

12. *Takes note* of the ongoing efforts to address the debt problems of the least developed countries, and stresses the need to intensify ongoing efforts to find an effective solution to the problem of external indebtedness of those countries;

13. *Welcomes* the steps taken to forgive or reduce the official development assistance debt of the low-income countries, and urges that further appropriate action be taken in that regard, particularly for the countries in Africa;

14. *Emphasizes* that measures for the reduction of official debt stock and service should be implemented, taking into account the need for debtor countries to benefit from increased new financial flows, particularly official development assistance;

15. *Invites* the multilateral financial institutions to continue to provide support for debt and debt-service reduction packages, with the necessary flexibility under their established guidelines, and urges that serious attention be given to continuing to work towards a growth-oriented solution of the problems of developing countries with serious debt-servicing problems, including those whose debt is mainly to official creditors or to multilateral financial institutions;

16. *Recognizes* that increased co-operation between the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other multilateral financial institutions is welcomed but should not lead to cross-conditionality;

17. *Emphasizes* the need to provide substantial concessional resources to the developing countries, with a view to promoting the revival of economic growth and sustained development, and in that regard emphasizes that developed countries should implement their undertakings to attain the agreed international target of devoting 0.7 per cent of gross national product to official development assistance, as well as the agreed targets established at the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

18. *Recognizes* that a durable solution to the debt problems involves, *inter alia*, a substantial improvement in the access of the products of developing countries to the markets of developed countries and in their terms of trade, as well as diversification of their exports, and reaffirms, in this context, the urgent need for a balanced and successful outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations that would result in the liberalization and expansion of world trade to the benefit of all countries, especially developing countries;

19. *Urges* the multilateral financial institutions and the donor countries to take appropriate steps to assist effectively those developing countries adversely affected by the situation between Iraq and Kuwait; in particular, the multilateral financial institutions are invited to respond promptly, flexibly and with expanded resources to the needs arising from the present situation and to play a catalytic role in mobilizing additional assistance;

20. *Recognizes* that the external indebtedness of some other countries with serious debt-servicing problems also gives rise to considerable concern, and invites all those involved to take into account, as appropriate, the provisions of the present resolution in addressing those problems and in working towards an early growth-oriented solution to the external debt problems;

21. *Takes note with appreciation* of the very useful efforts made by the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General on Debt in producing a wide-ranging analysis and in producing recommendations, and, in this context, encourages Governments to give them appropriate consideration, as a new impulse to better understanding of the different aspects of the debt problem;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

71st plenary meeting
21 December 1990

45/215. United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on future administrative arrangements for the Conference,⁹²

Recalling its resolution 44/208 of 22 December 1989 and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/80 of 27 July 1990,

1. *Decides* that the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities shall remain the principal opportunity for Member States and others to pledge their contributions to United Nations development activities, that it shall continue to be convened early in November and that its basic format shall remain unchanged;

2. *Decides also* that:

(a) The Conference shall be limited to two working sessions;

(b) The Conference shall continue to be opened by the Secretary-General;

(c) Greater use should be made of written pledges and that delegations should be given an opportunity to make pledges in writing before the Conference takes place and to have them circulated during the Conference;

(d) As a general rule, statements by participants in the Conference shall be limited to five minutes each;

(e) A speakers' list shall be established for Member States and others wishing to speak; the only other statements will be an opening and closing statement by the President of the Conference, should he or she wish, and short closing statements by executive heads of the United Nations programmes and funds or their representatives;

(f) Delegations which are not in a position to make a definitive pledge should make known their pledges as soon as possible;

(g) The adoption and signing of the Final Act of the Conference shall be replaced by the adoption of a procedural report of the Conference;

⁹² A/45/281-E/1990/66 and Corr. 1.

3. *Urges* Member States to consider increasing their financial contributions to United Nations development activities.

*71st plenary meeting
21 December 1990*

45/216. Population and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/210 of 22 December 1989, in which it requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to examine, in particular, the implications for population programmes of the Amsterdam Declaration on a Better Life for Future Generations, adopted by the International Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century, held at Amsterdam from 6 to 9 November 1989,⁹³ to develop further the analysis of resource requirements for international population assistance and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, through the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of decision 90/35 of 20 June 1990 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on the United Nations Population Fund,⁹⁴

Taking note also of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/82 of 27 July 1990,

Noting that in the report of the United Nations Population Fund entitled *The State of World Population, 1990* it is stressed that population growth and distribution are closely linked with environmental and development issues,

Reaffirming the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action,⁹⁵ which were affirmed and expanded at the International Conference on Population,⁹⁶

Recognizing that socio-economic development is conducive to the success of population policies,

Reaffirming that assistance to developing countries in the area of population should be substantially increased during the 1990s and that developing countries should also intensify their efforts to allocate adequate resources to population programmes,

1. *Emphasizes* the sovereign right of all countries to formulate, adopt and implement their population policies, mindful of their cultures, values and traditions, as well as of their social, economic and political conditions, and also consistent with human rights and with the responsibilities of individuals, couples and families;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the implications for population programmes of the Amsterdam Declaration on a Better Life for Future

Generations and on efforts to develop further the analysis of resource requirements for international population assistance,⁹⁷ in which the unmet and expanding resource needs for population activities are outlined;

3. *Encourages* the Fund to sustain the momentum generated by the International Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century through continued follow-up to the recommendations contained in the Amsterdam Declaration;

4. *Stresses* the need to take into account all economic and social factors in integrating demographic objectives in population strategies and in the formulation of development strategies in general;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of mobilizing and increasing resources for population activities and, in this context:

(a) *Urges* all Governments, each according to its capacity, concerned international and regional organizations, including the World Bank, and non-governmental organizations to make every effort to mobilize the resources required for population activities, which are estimated at 9 billion United States dollars per year by the year 2000, taking into account the potential for user contributions, where feasible and advisable;

(b) *Notes* the crucial importance of resource investments in health and education, especially for women, for the success of population programmes, and urges Governments of developing countries to strengthen, according to their economic and social capacities and conditions, their political and financial commitments to investments in the social sector, and also urges Governments of developed countries, as well as concerned international, regional and non-governmental organizations, to strengthen their financial and technical support in the areas of health and education, to respond positively to requests for population assistance and to increase significantly the proportion of their development assistance destined for population activities;

(c) *Stresses* the desirability of concentrating Fund resources, in accordance with the criteria established by the Fund, on countries most in need of assistance in the population field in view of their population problems, taking into account the special needs of the low-income countries, particularly the least developed countries;

6. *Encourages* the Fund, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989, to strengthen and utilize national capacities through national execution, to enhance accountability, to adopt a programme-oriented approach and decentralize capacity and authority to the field level and to support co-ordination of the United Nations system at the country level through the resident co-ordinators, and, in this context, encourages the Fund to increase the utilization of available national expertise in the formulation and implementation of population assistance activities;

7. *Also encourages* the Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies to strengthen their co-operation in the field of maternal and child health care and family planning, each within its own mandate;

⁹³ A/C.2/44/6, annex.

⁹⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 9 (E/1990/29)*, annex I.

⁹⁵ See *Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. I.

⁹⁶ See *Report of the International Conference on Population, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8 and corrigenda).

⁹⁷ DP/1990/44.