

Conscious of the importance of the early commencement by the Centre of its work,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its first session;⁵⁸

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to bring the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations into operation;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to appoint, as soon as possible, the Executive Director of the Centre.

*1977th plenary meeting
29 July 1975*

1961 (LIX). Joint liaison and support units of the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations and the regional commissions

The Economic and Social Council,

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

Recalling also the pertinent provisions of General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and with due regard to the guidelines contained in those resolutions,

Further recalling its resolutions 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 intergovernmental 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,

Having regard to the fact that a large number of transnational corporations are operating in the developing countries and have a considerable impact on the development processes in those countries,

Considering that in the different regions the operations and activities of transnational corporations have different characteristics,

Considering also that the political, economic and juridical instruments of host countries differ even within regions,

Mindful of the important function performed by the regional commissions,

Considering also that, within the framework of the programme of work⁵⁹ agreed upon by the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions can make an

important contribution to the work of the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations, within the terms of reference of the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Centre,

Taking note of resolution 349 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Latin America of 12 May 1975,⁶⁰ which recommended the establishment of a regional unit in Latin America and its terms of reference,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in initiating the operations of the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations, to establish, on the basis of consultations between the Centre and the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions, joint liaison and support units in each of the regional commissions to be jointly supported financially by the Centre and the regional commissions concerned;

2. *Decides* that the work programmes at the regional level should be worked out between the Centre and the secretariats of the regional commissions within the framework of the programme of work agreed upon by the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Requests* the Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations to keep the Commission on Transnational Corporations informed about progress in the establishment of the joint liaison and support units and the work programmes at the regional level, as provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 above;

4. *Requests* the Commission on Transnational Corporations to report to the Economic and Social Council on the progress made in the establishment of the joint liaison and support units and of the work programmes at the regional level.

*1977th plenary meeting
29 July 1975*

1973 (LIX). Further steps to be taken concerning the transport of dangerous goods

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering its resolutions 645 G (XXIII) of 26 April 1957, 724 C (XXVIII) of 17 July 1959 and 1488 (XLVIII) of 22 May 1970 concerning the composition of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods,

Recalling its resolution 1743 (LIV) of 4 May 1973 concerning the international carriage of dangerous goods and their identifications and marking,

Noting that dangerous goods account for an increasingly large proportion of international trade,

Conscious that the transport of such goods in complete safety needs to be ensured in a manner which will not hamper either the development of this important trade or the participation of developing countries,

⁵⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 12 (E/5655 and Corr.1).*

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, chap. I, sect. B.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 9, volume I (E/5608), part III.

Reaffirming that the intermodal transport of such goods necessitates thorough harmonization of the rules governing the various modes of transport,

Noting the concern expressed by the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods in its report to the Economic and Social Council pursuant to Council resolution 1743 (LIV) of 4 May 1973,⁶¹ that, when the same problems are considered by different groups, they may be given solutions that are scarcely compatible and that are therefore likely to impede harmonization.⁶²

Taking note of the observations of the Committee of Experts in that report concerning the divergencies currently existing in the modal practices applicable to the transport of dangerous goods in respect of their classification, identification, labelling and packaging and on the steps that should be taken with a view to bringing about uniformity in the various modes of transport,

Considering the work of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Group for a Convention on Intermodal Transport, established in pursuance of Council resolution 1734 (LIV) of 10 January 1973,

Considering also resolution No. 1 adopted by the International Conference on the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, with a view to the drafting of a self-contained international convention on the transport of dangerous goods by all modes of transport, as well as the discussions which took place during the eighth session of the Committee of Experts.⁶³

1. *Requests* the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, taking into consideration the real capabilities of the developing countries, to pursue its efforts in particular in two areas: that of giving the recommendations of the Committee of Experts⁶⁴ more scope and depth and that of strengthening harmonization on the bases that have now been laid;

2. *Also requests* the Committee of Experts to study, in consultation with other bodies concerned, particularly the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Air Transport Association and the regional commissions, the possibility of a joint approach to the drafting of an international convention on the transport of dangerous goods by all modes of transport which would take into account the general scope of a future convention on international intermodal transport, and to report to the Economic and Social Council the results of its study;

3. *Urges* Governments of Member States and the international organizations concerned to support the

efforts of the Committee of Experts, in particular by giving appropriate instructions to their representatives on the various bodies concerned at the international or at the regional or subregional level;

4. *Decides* to enlarge the composition of the Committee of Experts by adding five members from developing countries, so as to ensure the adequate participation of such countries, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to enter into consultations with Governments concerned as soon as possible, in order that they may nominate the experts to be appointed.

1978th plenary meeting
30 July 1975

1974 (LIX). Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 645 G (XXIII) of 26 April 1957, 724 C (XXVIII) of 17 July 1959, 871 (XXXIII) of 10 April 1962, 994 (XXXVI) of 16 December 1963, 1110 (XL) of 7 March 1966, 1488 (XLVIII) of 22 May 1970 and 1744 (LIV) of 4 May 1973,

Recalling also recommendations 71 and 75 of the Action Plan for the Human Environment adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,⁶⁵

Noting with satisfaction the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods,

Noting in particular the programme of work for 1975-1976 proposed by the Committee of Experts in paragraphs 143 to 147 of its report on its eighth session,⁶⁶

1. *Commends* the experts and rapporteurs for their excellent work;

2. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods on its eighth session;

3. *Takes note also* of the fact that the Committee of Experts intends to enter into discussions with the United Nations Environment Programme about the role of the Committee of Experts in the prevention of pollution;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the contents of the report of the Committee of Experts:

(a) To incorporate in the recommendations of the Committee of Experts⁶⁷ the amendments set forth in the report of the Committee of Experts on its eighth session;

(b) To recast the recommendations in accordance with the new structure proposed by the Committee of Experts and to secure the services of a consultant for this purpose;

⁶¹ E/CN.2/CONF.5/56, transmitted to the Economic and Social Council under the symbol E/5620.

⁶² E/CN.2/CONF.5/56, para. 60.

⁶³ See E/CN.2/CONF.5/57.

⁶⁴ See *Transport of Dangerous Goods* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.70.VIII.2), vols I-IV, and *Transport of Dangerous Goods, Supplement 1973, parts I and II* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.VIII.2).

⁶⁵ *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14), chap. II.

⁶⁶ E/CN.2/CONF.5 57.

⁶⁷ See *Transport of Dangerous Goods* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.70.VIII.2), vols. I-IV, and *Transport of Dangerous Goods, Supplement 1973, parts I and II* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.VIII.2).