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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: ENVIRONMENT

Guatemala: * draft resolution

Traffic in toxic and dangerous products

The General Assembly,

Recalling Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions 14/19 on the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals, 14/27 on environmentally safe management of chemicals, in particular those that are banned and severely restricted in international trade and 14/30 on environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, all of 17 June 1987, 1/

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/54 on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods,

Recognizing the useful role that the United Nations system, including such bodies as the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization, could play in dealing with the effects of illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous products,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25), annex I.

Convinced that the London Guidelines for the Exchange of Information on Chemicals in International Trade, 2/ as well as the Cairo Guidelines and Principles for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes, 3/ represent a significant step forward,

Concerned that part of the international movement of toxic and dangerous products is being carried out outside international legal parameters, to the detriment of the environment and public health, especially that of developing countries,

Convinced that these problems cannot be resolved without adequate international co-operation among members of the international community,

Aware that the international community should adopt measures to complement and strengthen the above-mentioned guidelines and principles and to reinforce the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, to detect and halt any illegal attempt to introduce toxic and dangerous products into the territory of any State,

Welcoming the convening of a diplomatic conference to be held in Switzerland in 1989 for the purpose of adopting a global convention on control of transboundary movement of hazardous wastes,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on the question of illegal traffic of toxic and dangerous products and, in particular, its impact on developing countries to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-third session;

2. Invites all Governments to co-operate with the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution, and invites also the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to assist the Secretary-General in the preparation of the report;

3. Calls upon all Governments to co-operate in restricting the illegal traffic of toxic and dangerous products.

2/ UNEP/GC.14/17, annex IV.

3/ Ibid., annex II.