

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,<sup>4</sup> 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,<sup>5</sup>

*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

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> *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 transport<sup>6</sup> 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,<sup>7</sup>

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

<sup>6</sup> See E/CONF.59/44.

<sup>7</sup> E/5250.

widespread introduction of unitization and containerization of cargoes, so as to comprehend as part of the total world transportation system those commodities posing a danger to the persons engaged in their transport and to the human environment,

*Considering* that the various existing systems of identification, classification and labelling of dangerous goods, each of which apparently is unique to its particular mode of transport, whether road, rail, air, marine or inland water transport, do not lend themselves to an effective functioning of an integrated intermodal transport system,

*Recalling* the work already done in this respect by the Economic and Social Council under its resolution 1488 (XLVIII) of 22 May 1970, and its application to maritime transport made by the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization in its resolution A.81 (IV),

*Recalling also* recommendation 71 of the Action Plan adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment<sup>8</sup> on the release to the environment of toxic or dangerous substances,

*Noting with approval* resolution 5 on intermodal carriage of dangerous goods and their identification and marking<sup>9</sup> adopted by the United Nations/IMCO Conference on International Container Traffic, held at Geneva from 13 November to 2 December 1972,

1. *Invites* the international organizations concerned to foster the adoption of a single system of identification, classification and labelling of dangerous goods at the earliest practicable opportunity;

2. *Requests* the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods:

(a) To continue to investigate the divergencies currently existing in the modal practices applicable to the transport of dangerous goods in respect of their classification, identification, labelling and packaging;

(b) To report to the Economic and Social Council on the progress of its investigations and recommendations concerning the steps that should be taken with a view to bringing about uniformity in the various modes;

3. *Requests* Governments and the international organizations concerned to co-operate with and assist the Committee of Experts in its investigation to the fullest possible extent.

*1854th plenary meeting,  
4 May 1973*

#### **1744 (LIV). Transport of dangerous goods**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

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

*Noting* the growth in the number of new substances appearing on the market and the advance in transport techniques,

*Taking into account* that the intermodal carriage of these goods necessitates thorough harmonization of the rules governing the various modes of carriage,

<sup>8</sup> See A/CONF.48/14 and Corr.1, chap. II.

<sup>9</sup> See E/CONF.59/44.

*Conscious* that the carriage of such goods in complete safety needs to be ensured without the development of this important trade being thereby hampered,

*Noting* the attention paid to the recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods<sup>10</sup> by Governments which implement them in the form of national regulations and by international organizations whose regulations are modelled on or incorporate them,

*Noting* that the work of the Committee of Experts must advance at a pace matching that of technical progress so as to be able to meet the needs of Governments and of the international organizations concerned,

*Recalling* its resolution 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, and 1488 (XLVIII) of 22 May 1970,

*Noting* the programme of work for 1973-1974 proposed by the Committee of Experts,<sup>11</sup>

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

2. *Decides* to add to the terms of reference of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods the grouping of dangerous goods along the lines indicated in subparagraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph 5 of resolution 1488 (XLVIII);

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the report by the Committee of Experts on its seventh session:<sup>12</sup>

(a) To amend the recommendations of the Committee of Experts in accordance with the proposals contained in its report on its seventh session and to publish the amendments so adopted in the form of a supplement to the recommendations;

(b) To circulate the aforesaid supplement to Governments of Member States, to the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, and to the other international organizations concerned;

(c) To take the measures necessary at the Secretariat level to enable the work called for under the programme of work proposed by the Committee of Experts to be prepared;

(d) To convene meetings of the Committee of Experts and of its subsidiary bodies in the light of the programme of work;

(e) To publish the illustrated glossary in the English and French versions approved by the Committee of Experts and in Spanish, Russian and Chinese;

4. *Invites* Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned to transmit to the Secretary-General such comments as they may wish to make on the amended recommendations and to inform him, if possible, within six months following the receipt of the supplement containing the amendments adopted by the Committee of Experts, to what extent the recommendations will be applied.

*1854th plenary meeting,  
4 May 1973*

<sup>10</sup> See *Transport of Dangerous Goods* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.70.VIII.2), vols. I-IV.

<sup>11</sup> See E/5241, para. 24.

<sup>12</sup> E/CN.2/CONF.5/49 and Add.1.