

37/213. Conversion of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization into a specialized agency

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Constitution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization,¹²⁸

Noting that the Constitution has been ratified, accepted or approved by more than the minimum number of States whose agreement is required for its entry into force,

Recalling paragraph 4 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/66 A of 30 July 1982, concerning arrangements for consultations leading to the notifications foreseen in paragraph 1 of article 25 of the Constitution,

Appreciating the efforts of the Secretary-General and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation in organizing informal preliminary consultations,

1. *Recommends* that consultations to determine the date of entry into force of the Constitution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization should be organized in three stages among States that have ratified, accepted or approved that Constitution and other interested States, as follows:

(a) A one-day procedural meeting in New York in January 1983 to determine the date of substantive meetings and to give interested delegations an opportunity for a preliminary discussion of the agenda and other organizational matters relating thereto;

(b) A series of consultations at Vienna, leading to a formal meeting not exceeding one week, if possible immediately following the seventeenth session of the Industrial Development Board, during the first half of 1983, to discuss all relevant substantive questions;

(c) A one-day closing meeting in New York to receive the conclusions of the substantive meetings and to execute individual notifications to the Secretary-General of agreement for the entry into force of the Constitution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary conference services for the meetings in New York and Vienna, and resources from voluntary contributions, to the extent possible, and extrabudgetary resources, as appropriate, to cover the travel costs of one representative of each of the least developed countries participating in the meetings at Vienna.

*113th plenary meeting
20 December 1982*

37/214. Economic Commission for Africa: regional programming, operations, restructuring and decentralization issues

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

Recalling also its resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, by which, *inter alia*, the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the

United Nations System was established for the purpose of preparing detailed action proposals with a view to initiating the process of restructuring the United Nations system so as to make it more fully capable of dealing with problems of international economic co-operation and development in a comprehensive and effective manner, and to make it more responsive to the objectives of the provisions of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as well as those of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

Recalling further its resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 34/206 of 19 December 1979 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, which process was affirmed as an integral part of the efforts for ensuring the equitable, full and effective participation of the developing countries in the formulation and application of all decisions within the United Nations system in the field of development and international economic co-operation and by which process specific, additional tasks were assigned to the regional commissions, including the task of being the main general economic and social development centres for their respective regions, providing team leadership and responsibility for co-ordination and co-operation at the regional level and acting as executing agencies,

Mindful of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Africa,¹²⁹ in which it is stated, *inter alia*, that the Commission shall participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic development of Africa, including its social aspects, with a view to raising the level of economic activity and levels of living in Africa, and shall assist in the formulation and development of co-ordinated policies as a basis for practical action in promoting economic and technological development in the region,

Mindful, in particular, of the importance attached by the Economic Commission for Africa to economic co-operation among member States, particularly at the subregional level, and to the various resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in this regard, culminating in the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa¹³⁰ and the Final Act of Lagos,¹³¹

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Economic Commission for Africa: regional programming, operations, restructuring and decentralization issues",¹³² the comments of the Secretary-General thereon¹³³ and the views of the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982,¹³⁴

1. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/63 of 30 July 1982 on regional programming, operations, restructuring and decentralization issues with respect to the Economic Commission for Africa;

2. *Welcomes* the recommendations made by the Joint Inspection Unit in its report¹³⁵ and approves the comments of the Secretary-General thereon;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General:

(a) To investigate new approaches to regional and subregional programming and management of the inter-country projects of the United Nations system, working closely with the organizations of the system;

¹²⁹ E/CN.14/111/Rev.8.

¹³⁰ A/S-11/14, annex I.

¹³¹ *Ibid.*, annex II.

¹³² A/37/119.

¹³³ A/37/119/Add.1.

¹³⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/37/3)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

¹³⁵ See A/37/119, chap. VI.

¹²⁸ A/CONF.90/19.

(b) To initiate immediately, in consultation with all concerned United Nations organizations, an examination of the progress made thus far in the decentralization of United Nations activities and to report thereon to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Economic and Social Council, with a view to determining the specific authorities, responsibilities and resources that should be decentralized and the timing of such decentralization;

(c) To take practical measures aimed at strengthening liaison functions between the United Nations Headquarters and the regional commissions, bearing in mind the role of the Regional Commissions Liaison Office;

(d) To ensure that the necessary measures proposed by the Secretary-General are undertaken to implement recommendations 6 to 8 of the Joint Inspection Unit,¹³⁵ in particular the speedy development of management services, in order to ensure that the Economic Commission for Africa functions at optimum efficiency and effectiveness bearing in mind the ongoing consultations;

4. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to institute, under the aegis of the Commission, regional subject-oriented and high-level inter-agency meetings to discuss common issues aimed at the development of firm guidelines for co-ordinated action towards attainment of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa;

5. *Urges* the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to increase the effectiveness of the programme of their exchanges of staff in order to foster the broader scheme of interregional co-operation;

6. *Requests* organizations of the United Nations system to assist African Governments, within the framework of the country programming process, in incorporating the goals and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action into their sectoral country programmes and projects and adapting them to subregional and regional priorities;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

*113th plenary meeting
20 December 1982*

37/215. Remnants of war

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3435 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, 35/71 of 5 December 1980 and 36/188 of 17 December 1981 concerning the problem of remnants of war,

Recalling also decisions 80 (IV) of 9 April 1976,¹³⁶ 101 (V) of 25 May 1977,¹³⁷ 9/5 of 25 May 1981¹³⁸ and 10/8 of 28 May 1982,¹³⁹ of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling further resolution 32 of the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 16 to 19 August 1976,¹⁴⁰ and resolution 26/11-P of the Eleventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Islamabad from 17 to 22 May 1980,¹⁴¹

¹³⁶ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25)*, annex I.

¹³⁷ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/32/25)*, annex I.

¹³⁸ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr. 1)*, annex I.

¹³⁹ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25)*, part two, annex.

¹⁴⁰ See A/31/197, annex IV, sect. B.

¹⁴¹ See A/35/419-S/14129, annex I.

Convinced that the responsibility for the removal of the remnants of war should be borne by the countries that planted them,

Recognizing that the presence of the material remnants of war, particularly mines, on the lands of developing countries seriously impedes their development efforts and causes loss of life and property,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the problem of remnants of war;¹⁴²

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

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

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to prepare a factual study on the problem of remnants of war, particularly mines, which would include an analysis of the following aspects:

(a) The economic and environmental problems experienced by developing countries affected by remnants of war, the loss of life and property they have suffered, their specific demands in this respect and the extent to which the responsible States are willing to compensate the affected States and to assist them in solving the problem;

(b) The legal status of the problem;

(c) The international co-operation required to solve the problem;

(d) The role of the United Nations in this regard, including the possibility of convening a conference pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 35/71 and 36/188;

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

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to submit the study in time for consideration by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

*113th plenary meeting
20 December 1982*

37/216. Implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 36/190 of 17 December 1981,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/55 of 29 July 1982,

Noting decision 10/18 of 31 May 1982 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme¹³⁹ and decisions 82/26 and 82/28 of 18 June 1982 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,¹⁴³

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme¹⁴⁴ on the

¹⁴² A/37/415.

¹⁴³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 6 (E/1982/16/Rev. 1)*, annex I.

¹⁴⁴ A/37/397, annex.