

the interim arrangements, taking into account that each country concerned should receive appropriate technical and financial assistance.

*85th plenary meeting  
15 December 1978*

### 33/86. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its sixth session<sup>28</sup> and the statement of the Executive Director of the Programme introducing the report,<sup>29</sup>

*Having also considered* Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/62 of 3 August 1978 concerning international co-operation on the environment,

*Noting with satisfaction* the signing in Kuwait, on 23 April 1978, of the Final Act of the Kuwait Regional Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Areas,

*Having further considered* the note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment,<sup>30</sup>

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its sixth session and the decisions, as adopted, contained in annex I thereto;

2. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, in particular the decisions of the Governing Council relating to the establishment of a system-wide, medium-term environment programme based on thematic joint programming, the emphasis to be given to project and programme evaluation and to the preparatory process for the consideration by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination of matters concerning the environment and the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,<sup>31</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification, held at Nairobi from 29 August to 9 September 1977, and the reporting thereon by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to the Governing Council;

3. *Calls upon* all bodies and organizations of the United Nations system involved in the elaboration of the new international development strategy to take environmental concerns into full account in view of the close interrelationship between environment and development;

4. *Invites* the executive heads, members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to continue to consider, after the merger of the Environment Co-ordination Board with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, environmental matters at their level;

5. *Urges* all Governments to contribute urgently and generously to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme, bearing in mind paragraph 3

<sup>28</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/33/25).*

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid., Thirty-third Session, Second Committee, 24th meeting, paras. 1-14.*

<sup>30</sup> A/33/134.

<sup>31</sup> A/CONF.74/36, chap. I.

of Governing Council decision 6/13 A of 24 May 1978,<sup>32</sup> so as to meet the approved target;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue its catalytic and co-ordinating role in the field of the marine environment and ecological balance of regional seas and invites the Governments concerned to conclude, as appropriate, through co-operation among themselves and with the assistance of the United Nations Environment Programme and regional commissions, conventions and other arrangements in order to promote the protection of the marine environment of regional seas;

7. *Invites* Member States, as appropriate, to ratify and implement the international conventions and protocols designed to protect the environment in every respect and further urges Governments to promote the conclusion of such conventions and protocols.

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### 33/87. Co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States

*The General Assembly,*

*Affirming* the principles stated in the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,<sup>33</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 3129 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973, entitled "Co-operation in the field of the environment concerning natural resources shared by two or more States",

*Recalling further* the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, contained in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974,

*Noting* that the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme has, by decision 6/14 of 19 May 1978,<sup>34</sup> approved the final report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources Shared by Two or More States, established under Governing Council decision 44 (III) of 25 April 1975, containing the draft principles of conduct in the field of the environment for the guidance of States in the conservation and harmonious utilization of natural resources shared by two or more States and the declarations and reservations expressed thereon,<sup>35</sup>

*Recognizing* the right of States to provide specific solutions on a bilateral or regional basis,

*Desiring* to promote effective co-operation among States for the development of international law regarding the conservation and harmonious utilization of natural resources shared by two or more States,

1. *Notes* the valuable work done by the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Natural Resources Shared by Two or More States in carrying out the tasks entrusted to it in regard to the im-

<sup>32</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/33/25)*, annex I.

<sup>33</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. I.

<sup>34</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/33/25)*, annex I.

<sup>35</sup> UNEP/GC.6/17.

plementation of General Assembly resolution 3129 (XXVIII);

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Group of Experts, its approval, as adopted, by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and its transmission to the General Assembly with an invitation to adopt the draft principles;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to transmit the report to Governments for their study and comments regarding the principles and to report thereon, taking into account also other significant information, with a view to enabling the General Assembly to take a decision at its thirty-fourth session.

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### 33/88. Measures to be taken for the benefit of the Sudano-Sahelian region

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 32/170 of 19 December 1977,

*Aware* of the seriousness of desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region and of the urgency of implementing in that region the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,<sup>36</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification, held at Nairobi from 29 August to 9 September 1977,

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its sixth session,<sup>37</sup> particularly the parts of that report on measures to be taken for the benefit of the Sudano-Sahelian region,

*Bearing in mind* section II of Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/37 of 21 July 1978,

*Stressing* the need for bodies of the United Nations system, other international agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the efforts of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region to combat desertification, particularly by planning and implementing projects and strengthening sub-regional and regional structures,

*Recalling* its resolution 3054 (XXVIII) of 17 October 1973, in which it defined the functions of the United Nations Sahelian Office,

*Recalling further* that it is of vital importance that the United Nations Sahelian Office should continue to maintain close co-operation with the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel with a view to the full implementation of the programmes drawn up by the Committee and its member States,

1. *Endorses* decision 6/11 B of 24 May 1978 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme<sup>38</sup> and decision 25/10 of 27 June 1978 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme;<sup>39</sup>

<sup>36</sup> A/CONF.74/36, chap. I.

<sup>37</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/33/25)*.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.*, annex I.

<sup>39</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 13 (E/1978/53/Rev.1)*, chap. XX.

2. *Decides* to designate the United Nations Sahelian Office, in addition to its current functions, as the arm of the United Nations to be responsible for assisting, on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme, the efforts of the fifteen countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region situated south of the Sahara and north of the equator<sup>40</sup> to implement the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

3. *Authorizes*, to that end, the organizational enlargement of the United Nations Sahelian Office and its regional office at Ouagadougou, without prejudice to the work undertaken in implementation of the recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region in conformity with the functions of the United Nations Sahelian Office as defined in paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 3054 (XXVIII), this process, in accordance with paragraph 1 above, to be the joint responsibility of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme;

4. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system concerned to co-operate fully with the United Nations Sahelian Office in its efforts to ensure the complete effectiveness of assistance provided to the fifteen countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region for the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to submit to the General Assembly an annual report on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification.

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### 33/89. Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 32/169 and 32/172 of 19 December 1977 containing its decisions on the report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, held at Nairobi from 29 August to 9 September 1977,<sup>41</sup>

*Having considered:*

(a) The report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its sixth session,<sup>42</sup> containing, *inter alia*, a chapter and decisions on matters arising out of the United Nations Conference on Desertification,

(b) The report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification,<sup>43</sup>

*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the study of additional measures and means of financing for the implementation of the Plan of Action

<sup>40</sup> Cape Verde, Chad, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Cameroon and Upper Volta.

<sup>41</sup> A/CONF.74/36.

<sup>42</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/33/25)*.

<sup>43</sup> A/33/259.