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RESOURCES OF THE SEA

Note by the Secretary-General

The report entitled "Marine science and technology: survey and proposals" (E/4487 and Add.1 and Corr.1-5) was issued in the first week of June 1968, after the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development had held its ninth session (April 1968) and there has therefore not been an opportunity for the Advisory Committee to consider this report in the course of its session. However, in view of the importance that the Advisory Committee attaches to this subject, and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 2172 (XXI), which requests comments from the Advisory Committee for the Assembly's twenty-third session, the report has been circulated to the individual members of the Committee and their comments requested by correspondence. On the basis of their replies the attached paper has been prepared for submission to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session when it considers this report.

Comments by the members of the Advisory Committee on the Application  
of Science and Technology to Development

1. The members of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development have seen the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Marine science and technology: survey and proposals". The report constitutes a most commendable effort to analyse the activities of all the countries as well as of the organizations of the United Nations family in the field of marine science. It is the view of the Advisory Committee that every effort should be made to reconcile the needs of an expanding world population with the provision

of resources and the proper improvement in their quality. In this respect the sea holds without doubt one of the most important potentials for the future. The Advisory Committee is gratified that this is clearly presented in the Secretary-General's report and appreciates the effort to provide a scientific basis for this concept.

2. The Advisory Committee noted with satisfaction the five proposals of the Secretary-General to maximize international co-operation in this field and is in general agreement with the ideas contained in them. The members of the Committee hope that the General Assembly will give its most serious consideration to these proposals and that it will take the necessary steps to encourage appropriate action by the Governments of Member States and by the appropriate organizations of the United Nations family.

3. At its next session, to be held at the end of November 1968, the Advisory Committee will have an opportunity to consider in more detail the report of the Secretary-General.

4. The Advisory Committee is particularly appreciative of the excellent co-operation between the various organizations of the United Nations family concerned in the preparation of the Secretary-General's report.

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