

the framework of an international decade for natural disaster reduction and for implementing the measures that would result from the activities of the decade lies with the Governments of the countries concerned,

Considering that the concept of a global programme for natural disaster reduction is predicated on collaborative efforts among culturally and economically diverse nations, together with relevant organizations of the United Nations system and concerned national and international non-governmental organizations, including scientific and technological institutions,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of reducing the impact of natural disasters for all people, and in particular for developing countries;

2. *Recognizes further* that scientific and technical understanding of the causes and impact of natural disasters and of ways to reduce both human and property losses has progressed to such an extent that a concerted effort to assemble, disseminate and apply this knowledge through national, regional and world-wide programmes could have very positive effects in this regard, particularly for developing countries;

3. *Decides* to designate the 1990s as a decade in which the international community, under the auspices of the United Nations, will pay special attention to fostering international co-operation in the field of natural disaster reduction, and to take a decision at its forty-third session on the content and modalities of United Nations participation therein after having considered the report of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph 9 of the present resolution;

4. *Decides* that the objective of this decade is to reduce through concerted international actions, especially in developing countries, loss of life, property damage and social and economic disruption caused by natural disasters, such as earthquakes, windstorms (cyclones, hurricanes, tornadoes, typhoons), tsunamis, floods, landslides, volcanic eruptions, wildfires and other calamities of natural origin, such as grasshopper and locust infestations, and that its goals are:

(a) To improve the capacity of each country to mitigate the effects of natural disasters expeditiously and effectively, paying special attention to assisting developing countries in the establishment, when needed, of early warning systems;

(b) To devise appropriate guidelines and strategies for applying existing knowledge, taking into account the cultural and economic diversity among nations;

(c) To foster scientific and engineering endeavours aimed at closing critical gaps in knowledge in order to reduce loss of life and property;

(d) To disseminate existing and new information related to measures for the assessment, prediction, prevention and mitigation of natural disasters;

(e) To develop measures for the assessment, prediction, prevention and mitigation of natural disasters through programmes of technical assistance and technology transfer, demonstration projects, and education and training, tailored to specific hazards and locations, and to evaluate the effectiveness of those programmes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system and relevant scientific, technical, academic and other non-governmental organizations, to develop an appropriate framework for attaining the objective and goals referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 above and to submit a re-

port thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session through the Economic and Social Council;

6. *Recommends* that, if necessary, extrabudgetary resources be provided for the preparation of the above-mentioned report and considers that, for this purpose, voluntary contributions from countries, international organizations and other organizations are highly desirable;

7. *Calls upon* all Governments to participate during the decade in concerted international action for the reduction of natural disasters and, as appropriate, to establish national committees, in co-operation with the relevant scientific and technological communities, with a view to surveying available mechanisms and facilities for the reduction of natural hazards, assessing the particular requirements of their respective countries or regions in order to add to, improve or update existing mechanisms and facilities and develop a strategy to attain the desired goals;

8. *Further calls upon* Governments to keep the Secretary-General informed of their countries' plans and of assistance that can be provided so that the United Nations may become an international centre for the exchange of information, the storing of documents and the co-ordination of international efforts concerning the activities in support of the objective and goals referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, thus enabling each Member State to benefit from the experience of other countries;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on progress made in the preparations outlined above with particular emphasis on defining the catalytic and facilitating role envisaged for the United Nations system.

*96th plenary meeting
11 December 1987*

42/170. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213 in the economic and social fields

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Recalling its resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system and 41/213 of 19 December 1986 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, both of which are elements of a common process,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decisions 1987/112 of 6 February 1987 on the in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields and 1987/180 of 8 July 1987 on enhancing the co-ordination of the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system.

Bearing in mind the importance of the full implementation of all aspects of its resolution 41/213,

1. *Stresses* the common interest of all countries in the effective and efficient functioning of the United Nations in the economic and social fields which are of particular importance to the developing countries;

2. *Affirms* that its resolution 41/213 should continue to be implemented in the economic and social fields at the intergovernmental and Secretariat levels in a timely, orderly, integrated and well co-ordinated manner in order to enhance the quality and strengthen the implementation of development-oriented programmes and activities of the United Nations in those fields;

3. *Considers* that the implementation of its resolution 41/213 in the economic and social fields should take into account the fact that the in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields, as called for in section I, paragraph 1 (e), of that resolution, is under way.

4. *Recognizes* that adjustments in the structure of the Secretariat in the economic and social fields will be required as a result of ongoing reviews and of the work of the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental Structure and Functions in the Economic and Social Fields.

96th plenary meeting
11 December 1987

42/171. Guidelines for international decades

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980, by which it adopted the guidelines for international years and anniversaries contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980,

Considering it desirable to establish similar guidelines for the designation of international decades,

1. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to consider, at its second regular session of 1988, guidelines for the designation of future international decades and to submit its recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-third session;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, therefore, to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1988 a report on guidelines for future international decades, including his recommendations.

96th plenary meeting
11 December 1987

42/172. International code of conduct on the transfer of technology

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 41/166 of 5 December 1986 on an international code of conduct on the transfer of technology,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the consultations held in 1987 relating to the negotiations on an international code of conduct on the transfer of technology;¹⁵

2. *Notes* that the consultations could not be finalized in 1987 and that a number of suggestions were made in the course of the consultations concerning the possible solution to the issues outstanding in the draft code of conduct;¹⁶

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the President of the United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology to complete their consultations with regional groups and interested Governments with a view to identifying appropriate

solutions to the issues outstanding in the draft code of conduct;

4. *Further invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session if sufficient progress is made in the consultations referred to in paragraph 3 above, and to recommend, in the light of the consultations, any further action relating to the negotiations on a code of conduct, including the possible reconvening of the United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology.

96th plenary meeting
11 December 1987

42/173. Economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its resolutions 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, containing the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

Reaffirming article 32 of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, which declares that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Bearing in mind the general principles governing international trade and trade policies for development contained in its resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development resolution 152 (VI) of 2 July 1983¹⁷ on rejection of coercive economic measures, and the principles and rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and paragraph 7 (iii) of the Ministerial Declaration adopted on 29 November 1982 by the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement at their thirty-eighth session,¹⁸

Reaffirming its resolutions 38/197 of 20 December 1983, 39/210 of 18 December 1984, 40/185 of 17 December 1985 and 41/165 of 5 December 1986,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the adoption and effects of economic measures taken by developed countries for coercive purposes, including their impact on international economic relations,¹⁹ and considering that further work should be undertaken in order to implement resolutions 38/197, 39/210, 40/185 and 41/165,

Gravely concerned that the use of coercive measures adversely affects the economies and development efforts of developing countries and that, in some cases, those mea-

¹⁷ See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Sixth Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.II.D.6), part one, sect. A.

¹⁸ See General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, *Basic Instruments and Selected Documents, Twenty-ninth Supplement* (Sales No. E/ATT/1983-1), document I/5424.

¹⁹ A/42/660.

¹⁵ A/42/678.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, paras. 8-16.