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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: ENVIRONMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part X)

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed OULD SID'AHMED (Mauritania)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 69 (see A/36/694, para. 2). Action to be taken on subitem (j) was considered at the 25th, 28th, 31st, 35th, 44th and 46th meetings of the Committee, on 27 and 30 October, 6, 11 and 27 November and 7 December 1981. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/36/SR.25, 28, 31, 35, 44 and 46).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/36/L.12 and Rev.1

2. At the 25th meeting, on 27 October, the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on behalf of Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar and the Syrian Arab Republic, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.12), entitled "Problem of remnants of war". Subsequently Algeria, Angola, Cuba, Jordan, Kuwait, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates joined in sponsoring the resolution, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 2995 (XXVII), 2996 (XXVII) and 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, pertaining to co-operation among States in the field of the environment, the international responsibility of States in protecting the environment and the establishment of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

"Recalling also its resolutions 3435 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 and 35/71 of 5 December 1980,

"Recalling further decisions 80 (IV) of 9 April 1976, 1/ 101 (V) of 25 May 1977 2/ and 9/5 of 25 May 1981 3/ of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

"Convinced that the removal of remnants of war should be the responsibility of the countries that implanted them and should be carried out at their expense.

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 4/

"2. Regrets that no real action has been taken to solve the problem of remnants of war despite the various resolutions and decisions adopted by both the General Assembly and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

"3. Reiterates its support for the demand of the States affected by the implantation of mines on their lands for compensation for the losses incurred from the States which planted the mines;

"4. Appeals to all States to co-operate with the Secretary-General in order to enable him to make specific recommendations for solving the problem of remnants of war;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his contacts and consultations with Member States pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/71 in order to find ways and means for solving the problem of remnants of war, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session."

3. At the 35th meeting, on 11 November, the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on behalf of the sponsors, introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.12/Rev.1), which contained the following changes:

(a) Operative paragraph 3 was revised to read as follows:

"3. Reiterates its support for the demand of the States affected by the implantation of mines and the presence of other remnants of war on their lands for compensation for the losses incurred from the States responsible for those remnants";

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25), annex I.

2/ Ibid., Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/32/25), annex I.

3/ Ibid., Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

4/ A/36/531.

(b) Operative paragraph 4 was revised to read as follows:

"4. Appeals to all States, particularly those responsible for the presence of remnants of war in developing countries, to co-operate with the Secretary-General in order to enable him to make specific and effective recommendations for solving the problem of remnants of war";

(c) Operative paragraph 5 was revised to read as follows:

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his contacts and consultations with Member States pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/71 and to collate all relevant information received from States, in order to find ways and means, including the possibility of convening a conference under the auspices of the United Nations, for solving the problem of remnants of war, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session".

4. Malta and Mauritania subsequently joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

5. Statements were made before the vote by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution by 97 votes to none, with 28 abstentions 5/ (see para. 29, draft resolution I).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Italy, the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.21 and Rev.1

8. At the 28th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Bangladesh, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, India, Kenya, Norway, Sweden and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.21) entitled "Session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme in 1982", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling paragraphs 13 to 15 of its resolution 35/74 of 5 December 1980 on international co-operation in the field of the environment,

5/ Subsequently, the delegations of Madagascar and Malta indicated that, had they been present during the vote, they would have voted in favour.

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"Concerned that there is need to revive the sense of urgency and commitment by Governments for national and international co-operative action to protect and enhance the environment which found expression at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in June 1972,

"Considering that the fundamental changes in the perception of the environment and of environmental problems which have occurred since that Conference require the formulation of an adequate response by the world community which takes into account the interrelationships between people, resources, environment and development,

"1. Decides that the session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme should be held at Nairobi from 10 to 18 May 1982 and should report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

"2. Recommends that at that session there should be a limit of 15 minutes on statements by heads of delegation to the plenary;

"3. Approves the draft provisional agenda of the session as set forth in section I of the annex to the present resolution;

"4. Further decides that the rules of procedure of the Governing Council will apply to the session of a special character, with modifications to rules 17, 18, 19, 31 and 67 as recommended by the Governing Council and set forth in section II of the annex to the present resolution;

"5. Reiterates its invitation to Governments to prepare thoroughly for and to participate in the session of a special character at the highest political level, and specifically invites ministers dealing with the environment to participate;

"6. Agrees that there should be a special public information programme along the lines indicated by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme;

"7. "Encourages the participation of non-governmental organizations in the session of a special character, in accordance with the practices normally followed by the Governing Council.

"ANNEX

"Session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme in 1982

"I. Draft provisional agenda

"1. Opening of the session

- "2. Adoption of the rules of procedure
- "3. Election of the President of the session
- "4. Organizational and procedural matters
 - "(a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
 - "(b) Election of officers other than the President
- "5. Credentials of representatives
- "6. Review of the major achievements in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Human Environment
- "7. Future action and international co-operation in the field of the environment
 - "(a) Preparation of the Environmental Perspective Document to the year 2000 and beyond
 - "(b) Major environmental trends to be addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme over the next 10 years
- "8. Adoption of the report of the session
- "9. Closure of the session

"II. Amendments to the rules of procedure of the Governing Council for the session

"Rule 17 (Representation and credentials). In view of the broader participation to be expected at the session of a special character, the Council may wish, in line with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to establish a Credentials Committee of nine members, with the same composition as the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session. If this proposal is found to be acceptable, paragraph 2 of rule 17 of the rules of procedure of the Governing Council should be suspended for the duration of the session.

"Rule 18 (Elections)

- " (a) Paragraph 1 of rule 18 should be amended as follows:

' At the commencement of the first meeting of the session of a special character, the Governing Council shall elect, for the duration of that session, a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur from among its members. Those officers shall constitute the Bureau of the Governing Council. The Bureau shall assist the

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President in the general conduct of business of the Governing Council. The Chairman of such sessional committees or working parties as may be established under rule 60 below shall be invited to participate in meetings of the Bureau.'

"(b) Paragraph 2 of rule 18 should remain unchanged.

"(c) Paragraph 3 of rule 18 should be suspended for the duration of the session.

"Rule 19 (Terms of office) should be suspended for the duration of the session of a special character to permit that session to elect its own officers. If rule 19 is not suspended, the officers of the Council at its ninth session will remain in office during the session of a special character until the first meeting of the regular tenth session.

"Rule 31 (Quorum). Again, in view of the broader participation to be expected at the session of a special character, it would be advisable to amend this rule to bring it into line with rule 67 of the General Assembly on quorums. The amended rule might read:

'The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to start when at least one third of the members of the session of a special character of the Governing Council are present. The presence of a majority of the members shall be required for any decision to be taken.'

"Rule 67 (Participation of States members of the Governing Council). Since the General Assembly has decided that the session of a special character shall be open to all States, this rule should be suspended for the duration of the session."

9. A statement by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.21 was circulated (A/C.2/36/L.62).

10. At the 44th meeting, on 27 November, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of the sponsors, now joined by New Zealand, introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.21/Rev.1), which contained the following changes:

(a) The third preambular paragraph was revised to read:

"Recognizing that important changes in the perception of the environment and of environmental problems have occurred since that Conference and recognizing also the importance of the interrelationships between people, resources, environment and development,";

(b) A new fourth preambular paragraph was added, reading as follows:

"Convinced that the session of a special character represents a unique opportunity for Governments to re-emphasize their continued commitment and support to the cause of the environment and to the United Nations Environment Programme,";

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(c) Operative paragraph 2 was deleted and the subsequent paragraphs renumbered accordingly;

(d) A new operative paragraph 6 was inserted before paragraph 7, reading as follows:

"6. Decides that the present resolution should be implemented with due regard for the need for economy in respect of the preparations and arrangements for the session of a special character;"

(e) The following foot-note was added to item 4 of the draft provisional agenda:

" / Statements in plenary meeting are expected to be made in accordance with decision 9/2 of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme.";

(f) Item 7 of the draft provisional agenda was revised to read:

"7. Future perspectives, action and international co-operation in the field of the environment, and major environmental trends to be addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme over the next 10 years".

11. A statement by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of revised draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.21/Rev.1 was circulated (A/C.2/36/L.62/Rev.1).

12. At the same meeting, a representative of the Secretariat made a statement in which he further revised the statement of administrative and financial implications (A/C.2/36/L.62/Rev.1) with the following changes:

(a) In section II, entitled "Information programme to support a session of a special character" subparagraphs 8 (b), (d), (e) and (f) were deleted. Similarly, in the table summarizing the public information activities estimated to require additional provisions, items (b), (d), (e) and (f) with their corresponding estimated figures were deleted. The total figure of "82,800" was accordingly revised to read "43,000";

(b) In section IV, entitled "Summary", item 2, the figure "82,800" was replaced by the figure "43,000", and the total figure of "702,000" was accordingly revised to read "662,200".

13. The Committee then adopted draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.21/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution II).

14. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics made a statement.

15. At the 47th meeting, on 1 December, the Rapporteur orally corrected section II of the annex to the draft resolution.

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C. Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.22 and A/C.2/36/L.51

16. At the 28th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of the Gambia, on behalf of Benin, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, the Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Qatar, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, the United Republic of Cameroon, the Upper Volta and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification". Bangladesh, the Central African Republic, Ecuador, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United States of America subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 32/170 of 10 December 1977, 32/172 of 19 December 1977, 33/88 and 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/184, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979, and 35/72 and 35/73 of 5 December 1980,

"Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/37 of 21 July 1978, 1979/51 of 2 August 1979, 1980/52 of 23 July 1980 and 1981/72 of 23 July 1981,

"Noting decisions 9/22 B of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and decision 81/4 of 19 June 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,

"Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 6/

"Reiterating its concern over the severe effects of desertification, a major form of environmental degradation and an obstacle to development in fragile ecosystems, on the socio-economic development and the way of life of the people of the Sudano-Sahelian region, and emphasizing again the need to hasten the implementation in the region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region; 6/

"2. Expresses its satisfaction with the progress made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in assisting the Governments of the region, on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme and under a joint venture of the Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme, in implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

"3. Also notes with satisfaction the addition of Benin to the list of countries to be assisted by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in the efforts to implement the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

"4. Commends the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme for the effective and co-ordinated manner in which they have continued to develop the joint venture through the instrumentality of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office;

"5. Takes note of the decisions of the Governing Councils of the United Nations Environment Programme and of the United Nations Development Programme aimed at expanding and strengthening the joint venture, and invites them to continue to intensify their support for the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in order to enable it to carry out its increased responsibilities at a level commensurate with the pressing needs of the countries of the region;

"6. Expresses its gratitude to the Governments, agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and other organizations that have contributed to the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

"7. Urges all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental bodies, private organizations and individuals to continue to repond favourably, bilaterally or through the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office or any other intermediary, to requests for assistance from the Governments of the Sudano-Sahelian region in combating desertification;

"8. Requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to report annually, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region."

17. At the 35th meeting, on 11 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.51) submitted by Mr. Gerben Ringnalda, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.22.

18. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.51 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution III), in the light of which draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.22 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

19. Statements were made by the representatives of the Gambia and Poland (also on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

D. Draft resolutions A/C.2/36/L.32 and A/C.2/36/L.110

20. At the 31st meeting, on 6 November, the representative of Jamaica introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.32) entitled "Study on financing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification". The Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Guinea, Pakistan

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and the Sudan subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, in which it approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 7/ and its resolutions 33/88 and 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/184, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979 and 35/72 and 35/73 of 5 December 1980, dealing with the various aspects of the implementation of the Plan of Action,

"Taking note of the relevant sections of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth session 8/ and Governing Council decision 9/22 of 26 May 1981 on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 9/

"Having considered the report on financing the Plan of Action, 10/ prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the United Nations Environment Programme and with the assistance of groups of experts on the subjects concerned, convened by the Executive Director of the Programme,

"1. Notes with concern that the problem of insufficient financing and the increasing demands on the scarce resources of countries suffering from desertification are constraining the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

"2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General and the annex thereto containing feasibility studies on and detailed modalities for financing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification prepared by a group of high-level specialists in international financing;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation:

"(a) To examine the recommendations on the additional means of financing, including those providing for a predictable flow of funds, and to consider how these may be implemented within the context of continuing efforts to strengthen international economic co-operation;

7/ A/CONF.74/36, chap. I.

8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25).

9/ Ibid., annex I.

10/ A/36/141.

"(b) To determine the most appropriate ways and means by which the organizations of the United Nations system, Member States, the regional development banks and other intergovernmental and private sources of financing can initiate concrete measures for the application of the modalities of obtaining financial resources on a concessionary basis;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to obtain the views of Governments and Member States on their interest in participating financially in the establishment of an independent corporation for the financing of desertification control projects according to the plan presented in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General;

"5. Further requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the above-mentioned measures to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session."

21. At its 44th meeting, on 27 November, the Committee considered a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.110) submitted by Mr. Gerben Ringnalda, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.32.

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.110 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution IV).

23. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.110, draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.32 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

24. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of States members of the European Economic Community) and Poland (also on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

E. Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.45 and A/C.2/36/L.132

25. At the 35th meeting, on 11 November, the representative of India, on behalf of Argentina, Iceland, India, Kenya, Nepal, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Sweden and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.45) entitled "International co-operation on the environment: report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth session", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its ninth session, 11/ and the

report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development, 12/ prepared on the basis of the recommendations of a high-level group of experts,

"Noting Economic and Social Council resolutions 1981/73 of 24 July 1981 concerning international co-operation in the field of the environment and 1981/51 of 22 July 1981 on the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development,

"Noting also the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation on the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development, 13/

"Taking into account the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on problems relating to marine pollution, 14/ and the report of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization on the same subject, 15/

"Taking into account also the note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of environment 16/ and the reports of the Secretary-General on the problem of remnants of war, 17/ the draft world charter for nature 18/ and on the historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations, 19/

"Bearing in mind the importance which the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade attaches to an ecologically sustainable development process, the need for further international co-operation in the field of the environment and that environmental considerations should be viewed in the context of national plans and priorities and development objectives of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

12/ UNEP/GC.9/2/Add.4, annex II.

13/ A/36/571.

14/ See A/36/452.

15/ See A/36/233.

16/ A/36/142.

17/ A/36/531.

18/ A/36/539.

19/ A/36/532 and Corr.1.

"1. Takes note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its ninth session 20/ and the decisions adopted by the Governing Council at that session; 21/

"2. Takes note also of the efforts of the United Nations Environment Programme with regard to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, as reflected in its medium-term plan for 1982-1983 and in the objectives of the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme for 1984-1989, as endorsed by the Governing Council; 22/

"3. Requests organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take fully into account the view of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination that the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme should be seen not only as a document of use to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, but also, to the extent relevant to their particular mandates, as a document of basic interest to their governing bodies, 23/ and expresses its appreciation for the continued efforts made by the United Nations Environment Programme, in co-operation with the entire United Nations system, in the development of the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme;

"4. Calls upon the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to play its role fully in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and stresses the need for all Governments and United Nations agencies to take environmental considerations fully into account when participating in negotiations and conferences organized by the United Nations on subjects other than the environment;

"5. Endorses, as recommended by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, 24/ the proposals made by the high-level group of experts on the interrelationships between resources, environment, people

20/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25).

21/ Ibid., annex I.

22/ Ibid., decision 9/10 B.

23/ See UNEP/GC.9/4/Add.1, para. 5.

24/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25), annex I, decision 9/1, sect. II.

and development 25/ and the important role which the United Nations Environment Programme should assume in this regard, consistent with its mandate, and requests the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation to provide for the implementation of those proposals within the framework of the programme of work which is being established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/74, taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/51;

"6. Stresses the importance it attaches to the development of the Environmental Perspective to the year 2000 and beyond and invites the session of a special character of the Governing Council and the Governing Council at its tenth session to consider instituting a suitable process for the preparation of the Environmental Perspective document and to make such recommendations as may be appropriate in this regard to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

"7. Stresses the need for additional resources to be made available to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for developing countries to deal with their most serious environmental problems such as soil degradation and deforestation and in this context welcomes the consultations by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme with Governments;

"8. Notes that the Economic and Social Council has agreed to consider at its second regular session of 1982, 26/ the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on additional resources for serious environmental problems in developing countries, requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 12 of its resolution 35/74;

"9. Welcomes the stress placed by the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy on the environmental effects of the production and use of various renewable sources of energy and calls upon the United Nations Environment Programme to play an active role in the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, 27/ as regards the relationship between new and renewable sources of energy and the environment;

"10. Also welcomes the growing co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and urges them to intensify that co-operation through, inter alia, joint meetings of their bureaux with the Executive Directors of both organizations on an annual basis;

25/ Ibid., Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25), annex II.

26/ Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/73, para. 8.

27/ Report of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Nairobi, 10 to 21 August 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.I.24), chap. I, sect. A.

"11. Notes the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme concerning problems relating to marine pollution 24/ and the report of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization on the same subject, 25/ submitted in pursuance of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 34/183 of 18 December 1979;

"12. Expresses its appreciation to Governments that continue to contribute generously to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

"13. Appeals to all Governments to increase substantially their contributions to the Fund and to make before the end of 1981, firm pledges of contributions to the Fund for the period 1982-1983, taking into account decision 9/23 of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as adopted;

"14. Reiterates its appeal to Governments that have not yet contributed to the Fund to do so before the end of 1981 and to those Governments still contributing amounts below their means to increase their contributions for the period 1982-1983."

26. At its 46th meeting, on 7 December the Committee considered a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.132) submitted by Mr. Gerben Ringnalda, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.45.

27. At the same meeting, draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.45 was withdrawn by the sponsors, and the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.132 without a vote (see para. 29, draft resolution V).

28. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Federal Republic of Germany.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

29. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Problem of remnants of war

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2995 (XXVII), 2996 (XXVII) and 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, pertaining to co-operation among States in the field of the environment, the international responsibility of States in protecting the environment and the establishment of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

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Recalling also its resolutions 3435 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 and 35/71 of 5 December 1980,

Recalling further decisions 80 (IV) of 9 April 1976, 28/ 101 (V) of 25 May 1977 29/ and 9/5 of 25 May 1981 30/ of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Convinced that the removal of remnants of war should be the responsibility of the countries that implanted them and should be carried out at their expense,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 31/
2. Regrets that no real action has been taken to solve the problem of remnants of war despite the various resolutions and decisions adopted by both the General Assembly and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;
3. Reiterates its support for the demand of the States affected by the implantation of mines and the presence of other remnants of war on their lands for compensation for the losses incurred from the States responsible for those remnants;
4. Appeals to all States, particularly those responsible for the presence of remnants of war in developing countries, to co-operate with the Secretary-General in order to enable him to make specific and effective recommendations for solving the problem of remnants of war;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his contacts and consultations with Member States pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/71 and to collate all relevant information received from States, in order to find ways and means, including the possibility of convening a conference under the auspices of the United Nations, for solving the problem of remnants of war, and to report to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

28/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25), annex I.

29/ Ibid., Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/32/25), annex I.

30/ Ibid., Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

31/ A/36/531.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Session of a special character of the Governing Council of the
United Nations Environment Programme to be held in 1982

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraphs 13 to 15 of its resolution 35/74 of 5 December 1980 on international co-operation in the field of the environment,

Concerned that there is need to revive the sense of urgency and commitment by Governments for national and international co-operative action to protect and enhance the environment, which found expression at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,

Recognizing that important changes in the perception of the environment and of environmental problems have occurred since that Conference and recognizing also the importance of the interrelationships between people, resources, environment and development,

Convinced that the session of a special character represents a unique opportunity for Governments to re-emphasize their continued commitment and support to the cause of the environment and to the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. Decides that the session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme should be held at Nairobi from 10 to 18 May 1982 and should report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;
2. Approves the draft provisional agenda for the session as set forth in section I of the annex to the present resolution;
3. Further decides that the rules of procedure of the Governing Council will apply to the session of a special character, with modifications to rules 17, 18, 19, 31 and 67 as recommended by the Governing Council and set forth in section II of the annex to the present resolution;
4. Reiterates its invitation to Governments to prepare thoroughly for and to participate in the session of a special character at the highest political level, and specifically invites ministers dealing with the environment to participate in the session;
5. Agrees that there should be a special public information programme along the lines indicated by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, which should to a large extent be financed within existing resources;
6. Decides that the present resolution should be implemented with due regard for the need for economy in respect of the preparations and arrangements for the session of a special character;

7. Encourages the participation of non-governmental organizations in the session of a special character, in accordance with the practices normally followed by the Governing Council.

ANNEX

Session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to be held in 1982

I. DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
3. Election of the President of the session.
4. Organizational and procedural matters; 32/
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
 - (b) Election of officers other than the President.
5. Credentials of representatives.
6. Review of the major achievements in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Human Environment.
7. Future perspectives, action and international co-operation in the field of the environment, and major environmental trends to be addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme over the next 10 years.
8. Adoption of the report of the session.
9. Closure of the session.

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL FOR THE SESSION

Rule 17 (Representation and credentials). Paragraph 2 shall be amended to read as follows:

32/ Statements in plenary meeting are expected to be made in accordance with decision 9/2 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme.

/...

"A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the session of a special character. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the session of a special character without delay."

Rule 18 (Elections)

(a) Paragraph 1 shall be amended as follows:

"At the commencement of the first meeting of the session of a special character, the Governing Council shall elect, for the duration of that session, a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur from among its members. Those officers shall constitute the Bureau of the Governing Council. The Bureau shall assist the President in the general conduct of business of the Governing Council. The Chairman of such sessional committees or working parties as may be established under rule 60 below shall be invited to participate in meetings of the Bureau."

(b) Paragraph 2 shall remain unchanged;

(c) Paragraph 3 shall be suspended for the duration of the session of a special character.

Rule 19 (Terms of office) shall be suspended for the duration of the session of a special character.

Rule 31 (Quorum) shall read:

"The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to start when at least one third of the members of the session of a special character of the Governing Council are present. The presence of a majority of the members shall be required for any decision to be taken."

Rule 67 (Participation of States members of the Governing Council). This rule shall be suspended for the duration of the session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action
to Combat Desertification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/170 of 10 December 1977, 32/172 of 19 December 1977, 33/88 and 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/184, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979, and 35/72 and 35/73 of 5 December 1980,

/...

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/37 of 21 July 1978, 1979/51 of 2 August 1979, 1980/52 of 23 July 1980 and 1981/72 of 24 July 1981,

Noting decisions 9/22 B of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme 33/ and decision 81/4 of 19 June 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, 34/

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 35/

Reiterating its concern over the severe effects of desertification, a major form of environmental degradation and an obstacle to development in fragile ecosystems, on the socio-economic development and the way of life of the people of the Sudano-Sahelian region, and emphasizing again the need to hasten the implementation in the region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 36/

1. Takes note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region; 35/
2. Expresses its satisfaction with the progress made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in assisting the Governments of the region, on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme and under a joint venture of the Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme, in implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;
3. Also notes with satisfaction the addition of Benin to the list of countries to be assisted by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in the efforts to implement the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;
4. Commends the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme for the effective and co-ordinated manner in which they have continued to develop the joint venture through the instrumentality of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office;

33/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

34/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 11 (E/1981/61/Rev.1), annex I.

35/ A/36/144, annex.

36/ A/CONF.74/36, chap. I.

5. Takes note of the decisions of the Governing Councils of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme aimed at expanding and strengthening the joint venture and invites them to continue to intensify their support for the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in order to enable it to carry out its increased responsibilities at a level commensurate with the pressing needs of the countries of the region;

6. Expresses its gratitude to the Governments, agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and other organizations that have contributed to the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

7. Urges all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental and other organizations to continue to respond favourably, bilaterally or through the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office or any other intermediary, to requests for assistance from the Governments of the Sudano-Sahelian region in combating desertification;

8. Requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to report annually, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Study on financing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, in which it approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 37/ and its resolutions 33/88 and 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/184, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979 and 35/72 and 35/73 of 5 December 1980, dealing with the various aspects of the implementation of the Plan of Action,

Taking note of the relevant sections of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth session 38/ and Governing Council decisions 9/22 A and B of 26 May 1981 on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 39/

37/ A/CONF.74/36, chap. I.

38/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25).

39/ Ibid., annex I.

1. Notes with concern that the problem of insufficient financing and the increasing demands on the scarce resources of countries suffering from desertification are constraining the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General 40/ and the annex thereto containing feasibility studies on and detailed modalities for financing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification prepared by a group of high-level specialists in international financing;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to obtain the views of Member States on the feasibility studies and concrete recommendations for the implementation of the additional measures of financing deemed practicable by the Secretary-General, and also on the modalities for obtaining financial resources, as described in paragraphs 13 to 17 of the report of the Secretary-General;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to obtain the views of Member States on the establishment of an independent corporation for the financing of desertification-control projects on the basis of the plan presented in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General and also to ascertain the views of Governments as to their interest in participating financially therein;

5. Further requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

International co-operation in the field of the environment

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its ninth session, 41/ including annex II thereto,

Noting Economic and Social Council resolutions 1981/73 of 24 July 1981, concerning international co-operation in the field of the environment, and 1981/51 of 22 July 1981 on the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development,

40/ A/36/141.

41/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1).

Taking into account the note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment, 42/

Bearing in mind the importance which the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade 43/ attaches to an ecologically sustainable development process and the need for further international co-operation in the field of the environment, and considering that environmental considerations should be viewed in the context of national plans and priorities and development objectives of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

Welcoming the convening of an Ad Hoc Meeting of Senior Government Officials, Expert in Environmental Law at Montevideo from 28 October to 6 November 1981,

Stressing the need for additional resources to be made available to the Environment Fund for the developing countries to deal with their most serious environmental problems, such as soil degradation and deforestation, which are examples of very severe deterioration of natural resources that call for particular attention,

Recognizing that environmental deficiencies generated by the conditions of underdevelopment pose grave problems and can best be remedied by accelerated development through the transfer of substantial quantities of financial and technical assistance as a supplement to the domestic effort of the developing countries and such timely assistance as may be required,

1. Takes note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as adopted, on the work of its ninth session 41/ and the decisions adopted by the Governing Council at that session; 44/
2. Takes note also of the efforts of the United Nations Environment Programme with regard to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, as reflected in its medium-term plan for 1982-1983 and in the objectives of the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme for 1984-1989, as endorsed by the Governing Council;
3. Requests organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take into account the view of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination that the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme should be seen not only as a document of use to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme but also as a document of basic interest to their governing bodies, to

42/ A/36/142.

43/ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

44/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

the extent that they deem appropriate and to the extent relevant to their particular mandates, and expresses its appreciation for the continued efforts made by the United Nations Environment Programme, in co-operation with the entire United Nations system, in the development of the System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme;

4. Calls upon the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to play its role fully in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and stresses the need for all Governments and bodies of the United Nations system to take environmental considerations fully into account when participating in negotiations and conferences organized by the United Nations on subjects other than the environment;

5. Welcomes the recommendations of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme as contained in section II of its decision 9/1 of 26 May 1981, as well as those made by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolutions 1981/51 and 1981/73, concerning the system-wide programme of work on the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development and the important role which the United Nations Environment Programme should assume in this regard consistent with its mandate, and requests the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation to take the requisite steps for their implementation;

6. Stresses the importance it attaches to the development of the Environmental Perspective to the year 2000 and beyond and invites the Governing Council, at its session of a special character and at its tenth session, to make such recommendations as may be appropriate;

7. Reaffirms the catalytic mandate and role of the United Nations Environment Programme, 45/ recognizes the desirability of mobilizing voluntary resources for meeting the most serious environmental problems of developing countries, welcomes the consultations being undertaken by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on possible means of providing additional resources for developing countries, and notes that the Economic and Social Council has agreed to consider at its second regular session of 1982 the report of the Governing Council on this subject, as requested in paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 35/74 of 5 December 1980;

8. Welcomes the stress placed by the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy on the environmental effects of the production and use of various renewable sources of energy and calls upon the United Nations Environment Programme to play an active role in the implementation of the Nairobi programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable

45/ See General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 3326 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974.

Sources of Energy, 46/ as regards the relationship between new and renewable sources of energy and the environment;

9. Also welcomes the growing co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

10. Takes note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on marine pollution; 47/

11. Takes note also of the report of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization on marine pollution; 48/

12. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments that continue to contribute generously to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

13. Appeals to all Governments to increase substantially their contributions to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and to make, before the end of 1981, firm pledges of contributions to the Fund for the period 1982-1983, taking into account decision 9/23 of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as adopted;

14. Reiterates its appeal to Governments that have not yet contributed to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme to do so before the end of 1981 and to those Governments still contributing amounts below their means to increase their contributions for the period 1982-1983.

46/ Report of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Nairobi, 10 to 21 August 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.I.24), chap. I, sect. A.

47/ A/36/452, annex.

48/ A/36/233.