

7. *Recognizes* the need for a better functioning of commodity markets as well as the desirability of achieving stable and more predictable conditions in commodity trade and of avoiding excessive fluctuations of prices, and urges co-operation between producers and consumers, with a view to improving the functioning of existing international commodity agreements or arrangements and/or, as appropriate, negotiating other commodity agreements or arrangements, in line with the relevant provisions of the Final Act adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its seventh session;

8. *Urges* all parties involved to meet agreed commitments and work for a balanced approach to the multilateral trade negotiations within the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, launched during the Special Session of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, held at Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 15 to 20 September 1986, so as to ensure that their successful conclusion brings about further expansion and liberalization in trade in commodities, taking into account the special and differential treatment for developing countries, as well as all other principles contained in the Ministerial Declaration on the Uruguay Round;¹⁰⁰

9. *Recognizes* the urgent need to address the grave problem of shortfalls in export earnings in the commodities of developing countries and, in this regard, notes that a special session of the Trade and Development Board will be devoted to compensatory financing of these shortfalls;

10. *Calls upon* those countries that have ratified the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities to contribute to making both accounts of the Common Fund fully operational as soon as possible, in full compliance with the provisions of the Agreement and, in this connection, welcomes the significant voluntary contributions made to the second account of the Common Fund and expresses the hope that further contributions will be forthcoming;

11. *Invites* all countries, particularly major exporters and consumers of commodities that have not yet ratified the Agreement, to do so as soon as possible, thereby contributing to the improvement of market conditions to the benefit of both producers and consumers;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session a report on world commodity trends and prospects, with particular reference to the situation of the commodity-dependent developing countries;

13. *Decides* to include the question of commodities in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session.

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44/219. Report of the Trade and Development Board

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended,¹⁰¹ on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Final Act adopted by the Conference at its seventh session, held at Geneva from 9 July to 3 August 1987,⁸⁹

Recalling also its resolution 43/188 of 20 December 1988 on the report of the Trade and Development Board,

Noting that the *Trade and Development Report, 1989*¹⁰² has made a constructive contribution to the consideration by the Trade and Development Board, at the first part of its thirty-sixth session, of the interdependence of problems of trade, development finance and the international monetary system, as well as to the Board's consideration of the debt and development problems of the developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its thirty-fifth session¹⁰³ and the first part of its thirty-sixth session,¹⁰⁴ expresses its appreciation for the constructive spirit permeating recent deliberations of the Board and invites all parties to give effect to its resolutions and decisions;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts made by Governments and the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen the debates of the Trade and Development Board on the interdependence of problems of trade, development finance and the international monetary system, and also welcomes Board resolution 374 (XXXVI) of 13 October 1989 on that topic;⁴⁵

3. *Welcomes* the significant contribution made by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to the search for durable solutions to the problem of external indebtedness of developing countries, and also welcomes Trade and Development Board resolution 375 (XXXVI) of 13 October 1989,⁴⁵ on debt and development problems of developing countries;

4. *Welcomes* Trade and Development Board decision 367 (XXXV) of 17 March 1989¹⁰⁵ on protectionism and structural adjustment, and urges the Governments concerned to fulfil their commitments to halt and reverse protectionism and to take expeditious and concrete structural adjustment measures conducive, in particular, to the widening of markets for exports of products in which the developing countries have or may develop a comparative advantage;

5. *Also welcomes* Trade and Development Board decision 368 (XXXV) of 17 March 1989¹⁰⁵ on trade relations among countries having different economic and social systems and all trade flows resulting therefrom, and invites the Board to develop a programme for further promotion of trade and economic co-operation among those countries, in particular East-South trade, based on an analysis and evaluation undertaken by an intergovernmental group of experts of the existing and evolving trends and potential factors related to inter-system trade;

6. *Notes* that the Trade and Development Board has decided to consider, at a future session, the implications of bilateral arrangements and regional economic integration, especially those which have a major impact on global trade, in particular on the trade and development of developing countries, and agrees on the need to ensure that such schemes impart dynamism to global trade and enhance trade and development possibilities for the developing countries;

7. *Stresses* that in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations commensurate attention should be given to all areas of negotiation, especially those of particular relevance to the trade and development of developing countries;

¹⁰² United Nations publication, Sales No. E.1989.II.D.14.

¹⁰³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/44/15), vol. I.*

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. II.

¹⁰⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. I, sect. II B.

¹⁰⁰ See *GATT, Focus Newsletter, No. 41*, October 1986.

¹⁰¹ See resolutions 2904 (XXVII), 31/2 A and B and 34/3.

8. *Invites* the Trade and Development Board to continue to follow closely developments and issues in the Uruguay Round that are of particular concern to the developing countries;

9. *Notes* that the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities⁹⁹ has entered into force and that the Common Fund has started operations, welcomes the decisions taken by the Governing Council of the Common Fund at its first annual meeting¹⁰⁶ and invites States members of the Common Fund to provide full support for its operations;

10. *Takes note* of Trade and Development Board decision 377 (XXXVI) of 13 October 1989¹⁰⁵ on arrangements and preparations for the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held in 1991, including the agreement to hold consultations on its location in Latin America.

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44/220. Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/177 of 11 December 1987, in which it decided to convene the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in Paris in September 1990, as well as its resolution 43/186 of 20 December 1988,

Taking note of the outcome of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries, held at Geneva from 22 to 31 May 1989,¹⁰⁷ in cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and of other preparatory meetings held so far,

Recalling its decision to convene early in 1990 one session of the Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries, as Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, in order to prepare for the Conference,

Reiterating its request to the Secretary-General to obtain extrabudgetary resources to finance the travel expenses of at least two representatives from each least developed country to attend the meeting of the Intergovernmental Group in order to ensure the effective participation of the representatives of those countries,

Recalling decision 88/30 of 1 July 1988 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,³¹ in which the Governing Council requested the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in close consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to assist the least developed countries to ensure that they are able to participate fully in the preparations for the Conference, including preparatory meetings, and in the Conference itself,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,¹⁰⁸

Expressing deep concern at the continuing deterioration in the overall socio-economic situation of the least developed countries,

1. *Emphasizes* the crucial importance of adequate preparation for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, taking into account the priorities to be put forward by the least developed countries themselves;

2. *Calls upon* all Governments, intergovernmental and multilateral institutions and others concerned to take appropriate steps to ensure that adequate preparations are made for the Conference and to participate effectively in the forthcoming session of the Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries, as well as in the Conference itself, and to support the least developed countries in making their own preparations;

3. *Reiterates its request* to all concerned organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to submit, if they have not already done so, reports containing a review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries⁹² within their fields of competence and proposals for further action, as input to the preparations for the Conference;

4. *Notes* the steps being taken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with the assistance of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and urges them to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the preparations for the Conference and in the Conference itself;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations Development Programme to pursue its specific efforts to facilitate the preparations for the Conference by the least developed countries themselves and, pursuant to decision 89/12 of 24 February 1989 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,²⁷ invites all Governments to make special voluntary contributions, through the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries or as otherwise appropriate, for the preparations for the Conference, including the preparatory meetings, and in particular towards ensuring the full participation of the representatives of the least developed countries in the Conference;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to obtain additional extrabudgetary resources, in line with past practice, to provide for travel expenses and subsistence allowances for a third representative from each least developed country to the Conference, as noted in his report;¹⁰⁹

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to take the necessary measures to intensify public information efforts and other relevant initiatives to enhance public awareness in favour of the Conference, its objectives and its significance;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session a report on the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

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¹⁰⁶ CF/GC/5, chap. II.

¹⁰⁷ See A/CONF.147/PC/2-TD/B/AC.17/30-A/CONF.147/DR.6.

¹⁰⁸ A/44/437.

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 15.