

3. *Requests* the *ad hoc* Interagency Task Force to call, in this connexion, on the knowledge of experts from all countries which have already acquired experience of the problems raised by the obstacles to the development of the arid areas, including countries suffering from the consequences of aridity;

4. *Also requests* the *ad hoc* Interagency Task Force:

(a) To report on its work to:

(i) The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme acting as the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Desertification, and the other bodies concerned with the preparation of that Conference;

(ii) The Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, so that the Committee may take it into account when reviewing the *World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development*; ⁴¹

(b) To take into account the information and recommendations resulting from the United Nations Conference on Desertification and the preparations for it;

(c) To report to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its fourth session, with a view to enabling it to pursue the preparation of the world programme of development research and application of science and technology to solve the special problems of the arid areas.

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2031 (LXI). Research and development in non-conventional sources of energy

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 3201 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, in which the Assembly stressed the need to give the developing countries access to the achievements of modern science and technology and to promote the transfer of technology and the creation of indigenous technology,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, on development and international economic co-operation, in which the Assembly called upon the developed countries to increase substantially the proportion of their research and development devoted to specific problems of primary interest to developing countries, and in the creation of suitable indigenous technology,

Recognizing the valuable work in the field of new sources of energy being undertaken by the Committee on Natural Resources,

Stressing the need to continue and to strengthen on-going co-operation among the relevant bodies of the Council,

Taking into account the recommendations adopted by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development at its twenty-first session, contained in its twelfth report, ⁴²

1. *Commends* the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development for its comments regarding non-conventional sources of energy; ⁴³

2. *Requests* the Committee on Science and Technology for Development, with the assistance of the Advisory Committee, to keep the topic of research and development in non-conventional sources of energy on its agenda, with a view to submitting proposals for action for the benefit of developing countries;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Advisory Committee, to prepare and submit to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development, at its session in 1978, surveys of on-going research and development activities in the field of non-conventional sources of energy, making full use of existing and on-going surveys, with a view to identifying gaps in the present activities of energy research and development within and outside the United Nations system;

4. *Recommends* that the Advisory Committee, in close liaison with other competent bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, establish a working group of experts from developing and developed countries to assist the Secretary-General in preparing the above-mentioned surveys and to recommend new research and development activities in this field;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the advice of the Advisory Committee and other competent bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, to call upon the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme to be responsive to requests from Member States for feasibility studies and pilot projects on the application of non-conventional energy techniques for developing countries, and particularly for arid, semi-arid and other suitable areas, and to keep the *ad hoc* Interagency Task Force on the arid areas informed of relevant activities;

6. *Calls* upon Member States and the organizations of the United Nations system concerned, in formulating their research and development programmes in the field of solar, wind and biological energy, to take into account particularly the needs of developing countries, and especially the development of appropriate sources of energy for rural and remote areas, villages or small towns;

7. *Requests* the competent bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the regional

⁴¹ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.71.II.A.18 (as reprinted in 1973).

⁴² See E/C.8/30 and Corr.1, chap. VII.

⁴³ Solar, wind and biological sources of energy.

commissions, with the co-operation of Member States, to arrange for seminars and exhibitions to be held on research and development in non-conventional sources of energy;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to call upon Member States to provide fellowships for intensive and practical training for the benefit of scientists and engineers from developing countries in the field of research and development in non-conventional sources of energy.

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2032 (LXI). Human rights and scientific and technological development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1897 (LVII) of 1 August 1974 and General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 3509 (XXX) of 15 December 1975 on the Tripartite World Conference on Employment, Income Distribution, Social Progress and the International Division of Labour,

Considering recommendation No. 150 of 23 June 1975 concerning vocational guidance and vocational training in the development of human resources, and resolution V of 24 June 1975 concerning future action of the International Labour Organization in the field of working conditions and environment,⁴⁴ adopted by the International Labour Conference at its sixtieth session,

Noting that questions related to the choice and transfer of technologies were discussed at the Tripartite World Conference on Employment, Income Distribution, Social Progress and the International Division of Labour, held at Geneva in June 1976,

Convinced that the question of the choice and transfer of technologies has an important impact in the field of labour,

Calls upon the International Labour Organisation, taking fully into account the development priorities of the developing countries, to reinforce its activities in the fields of the choice and transfer of technologies, in particular as regards standard-setting, dissemination of information and technical co-operation relating to the employment, training and upgrading of workers, including the provision of training courses for workers displaced as a result of technological innovations, and the improvement of working conditions and environment.

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2033 (LXI). Report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Having received the twelfth report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development,⁴⁵ transmitted through the Committee on Science and Technology for Development,

Recognizing that the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development performs advisory functions for the Economic and Social Council and its Committee on Science and Technology for Development in respect of the specific questions which they refer to it,

Considering that this advisory work must be of a continuing nature, particularly in the next few years when the Advisory Committee has to undertake the consideration of numerous questions connected with the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the twelfth report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development;

2. *Decides* that the Advisory Committee, and its regional and working groups, should be exempt from the obligation to adhere to the biennial cycle of meetings endorsed by the Council in its resolution 1768 (LIV) of 18 May 1973, during the preparatory period for and for the purposes of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development;

3. *Agrees* that this decision shall be reviewed after the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development in the light of the recommendations of the Conference;

4. *Considers* that, following Council resolution 1715 (LIII) of 28 July 1972, under paragraph 4 of which the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development refers its reports to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development, the Advisory Committee, in cases of urgency, especially during the preparatory period for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, may report to the Economic and Social Council through the officers of the Committee on Science and Technology for Development;

5. *Recommends* to the Secretary-General that he bear in mind, when presenting the list of candidates for the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development in 1977, the desirability of increasing the participation of developing countries from all regions;

6. *Requests* the Advisory Committee to provide all possible advisory services and co-operation in the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development.

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⁴⁴ See International Labour Office, *Resolutions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 60th session (Geneva, 1975)*.

⁴⁵ E/C.8/30 and Corr.1.