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INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, German Democratic Republic,
Iraq, Mongolia, Morocco and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Need to ensure a healthy environment for the well-being
of individuals

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in accordance with the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1/ everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family,

Recognizing the need to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and freedoms in all their aspects and, inter alia, in their socio-economic and environmental aspects,

Considering that a better and healthy environment can help to contribute towards the full enjoyment of human rights by all,

Recalling the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 2/ adopted on 16 June 1972, which states that "both aspects of man's environment, the natural and man-made, are essential to his well-being and to the enjoyment of basic human rights - even the right to life itself",

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. I, para. 1.

Referring also to the 1987 report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, ^{3/} which recognizes that the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment brought together the industrialized and developing countries to delineate the rights of the human family to a healthy and productive environment,

Considering that meeting the aspirations of individuals for a better and healthy environment is an essential element of the realization of the right to development,

1. Recognizes that every individual is entitled to live in an environment adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family;

2. Calls upon Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations dealing with environmental questions to endeavour to guarantee to everyone a better and healthy environment;

3. Invites the Commission on Human Rights through its Sub-Commission, to consider studying the effects of environmental degradation on the full enjoyment of the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of individuals and to report on it to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

4. Decides to consider this question at its forty-sixth session under the agenda item entitled "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

^{3/} See A/42/427, annex.