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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 77 (f)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

Mauritania: draft resolution

Combating desertification and drought

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, by which it approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 1/ and all its subsequent resolutions on the subject,

Recalling also its resolutions of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and 45/212 of 21 December 1990 on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Welcoming the decision of the Chairman of Working Group I of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to visit the field for an evaluation of the effect of, and activities to combat, desertification,

1. Reaffirms its resolutions 44/172 A and B of 19 December 1989, concerning the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, in which the Assembly invited the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, through its Preparatory Committee, to accord high priority to desertification control;

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

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in 1989 and 1990, including its implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region, 2/ and requests the Secretary-General to forward that report, as well as the report requested by the Assembly in paragraph 7 of its resolution 44/172 A, 3/ to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its fourth session;

3. Endorses decisions 16/22 A to E of 31 May 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, 4/ and decision 91/41 of 25 June 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme; 5/

4. Also endorses decision 3/16 of 4 September 1991 of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, 6/ in which the Committee requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to submit to the Committee at its fourth session a report on the financial, technical and institutional needs to implement effectively and efficiently the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification control;

5. Welcomes the priority that will be given to the consideration of desertification by the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session;

6. Congratulates the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office for the continued and substantial technical and financial assistance it has given to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region at the national and regional level, in their preparations for the Conference, and encourages the Office to continue and intensify its assistance in that area until the holding of the Conference and its follow-up;

7. Invites the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, within the framework of United Nations Development Programme round tables and/or the World Bank consultative group, to assist the Governments of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region in organizing sectoral/thematic round tables in order to mobilize adequate resources for the protection and sound management of natural resources to arrest and reverse the process of desertification;

2/ A/46/380-E/1991/142.

3/ A/46/157-E/1991/55.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/46/25), annex.

5/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34), annex I.

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/46/48), vol. II, annex I.

8. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, on an exceptional basis, on any requirements to implement those decisions.

