

stage. The rehabilitation phase should be used as an opportunity to restructure and improve facilities and services destroyed by emergencies in order to enable them to withstand the impact of future emergencies.

42. International cooperation should be accelerated for the development of developing countries, thereby contributing to reducing the occurrence and impact of future disasters and emergencies.

46/219. Operational activities of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of its resolutions 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 42/196 of 11 December 1987, 44/211 of 22 December 1989, S-18/3 of 1 May 1990 and 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening the operational activities for development of the United Nations system in accordance with the above-mentioned resolutions,

Reaffirming that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations system should be, *inter alia*, their universality, their voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and multilateralism, and their ability to respond to the needs and concerns of the developing countries, at their request and in accordance with their development plans, priorities and objectives,

Noting with concern that progress in implementing parts of its resolution 44/211 has been disappointing and stressing the need for more vigorous efforts to implement the resolution in areas in which the implementation has been unsatisfactory,

Recognizing the need to give guidance to the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation in the preparation of the report for the next triennial policy review of operational activities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation on operational activities of the United Nations system;¹³⁸

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of its resolution 44/211 and the need for coordinated and full implementation of the resolution by the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, taking into account the interrelationships among issues;

3. *Also reaffirms* the principal responsibility of Governments in managing programmes and projects supported by the United Nations system;

4. *Takes note* of decision 91/32 on support costs successor arrangements, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on 25 June 1991;¹³⁹

5. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular donor countries, for a real and significant increase in resources for operational activities for development on a continuous, predictable and assured basis and urges all countries to increase their voluntary contributions for operational activities for development;

6. *Urges* developed countries, in particular those countries whose overall performance is not commensurate with their capacity, taking into account established official development assistance targets, including targets established at the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries¹³³ and present levels of contribution, to substantially increase their official development assist-

ance, including contributions to the operational activities of the United Nations system;

7. *Takes note* of decision 91/27 on national execution, adopted by the Governing Council of the Programme on 21 June 1991;¹³⁹

8. *Stresses* that the national execution modality should be the norm for programmes and projects funded by the United Nations system, taking into account the needs and capacities of developing countries;

9. *Also stresses* the principal responsibility of developing countries in determining their capacity to execute programmes and projects funded by the United Nations system;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to simplify the rules and procedures for national execution within the framework of enhanced accountability, particularly in order to minimize the administrative burden of Governments and the costs of managing projects and programmes;

11. *Also calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to assist developing countries, at their request, in developing their multi-sectoral, sectoral and subsectoral strategies, which should provide a framework for coordinated and coherent programming, and stresses the need to enhance the coherence of the response of the United Nations system to these strategies;

12. *Reaffirms* the continued validity of the resident coordinator system as detailed in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and the urgent need to strengthen the effectiveness of the resident coordinator system;

13. *Also reaffirms* the need to improve cooperation between individual agencies at the field level;

14. *Calls upon* the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to utilize existing capacities to enhance the participation of nationals in projects and programmes;

15. *Welcomes* the proposal of the Director-General to undertake a feasibility study on a coordinated strategy of training for United Nations staff members and national officials involved in operational activities and requests him to submit the study, with his recommendations, to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

16. *Urges* the agencies of the United Nations system to continue and expand, within existing resources, their joint training programmes for United Nations country teams and urges that these programmes be expanded to the country level and include Government officials;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of the triennial policy review of operational activities to be undertaken by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, which should build on and, where necessary, elaborate further the elements of its resolution 44/211;

18. *Requests* the Director-General to include in his triennial policy review a report on the implementation of resolution 44/211 and recommendations on programming with particular emphasis on the following:

(a) The harmonization and adaptation of the programme cycles of all funding agencies of the United Nations system to the planning periods of national Governments, and further consideration to the introduction of budgetary cycles on a rolling-cycle basis;

(b) The simplification of procedures relating to project

formulation, appraisals, monitoring and evaluation, taking into account the need to focus on the impact and sustainability of projects and programmes;

(c) The improvement of programme evaluation and management audit systems, including the need for impact evaluation, with a view to assessing the efficiency, impact and sustainability of projects and programmes;

19. *Requests* the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review a further analysis of the concept of and recommendations on the integrated operational response of the United Nations system;

20. *Also requests* the Director-General to include in his report, in consultation with recipient Governments and donors, an assessment and analysis of the progress made in the shift from a project to a programme approach, bearing in mind, *inter alia*, the work being carried out by the United Nations Development Programme in this regard;

21. *Further requests* the Director-General to include in his report measures already taken on and proposals for decentralization of capacity and authority to the country level, including budgetary flexibility and rationalization of functions between headquarters and field offices, combined with enhanced accountability, taking into account, *inter alia*, negotiations and decisions relating to the project cycle, procurement of equipment, provision of training and recruitment of personnel;

22. *Requests* the Director-General to include in his report, in consultation with recipient Governments and donors, an analysis of the progress made on and recommendations to promote further national execution, taking into account, in particular:

(a) Experience in utilizing national capacities and ways of promoting national participation in projects and programmes so as to maximize national capacity-building and to meet country-specific needs;

(b) Identification of systemic and institutional obstacles and disincentives in the operational activities for development of the United Nations system which impede the full implementation of national execution;

(c) Harmonization and simplification of procedures, aiming at a higher degree of transparency, and their adaptation to the needs of the developing countries;

(d) Improving accountability through training and development in national monitoring capacity, as well as in auditing and financial reporting;

(e) Ways of reorienting the technical capacity of the United Nations system to meet the needs identified by the developing countries, including measures in the areas of policy, technical support and the provision of information, including access to databases of the United Nations system;

23. *Also requests* the Director-General to include in his report recommendations to strengthen the field representation of the United Nations system, with particular emphasis on the following:

(a) The team leadership role of the resident coordinator, including an assessment of the impact of the existing set of guidelines and recommendations for the strengthening of this role;

(b) The development of the capacity of the United Nations system, at the country level, to provide technical and substantive support to developing countries, *inter alia*

through the establishment of multidisciplinary teams to meet country-specific needs;

24. *Stresses*, in the context of the triennial review, the need for a well-defined but flexible management process to guide the implementation of key measures in enhancing the effectiveness of operational activities;

25. *Requests* the Director-General to include in his report an assessment of progress made in achieving common premises and to propose a plan for the full achievement of this objective, where feasible and appropriate and without any additional costs to developing countries;

26. *Also requests* the Director-General to include in his report an assessment of and appropriate recommendations on the contribution of the operational activities of the United Nations system to the enhancement of national capacities of developing countries in the field of science and technology;

27. *Reaffirms* the importance of human development and requests the Director-General to include in his report an assessment of and appropriate recommendations for strengthening the support given by the operational activities of the United Nations system, at the request of developing countries, to sectors vital for human development;

28. *Further requests* the Director-General to include in his updated statistical report innovative and concrete recommendations to increase substantially procurement from developing countries, paying due respect to the principles of international competitive bidding while acknowledging the commitment to procurement from underutilized major donor countries in accordance with the principles of international competitive bidding, taking into account the standardization and compatibility needs of developing countries;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available to the Office of the Director-General the necessary resources, within the overall level for the biennium 1992-1993, to enable it to discharge its responsibilities in the implementation of the present resolution and resolution 44/211;

30. *Requests* the executive heads of United Nations organs, organizations and bodies to cooperate fully with the Director-General and provide him with all necessary assistance, including secondment on a non-reimbursable basis, to enable him to prepare an action-oriented report.

79th plenary meeting
20 December 1991

NOTES

¹For the decisions adopted without reference to a Main Committee, see sect. X.B.1.

²*Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 20, document A/46/354.

³*Ibid.*, document A/46/295-S/22777.

⁴*Ibid.*, document A/46/296-S/27778.

⁵*Ibid.*, document A/46/355.

⁶*Ibid.*, document A/46/342-S/22864.

⁷*Ibid.*, document A/46/356.

⁸*Ibid.*, document A/46/343-S/22865.

⁹*Ibid.*, document A/46/460.

¹⁰*Ibid.*, document A/46/411-S/23002.

¹¹*Ibid.*, document A/46/412-S/23003.

- ¹²Ibid., document A/46/413-S/23004.
- ¹³See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, 3011th meeting*.
- ¹⁴Resolution 217 A (III), art. 21, para. 3.
- ¹⁵See A/46/231, annex, appendix.
- ¹⁶See A/46/550-S/23127, annex.
- ¹⁷A/46/560.
- ¹⁸United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Sixteenth Session*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, p. 135.
- ¹⁹A/46/497.
- ²⁰See resolution 35/55, annex.
- ²¹A/46/580.
- ²²A/46/419.
- ²³A/46/417 and Add.1.
- ²⁴See A/46/417/Add.1.
- ²⁵A/46/549.
- ²⁶A/40/669, annex I, and A/40/669/Add.1, annex I.
- ²⁷International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 1990* (Austria, July 1991) (GC/XXXV/953); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly through a note by the Secretary-General (A/46/353).
- ²⁸See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 33rd meeting (A/46/PV.33).
- ²⁹United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.
- ³⁰A/46/608-S/23177; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23177.
- ³¹A/46/617.
- ³²A/46/410 and Add.1 and 2.
- ³³United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.
- ³⁴A/45/474, annex.
- ³⁵*Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.
- ³⁶A/46/468 and Add.1 and 2.
- ³⁷A/46/390, annex I.
- ³⁸Ibid., annex II.
- ³⁹See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 22nd meeting (A/46/PV.22).
- ⁴⁰Resolution S-13/2, annex.
- ⁴¹See A/42/422, annex III.
- ⁴²Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.
- ⁴³A/46/700.
- ⁴⁴S/19835, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1988*, document S/19835.
- ⁴⁵See A/46/577-S/23146 and Corr.1, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23146.
- ⁴⁶A/46/577-S/23146 and Corr.1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23146.
- ⁴⁷A/46/438.
- ⁴⁸See A/35/719-S/14289, annex.
- ⁴⁹See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 64th meeting (A/46/PV.64).
- ⁵⁰A/38/299 and Corr.1, sect. V.
- ⁵¹See A/40/481/Add.1.
- ⁵²A/43/509/Add.1.
- ⁵³*Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/46/23).
- ⁵⁴Resolution 217 A (III).
- ⁵⁵*Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/46/23), chap. I, sect. J.
- ⁵⁶Ibid., chap. II.
- ⁵⁷Ibid., *Supplement No. 35* (A/46/35).
- ⁵⁸*Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21), chap. I, sect. B.
- ⁵⁹A/46/623-S/23204 and Corr.1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23204.
- ⁶⁰See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 51st meeting (A/46/PV.51).
- ⁶¹United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.
- ⁶²S/19443; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1988*, document S/19443.
- ⁶³S/21919 and Corr.1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fifth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1990*, document S/21919.
- ⁶⁴S/22472; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*, document S/22472.
- ⁶⁵See A/44/650 and Corr.1, paras. 156 and 158.
- ⁶⁶*Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/121, annex I.
- ⁶⁷See A/46/724, paras. 146-151.
- ⁶⁸A/38/570 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.
- ⁶⁹A/46/724.
- ⁷⁰See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. I.
- ⁷¹See A/46/724, paras. 15-20.
- ⁷²See A/46/724, para. 17.
- ⁷³LOS/PCN/L.87, annex.
- ⁷⁴See LOS/PCN/L.97, para. 32.
- ⁷⁵See A/46/724, paras. 190-196.
- ⁷⁶A/46/722.
- ⁷⁷*Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 22* (A/46/22).
- ⁷⁸A/45/1052.
- ⁷⁹A/46/648.
- ⁸⁰A/46/499.
- ⁸¹See Centre against Apartheid, *Notes and Documents*, No. 23/91.
- ⁸²Resolution S-16/1, annex, sect. C.
- ⁸³See A/46/507, annex, para. 5.
- ⁸⁴Resolution S-16/1, annex.
- ⁸⁵S/21015.
- ⁸⁶*Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 22* (A/46/22), part two.
- ⁸⁷A/46/357 and Add.1.
- ⁸⁸*Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/46/44).
- ⁸⁹Ibid., *Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 43* (A/45/43).
- ⁹⁰A/46/507.
- ⁹¹A/46/561.
- ⁹²See A/AC.115/L.678.
- ⁹³Ibid., para. 32.
- ⁹⁴See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
- ⁹⁵A/46/586.
- ⁹⁶A/46/652-S/23225; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23225.
- ⁹⁷See A/37/696-S/15510, annex. For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1982*, document S/15510, annex.
- ⁹⁸A/42/521-S/19085, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1987*, document S/19085.
- ⁹⁹A/46/658-S/23222 and Corr.1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23222.
- ¹⁰⁰S/23171; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23171.
- ¹⁰¹A/45/818, annex I.
- ¹⁰²A/46/551-S/23128, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23128.
- ¹⁰³A/45/1007-S/22563, annex, and A/45/1009-S/22573, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*, documents S/22563 and S/22573.
- ¹⁰⁴A/46/713-S/23256, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23256.
- ¹⁰⁵A/42/911-S/19447, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1988*, document S/19447.
- ¹⁰⁶A/44/140-S/20491, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fourth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1989*, document S/20491.

¹⁰⁷A/44/451-S/20778; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1989*, document S/20778.

¹⁰⁸A/44/936-S/21235, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fifth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1990*, document S/21235.

¹⁰⁹See A/44/958, annex.

¹¹⁰A/45/906-S/22032, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fifth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1990*, document S/22032.

¹¹¹A/45/1039-S/22828, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1991*, document S/22828.

¹¹²The group of cooperating countries, called the "Group of Three", is composed of Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela.

¹¹³A/46/324 and Add.1.

¹¹⁴A/46/280, annex.

¹¹⁵A/46/387, annex.

¹¹⁶*Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/46/41)*.

¹¹⁷A/44/315, annex.

¹¹⁸World Bank, *Sub-Saharan Africa: From Crisis to Sustainable Growth* (Washington, D.C., 1989).

¹¹⁹UNDP, *Human Development Report 1990* (Oxford and New York, Oxford University Press, 1990).

¹²⁰A/43/430, annex I.

¹²¹A/45/427, annex, appendix II.

¹²²A/42/874, annex II.

¹²³See A/43/435-S/19974.

¹²⁴See A/CONF.147/18, part one, sect. III.C.

¹²⁵See A/45/803.

¹²⁶System of stabilization of export earnings.

¹²⁷System for stabilizing export earnings in the mining sector.

¹²⁸Also called the Africa Fund.

¹²⁹*Report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, Nairobi, 29 August-9 September 1977 (A/CONF.74/36)*, chap. I.

¹³⁰E/CONF.76/6, annex V.

¹³¹A/C.2/44/6, annex.

¹³²See A/46/309-S/22807, annex I.

¹³³See A/CONF.147/18.

¹³⁴A/44/800; A/45/624; A/46/593 and Add.1.

¹³⁵See A/46/593, reply submitted by Yugoslavia on behalf also of States Members that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

¹³⁶See A/46/634/Rev.1.

¹³⁷A/46/568.

¹³⁸A/46/206-E/1991/93 and Add.1-4.

¹³⁹See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34)*, annex I.