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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: ENVIRONMENT

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Sweden, Tunisia, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia: revised draft resolution

Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/186 of 11 December 1987 on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, in which it adopted the Perspective as a broad framework to guide national and international co-operation on policies and programmes aimed at achieving sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries,

Recalling also its resolution 42/187 of 11 December 1987 on the report on the World Commission on Environment and Development, in which it welcomed the report and, *inter alia*, invited Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take account of the analysis and recommendations contained in the report in determining their policies and programmes,

Recalling further its resolution 43/196 of 20 December 1988 on a United Nations conference on environment and development,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/196 and 42/187, 1/ containing information on action

1/ A/44/350.

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taken by Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to pursue sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries, and decision 15/2 of 26 May 1989 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, 2/

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 1/
2. Notes with appreciation the efforts made by Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to promote sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries;
3. Expresses at the same time its concern that much more needs to be done in translating the increased understanding of the need for sustainable and environmentally sound development into concrete action in all countries;
4. Notes with satisfaction the regional activities which have taken place or are being planned with a view to promoting sustainable and environmentally sound development, inter alia, the First Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development in Africa, organized by the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Environment Programme at Kampala, Uganda, in June 1989, as well as similar conferences in the other regions planned to take place in 1990;
5. Invites Governments and the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts towards promoting and achieving sustainable and environmentally sound development by integrating environmental concerns and considerations into policies and programmes in all areas;
6. Notes with appreciation efforts made by the Secretary-General in reviewing, co-ordinating and strengthening the activities of the United Nations system for the promotion of sustainable and environmentally sound development;
7. Notes that serious environmental problems are arising for all countries and that those problems must be progressively addressed through preventive measures at their sources by national efforts and international co-operation;
8. Reaffirms that there is a direct interrelationship between environment and development, and recognizes that a supportive international economic environment that would result in sustained economic growth and development, particularly in developing countries, is of major importance for sound management of the environment;
9. Reaffirms also that environment issues are closely intertwined with development policies and practices, consequently environmental goals and actions need to be defined in relation to development objectives and policies;

2/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/44/25), annex I.

10. Further notes that the critical objectives for environment and development policies that follow from the need for sustainable and environmentally sound development must include creating a healthy, clean and safe environment in all countries, reviving overall economic growth particularly in developing countries, and improving its quality, eradicating poverty and satisfying human needs by raising the standard of living and the quality of life, addressing the issues of sound management and enhancement of the resource base, promotion, accelerated development, and transfer of environmentally sound technology, minimization of environmental dangers, and merging environment and economic decision-making in all countries, as well as the interrelationship between people, resources, environment and development;

11. Stresses that sustainable and environmentally sound development requires changes in existing production and consumption patterns, in particular in industrialized countries, and the development of environmentally sound technologies, ensuring transfer and favourable access, including on a concessional and non-commercial basis, to such technologies, with emphasis on new and emerging ones, in particular by developing countries, and supporting research and development efforts by developing countries to enhance their capabilities to develop and apply such technologies;

12. Endorses the views and suggestions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fifteenth session on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187, contained in the report of the Secretary-General, and regards Governing Council decision 15/2 as a positive step towards a better understanding of the concept of sustainable and environmentally sound development and of the implications of the implementation of the concept for all countries, and invites Governments and the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to take them into account in their further efforts towards promoting and achieving sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries;

13. Reaffirms the need to provide new and additional financial resources to support developing countries for measures, inter alia, to identify, analyse, monitor, prevent and manage environmental problems, primarily at their sources, in accordance with their national development goals, objectives and plans, so as to ensure that their development priorities are not adversely affected;

14. Stresses also the need for new and additional financial resources for measures towards solving major environmental problems of global concern, and especially to support those countries, in particular developing countries, for whom the implementation of such measures would entail a special or abnormal burden, in particular due to their lack of financial resources, expertise and/or technical capacity;

15. Reaffirms the need for developed countries and relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to strengthen technical co-operation with the developing countries to assist them to develop and strengthen their endogenous capacity for identifying, analysing, monitoring, preventing and managing environmental problems in accordance with their national development plans, priorities and objectives;

16. Reaffirms that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their environmental policies and also reaffirms their responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and the need to play their due role in preserving and protecting the global and regional environment in accordance with their capacities and specific responsibilities;

17. Considers that the regional follow-up conferences should contribute to a better understanding and a more concrete meaning of the concept of sustainable and environmentally sound development and of the implications of the implementation of the concept, and make important substantive contributions to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992;

18. Invites the preparatory committee for the 1992 Conference to take duly into account the recommendations contained in the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development in the preparatory process for the Conference as well as recommendations for action by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and the views and suggestions expressed by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and other organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system on those matters;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare for submission to the preparatory committee for the 1992 Conference, and for the further submission to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Economic and Social Council, a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. Further requests the Secretary-General to prepare, for submission to the 1992 Conference, and for further submission to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Economic and Social Council, a new consolidated report on the further substantive follow-up of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 by Governments and organizations of the United Nations system.
