



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

*Regional Seas Programme:  
Legislative authority*

*UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 17 Rev.1*

UNEP 1988

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## PREFACE

The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972) adopted the Action Plan for the Human Environment, including the General Principles for Assessment and Control of Marine Pollution. In the light of the results of the Stockholm Conference, the United Nations General Assembly decided to establish the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to "serve as a focal point for environmental action and co-ordination within the United Nations system" [General Assembly resolution 2997(XXV) of 15 December 1972]. The organizations of the United Nations system were invited "to adopt the measures that may be required to undertake concerted and co-ordinated programmes with regard to international environmental problems", and the "intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have an interest in the field of the environment" were also invited "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". Subsequently, the Governing Council of UNEP chose "Oceans" as one of the priority areas in which it would focus efforts to fulfil its catalytic and co-ordinating role.

The Regional Seas Programme was initiated by UNEP in 1974. At present, it includes eleven regions <sup>1/</sup> and has more than 120 participating states. It is conceived as an action-oriented programme concerned not only with the consequences but also with the causes of environmental degradation and encompassing a comprehensive approach to controlling environmental problems through the management of marine and coastal areas. Each regional action plan is formulated according to the needs of the region as perceived by the Governments concerned. It is designed to link assessment of the quality of the marine environment and the causes of its deterioration with activities for the management and development of the marine and coastal environment. The action plans promote the parallel development of regional legal agreements and of action-oriented programme activities <sup>2/</sup>.

The Regional Seas Programme has always been recognized as a global programme implemented through regional components. Inter-regional co-operation among the various sea areas on common problems is an important element in assuring the compatibility of the different regional components.

At present, there are 17 major organizational units of the United Nations system and 11 specialized agencies undertaking distinct marine affairs activities <sup>3/</sup>. Although these activities constitute a useful and well-organized response by the system to the needs of its member states, the multiplicity of mandates has caused some overlap and duplication of activities.

This document is a compilation containing the basic texts adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm, June 1972) as well as the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations and by the Governing Council of UNEP. These resolutions and decisions provide the legislative authority for UNEP's oceans-related programme, the Regional Seas Programme specifically.

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<sup>1/</sup> Mediterranean Region, Kuwait Action Plan Region, West and Central African Region, Wider Caribbean Region, East Asian Seas Region, South-East Pacific Region, South Pacific Region, Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region, Eastern African Region, South-West Atlantic Region and South Asian Region.

<sup>2/</sup> UNEP: Achievements and planned development of UNEP's Regional Seas Programme and comparable programmes sponsored by other bodies. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies, No. 1. UNEP, 1982.

<sup>3/</sup> UN/ECOSOC: Cross-organizational programme analysis of the activities of the United Nations system in marine affairs. Report of the Secretary General. (E/AC.51/1983/2) 15 March 1983.

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**PART I**

**REPORT OF UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT (EXTRACTS)\***

**Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972**

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\*A/Conf.48/14/Rev.1.

## 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,*

#### I

*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

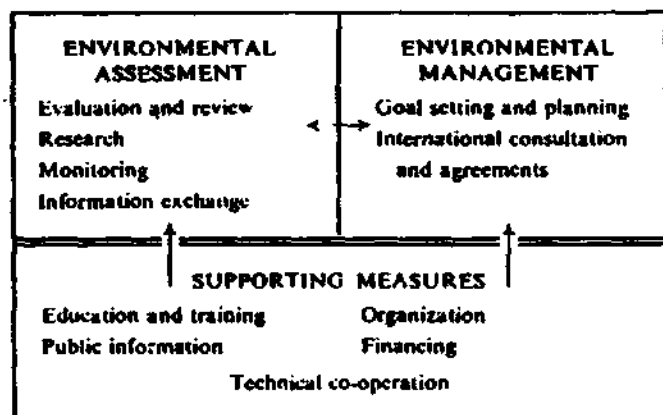
### ACTION PLAN FOR THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

#### 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-

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

<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.

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 co-operate 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 plasma, 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 plasmas (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 plasmas (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 plasmas, 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 plasma;

(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 complied 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 (c), 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.

### Annex III

#### GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL OF MARINE POLLUTION\*

A set of general principles for assessment and control of marine pollution should be accepted and endorsed by Governments.

The definition of marine pollution employed by the United Nations is "the introduction by man, directly or indirectly, of substances or energy into the marine environment (including estuaries) resulting in such deleterious effects as harm to living resources, hazards to human health, hindrance to marine activities including fishing, impairment of quality for use of sea water, and reduction of amenities".

The following principles were suggested by the Intergovernmental Working Group on Marine Pollution (November 1971) as guiding concepts representing a basis for general agreement.

(1) Every State has a duty to protect and preserve the marine environment and, in particular, to prevent pollution that may affect areas where an internationally shared resource is located.

(2) Every State should adopt appropriate measures for the prevention of marine pollution, whether acting individually or in conjunction with other States under agreed international arrangements.

(3) States should use the best practicable means available to them to minimize the discharge of potentially hazardous substances to the sea by all routes, including land-based sources such as rivers, outfalls and pipelines within national jurisdiction, as well as dumping by or from ships, aircraft and platforms.

(4) States should ensure that their national legislation provides adequate sanctions against those who infringe existing regulations on marine pollution.

(5) States should assume joint responsibility for the preservation of the marine environment beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

(6) The States at higher levels of technological and scientific development should assist those nations which request it, for example by undertaking programmes, either directly or through competent agencies, intended to provide adequate training of the technical and scientific personnel of those countries, as well as by providing the equipment and facilities needed in areas such as research, administration, monitoring or surveillance, information, waste disposal, and others, which would improve their ability to discharge duties consisting of protecting the marine environment.

(7) States should discharge, in accordance with the principles of international law, their obligations towards other States where damage arises from pollution caused by their own activities or by organizations or individuals under their jurisdiction and should co-operate in developing procedures for dealing with such damage and the settlement of disputes.

(8) Every State should co-operate with other States and competent international organizations with regard to the elaboration and implementation of internationally agreed rules, standards and procedures for the prevention of marine pollution on global, regional and national levels.

(9) States should join together regionally to concert their policies and adopt measures in common to prevent the pollution of the areas which, for geographical or ecological reasons, form a natural entity and an integrated whole.

(10) International guidelines and criteria should be developed, both by national Governments and through intergovernmental agencies, to provide the policy framework for control measures. A comprehensive plan for the protection of the marine environment should provide for the identification of critical pollutants and their pathways and sources, determination of exposures to these pollutants and assessment of the risks they pose, timely detection of undesirable trends, and development of detection and monitoring systems.

(11) Internationally agreed criteria and standards should provide for regional and local variations in the effects of pollution and in the evaluation of these effects. Such variables should also include the ecology of sea areas, economic and social conditions, and amenities, recreational facilities and other uses of the seas.

(12) Primary protection standards and derived working levels—especially codes of practice and effluent standards—may usefully be established at national levels, and in some instances, on a regional or global basis.

(13) Action to prevent and control marine pollution (particularly direct prohibitions and specific release limits) must guard against the effect of simply transferring damage or hazard from one part of the environment to another.

(14) The development and implementation of control should be sufficiently flexible to reflect increasing knowledge of the marine ecosystem, pollution effects, and improvements in technological means for pollution control and to take into account the fact that a number of new and hitherto unsuspected pollutants are bound to be brought to light.

(15) Every State should co-operate with other States and with competent international organizations with a view to the development of marine environmental research and survey programmes and systems and means for monitoring changes, in the marine environment, including studies of the present state of the oceans, the trends of pollution effects and the exchange of data and scientific information on the marine environment. There should be similar co-operation in the exchange of technological information on means of preventing marine pollution, including pollution that may arise from offshore resource exploration and exploitation.

(16) International guidelines should also be developed to facilitate comparability in methods of detection and measurement of pollutants and their effects.

(17) In addition to its responsibility for environmental protection within the limits of its territorial sea, a coastal State also has responsibility to protect adjacent areas of the environment from damage that may result from activities within its territory.

(18) Coastal States should ensure that adequate and appropriate resources are available to deal with pollution incidents resulting from the exploration and exploitation of seabed resources in areas within the limits of their national jurisdiction.

(19) States should co-operate in the appropriate international forum to ensure that activities related to the exploration and exploitation of the seabed and the ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction shall not result in pollution of the marine environment.

(20) All States should ensure that vessels under their registration comply with internationally agreed rules and standards relating

\* Excerpt from document A/CONF.48/8, para. 197.

to ship design and construction, operating procedures and other relevant factors. States should co-operate in the development of such rules, standards and procedures, in the appropriate international bodies.

(21) Following an accident on the high seas which may be expected to result in major deleterious consequences from pollution or threat of pollution of the sea, a coastal State facing grave and imminent danger to its coastline and related interests may take appropriate measures as may be necessary to prevent, mitigate, or elimi-

nate such danger, in accordance with internationally agreed rules and standards.

(22) Where there is a need for action by or through international agencies for the prevention, control or study of marine pollution, existing bodies, both within and outside the United Nations system, should be utilized as far as possible.

(23) States should assist one another, to the best of their ability, in action against marine pollution of whatever origin.

## **PART II**

### **RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY \***

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\*General Assembly Official Records. Twenty-seventh to Forty-second sessions: Supplement No. 30 (A/8730), Supplement No. 30 (A/9030); Supplement No. 31 (A/9631); Supplement No. 34 (A/10034); Supplement No. 39 (A/31/39); Supplement No. 45 (A/32/45); Supplement No. 45 (A/33/45); Supplement No. 48 (A/35/48); Supplement No. 51 (A/36/51); Supplement No. 51 (A/37/51); Supplement No. 47 (A/38/47); Supplement No. 53 (A/41/53); Supplement No. 49 (A/42/49).

**GA/RES/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**

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<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.

**GA/RES/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>1/</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;*

*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

**GA/RES/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 1987

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

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

<sup>9/</sup> Ibid.

**GA/RES/2997(XVII). Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental co-operation**

***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 level,

***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 sub-regional co-operation in the field of the environment and 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,

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

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10/ A/8783 and Add.1, Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.2.

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-years 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;

(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 the 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 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;

#### 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;

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

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

GA/RES/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>12/</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>13/</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>14/</sup>

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

<sup>12/</sup> A/CONF.48/14 and Corr. 1.

<sup>13/</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

<sup>14/</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II, sect. B.

<sup>15/</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].

*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;

2. *Calls upon* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme <sup>16/</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>17/</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>18/</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.

2112th plenary meeting  
15 December 1972

GA/RES/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,

*Noting* the set of recommendations of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment pertaining to development and environment <sup>19/</sup>,

*Reaffirming* the importance of implementing the objectives and policy measures of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade <sup>20/</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,

<sup>16/</sup> See resolution 2997(XXVII), sect. I.

<sup>17/</sup> Resolution 2626(XXV).

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

<sup>19/</sup> See A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. II, sect. B.

<sup>20/</sup> Resolution 2626(XXV).

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 and 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 I, paragraph 3, of General Assembly resolution 2997(XXVII), in such a way as to enhance the attainment of goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and to ensure that the development priorities of 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.

2112th plenary meeting  
15 December 1972

**GA/RES/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>21/</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 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,

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<sup>21/</sup> See Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14), chap. I.

*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 22/,

*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

#### GA/RES/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 23/,

*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

22/ A/9330 and Corr.1. p. 57.

23/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Second Committee, 1563rd meeting, paras. 2-15.

GA/RES/3133(XXVIII). Protection of the marine environment

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling its resolutions 2995(XXVIII) 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>24/</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>25/</sup>, held from 12 to 22 June 1973, in which the subjects of oceans and genetic resources are among programme priorities,*

*Noting the Convention of 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 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>26/</sup> as approved by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

2199th plenary meeting  
13 December 1973

<sup>24/</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>25/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025).

<sup>26/</sup> See Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14), chap. II.

GA/RES/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(XXVIII), 3000(XXVII) and 3002(XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 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 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 natural resources, of avoiding their waste and 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>27/</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>28/</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;

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<sup>27/</sup> A/C.2/292.

<sup>28/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9625).

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 needs 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;

(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>29/</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;

<sup>29/</sup> *Ibid.*, annex I, decision 5(II) of 21 March 1974.

(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 Environment 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 intergovernmental 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

**GA/RES/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>30/</sup>, adopted at Stockholm on 16 June 1972, which was intended, *inter alia*, to promote international law in the field of the environment,

*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>31/</sup>

<sup>30/</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.

<sup>31/</sup> See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/10025), annex I.

*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 the 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 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 any 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

**GA/RES/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>32/</sup>

<sup>32/</sup> See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25), annex I.

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,

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 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 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

GA/RES/32/185. Action programme in favour of developing island countries

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 3338(XXIX) of 17 December 1974 and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 dealing, *inter alia*, with efforts to meet the special problems of developing island countries,

*Recalling* resolution 98(IV) of 31 May 1976 of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, <sup>33/</sup> in which a series of special measures and specific action, respectively, in favour of the least developed countries and in favour of the land-locked and island developing countries were recommended,

*Recalling also* its resolution 31/156 of 21 December 1976, in which it called upon the Secretary-General to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, a progress report on the implementation of specific action in favour of developing island countries,

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolution 2126 (LXIII) of 4 August 1977, in which the Council recommended that the General Assembly at its thirty-second session should give full consideration to the progress report of the Secretary-General with a view to the stimulation of further attention to the need for specific action in favour of developing island countries,

*Mindful* that the particular impediments hampering the economic development of many developing island countries, especially their difficulties in respect of transport and communications, their distance from market centres, the smallness of their economies and markets, their low resource endowment and their heavy dependence on a few commodities for foreign exchange earnings, call for the continued attention of Governments and of organizations in the United Nations system,

*Convinced* that specific action in favour of developing island countries, supplementary to the general measures applicable to all developing countries, is required to meet these particular impediments,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of specific action in favour of developing island countries <sup>34/</sup> and welcomes the initiation of the measures specified therein;

2. *Welcomes*, in particular, the activities undertaken by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including the establishment of a unit in its secretariat devoted to the problems of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries;

3. *Also welcomes* the progress achieved by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in its implementation of the special technical assistance programme for developing island countries;

4. *Urges* all organizations in the United Nations system to continue to identify and implement, within their respective spheres of competence, appropriate specific action in favour of developing island countries, in accordance with the recommendations in resolution 98(IV) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in particular those concerning the fields of transport and communications, trade and commercial policies, industrialization, tourism, the transfer of technology, marine and submarine resources development, the flow of external resources, environment protection and response to natural disasters;

5. *Further urges* the United Nations organizations concerned, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the regional commissions, to give attention to programmes of regional and sub-regional co-operation in respect of developing island countries;

6. *Calls upon* Governments, in particular those of developed countries, to take fully into account, in their bilateral and regional development efforts and in relevant negotiations towards the attainment of the objectives of the new international economic order, the special problems of developing island countries;

<sup>33/</sup> See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fourth Session, vol. 1, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.11.D.10 and corrigendum), part one, sect. A.

<sup>34/</sup> A/32/126 and Add.1.

7. *Decides* to keep under review all progress in the implementation of the present resolution and requests the Secretary-General to submit for consideration of the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session a sectoral analysis of action undertaken in favour of developing island countries and proposals for further consideration, taking into account the consideration of this question by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its fifth session.

107th plenary meeting  
19 December 1977

**GA/RES/33/86. 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 sixth session <sup>35/</sup> and the statement of the Executive Director of the Programme introducing the report, <sup>36/</sup>

*Having also considered* Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/62 of 3 August 1978 concerning international co-operation on the environment,

*Noting with satisfaction* the signing in Kuwait, on 23 April 1978, of the Final Act of the Kuwait Regional Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Areas,

*Having further considered* the note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, <sup>37/</sup>

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its sixth session and the decisions, as adopted, contained in annex I thereto;

2. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, in particular the decisions of the Governing Council relating to the establishment of a system-wide, medium-term environment programme based on thematic joint programming, the emphasis to be given to project and programme evaluation and to the preparatory process for the consideration by the Administrative Committee on co-ordination of matters concerning the environment and the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, and the reporting thereon by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to the Governing Council;

3. *Calls upon* all bodies and organizations of the United Nations system involved in the elaboration of the new international development strategy to take environmental concerns into full account in view of the close interrelationship between environment and development;

4. *Invites* the executive heads, members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to continue to consider after the merger of the Environment Co-ordination Board with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, environmental matters at their level;

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<sup>35/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/33/25).

<sup>36/</sup> A/C.2/33/SR.24, paras. 1-14.

<sup>37/</sup> A/33/134.

5. *Urges* all Governments to contribute urgently and generously to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, bearing in mind paragraph 3 of the Governing Council decision 6/13 A of 24 May 1978, <sup>38/</sup> so as to meet the approved target;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue its catalytic and co-ordinating role in the field of the marine environment and ecological balance of regional seas and invites the Governments concerned to conclude, as appropriate, through co-operation among themselves and with the assistance of the United Nations Environment Programme and regional commissions, conventions and other arrangements in order to promote the protection of the marine environment of regional seas;

7. *Invites* Member States, as appropriate, to ratify and implement the international conventions and protocols designed to protect the environment in every respect and further urges Governments to promote the conclusion of such conventions and protocols.

85th plenary meeting  
15 December 1978

GA/RES/34/183. Marine pollution

*The General Assembly,*

*Mindful* of the grave dangers posed to the marine environment by the shipping of oil and other dangerous substances,

*Mindful* also of the effects of land-based pollution and the dumping of waste on marine pollution,

*Recalling* that the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization has adopted a number of comprehensive international conventions, recommendations, traffic separations schemes and codes of practices specifically for the purpose of enhancing maritime safety, ensuring efficiency of navigation and protecting the marine environment,

*Recalling further* the adoption during 1978 by the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization of additional international instruments providing for comprehensive standards dealing with tanker safety and pollution prevention and also with training, certification and watch-keeping for seafarers,

*Taking into account* the significant progress achieved at the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea with regard to the protection and preservation of the marine environment,

*Bearing in mind* also the work done for many years by the International Labour Organization and by the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization concerning training and certification for seafarers, notably International Labour Organisation Convention concerning Minimum Standards in Merchant Ships, 1976, <sup>39/</sup>

*Regretting* that the various measures to ensure the safety of navigation by the observance of the existing international regulations are not applied stringently by all States parties to those instruments,

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<sup>38/</sup> See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/33/25), annex I.

<sup>39/</sup> International Labour Office, Official Bulletin, vol. LX, 1977, series A, No. 1, Convention No. 147.

Considering that the conservation of the marine environment represents a basic objective for mankind,

1. Urges that the competent international institutions and organizations, in particular the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, expedite and intensify their activities relating to the prevention of pollution and the determination of responsibilities in this matter in accordance with the work already done on these questions by the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea;

2. Calls upon States parties to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, 1954 <sup>40/</sup> to discharge fully their obligations under the Convention and, in particular, those contained in article VI of that Convention;

3. Urges all States which have not already done so to examine the possibility of ratifying at the earliest opportunity the international conventions and protocols designed to ensure better protection of the marine environment, to improve the safety of navigation and to guarantee the training of competence of crews;

4. Urges all States to co-operate in order to implement material measures for the effective combating of marine pollution, without prejudice to the results of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea with regard to marine pollution;

5. Requests the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to consider the problems relating to marine pollution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session through the Economic and Social Council.

107th plenary meeting  
18 December 1979

**GA/RES/35/74. International co-operation in the field  
of the environment**

*The General Assembly,*

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its eighth session <sup>41/</sup> and the proposals of the high-level group of experts on the interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development, annexed thereto,

Taking into account the note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, <sup>42/</sup>

Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/49 of 23 July 1980 concerning international co-operation in the field of the environment,

Endorsing that resolution in which the Economic and Social Council reaffirmed that environmental considerations should be viewed in the context of national plans and priorities and the development objectives of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

<sup>40/</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 327, No. 4714, p. 4.

<sup>41/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/35/25).

<sup>42/</sup> A/35/359.

*Having in mind* the importance which the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade attaches to an ecologically sustainable development process, <sup>43/</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its eighth session -and of the decisions contained therein;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts and progress made in the development of a broad System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme and a Perspective Document; <sup>44/</sup>

3. *Requests* all appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to co-operate with the United Nations Environment Programme in the preparation of the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme and the Perspective Document;

4. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to take into consideration in its programme activities the provisions of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and, through its co-ordinating and catalytic role, to continue to promote the concept of sustainable ecological development, in particular through the promotion and further elaboration of ways and means for the integration of environmental concerns in development programmes and projects;

5. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of the United Nations system on the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development, as they appear in the annex to its report on the work of its eighth session, as well as those put forward by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1980/49, and requests the Secretary-General to take the requisite steps for their implementation;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, to be held in 1981, and calls upon the United Nations Environment Programme to contribute actively to and participate in preparatory work for the Conference;

7. *Welcomes* the growing co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and urges them to intensify that co-operation through, *inter alia*, joint meetings of their bureaux with Executive Directors of both organizations on an annual basis;

8. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to convene, prior to its tenth session, an *ad hoc* meeting of governmental experts in environmental law, welcomes the offer by the Government of Uruguay to serve as host for the meeting and urges Governments and the Governing Council to take all the necessary measures for the preparation of that meeting, including the provision of adequate consultancy;

9. *Further welcomes* the launching, in March 1980 of the World Conservation Strategy and urges all Governments and international organizations, as well as organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to take into account in developing their policies and programmes;

10. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to take the necessary measures, in particular within the context of the system-wide medium-term environment programme, to safeguard, *inter alia*, the efficient use of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and the stimulating, co-ordinating and catalytic role played by the United Nations Environment Programme in reviewing the financial support to ongoing activities and through its careful and selective policy with respect to new commitments for a balanced programme;

<sup>43/</sup> See resolution 35/56, annex, para. 41.

<sup>44/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/35/25), paras. 171 and 172.

11. *Strongly appeals* to all contributing Governments to make every effort to pledge, in 1980, substantial increases in their contributions for 1981 and to those Governments that have not yet contributed to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme to pledge to do so in 1980, in order that the agreed target for the period 1978-1981 may be reached;

12. *Invites* Governments to consider proposals whereby additional contributions to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme would be used for measures dealing with serious environmental problems in developing countries, taking into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 34/188 of 18 December 1979, and requests the Governing Council of the Programme to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1981;

13. *Decides* to convene, in 1982, a session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, open to all States, to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, at the same place and immediately prior to the tenth regular session of the Governing Council, and invites Governments to be represented at that session at a high political level;

14. *Decides* that at the session of a special character the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme should review the major achievements in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Human Environment, adopted at Stockholm, <sup>45/</sup> and make recommendations with respect to the major environmental trends to be addressed by the Programme over the forthcoming ten years;

15. *Invites* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to proceed, in consultation with Governments, with the preparation of the above-mentioned session and to present to the Governing Council, at its ninth session, a comprehensive report on all matters relevant to the organization, agenda and financial implications of the session, including proposals as to the dates and venue of the two sessions.

83rd plenary meeting  
5 December 1980

GA/RES/36/192. International co-operation in the field of  
the environment

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its ninth session, <sup>46/</sup> in particular annex II thereto,

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolutions 1981/51 of 22 July 1981 and 1981/73 of 24 July 1981 concerning, respectively, the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development, and international co-operation in the field of the environment,

*Taking into consideration* the note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, <sup>47/</sup>

<sup>45/</sup> See Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73 11.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. II.

<sup>46/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1).

<sup>47/</sup> A/36/142.

*Bearing in mind* the importance which the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade <sup>48/</sup> attaches to an ecologically sustainable development process and the need for further international co-operation in the field of the environment, and taking into account the fact that environmental considerations should be viewed in the context of national plans and priorities and development objectives of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

*Welcoming* the convening of an *ad hoc* Meeting of Senior Government Officials Expert in Environmental law at Montevideo from 28 October to 6 November 1981,

*Stressing* the need for additional resources to be made available to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the developing countries to deal with their most serious environmental problems, such as soil degradation and deforestation, which are examples of very severe deterioration of natural resources calling for particular attention,

*Recognizing* that environmental deficiencies generated by the conditions of underdevelopment pose grave problems and can best be remedied by accelerated development through the transfer of substantial quantities of financial and technical assistance as a supplement to the domestic effort of the developing countries and such timely assistance as may be required.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as adopted, on the work of its ninth session and the decisions adopted by the Governing Council at that session; <sup>49/</sup>

2. *Takes note also* of the efforts of the United Nations Environment Programme with regard to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, as reflected in its medium-term plan for 1982-1983 and in the objectives of the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme for 1984-1989, as endorsed by the Governing Council;

3. *Requests* organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take into account the view of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination that the document on the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme <sup>50/</sup> should be seen not only as of use to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme but also as of basic interest to their governing bodies, to the extent that they deem appropriate and to the extent relevant to their particular mandates, and expresses its appreciation for the continued efforts made by the United Nations Environment Programme, in co-operation with the entire United Nations system, in the development of the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to play its role fully in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and stresses the need for all Governments and bodies of the United Nations system to take environmental considerations fully into account when participating in negotiations and conferences organized by the United Nations on subjects other than the environment;

5. *Welcomes* the recommendations of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as contained in section II of its decision 9/1 of 26 May 1981, as well as those made by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolutions 1981/51 and 1981/73 concerning the system-wide programme of work on the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development and the important role which the United Nations Environment Programme should assume in this regard consistent with its mandate, and requests the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation to take the requisite steps for their implementation;

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<sup>48/</sup> Resolution 35/56, annex.

<sup>49/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex 1.

<sup>50/</sup> See UNEP/GC.9/7.

6. *Stresses* the importance it attaches to the development of the Environmental Perspective to the year 2000 and beyond and invites the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, at its session of a special character and at its tenth session, to make recommendations as may be appropriate;

7. *Reaffirms* the catalytic mandate and role of the United Nations Environment Programme, <sup>51/</sup> recognizes the desirability of mobilizing voluntary resources for meeting the most serious environmental problems of developing countries, welcomes the consultations being undertaken by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on possible means of providing additional resources for developing countries, and notes that the Economic and Social Council has agreed to consider at its second regular session of 1982 the report of the Governing Council on this subject, as requested in paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 35/74 of 5 December 1980;

8. *Welcomes* the stress placed by the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy on the environmental effects of production and use of various renewable sources of energy and calls upon the United Nations Environment Programme to play an active role in the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, <sup>52/</sup> as regards the relationship between new and renewable sources of energy and the environment;

9. *Also welcomes* the growing co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

10. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on marine pollution; <sup>53/</sup>

11. *Takes note also* of the report of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization on marine pollution; <sup>54/</sup>

12. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Governments that continue to contribute generously to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

13. *Appeals* to all Governments to increase substantially their contributions to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and to make, before the end of 1981, firm pledges of contributions to the Fund for the period 1982-1983, taking into account decision 9/23 of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as adopted;

14. *Reiterates* its appeal to the Governments that have not yet contributed to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme to do so before the end of 1981 and to those Governments still contributing amounts below their means to increase their contributions for the period 1982-1983.

103rd plenary meeting  
17 December 1981

<sup>51/</sup> See resolution 2997(XXVII) and 3326(XXIX).

<sup>52/</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Nairobi, 10-21 August 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E. 81.1.24). chap I, sect. A.

<sup>53/</sup> A/36/452, annex.

<sup>54/</sup> See A/36/233.

GA/RES/37/217. International co-operation in the field of  
the environment

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth session, <sup>55/</sup>

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/56 of 29 July 1982 on international co-operation on the environment,

*Taking into account* the note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, <sup>56/</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 36/192 of 17 December 1981, in which it reaffirmed the catalytic mandate and role of the United Nations Environment Programme and stressed the need for additional resources to be made available to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme so that the developing countries may deal with their most serious environmental problems, such as soil degradation and deforestation, which are examples of very severe deterioration of natural resources calling for particular attention,

*Bearing in mind* the importance that the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade attaches to an ecologically sustainable development process and the need for further international co-operation in the field of environment, <sup>57/</sup> and taking into account the fact that environment considerations should be viewed in the context of national plans and priorities and development objectives of both developing and developed countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth session and the decisions contained therein, <sup>58/</sup>

2. *Welcomes* Governing Council decision 10/13 of 31 May 1982 by which the Council approved the structure and objectives of the system-wide medium-term environment programme and took note of its general content, appealed to Governments to continue to give support to the development and implementation of the programme to take the necessary decisions in that regard in the appropriate governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system, and urged other organizations of the United Nations system to continue their close co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme in the further refinement and implementation of the system-wide programme;

3. *Welcomes also* Governing Council decision 10/4 of 31 May 1982, in which the Council, *inter alia*, requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to identify areas for co-operation among developing countries in the field of the environment, and also to identify expertise and institutions in developing countries capable of fostering that co-operation, as well as developing activities for horizontal co-operation based on such identification;

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<sup>55/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part two.

<sup>56/</sup> A/37/394.

<sup>57/</sup> See resolution 35/56, annex, para. 41.

<sup>58/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part two, annex.

4. Welcomes further Governing Council decisions 10/6 of 31 May 1982, concerning ways and means of enabling the United Nations Environment Programme to assist developing countries in addressing their serious environmental problems, and 10/26 of 31 May 1982, concerning the provision of a mechanism within the existing structure of the United Nations Environment Programme for assisting developing countries in dealing with their serious environmental problems using voluntary resources additional to those available to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, *inter alia*, through counterpart contributions, urges Governments in a position to do so to provide assistance to that mechanism and expresses the hope that measures to be taken pursuant to those decisions will contribute to the effective implementation of the provisions of General Assembly resolution 36/192 and, in general, those of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade with respect to ecologically sustainable development;

5. Welcomes the adoption by the Governing Council, in its decision 10/21 of 31 May 1982, of the programme for the development and periodic review of environmental law <sup>59/</sup> and the measures to be taken for the early effective implementation of that programme;

6. Takes note of Governing Council decision 10/14 of 31 May 1982 on programme matters, comprising seven specific sections, and in this context:

(a) Takes note of the progress report on co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States, <sup>60/</sup> reiterates the terms of its resolution 34/186 of 18 December 1979 as a whole, and requests the Governing Council to submit a further progress report on its implementation to the Assembly at its fortieth session;

(b) Takes note of the conclusions of the study of the legal aspects concerning the environment related to offshore mining and drilling within the limits of national jurisdiction, made by the Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law, <sup>61/</sup> and of the views of the Governments thereon, <sup>62/</sup> recommends that Governments should consider the guidelines contained in the conclusions when formulating national legislation or undertaking negotiations for the conclusion of international agreements for the prevention of pollution of the marine environment caused by offshore mining and drilling within the limits of national jurisdiction, and requests the Governing Council to submit to the General Assembly at its fortieth session a progress report on the use made of those conclusions;

(c) Takes note of the endorsement by the Governing Council, in section III of its decision 10/14, of the World Soils Policy, <sup>63/</sup> and invites Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other appropriate international organizations to take into account the objectives of the World Soils Policy in formulating relevant national policies and programmes of work;

(d) Takes note of the action agreed by the Governing Council, in section I of its decision 10/14, on the future work with regard to the potential socio-economic impact of increased carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere;

7. Also takes note of Governing Council decision 10/20 of 31 May 1982 on expansion and implementation of the regional seas programme;

8. Further takes note of Governing Council decision 10/7 of 28 May 1982 on the impact of apartheid on the environment aimed at promoting public awareness of the plight of the victims of apartheid;

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<sup>59/</sup> See UNEP/GC.10/5/Add.2 and Corr.1 and 2.

<sup>60/</sup> A/37/396 and Corr.1, annex.

<sup>61/</sup> See UNEP/GC.9/5/Add.5, annex III.

<sup>62/</sup> See UNEP/GC.10/5, annex I.

<sup>63/</sup> See UNEP/GC.10/5/Add.4, annex III.

9. *Expresses the view* that arrangements for the regional presence of the United Nations Environment Programme should take fully into account the specific situations and needs of the various regions, in accordance with Governing Council decision 10/2 of 31 May 1982 on the regional presence of the Programme;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments that have contributed to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, particularly those that have maintained or increased the real value of their contributions;

11. *Expresses its concern* over the continued decline, in real terms, of the resources available to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and the increasing trend towards late payment of pledged contributions, reiterates its appeal to Governments to increase their contributions to the Fund and appeals to all Governments that have not yet pledged contributions to the Fund for the years 1982 and 1983 to do so as soon as possible.

113th plenary meeting  
20 December 1982

GA/RES/37/219. Session of a special character of the Governing Council  
of the United Nations Environment Programme

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 35/74 of 5 December 1980 and 36/189 of 17 December 1981, in which it decided to convene a session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at Nairobi from 10 to 18 May 1982 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, and having considered the report of the Governing Council on its session of a special character, <sup>64/</sup>

*Reaffirming* its resolution 2997(XXVII) of 15 December 1972, in which it declared itself 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,

*Taking into account* the need to strengthen international co-operation in the field of the environment, particularly to deal with the most serious environmental problems of developing countries, in line with the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, <sup>65/</sup>

*Convinced* that the principles of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment <sup>66/</sup> are as valid today as they were in 1972 and, together with the Nairobi Declaration adopted at the session of a special character, <sup>67/</sup> provide basic guidance for effective and sustained progress in the protection and enhancement of the environment,

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<sup>64/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part one.

<sup>65/</sup> Resolution 35/56, annex.

<sup>66/</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.11.A.14 and Corr.1), chap. I.

<sup>67/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part one, annex II.

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its session of a special character, <sup>68/</sup>

2. *Expresses its appreciation* of the positive manner in which Governments responded to its invitation to participate in the session at the highest political level;

3. *Recognizes* that the session of a special character represented a unique opportunity for Government to re-emphasize their continued commitment and support to the cause of the environment and the United Nations Environment Programme;

4. *Endorses* the Nairobi Declaration, <sup>69/</sup> in which the world community, *inter alia*, reaffirmed its commitment to the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment <sup>70/</sup> and the Action Plan for the Human Environment <sup>71/</sup> adopted at Stockholm, as well as its support for strengthening the United Nations Environment Programme as the major catalytic instrument for global environmental co-operation, and urged all Governments and peoples of the world to discharge their historical responsibility to ensure that the planet Earth is passed over to future generations in a condition that guarantees a life in human dignity for all;

5. *Further endorses*

(a) The assessment by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its session of a special character of the major achievements and failures in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Human Environment and its conclusions that fair to good progress had been made in implementing some of the elements of the Action Plan while, in respect of other elements, the record had been very modest;

(b) The identification at the above-mentioned session of:

(i) The perceptions of environmental issues that had evolved over the past decade;

(ii) The major environmental trends, potential problems and priorities for action by the United Nations system, during the period 1982-1992, co-ordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme in accordance with its catalytic mandate and role;

(c) The basic orientation of the United Nations Environment Programme for 1982-1992, as recommended by the Governing Council at the above-mentioned session;

(d) The conclusions reached at the above-mentioned session with respect to the institutional arrangements for the United Nations Environment Programme;

6. *Invites* all Governments, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations to ensure that the priorities for action, agreed upon by the Governing Council at its session of a special character in section III of its resolution I, <sup>72/</sup> are accorded high priority within their respective programmes at both the national and regional levels;

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<sup>68/</sup> *Ibid.*, part one.

<sup>69/</sup> *Ibid.*, part one, annex II.

<sup>70/</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.11.A.14 and Corr.1), chap. I.

<sup>71/</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

<sup>72/</sup> See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part one, annex I.

7. *Also invites* the governing bodies of the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to integrate the major environmental trends over the next ten years effectively in their action plans and, on the basis of those trends, in close co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme, to draw up appropriate measures for environmental protection, particularly in developing countries, with due regard to available resources;

8. *Reiterates* the importance it attaches to the development of the Environmental Perspective to the year 2000 and beyond, and requests the Governing Council at its eleventh session to make, on the basis of a report by the Executive Director, concrete recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1983, on the modalities for preparing the Environmental Perspective;

9. *Supports* the view expressed at the session of a special character that the human environment would greatly benefit from an international atmosphere of peace and security, free from the threat of any war;

10. *Emphasizes* that the implementation of the priorities for action recommended by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its session of a special character requires adequate financial resources and, in view of this, appeals to all Governments, particularly of developed countries, to respond positively and increase their contribution to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme.

113th plenary meeting  
20 December 1982

GA/RES/38/161. Process of preparation of the Environmental  
Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the importance it has attached at previous sessions to the development of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond,

*Recalling also* its request to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its eleventh session to make concrete recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1983, on the modalities for preparing the Environmental Perspective, <sup>73/</sup>

1. *Notes with satisfaction* decision 11/3 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, adopted on 23 May 1983; <sup>74/</sup>

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

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<sup>73/</sup> Resolution 37/219.

<sup>74/</sup> See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/38/25), annex.

3. Approves the decision of the Governing Council to establish, in order to assist it in fulfilling its mandate in regard to the Environmental Perspective and to report to it in that respect, an intergovernmental inter-sessional preparatory committee to articulate to the special commission at an early stage in its work the Governing Council's expectations regarding the matters which it hopes will, *inter alia*, receive consideration by the commission and, in this connection:

(a) Notes that the commission, at a preliminary stage in the formulation of its conclusion on matters within the mandate and purview of the United Nations Environment Programme, should make them known to the committee with a view to giving consideration to any views of the committee thereon;

(b) Notes from paragraph 41 of the report of the Governing Council on its eleventh session <sup>75/</sup> that the cost of the intergovernmental inter-sessional preparatory committee will not result in any net increase in the regular budget of the United Nations.

4. Also welcomes the intention of a number of Governments to support the preparation of the Environmental Perspective by facilitating the establishment of the special commission, through the provision of voluntary contributions for its financing;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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<sup>75/</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25).

(d) To help to define shared perceptions of long-term environmental issues and of the appropriate efforts needed to deal successfully with the problems of protecting and enhancing the environment, a long-term agenda for action during the coming decades, and aspirational goals for the world community, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the session of a special character of the Governing Council in 1982; <sup>76/</sup>

9. *Further suggests* that, in fulfilling its terms of reference, the special commission should:

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

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

(c) Maintain links with other intergovernmental bodies within and outside the United Nations system, while, however, using the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the designated officials for environmental matters as the channels of communication with the United Nations system; the willingness of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to assist should be communicated to the commission;

(d) Take account of the scope of environmental issues as defined by the United Nations system-wide medium-term environment programme <sup>77/</sup> and as reflected in the efforts of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Environment Programme, in the field of the environment;

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

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

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

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

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

102nd plenary meeting  
19 December 1983

<sup>76/</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part one, annex I.

<sup>77/</sup> UNEP/GC.10/7 and Corr.1.

GA/RES/38/165. International co-operation in the field  
of the environment

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its eleventh session, <sup>78/</sup>

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council decision 1983/168 of 25 July 1983 on international co-operation on the environment,

*Noting also* the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, <sup>79/</sup> together with the sixth supplement to the register of such conventions and protocols, <sup>80/</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the involvement of all countries in the protection of the environment with a view to enhancing the quality of life for future generations,

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

*Reaffirming* the need to strengthen international co-operation in the field of the environment, particularly in order to deal with the most serious environmental problems of the developing countries in line with the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, <sup>81/</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the interrelationships between people, resources, environment and development and convinced of the importance of assessing those interrelationships as they relate to international co-operation for development,

*Recalling* the catalytic mandate and role of the United Nations Environment Programme with regard to international co-operation in the field of the environment, especially with regard to integrating environmental considerations into the development process,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its eleventh session and the decision contained therein; <sup>82/</sup>

2. *Welcomes* section II of Governing Council decision 11/1 of 24 May 1983, in which it decided, *inter alia*, that the topic to be considered in the 1984 report on the state of the environment would be "The environment in the dialogue between and among developed and developing countries";

3. *Takes note* of sections V and VI of Governing Council decision 11/1, which relate to the convening of an international conference on world industry and environmental management and a parliamentary conference on the environment;

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<sup>78/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/38/25).

<sup>79/</sup> A/38/305, annex I.

<sup>80/</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>81/</sup> Resolution 35/56, annex, paras. 156-158.

<sup>82/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/38/25), annex.

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of Governing Council decision 11/2 of 23 May 1983 on the periodicity and duration of Governing Council sessions and endorses the decision that there shall be no session of the Governing Council in 1986, on an experimental basis, and that in 1987 the Governing Council shall decide finally on either of the two options for the periodicity of its sessions in the light of the experience gained in the previous years;

5. *Also takes note* of the Governing Council decision 11/5 of 23 May 1983 on the impacts of *apartheid* on the environment, directed at promoting public awareness of the plight of the victims of *apartheid*;

6. *Welcomes* part one of Governing Council decision 11/7 of 24 May 1983, by which the Council, while setting priorities for its implementation, approved the programme budget for the first biennium of the system-wide medium-term environment programme, 1984-1985, as an overall framework for activities of the United Nations Environment Programme during that period, and invites Governments participating in relevant governing bodies of specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to endeavour to take the provisions of the system-wide medium-term environment programme fully into account in their consideration of related issues, so as to achieve the full implementation of the system-wide programme;

7. *Welcomes* the importance attached by the Governing Council to regional approaches and programmes in the field of international environment co-operation, as reflected in its decisions 11/7, 11/8 and 11/9 of 24 May 1983;

8. *Welcomes* section VIII of Governing Council decision 11/1, in which the Council decided to devote two days, during its twelfth session, to a detailed assessment of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, <sup>83/</sup> which will include a thorough analysis of the state of implementation of the principal components of the Plan, the lessons learned and the priorities for future action;

9. *Decides* to expand the mandate of the Consultative Group for Desertification Control to include information exchange on anti-desertification policies and programmes of its participants, in addition to its basic mandate as set out in General Assembly resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977;

10. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law <sup>84/</sup> and appeals to Governments to participate actively in the Programme and provide adequate financial resources or facilities in order to achieve its full and timely implementation;

11. *Reaffirms* the need for strengthening the co-ordinating role of the United Nations Environment Programme and the need for additional resources to assist developing countries in dealing with serious environmental problems, and urges the Executive Director of the Programme, in consultation with Governments and international organizations concerned, to accelerate and intensify his efforts in this field;

12. *Urges* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to facilitate the provision of expert assistance to and among developing countries, at their request, in the preparation, monitoring and evaluation of priority environmental programmes and projects, including the application of environmental impact assessment, and in promoting and increasing the exchange of information and experience with respect to the integration of environmental considerations into development activities;

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<sup>83/</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, Nairobi, 29 August - 9 September 1977 (A/CONF.74/36), chap. I.

<sup>84/</sup> UNEP/GC.10/5/Add.2 and Corr.1 and 2, annex, chap. II.

13. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments that have contributed to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, particularly to those that have done so far the first time in 1982 and 1983 and those that have increased their contributions for those years, and also to those countries which have changed their yearly payment procedures in order to make their contributions available as early as possible;

14. *Notes with deep concern*, however, that very meagre pledges to the Fund so far received from Governments and strongly appeals to all Governments to pledge their contributions as soon as possible for 1984, and where possible for 1985, preferably before the end of 1983.

102nd plenary meeting  
19 December 1983

**GA/RES/41/11. Zone of peace and co-operation of the South Atlantic**

***The General Assembly,***

*Conscious* of the determination of the peoples of the States of the South Atlantic region to preserve their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and to develop their relations under conditions of peace and liberty,

*Convinced* of the importance of promoting peace and co-operation in the South Atlantic for the benefit of all mankind and, in particular, of the peoples of the region,

*Convinced further* of the need to preserve the region from measures of militarization, the arms race, the presence of foreign military bases and, above all, nuclear weapons,

*Recognizing* the special interest and responsibility of the States of the region to promote regional co-operation for economic development and peace,

*Fully conscious* that the independence of Namibia and the elimination of the racist regime of apartheid are conditions essential to guaranteeing the peace and security of the South Atlantic,

*Recalling* the principles and norms of international law applicable to ocean space, in particular the principle of the peaceful uses of the oceans,

*Convinced* that the establishment of a zone of peace and co-operation in the South Atlantic would contribute significantly to the strengthening of international peace and security and to promoting the principles and purposes of the United Nations,

1. *Solemnly declares* the Atlantic Ocean, in the region situated between Africa and South America, a "Zone of peace and co-operation of the South Atlantic";

2. *Calls upon* all States of the zone of the South Atlantic to promote further regional co-operation, *inter alia*, for social and economic development, the protection of the environment, the conservation of living resources and the peace and security of the whole region;

3. *Calls upon* all States of all other regions, in particular the militarily significant States, scrupulously to respect the region of the South Atlantic as a zone of peace and co-operation, especially through the reduction and eventual elimination of their military presence there, the non-introduction of nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction and the non-extension into the region of rivalries and conflicts that are foreign to it;

4. *Calls upon* all States of the region and of all other regions to co-operate in the elimination of all sources of tension in the zone, to respect the national unity, sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of every State therein, to refrain from the threat or use of force, and to observe strictly the principle that the territory of a State shall not be the object of military occupation resulting from the use of force in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the principle that the acquisition of territories by force is inadmissible;

5. *Reaffirms* that the elimination of *apartheid* and the attainment of self-determination and independence by the people of Namibia, as well as the cessation of all acts of aggression and subversion against States in the zone, are essential for peace and security in the South Atlantic region, and urges the implementation of all United Nations resolutions pertaining to colonialism, racism and *apartheid*;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-second session a report on the situation in the South Atlantic and the implementation of the present declaration, taking into account the views expressed by Member States;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "Zone of peace and co-operation of the South Atlantic".

50th Plenary meeting  
27 October 1986

GA/RES/42/183 Traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* decisions 14/19 on the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals, 14/27 on environmentally safe management of chemicals, in particular those that are banned and severely restricted in international trade, and 14/30 on environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, all adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, on 17 June 1987, <sup>85/</sup>

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/54 of 28 May 1987 on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, <sup>86/</sup>

*Recognizing* the useful role that the organizations of the United Nations system, including such bodies as the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization, could play in assisting in the prevention and control of the potentially harmful effects of traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes,

*Convinced* that the London Guidelines for the Exchange of Information on Chemicals in International Trade <sup>87/</sup> and the Cairo Guidelines and Principles for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes <sup>88/</sup> represent a significant step forward,

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<sup>85/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

<sup>86/</sup> See E/1987/37.

<sup>87/</sup> UNEP/GC.14/17, annex IV.

<sup>88/</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

*Concerned* that part of the international movement of toxic and dangerous products and wastes is being carried out in contravention of existing national legislation and relevant international legal instruments, as well as internationally accepted guidelines and principles, to the detriment of the environment and public health of all countries, particularly of developing countries,

*Convinced* that these problems cannot be resolved without adequate co-operation among members of the international community and that the international community should adopt measures to complement and strengthen the above-mentioned guidelines and principles,

*Also convinced* of the need to assist all countries, particularly developing countries, in obtaining all necessary information concerning toxic and dangerous products and wastes and in reinforcing their capacity to detect and halt any illegal attempt to introduce toxic and dangerous products and wastes into the territory of any State, in contravention of national legislation and relevant international legal instruments, as well as traffic not carried out in compliance with internationally accepted guidelines and principles in this field,

*Welcoming* the convening of a diplomatic conference in Switzerland in 1989 for the purpose of adopting a global convention on control of transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, for which a preparatory meeting was convened by the United Nations Environment Programme and held at Budapest from 27 to 30 October 1987, in conjunction with the World Conference on Hazardous Wastes,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on the question of illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes - that is, traffic in contravention of national legislation and relevant international legal instruments - as well as traffic not carried out in compliance with internationally accepted guidelines and principles in this field, and its impact on all countries, in particular developing countries, for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, a preliminary report on the question to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1988;

2. *Invites* all Governments to co-operate with the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution and also invites the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to assist the Secretary-General in the preparation of the report;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments to co-operate in the prevention and control of illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes - that is, traffic in contravention of national legislation and relevant international legal instruments - as well as traffic not carried out in compliance with internationally accepted guidelines and principles.

96th plenary meeting  
11 December 1987

**GA/RES/42/184. International co-operation in the field of the environment**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourteenth session, <sup>89/</sup>

*Having also considered* the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, <sup>90/</sup>

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<sup>89/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1).

<sup>90/</sup> UNEP/GC.14/18 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

*Taking note* of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond <sup>91/</sup> and the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, <sup>92/</sup>

*Noting* the implications for the work of the United Nations Environment Programme of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women <sup>93/</sup> and of the system-wide medium-term plan for women in development,

*Aware* that serious environmental problems are arising in both developed and developing countries,

*Reaffirming* the importance of taking fully into account the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development in development policies and strategies,

*Conscious* that environmental considerations must be taken into full account by each country in framing and implementing its development plans in accordance with its development objectives,

*Recognizing* the importance of the international exchange of experience and knowledge and of the promotion of the transfer of technology for the protection and enhancement of the environment in accordance with respective national laws, regulations and policies,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourteenth session and endorses the decisions contained herein, <sup>94/</sup> as adopted;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the development of international co-operation in the field of the environment and the work of the United Nations Environment Programme during the fifteen years since the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, <sup>95/</sup> and calls for further action-oriented co-operation for the protection and enhancement of the environment;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of decision 14/13 of 19 June 1987 <sup>96/</sup> by which the Governing Council adopted the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond <sup>97/</sup> and decision 14/14 of 19 June 1987 <sup>98/</sup> by which the Council accepted the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development <sup>99/</sup> as a guideline to be taken into account in further work of the United Nations Environment Programme;

4. *Considers* that evaluation is an integral part of the programming cycle of the United Nations Environment Programme and should be undertaken, using a methodology developed in consultation with the partners of the Programme in the United Nations system and with Governments;

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<sup>91/</sup> See resolution 42/186, annex.

<sup>92/</sup> A/42/427, annex.

<sup>93/</sup> Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>94/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1).

<sup>95/</sup> See Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum).

<sup>96/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

<sup>97/</sup> See resolution 42/186, annex.

<sup>98/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

<sup>99/</sup> A/42/427, annex.

5. *Welcomes* the annual reports on the state of the environment, in particular the report on the state of the world environment 1987, <sup>100/</sup> fifteen years after the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, and requests that these reports be given wide dissemination and be drawn upon fully in the preparation of reports within the United Nations system on the world economic and social situation;

6. *Agrees* with the Governing Council that importance should be attached by the United Nations Environment Programme to the problem of global climate change and that the Executive Director should ensure that the Programme co-operates closely with the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council of Scientific Unions and maintains an active, influential role in the World Climate Programme;

7. *Takes note* of the Governing Council decision 14/26 of 17 June 1987 <sup>101/</sup> regarding the rationalization of international conventions on biological diversity, in which it requested the Executive Director, in consultation with Governments and within available resources, to establish an *ad hoc* working group of experts to investigate in close collaboration with the Ecosystems Conservation Group and other international organizations the desirability and possible form of an umbrella convention to rationalize current activities in this field, and to address other areas which might fall under such a convention;

8. *Welcomes* the importance given by the Governing Council to forest ecosystems and, bearing in mind existing programmes and expertise in this fields, section I of decision 14/I B of 17 June 1987, <sup>102/</sup> in which the Governing Council took note of and welcomed the initiative of the Executive Director to pursue consultations among countries owning tropical forests and other forest ecosystems, and other interested countries, aimed at finding ways and means to consider, through the appropriate international mechanisms, including the International Tropical Timber Organization, practical collaborative action for the sustainable use and conservation of significant areas of forest ecosystems and the genetic resources they contain.

9. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leading role played by the United Nations Environment Programme in achieving the entry into force of the Agreement on the Action Plan for the Environmentally Sound Management of the Common Zambezi River system, the adoption of the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region, the entry into force of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region and, in particular, the adoption of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, and encourages the United Nations Environment Programme, through its Governing Council, to continue such efforts;

10. *Welcomes* decision 14/30 of 17 June 1987, <sup>103/</sup> in which the Governing Council approved the Cairo Guidelines and Principles for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes, <sup>104/</sup> and the steps taken by the United Nations Environment Programme to develop a global convention on environmentally sound transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, supports the Goals and Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment <sup>105/</sup> adopted by the Governing Council in its decision 14/25 of 17 June 1987 and its recommendations regarding their application, welcomes the adoption by the Governing Council in its decision 14/27 of 17 June 1987 of the London Guidelines for the Exchange of Information on Chemicals in International Trade <sup>106/</sup> and encourages further steps in this regard;

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<sup>100/</sup> UNEP/GC.14/6.

<sup>101/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

<sup>102/</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>103/</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>104/</sup> UNEP/GC.14/17, annex II.

<sup>105/</sup> *Ibid.*, annex III.

<sup>106/</sup> *Ibid.*, annex IV.

11. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the results achieved at the first and second sessions of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, held, respectively, at Cairo, from 16 to 18 December 1985, <sup>107/</sup> and at Nairobi, from 4 to 6 June 1987, <sup>108/</sup> the first Arab Ministerial Conference on Environmental Considerations in Development, held at Tunis from 13 to 15 October 1986, <sup>109/</sup> and the fifth Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, held at Montevideo in April 1987;

12. *Agrees* with the Governing Council on the desirability of creating and operating regional networks of non-governmental environmental organizations, especially in the developing countries;

13. *Reaffirms* the need for additional financial resources from donor countries and organizations to assist developing countries in identifying, analysing, monitoring, preventing and managing environment problems in accordance with their national development plans, priorities and objectives;

14. *Reaffirms* the need for developed countries and appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen technical co-operation with the developing countries to enable them to develop and enhance their capacity for identifying, analysing, monitoring, preventing and managing environmental problems in accordance with their national development plans, priorities and objectives;

15. *Reaffirms also* the need for technical co-operation among developing countries in the field of the environment, and invites the appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system to assist, upon request of the parties concerned, in the promotion and strengthening of such co-operation;

16. *Concurs* with decision 14/6 of 17 June 1987, <sup>110/</sup> in which the Governing Council decided that the clearing-house mechanism within the United Nations Environment Programme should focus its efforts on strengthening the capacity of developing countries to promote sustainable development by supporting policy planning and institution building, enabling the developing countries to give adequate priority to environmental considerations, and that it should, *inter alia*, support a limited number of programmes of regional significance;

17. *Takes note* of Governing Council decision 14/10 of 18 June 1987 <sup>111/</sup> on the environmental impact of apartheid on black agriculture in South Africa;

18. *Recalls* the essential catalytic and co-ordinating role of the United Nations Environment Programme within the United Nations system concerning the environment, requests that that role be further developed in the light, particularly, of Governing Council decisions 14/13 and 14/14, and calls upon the Designated Officials for Environmental Matters to improve their effectiveness, bearing in mind those decisions;

19. *Agrees* with the Governing Council on the importance it attached, in the annex to its decision 14/12 of 18 June 1987, <sup>112/</sup> to the preparation of the system-wide medium-term environment programme for the period 1990-1995, guided by the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, <sup>113/</sup> and urges the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to develop an effective way of monitoring the implementation of the system-wide programme and of evaluating critical programmes therein that involve a number of organizations;

<sup>107/</sup> See AEC.1/2, annex I.

<sup>108/</sup> See UNEP/GC.14/4/Add.6/Supplement 2.

<sup>109/</sup> See UNEP/GC.14/4/Add.6, sect. II and annex II.

<sup>110/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

<sup>111/</sup> *Ibid.*,

<sup>112/</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>113/</sup> See resolution 42/186, annex.

20. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries which have contributed regularly to the Environment Fund, and urges all countries that have not contributed to the Fund to do so for 1988 and in future years so that the financial base of the Fund may be expanded;

21. *Urges* all contributing countries to increase their contributions to the Environment Fund for 1988 in future years so as to enable the approved programme of activities to be fully implemented.

96th plenary meeting  
11 December 1987

GA/RES/42/186. The Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 38/161 of 19 December 1983 on the process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, by which it, *inter alia*, welcomed the desire of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to develop the Environmental Perspective and transmit it to the General Assembly for adoption, benefiting in carrying out that function from its consideration of the relevant proposals made by a special commission, which adopted the name World Commission on Environment and Development,

*Welcoming* the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, <sup>114/</sup> prepared by the Intergovernmental Inter-sessional Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Environment Programme, referred to in General Assembly resolution 38/161, and further considered and adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fourteenth session, by its decision 14/13 of 19 June 1987, <sup>115/</sup> as a basis for the further elaboration of its programme and operations, while acknowledging that different views exist on some aspects,

*Appreciating* that concepts, ideas and recommendations contained in the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development <sup>116/</sup> have been incorporated into the Environmental Perspective,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* of the efforts of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and its Intergovernmental Inter-sessional Preparatory Committee in the preparation of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond; <sup>117/</sup>

2. *Adopts* the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, as annexed to this resolution, as a broad framework to guide national action and international co-operation on policies and programmes aimed at achieving environmentally sound development, and specifically as a guide to the preparation of further system-wide medium-term environment programmes and the medium-term programmes of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in the light of Governing Council decision 14/13; <sup>118/</sup>

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<sup>114/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex II.

<sup>115/</sup> Ibid., annex I.

<sup>116/</sup> A/42/427, annex.

<sup>117/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex II.

<sup>118/</sup> Ibid., annex I.

3. Notes that the perceptions shared by Governments of the nature of environmental problems, and their interrelations with other international problems, and of the efforts to deal with them include the following:

(a) An international atmosphere of peace, security and co-operation, free from the presence and the threat of wars of all types, especially nuclear war, and from the waste of intellectual and natural resources on armaments by any nation, would greatly enhance environmentally sound development;

(b) The imbalance of present world economic conditions makes it extremely difficult to bring about sustained improvement in the world's environmental situation. Accelerated and balanced world development and lasting improvements in the global environment require improved world economic conditions, especially for the developing countries;

(c) Since mass poverty is often at the root of environmental degradation, its elimination and ensuring equitable access of people to environmental resources, are essential for sustained environmental improvements;

(d) The environment provides constraints as well as opportunities for economic growth and social well-being. Environmental degradation, in its various forms, has assumed such proportions as can cause irreversible changes in ecosystems which threaten to undermine human well-being. Environmental constraints, however, are generally relative to the state of technology and socio-economic conditions, which can and should be improved and managed to achieve sustained world economic growth;

(e) Environmental issues are closely intertwined with development policies and practices. Consequently, environmental goals and actions need to be defined in relation to development objectives and policies;

(f) Although it is important to tackle immediate environmental problems, anticipatory and preventive policies are the most effective and economical in achieving environmentally sound development;

(g) The environmental impacts of actions in one sector are often felt in other sectors; and so internalization of environmental conditions in sectoral policies and programmes and their co-ordination are essential to achieve sustainable development;

(h) Since conflicts of interest among population groups, or among countries, are often inherent in the nature of environmental problems, participation of the concerned parties is essential to determine effective environmental management practices;

(i) Environmental degradation can be controlled and reversed only by ensuring that the parties causing the damage will be accountable for their action, and that they will participate, on the basis of full access to available knowledge, in improving environmental conditions;

(j) Renewable resources, as part of complex and interlinked ecosystems, can have sustainable yields only if used taking into account system-wide effects of exploitation;

(k) Safeguarding of species is a moral obligation of humankind, and should improve and sustain human well-being;

(l) Building awareness at various levels of environmental conditions and management, through the provision of information, education and training, is essential for environmental protection and improvement;

(m) Strategies to deal with environmental challenges have to be flexible and should allow for adjustments to emerging problems and evolving environmental management technology;

(n) The growing number and variety of international environmental disputes need to be resolved by peaceful means;

4. *Welcomes* as the overall aspirational goal for the world community the achievement of sustainable development on the basis of prudent management of available global resources and environmental capacities and the rehabilitation of the environment previously subjected to degradation and misuse, and the aspirational goals to the Year 2000 and Beyond as set out in Environmental Perspective, namely:

(a) Achievement over time of such a balance between population and environmental capacities as would make possible sustainable development, keeping in view the links among population levels, consumption patterns, poverty and the natural resource base;

(b) Achievement of food security without resource depletion or environmental degradation, and restoration of the resources base where environmental damage has been occurring;

(c) Provision of sufficient energy at reasonable cost, notably by increasing access to energy substantially in the developing countries, to meet current and expanding needs in ways which minimize environmental degradation and risks, conserve non-renewable sources of energy, and realize the full potential of renewable sources of energy;

(d) Sustained improvements in levels of living in all countries, especially the developing countries, through industrial development that prevents or minimizes environmental damage and risks;

(e) Provision of improved shelter with access to essential amenities in a clean and secure setting conducive to health and to the prevention of environment-related diseases, while alleviating serious environmental degradation;

(f) Establishment of an equitable system of international economic relations aimed at achieving continuing economic advancement for all States based on principles recognized by the international community in order to stimulate and sustain environmentally sound development, especially in developing countries;

5. *Agrees* that the recommendations for action contained in the Environmental Perspective should be implemented, as appropriate, through national and international action by Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and scientific bodies;

6. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to keep under review the extent to which the long-term environmental actions recommended in the Environmental Perspective have been implemented and to identify any new environmental concerns that may arise;

7. *Calls* special attention to section IV of the Environmental Perspective, which spells out "instruments of environmental action", to be used as support in addressing, as appropriate, problems dealt with in previous sections of the Environmental Perspective;

8. *Stresses* the essential role of the United Nations Environment Programme within the United Nations system in catalysing environmentally sound and sustainable development and agrees with the Governing Council that this role should be strengthened and that the resources of the Environment Fund should be substantially increased with greater participation;

9. *Endorses* the priorities and functions for the United Nations Environment Programme stated in paragraph 117 of the Environmental Perspective;

10. *Decides* to transmit the Environmental Perspective to all Governments and the governing bodies of the organs and organizations of the United Nations system as a broad framework to guide national action and international co-operation on policies and programmes aimed at achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development;

11. *Calls upon* the governing bodies of the organs and organizations of the United Nations system to consider the Environmental Perspective and take it into account in the development of their own medium-term plans and Programmes as relevant to their own mandates;

12. *Requests* the governing bodies of relevant United Nations organizations to report regularly to the General Assembly on the progress made in achieving the objectives of environmentally sound and sustainable development in line with paragraph 114 of the Environmental Perspective;

13. *Invites* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to report on the implementation of this resolution and the relevant aspects of the Environmental Perspective to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

#### Annex

#### Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond

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#### III. OTHER ISSUES OF GLOBAL CONCERN

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#### A. Oceans and seas

70. Oceans and seas are being polluted extensively. The rising pollution levels and degradation of coastal ecosystems threaten the life-support capacities of oceans and seas and undermine their role in the food chain. Efforts which are being made to monitor the state of oceans and seas, including those of UNEP and other international organizations, confirm that there is cause for concern. This problem is particularly serious for coastal waters and semi-enclosed seas that border highly populated and industrialized zones. The situation will get much worse unless concerted action is undertaken now. The ongoing monitoring effort is far from comprehensive and, where it has advanced, it has not yet led to adequate change in the practices causing environmental damage.

71. The challenge is to control and decrease marine pollution, and establish or strengthen régimes of environmental management of oceans and seas through international co-operation and national action.

72. A comprehensive data base should be established over time on which action programmes to restore and preserve the environmental balance in the world's oceans and seas can be based. Among others, the Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS), Global Resources Information Data Base (GRID) and the oceans and coastal areas programmes of UNEP should intensify efforts towards this end.

73. Conventions and agreements to monitor and manage human activities with a view to ensuring environmental protection of the seas and oceans should be ratified and implemented by all concerned countries. Where such legal instruments do not exist, they should be negotiated. Governments should strengthen or introduce policies and measures with a view to preventing practices harmful to marine ecosystems and ensuring environmentally sound development of inland areas. Such policies and measures should include control of the discharge of industrial effluents

and sewage, dumping of wastes, including hazardous and radioactive materials, disposal of hazardous residues and operational wastes from ships, incineration at sea and oil spills from tankers and off-shore platforms. Environmentally sound land-based technology for the disposal of hazardous wastes should be developed and promoted. The UNEP should continue to collaborate in this work with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and other appropriate international organizations.

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#### IV. INSTRUMENTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

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##### C. Legislation and environmental law

100. Increasingly, environmental legislation has been providing practical frameworks at the national level to implement environmental standards and to regulate activities of enterprises and people in the light of environmental objectives. At the international level, conventions, protocols and agreements have been providing a basis for co-operation among countries at bilateral, regional and global levels for the management of environmental risks, control of pollution and conservation of natural resources.

101. There is a need to expand the accession to and ratification of these conventions and institute mechanisms at the national level to ensure their application. The present momentum should be maintained of concluding conventions in fields such as hazards relating to chemicals, treatment and international transport of hazardous wastes, industrial accidents, climate change, protection of the ozone layer, protection of the marine environment from pollution from land-based sources and protection of biological diversity, in which UNEP has been playing an active part.

102. Groundwork has been prepared over the last 15 years under the aegis of UNEP to establish legal frameworks to manage regional seas. Governments should intensify their efforts to implement legislative measures and other policies at national levels so that the policy sources of the environmental problems of the regional seas are effectively tackled. Increasingly, environmental management of rivers, lakes, and forests has been posing a challenge to international co-operation. Governments, with the collaboration of UNEP and concerned international organizations, should accelerate action to establish legal régimes at international and national levels to improve significantly environmental management of rivers, lakes and forests. The UNEP-sponsored new programme for environmental management of freshwater systems is a promising start.

103. The Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law, prepared under the auspices of UNEP, should be implemented fully. Development of international environmental law should continue, with a view to providing a strong basis for fostering co-operation among countries. The progressive emergence of general environmental norms and principles and the codification of existing agreements could lead to a global convention on protection and enhancement of the environment.

104. Governments should settle their environmental disputes by peaceful means, making use of existing and emerging agreements and conventions. The International Court of Justice, the International Court of Arbitration and regional mechanisms should facilitate peaceful settlement of environmental disputes.

96th plenary meeting  
11 December 1987

GA/RES/42/187. Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

*The General Assembly,*

*Concerned* about the accelerating deterioration of the human environment and natural resources and the consequences of that deterioration for economic and social development,

*Believing* that sustainable development, which implies meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, should become a central guiding principle of the United Nations, Governments and private institutions, organizations and enterprises,

*Recognizing*, in view of the global character of major environmental problems, the common interest of all countries to pursue policies aimed at sustainable and environmentally sound development,

*Convinced* of the importance attached to a reorientation of national and international policies towards sustainable development patterns,

*Recalling* that, in its resolution 38/161 of 19 December 1983 on the process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond to be prepared by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, it welcomed the establishment of a special commission, which later assumed the name World Commission on Environment and Development, to make available a report on environment and the global *problématique* to the Year 2000 and Beyond, including proposed strategies for sustainable development,

*Recognizing* the valuable role played in the development of the report of the World Commission by the Intergovernmental Inter-sessional Preparatory Committee of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolution 38/161,

*Recalling* that in resolution 38/161 it decided that, on matters within the purview of the United Nations Environment Programme, the report of the World Commission should in the first instance be considered by the Governing Council of the Programme, for transmission to the General Assembly, together with its comments and for use as basic material in the preparation of the Environmental Perspective, for adoption by the Assembly, and that on those matters which were under consideration or review by the Assembly itself, it would consider the relevant aspects of the report of the World Commission,

*Noting* Governing Council decision 14/14 of 19 June 1987 <sup>119/</sup> transmitting the report of the World Commission to the General Assembly,

*Noting* further that the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond <sup>120/</sup> has taken account of the main recommendations in the World Commission's report,

*Recognizing* the instrumental role of the Commission in revitalizing and reorienting the discussion and deliberation on environment and development and in enhancing the understanding of the causes of present environmental and development problems, in demonstrating the ways in which they transcend institutional frontiers and in opening new perspectives on the interrelationship between environment and development as a guide to the future,

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<sup>119/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No.25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

<sup>120/</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

*Emphasizing* the need for a new approach to economic growth, as an essential prerequisite for eradication of poverty and for enhancing the resource base on which present and future generations depend,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development entitled *Our Common Future*; 121/

2. *Notes* with appreciation the important contribution made by the Commission to raise the consciousness of decision-makers in Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations, industry and other forms of economic activity, as well as of the general public, in regard to the imperative need for making the transition towards sustainable development, and calls upon all concerned to make full use in this regard of the report of the Commission;

3. *Agrees* with the Commission that while seeking to remedy existing environmental problems, it is imperative to influence the sources of those problems in human activity, and economic activity in particular, and thus to provide for sustainable development;

4. *Agrees* further that an equitable sharing of the environmental costs and benefits of economic development between and within countries and between present and future generations is a key to achieving sustainable development;

5. *Concurs* with the World Commission that the critical objectives for environment and development policies which follow from the need for sustainable development must include preserving peace, reviving growth and changing its quality, remedying the problems of poverty and the satisfaction of human needs, addressing the problems of population growth and of conserving and enhancing the resource base, reorienting technology and managing risk, and merging environment and economics in decision-making;

6. *Decides* to transmit the report of the World Commission to all Governments and to the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, and invites them to take account of the analysis and recommendations contained in the report of the World Commission in determining their policies and programmes;

7. *Calls upon* all Governments to ask their central economic and sectoral agencies to ensure that their policies, programmes and budgets encourage sustainable development and to strengthen the role of their environmental and natural resource agencies in advising and assisting central and sectoral agencies in that task;

8. *Calls upon* the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes in the United Nations system to review their policies, programmes, budgets and activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development;

9. *Calls upon* the governing bodies of other relevant multilateral development assistance and financial institutions to commit their institutions more fully to pursuing sustainable development in setting their policies and programmes in accordance with the national development plans, priorities and objectives set by the recipient Governments themselves;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the appropriate existing mechanisms, including the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to review and co-ordinate on a regular basis the efforts of all the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to pursue sustainable development and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Economic and Social Council;

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121/ A/42/427, annex.

11. *Stresses* the essential role of the United Nations Environment Programme within its mandate in catalysing the sustainable development efforts of the United Nations system, while fully taking into account the co-ordinating responsibilities of the Economic and Social Council, and agrees with the World Commission that that role should be strengthened and that the resources of the Environment Fund should be substantially enlarged, with greater participation;

12. *Considers* that the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate and with participation, when appropriate, at the ministerial level, should keep under examination the long-term strategies for realizing sustainable development on a periodic basis, and should include the results of its examinations in its reports to be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

13. *Agrees* that the catalytic and co-ordinating role of the United Nations Environment Programme in the United Nations system should be reinforced in its future work on environmental and natural resource issues;

14. *Reaffirms* the need for additional financial resources from donor countries and organizations to assist developing countries in identifying, analysing, monitoring, preventing and managing environment problems in accordance with their national development plans, priorities and objectives;

15. *Reaffirms* the need for developed countries and appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen technical co-operation with the developing countries to enable them to develop and enhance their capacity for identifying, analysing, monitoring, preventing and managing environmental problems in accordance with their national development plans, priorities and objectives;

16. *Invites* Governments, in co-operation with the regional commissions and the United Nations Environment Programme and, as appropriate, intergovernmental organizations, to support and engage in follow-up activities, such as conferences, at the national, regional, and global levels;

17. *Calls upon* Governments to engage non-governmental organizations, industry and the scientific community more fully in national and international activities to support efforts towards sustainable development;

18. *Invites* the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations to report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly, not later than at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made in their organizations towards sustainable development and to make such reports available to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its next regular session;

19. *Also invites* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide comments on matters concerning progress on sustainable development that fall within its mandate, on these reports and other developments for submission to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1989 and to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution and to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session a consolidated report on the same subject;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session a sub-item entitled "A long-term strategy for sustainable and environmentally sound development" under the agenda item entitled "Development and international Co-operation".

96th plenary meeting  
11 December 1987

**GA/RES/42/202. Special assistance to Maldives for disaster relief and  
the strengthening of its coastal defences**

*The General Assembly,*

*Deeply concerned* by the damage caused to the archipelago of Maldives by unexpected tidal waves in April, June and September of this year,

*Acutely aware* of the threats posed by such tidal action to the low-lying islands of Maldives and to their inhabitants,

*Mindful* of the need to commence urgent protective measures to minimize the hazards caused by such tragic events,

*Noting* that Maldives is one of the least developed countries, with severely limited natural endowments and a narrow-based economic backbone,

*Recognizing* the efforts of the Government and the people of Maldives to improve and accelerate the socio-economic development of their country,

*Taking note* of the emergency relief operations undertaken by the Government of Maldives to assist those affected in the episode of April, June and September 1987, and of its determination to strengthen its defences against such disasters in the future,

*Convinced* that long-term solutions are imperative,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to those States and organizations which rendered support and assistance to the Government of Maldives in its relief and subsequent rehabilitation work;

2. *Draw the attention* of the international community to the facts that additional resources are required to meet the envisaged plan for preventive action, and that the assistance already provided or pledged falls short of the requirements;

3. *Requests* agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to contribute to the formulation and implementation of a planned programme of action;

4. *Strongly appeals* to the international community to contribute generously to the same goal;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/192 of 8 December 1986, to mobilize international support and assistance in favour of the efforts of the Government of Maldives to implement the plan of action;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-third session.

96th plenary meeting  
11 December 1988

### **PART III**

#### **DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF UNEP\***

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\*General Assembly Official Records: Twenty-eighth to Forty-second Sessions. Supplements No. 25 (A/9025); (A/9625); (A/10025); (A/32/25); (A/33/25); ((A/34/25); (A/34/25); (A/35/25); (A/36/25); (A/37/25); (A/38/25); (A/39/25); (A/40/25) and (A/42/25).

FIRST SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Geneva, 12-22 June 1973)

UNEP/GC/DEC/1 (I). Action Plan for the Human Environment:  
Programme development and priorities

*The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,*

...

Has adopted the following decisions:

...

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

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

...

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 ocean 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.

17th meeting  
22 June 1973

SECOND SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 11-22 March 1974)

UNEP/GC/DEC/8 (II). Approval of activities within the environment programme,  
in the light, *inter alia*, of their implications for the fund Programme

A.

*The Governing Council,*

...

*Decides to adopt the proposals for future action ...:*

I. PRIORITY SUBJECT AREAS OF THE PROGRAMME

...

4. Oceans

(a) In view of the many activities of numerous other agencies in this field, UNEP 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 and Indonesian and Philippines archipelagoes, and parts of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans was stressed;

(c) UNEP 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 General Assembly resolution 3133 (XXVIII) should be begun immediately by FAO on behalf of UNEP.

(e) UNEP 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) UNEP 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 resource, on the effects of pollution on living organisms and on ocean dynamics as a factor in pollution transport.

29th meeting  
22 March 1974

THIRD SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 17 April - 2 May 1975)

UNEP/GC/DEC/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 man's activities upon the oceans and their living resources,

*Further considering* that only meagre knowledge exists on the role of the oceans in the 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 Stations 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

UNEP/GC/DEC/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, <sup>1/</sup>

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 mammals populations and on whales and small cetaceans in particular.

40th meeting  
2 May 1975

<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/9025), annex I, decision 1(1).

FOURTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 30 March - 14 April 1976)

UNEP/GC/DEC/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, <sup>2/</sup>

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 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

UNEP/GC/DEC/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 resources.

57th meeting  
13 April 1976

<sup>2/</sup> 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.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 9-25 May 1977)

UNEP/GC/DEC/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.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

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, <sup>3/</sup> and that the Governing Council had repeatedly endorsed these recommendations, <sup>4/</sup>

*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.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

<sup>3/</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14, chap. II, recommendation 33.

<sup>4/</sup> Decisions 1(I), para. 12(e)(vii), of 22 June 1973, 33(III) of 2 May 1975 and 59(IV) of 13 April 1976.

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, <sup>5/</sup>

*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 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.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

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, <sup>6/</sup>

*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,

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<sup>5/</sup> See UNEP/GC/90 and Corr.1, paras. 507-508.

<sup>6/</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 505.

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.

75th meeting  
25 May 1977

SIXTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 9-25 May 1978)

UNEP/GC/DEC/6/2. Programme matters

*The Governing Council,*

*Having considered* the Executive Director's report on the environment programme, 1/

I

1. *Notes with approval* the efforts of the Executive Director to improve the presentation of the programme, and in particular the response to the Governing Council's request for a report in detail on selected programme topics; 8/

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the contributions made by organizations within and outside the United Nations system to improving the content of the programme document;

3. *Urges* the Executive Director further to improve the quality of future programme documents in line with the agreed principles;

4. *Calls upon* organizations of the United Nations system, Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to assist the Executive Director in preparing the programme document, and in particular calls upon United Nations organizations to contribute concrete budgetary data regarding their plans;

II

1. *Approves* the Executive Director's proposals to amend the objectives and strategies for:

(a) The International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals; 9/

(b) Soils; 10/

(c) The regional seas programme; 11/

1/ UNEP/GC.6/7 and Corr.1 and Add.1. See the Report of the Executive Director, Chap. VI, A and D presented in annex to this document for easy reference.

8/ Decision 82 (V), sect. II, para. 1.

9/ UNEP/GC.6/7, para. 193.

10/ *Ibid.*, para. 296.

11/ *Ibid.*, para. 396.

(d) Health of people and of the environment; 12/

(e) Water; 13/

(f) Integrated approach to environment and development; 14/

2. Approves also the Executive Director's proposals to amend the objectives and strategies for arid and semi-arid lands ecosystems, 15/ subject to the following additional amendments being made to the approved objectives and strategy; 16/

(a) Objective (iii) to read : To improve water availability and quality and animal production in these ecological systems;

(b) Strategy element (i) to read: Collaboration with various agencies in the improvement of water quantity and quality, and its ecological management in arid and semi-arid lands;

3. Decides to adopt the revised objectives for water and objectives and strategies for environmental training and for environmental education contained in the annex to the present decision;

4. Approves the additional activities recommended for support from the Environment Fund;

5. Endorses the activities and associated actions which have been taken or are proposed in the Executive Director's report on the environment programme, subject to any modifications or amendments implied in other decisions taken by the Council on parts of the programme;

6. 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.

14th meeting  
24 May 1978

UNEP/GC/DEC/6/7. Oceans

A

Marine pollution

*The Governing Council,*

*Concerned* at the increasing frequency and extent of accidents causing pollution of the marine environment, recently exemplified by the unprecedented "Amoco Cadiz" disaster,

*Mindful* of the need to avoid the recurrency of such disasters which have harmful consequences on the coastal marine environment and the human environment in general,

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12/ *Ibid.*, para. 237.

13/ *Ibid.*, para. 324.

14/ *Ibid.*, para. 85.

15/ *Ibid.*, para. 270.

16/ *Ibid.*, para. 244.

*Invites* the General Assembly to consider for adoption the following draft resolution:

*"The General Assembly,*

*"Mindful of the grave dangers posed to the marine environment by the shipping of oil and other dangerous substances,*

*"Regretting that the various measures to ensure the safety of navigation by the observance of the existing international regulations are not applied stringently by all Member States,*

*"Considering that the conservation of the marine environment represents a basic objective for mankind,*

*"1. Urges that the competent international institutions and organizations, such as the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, the Inter-Government Maritime Consultative organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, expedite and intensify their activities relating to the prevention of pollution and the determination of responsibilities in this matter;*

*"2. Calls upon States Parties to the 1954 Convention for the prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil to discharge fully their obligations under the Convention and in particular to ensure that national legislation adopted is sufficiently stringent to have a genuine deterrent effect;*

*"3. Urges Member States to examine the possibility of ratifying at the earliest opportunity international conventions designed to ensure better protection of the marine environment and improve the safety of navigation (ILO Convention No. 147 of 1976, the 1972 Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, the 1973 Convention for the Prevention of Pollution by Ships and the 1974 Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, among others);*

*"4. Urges all States to co-operate in order to implement material measures for the effective combating of marine pollution".*

B

Regional seas programme: the Mediterranean

*The Governing Council,*

*Considering 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,*

*Considering that the experience gained during the preparation and implementation of the Mediterranean Action Plan should be useful in other regional seas programmes,*

*Recalling its observations, in its decision 50(IV) of 13 April 1976 on programme and Fund programme activities, on the need for the progressive transfer of executive responsibility for the Mediterranean Action Plan to the Governments of the region,*

*Taking into account the report of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States on the Mediterranean Action Plan,*

*Recognizing, however, that open-ended commitments of monies from the Environment Fund for administrative responsibilities are inconsistent with the catalytic role of the Programme,*

1. *Calls upon* the Mediterranean coastal States involved in the Mediterranean Action Plan to take increasing financial responsibility for the secretariat costs, with the objective of assuming full financial responsibility for such costs at the earliest possible date, and no later than the end of 1983;

2. *Nevertheless invites* the Mediterranean coastal States to submit to the Environment Fund proposals for research and other projects which would assist in the effective implementation of the Plan;

3. *Urges* the Executive Director to seek ways of supplementing the Oceans budget line from within existing resources, to meet the legitimate requests of various regional seas programmes.

14th meeting  
24 May 1978

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 18 April - 4 May 1979)

UNEP/GC/DEC. 7/8. Regional seas: Mediterranean Action Plan

*The Governing Council,*

*Considering* the importance of the Mediterranean Action Plan for the protection of the environment and the rational management of the resources of the region,

*Considering further* that the experience gained in the Mediterranean and the activities to be carried out under the Mediterranean Action Plan will be very useful in the establishment of projects for other regional seas,

*Recalling* its decision 6/7 B of 24 May 1978,

*Noting* resolution 1 adopted by the Intergovernmental Review Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States held at Geneva in February 1979,

*Mindful* of the efforts made by the coastal States to implement the Mediterranean Action Plan,

*Considering* its decision 7/14 D of 3 May 1979 relating to the establishment of a Regional Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to maintain, for the biennium 1980-1981, the commitment of the United Nations Environment Programme to the Mediterranean Action Plan to consider, as part of the next medium-term plan, continuing the Programme's participation in programme expenditures, subject to availability of resources;

2. *Invites* the Executive Director to strengthen the Mediterranean Action Plan's existing Co-ordination Unit in order to ensure the continuity of the Programme and establish the necessary co-ordination between the regional seas programme activity centre and this Co-ordination Unit.

11th meeting  
3 May 1979

UNEP/GC/DEC/7/12. Regional programming initiatives (Asia)

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decisions 88 D(V) and 90(V) of 25 May 1977 and 6/10 of 24 May 1978 entitled respectively Regional Seas Programme: Asia, Supporting measures: Education and training, and Regional programmes and programming,

*Welcoming* the actions taken by the Executive Director towards implementing these decisions,

*Noting* the need for further progress in their implementation,

*Aware* of the steps and initiatives taken by many countries, severally and jointly, in formulating programmes, proposals and projects in this regard under the major priority areas relevant to them,

*Considering* the increased interest in and search for approaches manifested by member countries for incorporating environmental planning in development planning, consonant with the global environmental programme;

1. *Welcomes* the various activities undertaken by the countries to ensure inclusion of environmental considerations in national development, as well as to develop sound environment projects and programmes;

2. *Invites* the Executive Director to assist and support, as before, the member countries in their efforts concerning priority issues and programmes that relate to the environment;

3. *Urges* the Executive Director to carry forward further the process of implementation of the above mentioned decisions;

4. *Requests* to this end that adequate financial support be extended by the Environment Fund to the regional initiatives of the member countries.

10th meeting  
3 May 1979

UNEP/GC/DEC/7/14. Matters relating to the Environment Fund

0

Establishment of a Trust Fund for the Protection  
of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution

*The Governing Council,*

*Noting with satisfaction* the entry into force of the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related Protocols,

*Noting further* the results of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States and First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Geneva, 5-10 February 1979) and in particular the adopted work programme and related budget for the biennium 1979-1980,

*Recalling* its decision 6/7 B of 24 May 1978, whereby it called upon the Mediterranean coastal States to take increasing financial responsibility for the secretariat costs of the Mediterranean Action Plan,

*Welcoming* the contribution of \$3.28 million pledged by the Mediterranean coastal States and the European Economic Community for the Regional Trust Fund to contribute towards the costs of the Mediterranean Action Plan in the biennium 1979-1980,

*Noting also* the agreement of the Mediterranean coastal States and the European Economic Community to entrust the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme temporarily with the administration of the Trust Fund,

1. *Approves*, under chapter II, article V, of the general procedures governing the operations of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, the establishment of the Regional Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, for a two-year period, within the framework of the Environment Fund;

2. *Agrees* with the intention of the Executive Director to assume responsibility for administering the Regional Trust Fund on a temporary basis for the two-year period, and to contribute \$1.64 million from the Environment Fund to support the Mediterranean Action Plan in the biennium 1979-1980;

3. *Decides* to review the Trust Fund arrangements at its ninth session in 1981.

10th meeting  
3 May 1979

EIGHTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 16-29 April 1980)

UNEP/GC/DEC/8/13. Oceans: Regional Seas

A

Review of the regional seas programme

*The Governing Council,*

*Bearing in mind* that considerable experience has been accumulated in the last five years in the subject area of regional seas which may contribute to the understanding of the global problems of marine pollution,

*Recognizing* the significance of the work in the field of the marine environment which is being carried out by several international and intergovernmental organizations, and the need for closer co-ordination of these activities,

*Requests* the Executive Director to:

(a) *Consider* convening in 1981, in co-operation with relevant international and intergovernmental organizations a government expert group to review the activities, the achievements and the planned development of the regional seas programme, and of other comparable programmes sponsored by other bodies;

(b) *Report* on the results of the expert group meeting to the Governing Council at its tenth session.

12th meeting  
29 April 1980

B

Co-ordination of the regional seas programme with other components  
of the environment programme

*The Governing Council,*

*Considering* the need for world-wide co-operation to control pollution of the seas in order to safeguard marine and coastal resources,

*Bearing in mind* that environmentally sound management of coastal zones, including the control of pollution from land-based sources, is the basic prerequisite for protection and management of the marine and coastal environment,

*Acknowledging* the wide geographical coverage and the interdisciplinary character of the eight regional seas programmes sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme, which effectively contribute to world-wide protection of the marine environment,

*Considering* the need to examine the administrative and budgetary arrangements by which the regional seas programme are implemented and co-ordinated with other components of the environment programme,

*Requests* the Executive Director:

- (a) *To accelerate* the effective implementation of the regional seas programme;
- (b) *Whenever appropriate*, to make funds available from all relevant budgetary lines for those activities undertaken in the framework of the regional seas programmes which relate specifically to the work plan approved under such lines;
- (c) *To examine* the relationship between the regional seas programme and environmental programmes of a regional character, and to report to the Governing Council at its ninth session on ways in which the regional seas programmes may be strengthened and co-ordinated more effectively with other components of the environment programme.

12th meeting  
29 April 1980

C

Extension of the regional seas programme to the East African sea  
and the South-West Atlantic

*The Governing Council,*

*Considering* the threat to the marine environment in the East African region and the South-West Atlantic,

*Bearing in mind* the resolution adopted in November 1979 at Seychelles by the East African Port Management Association calling upon international organizations to support Governments in the East African region in developing a programme for the protection of the marine environment in the East African region,

*Welcoming* the establishment of the regional seas programme by the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to include the East African and South-West Atlantic regions within the regional seas programme with a view to initiating and carrying out, in collaboration with the Governments concerned and the competent organizations of the United Nations system, a programme for proper management and conservation of the resources in these areas;

2. *Further requests* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its ninth session on progress made in the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting

29 April 1980

NINTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 13-26 May 1981)

UNEP/GC/DEC/9/10. Programme matters

A

The environment programme 1980-1983

*The Governing Council,*

*Having considered* the programme documentation before it at its ninth session,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the programme performance report of the Executive Director and the medium-term plan, 1982-1983; 17/

2. *Urges* the Executive Director to continue to improve the evaluation aspects of future programme performance reports;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to pursue the assessment activities identified in the programme performance report; 18/

4. *Approves* the revised objectives and strategies for assessment of basic human needs in relation to outer limits;

5. *Takes note* of the report 19/ on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, and authorizes the Executive Director to transmit it, together with the fourth supplement to the list of such conventions and protocols, 20/ to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, in accordance with resolution 3436(XXX) of 9 December 1975;

6. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to submit the report on marine pollution, 21/ on its behalf, to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, as called for by the General Assembly in resolution 34/183 of 18 December 1979;

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17/ UNEP/GC.9/5 and Add. 1-5 and UNEP/GC.9/6 and Add.1.

18/ UNEP/GC.9/5, para. 18.

19/ UNEP/GC.9/5/Add.1.

20/ UNEP/GC/INFORMATION/5/Supplement 4.

21/ UNEP/GC.5/Add.3.

7. *Further authorizes* the Executive Director to submit the report 22/ on the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, on its behalf, to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session in 1981, as called for by the Council in resolution 1980/49 of 23 July 1980;

8. *Takes note* of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations on the preparation of a plan of action on marine mammals, and requests, the Executive Director to continue the preparation of the plan with a view to its submission to the Governing Council at its eleventh session;

9. *Approves* the activities proposed in the medium-term plan, 1982-1983;

10. *Invites* the Executive Director to submit more precise budgetary indications for each strategy elements in the medium-term plan.

9th meeting  
26 May 1981

B

System-wide medium-term environment programme

*The Governing Council,*

*Having considered* the note of the Executive Director on the system-wide medium-term environment programme, 23/

1. *Approves*, on a provisional basis, the structure and objectives of the system-wide medium-term environment programme, and urges the Executive Director, taking into account the views expressed by the delegations to the Council at its ninth session and in co-operation with the United Nations system, to proceed with the development of the system-wide programme for submission to the Council at its tenth session;

2. *Takes note* of the sample detailed presentation, using the example of genetic resources, of a specific programme area of the system-wide programme.

9th meeting  
26 May 1981

C

Environmental law

*The Governing Council,*

*Noting with satisfaction* the outcome of the Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law as contained in its report on the work of its eighth session,

*Wishing* to assist Governments in promoting legal protection of the environment against marine pollution caused by offshore mining and drilling within the limits of national jurisdiction,

*Bearing in mind* its responsibilities to promote international co-operation in the field of the environment and to recommend, as appropriate, policies to this end,

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22/ UNEP/GC.9/5/Add.4.

23/ UNEP/GC.9/7.

1. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the study, containing guidelines, on offshore mining and drilling within the limits of national jurisdiction annexed to the report of the Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law on the work of its eighth session; 24/

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to circulate the texts of the conclusions to all Governments for comments;

3. *Recommends* that States consider the guidelines when formulating national legislation or undertaking the negotiations for the conclusion of international agreements for the prevention of pollution of the marine environment caused by offshore mining and drilling within the limits of national jurisdiction;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on these matters to the Governing Council at its tenth session.

9th meeting  
26 May 1981

UNEP/GC/DEC/9/12. Priorities for serious environmental problems  
in the developing countries

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 34/188 of 18 December 1979, which stresses the need for the United Nations Environment Programme to increase the resources available for its projects in the developing countries, in accordance with their requirements and priorities,

*Noting with satisfaction* the work undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme to deal with the most serious environmental problems in the developing countries,

*Recognizing* the need to set priorities for dealing with the most serious environmental problems in the developing countries,

1. *Decides* to identify the following priorities of the developing countries:

(a) Environment and development, particularly the development of methodologies for sound environmental management;

(b) Terrestrial ecosystems, for example tropical rain forests ecosystems and soil management;

(c) Supporting measures, particularly in environmental education and training and technical assistance;

(d) Human settlements and human health, particularly the provision of safe domestic water supplies to rural areas and waste management, including control of toxic substances;

(e) Arid and semi-arid lands, particularly desertification and rangeland disasters;

(f) Natural disasters;

(g) Energy, particularly national energy policies;

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24/ UNEP/GC.9/5/Add.5, annex III.

(h) Oceans, particularly the conservation of marine living resources, their ecosystems, through support for regional seas programmes;

2. *Decides* further to have the priorities identified above reflected in the system-wide medium-term environment programme;

3. *Calls on* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its tenth session on the implementation of paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

9th meeting  
26 May 1981

UNEP/GC/DEC/9/17. Oceans: Regional Seas

A

Implementation of Governing Council decision 7/8  
of 3 May 1979 and 8/13 B of 29 April 1980

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decisions 7/8 of 3 May 1979 and 8/13 of 29 April 1980,

*Recognizing* once again the extensive scope and multidisciplinary character of the regional seas programmes conducted under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme, which provide an effective contribution to the protection of the marine environment on the world level,

*Underlining* the very positive results achieved in the implementation of the various regional seas programmes already under way,

*Welcoming* the implementation of the new regional seas programmes adopted since the last session of the Governing Council,

*Recognizing* also the primordial importance of these programmes for the protection of endangered marine and coastal ecosystems,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director:

(a) To apply the provisions of Governing Council decision 7/8 of 3 May 1979, notably that concerning biennium 1980-1981;

(b) To give effect to Governing Council decision 8/13 B of 29 April 1980, particularly the provisions requesting the Executive Director, whenever appropriate, to make funds available from all relevant budgetary lines for those activities undertaken in the framework of the regional seas programmes which relate specifically to the work plan approved under such lines;

2. *Decides* that in execution of the medium-term plan and within the framework of the budget, increased attention should be paid to the chapters dealing with regional seas, with a view to attaining the objectives defined in the various regional seas programmes, including the implementation of those recently approved.

9th meeting  
26 May 1981

**B. Implementation of Governing Council decision 8/13 C of 29 April 1980**

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decision 8/13 C of 29 April 1980 on the extension of the regional seas programme,

*Noting* the report of the Executive Director on the progress made in the implementation of the above decision,

1. *Expresses* satisfaction on the progress made so far in the implementation of its decision 8/13 C of 29 April 1980;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to complete the draft action plans being prepared in that connexion for consideration by Governments at the earliest practicable date;

3. *Urges* the Governments of the respective regions to extend maximum co-operation to the Executive Director in the implementation of this decision.

9th meeting  
26 May 1981

**UNEP/GC/DEC/9/26. Management of Trust Funds**

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decisions 6/13 D of 24 May 1978 and 7/14 D and 7/14 E of 3 May 1979 approving the establishment of the Trust Funds for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Areas of Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, and for the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora respectively,

*Recognizing* that all trust funds established by the Secretary-General for which responsibility for administration is delegated to the Executive Director are administered in accordance with the Financial Rules of the Environment Fund and, in the case of any matter not specifically covered by the Financial Rules, *mutatis mutandis* <sup>25/</sup> and the Secretary-General's Bulletin on the Establishment and Management of Trust Funds, <sup>26/</sup>

*Noting* the request of the Government of Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to transfer responsibility for administering the Regional Trust Fund to the Executive Secretary of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Executive Director's proposal related thereto,

*Noting further* the recommendation of the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution that the Mediterranean regional Trust Fund be wound up on 31 December 1982 at the latest,

*Taking note* of the request of the Third Conference of Contracting Parties of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora that the Trust Fund to provide financial support for the aims of the Convention be continued until 31 December 1983,

<sup>25/</sup> ST/SGB/Financial Rules/1/Rev.2

<sup>26/</sup> ST/SGB/146/Rev.1

*Noting further* the resolution adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Co-operation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region and in particular the proposed institutional and financial arrangements,

*Taking note* also of the agreement among Ministers with responsibility for the environment of the States members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations to finance the implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the East Asian Region through the mechanism of a trust fund,

*Taking note* of the establishment of the Trust Fund for Regional Training Workshops on Environmental Management,

*Welcoming* the pledges of contributions to the financing of the existing and proposed new trust funds made by the Contracting Parties to the relevant Conventions,

1. *Approves* under chapter 11, article V, of the General Procedures governing the operations of the Environment Fund and subject to the consent of the Secretary-General:

(a) The continuation of the Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of Marine Environment and the Coastal Areas of Bahrain, Iran, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates until 31 December 1981;

(b) The continuation of the Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution until 31 December 1982 at the latest;

(c) The continuation of the Trust Fund for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora until 31 December 1983;

(d) The establishment of a Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Areas of the West and Central African Region for an initial two-year period extending to 31 December 1983;

(e) The establishment of a Trust Fund for the implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme for an initial two-year period extending to 31 December 1983;

(f) The establishment of a Trust Fund for the implementation of the Action Plan for the East Asian Seas for an initial two-year period extending to 31 December 1983.

2. *Agrees* with the intention of the Executive Director, subject to the consent of the Secretary-General, to accept responsibility for administering these trust funds for as long as he is requested to do so;

3. *Urges* States to pay their contributions to the trust funds promptly at the beginning of the calendar year to which the contribution applies.

9th meeting  
26 May 1981

SESSION OF A SPECIAL CHARACTER OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 10-18 May 1982)

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

Resolution I

The environment in 1982: retrospect and prospect

*The Governing Council,*

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

*Having taken into account the report of the Executive Director entitled "The environment in 1982: retrospect and prospect", 21/*

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

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

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III

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

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

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

(a) Atmosphere

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

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

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

(b) Oceans

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

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

(c) Water

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

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

(d) Lithosphere

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

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

(e) Terrestrial biota and bioproductive systems

*Trends and problems:* Mounting world food demand only partially satisfied because of inadequacies of production and distribution; continued severe soil degradation and desertification as a result of inappropriate agricultural practices, erosion, and deforestation; loss of

agricultural land as a result of urbanization, adverse impacts on land and water resources from increasing land-use conflicts between agricultural production, fuelwood and other energy crops, protected areas and human settlements; adverse effects of slash-and-burn agriculture or other inappropriate agricultural practices; loss of potentially valuable genetic resources, including wild flora and fauna, as a result of deforestation and use and commercialization of endangered species; adverse impacts of improper or increased use of fertilizers and pesticides; depletion of wetlands;

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

(f) Population and human settlements

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

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

(g) Health

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

*Priority for action:* Development of environmental health measures, including methods for the environmental control of disease vectors and parasites, and for improvement of sanitation in settlements, and improvement of hygiene, especially in developing countries; continued monitoring, notably in the Global Environmental Monitoring System, and preparation of procedures, principles and guidelines within the International Programme on Chemical Safety; development and promotion of the application of procedures, principles or guidelines for safe trade, handling and transport of hazardous substances and disposal of hazardous wastes; follow-up to the list of dangerous substances and processes prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme;

(h) Energy

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

sources of energy, and increase in energy plantations; some success in the development of energy conservation programmes;

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

(i) Industry and other economic development

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

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

(j) Peace, security and the environment

*Trends and problems:* The continuing increase in the production, stock-piling and risk of use of weapons of mass destruction and the development of new types of chemical and bacteriological weapons not only pose a major threat to the environment and even to life on earth, but also compete for limited resources that could be better used for constructive purposes;

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

IV

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

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

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

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

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

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

(a) In the area of environmental assessment;

- (i) To improve early warning indicators of significant environmental changes;
- (ii) To improve the planning and co-ordination of monitoring at the global and regional levels;
- (iii) To produce concrete assessment statements for important environmental problems and their human health, social and economic implications;
- (iv) To establish better links between the Global Environmental Monitoring System, the International Referral System for sources of environmental information, the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals and national and international data centres;
- (v) To promote the establishment of reliable global, regional and national environmental statistics and state of the environment reporting as a basis for evaluating major trends and deciding on any necessary action;

(b) In the area of environmental management;

- (i) To promote environmentally sound patterns of development and to participate in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;
- (ii) To strive for the improvement of cost/benefit and cost/effectiveness evaluation of environmental measures, environmental assessment of development activities and integrated physical planning for rational use of natural resources;
- (iii) To promote the adoption and implementation by States of legal and other appropriate instruments for assessing the effects on the environment of potentially harmful activities under their jurisdiction and control, as well as the dissemination of information and the public use thereof;
- (iv) To promote the development of more cost-effective solutions to environmental management problems, in particular such solutions adapted to the needs of developing countries;
- (v) To develop guidelines for environmentally sound development planning;
- (vi) To promote and continue to contribute to the activities of the United Nations system in the area of the interrelationships among population, resources, environment and development;

(c) In the area of supporting measures;

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

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

V

Planning and implementation of environmental activities

1. *Solemnly urges Governments:*

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

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

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

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

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

(a) The basic orientations identified in section IV above, and in particular, the objectives contained in paragraph 8, with special emphasis on the needs of the developing countries, serve as primary guides and are accorded high priority;

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

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

4. *Also invites* the governing bodies of the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to integrate the major environmental trends over the next ten years effectively in their action plans, and, on the basis of those trends, in close co-operation with the United Nations Environment programme, to draw up appropriate measures for environmental protection with due regard to available resources;

5. *Requests* the administrative heads of the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their co-operation with the Executive Director in the effective implementation of approved programmes in the field of the environment for the next ten years;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to intensify co-operation with intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations and, as appropriate, support their work, and to invite such organizations to intensify their efforts in the field of the environment;

7. *Urges* all donors to respond positively and increase their assistance, in accordance with established procedures and with the priorities of developing countries, to help meet their technical and financial requirements, particularly in their efforts aimed at evolving national programmes of research and development, technology, institutional approaches and machineries for dealing with environmental problems;

VI

Institutional arrangements for the United Nations  
Environment Programme

1. *Considers* that the institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of the environment - the Governing Council, the secretariat, the co-ordination process within the United Nations system through the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Environment Fund - are, generally speaking, adequate and appropriate;

2. *Encourages* Governments to keep under close and continuing review the functioning of these institutional arrangements and the implementation of the environmental activities of the organizations of the United Nations system with a view to improved co-ordination, programme strengthening and greater over-all effectiveness and efficiency in their application of financial and manpower resources;

3. *Considers* that the catalytic, co-ordinating and stimulating role of the United Nations Environment Programme remains appropriate and will require the continuing attention of the Governing Council in the light of section IV, paragraph 7(c), bearing in mind the responsibilities of other bodies of the United Nations system;

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

(a) Give over-all policy guidance on global, contemporary and emerging issues;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

13th meeting  
18 May 1982

Resolution II

Special commission on long-term environmental strategies

*The Governing Council,*

*Meeting in a session of a special character,*

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

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

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

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

13th meeting  
18 May 1982

TENTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 20-31 May 1983)

UNEP/GC/DEC/10/14. Programme matters

*The Governing Council,*

...

v

Regional Marine Programmes

...

*Endorses* the recommendations of the Meeting of Government Experts on Regional Marine Programmes. 28/

9th meeting  
31 May 1982

UNEP/GC/DEC.10/20. Expansion and implementation of  
the regional seas programme

*The Governing Council,*

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

*Recalling* its own decisions 82(V), 6/2, 8/13 and 9/17,

*Recalling* the recommendations of intergovernmental conferences on the marine environment, including the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Co-operation in the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the West and Central African Region, 29/

*Recalling* also the recommendations of the Meeting of Government Experts on Regional Marine Programmes, held at Nairobi in January 1982, 30/

*Considering* the urgent need to protect fragile coastal ecosystems and the serious problem of coastline erosion,

*Welcoming* all the regional action plans already adopted and new action plans to be adopted for the environmental protection of regional seas,

*Noting* also the establishment of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, which *inter alia* refers to action concerning a regional seas programme,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to enter into consultations with the concerned States of the South Asian Co-operative Environment Programme to ascertain their views regarding the conduct of a regional seas programme in the South Asia seas;

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

3. *Invites* participating member States to pay their contributions in support of the implementation of the regional action plan;

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

5. *Calls* upon the Executive Director to provide adequate funds to the regional seas programme;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its eleventh session on the implementation of the present decision.

9th meeting  
31 May 1982

UNEP/GC/DEC/10/27. The Environment Fund

*The Governing Council,*

...

11. *Approves* the continuation of the Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and of the Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Areas of Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates until 31 December 1983;

10th meeting  
31 May 1982

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29/ UNEP/IG.22/7.

30/ UNEP/MG.63/4.

ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 11-24 May 1983)

UNEP/GC/DEC/11/1. Programme policy and implementation

*The Governing Council,*

...

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

...

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

10th meeting  
24 May 1983

UNEP/GC/DEC/11/7. Programme matters

PART FOUR: OCEANS

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

*The Governing Council,*

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

*Recognizing* the value of such information as a basis for the discharge by the Governing Council of its over-all co-ordination function,

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

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

1. *Notes* the co-operation existing since 1975 between the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme;

2. *Encourages* the Commission to continue to report periodically to the Governing Council on its own work and that of its subsidiary bodies, particularly on matters concerning the marine environment;

3. *Encourages* further co-operation and co-ordination within available resources between the Programme and the Commission on projects of mutual interest on a global basis, such as the regional seas programme, the Programme for the Global Investigation of Pollution in the Marine Environment and the Marine Pollution Monitoring System;

B. Expansion and implementation of the Regional Seas Programme

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* recommendations of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment 32 and 33 on mammals, 46 to 48 on international co-operation in the field of living marine resources, and 86 to 91 on the monitoring and study of marine pollution, its effects and appropriate remedies, 31/

*Recalling* its own previous decisions on the regional seas programme,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10th meeting  
24 May 1983

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

UNEP/GC/DEC/11/10. The Environment Fund

*The Governing Council,*

...

24. *Approves* the extension for a further two years until 31 December 1985 of trust funds established under the rules of the Environment Fund, as follows:

(a) The Regional Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates;

(b) The Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution;

(c) The Trust Fund for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;

(d) The Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the West and Central African Region;

(e) The regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme;

(f) The Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the East Asian Seas;

25. *Urges* Governments to pay their contribution to the trust funds as near as possible to the beginning of the calendar year to which the contribution applies;

8th meeting  
23 May 1983

TWELFTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 16-29 May 1984)

UNEP/GC/DEC/12/12. Environmental management

*The Governing Council,*

1. Marine Mammals

1. *Endorses* the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Management and Utilization of Marine Mammals <sup>32/</sup> as a timely and valuable framework for policy planning and programme formulation by the international community.

2. *Notes* the efforts of the Executive Director to prepare and submit a financial plan for the implementation of the Plan of Action;

3. *Appeals* to all Governments and international organizations to make firm commitments to the Plan of Action;

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<sup>32/</sup> UNEP/GC.12/15, annex I.

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to promote a broad-based response to the Plan of Action, drawing upon the capabilities of existing institutions to the maximum extent possible and utilizing the catalytic role of the United Nations Environment Programme as appropriate;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to take the following approach in securing additional financial commitments in support of the Plan of Action;

(a) To circulate to potential donors fact sheets on individual projects identified for the implementation of the Plan;

(b) To investigate the possibility, in the case of projects with a strong regional component, of adopting a regional approach to their funding in consultation with the countries concerned;

6. *Invites* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its thirteenth session on the response of Governments and international organizations to the Plan of Action.

...

#### VIII. Marine pollution

1. *Notes* the progress made in the implementation of decision 11/7, part four, section A, and welcomes the increased co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission; <sup>33/</sup>

2. *Notes* also the progress made in the implementation of decision 11/1 section II, paragraph 8, with regard to the review of environmental implications of the disposal of radioactive wastes at sea; <sup>34/</sup>

3. *Urges* the Executive Director to continue to co-operate with the International Atomic Energy Agency and other relevant organizations in studies in the area of the environmental impact of the disposal of radioactive wastes on the sea-bed as well as in the area of sea-bed mining;

#### IX. Regional seas

1. *Notes* the progress made in the implementation of decision 11/7, part four, section B, on the expansion and implementation of the regional seas programme; <sup>35/</sup>

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

3. *Invites* participating member States to pay their contributions to the trust funds established in support of the implementation of the regional action plans.

14th meeting  
28 May 1984

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<sup>33/</sup> UNEP/GC.12/12, paras. 35 and 36.

<sup>34/</sup> UNEP/GC.12/2, chap. IV, para. 205.

<sup>35/</sup> UNEP/GC.12/12, paras. 37-39.

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 19-24 May 1985)

UNEP/GC/DEC.13/18. Environmental law

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decisions 10/21 of 31 May 1982, paragraph 8, 11/7 of 24 May 1983, part two, section B, and 12/14 of 28 May 1984,

*Having considered* the reports of the Executive Director on programme matters <sup>36/</sup> and other documents in the field of environmental law,

*Noting with appreciation* the progress made in the implementation of the Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law, <sup>37/</sup> and in particular the adoption of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer on 22 March 1985, and of the Montreal Guidelines for the Protection of the Marine Environment Against Pollution from Land-based Sources <sup>38/</sup> on 19 April 1985,

*Conscious* of the need for all Governments to continue to participate actively in the implementation of the environmental law programme, and to consider hosting or funding future working group sessions under the Montevideo Programme,

II. Protection of the marine environment against  
pollution from land-based sources

1. *Takes note* of the final report of the *Ad hoc* Working Group of Experts on the Protection of the Marine Environment against Pollution from Land-based Sources; <sup>39/</sup>

2. *Notes with appreciation* the support provided to the Working Group by the Government of Canada;

3. *Encourages* States and international organizations to take the Montreal Guidelines for the Protection of the Marine Environment against Pollution from Land-based Sources into account in the process of developing bilateral, regional and, as appropriate, global agreements in this field;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to distribute the Guidelines to all States and international organizations concerned;

IV. Shared natural resources and legal aspects  
of offshore mining and drilling

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on shared natural resources and legal aspects of offshore mining and drilling, <sup>40/</sup> and authorizes the Executive Director to transmit it on behalf of the Council, together with any comments made by delegations thereon, to the General Assembly at its fortieth session in accordance with Assembly resolution 37/217 of 20 December 1982;

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<sup>36/</sup> UNEP/GC.13/9 and Add.1-3.

<sup>37/</sup> UNEP/GC.10/5/Add.2 and Corr.1 and 2, annex, chap. II.

<sup>38/</sup> UNEP/GC.13/9/Add.3, annex.

<sup>39/</sup> UNEP/WG.120/3.

<sup>40/</sup> UNEP/GC.13/9/Add.1.

2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it should take note of the report submitted to it by the Council in accordance with paragraph 1 above, and reiterate the terms of Assembly resolution 34/186 of 18 December 1979 as a whole;

3. *Invites* the General Assembly to request the Council to submit a further progress report on the implementation of resolution 34/186 in 1987;

4. *Calls* on Governments to make use of the principles of conduct in the field of the environment for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious utilization of natural resources shared by two or more States, contained in the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources Shared by Two or More States established under Council decision 44(III) of 25 April 1975, <sup>41/</sup> and the conclusions of the study of the legal aspects concerning the environment related to offshore mining and drilling within the limits of national jurisdiction undertaken by the Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law, <sup>42/</sup> as guidelines and recommendations in the formulation of bilateral or multilateral conventions, on the basis of the principle of good faith and in the spirit of good neighbourliness, and in such a way to enhance and not adversely affect development and the interest of all countries, in particular those of the developing countries;

15th meeting  
24 May 1985

UNEP/GC/DEC.13/25. Marine pollution

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* section VIII of its decision 12/12 of 28 May 1984,

*Noting* the progress made in assessing marine pollution problems and in developing methodologies, reference methods and guidelines required for such assessments, as reflected in the 1984 Annual Report of the Executive Director, <sup>43/</sup>

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution made by the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution as the principal United Nations inter-agency mechanism for reviewing scientific aspects of marine pollution,

*Noting further* the significant progress made in adopting action plans and regional agreements for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment, as described in the 1984 Annual Report of the Executive Director, <sup>44/</sup>

1. *Urges* the Executive Director to continue, in co-operation with relevant United Nations bodies, including the International Atomic Energy Agency, to contribute to the debate on the environmental implications of the disposal of radioactive and other hazardous wastes at sea;

2. *Calls upon* the Executive Director to complete the preparatory phase leading to the adoption of action plans and regional conventions for those regions where such action plans and conventions have yet to be adopted (the Eastern African region, the South Asian Seas region and the South Pacific region), and to continue to assist States to implement the adopted action plans and agreements in all other regions;

<sup>41/</sup> See UNEP/GC.6/17, annex, pp. 9-14.

<sup>42/</sup> UNEP/GC.9/5/Add.5, annex III.

<sup>43/</sup> UNEP/GC.13/2 and Corr.1 and 2, chap. IV, sect. D.

<sup>44/</sup> UNEP/GC.13/2 and Corr.1 and 2, chap. IV, sect. D.

3. *Urges* the Executive Director, in co-operation with other relevant United Nations bodies, to make every effort to strengthen interregional co-operation so as to promote the exchange of information and experience and to contribute to the protection of the global marine environment.

14th meeting  
23 May 1985

UNEP/GC/DEC.13/32. Regional and subregional programmes in  
Latin America and the Caribbean

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decisions 9/12 of 26 May 1981, 10/2 of 31 May 1982, 10/3 of 28 May 1982, 10/19 and 10/25 B of 31 May 1982, 11/9 of 24 May 1983 and 12/17 D of 28 May 1984,

*Bearing in mind* the results of the Fourth Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, held at Cancun, Mexico, in April 1985, <sup>45/</sup>

*Recognizing* the trends, approaches and prospects in regional co-operation in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean and the need to strengthen the information base to support this co-operation,

*Recognizing also* that, as a result of the serious economic crisis affecting the region, there are obstacles to the proper provision of all that is required for the implementation of the regional and subregional programmes of common interest decided upon at the intergovernmental meeting on environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, and that there is a need to undertake actions in the areas in which steps have already been taken which would facilitate their implementation,

*Noting* the transfer of the Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Centre to Nairobi, and emphasizing the importance of ensuring continuity and efficiency in its activities, as a means of strengthening regional co-operation in the protection and preservation of the marine environment,

*Considering* that in order to secure financial and material resources for the implementation of the regional environmental programmes of common interest, the efforts of both international agencies and the countries themselves are required,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Mexico for its kind hospitality in convening the Fourth Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean;

2. *Calls* on the Governments of the region and the United Nations Environment Programme to ensure that future intergovernmental meetings include an agenda item aimed at strengthening the dialogue on the relationship between economic and social issues and the application and development of environmental policies which by their nature are cross-sectoral and global;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to support the regional and subregional programmes of common interest and periodically assess progress made in them, in co-operation with regional and subregional bodies, communicating the results of such assessments to the Governments of the region;

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<sup>45/</sup> See UNEP/IG.57/8.

4. *Invites* the Governments of the region to conduct quantitative and social cost-benefit environmental studies which will serve as a basis for guiding national policies, and to prepare regional reports on the state of the environment;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director, in co-operation with Governments and appropriate regional bodies, to focus his efforts, in this first stage of the implementation of the regional and subregional priority programmes identified at the Second Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Buenos Aires in 1983, <sup>46/</sup> on initiating the implementation of the regional environmental programme on planning and environment, environmental law and environmental education, without prejudice to programmes already under way, namely: the regional seas programmes for the Wider Caribbean and for the South-East Pacific, and the Environmental Training Network;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to Governments periodically on progress in ongoing programmes and their short-term prospects, including their financial aspects. In this regard, the intergovernmental regional meetings should include in their agenda analyses of project implementation in the preceding biennium;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to support, within the resources allocated to the relevant budget lines, the implementation of the above-mentioned activities;

8. *Further requests* the Executive Director, with regard to the implementation of activities in the field of planning and the environment, to seek additional resources through the clearing-house or through any other suitable mechanism as described in the present decision;

9. *Recommends* to the Executive Director that he should conduct an inventory of the available resources of regional and international multilateral organizations and bilateral sources to support the regional environmental programmes of common interest, and to create and maintain an information system on such resources;

10. *Recommends* to the Executive Director that he should request countries, within a period of three months, to send him a list of experts from Latin America and the Caribbean in order to draw up a roster of such experts, with a view to supporting the implementation of the activities related to the application of the regional and subregional projects which are allocated priority within the framework of the regional programmes already adopted, bearing in mind in particular those which are already under way. For this support the Governments will pay the salaries of the experts for the period for which they are engaged, and the United Nations Environment Programme is expected, within available resources, to meet their travel and subsistence expenses;

11. *Authorizes* the Executive Director, in the light of his report on innovative means of financing and alternatives for utilization of national currencies and contributions in kind to support the implementation of regional environmental programmes of common interest, <sup>47/</sup> within available resources and in co-ordination with appropriate regional and international United Nations bodies, to initiate actions which offer the Governments of the region alternatives concerning the use of national currencies in the implementation of environmental projects of common interest;

12. *Urges* the Executive Director, in preparing his plan for intraregional financing for selected regional and subregional environmental programmes, to take into account the proposal made by the experts of the *Ad hoc* Meeting on Alternative Means for Financing in National Currencies and Contributions in Kind (Mexico City, January 1985) <sup>48/</sup> and to prepare an appropriate timetable covering the stages suggested in the experts' proposal;

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<sup>46/</sup> See UNEP/IG.40/7.

<sup>47/</sup> UNEP/GC.13/3/Add.5.

<sup>48/</sup> See UNEP/IG.57/Inf.5.

13. *Recommends* to the Executive Director that he should consider the possibility of making more use of non-convertible currencies from outside the region to support the programmes referred to above.

15th meeting  
24 May 1985

UNEP/GC/DEC/13/34. Trust Funds

*The Governing Council,*

*Having considered* the report of the Executive Director on the management of trust funds and other funds, <sup>49/</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the reports on the management of trust funds and other funds;
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments that have pledged to increase their contributions to the various trust funds and other funds for 1985 and for subsequent years;
3. *Urges* Governments to support Fund programme activities in which they are particularly interested by making counterpart contributions to individual projects under rule 204.1 of the Financial Rules of the Fund;
4. *Approves* the extension of trust funds established under the rules of the Environment Fund as follows:
  - (a) Regional Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates - until 30 June 1987;
  - (b) Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution - until 31 December 1987;
  - (c) Trust Fund for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora - until 31 December 1987;
  - (d) Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the West and Central African Region - until 31 December 1987;
  - (e) Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme - until 31 December 1987;
  - (f) Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the East Asian Seas - until 31 December 1987;
5. *Approves*, on a contingency basis, the establishment, subject to the consent of the Secretary-General, of a Regional Seas Trust Fund for the Eastern African Region should the Governments concerned so request;

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<sup>49/</sup> UNEP/GC.13/14 and Add. 1.

6. *Takes note* of the establishment by the Executive Director, under authority delegated by the Secretary-General, of technical assistance trust funds as follows:

(a) Technical Assistance Trust Fund for the Provision of Short-term Experts to Developing Countries, financed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany;

(b) Technical Assistance Trust Fund for an Integrated Pilot Project on Environmental Management and Protection of Andean Ecosystems (Cajamarca/Peru), financed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany - for a four-year period;

(c) Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Promote Technical Co-operation and Assistance in Industrial, Environmental and Raw Material Management, financed by the Swedish International Development Authority;

7. *Again urges* Governments to pay their contributions to the trust funds promptly, as near as possible to the beginning of the calendar year to which the contributions apply.

13th meeting  
23 May 1985

FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 8-19 June 1987)

UNEP/GC/DEC/14/20. Global climate change

*The Governing Council,*

*Aware* that national and international studies continue to conclude that a global climate change will result from increases in the concentration of greenhouse gases from human activities,

*Concerned* that such change would have potentially serious consequences for human welfare and the natural environment,

*Mindful* of the need to improve expeditiously scientific understanding of climate change, its causes and its consequences, as a basis for formulating appropriate policy responses at the global, regional and national level,

*Recognizing* the importance of initiating international consideration of possible policy responses,

*Recognizing* that the United Nations Environment Programme, by effective implementation of its lead responsibility within the World Climate Programme for climate impact studies, as well as through the Global Environmental Monitoring System and its Global Resource Information Data Base, can make important contributions in this area,

*Considering* that the recently concluded Tenth Congress of the World Meteorological Organization has stressed the importance of close co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Council of Scientific Unions on global climate change, in particular to improve scientific assessments, including impact assessments,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the importance being attached by the United Nations Environment Programme to the global climate change problem, including efforts to raise public awareness and to assess climate impacts;

2. *Urges* the Executive Director to ensure that the United Nations Environment Programme, working in close co-operation with the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council of Scientific Unions, in particular, the Special Committee on Global Change of the International Council of Scientific Unions, maintains an active, influential role within the World Climate Programme through the fulfilment of its central responsibility for climate impact studies and by ensuring that the World Climate research programme includes studies on the causes and effects of atmospheric changes, taking account of social and economic aspects;

3. *Welcomes* the Executive Director's plans to join with the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council of Scientific Unions in Convening a second World Climate Conference in late 1989 or early 1990, and to support the World Conference on the Changing Atmosphere: Implications for Global Security, being convened by the Government of Canada in June 1988;

4. *Urges* the Executive Director to respond positively to the decision by the Tenth Congress of the World Meteorological Organization requesting its Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to explore and, after appropriate consultation with Governments, to establish an *ad hoc* intergovernmental mechanism to carry out internationally co-ordinated scientific assessments of the magnitude, timing, and potential impact of climate change <sup>50/</sup>;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the next regular session of the Governing Council on:

(a) Progress with climate impact studies;

(b) The work of the *ad hoc* intergovernmental mechanism;

(c) The full range of possible responses by Governments and international agencies to anticipated climate changes, including possibilities for reducing the rate of climate change, taking into account, *inter alia*, the findings of the World Meteorological Organization/International Council of Scientific Unions/United Nations Environment Programme Advisory Group on Greenhouse Gases and those of other relevant agencies.

15th meeting  
18 June 1987

UNEP/GC/DEC.14/21. *Regional and subregional programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean*

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* decisions 13/21 of 23 May 1985 and 13/32 of 24 May 1985,

*Bearing in mind* the results of the First Interparliamentary Conference on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Mexico City, Mexico, in March 1987, and the decisions adopted at the Fifth Intergovernmental Regional Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, in April 1987, the Extraordinary Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the South-East Pacific, held in Bogota, Colombia, in April 1987, and the Fifth Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme, held in Kingston Jamaica, in May 1987,

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<sup>50/</sup> Resolution 3.20/1 (Cg-X) of the Tenth Congress of the World Meteorological Organization.

*Bearing in mind* the pressure exerted on the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean by the external debt and the economic crisis, which, in turn, places additional pressure on the quality of life of the population, on protection of the environment and on natural resources,

*Taking into account* also the need to continue supporting the efforts made by the countries of the region to strengthen the regional and interregional programmes,

*Recalling* the importance of continuing to strengthen the system of regional and subregional co-operation for the conservation and protection of the environment in Latin America and the Caribbean which has come into being at the intergovernmental meetings held to date,

*Noting* the decision to include on the agenda of the Sixth Intergovernmental Regional Meeting an item dealing with the impact of the external debt of the developing countries on environmental policies and administration,

1. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Governments of Mexico, Uruguay, Colombia and Jamaica for hosting the above-mentioned regional and subregional meetings;

2. *Decides* to disseminate and promote for due consideration by Governments the Declaration and recommendations of the First Interparliamentary Conference on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean;

3. *Decides* to continue to give the highest priority within the framework of the regional environmental programmes of common interest to the Programme of the Environmental Training Network for Latin America and the Caribbean, providing funding within the available resources to support the contributions being made by the Governments of the region;

4. *Further decides* to continue to give high priority within the oceans and coastal areas programme to the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the South-East Pacific and the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme, and to request the Executive Director to continue to support the Regional Co-ordinating Units of both Plans and their priority projects;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to continue and strengthen the following regional and subregional programmes of common interest:

(a) Development planning and environment;

(b) Development of environmental legislation and institutional framework;

(c) Management of wildlands, protected areas and wildlife;

(d) Environmental education;

(e) Natural potential and national management of the tropical and sub-tropical forest ecosystems in Central America and Mexico, and in the South Cone;

6. *Encourages* Governments to undertake natural and cultural heritage inventory and accounting programmes, including economic analyses, which will facilitate continuous evaluation of such resources and act as a data base for economic planning and decision-making bodies;

7. *Calls upon* the organizations responsible for each regional and subregional programme being, or to be, implemented to consider it as part of a whole and, as a consequence, to establish the working relations required to ensure maximum cohesion, continuity and complementarity in their activities;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director:

(a) To support the work of the Contact Group of the Regional Office for Latin America of the United Nations Environment Programme in conformity with the interest shown by the Governments in the regions as reflected by the final report of the Fifth Intergovernmental Regional Meeting;

(b) To continue to promote technical co-operation among the countries of the region, especially that aimed at the dissemination of experience and achievements, as well as the training of professional specialists in environmental matters;

(c) To employ, if possible, when implementing regional seas programmes, technical advisers and professionals of the different countries;

(d) To support Governments of the region, within available resources, in the study of the impact of the external debt of the developing countries on environmental policies and administration;

(e) In connection with the Programme of the Environmental Training Network:

(i) To extend the duration of project FP/8102-86-02 (2676), entitled "Support to the regional co-operation project for the implementation of the environmental training network for Latin America and the Caribbean";

(ii) To incorporate the training components of the regional environmental programmes and projects into the General Programme of the Network and co-ordinate them through their Regional Co-ordination Mechanisms;

(iii) To continue supporting the Regional Co-ordination Mechanism, so that it can effectively fulfil the functions assigned to it by the Network Advisory Committee;

(iv) To contribute to the support of the Regional Co-ordination Mechanism, should the Government of Mexico discontinue its generous contribution and if a formula for financing by the countries has not been established;

(f) To advise Governments of how to obtain financial resources from the clearing-house mechanism and from other international organizations to support the umbrella projects and the national sub-projects;

(g) To ensure that all future requests for new projects and activities which the United Nations Environment Programme may promote in the region are considered within the regional co-operation system on environmental matters which the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean have been establishing through their intergovernmental regional meetings;

(h) To ensure that requests for new regional projects and activities which are supported by the United Nations Environment Programme are considered to be within the scope of priority of the Intergovernmental Regional Co-operation System on Environmental Matters which the Governments have been establishing through their intergovernmental regional meetings;

(i) To take into account the interest of the region in a new regional programme of common interest on environmental management and utilization of agricultural and agro-industrial residues, as well as a new subregional programme on the management of grassland ecosystems in temperate subhumid and humid zones;

(j) To continue with the Governments that have made progress in this field to promote the systemization of environmental legislation by means of national digests and the operation of data banks in the countries of the region interested in this field;

(k) To give special attention to research programmes that will respond to the numerous questions about the behaviour of environmental systems and that will work towards the creation of methodological instruments for assessing environmental impact and for economic analysis;

(l) To arrange for the drawing up of simple and practical instructions that may serve as a model for Governments of the region for dissemination at all levels, to prevent the irreparable and irreversible destruction of original species or seeds with genetic potential;

(m) To ensure that these instructions include information on suitable drying, freezing and culture methods in order to supplement the methodologies of the gene banks of each country and of each geographic region, so as to assist in providing future generations with an inexhaustable source of possibilities that can be used with existing genetic engineering technology and with new technology that will undoubtedly appear in the future;

(n) To continue supporting the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations/ United Nations Environment Programme project on the management of wildlands, protected areas and wildlife, in accordance with the guidelines of the present project, which includes training, support for the Latin American Network of Technical Co-operation for the Protection of National Parks, Other Protected Areas and Wild Flora and Fauna, technical co-operation and information bulletins on the subject, including activities in the following matters:

- (i) Harmonization of the relations between the objectives of the protected areas and those of the inhabitants of such areas, local societies and economies;
- (ii) Relationship between the management of protected areas and that of neighbouring wildland areas;
- (iii) Operational and methodological co-ordination in the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage in protected areas where both exist.

15th meeting  
18 June 1987

UNEP/GC/DEC/14/25. Environmental impact assessment

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* part two, section B III, of its decision 11/7 of 24 May 1983, section III of its decision 12/14 of 28 May 1984, and section III C of its decision 13/18 of 24 May 1985,

*Noting with appreciation* that, in accordance with the above-mentioned decisions, the Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law has developed the Goals and Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment, <sup>51/</sup>

*Mindful* that the environmental impacts of development activities, which may on occasion reach beyond national boundaries, can significantly affect the sustainability of such activities,

*Convinced* that the integration of environmental and natural resources issues into planning and programme implementation is indispensable in a process of sustainable development,

*Considering* that environmental impact assessment is a valuable means of promoting the integration of environmental and natural resources issues into planning and programme implementation and thereby helps to avoid potential adverse impacts,

<sup>51/</sup> UNEP/GC.14/17, annex III.

1. *Adopts* the Goals and Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment as developed by the Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law;

2. *Decides* that, with the development of the Goals and Principles, the task of the Working Group in this field is satisfactorily completed;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to bring the Goals and Principles, together with the report of the Working Group, to the attention of all States and relevant international organizations, including multilateral development banks, and that, in doing so, he should inform them of the recommendation of the Governing Council that the Goals and Principles should be considered for use as a basis for preparing appropriate national measures, including legislation, and for international co-operation in the field of environmental impact assessment, including further international agreements, where appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Director to this end:

(a) To assist States, as appropriate, in implementing the Goals and Principles;

(b) To conduct a survey of States and relevant international organizations on their experience in applying the Goals and Principles;

(c) To investigate measures which could be undertaken to further international co-operation and agreement in the field including the application of environmental impact assessment to development projects with possible transboundary environmental effects;

(d) To report to the Governing Council at its next regular session on these matters;

5. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it should endorse the Goals and Principles and the recommendations of the Governing Council regarding their application.

14th meeting  
17 June 1987

#### UNEP/GC/DEC/14/34. Trust funds and other funds

*The Governing Council,*

*Having considered* the reports of the Executive Director on the management of trust funds 52/ and other funds, 53/

1. *Takes note* of the reports on the management of trust funds and other funds;

2. *Expresses* its appreciation to Governments that have paid contributions due to the various trust funds on time;

3. *Urges* Governments to pay their contributions to trust funds at the beginning of the year to which they relate or earlier;

4. *Confirms* the action of the Executive Director in obtaining the consent of the Secretary-General for the establishment of and then establishing the Trust Fund for the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals on an interim basis;

52/ UNEP/GC.14/2, chap. V, paras. 43-77, UNEP/GC.14/3/Add.1, chap. I, paras. 34-79 and UNEP/GC.14/23.

53/ UNEP/GC.14/2, chap. V, paras. 78-80, UNEP/GC.14/3/Add.1, chap. I, paras. 80-84.

5. *Approves* the extension of general trust funds established under the rules of the Environment Fund, subject to the approval of the United Nations Secretary-General, as follows:

(a) Regional Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of Bahrain, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates - until 30 June 1989;

(b) Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution - until 31 December 1989;

(c) Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme - until 31 December 1989;

(d) Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the East Asian Seas - until 31 December 1989.

(e) Trust Fund for the Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals - 31 December 1991.

6. *Approves*, on a contingency basis, subject to the consent of the Secretary-General, the extension of the following general trust funds, should the Governments concerned so request:

(a) Trust Fund for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora - until 31 December 1991, subject to confirmation of a request in that sense by the Sixth Conference of Contracting Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, to be held in July 1987;

(b) Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the West and Central African Region - until 31 December 1989, subject to confirmation of a request in that sense by the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention in 1988;

(c) Regional Seas Trust Fund for the Eastern African Region - until 31 December 1989, subject to confirmation of a request in that sense by the Intergovernmental Meeting late in 1987.

7. *Takes note* of the establishment by the Executive Director, under authority delegated to him by the Secretary-General, of technical co-operation trust funds as follows:

(a) Technical Co-operation Trust Fund for Control of Environmental Health Hazards and Promotion of Chemical Safety, financed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany;

(b) Technical Co-operation Trust Fund to Support the clearing-house Mechanism through Provision of Consultancies on Strategies for Dealing with Serious Environment Problems, financed by the Government of the Kingdom of Norway;

(c) Technical Co-operation Trust Fund to Provide Consultancies to Developing Countries, financed by the Government of the Republic of Finland;

(d) Technical Co-operation Trust Fund to Provide Experts to the Secretariat of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, financed by the Government of the Republic of Finland;

(e) Special Purpose Trust Fund for the Provision of Junior Professional Officers, financed by the Government of Japan.

13th meeting  
16 June 1987

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
(Nairobi, 14-18 March 1988)

SS.I/4 Regional and subregional programmes in  
Latin America and the Caribbean

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* its decisions 13/21 of 23 May 1985, 13/32 of 24 May 1985 and 14/21 of 18 June 1987,

*Taking into account* the results of the Extraordinary Intergovernmental Meeting of the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the South-East Pacific, held at Bogota in April 1987, and of the XIX Regular Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, held at Quito in December 1987,

*Noting* that the medium-term plan of the United Nations Environment Programme for the period 1990-1995 <sup>54/</sup> includes among its objectives the continuation and enhancement of regional and interregional co-operation in the management of marine regions,

*Bearing in mind* that the system-wide medium-term environment programme for the period 1990-1995 <sup>55/</sup> also includes among its objectives the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of regional marine environments and the achievement of the sustainable use of the resources of marine regions,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Environment Programme for its involvement with and support for the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the South-East Pacific and the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme;

2. *Decides* that in developing the medium-term plan of the United Nations Environment Programme for the period 1990-1995, priority should continue to be given, within the oceans and coastal areas programme, to the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the South-East Pacific and the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue providing technical and financial support, within available resources, for activities under the South-East Pacific Action Plan and the Caribbean Action Plan.

7th meeting  
18 March 1988

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<sup>54/</sup> UNEP/GCSS.I/3 and Corr.1.

<sup>55/</sup> UNEP/GCSS.I/2 and Corr.1 and 2.

***ANNEXE***

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON THE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME  
DOCUMENT UNEP/GC.6/7 (EXTRACTS)**

REGIONAL SEAS PROGRAMME  
(Budget sub-line 0503)

A. LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

331. The Action Plan adopted by the Stockholm Conference included a number of recommendations on the condition of the marine environment. <sup>1/</sup>

332. The Governing Council of UNEP decided, by decision 8 A(II), sect. 1, para. 4(b), that priority should be given to regional activities in dealing with marine environmental problems.

333. The objectives and strategies for the area of oceans and marine living resources were endorsed by the Governing Council at its third <sup>2/</sup> and fourth <sup>3/</sup> sessions as follows:

(a) Objectives

To work out and support the implementation of plans for arresting pollution of the oceans and closed or semi-closed seas, and for managing aquatic living resources to ensure that the best use is made of them, and to make efforts to ensure that environmental considerations are taken into account at the Law of the Sea Conference;

(b) Summary of strategy

- (i) Assessment of the state of pollution and of living resources;
- (ii) Monitoring of marine pollution and aquatic living resources;
- (iii) Promotion of international and regional conventions, guidelines and action for the control of marine pollution and for the protection and management of aquatic marine resources;
- (iv) Exchange of information on marine pollution and aquatic resources;
- (v) Support for education and training efforts that should enhance the participation of developing nations.

334. At its fourth session, the Governing Council received a detailed report on progress in the Mediterranean region <sup>4/</sup> and a Level One review on oceans. <sup>5/</sup> By decision 47(IV), section 1, paragraph 3, the Council decided that priority should be given to implementing the comprehensive plan for the protection of the Mediterranean and initiating preparatory work towards similar activities for other important regional seas, particularly the Persian Gulf, the Caribbean and the West African coastal region.

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<sup>1/</sup> Recommendations 86 to 94. See also annex III of the report of the Conference (United Nations publication, sales No. E.73.II.A.14), "General principles for assessment and control of marine pollution", in particular principle 9: "States should join together regionally to concert their policies and adopt measures in common to prevent the pollution of the areas which for geographical or ecological reasons form a natural entity and an integrated whole".

<sup>2/</sup> Decision 29(III), para. 1.

<sup>3/</sup> Decision 50(IV), para.3.

<sup>4/</sup> UNEP/GC/61, paras. 370-394.

<sup>5/</sup> UNEP/GC/62, chapter III.

335. An inter-agency meeting held in Paris in June 1976, and attended by representatives of the Oceans Economic and Technology Office, Unesco, IOC, FAO, IMCO, WHO, UNIDO, IAEA and UNEP, developed guidelines and principles for the development of comprehensive action plans for the protection of regional seas through environmentally sound development. Under these guidelines, each plan would contain activities relating to each of the three functional tasks of the environment programme: environmental assessment, environmental management and supporting measures. <sup>6/</sup>

336. At its fifth session, the Governing Council approved as one of UNEP's goals for 1982:

"Adoption and implementation of action plans for each of the regional seas covered by UNEP programme".

The Council also invited the Executive Director to support action related to the eventual preparation of an action plan for the protection of the marine environments of the Gulf of Guinea (decision 88 C(V)) and the South East Asian Seas (decision 88 D(V)), and approved the Executive Director's intention to establish a programme activity centre for regional seas. <sup>7/</sup>

...

#### D. PROPOSALS TO AMEND APPROVED OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

396. Experience to date suggests that:

(a) The regional action plans should be developed in co-operation with the Governments concerned, taking into account their needs and priorities;

(b) The elements of action plans should be conceived as mutually dependent, and together providing environmentally sound management-tools based on realistic assessment of the state of the environment, of the needs and priorities of the region and of the socio-economic feasibility of implementing the elements;

(c) The action plans should contain a large training component, technical and legal assistance (including experts), and a mechanism for data evaluation.

397. In the light of the above, the Executive Director proposes that the approved objective and strategy should be replaced by the following:

##### (a) Objective

To develop comprehensive action plans for the protection and development of specific regional seas areas for consideration by Governments concerned and to support their implementation;

##### (b) Summary of strategy

(i) Assessment of the state, sources and trends of marine pollution and its impact on human health, marine ecosystems resources and amenities;

(ii) Co-ordination of, and support for, environmental management efforts in the protection, development and exploitation of marine and coastal area resources;

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<sup>6/</sup> For a fuller explanation, see UNEP/GC/90, footnote 200.

<sup>7/</sup> See also FP/0503/77-03; UNEP/FUND/PROJECTS/A.42; UNEP/GC/90, para. 516.

- (iii) Assistance to interested Governments in the implementation of existing conventions and promotion of new international and regional conventions, guidelines and actions to control marine pollution and protect and manage marine and coastal area resources;
  - (iv) Support for education and training efforts to enhance the participation of developing countries in the protection, development and management of marine and coastal area resources;
  - (v) Exchange of information on the protection, development and management of marine and coastal area resources.
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