meeting  
24 May 1977

99 (V). Co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States

The Governing Council,

Recalling the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 65/

Recalling its decision at its third session 66/ that the development of environmental law is an indispensable supporting measure for the implementation of the policies, strategies and recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Having regard to the importance which the Governing Council attaches to this task,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director and the reports of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources Shared by Two or More States, 67/

Bearing in mind that the United Nations Water Conference urged the Group of Experts to expedite its work,

Noting the important work done in this field at the regional level,

Desiring to promote the further development of international law related to the protection of the environment,

Requests the Executive Director:

(a) To reconvene as soon as possible the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources Shared by Two or More States, which should also be open to experts from other States members of the Governing Council interested in participating, to continue and further achieve the work undertaken in accordance with Governing Council decisions 44 (III) of 25 April 1975 and 77 (IV) of 6 April 1976;

(b) To assist actively its ongoing work, including appropriate co-ordination with the group of experts on environmental law;

(c) To submit the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts to the Governing Council at its sixth session;

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65/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and Corr.1, chap. 1.

66/ Decision 35 (III).

67/ UNEP/GC/74; UNEP/GC/101 and annexes.

(d) To submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

73rd meeting  
20 May 1977

100 (V). Environment and development

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decisions 21 (III) of 2 May 1975 and 79 (IV) of 14 April 1976, in which it requested the Executive Director, inter alia, to prepare a report on the environmental impact resulting from the irrational and wasteful use of natural resources and a study to include recommendations for putting into practice the concept of ecodevelopment as a planning method and a report on environment and development,

Noting the report of the Executive Director 68/ on the meeting of an intergovernmental expert group to discuss these subjects, and the report of the expert group, 69/

Noting with appreciation the intention of the Executive Director to devote greater attention to practical action in the field of environment and development and to the development of tools and methodologies for environmental management in order to provide a link between concepts and practical action,

Recognizing that it would be difficult in this context and at this point in time to draft a universally applicable definition of irrationality and wastefulness in the use of natural resources,

1. Requests the Executive Director to take appropriate measures, including the initiation of demonstration projects on the incorporation of environmental considerations into development planning, and perhaps further consultation with specialists who have experience in incorporating such considerations into development programmes in differing socio-economic settings;

2. Calls upon Governments and international organizations to pursue the proposals of the expert group by undertaking, with the help of the United Nations Environment Programme, work on guidelines for the environmentally sound utilization of natural resources and to transmit the results to the Governing Council through the Executive Director;

3. Requests the Executive Director to ensure dissemination of the information available within the United Nations system;

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68/ UNEP/GC/102.

69/ UNEP/IG.4/4.

4. Further requests the Executive Director to report on developments in this field, in response to the guidelines prepared by the expert group, when he reports to the Governing Council at its sixth session on the activities promoted within this subject area;

5. Considers that guidelines prepared on environmentally sound criteria are intended for use by Governments in promoting national development programmes.

74th meeting  
24 May 1977

101 (V). Study of the problem of the material remnants of wars, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment

The Governing Council,

Recalling paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 3435 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 and paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 31/III of 16 December 1976,

Recalling further its decision 80 (IV) of 9 April 1976, particularly paragraph 4,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director 70/ on the study of the problem of the material remnants of wars, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment,

1. Affirms that material remnants of wars can have lasting harmful effects on people, animal population, vegetation, water, land and the ecosystem as a whole;
2. Requests the Executive Director, on behalf of the Governing Council, to transmit the study of the material remnants of wars, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session;
3. Requests the Executive Director to continue his consultations with Governments with a view to implementing paragraph 4 of decision 80 (IV), and to report to the Governing Council at its sixth session on the results of these consultations;
4. Further requests the Executive Director, in accordance with paragraph 5 of decision 80 (IV), to continue to render assistance in the field of environmental protection to States, upon request, in preparing their own programmes for the elimination of mines in their territories.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

102 (V). Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 31/72 of 10 December 1976,

Noting with satisfaction the opening for signature of the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques, annexed to the resolution,

Bearing in mind the extremely harmful effects of environmental modification techniques, if used for military or any other hostile purpose,

Bearing also in mind that appropriate use of environmental modification techniques for peaceful purposes can serve the progress and welfare of mankind,

Recalling the principles set forth in the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 71/

Calling attention to the provisions of article III of the Convention,

1. Welcomes the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques annexed to General Assembly resolution 31/72;
2. Expresses its hope that the greatest possible number of States will soon adhere to the Convention;
3. Requests Member States to facilitate exchanges of information on the use of environmental modification techniques for peaceful purposes.

70th meeting  
17 May 1977

103 (V). Relationships with non-governmental organizations

The Governing Council,

Having considered the note by the Executive Director on relationships with non-governmental organizations, 72/

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71/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and Corr.1, chap. 1.

72/ UNEP/GC/105.

1. Expresses appreciation to all non-governmental organizations which have taken part in environmental activities and have contributed to the programme activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, and invites such organizations to continue to maintain close co-operation with the programme;

2. Calls upon the Executive Director and member States to support the growth of non-governmental organizations and their activities in the field of the environment, especially in developing countries;

3. Invites the Executive Director to enlist the co-operation of non-governmental organizations in identifying individuals who could make unique contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme and who constitute the international network of friends of the environment referred to in his introductory report. 73/

74th meeting  
24 May 1977

104 (V). Informal consultations with Governments

The Governing Council,

Recalling its decision 23 (III) of 2 May 1975,

1. Decides that informal consultations with Governments should be held twice between consecutive sessions of the Governing Council, once for one day prior to the opening of the Governing Council session in Nairobi and once for at least three days at a date and place to be determined by the Governing Council on the recommendation of the members of the Bureau, after consultation with the Executive Director;

2. Requests the Executive Director to provide for such informal consultations in his budget estimates;

3. Decides that the informal consultations between the fifth and sixth sessions of the Governing Council should be held at Nairobi during January 1978, should review selected programme documentation under preparation by the Executive Director for submission to the Council at its sixth session (including progress concerning documentation format, as discussed during the fifth session of the Council), comment on pilot presentations of documents by the Executive Director, provide advice to the Executive Director on the information Governments need, should exchange views on policies and should consider any other items on which the Executive Director may wish to report;

4. Requests the Executive Director, in preparing for these consultations,

73/ UNEP/GC/87, para. 12 (c).

to bear in mind the guidance and advice received by him in the course of the fifth session of the Governing Council and the advice and recommendations on documentation presented to him during that session.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

Other decisions

Resolutions and decisions of the thirty-first session of the General Assembly and resolutions of the sixtieth and sixty-first sessions of the Economic and Social Council of relevance to the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme

At its 72nd meeting, on 19 May 1977, the Governing Council took note of General Assembly resolutions 31/22 of 29 November 1976, 31/108, 31/109, 31/110, 31/111, paragraphs 3 to 6, 31/113, 31/114, 31/116 and 31/121 of 16 December 1976 and 31/208 of 22 December 1976, Assembly decision 31/411 A of 16 December 1976, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2031 (LXI) of 4 August 1976 and 2040 (LXI) of 5 August 1976, and of the documents submitted to the Governing Council at its fifth session on the various subjects to which these resolutions and decisions addressed themselves: of General Assembly resolutions 31/10 of 8 November 1976, 31/72 of 10 December 1976, 31/93 and 31/94 of 14 December 1976, 31/111, paragraph 2, of 16 December 1976 and 31/178, 31/179, 31/180, 31/182, 31/183 and 31/184 of 21 December 1976, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1983 (LX) of 23 April 1976, 2028 (LXI), 2030 (LXI), 2034 (LXI) and 2035 (LXI) of 4 August 1976 and 2043 (LXI) of 5 August 1976, and of the action already taken by the Executive Director with regard to those resolutions and/or his plans for future action; and of General Assembly resolutions 31/112 of 16 December 1976, 31/30 of 29 November 1976, 31/46, 31/47, 31/48, 31/51, 31/52, 31/54, 31/55, 31/57, 31/58 and 31/59 of 1 December 1976 and 31/149 and 31/151 of 20 December 1976, Assembly decisions 31/312 and 31/411 B of 16 December 1976, 31/421 A of 21 December 1976 and 31/316 of 22 December 1976, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2013 (LXI) of 3 August 1976.

Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements:  
review and follow-up activities

At its 70th meeting on 17 May 1977, the Governing Council took note of the report 74/ and intentions of the Executive Director regarding the implementation of General Assembly resolutions relating to human settlements, and authorized him, pursuant to section III, paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 31/116 of 16 December 1976, to transmit to the General Assembly, as soon as it was adopted by the Council, the part of the report of the Council on the work of its fifth



session dealing with Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements: review and follow-up activities. 75/

International Pahlavi Environment Prize

At its 74th meeting, on 24 May 1977, the Governing Council took note of the oral report of the Executive Director on the International Pahlavi Environment Prize, and endorsed the increase in the membership of the Advisory Selection Committee from five to seven.

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

At its 75th meeting, on 25 May 1977, the Governing Council decided that its sixth session would be held at Nairobi from 9 to 25 May 1978, with informal consultations on 8 May, and adopted the following provisional agenda for the session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Agenda and organization of the work of the session.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. Executive Director's report and state of the environment:
  - (a) Introductory report of the Executive Director (including resolutions and decisions of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly and resolutions of the sixty-second and sixty-third sessions of the Economic and Social Council of relevance to the United Nations Environment Programme);
  - (b) State of the environment report.
6. Co-ordination questions:
  - (a) Report of the Environment Co-ordination Board;
  - (b) Other co-ordination questions.
7. Programme matters.
8. United Nations Conference on Desertification - review and follow-up activities.
9. United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation:

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75/ See chap. IV of the present report.

(a) Progress report on the implementation of the plan and programme of operations of the Foundation;

(b) Financial and budgetary matters and administrative arrangements.

10. The Environment Fund:

(a) Report on the implementation of the Fund programme activities in 1977;

(b) Audited 1976 accounts, unaudited 1977 accounts;

(c) Management of the Fund of UNEP and administrative and budgetary matters.

11. Draft principles of conduct for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious exploitation of natural resources shared by two or more States.

12. Report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3435 (XXX): study of the problem of the material remnants of wars, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment.

13. Provisional agenda, date and place of the seventh session of the Governing Council.

14. Other business.

15. Report of the Governing Council to the General Assembly.

16. Closure of the session.

Report of the informal working group on documentation

At its 75th meeting, on 25 May 1977, the Governing Council requested the Executive Director to transmit to Governments for their information the report of the informal working group on documentation which met during the fifth session to advise him on documentation, together with his comments on the document and its implications.

## RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

### 2112 (LXIII). REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME ON ITS FIFTH SESSION

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fifth session<sup>1</sup> and the recommendations contained therein, including those submitted by the Governing Council in its capacity as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the United Nations Conference on Desertification,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fifth session and also the statement made thereon by the Executive Director of the Programme at the sixty-third session of the Economic and Social Council,<sup>2</sup>

2. *Invites* the General Assembly to approve the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fifth session.

*2085th plenary meeting  
4 August 1977*

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/GC/106 and Corr.1, transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbol E/6023. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/32/25/)*.

<sup>2</sup> See E/AC.6/SR.788.

## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### 32/162. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* relevant resolutions, in particular its resolutions 2718 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974,

*Convinced* of the need for urgent action to improve the quality of life of all people in human settlements,

*Recognizing* that such action is primarily the responsibility of Governments,

*Conscious* that human settlements problems represent a primary field of action in international co-operation, which should be strengthened in order that adequate solutions may be found, based on equity, justice and solidarity, especially among developing countries,

*Recognizing* that the international community should provide, both at the global and regional levels, encouragement and support to Governments determined to take effective action to ameliorate conditions, especially for the least advantaged, in rural and urban human settlements,

*Recognizing* that human settlements and the steps to be taken to improve them should be considered an essential component of socio-economic development,

*Recalling* the decisions of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, as well as the recommendations of the World Population Conference, the World Food Conference, the Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Conference of the International Women's Year, the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, that establish the basis of the new international economic order,

*Aware* of the sectoral responsibilities of the organizations of the United Nations system,

*Conscious* of the need to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness in human settlements activities within the United Nations system,

*Recognizing* that new priorities should be identified and activities developed to reflect comprehensive and integrated approaches to the solution of human settlements problems,

*Convinced* that it is necessary to consolidate and strengthen promptly the capacity of the United Nations system in the field of human settlements,

*Recognizing* that urgent steps should be taken to ensure a better mobilization of financial resources at all levels, with a view to improving human settlements,

*Believing that:*

(a) The current level of resources available for development purposes, particularly for human settlements, is clearly inadequate,

(b) The effective development of human settlements has been hindered by great disparities in socio-economic development within and between countries,

(c) The establishment of a just and equitable world economic order through necessary changes in areas of international trade, monetary systems, industrialization, the transfer of resources, the transfer of technology and the consumption of world resources is essential for socio-economic development and for the improvement of human settlements, particularly in developing countries,

#### I

#### INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

*Considers that:*

(a) International co-operation in the field of human settlements should be viewed as an instrument of socio-economic development;

(b) The fundamental object of international co-operation for development is to support national action and, therefore, programmes for such co-operation in the field of human settlements should be based on the policies and priorities established in the recommendations for national action of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

- (c) In seeking co-operation for development, States should give due priority to human settlements;
- (c) Requests for development assistance should not be subject to discrimination on the part of the institutions to which these requests are addressed;
- (d) Technical co-operation should be made available to countries requesting assistance in policy formulation, management and institutional improvement relating to human settlements;
- (f) Technical co-operation should be made available to developing countries requesting assistance in education and training and applied research relating to human settlements;
- (g) Financial and technical co-operation for development should be accorded to countries requesting assistance for, *inter alia*, projects in self-help and co-operative housing, integrated rural development, water and transportation;
- (h) All Governments should give serious consideration to making contributions as soon as possible to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation established by virtue of General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX), in order to expedite action programmes in the field of human settlements;
- (i) Emerging concepts and priorities regarding human settlements in developing countries present new challenges to the policies and capability of development assistance agencies in donor countries and to international bodies; multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies should therefore respond effectively to requests for assistance in the field of human settlements, and special attention should be paid to the needs of the least advantaged countries, particularly in the provision of long-term low-interest mortgages and loans to facilitate the implementation of human settlements activities in the least developed countries that cannot fulfil existing terms and conditions;
- (j) Information systems should be strengthened, where necessary, and better co-ordinated, and stronger links established at the regional level between human settlements and research institutions in different countries;
- (k) Many international organizations carry out activities related to human settlements, and specialized agencies and other appropriate bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Bank and the World Health Organization, should consider seriously the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, with a view to their implementation in their respective fields of competence;

## II

### COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

1. *Decides* that the Economic and Social Council should transform the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning into a Commission on Human Settlements, which will have fifty-eight members to be elected for three-year terms on the following basis:
  - (a) Sixteen seats for African States;
  - (b) Thirteen seats for Asian States;
  - (c) Six seats for Eastern European States;
  - (d) Ten seats for Latin American States;
  - (e) Thirteen seats for Western European and other States;
2. *Decides* that the Commission on Human Settlements will discharge, *inter alia*, the responsibilities at present exercised by the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning;
3. *Decides* that the Commission on Human Settlements will have the following main objectives:
  - (a) To assist countries and regions in increasing and improving their own efforts to solve human settlements problems;
  - (b) To promote greater international co-operation in order to increase the availability of resources of developing countries and regions;
  - (c) To promote the integral concept of human settlements and a comprehensive approach to human settlements problems in all countries;
  - (d) To strengthen co-operation and co-participation in this domain among all countries and regions;
4. *Decides* that the Commission on Human Settlements will have the following main functions and responsibilities:
  - (a) To develop and promote policy objectives, priorities and guidelines regarding existing and planned programmes of work in the field of human settlements, as formulated in the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements and subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly;

(b) To follow closely the activities of the United Nations system and other international organizations in the field of human settlements and to propose, when appropriate, ways and means by which the over-all policy objectives and goals in the field of human settlements within the United Nations system might best be achieved;

(c) To study, in the context of the Conference's recommendations for national action, new issues, problems and especially solutions in the field of human settlements, particularly those of a regional or international character;

(d) To give over-all policy guidance and carry out supervision of the operations of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

(e) To review and approve periodically the utilization of funds at its disposal for carrying out human settlements activities at the global, regional and subregional levels;

(f) To provide over-all direction to the secretariat of the Centre referred to in section III below;

(g) To review and provide guidance on the programme of the United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements established by virtue of General Assembly resolution 31/115 of 16 December 1976;

5. *Decides* that the first session of the Commission on Human Settlements should be held in the first half of 1978;

6. *Decides* that the report of the Commission on Human Settlements will be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

### III

#### HABITAT, CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

1. *Decides* that a small and effective secretariat shall be established in the United Nations to service the Commission on Human Settlements and to serve as a focal point for human settlements action and the co-ordination of activities within the United Nations system, to be named "Habitat, Centre for Human Settlements", hereinafter referred to as "the Centre";

2. *Decides* that the Centre shall be headed by an Executive Director, at a level to be determined later, who shall report to the Secretary-General until such time as any relevant recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System can be taken into account;

3. *Decides* that the Executive Director shall be responsible for the management of the Centre, which shall comprise the posts and budgetary resources of the following;

(a) The Centre for Housing, Building and Planning of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs;

(b) The appropriate section of the Division of Economic and Social Programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme directly concerned with human settlements, with the exception of the posts required by that Programme to exercise its responsibilities for the environmental aspects and consequences of human settlements planning;

(c) The United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

(d) As appropriate, selected posts and associated resources from relevant parts of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs;

4. *Decides* that the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation shall be administered by the Executive Director referred to in paragraph 9 above and shall have the terms of reference set out in the annex to General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX), with appropriate amendments to reflect the new relationship to the Commission on Human Settlements and its secretariat;

5. *Decides* that the Centre, under the leadership of its Executive Director, shall be entrusted, *inter alia*, with the following responsibilities:

(a) To ensure the harmonization at the intersecretariat level of human settlements programmes planned and carried out by the United Nations system;

(b) To assist the Commission on Human Settlements in co-ordinating human settlements activities in the United Nations system, to keep them under review and to assess their effectiveness;

(c) To execute human settlements projects;

(c) To provide the focal point for a global exchange of information about human settlements;

(e) To provide substantive support to the Commission on Human Settlements;

(f) To deal with interregional human settlements matters;

(g) To supplement the resources of the regions in formulating and implementing human settlements projects when so required;

(h) To promote collaboration with, and the involvement of, the world scientific community concerned with human settlements;

(i) To establish and maintain a global directory of consultants and advisers to supplement the skills available within the system and to assist in the recruitment of experts at the global level, including those available in developing countries;

(j) To initiate public information activities on human settlements in co-operation with the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat;

(k) To promote the further and continued use of audio-visual material relating to human settlements;

(l) To carry out the mandate and responsibilities previously assigned by the appropriate legislative bodies to the secretariat units to be absorbed in the central staff;

(m) To implement programmes until they are transferred to the regional organizations;

6. *Decides* that the Director of the United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements shall report to the Executive Director;

7. *Decides* that there should be close links between the Centre and the United Nations Environment Programme, and that for this reason the location of the Centre should be at Nairobi;

8. *Decides* that during the period 1978 - 1980 a significant portion of all posts in the Centre will be assigned to the regions for work on regional human settlements questions;

#### IV

##### ORGANIZATION AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL.

1. *Recommends* that the regional commissions should consider the establishment of regional intergovernmental committees on human settlements, comprising all members, in cases where such committees do not already exist;

2. *Recommends* that such regional committees should be established as soon as possible and then co-ordinate their activities with those of the Commission on Human Settlements and report to it through the appropriate regional commissions;

3. *Recommends* that the responsibility for implementing regional and subregional programmes should be gradually transferred to regional organizations;

4. *Recommends* that each regional committee should be served by a unit of the secretariat of the parent regional commission under an executive officer; these units should preferably be established as soon as possible and should be provided with the necessary resources for their operations;

5. *Decides* that the regional committees shall be responsible for the formulation of regional and subregional policies and programmes and for their implementation;

6. *Recommends* that the budgetary and personnel resources available to each regional secretariat unit should consist of those available from the regular budgetary resources and those redeployed from the aggregate posts available to the central secretariat, voluntary contributions, including those made to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, as well as selected resources currently available to each region;

7. *Recommends* that the principal functions of the regional secretariat units should be:

(a) To serve the regional committees referred to in paragraph 1 of the present section;

(b) To review progress in the implementation of programmes with the regions;

(c) To promote the active collaboration of governmental representatives in activities related to human settlements;

(c) To assist Governments of countries in the region in the formulation of their requests for assistance from the appropriate bilateral and multilateral bodies;

(e) To establish close links with the appropriate financial institutions at the regional and global levels and with regional units of the specialized agencies;

(f) To formulate, implement and supervise regional and subregional programmes and projects, especially regional training programmes;

(g) To execute regional human settlements projects;

8. *Recommends* that the regional secretariat units, with the approval of the regional committees, should identify those national and regional institutions which are best able to provide services, training and assistance in research relating to human settlements;

#### V

##### TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. *Decides* that human settlements activities and programmes at both the global and regional levels shall deal in particular with the following subject areas:

- (a) Settlement policies and strategies;
- (b) Settlement planning;
- (c) Institutions and management;
- (d) Shelter, infrastructure and services;
- (e) Land;
- (f) Public participation;

2. *Decides* that the formulation of global programme priorities within these broad subject areas shall be undertaken by the Commission on Human Settlements and that of regional programme priorities by the regional committees, on the basis of the needs and problems of the region and of the countries within the region;

3. *Recommends* that the following functions should be considered on a priority basis, in relation to the subject areas mentioned in paragraph 1 of the present section:

- (a) Identification of the problems and possible solutions;
- (b) Formulation and implementation of policies;
- (c) Education and training;
- (c) Identification, development and use of appropriate technology, as well as limitation of hazardous technology;
- (e) Exchange of information, including audio-visual information;
- (f) Implementation machinery;
- (g) Assistance in the mobilization of resources at the national and international levels;
- (h) Promotion of the establishment of an international information pool on building materials, plant and equipment;

## VI

### CONCERTED ACTION AND CO-ORDINATION

1. *Urges* in particular that the Executive Director of the Centre and the bureau of the Commission on Human Settlements should meet bi-annually with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the bureau of its Governing Council to review together their respective priorities and programmes for improving human settlements and to strengthen and extend co-operation between the two organizations;

2. *Urges also* that the Executive Director of the Centre and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme should participate in and address the annual meetings of their governing bodies;

3. *Decides* that there must be a sustained and determined effort, on the part of all organizations most closely connected with human settlements, both at regional and global levels, to concert their planned programmes and projects;

4. *Decides further* that the existing mechanisms of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination must be strengthened to ensure that co-ordination in the field of human settlements is effective throughout the whole United Nations system;

## VII

### WORKING RELATIONS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

1. *Recommends* that the Centre and the secretaries of the regional commissions should establish working relations, as regards the question of human settlements, with the principal financial institutions at the regional and global levels;

2. *Recommends* that special co-operation should exist at the global, regional and national levels between the United Nations Development Programme and the Centre;

## VIII

### CO-OPERATION WITH ORGANIZATIONS OUTSIDE THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

*Recommends* that, at the global and regional levels, co-operation should be sought with universities, research and scientific institutes, non-governmental organizations and voluntary groups, in order to make full use of their knowledge and experience in the field of human settlements; at the intergovernmental level, this co-operation should be formalized and at the secretariat level it should be brought about by the establishment of appropriate working relations.



**32/168. REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fifth<sup>1</sup> and the statement<sup>2</sup> of the Executive Director of the Programme introducing the report,

*Having further considered* Economic and Social Council resolution 2112 (LXIII) of 4 August 1977 relating to the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Recalling* its resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 31/112 of 16 December 1976,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fifth session;

2. *Invites* the governing bodies of all organizations within the United Nations system to take full account within their terms of reference, of the decisions of the Governing Council and to ensure that those organizations review their programmes and budgets with a view to participating fully in the effective implementation of the environment programme;

3. *Stresses* the need for ensuring that environmental considerations are taken into account in development programmes in differing socio-economic settings, in the implementation of the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order<sup>3</sup> and in the formulation of the new international development strategy;

4. *Invites* all Governments to contribute generously to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, bearing in mind resolution 98 (V) of 24 May 1977 of the Governing Council, so as to permit the full implementation of the medium-term plan for 1978 - 1981 for Fund programme activities;<sup>4</sup>

5. *Notes* the report of the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on the study of the problem of the material remnants of wars, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment,<sup>5</sup> and decision 101 (V) of 25 May 1977 of the Governing Council and invites Governments concerned to co-operate with the Executive Director in the implementation of the decision;

6. *Also notes* the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment<sup>6</sup> and invites Member States, as appropriate, to ratify and implement these conventions and protocols, and requests the Executive Director to continue to take the necessary measures to facilitate the ratification and implementation of these and newly signed conventions and protocols by the greatest possible number of States;

7. *Also notes* the note by the Secretary-General on the progress made by the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources shared by two or more State<sup>7</sup> and decision 99 (V) of 20 May 1977 of the Governing Council and expresses the hope that the Working Group of Experts will expedite the completion of its work in order for the Governing Council to present its final report on the subject to the General Assembly.

**32/169. FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE LEAST DEVELOPED  
AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note* of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification, held at Nairobi from 29 August to 9 September 1977,<sup>8</sup>

*Recognizing* that desertification constitutes a world-wide economic and social problem,

*Reaffirming* the cardinal principle of the permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources,

*Bearing in mind* the resolution adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification, in which the Conference recognized that the least developed among the developing countries with limited resources at their disposal were in need of immediate financial and technical assistance from the United Nations and the specialized agencies and international organizations within the United Nations system,<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/32/25).*

<sup>2</sup> A/C.2/32/SR.19, paras. 1 - 13.

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 3202 (S-VI).

<sup>4</sup> UNEP/GC/98 and Corr.1 and Corr.2, table 1.

<sup>5</sup> A/32/137.

<sup>6</sup> A/32/156.

<sup>7</sup> A/32/159.

<sup>8</sup> See A/CONF.74/36, chap. II. See also A/32/257.

<sup>9</sup> A/CONF.74/36, chap. II, resolution 2.

*Taking note* of resolution 98 (IV) of 31 May 1976 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,<sup>10</sup>

1. *Recommends* the speedy implementation of the recommendation of the United Nations Conference on Desertification with respect to financial and technical assistance to the least developed countries;<sup>11</sup>
2. *Urges* the United Nations and its Member States and the specialized agencies and international and regional financial institutions to ensure the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Desertification in favour of those countries by extending additional international and bilateral assistance;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

### **32/170. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SUDANO-SAHELIAN REGION**

*The General Assembly,*

*Considering* the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and the relevant resolutions and recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification,<sup>12</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the United Nations resolutions and recommendations concerning the drought in the Sahel and the implementation of the medium-term and long-term programme for the recovery and rehabilitation of the region.

*Aware* of the particular seriousness of desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region and of the recurrent critical situations resulting from it, which hamper the economic and social development of the region and have particularly adverse effects on the way of life of the population,

*Noting in particular* the harmful effects of the particularly low level of rainfall in the region,

1. *Stresses* the need for the immediate implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and of the relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification;<sup>13</sup>
2. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to consider at its sixth session, on the basis of a report by the Executive Director of the Programme which will take account of the role and activities of the competent existing organs in the region, measures to improve institutional arrangements in the Sudano-Sahelian region, including the establishment of a subregional office of the United Nations Environment Programme in the region for the purpose of supporting efforts undertaken at the national and regional levels by the countries concerned to combat desertification and of encouraging and co-ordinating, in co-operation with competent existing organs, assistance from developed countries, multilateral financial institutions, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental donors;
3. *Further requests* the Governing Council to include in its agenda, when it considers the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, an item concerning measures and modes of action for implementing projects and programmes to combat desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region.

### **32/172. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON DESERTIFICATION**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

*Recalling further* its resolution 3337 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in which it decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Desertification,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the results of the Conference,<sup>14</sup>

<sup>10</sup> *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development*, vol. 1, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.10), part one, sect. A.

<sup>11</sup> A/CONF.74/36, chap. I, recommendation 28.

<sup>12</sup> A/CONF.74/36, chaps. I and II.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>14</sup> A/32/257 and Corr.1.

1. *Approves* the report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification;<sup>15</sup>
2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government and people of Kenya for acting as host to the Conference;
3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the Conference for its efficient preparation and organization;
4. *Calls upon* all Governments to consider, on a priority basis, the recommendations for national action contained in section IV of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification<sup>16</sup> and, where necessary, the desirability of establishing a national authority to co-ordinate, consolidate and implement national anti-desertification action programmes;
5. *Recommends* that subregional co-operation be initiated or intensified, as considered necessary, among countries affected by desertification, with the required assistance from the United Nations Environment Programme and other organizations concerned, with a view to formulating specific joint programmes and requests for development assistance for implementation of the Plan of Action;
6. *Requests* the regional commissions to undertake intensified and sustained action in support of national efforts to combat desertification, to assist Governments, at their request, in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and to convene, as appropriate, in co-operation with interested Governments and regional organizations, intergovernmental regional meetings, technical workshops and seminars to consider the immediate implementation of the recommendations contained in section V of the Plan of Action;
7. *Requests* the organs, organizations and other bodies of the United Nations system to support international action to combat desertification within the context of the Plan of Action;
8. *Decides* to entrust the Governing Council and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as the Environment Co-ordination Board, with the responsibility of following up and co-ordinating the implementation of the Plan of Action, in accordance with its recommendation 27, and requests the Governing Council to report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session and thereafter every two years;
9. *Calls upon* all countries, in particular developed countries, as well as multilateral financial institutions and non-governmental donors, to provide and increase their assistance to countries suffering from desertification, especially for the financing of their subregional and regional programmes and projects within appropriate consortium arrangements, such as those pertaining to the Sahel green belt, and urges developing countries to give due priority to desertification problems in their development assistance requests;
10. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to convene immediately a consultative group, which would meet as and when required, comprising representatives from organizations referred to in paragraph 7 above, such other organizations as might be required, donor countries, multilateral financial agencies, as well as developing countries having a substantial interest in combating desertification, to assist in mobilizing resources for the activities undertaken within the framework of implementing the Plan of Action;
11. *Endorses* in principle the creation of a special account within the United Nations for implementing the Plan of Action;
12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit a study on the establishment and operation of such an account to the General Assembly, at its thirty-third session, through the Governing Council and the Economic and Social Council;
13. *Invites* the Governing Council to have prepared, by a small group of high-level specialists in the international financing of projects and programmes, a study of additional measures and means of financing for the implementation of the Plan of Action, and to submit a final report on the subject of additional measures of financing to the General Assembly, at its thirty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council;
14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to approach Member States and competent organizations and bodies within the United Nations system, as well as scientific institutions concerned outside the system, for further research, development and refinement of the data pertaining to desertification, to close any existing gaps in scientific knowledge and technology, and for further development of the world map of desertification on the basis of the relevant recommendations of the Conference;
15. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to invite intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with desertification problems and their impact on development to participate in the implementation of the Plan of Action with a view to co-ordinating their activities within world-wide and regional programmes;
16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at its thirty-third session, on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Conference,<sup>17</sup> especially resolution 2 on financial and tech-

<sup>15</sup> A/CONF.74/36.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. I.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

nical assistance to the least developed countries and resolution 4 on the effect of weapons of mass destruction on ecosystems.

### 32/173. RESOURCES OF THE UNITED NATIONS HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,

*Believing* that the current level of resources available to the Foundation is clearly inadequate,

*Recognizing* that the international community, at both the global and regional levels, should encourage and support Governments determined to take effective action to ameliorate conditions, especially for the least advantaged, in urban and rural settlements,

*Bearing in mind* the invitation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in its decision 92 (V) of 25 May 1977, to the General Assembly regarding the setting of a target for total voluntary contributions by Governments to the Foundation,

1. *Appeals* to all Governments to contribute generously to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation as soon as possible in order to expedite action programmes in the field of human settlements;

2. *Notes* the proposal of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the target of \$50 million as a minimum for the total voluntary contributions by Governments for the years 1978 - 1981;<sup>18</sup>

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, during the thirty-third session of the General Assembly, a pledging conference on voluntary contributions by Governments to the Foundation if pledges to meet the minimum target referred to in paragraph 2 above are not forthcoming.

### 32/321. ELECTION OF 19 MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

At its 103rd plenary meeting, on 15 December 1977, the General Assembly elected ALGERIA, AUSTRIA, \*BRAZIL, \*COLOMBIA, DENMARK, \*FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, \*IRAN, \*JAPAN, \*KENYA, \*LIBYA, \*MALAYSIA, NETHERLANDS, PAKISTAN, \*ROMANIA, TUNISIA, \*USSR, \*UNITED STATES, \*VENEZUELA and \*ZAIRE to serve on the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for a three-year term beginning 1 January 1978.

In the only balloting, for the Group of Western European and other States, for which the required majority was 69, Denmark received 115 votes, the United States 110, the Netherlands 102, the Federal Republic of Germany 100 and Austria 98.

As a result, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme consists of the following 58 members: ALGERIA,\* ARGENTINA,\*\* AUSTRIA,\*\*\* BANGLADESH,\*\* BELGIUM,\* BRAZIL,\*\*\* BULGARIA,\*\* CANADA,\*\* CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE,\* CHAD,\*\* CHINA,\*\* COLOMBIA,\*\*\* CYPRUS,\* DENMARK,\*\*\* FRANCE,\*\* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,\*\*\* GHANA,\*\* GREECE,\* GRENADA,\* GUATEMALA,\*\* HUNGARY,\* INDONESIA,\*\* IRAN,\*\*\* IRAQ,\* IVORY COAST,\*\* JAMAICA,\*\* JAPAN,\*\*\* KENYA,\*\*\* KUWAIT,\* LIBERIA,\* LIBYA,\*\*\* MALAYSIA,\*\*\* MEXICO,\* NETHERLANDS,\*\*\* NEW ZEALAND,\* NORWAY,\*\* PAKISTAN,\*\*\* PERU,\* PHILIPPINES,\*\* POLAND,\* ROMANIA,\*\*\* RWANDA,\* SENEGAL,\*\* SOMALIA,\* SPAIN,\*\* SYRIA,\*\* THAILAND,\* TOGO,\* TUNISIA,\*\*\* UGANDA,\* USSR,\*\*\* UNITED KINGDOM,\* UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA,\*\* UNITED STATES,\*\*\* URUGUAY,\* VENEZUELA,\*\*\* YUGOSLAVIA\*\* and ZAIRE\*\*\*.

[The States which left the Council when their term expired on 31 December 1977 were Egypt, Finland, India, Italy, the Sudan and Switzerland.]

<sup>18</sup> UNEP/GC/93.

\*Re-elected.

\* Term of office expires on 31 December 1978.

\*\* Term of office expires on 31 December 1979.

\*\*\* Term of office expires on 31 December 1980.