

repeatedly recognized by the international community in numerous resolutions of various organs of the United Nations,

Reiterating that an intrinsic condition of the exercise of the sovereignty of every State is that its sovereignty be exercised fully and effectively over all its natural resources,

Recalling in particular General Assembly resolutions 1803 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, 2158 (XXI) of 25 November 1966, 2386 (XXIII) of 19 November 1968, 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, 2692 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 and 3016 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, and Security Council resolution 330 (1973) of 21 March 1973,

Recalling also principle II of resolution 46 (III) of 18 May 1972 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,⁴ Economic and Social Council resolution 1673 (LII) of 2 June 1972 and the recommendations contained in paragraph 88 of the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its third session,⁵

Considering that the full exercise by each State of sovereignty over its natural resources is an essential condition for achieving the objectives and targets of the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Bearing in mind that the adequate utilization of all natural resources in particular the non-renewable ones, determines the conditions of economic development of the developing countries,

Taking into account that the exercise of sovereignty over natural resources requires that action by States aimed at achieving a better utilization and use of those resources must cover all stages, from exploration to marketing,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of States to permanent sovereignty over all their natural resources, on land within their international boundaries, as well as those of the sea-bed and the subsoil thereof within their national jurisdiction and in the superjacent waters;

2. *Emphasizes* that both the exploration and the exploitation of such natural resources shall be subject in each country to national laws and regulations;

3. *Declares* that any act, measure or legislative provision which one State may apply against another for the purpose of suppressing its inalienable right to the exercise of its full sovereignty over its natural resources, both on land and in coastal waters, or of using coercion to obtain advantages of any other kind, is a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, contradicts the principles adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 2625 (XXV) and 3016 (XXVII) and obstructs the attainment of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, and that to persist therein could constitute a threat to international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that one of the most effective ways in which the developing countries can protect their natural resources is to promote or strengthen machinery for co-operation among them having as its main purpose to concert pricing policies, to improve conditions

⁴ See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Third Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.D.4), annex I.A.

⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/5247)*.

of access to markets, to co-ordinate production policies and, thus, to guarantee the full exercise of sovereignty over their natural resources;

5. *Urges* the international financial organizations and the United Nations Development Programme to provide, in accordance with the priorities established in national development plans, all possible financial and technical assistance to developing countries at their request for the purpose of establishing, strengthening and supporting, as appropriate, national institutions to ensure the full utilization and control of their natural resources;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to complete the study of the political economic, social and legal aspects of the principle of permanent sovereignty over natural resources referred to in Council resolution 1673 D (LII), and to include therein the aspects of the permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources of the sea-bed and the subsoil thereof within the limits of national jurisdiction and in the superjacent waters;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, the study referred to in paragraph 6 above.

1854th plenary meeting
4 May 1973

1742 (LIV). Container standards for international multimodal transport

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered resolution 4 on container standards for international multimodal transport⁶ unanimously adopted by the United Nations/IMCO Conference on International Container Traffic, held at Geneva from 13 November to 2 December 1972,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the Conference,⁷

1. *Decides* that an *ad hoc* intergovernmental group be convened, in co-operation with other concerned organizations of the United Nations, as appropriate, at the end of 1975, in order to assess the work done by the International Organization for Standardization and to determine what future action to take in this field, with a view to considering the practicability of eventually drawing up an international agreement on container standards;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with other concerned organizations of the United Nations, to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-sixth session a report suggesting the terms of reference of the group and a provisional agenda of its meeting, as well as the financial and administrative implications of that meeting.

1854th plenary meeting,
4 May 1973

1743 (LIV). International carriage of dangerous goods and their identification and marking

The Economic and Social Council,

Mindful of the need to establish standards of safety in the transport of goods, particularly in view of the

⁶ See E/CONF.59/44.

⁷ E/5250.