

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons³⁴ and other international treaties, conventions and agreements designed to achieve similar objectives, as well as in ensuring, as far as it is able, that the assistance provided by the Agency or at its request or under its supervision or control is not used in such a way as to further any military purpose, as stated in article II of its statute,

Further recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency on nuclear power, nuclear safety, radiological protection and radioactive waste management, including its work directed towards assisting developing countries in planning for the introduction of nuclear power in accordance with their needs,

Again stressing the need for the highest standards of safety in the design and operation of nuclear plants so as to minimize risks to life, health and the environment,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Agency on its programme activities with a view to achieving the objectives of sustainable and environmentally sound development,³⁵

Noting that the General Conference of the Agency at its thirty-third regular session approved the reappointment by the Board of Governors of the Agency of Mr. Hans Blix as Director General of the Agency for a further term of four years, commencing on 1 December 1989,

Bearing in mind resolutions GC(XXXIII)/RES/506 on Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat, GC(XXXIII)/RES/508 on measures to strengthen international co-operation in matters relating to nuclear safety and radiological protection, GC(XXXIII)/RES/509 on dumping of nuclear wastes, GC(XXXIII)/RES/510 on the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, GC(XXXIII)/RES/511 on the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, GC(XXXIII)/RES/515 on the plan for the production of low-cost potable water and GC(XXXIII)/RES/524 on South Africa's nuclear capabilities, adopted on 29 September 1989 by the General Conference of the Agency at its thirty-third regular session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;³²
2. *Affirms* its confidence in the role of the Agency in the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;
3. *Urges* all States to strive for effective and harmonious international co-operation in carrying out the work of the Agency, pursuant to its statute; in promoting the use of nuclear energy and the application of the necessary measures to strengthen further the safety of nuclear installations and to minimize risks to life, health and the environment; in strengthening technical assistance and co-operation for developing countries; and in ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the Agency's safeguards system;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to the Agency's activities.

*40th plenary meeting
25 October 1989*

44/14. Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development

A

END-OF-DECADE REVIEW OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ITS REVITALIZATION

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979, in which it endorsed the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development,³⁶

Stressing the increasing importance of science and technology for development in the context of the rapidly changing international economic environment,

Noting with great concern that the effect of increasing disparities in scientific and technological capabilities between the industrialized countries and the developing countries as a whole has been to contribute to a widening of the economic gap between them,

Stressing also the central role that science and technology play as vital instruments for the improvement of the quality of life and the eradication of poverty in the context of the promotion of economic growth and sustained development in developing countries,

Expressing concern that the absence of a favourable external economic environment has adversely affected the capacity of developing countries to foster and finance their activities concerning science and technology for development.

Emphasizing the need to enhance human resources development in order to promote the endogenous capacity in science and technology of developing countries, in particular to face the challenges of development and accelerated technological change posed by the present scientific and technological revolution,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the end-of-decade review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action,³⁷

1. *Reaffirms* the validity of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development and its basic goals, and expresses concern regarding its implementation;

2. *Considers* that science and technology should be one of the major components in the deliberations of the special session of the General Assembly in 1990 devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries, the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the proposed United Nations conference on environment and development.

*42nd plenary meeting
26 October 1989*

³⁴ Resolution 2373 (XXII), annex.

³⁵ A/44/339/Add.11-E/1989/119/Add.11

³⁶ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

³⁷ A/CN.11/89

B

ENDOGENOUS CAPACITY-BUILDING IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant parts of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development,³⁶

Stressing that the endogenous capacity of developing countries in science and technology lies, *inter alia*, in their capacity to choose, acquire, adapt, utilize and innovate technologies, including new ones, through institutional mechanisms for technology assessment in the areas of priority action,

Emphasizing that the building by developing countries of endogenous capacity for science and technology is of major concern to the United Nations system,

Recalling also resolutions 4 (VIII) of 6 June 1986³⁸ and 1 (IX) of 7 August 1987³⁹ of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, in which the Committee recommended that the Centre for Science and Technology for Development of the Secretariat should carry out studies on helping interested Member States to identify priority activities in science and technology for development, in accordance with national development plans and objectives, so as to lead to the strengthening of their endogenous capacities,

Taking note with appreciation of the work of the Centre in initiating pilot studies on endogenous capacity-building in some selected countries and welcoming the close co-operation between the Centre and the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development in undertaking the studies and in planning additional studies in the future,

Recalling further the sections of resolution 1 (IX) of the Intergovernmental Committee on the problems and requirements of the least developed countries in the field of science and technology, and emphasizing in that regard the need to enhance the level of commitment and support for the special needs of the least developed countries in that area,

Stressing the importance of the continued integration of women in the development process, particularly in developing countries, and, in that context, recalling resolution 2, adopted on 31 August 1979 by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development,⁴⁰ and the relevant parts of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women⁴¹ in the field of science and technology,

1. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system to devote increased attention to national capacity-building in science and technology, in accordance with the development objectives, priorities and plans of developing countries, and to enable them to take effective measures to build better and more sustainable institutions, strengthen human resource capacities and develop and adapt technology;

³⁶Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/41/37), sect. II.A.

³⁹Ibid., Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 37 and corrigendum (A/42/37 and Corr.1), sect. II.A.

⁴⁰Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VI, sect. A.

⁴¹Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

2. *Stresses* that international co-operation to foster the endogenous capacity-building of developing countries, in accordance with their autonomous decision-making in science and technology, must also be oriented to demand-driven priorities in order to support the efforts of developing countries in economic growth and development;

3. *Emphasizes* that international co-operation to foster endogenous capacity-building should give particular attention to management of technology in order to cope with technological change and promote technological innovation;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to provide sustained support to the process of building the endogenous capacities of developing countries in science and technology, including their capacity for assessment of technology;

5. *Urges* the Centre for Science and Technology for Development of the Secretariat and the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development, in co-operation with other bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to implement further pilot studies;

6. *Also urges* the United Nations Development Programme and other interested bodies of the United Nations system, as well as major donor countries, to support the implementation of those studies;

7. *Invites* the Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development to provide expert advice and support for that endeavour;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an interim progress report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its eleventh session.

42nd plenary meeting
26 October 1989

C

CO-ORDINATION AND HARMONIZATION OF ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The General Assembly,

Recalling the parts of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development³⁶ relating to co-ordinated implementation of the Programme by the United Nations system and the formulation of policy guidelines for the harmonization of policies of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in regard to activities in the field of science and technology,

Also recalling resolution 4 (IX) of 7 August 1987 of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development,³⁹ which provided the framework for the formulation of policy guidelines for the harmonization of activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in science and technology for development,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development of the Secretariat,⁴² which, *inter alia*, analysed and provided information on harmonization of science and technology activities within the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the leadership role assigned to resident co-ordinators of the United Nations system to harmonize the

⁴²A/CN.11/88.

efforts of the different organizations of the system, in accordance with the priorities of each Government,

Taking note of the guidelines suggested in paragraph 66 of the report of the Secretary-General,⁴²

1. *Calls upon* the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development, to enhance co-ordination and harmonization at the country level, including the inter-agency missions, at the request of interested developing countries, through the office of the resident co-ordinator, in order to increase coherence and efficiency in responding adequately to the priorities in science and technology established by each developing country;

2. *Requests* the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation to ensure close monitoring and follow-up of the mandated programmes and activities of the United Nations system in the areas of science and technology for development for the successful implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development and to report thereon regularly to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development.

42nd plenary meeting
26 October 1989

D

FINANCING OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant parts of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development,³⁶

Concerned at the continued inadequacy of resources devoted to fostering science and technology for development,

Recalling its resolution 41/183 of 8 December 1986 on the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development,

Recalling also resolution 5 (IX) of 7 August 1987 of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development,³⁹

Recalling further decision 89/52 of 30 June 1989 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,⁴³

1. *Reaffirms* the need for adequate resources on a continuous and assured basis to foster science and technology for development in accordance with the priorities of developing countries;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of organizing a more effective coalition of resources within the United Nations development system, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks and bilateral funding agencies to strengthen the endogenous capacity-building of developing countries in science and technology;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development as an identifiable entity with the present size of staff and mode of operation;

4. *Requests* the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development to continue to provide policy guidance and set priorities for activities of the Fund within the framework of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development;

5. *Calls upon* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to continue to ensure close and interactive co-operation between the Fund and the Centre for Science and Technology for Development of the Secretariat on a programmatic and substantive basis, particularly in implementing decisions emanating from the end-of-the-decade review of the Vienna Programme of Action.

6. *Recommends* that the Fund, at the request of the interested developing countries, accord priority in support of:

(a) Pilot projects on the endogenous capacity-building of developing countries;

(b) Activities directly related to the follow-up of substantive themes such as new and emerging areas of science and technology considered by the Intergovernmental Committee;

(c) Projects and programmes aimed at fostering co-operation among developing countries;

7. *Emphasizes* the important function played by the Fund as the focal point within the United Nations Development Programme for endogenous capacity-building in developing countries and networking with the international science and technology community;

8. *Takes note* of the decision of the Intergovernmental Committee to include an item entitled "Financing science and technology for development" in the agenda of its eleventh session and to request the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to it on the question.⁴⁴

42nd plenary meeting
26 October 1989

E

ASSESSMENT OF TECHNOLOGY

The General Assembly,

Recalling decision 7 (V) of 20 June 1983,⁴⁵ in which the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development established the Advance Technology Alert System and called for a review of the project, and the Committee's resolution 4 (VIII) of 6 June 1986,³⁸

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the evaluation by the international group of experts of the Advance Technology Alert System,⁴⁶

Recognizing that, because of the complexity and the global implications of new and emerging areas of science and technology, careful assessment of technology is required to take full advantage of such emerging technologies and to avoid negative repercussions for developing countries,

1. *Resolves* that, in pursuance of the substantive theme approach, the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development shall choose subjects of particular significance with major science and technology dimensions with a view to providing an assessment of

⁴⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/44/37)*, sect. II.A, resolution 2 (X), para. 5.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/38/37)*, annex, sect. B.

⁴⁶ A/CN.11/90.

⁴³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 13 (E/1989/32)*, annex I.

technology and related policy analysis in order to facilitate the debate of the question in the General Assembly:

2. *Decides:*

(a) To continue and to improve further the Advance Technology Alert System as an important and effective means of applying technology assessment to endogenous capacity-building in developing countries;

(b) To continue also to publish the *ATAS Bulletin* within existing resources, focusing on the risks and benefits of new and emerging technology to development, especially in developing countries, and on diverse practices of technological assessment being used by Member States and international organizations;

(c) To entrust the Centre for Science and Technology for Development of the Secretariat, through the Advance Technology Alert System and in co-operation with other United Nations bodies, to serve as the focal point for technological assessment within the United Nations system and, where possible, for relations with Governments and non-governmental organizations concerning technological assessment activities in Member States;

3. *Takes note* of the decision of the Intergovernmental Committee to choose as the substantive theme for its eleventh session "Ways and means of ensuring the participation of developing countries in international co-operation for research on and development of environmentally sound technologies, and the rapid and effective transfer of such technologies to those countries";⁴⁷

4. *Requests* the Centre to study ways and means of assisting developing countries in enhancing their capacity to assess new technologies, and recommends that a study be undertaken regarding new materials and the processing of raw materials, making use of the results of the Centre's ongoing programme on materials technology, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Intergovernmental Committee at its eleventh session.

42nd plenary meeting
26 October 1989

44/15. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security",

Recalling its resolution 43/20 of 3 November 1988,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of any State,

Reaffirming also the inalienable right of all peoples to determine their own form of government and to choose their own economic, political and social system free from outside intervention, subversion, coercion or constraint of any kind whatsoever,

Gravely concerned at the situation in Afghanistan, which resulted from the violation of principles of the Charter and of the recognized norms of inter-State conduct,

Noting the conclusion at Geneva, on 14 April 1988, of the Agreements on the Settlement of the Situation Relat-

ing to Afghanistan⁴⁸ and the completion of the withdrawal of foreign troops in accordance with those Agreements,

Aware of the continuing concern of the international community at the sufferings of the Afghan people and the magnitude of the social and economic problems posed to Pakistan and Iran by the presence on their soil of millions of Afghan refugees,

Deeply conscious of the urgent need for a comprehensive political solution of the situation in respect of Afghanistan,

Conscious that a successful final political settlement of the Afghanistan problem would have a favourable impact on the international situation and provide an impetus for the resolution of other acute regional conflicts,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts to bring about peace and security,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General⁴⁹ and the status of the process of political settlement,

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Agreements on the Settlement of the Situation Relating to Afghanistan, hereinafter referred to as the "Geneva Agreements", concluded at Geneva on 14 April 1988 under United Nations auspices, which constitute an important step towards a comprehensive political solution of the Afghanistan problem;

2. *Welcomes* the completion on 15 February 1989 of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in accordance with the Geneva Agreements;

3. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his constant efforts to achieve a political solution of the Afghanistan problem;

4. *Calls* for the scrupulous respect for and faithful implementation of the Geneva Agreements by all parties concerned, who should fully abide by their letter and spirit,

5. *Reiterates* that the preservation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and non-aligned and Islamic character of Afghanistan is essential for a peaceful solution of the Afghanistan problem;

6. *Reaffirms* the right of the Afghan people to determine their own form of government and to choose their economic, political and social system free from outside intervention, subversion, coercion or constraint of any kind whatsoever;

7. *Calls upon* all parties concerned to work urgently for the achievement of a comprehensive political solution, the cessation of hostilities and the creation of the necessary conditions of peace and normalcy that would enable the Afghan refugees to return voluntarily to their homeland in safety and honour;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for an early start of the intra-Afghan dialogue for the establishment of a broad-based government to ensure the broadest support and immediate participation of all segments of the Afghan people;

9. *Calls upon* all parties concerned to exert every effort to promote a political settlement acceptable to the Afghan people in order to bring to an end the protracted conflict that has prevailed in Afghanistan for the past several years;

⁴⁸ S. 1983/5, annex I, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1988*, document S. 1983/5.

⁴⁹ A. 44/661-S/20911; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1989*, document S. 20911.

⁴⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session Supplement No. 37 (A/44/37)*, sect. II A, resolution 2 (X), para. 3.