

documenting United Nations and related activities in mineral resources directed at:

(a) Strengthening national institutions in developing countries for the conduct of exploration, development and planning activities;

(b) Conducting surveys and studies to assist in the identification of mineral resources and the encouragement of their development;

(c) Enhancing national technical capabilities through the transfer and application of necessary technology for the development of basic resource information, and for the exploration for, assessment and development of natural resources, including the training of both technical and managerial personnel;

3. *Requests* the Committee on Natural Resources, at its eleventh session, on the basis of the report requested in paragraph 2 above, to make recommendations to the Economic and Social Council on ways to ensure and improve co-operation and the overall efficiency of all the aforementioned activities;

4. *Invites* Governments to take that report into account in their activities directed at co-operation in mineral resources.

*52nd plenary meeting
25 July 1985*

1985/54. Rationalization of the work of the Committee on Natural Resources

The Economic and Social Council.

Reiterating the need to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the work of the Committee on Natural Resources,

Reiterating that a timely distribution of documents is essential to an improvement of the efficiency of the work of the Committee,

Reiterating that the Committee could make recommendations on appropriate priorities and programme emphasis to the Economic and Social Council and through the Council to Governments and other bodies, such as the United Nations Development Programme,

Reaffirming the terms of reference of the Committee set out in Council resolution 1535 (XLIX) of 27 July 1970,

Recalling its resolution 1982/50 of 28 July 1982 on the revitalization of the Council and the views expressed on that subject by the Committee at its eighth session,¹²

1. *Reiterates* that the documents for each session of the Committee on Natural Resources should be distributed in the appropriate languages at least six weeks before the commencement of the session;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the programme activities of the United Nations system, in

¹² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1983, Supplement No. 8 (E/1983/19 and Corr. 1), chap. I, sect. B, decision 8.1.*

particular of the appropriate divisions of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat, in the field of natural resources, particularly with regard to mineral resources, energy and water; this information will assist the Committee in fulfilling its analytical and advisory role in the field of natural resources, outlined in its terms of reference;

3. *Decides* that, as an experiment, the Committee shall give priority at each of its sessions, on a cyclical basis, to the examination of one of the main subjects of natural resources set out in paragraph 4 (a) of Council resolution 1535 (XLIX); in this connection, with due respect for the concept of the sovereignty of every State, attention shall also be paid to the other main subjects, as well as to other subjects within the terms of reference of the Committee;

4. *Also decides* that the Committee, at its tenth session, shall give priority consideration to the subject of water resources;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, to pay special attention to the priority subject of water resources in preparing the documents for the tenth session of the Committee.

*52nd plenary meeting
25 July 1985*

1985/55. Improvement of secretariat servicing and substantive support services for the Committee on Natural Resources

The Economic and Social Council.

Taking into account the concerns expressed at the ninth session of the Committee on Natural Resources and at the second regular session of 1985 of the Economic and Social Council regarding the need to improve secretariat servicing and substantive support services for future sessions of the Committee on Natural Resources,

Recalling the recommendation made by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-fifth session concerning the early issuance of the Secretary-General's bulletin and the sections of the organizational manual for the relevant United Nations offices and departments in the economic and social field,¹³

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements, within existing resources and existing secretariat machinery, to assign secretariat responsibility which would ensure, on an ongoing basis, adequate and timely preparations, including documen-

¹³ See the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its twenty-fifth session (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/40/38)*, para. 619).

tation, for future sessions of the Committee on Natural Resources;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1986 on the action taken in this regard.

*52nd plenary meeting
25 July 1985*

1985/56. Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Takes note with interest* of the oral report made on 9 July 1985 by the representative of the United Nations Co-ordinator of Assistance for the Reconstruction and Development of Lebanon pursuant to General Assembly resolution 39/197 of 17 December 1984;

2. *Appeals* to all Member States and to organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their efforts to mobilize all possible assistance to the Government of Lebanon in its efforts for reconstruction and development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

*52nd plenary meeting
25 July 1985*

1985/57. Assistance to the Palestinian people

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 39/224 of 18 December 1984,

Recalling also Council resolution 1984/56 of 25 July 1984,

Recalling further the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights, adopted by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine,¹⁴

Noting the need to provide economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people;¹⁵

2. *Notes* the meeting on assistance to the Palestinian people which was held at Geneva on 5 and 8 July 1985 in response to General Assembly resolution 39/224;

3. *Expresses its thanks* to the Secretary-General for convening the meeting on assistance to the Palestinian people;

¹⁴ *Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21), chap. I, sect. B.

¹⁵ A/40/353-E/1985/115 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

4. *Regards* such a meeting as a valuable opportunity to assess progress in economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people and to explore ways and means of enhancing such assistance;

5. *Draws the attention* of the international community, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to the need to disburse their aid to the occupied Palestinian territories only for the benefit of the Palestinian people;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To review the progress made in the implementation of the proposed activities and projects described in the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people;

(b) To take all necessary steps to finalize the programme of economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people requested in General Assembly resolution 38/145 of 19 December 1983;

(c) To convene in 1986 a meeting of the relevant programmes, organizations, agencies, funds and organs of the United Nations system to consider economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people;

(d) To provide for the participation in the meeting of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Arab host countries and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

7. *Requests* the relevant programmes, organizations, agencies, funds and organs of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts, in co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization, to provide economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people;

8. *Also requests* that United Nations assistance to the Palestinians in the Arab host countries should be rendered in co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and with the consent of the Arab host Government concerned;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*52nd plenary meeting
25 July 1985*

1985/58. Economic development projects in the occupied Palestinian territories

The Economic and Social Council,

Aware of the Israeli restrictions imposed on the foreign trade of the occupied Palestinian territories,

Aware also of the imposed domination of the Palestinian market by Israel,

Taking into account the need to give Palestinian firms and products direct access to external markets without Israeli interference,