

into account the relevant activities already undertaken by the various organs of the United Nations system,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system and with a view to enabling the United Nations system to deal adequately with economic emergency situations and to respond more effectively to the resulting immediate needs of the affected populations in developing countries, to submit proposals to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-first session, *inter alia*, on:

(a) The elaboration of global criteria for identifying such economic emergency situations;

(b) The possible establishment of procedures for periodically reporting relevant information through resident representatives of the United Nations Development Programme, in consultation with the Governments concerned, to a central focal point, to be established where appropriate, which will process such information;

(c) The possible elaboration of procedures for submission, on the basis of such information, of proposals to the Economic and Social Council for the proclamation, where necessary, of a state of emergency with economic, social and structural consequences;

(d) The strengthening of the co-ordinating mechanism of the United Nations system within its existing financial resources;

2. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to consider, as a matter of urgency, the above-mentioned proposals by the Secretary-General and to invite the governing bodies of the United Nations agencies concerned to provide it with any comments they may have on this matter.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

3511 (XXX). United Nations Conference on Desertification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3337 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, in which it decided to initiate concerted international action to combat desertification,

Having considered the progress report of the Secretary-General⁷⁶ and the relevant parts of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its third session⁷⁷ on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX),

Noting decision 30 (III) of 30 April 1975 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,⁷⁸ in which it approved the proposals of the Executive Director of the Programme on measures to be taken in implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX),

Noting also Economic and Social Council resolution 1958 (LIX) of 25 July 1975,

Stressing the need for additional research to clarify a number of fundamental problems of desertification, for the solution of which the requisite scientific knowledge is not yet available to the international community,

⁷⁶ E/5689.

⁷⁷ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/10025)*, chap. III, sect. B.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 25 (A/10025), annex I.

Stressing further that the preparation of the United Nations Conference on Desertification should provide the international community with the basis for an action-oriented, comprehensive and co-ordinated plan of action, which should include the building up of indigenous and autonomous science and technology capacity in the areas concerned,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General with the assistance of the competent bodies of the United Nations concerned, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme, to intensify the efforts required to ensure the appropriate preparation, at the technical level, of the United Nations Conference on Desertification;

2. *Reiterates* its request to the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme to provide the financial and technical assistance necessary to ensure the satisfactory preparation of the Conference, bearing in mind particularly the need to close the gaps in scientific knowledge and technologies in this field;

3. *Requests* the Committee on Science and Technology for Development, with the assistance of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, to include in its programme of work on arid areas, in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1898 (LVII) of 1 August 1974, proposals to close the gaps in scientific knowledge and technologies concerning desertification;

4. *Decides* that the cost of the Conference will be borne by the regular budget of the United Nations;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to contribute to the financing of the demographic components of the studies prepared in implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX);

6. *Requests* the executive heads of the specialized agencies to authorize their respective secretariats to provide for their participation in the secretariat of the Conference and in the *ad hoc* interagency task force, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX);

7. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to act as the inter-governmental preparatory body for the Conference and to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, recommendations on the organization of the Conference.

2441st plenary meeting
15 December 1975

3512 (XXX). Consideration of the economic and social situation in the Sudano-Sahelian region stricken by drought and measures to be taken for the benefit of that region

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, particularly Council resolutions 1834 (LVI) of 14 May 1974 and 1874 (LVII) of 16 July 1974, and Assembly resolutions 3054 (XXVIII) of 17 October 1973 and 3253 (XXIX) of 4 December 1974,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1918 (LVIII) of 5 May 1975,