

taining the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation.

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and 33/202 of 29 January 1979 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, as well as its resolutions 34/215 of 19 December 1979 and 35/203 of 16 December 1980 on the implementation of section VIII of the annex to resolution 32/197,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 35/203,<sup>117</sup> the comments of the Secretary-General<sup>118</sup> on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the relationships between the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and entities of the United Nations Secretariat,<sup>119</sup> and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of section IV of the annex to Assembly resolution 32/197,<sup>120</sup>

1. *Decides* to transmit to the Economic and Social Council, for consideration at its second regular session of 1982, the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 35/203 and the comments of the Secretary-General on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit, and to return to the question of the relationships between the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and entities of the United Nations Secretariat at its thirty-seventh session, in the light of the deliberations of the Council, in order to continue to implement fully section VIII of the annex to Assembly resolution 32/197;

2. *Also decides* to return, at its thirty-seventh session, to the question of the implications of the restructuring process for the regional commissions, within the over-all context of its resolution 32/197, as well as in the light of further observations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its next session, to be held in 1982, and of the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982.

*103rd plenary meeting  
17 December 1981*

### 36/188. Problem of remnants of war

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2995 (XXVII), 2996 (XXVII) and 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, pertaining to co-operation between States in the field of the environment, the international responsibility of States in protecting the environment and the establishment of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 3435 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 and 35/71 of 5 December 1980,

*Recalling further* decisions 80 (IV) of 9 April 1976,<sup>121</sup> 101 (V) of 25 May 1977<sup>122</sup> and 9/5 of 25 May 1981<sup>123</sup> of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Convinced* that the removal of remnants of war should be the responsibility of the countries that implanted them and should be carried out at their expense.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>124</sup>

2. *Regrets* that no real action has been taken to solve the problem of remnants of war despite the various resolutions and decisions thereon of the General Assembly and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

3. *Reiterates* its support of the demand of the States affected by the implantation of mines and the presence of other remnants of war on their lands for compensation for the losses incurred from the States responsible for those remnants;

4. *Appeals* to all States, particularly those responsible for the presence of remnants of war in developing countries, to co-operate with the Secretary-General in order to enable him to make specific and effective recommendations for solving the problem of remnants of war;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his contacts and consultations with Member States pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/71 and to collate all relevant information received from States, in order to find ways and means, including the possibility of convening a conference under the auspices of the United Nations, of solving the problem of remnants of war, and to report to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

*103rd plenary meeting  
17 December 1981*

### 36/189. Session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* paragraphs 13 to 15 of its resolution 35/74 of 5 December 1980 on international co-operation in the field of the environment,

*Concerned* that there is need to revive the sense of urgency and commitment by Governments for national and international co-operative action to protect and enhance the environment, which found expression at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972,

*Recognizing* that important changes in the perception of the environment and of environmental problems have occurred since that Conference and recognizing also the importance of the interrelationships between people, resources, environment and development,

*Convinced* that the session of a special character represents a unique opportunity for Governments to re-emphasize their continued commitment to and support of the cause of the environment and the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. *Decides* that the session of a special character of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme should be held at Nairobi from 10 to 18 May 1982 and that the Governing Council should report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

2. *Approves* the draft provisional agenda for the session as set forth in section I of the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Further decides* that the rules of procedure of the Governing Council will apply to the session of a special character, with modifications to rules 17, 18, 19, 31 and

<sup>117</sup> A/36/477.

<sup>118</sup> A/36/419/Add.1.

<sup>119</sup> See A/36/419.

<sup>120</sup> A/36/577.

<sup>121</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25)*, annex I.

<sup>122</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/32/25)*, annex I.

<sup>123</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1.)*, annex I.

<sup>124</sup> A/36/531.

67 as recommended by the Governing Council and set forth in section II of the annex to the present resolution;

4. *Reiterates* its invitation to Governments to prepare thoroughly for the session of a special character and to participate therein at the highest political level, and specifically invites ministers dealing with the environment to participate in the session;

5. *Agrees* that there should be a special public information programme, along the lines indicated by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, which should to a large extent be financed from existing resources;

6. *Decides* that the present resolution should be implemented with due regard for the need for economy in respect of the preparations and arrangements for the session of a special character;

7. *Encourages* the participation of non-governmental organizations in the session of a special character, in accordance with the practices normally followed by the Governing Council.

103rd plenary meeting  
17 December 1981

## ANNEX

### I. DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SESSION

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
3. Election of the President of the session.
4. Organizational and procedural matters:<sup>125</sup>
  - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
  - (b) Election of officers other than the President.
5. Credentials of representatives.
6. Review of the major achievements in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Human Environment.
7. Future perspectives, action and international co-operation in the field of the environment, and major environmental trends to be addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme over the next ten years.
8. Adoption of the report of the session.
9. Closure of the session.

### II. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL FOR THE SESSION

*Rule 17* (Representation and credentials). Paragraph 2 of this rule shall read as follows:

"A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the session of a special character. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the session of a special character without delay."

*Rule 18* (Elections):

(a) Paragraph 1 of this rule shall read as follows:

"At the commencement of the first meeting of the session of a special character, the Governing Council shall elect, for the duration of that session, a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur from among its members. Those officers shall constitute the Bureau of the Governing Council. The Bureau shall assist the President in the general conduct of business of the Governing Council. The Chairman of such sessional committees or working parties as may be established under rule 60 below shall be invited to participate in meetings of the Bureau."

<sup>125</sup> Statements in plenary meeting are expected to be made in accordance with decision 9/2 of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex I*).

- (b) Paragraph 2 of this rule shall remain unchanged;
- (c) Paragraph 3 of this rule shall be suspended for the duration of the session of a special character.

*Rule 19* (Terms of office). This rule shall be suspended for the duration of the session of a special character.

*Rule 31* (Quorum). This rule shall read as follows:

"The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to start when at least one third of the members of the session of a special character of the Governing Council are present. The presence of a majority of the members shall be required for any decision to be taken."

*Rule 67* (Participation of States not members of the Governing Council). This rule shall be suspended for the duration of the session of a special character.

## 36/190. Implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 32/170 and 32/172 of 19 December 1977, 33/88 and 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/184, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979, and 35/72 and 35/73 of 5 December 1980,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/37 of 21 July 1978, 1979/51 of 2 August 1979, 1980/52 of 23 July 1980 and 1981/72 of 24 July 1981,

*Noting* decision 9/22 B of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme<sup>126</sup> and decision 81/4 of 19 June 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,<sup>127</sup>

*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,<sup>128</sup>

*Reiterating* its concern over the severe effects of desertification, a major form of environmental degradation and an obstacle to development in fragile ecosystems, on the socio-economic development and the way of life of the people of the Sudano-Sahelian region, and emphasizing again the need to hasten the implementation in the region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,<sup>129</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the progress made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in assisting the Governments of the region, on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme and under a joint venture of the Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme, in implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the addition of Benin to the list of countries to be assisted by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in the efforts to implement the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

4. *Commends* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme for the effective and co-ordinated manner in which they have continued to develop the joint venture through the instrumentality of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office;

<sup>126</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex I*.

<sup>127</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 11 (E/1981/61/Rev.1), annex I*.

<sup>128</sup> A/36/144, annex.

<sup>129</sup> A/CONF.74/36, chap. 1.