



General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.1/44/L.69*
21 November 1989

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fourth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 70

QUESTION OF ANTARCTICA

Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Congo, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Question of Antarctica

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Question of Antarctica",

Recalling its resolutions 38/77 of 15 December 1983, 39/152 of 17 December 1984, 40/156 A and B of 16 December 1985, 41/88 A and B of 4 December 1986, 42/46 A and B of 30 November 1987 and 43/83 A and B of 7 December 1988,

Recalling also the relevant paragraphs of the Political Declaration adopted by the Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare from 1 to 6 September 1986, 1/ and the resolution on Antarctica adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its forty-second ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 10 to 17 July 1985, 2/ as

* Reissued for technical reasons.

1/ A/41/697-S/18392, annex, sect. I, paras. 1.-202.

2/ A/40/666, annex II, resolution CM/Res.988 (XLII).

well as the relevant paragraphs of the decision of the Council of Ministers of the League of Arab States held at Tunis, on 17 and 18 September 1986, resolution 25/5-P(IS) adopted by the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held at Kuwait from 26 to 29 January 1987, 3/ the relevant paragraphs of the Political Document adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989 4/ and the communiqué issued by Commonwealth Heads of Government at Kuala Lumpur on 24 October 1989, 5/

Taking into account the debates on this item held since its thirty-eighth session,

Welcoming the increasing awareness and interest in Antarctica shown by the international community,

Convinced of the advantages to the whole of mankind of a better knowledge of Antarctica,

Affirming its conviction that, in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue for ever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should not become the scene or object of international discord,

Reaffirming the principle that the international community is entitled to information covering all aspects of Antarctica and that the United Nations should be made the repository for all such information in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 41/88 A, 42/46 B and 43/83 A,

Conscious of the particular significance of Antarctica to the international community in terms, inter alia, of international peace and security, environment, its effects on global climatic conditions, economy and scientific research,

Conscious also of the interrelationship between Antarctica and the physical, chemical and biological processes that regulate the total Earth system,

Reaffirming that the management and use of Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international co-operation for the benefit of mankind as a whole,

Affirming the necessity to ensure, in the interest of all mankind, the comprehensive environmental protection and conservation of the Antarctic environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems through negotiations, with the full participation of all members of the international community,

3/ See A/42/178-S/18753, annex II.

4/ See A/44/551-S/20870, annex.

5/ See A/44/689-S/20921, annex.

Conscious of the environmental degradation that prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica would pose to the Antarctic and global environment and ecosystems,

Convinced of the need to prevent or minimize any impact of human activity, resulting from the large number of scientific stations and expeditions, in Antarctica on the environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems,

Taking into account all aspects pertaining to all areas covered by the Antarctic Treaty system,

Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Secretary-General on the question of Antarctica, 6/

1. Expresses its regret that, despite its numerous resolutions calling, inter alia, on the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to invite the Secretary-General or his representative to their meetings, including their consultative meetings, the Secretary-General was not invited to the Antarctic Treaty Preparatory Meeting and the XVth Consultative Meeting, held in Paris from 9 to 13 May and 9 to 20 October 1989, respectively;

2. Reiterates its call upon the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to invite the Secretary-General or his representative to all meetings of the Treaty parties, including their consultative meetings;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on his evaluation thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

4. Expresses the conviction that, in view of the significant impact that the Antarctic exerts on global environment and ecosystems, any régime to be established for the protection and conservation of the Antarctic environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems, to be for the benefit of mankind as a whole, in order to gain the universal acceptability necessary to ensure full compliance and enforcement, must be negotiated with the full participation of all members of the international community;

5. Urges all members of the international community to support all efforts to ban prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica and to ensure that all activities should be exclusively used for the purpose of peaceful scientific investigation and that all such activities should ensure the maintenance of international peace and security in Antarctica and the protection of its environment and should be for the benefit of all mankind;

6. Expresses its conviction that the establishment, through negotiations with the full participation of all members of the international community, of Antarctica as a nature reserve or a world park, would ensure the protection and conservation of its environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems for the benefit of all mankind;

6/ A/44/518 and A/44/586.

7. Also expresses its conviction, in view of the large number of scientific stations and expeditions, that international scientific research should be enhanced through the establishment of international stations devoted to scientific investigations of global significance, regulated by stringent environmental safeguards, so as to avoid or minimize any adverse impact of human activities on the environment and dependent and associated ecosystems of Antarctica;

8. Urges all States Members of the United Nations to co-operate with the Secretary-General and to continue consultations on all aspects relating to Antarctica;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Question of Antarctica".
