

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing the above-mentioned report, to consult and co-operate with the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people;

3. *Urges* all States to co-operate with the Secretary-General in this matter.

*101st plenary session
16 December 1976*

31/111. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourth session,²⁴ and the statement of the Executive Director introducing the report,²⁵

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

Recalling also the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order²⁶ as well as the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,²⁷ which laid down the foundations of the new international economic order,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2013 (LXI) of 3 August 1976 relating to the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fourth session,

Reaffirming that there can be no sustained development or meaningful growth without a clear commitment at the same time to preserving the environment and promoting the rational use of natural resources, with an eye to the needs of future generations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourth session;

2. *Endorses* paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2013 (LXI) inviting attention to decision 55 (IV) of 13 April 1976 of the Governing Council,²⁸ concerning the active participation of the United Nations Environment Programme in the preparations for the United Nations Water Conference;

3. *Reaffirms* the belief expressed by the Governing Council in section III, paragraphs 1 and 2, of its decision 47 (IV) of 14 April 1976²⁸ that the environment should be a major consideration in international discussions on development;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the report of the Executive Director on the status of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme²⁹ and urges Governments to extend their continuing financial support to the Fund;

5. *Notes* the report of the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Executive Director

²⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25).*

²⁵ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-first Session, Second Committee*, 19th meeting, paras. 1-20.

²⁶ Resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

²⁷ Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

²⁸ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25)*, annex I.

²⁹ UNEP/GC.57 and Corr.1.

on the study of the problem of the material remnants of war, particularly mines, and their effect on the environment³⁰ and requests the Governing Council to ensure its completion, taking into account the views expressed in the course of the consideration of this matter;

6. *Notes* the report of the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment³¹ and reiterates the concern expressed in General Assembly resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 that existing international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment have not yet received the wide acceptance and application they deserve.

*101st plenary meeting
16 December 1976*

31/112. Institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, particularly section IV thereof, in which it decided to review as appropriate, at the thirty-first session, the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation,

Taking note of decision 78 (IV) of 14 April 1976 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,³²

Recalling that in its resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 it established the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System,

1. *Endorses* the view of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme that the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation, as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), namely, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the environment secretariat, the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Environment Co-ordination Board, appear adequate and sound;

2. *Endorses also* the view expressed by the Governing Council in its decision 78 B (IV) that, in any decision about the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, the following elements relating to the place of environmental considerations within the system should be observed, strengthened and given institutional visibility:

The United Nations system should maintain, within a clearly identified institutional arrangement focused on the essential catalytic and co-ordinating role in the field of the environment, the capacity:

(a) To take responsibility for environmental issues of a global nature;

(b) To provide guidance and leadership in international environmental affairs;

(c) To offer suitable forums and facilities for treaty-making in the field of the environment at the global and regional levels;

³⁰ A/31/210.

³¹ A/31/211.

³² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25)*, annex I.