

ference, bearing in mind the relevant conclusions of the Committee on Commodities at its fourteenth session;

14. *Decides* to include the question of commodities in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session.

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**45/201. Strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990,

*Noting* the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and its Protocol of Provisional Application of 30 October 1947<sup>54</sup> and General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964 on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

*Noting also* the institutional proposals made in connection with the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, launched during the Special Session of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, held at Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 15 to 20 September 1986, related to the strengthening of multilateral organizations in the area of international trade,

*Stressing* the principle of free and fair global trade, which should be conducive to a significant enhancement of the trade and development prospects of all countries, in particular developing countries,

*Stressing also* the need for strengthening institutional arrangements in the area of international trade, with a view to reinforcing further the multilateral trading system,

1. *Reaffirms* Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/57 of 26 July 1990, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on institutional developments, taking into account all relevant proposals, related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing the report requested, to solicit the views of all Governments and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system on this matter.

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**45/202. Specific measures in favour of island developing countries**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the requests for specific action in favour of island developing countries contained in its resolutions 41/163 of 5 December 1986 and 43/189 of 20 December

1988, and in resolutions 98 (IV) of 31 May 1976,<sup>48</sup> 111 (V) of 3 June 1979<sup>49</sup> and 138 (VI) of 2 July 1983<sup>50</sup> of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and recalling decision 86/33 of 27 June 1986 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on the special needs of island developing countries,<sup>55</sup>

*Recognizing* that, in addition to the general problems of development, many island developing countries experience specific problems arising from the interplay of such factors as their smallness, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, the fragility of their ecosystems, constraints on transport and communications, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources, weak indigenous technological capacity, the acute problem of obtaining fresh water supplies, heavy dependence on imports and a small number of commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources, migration, particularly of personnel with high-level skills, shortages of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens,

*Recognizing also* that many of these factors occur concurrently in many island developing countries, resulting in socio-economic vulnerability and dependence, particularly in those countries which are small and/or geographically dispersed,

*Noting* that many island developing countries are also least developed countries and, in that context, taking note of the relevant provisions contained in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris from 3 to 14 September 1990,<sup>15</sup>

*Recognizing* that many of the problems facing island developing countries require a strengthened partnership between the countries concerned and other members of the international community,

*Concerned* about the adverse effects on island developing countries of sea-level rise resulting from climate change,

*Taking note* of the report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations, held in New York from 25 to 29 June 1990,<sup>56</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 43/189 and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and calls for their immediate and effective implementation;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to States and to organizations and bodies within and outside the United Nations system that have responded to the special needs of island developing countries;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for convening the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations, as called for in paragraph 11 of resolution 43/189;

<sup>55</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986, Supplement No. 9* and corrigendum (E/1986/29 and Corr.1), annex 1.

<sup>56</sup> A/CONF.147/5-TD/B/AC.46/4.

<sup>54</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 55, No. 814.1(c).

4. *Takes note* of the text entitled "Challenges and opportunities: A strategic framework", which was adopted unanimously by the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations;<sup>57</sup>

5. *Welcomes* the efforts made by island developing countries to adopt policies that address their specific problems, including efforts to promote regional co-operation and integration, and calls upon those countries to pursue additional measures, in accordance with their national objectives, policies and priorities, to make their economies less vulnerable to the adverse consequences of their specific situations;

6. *Calls upon* the island developing countries to continue to adopt suitable development policies designed to overcome their specific vulnerabilities, in particular through the promotion of an integrated approach to their development process in such areas as development of human resources, expansion of physical and institutional infrastructure, exploitation of resources and diversification of the production base;

7. *Also calls upon* island developing countries to adopt measures aimed at protecting and rehabilitating their fragile environment and ecosystems;

8. *Urges* the island developing countries to promote regional co-operation arrangements in such areas as disaster prevention, inter-island transport feeder services and security;

9. *Appeals* to the international community:

(a) To maintain and, if possible, increase the level of concessional financial and technical assistance provided to island developing countries;

(b) To maximize access of island developing countries to concessional financial and technical assistance by taking into account the specific development needs and problems facing those countries;

(c) To consider reviewing the mechanisms of existing procedures used in providing concessional resources to island developing countries, taking into account their situations and development potential;

(d) To ensure that assistance conforms to the national and, as appropriate, regional priorities of island developing countries;

(e) To provide support to island developing countries over a mutually agreed and, where appropriate, longer time-frame to enable them to achieve economic growth and development;

(f) To continue to ensure that a concerted effort is made to assist the island developing countries, at their request, in improving their institutional and administrative capacities and in satisfying their overall needs with regard to the development of human resources;

(g) To consider improving existing arrangements for assisting island developing countries in addressing the adverse effects on their export earnings;

10. *Recommends* that the relevant organizations of the United Nations system take adequate measures to respond positively to the particular needs of island developing countries and report on such measures, as appropriate;

11. *Urges* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen its role as the focal point for specific action at the global level in favour of island developing countries and to act as a catalyst in this regard, *inter alia*, by organizing and facilitating the cross-regional interchange of information and experience in full co-operation with regional and subregional organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, as appropriate;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to carry out activities to identify specific problems and recommend specific measures for island developing countries, taking into account the work already done on this issue within the inter-agency framework called for in paragraph 10 of resolution 43/189, in particular in areas such as the applicability of current socio-economic indicators to island developing countries, transport and the impact of natural disasters;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to provide, from existing or from extrabudgetary resources, technical advisory services to the island developing countries to assist them in the following areas:

(a) Periodic review of their socio-economic performance;

(b) Assessment and exploitation of marine potential;

(c) Development of inter-island transport services;

(d) Development of the statistical socio-economic database to improve planning capacities;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to consider the convening of periodic meetings of governmental experts and donor countries and organizations in order to facilitate a review of developments in respect of island developing countries;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to monitor, in co-operation with the appropriate international organizations, especially the relevant regional institutions, the progress made in the implementation of measures taken at the national and international levels;

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

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#### 45/203. Trade and Development Board

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended,<sup>47</sup> on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Final Act adopted by the Conference at its seventh session, held at Geneva from 9 July to 3 August 1987,<sup>51</sup> and the Declaration on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, contained in Trade and Development Board res-

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.