



General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/44/L.42
16 November 1989

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fourth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 82 (b)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina
Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Lao People's
Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mongolia, Nepal,
Niger, Paraguay, Rwanda, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and
Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Specific action related to the particular needs and problems of
land-locked developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reiterating the specific actions related to the particular needs of the
land-locked developing countries set out in United Nations Conference on Trade and
Development resolutions 63 (III) of 19 May 1972, 1/ 98 (IV) of 31 May 1976, 2/

1/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and
Development, Third Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication,
Sales No. E.73.II.D.4), annex I.A.

2/ Ibid., Fourth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations
publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.10 and corrigendum), part one, sect. A.

123 (V) of 3 June 1979 3/ and 137 (VI) of 2 July 1983, 4/ and Trade and Development Board resolution 319 (XXXI) of 27 September 1985, 5/

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 31/157 of 21 December 1976, 32/191 of 19 December 1977, 33/150 of 20 December 1978, 34/198 of 19 December 1979, 35/58 of 5 December 1980, 36/175 of 17 December 1981, 39/209 of 18 December 1984, 40/183 of 17 December 1985 and 42/174 of 11 December 1987 and other resolutions of the United Nations relating to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries,

Noting that most land-locked developing countries are among the very poorest of the developing countries and that, of the twenty-one land-locked developing countries, fifteen are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit, transport and trans-shipment costs and risks impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of the land-locked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their growth and socio-economic development,

Further recognizing that the geographical situation of land-locked developing countries renders their economies particularly vulnerable and thus reduces their overall ability to cope with the mounting challenges of extreme under-development,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Final Act adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its seventh session, 6/

Recalling also article 125 of United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, adopted on 10 December 1982, 7/

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

4/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Sixth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.II.D.6), part one, sect. A.

5/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/40/15), vol. II, sect. I.

6/ See TD/351, part one, sect. I.

7/ Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

Noting that bilateral, subregional and regional co-operative arrangements, as appropriate, constitute a framework for improving the transit-transport systems in the land-locked countries and their transit neighbours,

Recognizing that there are accepted international conventions on transit trade and transport, the implementation of which would contribute to the elimination of some of the bottle-necks that are currently restricting subregional and regional transit traffic,

Recognizing also that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

Noting with concern that the international support measures taken thus far have not adequately addressed the problems and vulnerability of land-locked developing countries,

1. Reaffirms the right of access of land-locked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with article 125 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

2. Appeals to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries envisaged in United Nations Conference on Trade and Development resolutions 63 (III), 98 (IV), 123 (V) and 137 (VI) and the Final Act adopted by the Conference at its seventh session, in General Assembly resolutions 39/209, 40/183 and 42/174, in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, 8/ in the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries 9/ and in other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. Urges the international community, in particular donor countries and multilateral financial and development organizations, to provide land-locked and transit developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and transit infrastructures and facilities, including alternative routes;

4. Emphasizes that assistance to improve transport and transit facilities and services should be viewed as part of the overall economic development strategy

8/ Resolution 35/56, annex.

9/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

of the land-locked developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirement for long-term restructuring of the economies of the land-locked developing countries, including the promotion of import substitution industries producing high-bulk, low-value products and developing high-value, low-bulk products for export;

5. Invites transit countries and land-locked developing countries to co-operate effectively in the fields of transport and communications and other appropriate sectors;

6. Calls upon the appropriate multilateral and bilateral international and technical assistance institutions to give priority to such co-operative arrangements between land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours;

7. Invites Member States to ratify and implement the relevant provisions of the international conventions on transit trade and transport;

8. Invites land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours to promote bilateral, subregional and regional arrangements, as appropriate and in their mutual interest, designed to facilitate transit traffic;

9. Appeals to the international community to make available to all transit and land-locked developing countries, as required and on appropriate terms, including, inter alia, concessional arrangements for technology transfer, new and emerging scientific and technological know-how relating to specific transit-transport and communications problems;

10. Appeals to the international community, in particular, donor countries, multilateral financial and development institutions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, to extend all possible support to land-locked developing countries in their efforts to undertake economic measures and policies designed to promote a pattern of growth that renders their economies less vulnerable to adverse consequences of their land-locked situation;

11. Urges the international financial and development bodies, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, to respond favourably and expeditiously to requests made by land-locked developing countries to further expand their financial and technical assistance programmes in the transport and communications sectors of the land-locked developing countries, including the provision of adequate storage facilities in the ports of the transit countries and the rail terminals of the land-locked countries, and the provision of adequate berthing and handling facilities;

12. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, for the purpose referred to in paragraph 11 above, to continue to seek extrabudgetary resources from the United Nations Development Programme and other voluntary contributors to enable him, if requested by the Governments concerned, to assist land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours in the above efforts;

/...

13. Further requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to intensify the technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the area of transit transport, as called for in paragraph 9 of Conference resolution 137 (VI) and paragraph 10 of Trade and Development Board resolution 319 (XXXI);

14. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to consider, in the context of the preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, inter alia, the problems and vulnerability of land-locked developing countries;

15. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on progress in the implementation of specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries, submitted pursuant to Conference resolution 137 (VI) and General Assembly resolution 42/174, 10/ and requests him to prepare another report, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution, for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

10/ A/44/588, annex.