

1. *Takes note with interest* of the draft World Charter for Nature,¹¹ which proposes principles of conservation arising out of the conviction that any act of man affecting nature must be guided and judged;

2. *Solemnly invites* Member States, in the exercise of their permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, to conduct their activities in recognition of the supreme importance of protecting natural systems, maintaining the balance and quality of nature and conserving natural resources, in the interests of present and future generations;

3. *Invites* Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and observations on the draft World Charter for Nature and the efforts they are making in the conservation and protection of nature;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the views and observations of Member States to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session and to formulate on the basis of the replies received, in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, appropriate recommendations with a view to the adoption of a world charter for nature;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session an item entitled "Draft World Charter for Nature: report of the Secretary-General".

*49th plenary meeting
30 October 1980*

35/8. Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations",

Conscious of the disastrous consequences which a war involving the use of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction would have on man and his environment,

Noting that the continuation of the arms race, including the testing of various types of weapons, especially nuclear weapons, and the accumulation of toxic chemicals are adversely affecting the human environment and damaging the vegetable and animal world,

Bearing in mind that the arms race is diverting material and intellectual resources from the solution of the urgent problems of preserving nature,

Attaching great importance to the development of planned, constructive international co-operation in solving the problems of preserving nature,

Recognizing that the prospects for solving problems so universal as the preservation of nature are closely linked to the strengthening and development of international détente and the creation of conditions which would banish war from the life of mankind,

Noting with satisfaction the drafting and signature in recent years of a number of international agreements designed to preserve the environment,

Determined to preserve nature as a prerequisite for the normal life of man,

1. *Proclaims* the historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations;

2. *Draws the attention* of States to the fact that the continuing arms race has pernicious effects on the environment and reduces the prospects for the necessary international co-operation in preserving nature on our planet;

3. *Calls upon* States, in the interests of present and future generations, to demonstrate due concern and take the measures, including legislative measures, necessary for preserving nature, and also to promote international co-operation in this field;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the co-operation of the United Nations Environment Programme, to prepare a report on the pernicious effects of the arms race on nature and to seek the views of States on possible measures to be taken at the international level for the preservation of nature;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session an item entitled "Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations: report of the Secretary-General".

*49th plenary meeting
30 October 1980*

35/17. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the General Assembly for the year 1979,¹²

Taking note of the statement of the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency of 6 November 1980,¹³ which provides additional information on developments in the Agency's activities during 1980,

Bearing in mind the urgent need to develop all sources of energy, with a view to helping both developing and industrialized countries to mitigate the effects of the energy crisis, and conscious of the fact that nuclear energy remains the main readily available alternative to fossil fuel for the generation of electric power in the coming decades,

Recognizing the importance of enhancing the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the promotion of the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Considering that the International Atomic Energy Agency will be called upon to play an increasingly important role in making the benefits of nuclear power available to all nations, in particular the developing countries,

Conscious of the continuing need to protect mankind from the perils resulting from the misuse of nuclear energy and noting with appreciation in this connexion the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the implementation of the relevant provisions

¹¹Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 113, document A/35/141, annex II

¹²International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 1979* (Austria, July 1980); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note of the Secretary-General (A/35/365).

¹³Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session Plenary Meetings, 52nd meeting, paras. 2-45.

of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons¹⁴ and other international treaties, conventions and agreements designed to achieve similar objectives,

Appreciating the assistance given by the International Atomic Energy Agency to the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation completed in February 1980,

Noting the excellent safety record of nuclear power generation, but aware of the need to pay continuing attention to the questions of nuclear safety and waste management,

Bearing in mind the special needs of developing countries for technical assistance by the International Atomic Energy Agency in order to benefit effectively from the application of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes as well as from the contribution of nuclear energy to their economic development, and the need to assure a satisfactory and effective source of financing to implement adequate and effective technical assistance programmes,

Conscious of the importance of developing ways and means in which supplies of nuclear material, equipment and technology and fuel cycle services could be assured on a more predictable and long-term basis, in accordance with mutually acceptable considerations of non-proliferation, and of the importance of the role and responsibilities of the International Atomic Energy Agency in this regard,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that:

(a) The International Atomic Energy Agency is continuously making efforts to strengthen its activities in the field of technical assistance to the developing countries;

(b) Assistance provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency is playing a significant role in the introduction of nuclear power as well as in the application of nuclear science and technology, particularly in the fields of agriculture, medicine and industry in the developing countries;

(c) All possible effective means to assure the financing of technical assistance are being studied;

3. *Commends* the International Atomic Energy Agency for its continuing efforts to ensure the safe and secure use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes throughout the world, notes with satisfaction the steady improvement of the Agency's safeguards system and welcomes the conclusion that in 1979 nuclear material under Agency safeguards remained in peaceful nuclear activities or was otherwise adequately accounted for;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the steps taken by the International Atomic Energy Agency to expand and strengthen its programmes in nuclear safety and enhance its ability to deal with emergencies as well as the useful discussions at the International Conference on Current Nuclear Power Plant Safety Issues, held at Stockholm from 20 to 24 October 1980;

5. *Urges* all States to support the endeavours of the International Atomic Energy Agency, pursuant to its statute, in furthering the peaceful uses of nuclear power, improving the effectiveness of safeguards and promoting nuclear safety;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* that:

(a) There is continuing progress in the studies by the International Atomic Energy Agency aimed at establishing a system of international storage of plutonium and the international management of spent fuel;

(b) The Committee on Assurances of Supply, open to all States members of the International Atomic Energy Agency, established by the Board of Governors of the Agency in June 1980, held its first session in September and will reconvene at the beginning of March 1981;

7. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to ratify the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, which was opened for signature on 3 March 1980;

8. *Notes* that the recommendation contained in paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 33/3 of 2 November 1978 was duly considered at the twenty-third and twenty-fourth regular sessions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency and expresses the hope that the matter will be brought to an early conclusion;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency the records of the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly relating to the Agency's activities.

*53rd plenary meeting
6 November 1980*

35/36. Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

The General Assembly.

Having examined the item entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Islamic Conference",

Recalling its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, by which it granted observer status to the Islamic Conference,¹⁵

Noting that the Organization of the Islamic Conference has reaffirmed its support for the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the purposes and principles of which constitute the basis for a fruitful co-operation between all peoples,

Noting further that contacts at the highest level have been established between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Taking into account the fact that the Secretary-General of the United Nations is represented at the Islamic Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs by a Special Representative at the level of Under-Secretary-General,

Taking note of the effective participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the numerous resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference seeking to find solutions to the serious problems relating, *inter alia*, to international peace and security, disarmament, self-

¹⁴Resolution 2373 (XXII), annex.

¹⁵By a letter dated 29 October 1980 addressed to the Secretary-General, the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, in his capacity as Chairman of the Islamic Group in New York, requested that, in accordance with article I of the Charter of the Islamic Conference, the designation "Organization of the Islamic Conference" should henceforth be used at the United Nations.