

Anxious that progress be made towards creating conditions which would facilitate the reunification of Korea on the basis of the freely expressed will of the Korean people,

Concerned at reports of further events in Korea which, if continued, could hamper efforts to create the peaceful conditions which are one of the prerequisites of the establishment of a unified and independent Korea,

1. *Reaffirms* that the objectives of the United Nations in Korea are to bring about, by peaceful means, the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic Korea under a representative form of government, and the full restoration of international peace and security in the area;

2. *Expresses the belief* that arrangements should be made to achieve these objectives through genuinely free elections held in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

3. *Calls* for co-operation in the easing of tensions in the area and, in particular, for the avoidance of incidents and activities in violation of the Armistice Agreement of 1953;

4. *Notes with approval* the efforts made by the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, in pursuit of its mandate, to encourage the exercise of restraint and the easing of tensions in the area and to secure maximum support, assistance and co-operation in the realization of the peaceful reunification of Korea;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea to pursue these and other efforts to achieve the objectives of the United Nations in Korea, to continue to carry out the tasks previously assigned to it by the General Assembly and to keep members of the Assembly informed on the situation in the area and on the results of these efforts through regular reports submitted to the Secretary-General, and to the General Assembly as appropriate;

6. *Notes* that the United Nations forces which were sent to Korea in accordance with United Nations resolutions have in greater part already been withdrawn, that the sole objective of the United Nations forces at present in Korea is to preserve the peace and security of the area, and that the Governments concerned are prepared to withdraw their remaining forces from Korea whenever such action is requested by the Republic of Korea or whenever the conditions for a lasting settlement formulated by the General Assembly have been fulfilled.

*1818th plenary meeting,
25 November 1969.*

2574 (XXIV). Question of the reservation exclusively for peaceful purposes of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, underlying the high seas beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction, and the use of their resources in the interests of mankind

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2340 (XXII) of 18 December 1967 and 2467 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968,

Having regard for the fact that the problems relating to the high seas, territorial waters, contiguous zones, the continental shelf, the superjacent waters, and the sea-bed and ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, are closely linked together,

Considering that the definition of the continental shelf contained in the Convention on the Continental Shelf of 29 April 1958² does not define with sufficient precision the limits of the area over which a coastal State exercises sovereign rights for the purpose of exploration and exploitation of natural resources, and that customary international law on the subject is inconclusive,

Noting that developing technology is making the entire sea-bed and ocean floor progressively accessible and exploitable for scientific, economic, military and other purposes,

Affirming that there exists an area of the sea-bed and ocean floor and the subsoil thereof which lies beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Affirming further that this area should be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and its resources utilized for the benefit of all mankind,

Convinced of the urgent necessity of preserving this area from encroachment, or appropriation by any State, inconsistent with the common interest of mankind,

Noting that the establishment of an equitable international régime for this area would facilitate the task of determining the limits of the area to which that régime is to apply,

Noting further the continuing efforts of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction to elaborate such a régime in accordance with paragraph 2 (a) of resolution 2467 A (XXIII),

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ascertain the views of Member States on the desirability of convening at an early date a conference on the law of the sea to review the régimes of the high seas, the continental shelf, the territorial sea and contiguous zone, fishing and conservation of the living resources of the high seas, particularly in order to arrive at a clear, precise and internationally accepted definition of the area of the sea-bed and ocean floor which lies beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, in the light of the international régime to be established for that area;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the results of his consultations to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session.

*1833rd plenary meeting,
15 December 1969.*

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2340 (XXII) of 18 December 1967 and 2467 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction,³

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 499 (1964), No. 7302.
³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 22 (A/7622 and Corr.1) and Supplement No. 22A (A/7622/Add.1).*

Expressing its satisfaction to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and to the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization for their participation in and contribution to the Committee's work, as well as to the Secretary-General for his assistance,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction;

2. *Invites* the Committee to consider further the questions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 2467 (XXIII) with a view to formulating recommendations on these questions, in the light of the reports and studies to be made available to it and taking into account the views expressed in the Assembly at its twenty-fourth session;

3. *Notes with interest* the synthesis at the end of the report of the Legal Sub-Committee,⁴ which reflects the extent of the work done in the formulation of principles designed to promote international co-operation in the exploration and use of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and ensure the exploitation of their resources for the benefit of mankind, irrespective of the geographical location of States, taking into account the special interests and needs of the developing countries, whether land-locked or coastal;

4. *Requests* the Committee to expedite its work of preparing a comprehensive and balanced statement of these principles and to submit a draft declaration to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session;

5. *Takes note* of the suggestions contained in the report of the Economic and Technical Sub-Committee;⁵

6. *Requests* the Committee to formulate recommendations regarding the economic and technical conditions and the rules for the exploitation of the resources of this area in the context of the régime to be set up.

*1833rd plenary meeting,
15 December 1969.*

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2467 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction,⁶

Noting with satisfaction the study on international machinery prepared by the Secretary-General, which is annexed to that report,⁷

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Committee that the Secretary-General should be requested to continue this study in depth,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a further study on various types of international ma-

⁴ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 22 (A/7622 and Corr.1), part two.

⁵ *Ibid.*, part three.

⁶ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 22 (A/7622 and Corr.1) and Supplement No. 22A (A/7622/Add.1).

⁷ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 22 (A/7622 and Corr.1), annex II.

chinery, particularly a study covering in depth the status, structure, functions and powers of an international machinery, having jurisdiction over the peaceful uses of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, including the power to regulate, co-ordinate, supervise and control all activities relating to the exploration and exploitation of their resources, for the benefit of mankind as a whole, irrespective of the geographical location of States, taking into account the special interests and needs of the developing countries, whether land-locked or coastal;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit his report thereon to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction for consideration during one of its sessions in 1970;

3. *Calls upon* the Committee to submit a report on this question to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session.

*1833rd plenary meeting,
15 December 1969.*

D

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2467 A (XXIII) of 21 December 1968 to the effect that the exploitation of the resources of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction should be carried out for the benefit of mankind as a whole, irrespective of the geographical location of States, taking into account the special interests and needs of the developing countries,

Convinced that it is essential, for the achievement of this purpose, that such activities be carried out under an international régime including appropriate international machinery,

Noting that this matter is under consideration by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction,

Recalling its resolution 2340 (XXII) of 18 December 1967 on the importance of preserving the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction from actions and uses which might be detrimental to the common interests of mankind,

Declares that, pending the establishment of the aforementioned international régime:

(a) States and persons, physical or juridical, are bound to refrain from all activities of exploitation of the resources of the area of the sea-bed and ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction;

(b) No claim to any part of that area or its resources shall be recognized.

*1833rd plenary meeting,
15 December 1969.*

2600 (XXIV). International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2453 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968,