1. Reaffirms its resolution 34/22 and calls for its implementation;

2. Decides, taking into account paragraph 12 of resolution 34/22, to convene early in 1981 an international conference on Kampuchea which should involve the participation of all conflicting parties in Kampuchea and others concerned, with the aim of finding a comprehensive political settlement of the Kampuchean problem;

3. Decides further that the conference should negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on, inter alia:

(a) Total withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea within a specific time-frame to be verified by the United Nations;

(b) Measures by the United Nations to ensure law and order and the observance of the fundamental principles of human rights in Kampuchea;

(c) Measures by the United Nations to ensure non-interference by outside Powers in the internal affairs of Kampuchea;

(d) United Nations-supervised free elections in Kampuchea;

(e) Guarantees against the introduction of any foreign forces in Kampuchea;

(f) Guarantees to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kampuchea;

(g) Guarantees that an independent and sovereign Kampuchea will not be a threat to its neighbours;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps for the convening of such a conference;

5. Calls for, pending the settlement of the conflict:

(a) The stationing of a United Nations observer team on the Thai side of the border in order to observe the situation along the border and to verify that only civilian Kampuchean refugees obtain international relief aid;

(b) The establishment of safe areas under United Nations supervision in western Kampuchea for the uprooted civilian Kampuchean refugees encamped near the Thai-Kampuchean border and those in Thailand who wish to return to their homeland;

6. Urges the countries of South-East Asia, once a comprehensive political solution to the Kampuchean conflict is achieved, to exert renewed efforts to establish a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in South-East Asia;

7. Expresses its deep appreciation to donor countries, the United Nations and its agencies and other national and international humanitarian organizations which have rendered relief assistance to the Kampuchean people, and appeals to them to continue on an urgent and non-discriminatory basis such assistance to the civilian population of Kampuchea, including persons who have sought refuge in neighbouring countries;

8. Deeply appreciates the efforts of the Secretary-General in co-ordinating relief assistance and in monitoring its distribution, and requests him to strengthen such efforts so as to ensure that the assistance reaches all those for whom it is intended;

9. Calls again upon all States to provide resettlement for the displaced Kampuchea refugees who have sought refuge in neighbouring countries and who do not wish to return to their homeland;

10. Urges all parties to the conflict to co-operate fully in facilitating humanitarian relief efforts and in ensuring that the cross-border flow of international relief aid continues uninterrupted;

11. Reiterates its appeal to all parties to the conflict to observe fully the fundamental principles of human rights;

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

13. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session the item entitled “The situation in Kampuchea”.

44th plenary meeting
22 October 1980

35/7. Draft World Charter for Nature

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the draft World Charter for Nature,

Conscious that life on earth is part of nature and depends on the uninterrupted functioning of natural systems,

Taking account of the fact that civilization has its roots in nature and that life in close contact with nature offers man the best opportunities for creativity, rest and recreation,

Persuaded that the benefits which can be obtained from nature depend on the maintenance of natural processes and on the diversity of life-forms and that those benefits are jeopardized by the excessive exploitation and the destruction of natural habitats,

Convinced that it is urgent to maintain the balance and quality of nature and to conserve natural resources,

Further convinced that the destruction of natural systems and the abuse of resources lead to the collapse of the economic, social and political structures of civilization,

Deploring the destruction or alteration of natural systems resulting, inter alia, from excessive consumption and abuse of natural resources, from conflicts and from wars,

Reaffirming that man can and should exist in harmony with nature, exercising stewardship over it in the interests of present and future generations,

Firmly resolved to safeguard the balance of natural systems and to ensure the protection and conservation of nature,

Taking note of the existing international instruments in the matter, in particular the World Conservation Strategy,10

Recognizing the need for appropriate measures at the national and international levels to protect nature and promote international co-operation in this field,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources.

1. Takes note with interest of the draft World Charter for Nature, ¹ which proposes principles of conservation arising out of the conviction that any act of man affecting nature must be guided and judged.

2. Solemnly invites Member States, in the exercise of their permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, to conduct their activities in recognition of the supreme importance of protecting natural systems, maintaining the balance and quality of nature and conserving natural resources, in the interests of present and future generations.

3. Invites Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and observations on the draft World Charter for Nature and the efforts they are making in the conservation and protection of nature.

4. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the views and observations of Member States to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session and to formulate on the basis of the replies received, in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, appropriate recommendations with a view to the adoption of a world charter for nature.

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session an item entitled "Draft World Charter for Nature: report of the Secretary-General".

49th plenary meeting
30 October 1980

35/8. Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations",

Conscious of the disastrous consequences which a war involving the use of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction would have on man and his environment,

Noting that the continuation of the arms race, including the testing of various types of weapons, especially nuclear weapons, and the accumulation of toxic chemicals are adversely affecting the human environment and damaging the vegetable and animal world,

Bearing in mind that the arms race is diverting material and intellectual resources from the solution of the urgent problems of preserving nature,

Attaching great importance to the development of planned, constructive international co-operation in solving the problems of preserving nature,

Recognizing that the prospects for solving problems so universal as the preservation of nature are closely linked to the strengthening and development of international detente and the creation of conditions which would banish war from the life of mankind,

Noting with satisfaction the drafting and signature in recent years of a number of international agreements designed to preserve the environment,

Determined to preserve nature as a prerequisite for the normal life of man,

1. Proclaims the historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations.

2. Draws the attention of States to the fact that the continuing arms race has pernicious effects on the environment and reduces the prospects for the necessary international co-operation in preserving nature on our planet,

3. Calls upon States, in the interests of present and future generations, to demonstrate due concern and take the measures, including legislative measures, necessary for preserving nature, and also to promote international co-operation in this field.

4. Requests the Secretary-General, with the co-operation of the United Nations Environment Programme, to prepare a report on the pernicious effects of the arms race on nature and to seek the views of States on possible measures to be taken at the international level for the preservation of nature,

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session an item entitled "Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations: report of the Secretary-General".

49th plenary meeting
30 October 1980


The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the General Assembly for the year 1979, ²

Taking note of the statement of the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency of 6 November 1980, ³ which provides additional information on developments in the Agency's activities during 1980,

Bearing in mind the urgent need to develop all sources of energy, with a view to helping both developing and industrialized countries to mitigate the effects of the energy crisis, and conscious of the fact that nuclear energy remains the main readily available alternative to fossil fuel for the generation of electric power in the coming decades,

Recognizing the importance of enhancing the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the promotion of the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Considering that the International Atomic Energy Agency will be called upon to play an increasingly important role in making the benefits of nuclear power available to all nations, in particular the developing countries,

Conscious of the continuing need to protect mankind from the perils resulting from the misuse of nuclear energy and noting with appreciation in this connexion the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the implementation of the relevant provisions


³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Plenary Meetings, 52nd meeting, paras. 2-49.