

1991/95. Second phase of the Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification of the International Fund for Agricultural Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1989/88 of 26 July 1989, in which it stressed the urgent need for substantial progress in stimulating food production in developing countries and the importance of increasing domestic food production for stimulating national economic growth and social progress in those countries and helping to resolve the problem of hunger and malnutrition in an effective way,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 45/207 of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly urged the members of the international community to take further determined action in support of the efforts of developing countries by increasing even more the flow of resources, including concessional flows designated for agricultural development, and by increasing food aid commitments in support of the strengthened efforts of developing countries to increase mobilization and allocation of domestic resources to address food and agricultural problems, in addition to the flow of resources from developed countries, bearing in mind the need to channel this assistance through appropriate existing organizations and programmes,

Welcoming the recent appeal made by the Secretary-General in which he reminded all countries of the situation facing Africa and of the 30 million people in the continent threatened by famine,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986, containing the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, in which the African countries and the international community undertook, *inter alia*, to devote priority attention and increased resources to reviving and developing food production and agriculture in Africa,

Recalling resolutions CM/Res.1060 (XLIV),¹⁴⁰ CM/Res.1119 (XLVI)¹⁴¹ and CM/Res.1322 (LIII) adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its forty-fourth, forty-sixth and fifty-third ordinary sessions and endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, and resolution 721 (XXVI) adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, in which the Conference of Ministers appealed to the international donor community to increase the resources for the second phase of the Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, with a view to achieving the target of \$300 million necessary for a three-year period beginning in 1991,

Bearing in mind the mandate given to the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development by the Governing Council of the Fund at its thirteenth session,¹⁴² to consult donors on the mobilization of additional resources so that the Special Programme could continue for a second phase and the authorization given to the President and to the Executive Board of the Fund by the Governing Council at its fourteenth session to initiate activities for the implementation of the second phase of the Special Programme,

Also bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 45/207 on food and agricultural problems, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, invited donors to endorse resolution 60/XIII of 25 January 1990 of the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development,¹⁴³ concerning the possibility of additional voluntary contributions to the Special Resources for Sub-Saharan Africa for a further three years, starting in January 1991, without prejudicing deliberations on the mobilization of core funding for the Fund,

Noting with satisfaction the positive contribution made by the Fund to the economic recovery programmes of its developing member States and the assistance provided by it to the African region in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, in particular through the first phase of its Special Programme, in which the target of \$300 million was reached and the funds thus mobilized were fully committed,

Concerned about the constant deterioration in socio-economic conditions in Africa,

Greatly encouraged by formal statements made by a number of donors pledging contributions to the second phase of the Special Programme,

1. *Welcomes* the action taken by the International Fund for Agricultural Development under its Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification, which gives priority to improving food security through measures to preserve the environment and restore existing productive capacity and to ensuring that projects once completed will yield lasting benefits;

2. *Stresses* the urgent need for a steady, predictable and sustained flow of resources to Africa so as to promote rehabilitation and development, especially in agriculture, and to meet urgent needs in connection with drought control and economic reform;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to countries which have already made firm pledges or have indicated their intention of making contributions to the second phase of the Special Programme, covering the period 1991-1993;

¹⁴⁰ See A/41/654, annex I.

¹⁴¹ See A/42/699, annex I.

¹⁴² International Fund for Agricultural Development, *Governing Council, Thirteenth Session Report, Rome, 23-25 January 1990*, (GC/13), para. 15, resolution 60/XIII.

¹⁴³ *Ibid.*

4. *Invites* donors to endorse resolution 60/XIII of the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development concerning the possibility of additional voluntary contributions for the second phase of the Special Programme, without prejudicing the deliberations on the integration of the Special Programme into the general activities of the Fund.

*32nd plenary meeting
26 July 1991*

1991/96. Countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 39/208 of 17 December 1984, 40/175 of 17 December 1985 and 42/188 of 11 December 1987 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/44 of 21 July 1986,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 40/209 of 17 December 1985, by which the Assembly rationalized its consideration of desertification and drought issues,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 44/172 A of 19 December 1989 on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989, included protection and management of land resources by, *inter alia*, combating deforestation, desertification and drought among environmental issues of major concern, and paid renewed attention to drought and desertification in its enunciation of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Deeply concerned about the dramatic effects of accelerating desertification, which have caused a substantial decline in agricultural output and served, in particular, to aggravate the current economic crisis in Africa,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa,¹⁴⁴

Taking note of the work of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on this question and of Governing Council decision 15/23 of 25 May 1989,¹⁴⁵

Noting the important contribution made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in helping the countries of the region to prepare for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and encouraging the Office to continue and intensify its efforts in that area,

Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office for having organized consultative meetings of the Sudano-Sahelian countries at Oua-

gadougou from 13 to 15 February 1991 and at Cairo from 8 to 10 July 1991, in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and for the detailed preparations it made for those meetings in the countries concerned with such partners as the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development,

Welcoming the results and resolutions of the Ministerial Conference for a joint policy to combat desertification in the countries of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Economic Community of West African States, in the Maghreb countries, in Egypt and in the Sudan (COMIDES), held at Dakar in July 1984 and November 1985 and at Algiers in October 1988,

Welcoming also the renewed efforts of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office aimed at increasing support for the countries and organizations concerned and at cooperating with them, in particular with the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development,

Aware of the efforts that are already being made in the African region, *inter alia*, to combat desertification and drought, and the commitments made at the consultative meeting of the Sudano-Sahelian countries held at Cairo in July 1991, organized by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, and at the African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, held at Kampala in June 1989,¹⁴⁶

Bearing in mind the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office,¹⁴⁷

Acknowledging that, in view of the scale and gravity of desertification and drought, programmes to combat those scourges require financial and human resources beyond the means of the countries concerned,

Noting with appreciation that the Sixteenth Regional Conference for Africa of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations endorsed an International Scheme for the Conservation and Rehabilitation of African Lands,¹⁴⁸ with a view to giving to the countries of the region the means of developing their own programmes for the fight against land degradation, including desertification,

1. *Reaffirms* the need for sustained implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/172 A;

2. *Recognizes* the commendable, sustained efforts made by the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel to combat desertification and drought, and welcomes its fruitful cooperation with Governments and United Nations organs and bodies;

¹⁴⁶ See E/ECA/CM.16/19.

¹⁴⁷ DP/1991/45.

¹⁴⁸ See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Sixteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa, Marrakesh, Morocco, 11-15 June 1990* (ARC/1990/REP).

¹⁴⁴ A/46/268-E/1991/107.

¹⁴⁵ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/44/25), annex I.