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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION:
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ESTABLISHED
UNDER GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 32/174

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the
Committee (A. Ahsan) on the basis of informal
consultations held on the draft resolution contained in
document A/34/L.19

Action programme in favour of developing island countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3338 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 dealing, inter alia, with efforts to meet the special problems of developing island countries,

Reiterating the specific action in favour of island developing countries as agreed upon in resolution 98 (IV) of 31 May 1976 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 1/

Recalling its resolutions 31/156 of 21 December 1976 and 32/185 of 19 December 1977,

Mindful that further specific action is needed in the case of developing island countries to assist them in offsetting their major handicaps, in particular those developing island countries which suffer handicaps due especially to smallness, remoteness, constraints in transport and communication, great distances from market centres, highly limited internal markets, lack of marketing expertise, low resource endowment, lack of natural resources, heavy dependence on a few commodities for their foreign exchange earnings, shortage of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens,

1/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fourth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.10 and corrigendum), part one, sect. A.

Emphasizing the need for a more effective response by the international community to the various resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and its related organs in favour of developing island countries,

1. Welcomes resolution 111 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 2/ entitled "Specific action related to the particular needs and problems of island developing countries",

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Action programme in favour of developing island countries", 3/

3. Calls upon the international community to implement urgently the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of developing island countries as agreed upon in resolutions 98 (IV) 4/and 111 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

4. Further calls upon the international community to ensure that the criteria, terms and conditions governing the flow of bilateral and multilateral financial and technical assistance to the island developing countries should be geared to the special needs and problems of the countries concerned;

5. Invites the competent organs of the United Nations system to take effective steps to enhance their capacity to respond positively to the specific needs of developing island countries at the national, regional and interregional levels, for example by strengthening their technical and advisory services on behalf of these countries;

6. Further invites the Preparatory Committee for the New International Development Strategy to take fully into account, in the formulation of the strategy for the third United Nations development decade, the particular needs and problems of developing island countries;

7. Requests the United Nations Development Programme, and invites international development institutions and bilateral institutions, to consider increasing their assistance to developing island countries;

8. Invites the United Nations Development Programme and other competent institutions to co-operate with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the programme of activities envisaged in paragraphs 4 and 5 of resolution 111 (V) of the Conference;

2/ TD/268, part one, sect. A.

3/ A/34/544 and Add.1.

4/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fourth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.10 and corrigendum), part one, sect. A.

9. Recommends that developed countries, international development institutions and those developing countries which are elaborating programmes of assistance in favour of other developing countries should give particular attention to requests for assistance from developing island countries.

10. Calls upon the regional commissions urgently to identify appropriate action in favour of the developing island countries in their respective regions.

11. Requests the Secretary-General to include in his analytical report to the General Assembly at its special session in 1980 on the implementation of the New International Economic Order called for in Assembly resolution 33/128 of 29 January 1979, an assessment of the situation of the developing island countries.
