

Taking into account the discussion in the Committee on Natural Resources at its sixth session on the report of the Group of Experts on Definitions and Terminology for Mineral Resources⁷⁶ appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1954 B (LIX) of 25 July 1975,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Group of Experts on Definitions and Terminology for Mineral Resources;

2. *Notes* that the Group of Experts did not deal with the problems of definition and terminology relating to mineral production and consumption;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review present practices in the United Nations and other international organizations in reporting, compiling and publishing statistics on mineral production and consumption, including statistics on secondary recovery of metals;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to convene subsequently a group of experts, whose members should be selected on an equitable geographical basis, to develop a common set of definitions and terminology that could be used for the reporting, compilation and publication by the United Nations of statistics on mineral production and consumption, including secondary recovery of metals;

5. *Further requests* that the group of experts to be appointed should present the results of its work in the form of a report to be submitted to the Committee on Natural Resources at its eighth session.

*40th plenary meeting
3 August 1979*

1979/73. Intergovernmental Conference on Strategies and Policies for Informatics: report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the Intergovernmental Conference on Strategies and Policies for Informatics,⁷⁷ which was submitted to the Council pursuant to its resolution 1978/43 of 1 August 1978 on the application of computer science and technology to development,

Aware of the importance of informatics and its many applications to social and economic development,

1. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in co-operation with the Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics, to continue to carry out programmes adopted by them in support of the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Conference on Strategies and Policies for Informatics;

2. *Requests* the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to continue to give attention to effective co-operation and the co-ordination of programmes to assist Member States, with a view to enabling them to take full advantage of the possibilities offered by informatics for furthering their social and economic development;

3. *Decides* to take note of the report of the Intergovernmental Conference and to bring it to the atten-

tion of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development.

*40th plenary meeting
3 August 1979*

1979/74. Consumer protection

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2111 (LXIII) of 4 August 1977 and 1978/42 of 1 August 1978,

Recognizing that consumer protection has an important bearing on economic and social development, as well as on the health, safety and welfare of the people of all countries,

Recognizing further that international co-operation in this area is important in promoting the economic and social development of developing countries,

Taking into account the importance of having available all public information on prohibitions and restrictions applying to consumer goods exported to other countries,

Convinced that in their efforts to prevent the promotion of products dangerous to human health, safety and welfare, States should consider the importance of regulating advertising to that end,

Recognizing that in view of the importance of preventing damage which may be caused to human health, safety and welfare by consumer products, States should consider the appropriate regulation of, *inter alia*, those commercial practices of enterprises, including those of transnational corporations, which are harmful to the interests of consumers,

1. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Secretary-General on consumer protection;⁷⁸

2. *Requests* all organizations of the United Nations system to take into account, in the elaboration of programmes in their respective areas of specialization, the preliminary list of options contained in the interim report of the Secretary-General on consumer protection and based on the "eight broad areas of technical assistance" listed in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Consumer protection: institutional arrangements and legal measures"⁷⁹ and to report to the Secretary-General on their action in this connexion;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, drawing upon all United Nations organs, agencies and programmes concerned, and on the regional commissions, to prepare, within the existing financial resources, a comprehensive report on consumer protection which would include, *inter alia*, proposals for adequate standards and other measures on consumer protection which States could consider adopting, taking into account in particular the concern of developing countries with the issues of consumer protection related to trade and development, to include in the report his proposals on the organizational arrangements envisaged for carrying out work on consumer protection within the United Nations system, and to submit the report to the Council at its second regular session of 1981;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the action undertaken in pursuance of paragraph 3 above to the Council at its second regular session of 1980.

*40th plenary meeting
3 August 1979*

⁷⁶ E/C.7/104.

⁷⁷ E/1978/143/Rev.1.

⁷⁸ E/1979/65 and Corr.1.

⁷⁹ E/1978/81.