



General Assembly

Distr.  
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A/C.2/39/L.114  
5 December 1984

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DEC 7 1984

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-ninth session  
SECOND COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 80 (c)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION:

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by Mr. Enrique de la Torre (Argentina),  
Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the basis of informal  
consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.82

Specific measures in favour of island developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, contained in its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, contained in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, its resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Recalling also its resolutions 31/156 of 21 December 1976, 32/185 of 19 December 1977, 34/205 of 19 December 1979, 35/61 of 5 December 1980 and 37/206 of 20 December 1982, relating to the special needs and problems of island developing countries,

Reiterating the call for specific action in favour of island developing countries contained in resolutions 98 (IV) of 31 May 1976, 1/ 111 (V) of

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1/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fourth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.10 and corrigendum), part one, sect. A.

3 June 1979 2/ and 138 (VI) of 2 July 1983 3/ of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Recognizing the difficult problems faced by island developing countries, in particular those which suffer handicaps due especially to their smallness, remoteness, vulnerability to natural disasters, constraints in transport, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources, heavy dependence on a few commodities, shortage of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens,

Mindful of the fact that timely additional efforts are needed to implement the specific measures required to assist island developing countries in offsetting the major handicaps which retard their development process,

1. Reaffirms its resolution 37/206 and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations and of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and calls for their immediate and effective implementation;
2. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on measures taken by the international community and recommendations for future action in favour of island developing countries; 4/
3. Expresses its appreciation to all States and organizations which have facilitated the implementation of resolutions in favour of island developing countries;
4. Notes with concern that the specific measures envisaged in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including Conference resolution 138 (VI), have not yet been fully implemented and calls upon States and international organizations to respond positively in this regard;
5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in co-operation with Governments and regional and other competent institutions, to continue the programme of in-depth studies of the common problems of island economies and of the constraints inhibiting their economic growth and development carried out by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, with a view to proposing concrete specific actions, taking into account, inter alia, the geographical factors, traditional island life and institutions, the physical environment, development priorities and the problems of island developing countries in the international economy;

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2/ Ibid., Fifth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.II.D.14), part one, sect. A.

3/ Ibid., Sixth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.II.D.6), part one, sect. A.

4/ A/39/463.

6. Also requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to seek the views of the representatives of island developing countries and other interested countries on the implementation of the specific measures in favour of island developing countries, taking into account studies undertaken thus far and the studies envisaged in paragraph 5 above;

7. Calls upon all States and international organizations and financial institutions to intensify efforts to implement specific actions in favour of island developing countries in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

8. Requests the competent organs and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the regional commissions, to take adequate measures to respond positively to the particular needs of island developing countries;

9. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to pursue further its role, not only as a focal point for specific action at the global level in favour of island developing countries but also, where necessary, as a catalyst in this regard, inter alia, by organizing and facilitating cross-regional interchange of information and experience in full co-operation with regional and subregional organizations;

10. Requests the competent organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Capital Development Fund, to take adequate measures in order to respond positively to the particular needs of island developing countries;

11. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to explore the possibility of organizing a follow-up meeting to the interregional workshop held in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in November 1983, with the participation of representatives of island developing countries and other interested countries;

12. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the measures taken by the international community to respond to the specific needs of island developing countries, as called for in this and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, in order to permit the Assembly to undertake at that session a comprehensive review of the problems and needs of the island developing countries.

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