

(e) To study with special attention the environmental problems and conditions of the countries with coastlines particularly exposed to the risks of marine pollution;

(f) To promote international co-operation in order to prevent, eliminate or at least adequately reduce and effectively control adverse ecological effects resulting from activities conducted in all spheres, in such a way that due account will be taken of the interests of all States;

6. *Urges* the States possessing nuclear weapons to put an end to the testing of those weapons in all spheres and, also in the context of measures designed to improve environmental conditions on a world-wide basis, stresses the necessity of prohibiting the production and use of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and of ensuring their early destruction;

7. *Further urges* Member States, the United Nations system and other international organizations which deal with ecological problems to plan international co-operation in the field of the environment, taking into particular account the need for increased technical and financial assistance to the developing countries to help them improve their ecological conditions, both in rural and urban areas;

8. *Indicates* the advisability of the international financial institutions being enabled, without affecting adversely their operations in other spheres, to consider favourably the increase in the volume and the softening of the terms of their economic assistance to the developing countries for the planning and implementation of projects which, in the exclusive judgement of those countries, might be desirable and which, in their view, might be justifiable on environmental terms;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, after ascertaining the views of Member States, on a scheme of voluntary contributions which would provide additional financing by the developed countries to the developing countries for environmental purposes, beyond the resources already contemplated in the International Development Strategy;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare a comprehensive study, to be submitted to the Conference at its third session, on the effects of environmental policies of developed countries which might adversely affect the present or future development possibilities of developing countries, by means of, *inter alia*:

(a) A decrease in the flow of international development assistance and a deterioration of its terms and conditions;

(b) A further deterioration in the trading prospects of developing countries by the creation of additional obstacles, such as the new non-tariff measures, which might lead to a new type of protectionism;

11. *Reiterates* the primacy of independent economic and social development as the main and paramount objective of international co-operation, in the interests of the welfare of mankind and of peace and world security.

2026th plenary meeting,
20 December 1971.

2850 (XXVI). United Nations Conference on the Human Environment

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2398 (XXIII) of 3 December 1968, 2581 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969 and 2657 (XXV) of 7 December 1970 on the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,

Having noted with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General⁵² called for in resolution 2657 (XXV),

Having considered chapter XI of the report of the Economic and Social Council⁵³ and the relevant summary records,⁵⁴

Taking note of the reports of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment on its second⁵⁵ and third⁵⁶ sessions,

Recognizing the important contributions to the preparations for the Conference made by the intergovernmental working groups on the declaration on the human environment, marine pollution, soils, monitoring or surveillance, and conservation,

Taking note with satisfaction of the steps that have been taken through which the concerns of developing countries have been increasingly reflected in the preparations for the Conference, such as the meeting of the Panel of Experts on Development and the Environment, held at Founex, Switzerland, in June 1971, the four regional seminars on development and environment organized by the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the United Nations Economic and Social Office at Beirut, and the meeting of scientists from developing countries organized by the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment of the International Council of Scientific Unions at Canberra,

Taking into account the important contribution to the preparations for the Conference made by the Symposium on Problems relating to Environment, held at Prague in May 1971, by the Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the importance of ensuring that the global efforts in the field of the human environment be supplemented and made more effective by agreements at the regional or subregional levels,

Taking note with appreciation of the assistance lent to the preparations for the Conference by Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including youth organizations,

Taking into account the views expressed during its twenty-sixth session,

1. *Approves* the provisional agenda for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment as formulated in the report of the Secretary-General⁵⁷ on the basis of the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment;

⁵² A/8509 and Add.1.

⁵³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/8403).*

⁵⁴ E/AC.24/SR.412-416.

⁵⁵ A/CONF.48/PC/9 and Corr.1, transmitted to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-first session under the symbol E/4991.

⁵⁶ A/CONF.48/PC/13 and Corr.1.

⁵⁷ A/8509, annex.

2. *Approves* the draft rules of procedure for the Conference submitted by the Preparatory Committee⁵⁸ and recommends them for adoption by the Conference;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency to participate in the Conference;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite representatives of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to participate in the Conference;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to be represented by observers at the Conference on the basis of the criteria recommended by the Preparatory Committee;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conclude the preparations for the Conference and to circulate the following documents in advance of the Conference:

(a) A draft declaration on the human environment;

(b) A draft action plan, constituting a blueprint for international co-operation to protect and enhance the

present and future quality of the environment for human life and well-being;

(c) Such other draft proposals as may be ready for consideration by the Conference;

(d) Draft proposals for organizational and financial arrangements needed to pursue effectively the work of the United Nations system of organizations in the environmental field;

7. *Requests* the Conference to consider the drafts submitted to it and to take such appropriate action as it desires;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the results of the Conference to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session and also to transmit his report to the Economic and Social Council;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the work that will have to be undertaken after the Conference, pending consideration of the recommendations of the Conference by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session.

*2026th plenary meeting,
20 December 1971.*

⁵⁸ A/CONF.48/PC/13 and Corr.1, annex IV.

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Other decisions

Report of the Economic and Social Council

(Item 12)

At its 2026th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1971, the General Assembly decided, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,⁵⁹ to defer until its twenty-seventh session further consideration of the draft resolution entitled "Measures to improve the organization of the work of the Council", recommended by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1622 (LI) of 30 July 1971 and the amendments thereto.⁶⁰

⁵⁹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 12, document A/8578/Add.1, para. 49.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, paras. 44-46.