

1956 (LIX). Permanent sovereignty over natural resources

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the pertinent provisions of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,⁴⁸ and of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,⁴⁹

Reaffirming the inviolable principle that every State has the right to adopt the economic and social system which it deems most favourable to its development,

Reiterating that the inalienable right of each State to the full exercise of national sovereignty over its natural resources has been recognized by the international community in numerous resolutions of various organs of the United Nations,

1. *Strongly reaffirms* the inalienable right of States to exercise full permanent sovereignty over all their wealth, natural resources and economic activities;

2. *Reaffirms* that the application of the principle of nationalization carried out by States, as an expression of their sovereignty in order to safeguard their natural resources, implies that each State is entitled to determine the amount of possible compensation and the mode of payment, and that any disputes which might arise should be settled in accordance with the national legislation of each State carrying out such measures;

3. *Also reaffirms* the right of all States to associate in organizations of primary commodity producers;

4. *Considers* it to be indispensable for States to regulate and supervise the activities of transnational corporations within their national jurisdiction and to take measures to ensure that such activities comply with their laws, rules and regulations and conform with their economic and social policies;

5. *Re-emphasizes* that actions, measures or legislative regulations applied by States aimed at coercing, directly or indirectly, other States or peoples engaged in the reorganization of their internal structure or in the exercise of their sovereign rights over their natural resources are in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to development and international economic co-operation and of any other relevant developments and taking into consideration the views expressed in the Committee on Natural Resources at its fourth session, to update his recent reports on the subject of permanent sovereignty over natural resources.⁵⁰

*1975th plenary meeting
25 July 1975*

⁴⁸ General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

⁴⁹ General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX).

⁵⁰ A/9716 and Corr.1, E/5425 and Corr.1, E/5425/Add.1, and E/5549.

1957 (LIX). Comprehensive plan of action for and co-ordination of programmes within the United Nations system in the field of natural resources development

A

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking into account the importance of co-ordinating the programmes of the United Nations organs and specialized agencies operating in the field of natural resources and with a view to eliminating duplication and wastage of resources and concentrating efforts in the most important directions,

1. *Recommends* that the States members of the Committee on Natural Resources and other States concerned and organizations of the United Nations system operating in the field of natural resources should consider carefully the data compiled by the Secretariat on the work programmes of the United Nations system relating to natural resources and submit to the Secretary-General within one year any specific proposals they may have concerning the improvement of those programmes from the standpoint of their co-ordination and the reallocation of resources;

2. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General should submit for consideration by the Committee on Natural Resources at its fifth session a comprehensive plan for the co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations system in the field of natural resources, drawn up in the light of the observations received.

*1975th plenary meeting
25 July 1975*

B

The Economic and Social Council,

Emphasizing the important role of the Committee on Natural Resources, pursuant to Council resolution 1535 (XLIX) of 27 July 1970, in providing guidance and making appropriate recommendations to the Council on the programming and co-ordination of activities in the United Nations system in the field of natural resources,

Considering that the documentation submitted by the Secretariat⁵¹ pursuant to Council resolution 1761 (LIV) of 18 May 1973 provides for the first time a comprehensive picture of various United Nations activities in the field of natural resources, constituting as such a first step towards the improved co-ordination of programmes within the United Nations system in that field,

Recalling the "Guidelines for action in the development of natural resources"⁵² adopted by the Committee on Natural Resources at its second session, which provide

⁵¹ E/C.7/47 and Add. 1-3.

⁵² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 5* (E/5097 and Corr.1 and 3), para. 20.