

and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,²⁹

Recalling its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,³³ and 44/222 of 22 December 1989, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Stressing that technical cooperation among developing countries is an indispensable and integral part of their efforts to accelerate development and should act as a springboard for enhancing the integration of the developing countries into the international economy based on equity and mutual benefit,

Also stressing that technical cooperation among developing countries remains a key element in global economic cooperation, its purpose being not to displace North-South cooperation with South-South cooperation but to complement the former within a cooperative framework that is truly universal,

Reaffirming that, while developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting technical cooperation among themselves, developed countries and the United Nations system should assist and support such activities and that the United Nations system should play a prominent role as promoter and catalyst of technical cooperation among developing countries, in accordance with the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,

1. *Reaffirms* the continued validity of the recommendations of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the importance of technical cooperation among developing countries;

2. *Endorses* the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its seventh session;³⁴

3. *Urges* all Member States, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant organs, organizations, bodies and programmes of the United Nations system to give high priority in their particular fields of activity to the support, including financial support, of activities in technical cooperation among developing countries;

4. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme to take the lead in assisting developing countries in overcoming the problems encountered in their efforts to promote and implement activities in technical cooperation among developing countries;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to take the necessary measures to implement the commitments agreed upon in the context of technical cooperation among developing countries;

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

78th plenary meeting
19 December 1991

46/160. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference

The General Assembly,

Affirming its resolutions 37/248 of 21 December 1982, 38/160 of 19 December 1983, 39/215 of 18 December 1984, 40/195 of 17 December 1985, 42/181 of 11 December 1987 and 44/221 of 22 December 1989, in which it, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to promote cooperation between the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference and urged intensification of contacts in order to accelerate the achievement of the objectives of the Lusaka Declaration of 1 April 1980, by which the Conference was established,³⁵

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Conference,³⁶

Noting the efforts made by the Conference in implementing its Programme of Action,³⁷

Reaffirming its recognition that successful implementation of the development programmes of the Conference can be achieved only if the Conference has adequate resources at its disposal,

Welcoming Namibia's membership in the Conference, which brings added impetus for expanding and intensifying economic cooperation in southern Africa,

Noting that the effects of war, loss of life and destruction of economic and social infrastructures in southern Africa demand the continuation and strengthening of rehabilitation programmes to regenerate the economies of the independent countries of the region,

Recognizing the positive developments in South Africa, including prospects for the start of negotiations on a democratic, non-racial constitution,

Deeply concerned about the current violence in South Africa, resulting from actions of forces opposed to democratic transformation,

Welcoming the signing in South Africa on 14 September 1991 of the National Peace Accord, effective implementation of which should strengthen prospects for peace in the entire southern African region,

Noting the progress made by some organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in working out mechanisms for formulating and executing cooperation with the Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,³⁶ which describes the progress made in the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly dealing with cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference;³⁷

2. *Commends* the Member States and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have maintained, enhanced and initiated development cooperation with the Conference;

3. *Calls upon* the Member States and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Conference to explore the possibility of doing so;

4. *Commends* the Conference for its considerable achievements, since its founding, in implementing projects covering all the sectors of cooperation;

5. *Notes with interest* the reforms under way within the Conference in order better to address the challenges of regional cooperation in the 1990s;

6. *Renews its appeal* to the international community to increase its financial, technical and material support for the Conference in order to enable it to implement fully its expanded Programme of Action, which currently includes the marine fisheries and resources sector and the information and culture sector, and to meet the needs of reconstruction and rehabilitation;

7. *Appeals* to the international community and relevant organizations of the United Nations system to extend appropriate assistance to the Conference to enable it to advance the process of regional economic integration, including eventual participation of a democratic, non-racial South Africa;

8. *Calls upon* the South African authorities and all parties in a position to do so to redouble efforts to end the violence;

9. *Welcomes* the peace agreements in Angola and the peace process in Mozambique, and calls upon the international community to encourage and support those developments;

10. *Appeals* to the international community to extend assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the economies of Angola and Mozambique;

11. *Also appeals* to the international community urgently to extend assistance to the newly independent nation of Namibia to enable it to implement its national development programme;

12. *Invites* the donor community and other cooperating partners to participate at a high level in the Annual Consultative Conference of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, to be held at Maputo from 29 to 31 January 1992;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Conference;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*78th plenary meeting
19 December 1991*

46/161. Combating desertification and drought

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, by which it approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,³⁸ and all its subsequent resolutions on the subject,

Recalling also its resolutions 44/228 of 22 December 1989, on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and 45/212 of 21 December 1990, on protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind, as well as its decision 44/437 of 19 December 1989, on countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa,

Concerned at the seriousness of the problem of drought and desertification in many regions, and noting the rele-

vance of the experiences of various countries in combating land degradation in an integrated manner,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 44/172 A and B of 19 December 1989, concerning implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, in which the General Assembly invited the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, through its Preparatory Committee, to accord high priority to desertification control;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in 1989-1990, including its implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region,³⁹ and requests the Secretary-General to forward that report, as well as the report requested by the Assembly in paragraph 7 of its resolution 44/172 A,⁴⁰ to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its fourth session;

3. *Endorses* decisions 16/22 A to E of 31 May 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme⁴¹ and decision 91/41 of 25 June 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme;⁴¹

4. *Also endorses* decision 3/16 of 4 September 1991 of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference,⁴² in which the Committee requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to submit to the Committee at its fourth session a report on the financial, technical and institutional needs to implement effectively and efficiently the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification control;

5. *Welcomes* the priority that will be given to the consideration of desertification by the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts to combat desertification and drought undertaken by African subregional organizations, such as the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, the Ministerial Conference for a joint policy to combat desertification and the Arab Maghreb Union, and the setting up of the Sahel and Sahara observatory;

7. *Also welcomes* the continued and substantial technical and financial assistance by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region at the national and regional level in their preparations for the Conference, and encourages the Office to continue and intensify its assistance in that area;

8. *Invites* the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, within the framework of United Nations Development Programme round tables and/or the World Bank consultative group, to assist the Governments of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region in organizing sectoral/thematic round tables in order to mobilize adequate resources for the protection and sound management of natural resources to arrest and reverse the process of desertification;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in light of the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification and drought, to highlight any requirements necessary to implement those decisions in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

*78th plenary meeting
19 December 1991*