

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,<sup>36</sup>

*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,<sup>37</sup>

*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;<sup>38</sup>

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 Nations<sup>39</sup> and the note by the International Fund for Agricultural Development;<sup>40</sup>

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

<sup>36</sup> E/1991/106.

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

<sup>38</sup> IDNDR/STC/1991/8.

<sup>39</sup> E/1991/62, annex.

<sup>40</sup> E/1991/113, annex.

Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and the Fund for International Development of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries for their financial support for the full-scale eradication phase;

5. *Requests* the Governments and organizations concerned to continue to monitor the situation closely and to take further measures to bring about the complete eradication of the screw-worm in Africa;

6. *Urges* funding agencies and the donor community to continue to support the eradication programme to ensure its successful completion;

7. *Commends* the joint effort against the screw-worm as an effective demonstration of the potential of multilateral cooperation to meet a common global environmental challenge;

8. *Invites* the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in cooperation with the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 an up-to-date report on the screw-worm eradication programme.

*31st plenary meeting  
26 July 1991*

#### **1991/60. Critical humanitarian situation in the Horn of Africa**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 45/154, 45/157, 45/160 and 45/161 of 18 December 1990,

*Deeply concerned* about the critical condition of millions of people threatened by famine, ill-health and civil strife, and equally concerned about the massive number of refugees and displaced persons in the Horn of Africa,

*Bearing in mind* the appeals made by the Secretary-General at the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held at Abuja from 3 to 5 June 1991, and at the opening of the second regular session of 1991 of the Economic and Social Council, on 3 July,<sup>41</sup> in which he invited the international community to give prompt attention to the impending catastrophic situation that threatened in the Horn of Africa and called for the mobilization of additional resources to help the countries concerned to cope with the critical humanitarian situation,

*Being particularly aware* that there is a link between emergency aid, rehabilitation and development and that the existence of refugees and displaced persons places a heavy burden on the social and economic infrastructures of the countries concerned,

*Taking into account* the serious implications of the existing situation for the development prospects of the countries concerned and the imperative need for a co-ordinated approach by the United Nations system as a whole.

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General for his initiative in sending an inter-agency mission to the Horn of Africa to assess the emergency humanitarian assistance for the affected countries and for his untiring efforts to alert the international community to the critical situation existing in the region and the need to mobilize additional resources;

2. *Appeals* to the international community and to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to respond generously and promptly to the Secretary-General's appeals to meet the urgent needs already identified in the report of the inter-agency mission;<sup>42</sup>

3. *Appeals* to all parties in the Horn of Africa to contribute constructively to the current processes of national reconciliation and regional cooperation and to the related negotiating efforts;

4. *Calls upon* the Governments and other parties concerned in the affected countries, given the particular circumstances prevailing in those countries, to allow the international relief and development organizations and agencies, as well as the non-governmental organizations concerned, full access to the affected areas, to ensure their protection and to facilitate their efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*31st plenary meeting  
26 July 1991*

#### **1991/61. Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 45/225 of 21 December 1990 and the previous resolutions of the General Assembly concerning international assistance for the reconstruction of Lebanon, in which the Assembly called upon the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to intensify their programmes of assistance and to expand them in response to the pressing needs of Lebanon,

*Aware* of the deteriorating socio-economic conditions of the people of Lebanon and the magnitude of their unmet needs,

*Noting with deep concern* the unprecedented inflation in Lebanon in recent years and the catastrophic decline in the value of the Lebanese pound,

<sup>41</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Plenary Meetings*, vol. II, 16th meeting.

<sup>42</sup> See A/42/645.