turers' stocks or to special stocks in the consuming countries.

Noting with concern that the traditional supplier countries continue to hold large accumulated stocks of opiate raw materials which constitute a heavy financial and other burden for them,

Recognizing the urgent need to liquidate the accumulated stocks held by the traditional supplier countries, with a view to achieving a lasting world-wide balance between demand and supply of opiates for medical and scientific purposes,

- 1. Urges the Governments of those countries that have not already done so to take urgent and effective steps to implement the above-mentioned resolutions;
- 2. Further urges the Governments of concerned producing and consuming countries to consider, after mutual consultation where necessary, implementing such measures for the disposal of excess stocks recommended in the report of the above-mentioned expert group as may be found feasible and most fruitful, and also to consider other possible measures suggested by the expert group which might contribute to an improvement in the present situation;
- 3. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments for their consideration and implementation.

11th plenary meeting 24 May 1983

1983/4. Measures to improve international co-operation in the maritime interdiction of illicit drug traffic

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the observations made by the expert group to study the functioning, adequacy and enhancement of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, at its 1982 meeting, particularly with regard to the need for bilateral regional arrangements concerning the boarding of seagoing vessels involved in drug trafficking,

Bearing in mind article 4 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, applicable international conventions and the concern of the international community to suppress illegal traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Noting with concern the alarming number of private vessels transporting illicit drugs on the high seas,

Noting also with concern the large proportion of recidivists among smugglers of illicit drugs by sea,

Recognizing that in many instances illicit drug traffickers also engage in fraudulent practices with respect to the flag State registration of their vessels,

Firmly believing that, in order to be effective in combating illicit maritime traffic, registry information must be readily accessible to and verifiable by law enforcement personnel aboard the vessel and within the claimed flag State.

Convinced that legitimate shipping interests will not be unreasonably hampered by adoption of effective steps by all States to provide, in accordance with relevant domestic constitutional safeguards and legislations, for prompt, positive and unmistaken identification of private vessels registered under their flag,

- 1. Appeals to Governments to inspect closely all requests for registration of private sea-going vessels to ensure that the vessels are those which the applicants are appropriately entitled to register;
- 2. Urges Governments to require their flag vessels to carry on board documents attesting to their registry;
- 3. Requests Governments to explore methods of strengthening international co-operation in combating illicit maritime drug trafficking, and to respond promptly to inquiries made for law enforcement purposes by other States regarding the registry of vessels;
- 4. Recommends that Governments should consider establishing a national centralized vessel registry system for their private flag vessels, to facilitate the international co-ordination needed to implement the present resolution;
- 5. Encourages all States to take prompt action, with due regard to their constitutional, legal and administrative systems, to curtail employment of their flag vessels in the illicit drug trade and to impose significant sanctions on persons convicted of such activity;
- 6. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments and to invite them to bring it to the attention of their competent authorities for consideration.

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1983/5. Enlargement of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1663 (LII) of 1 June 1972, which established the membership of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its present size,

Noting that since its fifty-second session the problem of drug traffic and abuse has reached crisis proportions throughout the world,

Taking into consideration the seriousness of the problem, the need for broad international co-operation in seeking solutions and the interest which States have in contributing to efforts to reach solutions,

Decides to enlarge the membership of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to forty, with effect from 1 January 1984, taking into account the special criteria used in electing members of the Commission and keeping the actual percentage.

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1983/6. International Conference on Population, 1984

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1981/87 of 25 November 1981, 1982/7 of 30 April 1982 and 1982/42 of 27 July 1982,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on the preparations for the International Conference on Population in 1984¹⁰ and of his statement to the First (Economic) Committee at its 6th meeting, on 16 May 1983;

⁹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 520, No. 7515, p. 151.

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