

**1981/76. Prospects for the development of non-metallic raw materials**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having regard* to its resolution 1954 (LIX) of 25 July 1975 on problems of availability and supply of natural resources,

*Recognizing* the importance of natural resources for economic development, in particular non-metallic raw materials,

*Recalling* that the Committee on Natural Resources considered copper, nickel and chromium, and molybdenum, cobalt and vanadium, as well as phosphate rock and potash, at its fifth, sixth and seventh sessions, respectively,

*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on trends and salient issues in respect of mineral resources, with particular reference to molybdenum, cobalt and vanadium and including problems of the transfer of technology,<sup>112</sup> and on phosphate rock and potash,<sup>113</sup>

*Taking into account* the work undertaken by other United Nations organizations concerned, such as the United Nations Industrial Development Organization,

*Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, for the eighth session of the Committee on Natural Resources, a comprehensive report on the prospects for the development of non-metallic raw materials, with special reference to non-metallic minerals for the construction, paper, ceramics and glass industries, bearing in mind developments in material sciences, and paying special attention to measures that might be undertaken to evaluate prospective raw materials in developing countries.

*41st plenary meeting  
24 July 1981*

**1981/77. Trends and salient issues, with particular reference to rare metals, especially tantalum, niobium (columbium) and lithium**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having regard* to Economic and Social Council resolution 1954 (LIX) of 25 July 1975 on problems of availability and supply of natural resources,

*Recalling* that issues related to the raw materials base of the copper, nickel, chromium, molybdenum, cobalt, vanadium and phosphate rock and potash industries have been discussed at previous sessions of the Committee on Natural Resources,

*Reaffirming* that the Committee on Natural Resources should continue to consider problems of availability and supply of natural resources of selected minerals and metals,

*Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, for submission to the Committee on Natural Resources at its

<sup>112</sup> E/C.7/115.

<sup>113</sup> E/C.7/114 and Corr.1.

eighth session, a report evaluating the development prospects of rare metals, with special reference to tantalum, niobium (columbium) and lithium, and paying special attention to measures that might be undertaken in the developing countries to increase exploration for and production of those metals.

*41st plenary meeting  
24 July 1981*

**1981/78. Survey of planned investment for mineral development**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having regard* to its resolution 1954 (LIX) of 25 July 1975 on problems of availability and supply of natural resources,

*Bearing in mind* that continued investment in exploration for mineral resources and in new mines and processing plants is of great importance for the development of the mineral sector of all countries, especially the developing countries, and for ensuring uninterrupted supplies of vital mineral raw materials,

*Aware* that information on planned investment and its regional distribution, while important for policy decisions by Governments, is not adequately available to most developing countries or is often unreliable and not sufficiently detailed,

*Recognizing* that information on the actual implementation of exploration programmes and the development of new capacity is not in many cases readily available,

*Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, for the Committee on Natural Resources at its eighth session, a report analysing investments, both planned and effectively made, in major mineral industries, in particular in regard to the regional distribution of mineral exploration and development, and paying special attention to measures that might be undertaken to assist developing countries in strengthening their capacity to respond promptly to changing situations and to establish and implement effective mineral resources development policies.

*41st plenary meeting  
24 July 1981*

**1981/79. Availability and supply of selected minerals: phosphate rock and potash**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having regard* to its resolution 1954 (LIX) of 25 July 1975 on problems of availability and supply of natural resources,

*Bearing in mind* that a number of developing countries are interested in an evaluation of the situation with regard to exploration for and development of indigenous fertilizer raw materials, in particular phosphate rock, and noting the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Availability and