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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Restoration and improvement of the Fouta-Djallon massif

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In resolution 34/185 of 18 December 1979, the General Assembly noted resolution 756 (XXXIII) adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) concerning the integrated biological improvement of the Fouta-Djallon massif in the context of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification 1/ adopted by the Council of Ministers at its thirty-third ordinary session (Monrovia, 6-20 July 1979), in response to a request by the Government of Guinea. The Assembly also invited the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to consider favourably the inclusion of the pilot project for the restoration and improvement of the Fouta-Djallon massif in its programme of action against desertification.
2. In paragraph 2 of the resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it on the implementation of the resolution at its thirty-fifth session. The present report is submitted in accordance with that request.
3. In pursuance of resolution 34/185, the Governing Council of UNEP considered at its eighth session the inclusion of the pilot project for the improvement and restoration of the Fouta-Djallon massif in the UNEP desertification control programme. By decision 8/17 of 29 April 1980, the Governing Council decided to include this pilot project within its programme of action against desertification.

* A/35/150.

1/ A/34/552, annex I, resolution CM/Res.756 (XXXIII).

4. Preliminary consultations took place, involving the Government of Guinea, OAU, UNEP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO), regarding the conduct of a preliminary mission to review the current situation of the Fouta-Djallon massif.
 5. Following the decision of the Governing Council, the Executive Director of UNEP decided that UNSO should assume responsibility for implementing the Governing Council decision on behalf of UNEP.
 6. Following the above decision by the Executive Director, UNSO participated with FAO, UNESCO and OAU in a joint mission which took place from 15 May to 10 June 1980, making available the services of two experts, one each in hydrology and agro-pastoral systems.
 7. The specific course of action to be taken for the formulation and implementation of the pilot project for the restoration and improvement of the Fouta-Djallon massif will be based on the findings and recommendations of the above mission.
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