

3154 (XXVIII). Effects of atomic radiation

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3063 (XXVIII) of 9 November 1973, in which it requested a special report from the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and in view of the anxieties expressed by the representatives of various Member States concerning pollution of the environment by ionizing radiation emanating from tests of nuclear weapons,

Noting with appreciation the special report submitted by the Scientific Committee,²⁷

Noting with concern that there has been additional radio-active fall-out resulting in additions to the total doses of ionizing radiation since the Scientific Committee prepared its last report,²⁸

Reaffirming its deep apprehension concerning the harmful consequences of nuclear weapon tests for the acceleration of the arms race and for the health of present and future generations,

1. *Deplores* environmental pollution by ionizing radiation from the testing of nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation to continue its work, including its co-ordination activities, to increase knowledge of the levels and effects of atomic radiation from all sources.

2202nd plenary meeting
14 December 1973

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 3063 (XXVIII) of 9 November 1973,

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which man is exposed,

Conscious of the continued need for compiling information about atomic radiation and for analysing its effects on man and his environment,

Recalling that, as recognized in General Assembly resolution 2905 (XXVII) of 17 October 1972, the Scientific Committee can become an element of value in the United Nations Environment Programme,

Expressing regret that the Scientific Committee had very little time and information available to it in preparing for its special session,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the special report submitted by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation;²⁹

2. *Commends* the Scientific Committee for the valuable contributions it has made since its inception to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels and effects of atomic radiation;

3. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its co-ordination activities, to increase knowledge of the levels and effects of atomic radiation from all sources;

4. *Requests* the Scientific Committee in particular to continue at its twenty-third session, to be held in October 1974, to review and assess the levels, effects and risks of radiation from all sources and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Scientific Committee with the assistance necessary for the conduct of its work and the dissemination of its findings to the public.

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C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject,

Recognizing the valuable contribution made by the Scientific Committee to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels and effects of atomic radiation,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the atomic radiation to which man and natural resources are exposed,

Noting with concern that nuclear weapon tests are still being conducted in the atmosphere and other environments,

Conscious of the need for the Governments of Member States to commit themselves to giving the Scientific Committee the greatest possible co-operation in order that its work may be more effective,

Recalling its resolution 3063 (XXVIII) of 9 November 1973, by which it decided to consider means of enhancing the effectiveness of the Scientific Committee,

1. *Decides* to increase the membership of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation to a maximum of twenty, while reaffirming the need for the members of the Committee to be represented by scientists;

2. *Invites* the Governments which desire to participate in the Scientific Committee and are able to contribute to its work to inform the President of the General Assembly, through the Secretary-General, before 15 February 1974; in the event that more than five Governments inform the President of the Assembly of their desire to become part of the Scientific Committee, the new members of the Committee will be selected by the President of the Assembly, in consultation with the chairmen of the regional groups, on the basis of an equitable geographical distribution;

3. *Urges* the Scientific Committee to request from Member States, as frequently as may be necessary, the

²⁷ A/9349.

²⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/8725 and Corr.1).*

²⁹ A/9349.

detailed information which it needs to assist it in its work;

4. *Authorizes* the Scientific Committee, in response to a request by the Government of a country which is situated in an area of nuclear arms testing or which considers that it is exposed to atomic radiation by reason of such testing, to appoint a group of experts from among its members for the purpose of visiting that country, at the latter's expense, and of consulting with its scientific authorities and informing the Committee of the consultations;

5. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and invites the non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to assist the Scientific Committee in its work;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Scientific Committee with the administrative assistance necessary for the efficient conduct of its work.

*2202nd plenary meeting
14 December 1973*