

calls upon the international community, particularly the developed countries, to increase the flow of resources to adequate levels, through all channels, in support of programmes and policies for increasing food and agricultural production and raising nutritional standards in the developing countries, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries, keeping in view the proposal made by the Executive Director of the World Food Council at its tenth session for increases of at least \$5 billion in external resources over five years, starting in 1986, in roughly equal proportions for both capital and programme assistance, to be channelled through existing agencies and programmes;¹⁸

13. *Stresses* the need for the successful completion of the first replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and urges all countries concerned, bearing in mind the particular contribution of the developed countries, to reach agreement on a priority basis for the second replenishment, in order to enable the Fund to continue its effective contribution at an adequate level;

14. *Further urges* developed countries to provide supplementary financing for the seventh replenishment of the International Development Association in order to cover the shortfall and enable the Association to increase its assistance to developing countries, particularly in the development of food and agriculture;

15. *Further stresses* the need to ensure achievement of the agreed target for regular resources of the World Food Programme of \$1.35 billion for the biennium 1985-1986;¹⁹

16. *Emphasizes* the need for effective implementation of the 1980 Food Aid Convention,²⁰ which has been extended until 30 June 1986;

17. *Expresses deep concern* that the food-financing facility of the International Monetary Fund has been used only on limited occasions since its establishment and, in this regard, looks forward to the upcoming review of the facility by the Fund;

18. *Considers* that improvement of the conditions of farmer groups particularly affected by the small size of holdings or other constraints is critical;

19. *Emphasizes* the role of women as part of the rural family, calls for more policy attention to the role of women in relation to food systems, and stresses the need to involve women in the formulation, implementation and follow-up of national food strategies, plans and projects;

20. *Urges* the international community to respond immediately, adequately and in a concerted manner to the initiative of the Secretary-General and the appeal of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in favour of the African countries threatened by severe food shortages by continuing and increasing emergency food and technical assistance to those countries, as well as by augmenting all forms of assistance towards rehabilitation of their food and agricultural sectors;

21. *Notes* that the proliferation of import restrictions and increasing export subsidization are seen to have contributed to international market instability and to growing resource allocation distortions in developed and developing countries, that all countries should demonstrate the

requisite political will by refraining from creating tariff obstacles to agricultural imports, especially those from developing countries, and that exporting countries should endeavour to limit export subsidies and analogous practices which might hinder trade, especially that of developing countries;

22. *Stresses, inter alia*, that in order to attain an overall solution of food and agricultural problems, efforts should be made to resolve the serious financial problems in general, and liquidity problems in particular, confronting the developing countries, which are caused to a large degree by the impact of the increases in interest rates;

23. *Reaffirms* the commitment to sustained and increased development assistance in the food sector, with a strengthened role for multilateral co-operation and improved international assistance co-ordination;

24. *Stresses* the need for strengthening subregional, regional and interregional co-operation for the promotion of food security and the development of agriculture in developing countries and, in this context, calls upon the relevant entities of the United Nations system to accord priority support to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries in food and agriculture;

25. *Welcomes* the comprehensive and systematic review of the progress in agrarian reform and rural development carried out by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action as adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and looks forward to a similar review in four years.

103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1984

39/167. Remnants of war

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3435 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, 35/71 of 5 December 1980, 36/188 of 17 December 1981, 37/215 of 20 December 1982 and 38/162 of 19 December 1983 concerning the problem of remnants of war,

Recalling also decisions 80 (IV) of 9 April 1976,²¹ 101 (V) of 25 May 1977,²² 9/5 of 25 May 1981²³ and 10/8 of 28 May 1982²⁴ of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling further resolution 32 adopted by the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 16 to 19 August 1976,²⁵ and resolution 26/11-P adopted by the Eleventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Islamabad from 17 to 22 May 1980,²⁶

Convinced that the responsibility for the removal of the remnants of war should be borne by the countries that planted them,

Recognizing that the presence of the material remnants of war, including mines, in the territories of developing countries seriously impedes their development efforts and causes loss of life and property,

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/39/19), part one, para. 57.

¹⁹ See WFP/CFA/15/19, para. 42.

²⁰ For the text of the Convention, see TD/WHEAT 6/13.

²¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25)*, annex 1.

²² *Ibid.*, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/32/25), annex 1.

²³ *Ibid.*, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex 1.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part two, annex.

²⁵ See A/31/197, annex IV, sect. B.

²⁶ See A/35/419-S/14129, annex 1.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the problem of remnants of war;²⁷

2. *Regrets* that no concrete measures have been taken to solve the problem of remnants of war despite the various resolutions and decisions adopted thereon by the General Assembly and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

3. *Reiterates its support* of the just demands of the developing countries affected by the implantation of mines and the presence of other remnants of war in their territories for compensation and for complete removal of those obstacles by the States that implanted them;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme and other organizations of the United Nations system, within their mandates, to collect all information on expertise and available equipment, so as to evaluate, on request, the actual needs of the developing countries affected and to assist those countries in their efforts to detect and clear material remnants of war;

5. *Calls upon* all States to co-operate with the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system in carrying out the task assigned to them in paragraph 4 above;

6. *Also calls upon* those developed countries directly responsible for the presence of remnants of war to intensify bilateral consultations with the aim of concluding, without undue delay, agreements for the solution of those problems;

7. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of actions they have taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fortieth session a detailed and comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1984*

39/168. Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

A

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, by which it approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,²⁸

Recalling also paragraph 8 of its resolution 38/165 of 19 December 1983, by which it welcomed section VIII of decision 11/1 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,²⁹ in which the Council decided to devote two days, during its twelfth session, to a detailed assessment of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/65 of 26 July 1984 on the Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Having considered the views of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the general assessment of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification during the period 1978-1984,³⁰

Having also considered Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/72 of 27 July 1984 on environment and development in Africa,

Bearing in mind the current serious problem of prolonged drought and desertification that has contributed to the widespread economic catastrophe in a large number of African countries south of the Sahara,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the views of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the general assessment of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification during the period 1978-1984;

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Governing Council on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;³¹

3. *Takes note with interest* of Governing Council decision 12/10 of 28 May 1984 on desertification;³²

4. *Notes with great concern* that, during the seven years since the United Nations Conference on Desertification in 1977, desertification has continued to spread and intensify in developing countries, particularly in Africa;

5. *Welcomes* the reconfirmation by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme of the validity of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, the reaffirmation of the central role of the Programme in catalysing, co-ordinating and assessing the implementation of the Plan of Action at the international level, and the approval by the Governing Council of concrete, time-bound activities to combat desertification over the next fifteen years;

6. *Decides* to expand the role of the Consultative Group for Desertification Control, which is financed from voluntary contributions, to include explicitly responsibility for advising the Executive Director on:

(a) The progress and effectiveness of activities implemented under the Plan of Action, identifying constraints and possible solutions to problems, taking account of relevant evaluations and case studies;

(b) Programme priorities of the United Nations Environment Programme related to problems of desertification;

(c) Measures required to improve implementation of the Plan of Action on a regional and world-wide basis;

7. *Calls upon* the Consultative Group for Desertification Control to intensify further its efforts to assist the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Plan of Action;

8. *Urges* Governments of countries prone to or suffering from desertification to give priority to the establishment of national programmes to combat desertification and to consider setting up appropriate national machinery or assigning responsibility to existing national machinery, where appropriate, to that end;

9. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to examine, at its thirteenth session, the possibility of:

²⁷ A/39/580.

²⁸ Report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, Nairobi, 29 August-9 September 1977 (A/CONF.74/36), chap. I.

²⁹ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/38/25), annex.

³⁰ UNEP/GC.12/9 and Corr. 1.

³¹ A.39/433, annex I.

³² See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/39/25), annex.