



Twenty-first session
Agenda item 94

DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Georg REISCH (Austria)

1. The General Assembly, at its 1415th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1966, allocated to the Second Committee agenda item 94 entitled "Development of natural resources".
2. The Committee considered this item at its 1060th and 1062nd-1065th meetings, held between 7 and 9 November 1966.
3. In considering this item, the Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/6460) and the report of the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session.^{1/}
4. The Committee also had before it two draft resolutions, the first on the exploitation of the resources of the sea, the text of which is reproduced in section I below; and the second on the survey programme for the development of natural resources, the text of which is reproduced in section II below.

I

5. The draft resolution on the resources of the sea, submitted by Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Iceland, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, the

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/6303), chapter VII.

Philippines, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Arab Republic and the United States of America (A/C.2/L.882 and Corr.1), read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recognizing the need for a greater knowledge of the oceans which cover 71 per cent of the earth's surface and of the opportunities available for the utilization of their resources, living and mineral,

"Realizing that the effective exploitation and development of these resources can raise the economic level of peoples throughout the world, and in particular, of the developing countries,

"Taking into account activities in the field of resources of the sea presently being undertaken by the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other inter-governmental organizations concerned, various Governments, universities, scientific and technological institutions and interested private organizations,

"Considering the need to maximize international co-operative efforts for the further development of marine science and technology in order to avoid duplication or overlapping of efforts in this field,

"1. Endorses resolution 1112 (XL) adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 7 March 1966 requesting the Secretary-General to make a survey of the present state of knowledge of the resources of the sea other than fish;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, other inter-governmental organizations concerned, and the Governments of interested Member States, and utilizing, inter alia, such voluntary services as may be offered, to undertake, in addition to the survey requested by the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive survey of activities in marine science and technology undertaken by members of the United Nations family of organizations, various Member States and inter-governmental organizations concerned;

"3. Invites the Secretary-General, in the light of such comprehensive survey and with the assistance of a small group of experts, to formulate proposals for:

(a) Ensuring the most effective international arrangements for an expanded programme of international co-operation to assist in better understanding of the marine environment through marine science and the exploitation and development of marine resources, with due regard to the preservation of fish stocks;

(b) Initiating and strengthening marine education and training programmes, bearing in mind the close inter-relationship between marine and other sciences;

"4. Requests that the survey and proposals prepared by the Secretary-General be submitted to the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development for its comments;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit his survey and proposals, together with the comments of the Advisory Committee, to the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council."

The representative of the United States, on behalf of the sponsors, introduced the draft resolution at the 1062nd meeting.

6. At the same meeting, the representative of Malta introduced an amendment (A/C.2/L.888), proposing the following changes in the draft resolution:

(a) In operative paragraph 1 the word "Endorses" would be replaced by the word "Notes";

(b) Operative paragraph 2 would be replaced by the following text:

"Requests the Economic and Social Council to evaluate the potential benefits of a survey of the present state of knowledge of the resources of the sea other than fish in the light of present and prospective resources of the United Nations system and of present and prospective activities in the field of natural resources of organizations within the United Nations system;"

(c) Operative paragraph 3 would be deleted;

(d) Operative paragraph 4 would be replaced by the following text:

"Invites the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development to appraise the potential benefits of the proposed survey and to transmit its comments thereon to the Economic and Social Council.";

(e) Operative paragraph 5 would be deleted.

7. At the 1063rd meeting, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics introduced an amendment (A/C.2/L.889), proposing the following changes in the draft resolution:

(a) The following new paragraph would be inserted between the second and third paragraphs of the preamble:

"Recognizing with great satisfaction the important progress achieved in joint international action to explore the ocean and its resources, thanks

to the successful activity of the Intergovernmental Oceanography Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,";

(b) In the third paragraph of the preamble, the word "also" would be inserted after the words "Taking into account";

(c) Operative paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5 would be deleted and replaced by the following paragraphs:

"2. Requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's Intergovernmental Oceanography Commission, in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Meteorological Organization and other interested inter-governmental and national institutions, to survey the activities in the field of oceanographic science and technology being carried on by members of the United Nations family, various Member States and other interested international organizations with a view to:

(a) The formulation of proposals for ensuring the most effective international co-operation in the exploration and development of the resources of the sea;

(b) The establishment and expansion of educational programmes and programmes to train personnel for oceanographic science, bearing in mind the close interrelationship between oceanographic and other sciences.

"3. Further requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's Intergovernmental Oceanography Commission to submit its proposals through the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Economic and Social Council to the United Nations General Assembly at its twenty-third session."

8. At the same meeting, the representative of Malta stated that he would not press his amendments (see paragraph 6 above) to the vote.

9. At the 1064th meeting, the sponsors, now joined by Jamaica, submitted a revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.882/Rev.1), which included the following changes:

(a) In the first paragraph of the preamble, the words "which cover 71 per cent of the earth's surface" were deleted;

(b) The third paragraph of the preamble was reworded as follows:

"Taking into account with appreciation the activities in the field of resources of the sea presently being undertaken by the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and in particular the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization, the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and

Technology to Development and other inter-governmental organizations concerned, various Governments, universities, scientific and technological institutions and other interested organizations,";

(c) In operative paragraph 1, the words "on 7 March 1966" were deleted, and the words "other than fish" were replaced by the words "beyond the continental shelf, excluding fish, and of the techniques for exploiting these resources";

(d) Operative paragraph 2 was reworded to read as follows:

"2. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and in particular the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization, other inter-governmental organizations concerned, and the Governments of interested Member States, and utilizing, inter alia, such voluntary services as may be offered, to undertake, in addition to the survey requested by the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive survey of activities in marine science and technology, including that relating to mineral resources development undertaken by members of the United Nations family or organizations, various Member States and inter-governmental organizations concerned, as well as universities, scientific and technological institutes and other interested organizations;"

(e) Operative paragraph 3 was reworded to read as follows:

"3. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in particular the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the Food and Agriculture Organization and in the light of such a comprehensive survey to formulate proposals for:

(a) Ensuring the most effective arrangements for an expanded programme of international co-operation to assist in better understanding of the marine environment through science and the exploitation and development of marine resources, with due regard to the conservation of fish stocks;

(b) Initiating and strengthening marine education and training programmes, bearing in mind the close inter-relationship between marine and other sciences;"

(f) A new operative paragraph was inserted after operative paragraph 3 and the following paragraphs were renumbered. The new paragraph read as follows:

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to set up a small group of experts to assist him in the preparation of the comprehensive survey and the formulation of the proposals referred to in operative paragraph 3 above;"

10. At the same meeting, the sponsors made the following additional oral changes in the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.882/Rev.1):

(a) In the third paragraph of the preamble and in operative paragraphs 2 and 3, the words "and, in particular, the Inter-governmental Committee on Fisheries" were inserted after the words "the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations";

(b) In the fourth paragraph of the preamble, the words "in order to avoid duplication" were changed to read "and to avoid duplication";

(c) In the new operative paragraph 4 (see sub-paragraph 9 (f) above), the words "selected, where possible, from the specialized agencies and inter-governmental organizations concerned" were inserted after the words "a small group of experts".

11. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics withdrew his amendment (see paragraph 7 above).

12. A statement by the Secretary-General on the financial implications of the draft resolution was circulated to the Committee in document A/C.2/L.890.

13. The Committee then voted on the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.882/Rev.1), as orally revised, as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 1, on which a separate vote had been requested by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, was retained by 89 votes to none, with 2 abstentions;

(b) Operative paragraph 4, on which a separate vote had been requested by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, was retained by 74 votes to 10, with 13 abstentions;

(c) The draft resolution, as a whole, as orally revised, was adopted by 87 votes to none, with 12 abstentions (see paragraph 20 below, draft resolution I).

II

14. The draft resolution on the survey programme for the development of natural resources, submitted by Austria, Algeria, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, India, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, Tunisia, Turkey and the United Arab Republic (A/C.2/L.883), read as follows:

/...

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1113 (XL) of 7 March 1966 and 1127 (XLI) of 26 July 1966 regarding the development of natural resources,

"Expressing its appreciation of the initiative taken by the Secretary-General in submitting to the Economic and Social Council a five-year programme of nine selected natural resources surveys, as outlined in document E/4132,

"1. Notes with satisfaction the progress made by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, the group of experts consulted by the Secretary-General and the Economic and Social Council in the evolution of a long-term survey programme in the field of natural resources;

"2. Endorses the continuing study by the Economic and Social Council of the means of implementing a five-year survey programme for the development of non-agricultural resources, intended to strengthen the economic base and economic independence of the developing countries."

The representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the sponsors, introduced the draft resolution at the 1060th meeting.

15. At the 1062nd meeting, the representative of Poland introduced an amendment (A/C.2/L.887), proposing the following changes in the draft resolution:

- (a) In the second paragraph of the preamble, the word "nine" would be deleted;
- (b) In operative paragraph 2, the words "in general" would be inserted after the word "Endorses";
- (c) A new operative paragraph would be added after paragraph 2, to read as follows:

"Requests the Secretary-General to revise a five-year programme of natural resources surveys so as to include surveys on petroleum and natural gas and delete those of a lesser practical importance."

16. At the 1063rd meeting, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the sponsors, now joined by Syria, revised the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.883/Rev.1), by adding a new operative paragraph (paragraph 3), which read as follows:

"3. Invites the Secretary-General to study the technical and financial implications of carrying out surveys of petroleum and natural gas resources in the developing countries and to submit specific proposals in this regard to the Economic and Social Council."

17. The representative of Poland withdrew his amendment (see paragraph 15 above).
18. At the 1064th meeting, the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic introduced an amendment (A/C.2/L.891), proposing that the following new operative paragraph be inserted after paragraph 1:

"2. Recommends that the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme should prepare, for consideration by the Governing Council, proposals concerning participation by the United Nations Development Programme in carrying out the surveys referred to in document E/4132, taking into account the observations made in the Second Committee at the twenty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly."

19. At the same meeting, the Committee voted on the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.883/Rev.1) and the amendment thereto, as follows:

(a) The amendment of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/C.2/L.891) was rejected by 14 votes to 28, with 53 abstentions;

(b) Operative paragraph 3, on which a separate vote had been requested by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was adopted by 83 votes to none, with 7 abstentions;

(c) The revised draft resolution as a whole (A/C.2/L.883/Rev.1) was adopted unanimously (see paragraph 20 below, draft resolution II).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

20. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Resources of the sea

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the need for a greater knowledge of the oceans and of the opportunities available for the utilization of their resources, living and mineral,

Realizing that the effective exploitation and development of these resources can raise the economic level of peoples throughout the world, and in particular of the developing countries,

Taking into account with appreciation the activities in the field of resources of the sea at present being undertaken by the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, particularly its Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, particularly its Inter-Governmental Committee on Fisheries, the World Meteorological Organization, the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development and other inter-governmental organizations concerned, various Governments, universities, scientific and technological institutions and other interested organizations,

Considering the need to maximize international co-operative efforts for the further development of marine science and technology and to avoid duplication or overlapping of efforts in this field,

1. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1112 (XL) requesting the Secretary-General to make a survey of the present state of knowledge of the resources of the sea beyond the continental shelf, excluding fish, and of the techniques for exploiting these resources;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, particularly its Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, particularly its Inter-Governmental Committee on Fisheries, the World Meteorological Organization, other inter-governmental organizations concerned, and the Governments of interested Member States, and utilizing, inter alia, such voluntary services as may be offered, to undertake, in addition to the survey requested by the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive survey of activities

in marine science and technology, including that relating to mineral resources development undertaken by members of the United Nations family of organizations, various Member States and inter-governmental organizations concerned, as well as universities, scientific and technological institutes and other interested organizations;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, particularly its Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, particularly its Inter-Governmental Committee on Fisheries, and in the light of such a comprehensive survey, to formulate proposals for:

(a) Ensuring the most effective arrangements for an expanded programme of international co-operation to assist in a better understanding of the marine environment through science and the exploitation and development of marine resources, with due regard to the conservation of fish stocks;

(b) Initiating and strengthening marine education and training programmes, bearing in mind the close interrelationship between marine and other sciences;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to set up a small group of experts to be selected, where possible, from the specialized agencies and inter-governmental organizations concerned, to assist him in the preparation of the comprehensive survey and the formulation of the proposals referred to in paragraph 3 above;

5. Requests that the survey and proposals prepared by the Secretary-General be submitted to the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development for its comments;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit his survey and proposals, together with the comments of the Advisory Committee, to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Survey programme for the development of natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1113 (XL) of 7 March 1966 and 1127 (XLI) of 26 July 1966 regarding the development of natural resources,

Expressing its appreciation of the initiative taken by the Secretary-General in submitting to the Economic and Social Council a five-year programme of nine selected natural resources surveys, as outlined in document E/4132,

1. Notes with satisfaction the progress made by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, the group of experts consulted by the Secretary-General and the Economic and Social Council in the evolution of a long-term survey programme in the field of natural resources;

2. Endorses the continuing study by the Economic and Social Council of the means of implementing a five-year survey programme for the development of non-agricultural resources, intended to strengthen the economic base and the economic independence of the developing countries;

3. Invites the Secretary-General to study the technical and financial implications of carrying out surveys of petroleum and natural gas resources in the developing countries and to submit specific proposals on this subject to the Economic and Social Council.
