

1537 (XLIX). Marine co-operation

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2580 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969 and the Council's decision at its forty-eighth session,⁴⁷ to instruct its Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to examine the need for a comprehensive review of existing activities of the United Nations system relating to the seas and oceans in the light of present and emerging needs of Member States,

Noting the part of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its sixth session concerning this subject,⁴⁸

Recalling previous reports submitted to it on the exploitation of the sea, including in particular the Secretary-General's reports entitled "Resources of the sea beyond the continental shelf",⁴⁹ and "Marine Science and Technology",⁵⁰

Bearing in mind the importance of increasing international co-operation in the exploration and exploitation of the resources of the sea, having regard to the special needs and interests of developing countries,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with organizations of the United Nations system, and also with other recognized sources of scientific and technical advice outside the United Nations system, to prepare a general but concise background review of about fifty pages on:

(a) Trends in the various traditional uses of the seas, under such headings as fisheries, shipping, mineral exploitation;

(b) Foreseeable new uses, as well as the likely growth in intensity of existing uses, by the second half of the 1970s;

(c) The likely effect of these uses and of other technological advances on the marine environment;

(d) Conflicts likely to arise over technical use;
this background review to be prepared by making full use of material already available in the United Nations and the specialized agencies (including material being prepared for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment) and also from other sources, such as the International Council of Scientific Unions;

2. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, on completion of this background review, to communicate it to the Governments of Member States;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, at that time, to invite the Governments of Member States to communicate to him any proposals they may wish to make for strengthening international co-operation in the marine environment;

⁴⁷ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 1*, p. 7.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 10* (E/4877), chap. VIII, sect. A.

⁴⁹ E/4449 and Add.1 and 2.

⁵⁰ E/4487 and Corr.1 and 2.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after obtaining the views of the Governments of Member States in accordance with paragraph 3 above and the comments of the other organizations of the United Nations system, and taking into account the results of the Conference on the Human Environment, to submit a brief report to the Council on the manner in which international co-operation relating to the seas might be strengthened in areas where this appears to be required.

*1719th plenary meeting,
27 July 1970.*

1538 (XLIX). Application of computer technology for development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the increasing importance of the application of science and technology for speeding up the economic and social development of all countries, and more especially the developing countries,

Considering the different activities already undertaken by the organizations of the United Nations system to promote wider international co-operation for the application of science and technology to development,

Convinced that the use of computers and computation techniques can make a substantial contribution to economic and social development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2458 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968 on international co-operation with a view to the use of computers and computation techniques for development,

Recognizing that international co-operation calls for the intensification of activities concerning the use of computer techniques for development,

Taking note of the summary⁵¹ of the report of the Secretary-General⁵² prepared in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 2458 (XXIII),

Having undertaken a preliminary examination of the summary of that report pending a thorough discussion of the latter, which was not possible owing to its publication only in mid-session,

Considering that the main recommendations and conclusions contained in that summary may, pending a more detailed study of the report itself, call for appropriate action by the United Nations and other international organizations concerned with the question of the use of computers and related problems,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take forthwith the necessary steps to ensure wide circulation of his report among the Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, and also to other international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with this question;

2. *Decides* to discuss the question of the use of computer techniques for development at its fiftieth session;

⁵¹ E/4800/Summary.

⁵² E/4800.