

developed and developing countries, bearing in mind trends in the energy markets;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1992.

*71st plenary meeting
21 December 1990*

45/210. Environment and international trade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Affirming decision 384 (XXXVII) of 12 October 1990 of the Trade and Development Board, entitled "UNCTAD's contribution, within its mandate, to sustainable development",⁷⁹

Also affirming decision 1/25 of 31 August 1990 of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, entitled "Environment and development",⁷⁷

Reaffirming the statement on sustainable development contained in annex II to decision 15/2 of 26 May 1989 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,⁷⁸

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and relevant United Nations bodies, taking into account the relevant parts of Trade and Development Board decision 384 (XXXVII) and the work done by international organizations and in other relevant forums and in conformity with General Assembly resolution 44/228, in which it was stated that environmental concerns and considerations are crucial to achieving sustainable development for all countries but should not serve as a pretext for creating unjustified barriers to trade, to prepare a comprehensive analytical study, to be submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its third session, on the present situation and future trends regarding the relationship between environmental issues and international trade and covering, *inter alia*, the following subjects:

(a) The consideration of trade and environment, in the light of the analysis requested of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in paragraph 5 of Trade and Development Board decision 384 (XXXVII) concerning the issue of sustainable development, in particular the reduction of poverty and its interface with policies and mechanisms in environmentally sensitive sectors, such as agriculture, energy, industry and transport, as well as with relevant structural policies, such as those related to the enterprise sector;

⁷⁷ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 46 (A/45/46)*, annex I.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, *Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/44/25)*, annex I.

(b) Adjustment of the Trade Control Measures Information System of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to monitor environmental regulations for possible protectionism and to monitor non-tariff measures that have a bearing on the environment, in accordance with paragraph 6 of Trade and Development Board decision 384 (XXXVII);

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to consult the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and relevant United Nations organs, organizations and programmes in preparing the report on transfer of technology requested in decision 1/8 of 30 August 1990, adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its first substantive session,² for submission to the third session of the Preparatory Committee, including an examination of the obstacles on both the importing and exporting sides that impede the transfer of environmentally sound technologies.

*71st plenary meeting
21 December 1990*

45/211. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on its organizational session, held in New York from 5 to 16 March 1990,⁷⁹

Having considered the report of the Preparatory Committee on its first session, held at Nairobi from 6 to 31 August 1990,⁸⁰

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

2. *Stresses* the fundamental interrelationship between environment and development, and reiterates the need to integrate and keep the balance between the environmental and developmental dimensions during the entire preparatory process and during the Conference, and the need for cross-sectoral issues to be fully integrated into that work;

3. *Endorses* the decisions contained in the report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on its organizational session;⁷⁹

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its first session and endorses the decisions contained therein;⁸¹

5. *Decides* that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development shall take place at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 1 to 12 June 1992;

6. *Urges* that representation at the Conference be at the level of head of State or Government;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to issue invitations to all States Members of the

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 48 (A/44/48)*.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, *Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 46 (A/45/46)*.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*, annex I.

United Nations or members of the specialized agencies and observers, in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments that have contributed to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and invites Governments to contribute urgently and generously to the Fund in order that the operation of the Fund may enable developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to participate fully and effectively in the Conference and in its preparatory process, in accordance with section II, paragraph 15, of resolution 44/228;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme and other organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to give full support to the preparatory process for the Conference and assist the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the implementation of the work programme, in conformity with resolution 44/228;

10. *Requests* the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to extend full co-operation to developing countries in order to ensure that appropriate preparations for the forthcoming sessions of the Preparatory Committee are made, in particular in all aspects relating to linkages between environment and development, including the identification of concrete measures and action to ensure that these issues are treated in a balanced and integrated way;

11. *Endorses* Preparatory Committee decision 1/7 of 29 August 1990 concerning the dates of the second and third sessions of the Preparatory Committee;⁸¹

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to ensure the timely submission to the Preparatory Committee at its second and third sessions of the reports requested at its first session;

13. *Takes note* of the provisions of Preparatory Committee decision 1/1 of 14 August 1990⁸¹ and authorizes the Preparatory Committee, without prejudice to the provisions of resolution 44/228, to continue to apply, for the purpose of the preparatory process, the provisional arrangements agreed upon in that decision concerning the participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process;

14. *Reiterates* that the Preparatory Committee shall review and assess ongoing negotiating processes in the field of the environment, and invites the forums involved in such processes to report regularly on their activities to the Preparatory Committee at its forthcoming sessions, in accordance with the guidelines and requirements established by the Preparatory Committee.

*71st plenary meeting
21 December 1990*

45/212. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988 and 44/207 of 22 December 1989, in which it recognized that climate change is a common concern of mankind,

and urging Governments and, as appropriate, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and scientific institutions, to collaborate in a concerted effort with the aim of preparing, as a matter of urgency, a framework convention on climate change, and other related instruments, containing appropriate commitments for action to combat climate change and its adverse effects, taking into account the most up-to-date, sound scientific knowledge and any existing uncertainties, as well as the particular needs and development priorities of developing countries,

Recalling also its resolution 44/206 of 22 December 1989 on the possible adverse effects of sea-level rise on islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas,

Recalling further its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and of the Executive Council of the World Meteorological Organization,

Taking note also of the recommendations and decisions of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, adopted at its organizational session⁷⁹ and at its first session,⁸⁰

Noting the important work accomplished by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which has completed its first assessment report,

Noting also the relevant conclusions and recommendations on climate change adopted at various intergovernmental meetings during 1990,

Noting further the fact that the largest part of the current emission of pollutants into the environment originates in developed countries, and recognizing therefore that those countries have the main responsibility for combating such pollution,

Welcoming the fact that several countries and a regional economic integration organization have already taken measures or made specific commitments to address the problem of climate change and its effects through the stabilization and/or reduction of environmentally harmful emissions of greenhouse gases, and that other countries are contemplating doing so,

Noting that, pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 44/207, resolution 4 (EC-XLII) of 22 June 1990 of the Executive Council of the World Meteorological Organization and decision SS.II/3 of 3 August 1990, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its second special session,⁸² an *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Government Representatives to prepare for negotiations on a framework convention on climate change met at Geneva from 24 to 26 September 1990 and adopted a number of recommendations,⁸³

Recognizing the continuing need for scientific research into the sources and effects of climate change and its possible adverse impact, including the socio-economic consequences, and the effectiveness of possible response strategies, and recognizing also the import-

⁸² *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 25 (A/45/25), annex.

⁸³ A/45/696, annex I.