

## 1380 (XLV). Resources of the sea

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having considered* the report on "Resources of the sea beyond the continental shelf"<sup>37</sup> prepared by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 1112 (XL) of 7 March 1966,

*Realizing* fully the importance of the development of the mineral and biological resources of the high seas beyond the continental shelf for the benefit of all mankind and especially of the developing countries,

*Being aware* of the growing interest of the world community in the problems related to the oceans and their resources as recently illustrated by the adoption of General Assembly resolutions 2172 (XXI) of 6 December 1966 and 2340 (XXII) of 18 December 1967;

*Recognizing* that further progress in the development and utilization of the marine resources will depend greatly on more specific knowledge being gained on the various characteristics of marine environmental conditions,

*Taking into account* the view expressed by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development,<sup>38</sup>

1. *Takes note* with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General, which gives a preliminary picture of the present available knowledge of marine resources beyond the continental shelf, of the techniques used for their development and of related problems;

2. *Recommends* that the report be supplemented by information from other Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies which have a valuable experience in this field, and that thereafter the desirability should be envisaged of issuing it as a United Nations publication;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the various organizations of the United Nations family concerned and in particular with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, and the World Meteorological Organization and its Panel on Meteorological Aspects of Ocean Affairs, to continue to promote further systematic investigation aiming at improving the present knowledge of marine environmental conditions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow closely new developments which may occur in fields of marine mineral resources exploration, evaluation and exploitation beyond the continental shelf and the possible implications thereof, and to report when appropriate to the Council;

5. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to keep under review developments which may occur in the field of food resources of the sea beyond the continental shelf.

*1561st plenary meeting,  
2 August 1968.*

<sup>37</sup> E/4449 and Add.1 and 2.

<sup>38</sup> E/4492.

## 1381 (XLV). Long-range programme for the exploration of the sea

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recognizing* that the ocean holds promise of becoming a more important source of food and minerals for a rapidly developing world, and that man's knowledge of the ocean and its resources is exceedingly limited,

*Having considered* the report entitled "Resources of the sea beyond the continental shelf"<sup>39</sup> prepared by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 1112 (XL) and the report entitled "Marine Science and Technology"<sup>40</sup> prepared by him under General Assembly resolution 2172 (XXI) of 6 December 1966,

*Taking into account* the activities in the fields of research, exploration and description of the oceans at present being undertaken by the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, the World Meteorological Organization and its Panel on Meteorological Aspects of Ocean Affairs, other specialized agencies and inter-governmental organizations concerned, various governments, universities, scientific and technological institutions, and other non-governmental organizations,

*Being aware* of the complexity and variability of the marine environment and that scientific investigations of vast scope will be necessary if knowledge of this environment is to increase substantially within a reasonably short period,

*Convinced* that the nations of the world should join together, with due respect for existing national jurisdictions, in a common long-term programme of exploration of the ocean as a potential source of resources, which could eventually be used for meeting the needs of all mankind, with due recognition of those developing countries,

*Noting* the endorsement by the Bureau and Consultative Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its eighth meeting, held in London from 10 to 13 June 1968, of the concept of an expanded, accelerated, long-term and sustained programme of exploration of the oceans and their resources, including international programmes, planned and co-ordinated on a world-wide basis, expanded international exchange of data from national programmes, and international efforts to strengthen the research capabilities of all interested nations,

1. *Takes note* with appreciation of the Secretary-General's report entitled "Marine Science and Technology", and of annex V, relating to marine science and its application, to the thirty-fourth report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;<sup>41</sup>

2. *Takes note further* of the steps which are being taken under the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to give consideration to the future

<sup>39</sup> E/4449 and Add.1 and 2.

<sup>40</sup> E/4487 and Corr.1 and 2.

<sup>41</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 23, document E/4486/Add.1.*