

**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,<sup>48</sup> and of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,<sup>49</sup>

*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.<sup>50</sup>

*1975th plenary meeting  
25 July 1975*

<sup>48</sup> General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

<sup>49</sup> General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX).

<sup>50</sup> 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 Secretariat<sup>51</sup> 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"<sup>52</sup> adopted by the Committee on Natural Resources at its second session, which provide

<sup>51</sup> E/C.7/47 and Add. 1-3.

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

the United Nations system with an initial plan of action to guide agency programming,

*Recognizing* that the preparation of a more broadly based plan of action will require far-reaching efforts in joint inter-agency programme analysis and planning,

*Conscious* of the need to overcome as rapidly as possible the constraints on programme planning referred to in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>53</sup>

1. *Urges* all United Nations organs and specialized agencies to co-operate under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in programming an expanded and joint plan of action for the development of natural resources, based, *inter alia*, on the "Guidelines for action in the development of natural resources" and on relevant decisions of the United Nations organs and decision-making bodies of related agencies; in order to perform this task, objectives should be defined and programme planning procedures used by the various participating bodies should be reviewed and harmonized;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the organization and programmes concerned, to prepare reports to be submitted to the Committee on Natural Resources at each of its regular sessions, along the following lines:

(a) The reports should reflect as fully as possible the on-going and planned programme activities on natural resources to be undertaken by all bodies of the United Nations system, including information on the financial implications of the various programme elements;

(b) Particular emphasis should be placed on programme activities of a world-wide and multidisciplinary nature relating to the most urgent needs of the developing countries;

(c) Possible gaps and overlapping of activities should be identified;

(d) The reports should be prepared in such a way as to provide the Committee on Natural Resources with the necessary analytical capability to carry out functions of co-ordination and priority-setting;

3. *Further recommends* that the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations organs, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and the specialized agencies concerned, should undertake the necessary arrangements to reach a better co-ordination and harmonization of operational activities in the field of natural resources at the country level, if necessary on an experimental basis, and suggests that the Secretary-General should submit a report on the results achieved to the Committee on Natural Resources at its fifth session.

*1975th plenary meeting  
25 July 1975*

<sup>53</sup> E/C.7/47, paras. 8-10.

## **1958 (LIX). Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its third session**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its third session,<sup>54</sup>

*Having considered also* the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 on international co-operation to combat desertification,<sup>55</sup>

*Considering* the need to ensure co-operation in carrying out the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme and implementing its decisions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its third session and of the progress report by the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX) on international co-operation to combat desertification;

2. *Invites* the Executive Director of the Programme to continue to bear in mind the need for the Programme to be in line with the relevant provisions of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order<sup>56</sup> and of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States;<sup>57</sup>

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue their active co-operation in carrying out the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, allocating the necessary priorities and resources for the maximum success of those activities.

*1975th plenary meeting  
25 July 1975*

## **1960 (LIX). Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1721 (LIII) of 28 July 1972,

*Further recalling* its resolution 1908 (LVII) of 2 August 1974, by which it decided to establish an information and research centre on transnational corporations,

*Recalling*, in addition, its resolution 1913 (LVII) of 5 December 1974, by which it decided to establish an inter-governmental commission on transnational corporations to assist it in dealing with this issue and which also established the terms of reference of the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations,

<sup>54</sup> UNEP/GC/55; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbol E/5710. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/10025)*.

<sup>55</sup> E/5689.

<sup>56</sup> General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

<sup>57</sup> General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX).