

Decides to renew the existing mandate of the Group, contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/67, and to extend its duration from three years to five years so that paragraph 4 (h) of that resolution reads:

“That the Commission on Transnational Corporations, at its annual session, shall keep under review the work of the Group; in particular, it shall review the mandate, terms of reference and achievements of the Group after five years, with a view to deciding on the advisability of its continuation;”.

*31st plenary meeting
26 July 1991*

1991/57. Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1983/7 of 26 May 1983, 1985/9 of 28 May 1985, 1986/66 of 23 July 1986, 1987/54 of 28 May 1987 and 1989/104 of 27 July 1989,

Noting the ever-increasing volume of dangerous goods in worldwide commerce and the rapid expansion of technology and innovation,

Bearing in mind the continuing need to meet the growing concern for the protection of life, property and the environment through the safe transport of dangerous goods while facilitating trade,

Aware that, in order to achieve internationally harmonized laws, the specialized agencies and other international organizations and interested Member States are committed to taking the recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods as a basis for the formulation of their requirements and regulations and therefore rely on the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the increasing need for cooperation with other international bodies, such as the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization and the European Economic Community, involved in activities related to the transport of dangerous goods,

Reaffirming the desirability of widening the decision-making base of the Committee by encouraging the participation of developing countries and other non-member countries in its future work,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 1989-1990³³ and of the new and amended recommendations approved by the Committee for inclusion in its existing recommendations;³⁴

³³ E/1991/68.

³⁴ See ST/SG/AC.10/17 and Add.1-a.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To incorporate in the existing recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods all the new and amended recommendations approved by the Committee at its sixteenth session;

(b) To publish the new and amended recommendations in all the official languages of the United Nations, in the most cost-effective manner, not later than the end of 1991;

(c) To circulate the new and amended recommendations immediately after their publication to the Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned;

3. *Invites* all Governments, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned to transmit to the Secretary-General their views on the Committee's work, together with any comments they may wish to make on the amended recommendations;

4. *Invites* all interested Governments and the international organizations concerned, when developing appropriate codes and regulations, to take full account of the recommendations of the Committee;

5. *Recommends once again* that adequate funding be provided to support the work of the Committee as indicated in the report of the Committee on its sixteenth session, if possible by setting up a special fund;³⁵

6. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to make available, within existing resources, the staff necessary for the adequate servicing of the Committee, namely one additional Professional and one additional General Service post, and regrets that the requests made in its resolutions 1983/7, 1985/9, 1986/66, 1987/54 and 1989/104 have not yet been met;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council in 1993 on the implementation of the present resolution.

*31st plenary meeting
26 July 1991*

1991/58. International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 42/169 of 11 December 1987, 43/202 of 20 December 1988, 44/236 of 22 December 1989 and 45/185 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling also its resolution 1989/99 of 26 July 1989,

Reaffirming the important responsibility of the United Nations system as a whole for promoting international cooperation in order to address and mitigate natural dis-

³⁵ ST/SG/AC.10/17, para. 118.

asters, provide assistance and coordinate disaster relief, preparedness and prevention,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,³⁶

Taking note also of the relevant conclusions reached by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-first session, in particular those contained in paragraphs 366 to 369 of its report,³⁷

Noting the particular vulnerability of developing countries to natural disasters,

Welcoming the progress made in this area, in particular the first session of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, held in Bonn from 4 to 8 March 1991,

Noting the progress achieved in the working relationship between the secretariat of the Decade, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator and the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation, in accordance with relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/185, and stressing the need to continue to cooperate closely,

Noting also the expectations and high interest expressed by Member States in the activities envisaged for the Decade,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction on its first session;³⁸

2. *Notes* the establishment of the Trust Fund for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and appeals to the international community, in particular to donor countries, for adequate financial contributions to the Fund in order to carry out the activities for the Decade;

3. *Reaffirms* General Assembly resolution 45/185, and stresses the need for the full implementation of its provisions relating, *inter alia*, to the completion of the organizational arrangements, in particular the establishment of the Special High-level Council and the observation of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction on 9 October 1991.

*31st plenary meeting
26 July 1991*

1991/59. Fight against the screw-worm infestation

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1990/61 of 26 July 1990, in which, *inter alia*, it recognized the potentially devastat-

ing effects of the screw-worm infestation on people, livestock and wildlife and the adverse socio-economic consequences thereof,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 45/207 of 21 December 1990, in which, *inter alia*, the Assembly urged the international community to give full support to action to eradicate the screw-worm fly, particularly in Africa, and welcomed the support already provided by donors to the collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development on the eradication programme,

Noting with satisfaction the gratifying results of the pilot programme in virtually eradicating the screw-worm menace in the target area and restricting its spread into new areas,

Noting that the large-scale programme for the eradication of the screw-worm fly from North Africa, executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with the support of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Development Programme, the affected countries and other donors, is in an advanced stage, as evidenced by the confinement of the parasite to the originally infested zone and the currently low number of cases within this area,

Noting also that the objectives of the screw-worm eradication programme are to eliminate economic losses in the livestock sector, to remove an immense threat to the bio-diversity of the continent and to reduce the potential for human suffering through the use of an environmentally sound and sustainable method, namely the Sterile Insect Technique, to eradicate the screw-worm,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations³⁹ and the note by the International Fund for Agricultural Development;⁴⁰

2. *Welcomes* the prompt response by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in initiating the regional pilot biological control programme for the New World screw-worm in North Africa and by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in establishing the Screw-worm Emergency Centre for North Africa for the execution of the pilot and subsequent programmes, the technical support extended by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the financial support extended by the African Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress achieved thus far through the eradication programme;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments concerned, as well as to the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Islamic

³⁶ E/1991/106.

³⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/46/16).*

³⁸ IDNDR/STC/1991/8.

³⁹ E/1991/62, annex.

⁴⁰ E/1991/113, annex.