



# General Assembly

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## Sixty-sixth session

Agenda item 19

### Sustainable development

#### Report of the Second Committee\*

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#### I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled:

“Sustainable development:

- “(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;
- “(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
- “(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;
- “(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;
- “(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
- “(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;
- “(g) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-sixth session;
- “(h) Harmony with Nature;

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\* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 11 parts, under the symbol A/66/440 and Add.1-10.



“(i) Sustainable mountain development;

“(j) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy”

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 28th to 31st, 33rd to 37th, 39th and 40th meetings, on 31 October, 1, 3, 10, 17 and 22 November and 1, 6 and 9 December 2011. An account of the Committee’s discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/66/SR.28-31, 33-37, 39 and 40). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 3 to 5 October (see A/C.2/66/SR.2-6). Action was taken on the item at the 35th to 37th, 39th and 40th meetings (see A/C.2/66/SR.35-37, 39 and 40). An account of the Committee’s further consideration of the item is given in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

**Item 19**

**Sustainable development**

Report of the Secretary-General on the oil slick on Lebanese shores (A/66/297)

Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development (A/66/298 and Corr.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan (A/66/337)

Letter dated 1 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Namibia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/87)

Letter dated 27 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/388)

Letter dated 28 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/391)

Letter dated 9 November 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/66/6)

**Item 19 (a)**

**Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development**

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/66/287)

Report of the Secretary-General on agricultural technology for development (A/66/304)

Letter dated 4 October 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/66/2)

**Item 19 (b)****Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of United Nations system support to small island developing States (A/66/218)

Report of the Secretary-General on concrete recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/66/278)

**Item 19 (c)****International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/66/301)

**Items 19 (d), (e) and (f)****Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind****Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa****Convention on Biological Diversity**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/66/291)

**Item 19 (g)****Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-sixth session**

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its twenty-sixth session (A/66/25)

Letter dated 6 October 2011 from the President of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to the President of the General Assembly (A/C.2/66/5)

**Item 19 (h)****Harmony with Nature**

Report of the Secretary-General on harmony with Nature (A/66/302)

**Item 19 (i)****Sustainable mountain development**

Report of the Secretary-General on sustainable mountain development (A/66/294)

**Item 19 (j)****Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy**

Report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy (A/66/306)

4. At the 28th meeting, on 31 October, introductory statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (under the chapeau of item 19 and sub-items (a), (b), (h), (i) and (j)); the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat (under sub-item 19 (d)) (by videolink); the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification secretariat (under sub-item 19 (e)) (also by videolink); the Assistant Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (under sub-item 19 (c)); the Director of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (under the chapeau of agenda item 19 and sub-item (g)); and the Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Regional Director of the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (under the chapeau of agenda item 19) (see A/C.2/66/SR.28).

5. At the same meeting, an interactive dialogue ensued, during which comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of the United Republic of Tanzania, Kazakhstan and Ghana (see A/C.2/66/SR.28).

6. At the 30th meeting, on 1 November, an introductory statement was made by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity secretariat (under sub-item 19 (f)) (see A/C.2/66/SR.30).

## **II. Consideration of proposals**

### **A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/66/L.25 and Rev.1**

7. At the 34th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Argentina, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/66/L.25), which read:

*"The General Assembly,*

*"Recalling* its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009 and 65/147 of 20 December 2010 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

*"Reaffirming* the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference, in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

*"Emphasizing* the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

*“Taking into account* the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,

*“Noting with great concern* the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211, 64/195 and 65/147,

*“Noting* that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgment on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

*“Welcoming* the statement by the Secretary-General that the request for the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, has yet to be implemented, as stated in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 65/147,

*“Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

*“Welcoming* the conclusion of the Secretary-General that the experience of the United Nations Compensation Commission in handling claims for compensation for environmental damage resulting from the unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq may be of some value in terms of defining environmental damage in a case such as the present oil slick, in measuring and quantifying the damage sustained and in determining the amount of compensation payable in respect of it,

*“Noting again with appreciation* the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon’s Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

*“Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the Trust Fund,

*“1. Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 65/147 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;

“2. *Reiterates*, for the sixth consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese Jiyeh electric power plant, for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

“3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health, in the country;

“4. *Reiterates* its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular, in light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

“5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give further consideration to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel;

“6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to explore the value of the experience of the United Nations Compensation Commission in terms of defining environmental damage in a case such as the present oil slick, in measuring and quantifying the damage sustained and in determining the amount of compensation payable in respect of it;

“7. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

“8. *Welcomes* the agreement with the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at the Jiyeh electric power plant;

“9. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue their support for Lebanon in this matter, in particular for rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast and in the broader recovery efforts, and stated that such

international effort should be intensified, since Lebanon is still engaged in the treatment of wastes and the monitoring of recovery, and reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance, in order to ensure that the Trust Fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

“10. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled ‘Sustainable development’.”

8. At its 35th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled “Oil slick on Lebanese shores” (A/C.2/66/L.25/Rev.1), submitted by Argentina on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

10. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.25/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 158 to 7, with 3 abstentions (see para. 32, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

Cameroon, Colombia, Panama.

11. Before the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic; after the vote, a statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of Iraq (see A/C.2/66/SR.35).

**B. Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.35**

12. At the 34th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Kazakhstan, on behalf of Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Viet Nam, joined by Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Benin, India, Iraq, Latvia, Malaysia, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Spain and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan" (A/C.2/66/L.35). Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Guinea, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Serbia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

13. At its 35th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.35 (see para. 32, draft resolution II).

**C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/66/L.38 and Rev.1**

15. At the 34th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Papua New Guinea, on behalf of Australia, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Fiji, Honduras, Kiribati, Madagascar, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, the Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Vanuatu, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development" (A/C.2/66/L.38), which read:

*"The General Assembly,*

*"Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Plan of Implementation of the World*

Summit on Sustainable Development (‘Johannesburg Plan of Implementation’), the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

“*Reaffirming* the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the overall legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

“*Recalling* the Convention on Biological Diversity as an important instrument in the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity,

“*Recalling also* biodiversity-related conventions and organizations, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region,

“*Recognizing* the role of national legislation in the context of the protection of coral reefs and related ecosystems within national jurisdictions,

“*Recalling* its annual resolutions on oceans and the law of the sea and on sustainable fisheries, including resolution 61/105 of 8 December 2006, its resolution 64/73 of 7 December 2009 on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind, its resolution 64/236 of 24 December 2009, in which it decided to organize the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, its resolution 63/214 of 19 December 2008, entitled ‘Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations’, its resolution 64/203 of 21 December 2009 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant resolutions,

“*Noting* the Manado Ocean Declaration adopted by the World Ocean Conference on 14 May 2009 and the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity of 1995,

“*Noting also* the work of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity on marine and coastal biodiversity, in particular on coral reefs and related ecosystems, and the outcome of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010, including in relation to the updating and revision of the strategic plan for the post-2010 period,

“*Noting further* the request of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its tenth meeting, to the Executive Secretary of the Convention to prepare, subject to the availability of financial resources, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the specific workplan on coral bleaching adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision VII/5,

*“Recognizing* that millions of the world’s inhabitants depend on the health of coral reefs and related ecosystems for sustainable livelihoods and development as they are a primary source of food and income, add to the aesthetic and cultural dimensions of communities and also provide for protection from storms, tsunamis and coastal erosion,

*“Expressing grave concern* about the adverse impact of climate change and ocean acidification on the health and survival of coral reefs and related ecosystems around the world, including through sea-level rise, increase in the severity and incidence of coral bleaching, rising sea surface temperature and higher storm intensity, combined with the synergistic negative effects of waste run-off, overfishing, destructive fishing practices, alien invasive species and coral mining,

*“Noting with concern* that coral reef degradation is likely to lead to the loss of significant economic and social benefits, in particular for States which are highly vulnerable to coral reef loss and have a low adaptive capacity,

*“Maintaining* that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change, and calling upon States to take urgent global action to address climate change in accordance with the principles identified in the Convention, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities,

*“Acknowledging* that, in many countries, indigenous and local communities have a distinctive relationship with marine and coastal environments, including coral reefs and related ecosystems, and in some cases ownership thereof, in accordance with national legislation, and that such peoples have an important role to play in the protection, management and preservation of those reefs and related ecosystems,

*“Acknowledging also* the leadership role in tropical marine ecosystems management provided by the International Coral Reef Initiative, a partnership of Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations,

*“Recognizing* that many threats to coral reefs are transboundary in nature and, in this regard, welcoming regional initiatives, including the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security, the Micronesia Challenge, the Caribbean Challenge, the Pacific Oceanscape Framework, the Eastern Tropical Seascape Project, the West Indian Ocean Partnership, the West African Conservation Challenge and the Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Mangroves and Coral Reefs in the Americas Region,

*“Welcoming* the efforts of the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system in the field of the protection of marine biodiversity and, in particular, coral reefs and related ecosystems,

*“Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development, requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/150 of 20 December 2010,

*“Noting* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 4 to 6 June 2012, could serve as an

opportunity to secure political commitment by formulating concrete measures and actions relating to oceans and coral reefs,

“1. *Urges* States within their national jurisdictions and the competent international organizations within their respective mandates, given the imperative for action, to take practical steps at all levels to protect coral reefs and related ecosystems for sustainable livelihoods and development, including immediate and concerted global, regional and local action to respond to the challenges and to address the adverse impact of climate change, including through mitigation and adaptation, as well as of ocean acidification on coral reefs and related ecosystems;

“2. *Also urges* States to formulate, adopt and implement integrated and comprehensive approaches for the management of coral reefs and related ecosystems under their jurisdiction, encourages regional cooperation in accordance with international law regarding the protection and enhancement of the resilience of coral reefs, and in that respect calls upon development partners to support such efforts in developing countries, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building, environmentally sound technologies and know-how on mutually agreed terms, as well as the exchange of relevant scientific, technical, socio-economic and legal information, to enable developing countries to take all necessary action for the protection of their coral reefs and related ecosystems, as appropriate;

“3. *Further urges* States to identify marine and coastal management, including coral reef management, as an urgent sustainable development priority, and to ensure that economic and social development strategies prioritize effective coral reef management in order to address poverty eradication, food security, sustainable livelihoods and conservation;

“4. *Notes* chapter 17 of Agenda 21, chapter IV of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and paragraph 53 of General Assembly resolution 57/141 of 12 December 2002 and, in particular, the commitment to the formation of representative, area-based marine management networks by 2012, and, in this regard, urges States to identify significant coral reefs and other related marine ecosystems and to implement and integrate area-based management tools into broader sustainable development strategies;

“5. *Encourages* data collection and scientific research at all relevant levels on the economic, social and environmental benefits of coral reefs and related ecosystems, in order to develop and enhance measures to protect coral reefs, reinforce their resilience and strengthen the ability of coastal communities to adapt to environmental changes and coral reef degradation;

“6. *Encourages* States to work constructively towards the identification, at the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, of concrete measures to implement internationally agreed goals and commitments relating to the sustainable management of the marine environment, including the protection of coral reefs and related ecosystems and, in this regard, to consider the recommendations set forth in the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development.”

16. At its 36th meeting, on 22 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled “Protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and

development” (A/C.2/66/L.38/Rev.1), submitted by Australia, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Fiji, Honduras, Kiribati, Madagascar, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Vanuatu. Subsequently, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, the Comoros, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tuvalu, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

17. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the Chair, the Committee agreed to waive rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and proceed to take action on the revised draft resolution.

18. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

19. Also at its 36th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.38/Rev.1 (see para. 32, draft resolution III).

20. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Turkey made a statement (see A/C.2/66/SR.36).

#### **D. Draft resolutions A/C.2/66/L.41 and Rev.1**

21. At the 34th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Israel, on behalf of Armenia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liberia, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Norway, Palau, Panama, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay, joined by Madagascar, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Agricultural technology for development” (A/C.2/66/L.41), which read:

*“The General Assembly,*

*“Recalling its resolution 64/197 of 21 December 2009 on agricultural technology for development,*

*“Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (‘Johannesburg Plan of Implementation’),*

*“Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,*

*“Recalling* its resolution 65/178 of 20 December 2010 on agriculture development and food security,

*“Noting* the previous work done by the Commission on Sustainable Development, in particular at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, highlighting the thematic focus on agriculture,

*“Acknowledging* the work performed by the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, established by the Secretary-General in 2008, and recalling the World Summit on Food Security, convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009, and underlining the importance of advancing and implementing agricultural technologies,

*“Welcoming* the commitments set out in the Joint Statement on Global Food Security, adopted in L’Aquila, Italy, on 10 July 2009, which focused on sustainable agriculture development,

*“Recalling* its resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, entitled ‘Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals’, reaffirming its commitment to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing the beneficial impact that the adoption of agricultural technologies can have for the achievement of many of those goals,

*“Noting* the outcome of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and concerned by the pace of progress to date in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, particularly in the least developed countries and in Africa, and recognizing the need for all actors to intensify their efforts in order to reach those goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as to continue to work towards fulfilling the commitments made in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,

*“Looking forward* to a successful outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2012, that secures renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges, and that includes the two themes to be discussed and refined in the preparatory process, namely, a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development,

*“Stressing* the critical role of women in the agricultural sector and their contribution to enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food and nutritional security and eradicating rural poverty, and underlining the fact that meaningful progress in agricultural development necessitates, inter alia, closing the gender gap and ensuring that women have equal participation in labour markets and equal access to agricultural resources and social services, including health care and health services,

*“Acknowledging* the role and work of civil society and the private sector in furthering progress in developing countries, in promoting the use of sustainable agricultural technology and the training of smallholder farmers,

“*Considering* the increasing need to innovate in agriculture in order to respond to the challenges posed by, inter alia, climate change and the depletion and scarcity of natural resources, and recognizing that sustainable agricultural technologies can greatly contribute to economic development and help to mitigate the impact of climate change, land degradation and desertification,

“1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on agricultural technology for development;

“2. *Urges* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other stakeholders to strengthen efforts to improve the transfer of technologies under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms to developing countries, especially the least developed countries, in particular at the bilateral and regional levels, and to support national efforts to foster the utilization of local know-how and agricultural technologies, promote agricultural technology research and access to knowledge and information through suitable communication for development strategies, and enable rural women, as well as men and youth, to increase sustainable agricultural productivity, reduce post-harvest losses and enhance food and nutritional security;

“3. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, in particular their small-scale producers, in order to enhance the productivity and nutritional quality of food crops, promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities and enhance food and nutritional security;

“4. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations and other stakeholders to mainstream gender into agricultural policies and projects and to focus on closing the gender gap to achieve equal access for women to agricultural resources, labour markets, labour-saving technologies, agricultural technology information and know-how, equipment and decision-making forums to ensure that agriculture, food- and nutritional security-related programmes and policies take into consideration the specific needs of women and youth;

“5. *Underlines* the importance of supporting and advancing research in improving and diversifying crop varieties and seed systems, as well as supporting the establishment of sustainable agricultural systems and management practices, such as conservation agriculture and integrated pest management, in order to make agriculture more resilient and, in particular, to make crops and farm animals, including livestock, more tolerant to diseases, pests and environmental stresses, including drought and climate change, in a manner consistent with national regulations and relevant international agreements;

“6. *Also underlines* the importance of the sustainable use and management of water resources to increase and ensure agricultural productivity, and calls for further efforts to strengthen irrigation facilities and water-saving technology;

“7. *Encourages* Member States, civil society and public and private institutions to develop partnerships to support financial and market services, including training, capacity-building, infrastructure and extension services, and calls for further efforts by all stakeholders to include smallholder farmers,

in particular rural women, in planning and taking decisions about making appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies and practices available and affordable to smallholder farmers;

“8. *Calls upon* Member States to include sustainable agricultural development as an integral part of their national policies and strategies, notes the positive impact that North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation can have in this regard, and urges the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to include elements of agricultural technology, research and development in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, with a focus on the research and development of technology that is affordable, durable and sustainable and that can be easily used by and disseminated to smallholder farmers, in particular rural women;

“9. *Requests* relevant United Nations organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to promote, support and facilitate the exchange of experience among Member States on ways to augment sustainable agriculture and management practices, such as conservation agriculture, and increase the use of agricultural technologies that have a positive impact on the entire value chain, including technology for post-harvest crop storage and transportation, especially in pressing environmental circumstances;

“10. *Underlines* the instrumental role of agricultural technology in furthering sustainable development and in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, calls therefore upon Member States and encourages relevant international bodies to support sustainable agricultural research and development, and in this regard calls for continued support to the international agricultural research system, including the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and other relevant international organizations;

“11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.”

22. At its 37th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled “Agricultural technology for development” (A/C.2/66/L.41/Rev.1), submitted by Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Albania, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, El Salvador, Eritrea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia,

Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

23. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

24. Also at the 37th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.41/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 133 to none, with 35 abstentions (see para. 32, draft resolution IV). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

None.

*Abstaining:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

25. Before the vote, a statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of Lebanon, on behalf of the Arab States (see A/C.2/66/SR.37).

26. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Israel (see A/C.2/66/SR.37).

### E. Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.37

27. At the 35th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Honduras, on behalf of the Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Georgia, Guatemala, Guyana, India, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Saudi Arabia, joined by Antigua and Barbuda, the Gambia, Grenada, Haiti, Italy, Monaco, Montenegro, Palau, Saint Lucia and Seychelles, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America” (A/C.2/66/L.37). Subsequently, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Lebanon, Luxembourg, the Philippines, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey and the United Republic of Tanzania joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

28. At its 37th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

29. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.37 (see para. 32, draft resolution V).

### F. Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.32

30. At the 34th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Peru introduced a draft resolution entitled “Developmental benefits of biodiversity” (A/C.2/66/L.32), which read:

*“The General Assembly,*

*“Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,*

*“Recalling also its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 64/203 of 21 December 2009 and 65/161 of 20 December 2010 and all other previous resolutions relating to the importance of biodiversity for humankind,*

*“Recalling further that the Convention on Biological Diversity is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to those technologies, and by appropriate funding,*

*“Recalling that the decennium 2011-2020 has been declared the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity,*

*“Noting the interrelationship between genetic resources and traditional knowledge, their inseparable nature for indigenous and local communities and the importance of traditional knowledge for the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of its components and the sustainable livelihoods of those communities,*

“*Recalling* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

“*Noting with appreciation* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting of the updated and revised Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets,

“*Expressing grave concern* at the potential loss of biodiversity, and drawing attention to the fact that continued biodiversity loss can have a particularly adverse impact on the poor and other populations that depend on natural resources,

“1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

“2. *Reaffirms* the intrinsic value of biological diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational, environmental and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its components, taking into account their importance for sustainable development;

“3. *Also reaffirms* the positive impact of the achievement of the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, access to genetic resources based on prior informed consent of the provider of those resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources or from the use of traditional knowledge associated to them for sustainable development, poverty eradication and the improvement of human well-being and as a major factor underpinning the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, at national and local levels;

“4. *Further reaffirms* the sovereign rights of States to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and that national ownership and leadership are indispensable in the development process;

“5. *Reiterates its concern* at the potential loss of biodiversity and ecosystem degradation, which imposes long-term damage and economic costs that have an adverse impact on the poor and other populations that depend on natural resources and compromises sustained growth for future generations, and notes in this regard that it is vital to anticipate, prevent and respond to those factors;

“6. *Recalls* that the conservation of biodiversity makes a critical contribution in reducing the negative impacts of climate change by making ecosystems more resilient and conserving their capacity to provide essential services;

“7. *Recalls also* the contribution of the sustainable use of biodiversity components to the achievement of economic, social and environmentally sustainable development, and in this regard reaffirms the need to maximize the developmental benefits of biodiversity;

“8. *Invites* Member States to consider the impact of the sustainable use of the components and ecosystems of biodiversity at all levels of policymaking, in particular in national developmental policy programmes and investments in all sectors and at all levels towards mainstreaming the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity into poverty eradication and development strategies;

“9. *Notes* the consideration of aspects related to the economic valuation of ecosystems and biodiversity in the context of the work of the Convention, including *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity* reports, as referred to in the relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting, and encourages further studies in this regard;

“10. *Encourages* all Parties to the Convention which have not yet done so to promptly sign and ratify the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

“11. *Requests* Member States to improve their cooperation in the area of technology transfer and capacity-building for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in particular with regard to innovation capacities for adding value to genetic resources in developing countries, through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation mechanisms, including voluntary innovative financing mechanisms and public-private partnerships;

“12. *Encourages* Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental bodies, relevant non-governmental organizations, major groups and all relevant stakeholders participating in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to integrate the socio-economic impacts and benefits of the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of its components into their contributions on sustainable development;

“13. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations:

“(a) To raise public awareness of the importance of mainstreaming the three objectives of the Convention into poverty eradication and development strategies;

“(b) To ensure an effective integration of sustainable practices for the conservation of biological diversity and the use of its components, including traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, in accordance with the Convention and its Nagoya Protocol, in the formulation of national policies, legislation, administrative measures and international cooperation to prevent any misuse, misappropriation or improper exploitation of those resources;

“(c) To raise public awareness of the importance of promoting equity and fairness in negotiations of mutually agreed terms concerning the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization and commercialization of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with them, in accordance with applicable national legislation, between providers and users of genetic resources and traditional knowledge;

“14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session, under the agenda item entitled ‘Sustainable development’, a sub-item entitled ‘Developmental benefits of biodiversity’.”

31. At its 40th meeting, on 9 December, after a statement by the Chair, the Committee decided to take no action on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.32.

### III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

32. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### **Draft resolution I** **Oil slick on Lebanese shores**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009 and 65/147 of 20 December 2010 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

*Reaffirming* the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,<sup>1</sup> in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

*Emphasizing* the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

*Taking into account* the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>2</sup> especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,<sup>3</sup>

*Noting with great concern* the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211, 64/195 and 65/147,

*Noting* that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

*Recalling* that in paragraph 4 of its resolution 65/147, the General Assembly requested the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the Assembly has yet to be implemented,

*Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits

<sup>1</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

<sup>2</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

*Noting* the observation of the Secretary-General that the experience of the United Nations Compensation Commission in handling claims for compensation for environmental damage resulting from the unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq may be of some value in terms of defining environmental damage in a case such as the present oil slick, in measuring and quantifying the damage sustained and in determining the amount of compensation payable in respect of it,

*Noting again with appreciation* the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

*Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the Trust Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 65/147 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;<sup>4</sup>

2. *Reiterates*, for the sixth consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese Jiyeh electric power plant, for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health, in the country;

4. *Reiterates its request* to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give further consideration to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to explore the value of the experience of the United Nations Compensation Commission in terms of defining environmental damage in a case such as the present oil slick, in measuring and

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<sup>4</sup> A/66/297.

quantifying the damage sustained and in determining the amount of compensation payable in respect of it;

7. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

8. *Welcomes* the agreement with the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at the Jiyeh electric power plant;

9. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue their support for Lebanon in this matter, in particular for rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast and in the broader recovery efforts, and stated that such international effort should be intensified, since Lebanon is still engaged in the treatment of wastes and the monitoring of recovery, and reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance, in order to ensure that the Trust Fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

10. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

**Draft resolution II**  
**International cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/169 M of 16 December 1997, 53/1 H of 16 November 1998, 55/44 of 27 November 2000, 57/101 of 25 November 2002, 60/216 of 22 December 2005 and 63/279 of 24 April 2009,

*Recognizing* that the Semipalatinsk nuclear testing ground, inherited by Kazakhstan and closed in 1991, remains a matter of serious concern for the people and Government of Kazakhstan with regard to the long-term consequences of its activity on the lives and health of the people, especially children and other vulnerable groups, as well as for the environment of the region,

*Taking into account* the fact that a number of international programmes in the Semipalatinsk region have been completed since the closure of the nuclear testing ground, but serious social, economic and ecological problems continue to exist,

*Taking into consideration* the results of the international conference on the problems of the Semipalatinsk region, held in Tokyo in 1999, which have promoted the effectiveness of the assistance provided to the population of the region,

*Acknowledging* the progress made towards accelerating the development of the Semipalatinsk region during the 2008-2011 period, through programmes and actions of the Government of Kazakhstan and the international community, including United Nations agencies,

*Recognizing* the important role of national development policies and strategies in the rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region,

*Recognizing also* the challenges that Kazakhstan faces in the rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region, in particular in the context of the efforts by the Government of Kazakhstan to ensure the effective and timely achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular with regard to health care and environmental sustainability,

*Recognizing further* that the Government of Kazakhstan may call upon the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Kazakhstan to render assistance in conducting consultations for establishing a multi-stakeholder mechanism, with the participation of various government bodies, local governments, civil society, the donor community and international organizations, to improve governance and enable the more efficient use of resources allocated for the rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region, in particular regarding the areas of radiation safety, socio-economic development and health and environmental protection, and for the provision of information on risks to the population,

*Emphasizing* the importance of support by donor States and international development organizations for the efforts of Kazakhstan to improve the social, economic and environmental situation in the Semipalatinsk region, and the need for the international community to continue to pay due attention to the rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region,

*Taking note* of the need to utilize modern technologies to minimize and mitigate radiological, health, socio-economic, psychological and environmental challenges in the Semipalatinsk region,

*Considering* the importance of cooperation with the United Nations in establishing a coherent framework for coordination in addressing the needs of the region to introduce innovative approaches to the regional planning and social assistance to the population, especially to its most vulnerable groups, of the Semipalatinsk region aimed at improving their quality of life,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the new development-oriented approach in tackling problems in the Semipalatinsk region in the medium to long term,

*Expressing appreciation* to donor countries and organizations, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and related organizations mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General<sup>1</sup> for their contribution to the rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 63/279<sup>1</sup> and the information contained therein on measures taken to solve the health, ecological, economic and humanitarian problems in the Semipalatinsk region;

2. *Welcomes and recognizes* the important role of the Government of Kazakhstan in providing domestic resources to help to meet the needs of the Semipalatinsk region, implementing measures for optimizing public administration of the territory and facilities of the former Semipalatinsk nuclear test site, ensuring radiation safety and environmental rehabilitation and reintegrating the use of the nuclear test site into the national economy;

3. *Urges* the international community to provide assistance to Kazakhstan in formulating and implementing special programmes and projects for the treatment and care of the affected population as well as in efforts to ensure economic growth and sustainable development in the Semipalatinsk region, including increasing effectiveness of existing programmes;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant multilateral financial organizations and other entities of the international community, including academia and non-governmental organizations, to share knowledge and experience in order to contribute to the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue pursuing a consultative process, with the participation of interested States and relevant United Nations agencies, on modalities for mobilizing and coordinating the necessary support to seek appropriate solutions to the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region, including those prioritized in his report;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to enhance world public awareness of the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

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<sup>1</sup> A/66/337.

### **Draft resolution III**

#### **Protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development<sup>1</sup> and Agenda 21,<sup>2</sup> the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>3</sup> the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,<sup>4</sup> the Mauritius Declaration<sup>5</sup> and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>6</sup> the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>7</sup> and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>8</sup>

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,<sup>9</sup> which provides the overall legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

*Recalling* the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>10</sup> as an important instrument in the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity,

*Recalling also* biodiversity-related conventions and organizations, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,<sup>11</sup> the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,<sup>12</sup> the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals,<sup>13</sup> the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Recognizing* the role of national legislation in the context of the protection of coral reefs and related ecosystems within national jurisdictions,

<sup>1</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>3</sup> *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

<sup>4</sup> *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>5</sup> *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>7</sup> See resolution 55/2.

<sup>8</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 996, No. 14583.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1651, No. 28395.

*Recalling* its annual resolutions on oceans and the law of the sea and on sustainable fisheries, including resolutions 61/105 of 8 December 2006, 64/71 and 64/72 of 4 December 2009, and 65/37 A of 7 December 2010 and 65/37 B of 4 April 2011, as well as resolution 65/159 of 20 December 2010 on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind, its resolution 64/236 of 24 December 2009, in which it decided to organize the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, its resolution 65/155 of 20 December 2010, entitled “Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations”, its resolution 65/161 of 20 December 2010 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant resolutions,

*Noting* the Manado Ocean Declaration adopted by the World Ocean Conference on 14 May 2009 and the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity of 1995,<sup>14</sup>

*Noting also* the work under the Convention on Biological Diversity on marine and coastal biodiversity, in particular on coral reefs and related ecosystems, and in this connection the outcome of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010, including in relation to the updating and revision of the strategic plan for the post-2010 period,<sup>15</sup>

*Noting further* the request of the Conference of the Parties, at its tenth meeting, to the Executive Secretary of the Convention<sup>16</sup> to prepare, subject to the availability of financial resources, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the specific workplan on coral bleaching adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision VII/5,<sup>17</sup>

*Noting with concern* that coral reef degradation will likely lead to the loss of significant economic and social benefits, in particular for States which are highly vulnerable to coral reef loss and have a low capacity to respond,

*Recognizing* that millions of the world’s inhabitants depend on the health of coral reefs and related ecosystems for sustainable livelihoods and development as they are a primary source of food and income, add to the aesthetic and cultural dimensions of communities and also provide for protection from storms, tsunamis and coastal erosion,

*Expressing grave concern* about the adverse impact of climate change and ocean acidification on the health and survival of coral reefs and related ecosystems around the world, including through sea-level rise, increase in the severity and incidence of coral bleaching, rising sea surface temperature and higher storm intensity, combined with the synergistic negative effects of waste run-off, overfishing, destructive fishing practices, alien invasive species and coral mining,

*Maintaining* that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change, and calling upon States to take urgent global action to address climate change in accordance with the principles identified in the

<sup>14</sup> See A/51/312, annex II, decision II/10.

<sup>15</sup> See UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, annex, decision X/29, para. 74.

<sup>17</sup> See UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/5, annex I, appendix 1.

Convention, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities,

*Acknowledging* that, in many countries, indigenous and local communities have a distinctive relationship with marine and coastal environments, including coral reefs and related ecosystems, and in some cases ownership thereof, in accordance with national legislation, and that such peoples have an important role to play in the protection, management and preservation of those reefs and related ecosystems,

*Acknowledging also* the leadership role in tropical marine ecosystems management provided by the International Coral Reef Initiative, a partnership of Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations,

*Welcoming* regional initiatives that address serious threats to coral reefs which are transboundary in nature and, in this regard, welcoming regional initiatives, including the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security, the Micronesia Challenge, the Caribbean Challenge, the Pacific Oceanscape Framework, the Eastern Tropical Seascapes Project, the West Indian Ocean Partnership, the West African Conservation Challenge and the Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Mangroves and Coral Reefs in the Americas Region,

*Welcoming also* the efforts of the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system in the field of the protection of marine biodiversity and, in particular, coral reefs and related ecosystems,

*Taking note of* the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development,<sup>18</sup> requested in its resolution 65/150 of 20 December 2010,

*Acknowledging* the importance of the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,

1. *Urges* States within their national jurisdictions and the competent international organizations within their respective mandates, given the imperative for action, to take practical steps at all levels to protect coral reefs and related ecosystems for sustainable livelihoods and development, including immediate and concerted global, regional and local action to respond to the challenges and to address the adverse impact of climate change, including through mitigation and adaptation, as well as of ocean acidification, on coral reefs and related ecosystems;

2. *Also urges* States to formulate, adopt and implement integrated and comprehensive approaches for the management of coral reefs and related ecosystems under their jurisdiction, encourages regional cooperation in accordance with international law regarding the protection and enhancement of the resilience of coral reefs, and in that respect calls upon development partners to support such efforts in developing countries, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building, environmentally sound technologies and know-how on mutually agreed terms, as well as the exchange of relevant scientific, technical, socio-economic and legal information, to enable developing countries to take all

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<sup>18</sup> A/66/298.

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necessary action for the protection of their coral reefs and related ecosystems, as appropriate;

3. *Further urges* States to identify relevant measures or tools for the protection of coral reefs within their national jurisdiction as an urgent sustainable development priority to address, inter alia, poverty eradication, food security, sustainable livelihoods and ecosystem conservation and, in this regard, encourages States to implement and integrate them, as appropriate, into broader sustainable development strategies;

4. *Stresses* the need to improve the understanding of the economic, social and environmental benefits of coral reefs and related ecosystems, in order to develop and enhance measures to protect coral reefs, reinforce their resilience and strengthen the ability of coastal communities to adapt to environmental changes and coral reef degradation;

5. *Encourages* Member States and stakeholders to address, as appropriate, the protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development;

6. *Notes* the ongoing preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012.

## Draft resolution IV Agricultural technology for development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 64/197 of 21 December 2009 on agricultural technology for development,

*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>1</sup> Agenda 21,<sup>2</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>3</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>4</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”),<sup>5</sup>

*Recalling further* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>6</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 65/178 of 20 December 2010 on agriculture development and food security,

*Noting* the previous work done by the Commission on Sustainable Development, in particular at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, highlighting the thematic focus on agriculture,

*Acknowledging* the work performed by the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, established by the Secretary-General in 2008, and specifically its call for increased investment, as appropriate, in the development of agricultural technology as well as for the transfer and use of existing technologies, on mutually agreed terms, especially for smallholder farmers, in particular rural women, and recalling the World Summit on Food Security, convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009, and underlining the importance of advancing and implementing agricultural technologies,

*Welcoming* the commitments set out in the Joint Statement on Global Food Security, adopted in L’Aquila, Italy, on 10 July 2009,<sup>7</sup> which focused on sustainable agriculture development,

*Recalling* the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held from 20 to 22 September 2010, and its outcome document,<sup>8</sup> reaffirming its commitment to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing the beneficial impact that the adoption of agricultural technologies can have for the achievement of many of those goals, including for eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, empowering women and

<sup>1</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution S-19/2, annex.

<sup>4</sup> *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>6</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>7</sup> Available from [www.ifad.org/events/g8](http://www.ifad.org/events/g8).

<sup>8</sup> See resolution 65/1.

ensuring environmental sustainability, while remaining concerned about the pace of progress to date in achieving those goals, particularly in the least developed countries and in Africa,

*Taking note* of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020<sup>9</sup> adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and recognizing the need to continue to work towards fulfilling the commitments made in the Programme of Action,

*Acknowledging* the importance of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

*Stressing* the critical role of women in the agricultural sector and their contribution to enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and nutrition and eradicating rural poverty, and underlining the fact that meaningful progress in agricultural development necessitates, inter alia, closing the gender gap and ensuring that women have equal access to agricultural technologies, related services and inputs and all the necessary productive resources, as well as to education and training, social services, health care, health services and financial services and access to and participation in markets,

*Acknowledging* the role and work of civil society and the private sector in furthering progress in developing countries, in promoting the use of sustainable agricultural technology and the training of smallholder farmers, in particular rural women,

*Considering* the increasing need to innovate in agri-food chains in order to respond to the challenges posed by, inter alia, climate change, the depletion and scarcity of natural resources, urbanization and globalization, and recognizing that agricultural research and sustainable agricultural technologies can greatly contribute to agricultural, rural and economic development, the adaptation of agriculture and food security and nutrition and help to mitigate the negative impact of climate change, land degradation and desertification,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on agricultural technology for development;<sup>10</sup>

2. *Urges* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other stakeholders to strengthen efforts to improve the development of appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies and their transfer and dissemination under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms to developing countries, especially the least developed countries, in particular at the bilateral and regional levels, and to support national efforts to foster the utilization of local know-how and agricultural technologies, promote agricultural technology research and access to knowledge and information through suitable communication for development strategies and enable rural women, as well as men and youth, to increase sustainable agricultural productivity, reduce post-harvest losses and enhance food and nutritional security;

3. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, especially their smallholder farmers, in particular

<sup>9</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.II.A.1), chap. II.

<sup>10</sup> A/66/304.

rural women, in order to enhance the productivity and nutritional quality of food crops, to promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities and to enhance food security and nutrition-related programmes and policies that take into consideration the specific needs of women and youth;

4. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations and other stakeholders to mainstream gender into agricultural policies and projects and to focus on closing the gender gap to achieve equal access for women to labour-saving technologies, agricultural technology information and know-how, equipment, decision-making forums and associated agricultural resources to ensure that agriculture, food security and nutrition-related programmes and policies take into consideration the specific needs of women and youth;

5. *Underlines* the importance of supporting and advancing research in improving and diversifying crop varieties and seed systems as well as supporting the establishment of sustainable agricultural systems and management practices, such as conservation agriculture and integrated pest management, in order to make agriculture more resilient and, in particular, to make crops and farm animals, including livestock, more tolerant to diseases, pests and environmental stresses, including drought and climate change, in a manner consistent with national regulations and relevant international agreements;

6. *Also underlines* the importance of the sustainable use and management of water resources to increase and ensure agricultural productivity, and calls for further efforts to develop and strengthen irrigation facilities and water-saving technology;

7. *Encourages* Member States, civil society and public and private institutions to develop partnerships to support financial and market services, including training, capacity-building, infrastructure and extension services, and calls for further efforts by all stakeholders to include smallholder farmers, in particular rural women, in planning and taking decisions about making appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies and practices available and affordable to them;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to include sustainable agricultural development as an integral part of their national policies and strategies, notes the positive impact that North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation can have in this regard, and urges the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to include elements of agricultural technology, research and development in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, with a focus on the research and development of technology that is affordable, durable and sustainable and that can be easily used by and disseminated to smallholder farmers, in particular rural women;

9. *Requests* relevant United Nations organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to promote, support and facilitate the exchange of experience among Member States on ways to augment sustainable agriculture and management practices, such as conservation agriculture, and increase the use of agricultural technologies that have a positive impact on the entire value chain, including technology for post-harvest crop storage and transportation, especially in pressing environmental circumstances;

10. *Underlines* the instrumental role of agricultural technology, agricultural research and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, as well as the sharing of knowledge and practices, in furthering sustainable development and in achieving the

Millennium Development Goals, calls, therefore, upon Member States and encourages relevant international bodies to support sustainable agricultural research and development, and in this regard calls for continued support to the international agricultural research system, including the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and other relevant international organizations and initiatives;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## Draft resolution V

### Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on this matter,

*Recalling also* the Manila Declaration on World Tourism of 10 October 1980,<sup>1</sup> the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development<sup>2</sup> and Agenda 21<sup>3</sup> of 14 June 1992, the Amman Declaration on Peace through Tourism of 11 November 2000,<sup>4</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>5</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”),<sup>6</sup> the Declaration of Barbados<sup>7</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>8</sup> the Mauritius Declaration<sup>9</sup> and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>10</sup> and the Istanbul Declaration<sup>11</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,<sup>12</sup>

*Recalling further* the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,<sup>13</sup>

*Recognizing* the important dimension and role of sustainable tourism as a positive instrument towards the eradication of poverty, the protection of the environment and the improvement of quality of life and its contribution to achieving sustainable development, especially in developing countries,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the Marrakech Process on sustainable consumption and production, the achievements of the international task force on sustainable tourism development and the objectives of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism, launched in 2011 as a permanent successor to the international task force,

<sup>1</sup> A/36/236, annex, appendix I.

<sup>2</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>4</sup> A/55/640, annex.

<sup>5</sup> *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>7</sup> *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>9</sup> *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>11</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.II.A.I), chap. I.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

<sup>13</sup> See resolution 65/1.

*Taking note* of the outcome document of the first workshop on sustainable tourism, adopted by the Central American Tourism Council of the Central American Integration System on 24 June 2011, at a meeting organized in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization in Roatan, Honduras, in the framework of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,

*Taking note also* of the Joint Declaration, the Plan of Action and the declaration of 2012 as the Year of Sustainable Tourism in Central America, adopted at the thirty-seventh meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Central American Integration System, held in San Salvador on 22 July 2011, and the Declaration of the Central American Tourism Council, adopted at its eighty-second meeting, held in Guanacaste, Costa Rica, on 7 July 2011,

*Emphasizing* that sustainable tourism in Central America is a fundamental pillar of regional integration and an engine of social and economic development, given its significant contribution in terms of jobs, income, investment and hard currency, therefore contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Invites* States Members of the United Nations and other stakeholders, and the World Tourism Organization, to continue to support the activities undertaken by the Central American countries for the promotion of responsible and sustainable tourism in the region, including in the context of emergency preparedness and response to natural disasters, as well as for capacity-building in order to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, by extending the benefits of tourism to all sectors of society, in particular the most vulnerable and marginalized groups of the population;

2. *Takes note* of the work of the Central American Governments in the implementation of existing programmes designed to launch and promote sustainable tourism throughout the region, in coordination with the Central American Commission for Environment and Development, and welcomes their contribution to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in this regard;

3. *Encourages* the Central American countries, through the Central American Tourism Council and the Central American Tourism Secretariat, to continue to support sustainable tourism with policies that foster responsive and inclusive tourism, strengthen regional identity and protect the natural and cultural heritage, especially their ecosystems and biodiversity and notes that existing initiatives, such as the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism, among other international initiatives, can deliver direct and focused support to Governments to this end;

4. *Recognizes* the need to promote the development of sustainable tourism, in particular through the consumption of sustainable tourism products and services, and to strengthen the development of ecotourism, taking into account the declaration of 2012 as the Year of Sustainable Tourism in Central America, while maintaining the culture and environmental integrity of indigenous and local communities and enhancing the protection of ecologically sensitive areas and the natural heritage, and to promote the development of sustainable tourism and capacity-building in order to contribute to the strengthening of rural and local communities and small and

medium-sized enterprises, taking into account the need to address, inter alia, the challenges of climate change and the need to halt the loss of biodiversity;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on developments related to the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the reports prepared by the World Tourism Organization in this field.

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