

economic and technical co-operation, particularly among developing countries;

7. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the developed countries, to support the endeavours of developing countries to develop their fisheries infrastructures;

8. *Decides* to consider the issue of co-operation in fisheries in Africa at its forty-seventh session under the item entitled "Development and international economic co-operation".

*71st plenary meeting
21 December 1990*

45/185. International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/169 of 11 December 1987 and 43/202 of 20 December 1988 on natural disaster reduction and 44/236 of 22 December 1989, in which it proclaimed the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,

Reaffirming the need for the international community to demonstrate the strong political determination required to mobilize and use existing scientific and technical knowledge to mitigate natural disasters, bearing in mind in particular the needs of developing countries,

Noting with satisfaction that more than seventy Governments have informed the Secretary-General that they have established national committees or focal points for the purpose of attaining the objective and goals of the Decade,

Reconfirming the important responsibility of the United Nations system as a whole for promoting international co-operation in order to mitigate natural disasters, provide assistance and co-ordinate disaster relief, preparedness and prevention,

Noting the establishment of the Trust Fund for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, expressing appreciation to those countries that have so far contributed or pledged voluntary contributions to the Fund and, at the same time, expressing concern that the resources available to the United Nations for the activities of the Decade are insufficient in relation to the requirements,

Taking note of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the Decade,⁸

Noting that the celebration in the United Nations of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction was not possible in 1990, and stressing the importance of observance by the United Nations of the Day in future years in a manner befitting the objective and goals of the Decade,

Taking note of the relevant conclusions of the twenty-fifth series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, held on 25 and 26 October 1990,⁹

1. *Urges* the international community to implement fully the International Framework of Action for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, contained in the annex to resolution 44/236 and, in particular:

(a) Invites Member States that have not yet done so to establish national committees or suitable focal points;

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to expedite his efforts to complete organizational and financial arrangements in accordance with sections D and E of the International Framework of Action;

(c) Appeals to the international community, in particular, to donor countries, for financial contributions to the Trust Fund for the Decade;

(d) Urges all countries to adopt policies which give priority to disaster mitigation measures;

2. *Notes with deep concern* that organizational arrangements have not been fully established and implemented in accordance with section D of the International Framework of Action;

3. *Reaffirms* the important role played by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation as the focal point for overview and co-ordination of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system for the Decade, in accordance with section C of the International Framework of Action, and with his mandate, as set out in its resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, and invites the Director-General to give momentum to those programmes and activities;

4. *Reaffirms also* the need for the secretariat of the Decade to work in close association and co-operation with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, bearing in mind the specific responsibilities and functions in the field of disaster prevention and preparedness entrusted to that Office by General Assembly resolution 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971;

5. *Stresses* the need for the secretariat of the Decade to work closely with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, while providing substantive and secretariat support to the Special High-Level Council, the Scientific and Technical Committee and to related activities, and to report to the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation through the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assist, in co-operation with relevant organizations of the United Nations system, in the formulation and implementation, during the Decade, of public information programmes aimed at raising awareness of disaster prevention among the general public;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the progress in the implementation of the programmes and activities of the Decade, including the identification of constraints in that regard, with appropriate attention to the status of existing international protocols and con-

⁸ A/45/621.

⁹ See E/1990/123.

ventions for mutual assistance in cases of disaster, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 44/236.

*71st plenary meeting
21 December 1990*

45/186. Code of conduct on transnational corporations

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the desirability of reaching an early agreement on the formulation of a code of conduct on transnational corporations, and reaffirming the interest of Member States in resolving the remaining outstanding issues,

Confirming that there is substantial provisional understanding on the contents of the draft code of conduct as presented to the President of the Economic and Social Council by the Chairman of the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its reconvened special session,¹⁰

Decides to request the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the Secretary-General, to arrange for intensive consultations aimed at achieving an early agreement on a code of conduct on transnational corporations, for presentation to and adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

*71st plenary meeting
21 December 1990*

45/187. Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/233 of 22 December 1989, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/86 of 27 July 1990 and World Health Assembly resolution WHA 43.10 of 16 May 1990 on women, children and AIDS,¹¹ as well as other relevant resolutions adopted by the organizations of the United Nations system,

Taking note of the Paris Declaration on Women, Children and the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), adopted on 30 November 1989, the discussions of the Sixth International Conference on AIDS, held at San Francisco, United States of America, from 20 to 24 June 1990, the Fifth International Conference on AIDS and Associated Cancer, held at Kinshasa from 10 to 12 October 1990, and the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children, adopted by the World Summit for Children on 30 September 1990,¹²

Noting with appreciation the established leadership and co-ordinating role of the World Health Organization, and the efforts of other organizations of the United Nations system, Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors, in combating the spread of AIDS,

Stressing the need to take full advantage of the World Health Organization/United Nations Development Programme Alliance to Combat AIDS and to strengthen its role in facilitating implementation at the country level of the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS,

Acknowledging that AIDS can have severe social and economic consequences, particularly in countries with a high incidence of infection from the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), overburdened public health services and limited financial, developmental and skilled labour resources,

Concerned that AIDS has become a major cause of death for women aged 20 to 40 in major cities in the Americas, Western Europe and sub-Saharan Africa, that over 3 million women of child-bearing age have been infected with HIV, that the World Health Organization estimates that during the 1990s a cumulative figure of over 25 to 30 million people are expected to be infected with AIDS, that over 10 million infants and children will become infected with HIV, the vast majority of whom will have died by the year 2000, and that 10 million uninfected children under the age of 10 years will be orphaned during the 1990s as a consequence of AIDS,

Emphasizing the crucial role that other sexually transmitted diseases can play in facilitating the transmission of HIV infection,

Considering that the behaviour and life-style practices that place individuals at risk of HIV infection are likely to be established in adolescence or young adulthood and that the relatively slow progression from HIV infection to AIDS suggests that many HIV-infected individuals over 25 years of age acquired the infection in adolescence or young adulthood,

Stressing, therefore, the importance of information, education and other support targeted to young people to encourage behavioural change and to enable them to remain uninfected,

Emphasizing the crucial importance of a supportive socio-economic environment in ensuring the effective implementation of national AIDS prevention programmes and the humane care of affected persons,

Reiterating the need to respect the human rights and dignity of all people, including those affected by HIV, their families and those with whom they live,

Noting that scientific research is making progress in the development of improved diagnostic, therapeutic and preventive technologies and pharmaceuticals, and stressing the importance of making these technologies and pharmaceuticals available as soon as possible and at an affordable cost,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS;¹³

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the serious implications of the AIDS pandemic for development in general in many developing countries, to intensify his efforts, in collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization, the Administrator of the United Nations Development

¹⁰ E/1990/94, annex.

¹¹ See World Health Organization, *Forty-third World Health Assembly, Geneva, 7-17 May 1990, Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes (WHA 43/1990/REC/1)*.

¹² A/45/625, annex.

¹³ A/45/256-E/1990.58, annex.