



General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.74
25 November 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 77 (e)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
ENVIRONMENT

Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia,
Fiji, Guatemala, Malaysia, New Zealand, Paraguay,
Philippines, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia:
draft resolution

Environment and agricultural protectionist policies

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/186 of 11 December 1987 on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond and resolution 44/227 of 22 December 1989 on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187,

Reaffirming its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and its resolution 44/229 of 22 December 1989 on international cooperation in the field of the environment,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/53 of 26 July 1991, on food and agriculture, in which it was recognized that if the challenges of increasing food production and productivity and food security are to be met in developing countries, sustainable agricultural development in all countries should be promoted by new initiatives and sound national policies,

Welcoming the increasing attention being accorded to the relationship between agricultural protectionist policies and the environment,

Welcoming also the Conference on Agriculture and the Environment, held at Hertogenbosch, Netherlands, from 5 to 19 April 1991, organized by the Government of the Netherlands and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the

United Nations, and the Den Bosch Declaration and Agenda for Action on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, 1/

Recalling Trade and Development Board resolution 393 (XXXVIII) of 4 October 1991 entitled "The contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, to sustainable development", 2/

1. Invites the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, at its fourth session, to take fully into consideration, particularly in the context of Agenda 21, the relationship between protectionist agricultural policies and the environment, including the current situation and future trends of the following aspects of this relationship:

(a) Policies of agricultural protection adopted by high-cost-producing countries, which not only encourage production patterns that are environmentally and economically unsustainable but also place pressure on efficient farmers in other countries to adopt agricultural practices that are less sustainable environmentally to compensate for low export returns, resulting in potential ecological damage;

(b) The impact, on the local and global environment, of agricultural protectionist policies that encourage environmentally unsustainable agricultural practices;

(c) The impact of unsustainable agricultural practices, which needs to be studied from the technical and quantitative point of view, in order that the relationship between protectionist agricultural policies and damage to the environment, both locally and globally, can be examined and measured;

2. Calls for international cooperative programmes that should be developed and used to support Action on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development initiatives in the area of international trade in order to improve market access and ensure fair prices, with a view to promoting sound economic growth and sustainable development in the low-cost-producing countries, particularly the developing ones;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community, intergovernmental organizations and relevant institutions with expertise in the field of sustainable agriculture in order to facilitate an exchange of information on this matter;

1/ CL 99/23, appendix A.

2/ See A/46/15 (Vol. II), chap. II (A).

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to prepare, in close cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and taking into account the outcome of United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and other relevant international negotiations, a comprehensive analytical report on the issue indicated in paragraph 1 above for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session an item entitled "Environment and agricultural protectionist policies".
