

6. *Approves* the arrangements for the translation of the pre-session documentation and further requests the Secretary-General to provide also for the translation of the supporting documents into the working languages of the United Nations Water Conference;

7. *Requests further* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Water Conference to distribute as early as possible, and well in advance of the second special session of the Committee on Natural Resources, the documentation and the consolidated document mentioned above in all the working languages of the Conference;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Environment Programme for its offer to help defray the travel costs of the representatives of developing countries which may face special difficulties in this respect, so that they may attend the regional preparatory meetings, and urges the Secretary-General to accept the contribution of the Programme for this purpose;

9. *Urges* the United Nations Environment Programme to consider urgently, in consultation with the Secretary-General, the possibility of increasing its financing of the preparatory work for the United Nations Water Conference in order to ensure its success;

10. *Appeals* to Governments, whenever applicable, to intensify their national preparations for the United Nations Water Conference through, *inter alia*, the establishment of national Water Conference committees or similar bodies.

*1990th plenary meeting
23 April 1976*

1984 (LX). Measures to assist Guatemala following the earthquake of 4 February 1976

The Economic and Social Council,

Observing with deep sorrow and concern that earthquakes of unprecedented intensity have recently caused serious loss of life and property in extensive areas of Guatemala,

Mindful of the efforts made by the United Nations system and by the international community as a whole in the relief work organized in conformity with the principle of international solidarity embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

Observing also that, in addition to the death and injury suffered by thousands of persons, grave damage has been sustained by the Guatemalan infrastructure and economy,

Aware that, following the emergency relief effort, a second phase of reconstruction and rehabilitation will have to be initiated at enormous cost,

Recalling its resolution 1803 (LV) of 7 August 1973 concerning assistance in cases of natural disaster and other disaster situations,

Recalling also the decision taken on 31 March 1976 by the Board of Governors of the United Nations Special Fund at its third session, in which it was provided that Guatemala should be included in the list of most seriously affected countries in accordance with section X of General Assembly resolution 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974,

1. *Expresses its deep sorrow* to the people and Government of Guatemala at the loss of life and the damage

caused to the infrastructure and the economy by the earthquakes of 4 and 6 February 1976;

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General²¹ and the statement by the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator²² concerning the emergency aid provided to Guatemala both by the United Nations system and by the Member States;

3. *Takes note also with satisfaction* of the report submitted by the Economic Commission for Latin America on the damage caused by the earthquake in Guatemala and its repercussions on the country's economic and social development;²³

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Children's Fund, other appropriate organizations and programmes, such as the World Food Programme, and the Economic Commission for Latin America, to allocate the most extensive possible financial, technical and other resources for the purpose of responding to requests made to them by the Government of Guatemala with a view to planning and implementing special programmes for national reconstruction;

5. *Requests* in particular the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, at its twenty-second session, to take urgent steps to provide special technical assistance, by means of the accelerated procedure already established, so as to assist the Government of Guatemala to carry out the process of national rehabilitation;

6. *Expresses the desire* that the World Bank and all other regional and international financial institutions, in particular the International Development Association and the Inter-American Development Bank, give urgent consideration to requests for assistance which the Government of Guatemala may submit in connexion with its programmes and projects for national reconstruction, particularly those of a medium-term and long-term nature, and act favourably on them under terms and arrangements consistent with the serious economic situation in which that country now finds itself;

7. *Decides* to keep the matter under review.

*1995th plenary meeting
6 May 1976*

1985 (LX). Measures to be taken following the cyclones and drought in Madagascar

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the Democratic Republic of Madagascar has recently suffered the effects of tropical cyclones which have caused loss of life and considerable damage to the economy of the country,

²¹ E/5796 and Corr.1 and 2.

²² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixtieth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1994th meeting.

²³ CEPAL/MEX/76/Guat.1.