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QUESTION OF ANTARCTICA

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Latévi Modem LAWSON-BETUM (Togo)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The **item** entitled "Question of Antarctica" was included in the provisional agenda **of** the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly in accordance with **Assembly** resolutions **44/124 A** and **B** of 15 December 1989.
2. **At** its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1990, the General **Assembly**, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the **First Committee**.
3. The **First Committee** considered **the item** at its 40th to 43rd and 47th meetings, from 19 to 21 and on 28 November 1990 (see **A/C.1/45/PV.40-43** and 47).
4. In connection with **item 67**, the **First Committee** had before **it** the following **documents**:
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the question of Antarctica (**A/45/456**)¹
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the question of Antarctica (**A/45/459**):
 - (c) Letter dated 19 September 1990 **from** the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the documents adopted by the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Cairo from 31 July to 5 August 1990 (**A/45/421-S/21797**).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/45/L.63 and Rev.1 and 2

5. On 19 November 1990, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, the Comoros, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe submitted a draft resolution entitled "Question of Antarctica" (A/C.1/45/L.63), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the item entitled "Question of Antarctica",

"Recalling its resolutions **38/77** of 15 December 1983, **39/152** of 17 December 1984, **40/156** A and B of 16 December 1985, **41/88** A and B of 4 December 1986, **42/46** A and B of 30 November 1987, **43/83** A and B of 7 December 1988 and **44/124** A and B of 15 December 1989,

"Recalling also the relevant paragraphs of the final documents adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989 1/ the second meeting of States of the **Zone** of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic held at Abuja from 25 to 29 June 1990, 2/ and the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Cairo from 31 July to 5 August 1990, 3/

"Taking into account the debates on this item held since its thirty-eighth **session**,

"Reaffirming the principle that the international community is entitled to information covering all aspects of Antarctica and that the United Nations should be made the repository for all such information in accordance with General Assembly resolutions **41/88** A, **42/46** B, **43/83** A and **44/124** B,

"C onscious of the particular significance of Antarctica to the international community, inter alia, in terms of international peace and **security**, environment, its effects on global climatic conditions, economy and scientific research,

"C onscious also of the interrelationship between Antarctica and the physical, chemical **and** biological processes that regulate the total Earth system,

"1/ A/44/551-5/20870, annex.

"2/ See A/45/474, annex.

"3/ See A/45/421-S/21797.

"Welcoming the increasing recognition **of** the significant impact that Antarctica exerts on the global environment and ecosystems and the need for a comprehensive agreement on the protection **and conservation** of the Antarctica environment and its dependent and **associated ecosystems**,

"Sharing the concern over the environmental degradation **of Antarctica** and its impact on global environment expressed at the **first substantive session** of the Preparatory Committee for the United **Nations Conference** on Environment and Development, held at Nairobi from **6 to 31 August 1990**,

"Welcoming the increasing support for the establishment of Antarctica as a nature reserve or world park to ensure the protection **and conservation** of its environment and its dependent and associated **ecosystems** for the benefit of all mankind,

"Welcoming also the increasing support within **the** international community for the banning **of** prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica,

"Welcoming further the initiative taken by some Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties in promoting Antarctica as a nature reserve or world park and the banning of prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica,

"Welcoming the ongoing trend in acknowledging the need for internationally **co-ordinated** scientific research stations in Antarctica in **order** to minimise unnecessary duplication and logistical support facilities,

"Welcoming also the increasing awareness of and interest in Antarctica shown by the international community, and convinced of the advantages to the whole of mankind **of** a better knowledge of Antarctica,

"Affirming its conviction that, in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should not become the scene or object of international discord,

"Reaffirming that the **management** and use of Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international co-operation for the benefit **of** mankind as a whole.

"Convinced of the need to prevent or **minimize** any negative impact of human activity resulting from the large **number** of **scientific** stations **and** expeditions in Antarctica on the environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems,

"Taking into account all aspects pertaining to all **areas** covered by the Antarctic **Treaty, 4/**

"Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Secretary-General **5/** on the question of Antarctica,

"1. Expresses its regret that despite the **numerous** resolutions adopted by the General Assembly the Secretary-General or his representative has **not** been invited to the meetings of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative **Parties**, including the special **session** of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting to be held at Santiago from 19 November to 7 December 1990, and **urges once** again the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to invite the Secretary-General or his representative to their future **meetings;**

"2. Calls upon the Treaty Parties to deposit information and documents **covering all aspects** of Antarctica with the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

"3. Expresses the conviction that any **move** to draw up a comprehensive environmental convention on the conservation and protection of Antarctica and **its dependent** and associated **ecosystems** as well as establishing a **nature** reserve or world **park must** be negotiated with **the** full participation of the international **community**, and in this regard stresses that this should be pursued within the context of the United Nations **system**, including the United Nations **Conference** on Environment and Development;

"4. Urges all members of the international community to support all efforts to ban prospecting and *mining* in and around Antarctica and to ensure that all activities should **be** exclusively used for the purpose of peaceful scientific investigation and that all such activities should ensure the maintenance of international peace and security in Antarctica and the protection of its **environment** and should **be** for the benefit **of all mankind;**

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive study with the help of relevant United Nations agencies such as the World Meteorological **Organization** and the United Nations Environment Programme on the establishment of a United Nations-sponsored station in Antarctica with a view to promoting **co-ordinated** international co-operation in scientific research for the benefit of mankind, particularly the importance of Antarctica to the global environment and *ecosystems*, as well as to act as an early-warning **system** on climate change and accidents, and **submit** a report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

"4/ United Nations, **Treaty Series**, vol. 402, No. 5778.

"5/ A/45/548 and 549.

"6. **Urges** all States Members of the United Nations to co-operate with the Secretary-General and to continue consultations on all aspects relating to Antarctica;

"7. **Also requests** the **Secretary-General** to submit a report on his evaluation of all aspects of Antarctica to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth **session**;

"8. **Decides** to **include** in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled 'Question of **Antarctica**'."

6. At the 43rd meeting, on 21 November, **Malaysia**, on behalf of the co-sponsors, who were joined later by **Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Philippines, Senegal** and the **United Republic of Tanzania**, introduced and orally revised the draft resolution (A/C.1/45/L.63/Rev.1) as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 4 was deleted and subsequent paragraphs renumbered;

(b) In operative paragraph 6 "programmes **and specialized**" was added after "of relevant United Nations", and "**using** available data and resources" was added after "**United Nations Environment Programme**";

(c) In operative paragraph 8, "using available data and resources" was added after "**to** submit a report".

The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the item entitled "Question of Antarctica",

"Recalling its resolutions **38/77** of 15 December 1983, **39/152** of 17 December 1984, **40/156** A and B of 16 December 1985, **41/88** A and B of 4 December 1986, **42/46** A and B of 30 November 1987, **43/83** A and B of 7 December 1988 and **44/124** A and B of 15 December 1989,

"R calling also the relevant paragraphs of the final documents adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or **Government** of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, **1/** the second meeting of States of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic, held at Abuja from 25 to 29 June 1990, **2/** and the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Cairo from 31 July to 5 August 1990, **3/**

"1/ A/44/551-5/20870, annex.

"2/ See A/45/474, annex.

"3/ See A/45/421-5/21797.

/...

"Taking into account the debates on this item held since its thirty-eighth session,

"Reaffirming the principle that the international community is entitled to information covering all aspects of Antarctica and that the United Nations should be made the repository for all such information in accordance with General Assembly resolutions **41/88 A**, **42/46 B**, **43/83 A** and **44/124 B**,

"Conscious of the particular significance of Antarctica to the international community, **inter alia**, in terms of international peace and security, environment, its effects on global climatic conditions, economy and scientific research,

"Conscious also of the interrelationship between Antarctica and the physical, chemical and biological processes that regulate the total Earth system,

"Welcoming the increasing recognition of the significant impact that Antarctica **exerts** on the global environment and **ecosystems** and the need for a comprehensive agreement on the protection and conservation of the Antarctica environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems,

"Sharing the concern over the environmental degradation of Antarctica and its impact on global environment **expressed** at the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Nairobi from 6 to 31 August 1990,

"Welcoming the increasing support for the establishment of Antarctica as a nature **reserve** or world park to ensure the protection and conservation of its environment and its dependent and associated **ecosystems** for the benefit of all mankind,

"Welcoming also the **increasing** support within the international community for the banning of prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica,

"Welcoming the initiative taken by **some** Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties in promoting Antarctica as a nature reserve or world park and the banning of prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica,

"Welcoming the ongoing trend in acknowledging the need for internationally co-ordinated scientific research stations in Antarctica in order to minimise unnecessary duplication and logistical support facilities,

"Welcoming the increasing awareness of and **interest** in Antarctica shown by the international community, and convinced of the advantages to the whole of mankind of a better knowledge of Antarctica,

"Affirming its conviction that, in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue for ever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should not become the scene or object of international discord,

"Reaffirming that the management and use of Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international co-operation for the benefit of mankind as a whole,

"Convinced of the need to prevent or minimise any negative impact of human activity resulting from the large number of **scientific** stations and expeditions in Antarctica on the environment and its dependent and associated **ecosystems**,

"Taking into account all aspects pertaining to all areas covered by the Antarctic Treaty, **4/**

"Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Secretary-General **5/** on the question of Antarctica,

"1. Expresses its regret that despite the numerous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General or his representative has not been invited to the **meetings** of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties, including the special session of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting at Santiago from 19 November to 7 December 1990, and urges once again the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to invite the Secretary-General or his representative to their future **meetings**;

"2. Calls upon the Treaty Parties to deposit information and documents covering all aspects of Antarctica with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and requests the Secretary-General to **submit** a report on his evaluations thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth **session**;

"3. Expresses the conviction that any **move** to draw up a comprehensive environmental convention on the conservation and protection of Antarctica and its dependent and associated **ecosystems** as well as establishing a **nature** reserve or world park **must be negotiated** with the full participation of the international community, and in this regard stresses that this should be pursued within the context of **the** United Nations **system**, including the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

"4. Urges all members of the **international** community to support all efforts to ban prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica and to ensure that all activities should be exclusively used for the purpose of peaceful **scientific** investigation and that all such activities should ensure the maintenance of international peace and security in Antarctica and the protection of its environment and should be for the benefit of all mankind;

"4/ United Nations, **Treaty Series**, vol. 402, No. 5770.

"5/ A/45/548 and A/45/549.

"5. **Requests** the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive study with the help of relevant United Nations programmes and **specialized** agencies such **as** the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, using available data and resources, on the establishment **of** a United Nations-sponsored station in Antarctica with a view to promoting **co-ordinated** international co-operation in scientific **research** for the benefit **of** mankind, particularly the importance **of** Antarctica to the global environment and **ecosystems**, as well as to act as an early-warning system **on** climate change and accidents, and **submit** a report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

"6. **Urges** all States Members of the United Nations to co-operate with the Secretary-General and to continue consultations on all aspects relating to Antarctica¹

"7. **Also requests** the Secretary-General to **submit** a report, using available data and resources, **on** the state **of** the environment **in** Antarctica and its impact on the global **system** to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

"8. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled 'Question of Antarctica'.*'

7. At the 47th meeting, on 28 November, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement concerning the programme budget implications of the resolution (see **A/C.1/45/PV.47**).

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.63/Rev.2** by a roll-call vote of 75 to none, with 8 abstentions (see **para. 12**, draft resolution **A**). The voting was as follows: **1/**

In favours Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, **Cameroon**, Congo, **Côte d'Ivoire**, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, **Maldives**, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, **Morocco**, Mozambique, **Myanmar**, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia,

1/ The following 43 States announced that they were not participating in the vote : Argentina, **Australia**, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, **Netherlands**, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Romania, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Union **of** Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Viet **Nam**.

Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, **Swaziland**, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of **Tanzania**, Vanuatu, **Yemen**, Yugoslavia, Zambia, **Zimbabwe**.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Fiji, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Portugal, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, **Venezuela**.

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/45/L.64 and Rev.1

9. On 19 November 1990, **Tunisia**, on behalf of the States members of the Group of African States, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Question of **Antarctica**" (A/C.1/45/L.64), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions **43/83 B** of 7 December 1988 and **44/124** of 15 December 1989,

"Having considered the item entitled 'Question of Antarctica',

"Noting with regret that the racist **apartheid régime** of South Africa, which has been suspended from participation in the General Assembly of the United Nations, has continued to participate in the meetings of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties,

"R calling the resolution adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its fiftieth ordinary session, held at **Addis Ababa** from 17 to 22 July 1989, **1/**

"Recalling also the relevant paragraphs of the final documents adopted by the Ninth **Conference** of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, **2/**

"Recalling further that the Antarctic Treaty **3/** is, by its terms, intended to further the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

"1/ See A/44/603, annex I.

"2/ A/44/551-8/20670, annex.

"3/ United Nations, **Treaty Series**, vol. 402, No. 5778.

"**Noting** that the policy of **apartheid practised** by the racist minority régime of South Africa, which has been universally **condemned**, **constitutes a** threat to regional and international peace and security,

"1. **Views with concern** the **continuing** participation of the **apartheid régime** of South Africa in the meetings of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties ;

"2. **Appeals once again** to the Antarctic **Treaty** Consultative **Parties** to take **urgent** measures to exclude the racist **apartheid régime** of South Africa from participation in the meetings of the Consultative Parties at the earliest possible date;

"3. **Takes note** of the report of **the Secretary-General 4/** and expresses deep concern that the **Antarctic** Treaty Consultative Parties have **consistently** failed to respond to the repeated request by the **General** Assembly, through the Co-ordinator State, to submit information **on** the **measures** taken by the said parties in accordance with paragraph 2 of the present resolution;

"4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to submit a report in this regard to the General **Assembly** at its forty-sixth session, taking into account the **concerns** expressed in paragraph 3 of the present resolution;

"5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled 'Question of Antarctica'."

"1/ A/45/458. "

10. At the 47th meeting, on 26 November, **the representative of Tunisia** introduced draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.64/Rev.1** and orally revised **it** by replacing operative paragraph 3, which read:

3. **Invites** the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to inform the **Secretary-General** of the measures taken regarding **the** provisions of the present **resolution**;

by the following text:

3. **Appeals once again** to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to take **urgent measures** to exclude the racist **apartheid régime** from participation in the meetings of the Consultative **Parties** at the earliest possible date, **and** invites them to inform the Secretary-General **of** the measures taken regarding the provisions of the present resolution.

11. **At** the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.64/Rev.1**, as orally revised, by A roll-call vote of **84** to none, with 6 abstentions (see para. 12, draft resolution **B**). The voting was as follows **2/**

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, **Brazil**, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina **Faso**, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Congo, **Côte d'Ivoire**, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, **Egypt**, **Ethiopia**, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, **India**, Indonesia, **Iran (Islamic Republic of)**, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, **Madagascar**, **Malaysia**, **Maldives**, Mali, Mexico, **Mongolia**, Morocco, Mozambique, **Myanmar**, Namibia, Nepal, **Nicaragua**, **Nigeria**, Oman, **Pakistan**, Peru, Philippines, **Qatar**, **Saudi Arabia**, **Senegal**, **Sierra Leone**, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, **Sudan**, Suriname, **Swaziland**, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of **Tanzania**, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet **Nam**, Yemen, Yugoslavia, **Zambia**, **Zimbabwe**.

Against: **None.**

Abstaining: Ireland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Mauritius, Portugal, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

2/ The following 35 States announced that they were not participating in the vote: **Argentina**, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, **Byelorussian** Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, **Denmark**, Finland, France, **Germany**, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Romania, **Solomon** Islands, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

/...

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

12. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft **resolutions**:

Question of Antarctica

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Question of Antarctica",

Recalling its resolutions **38/77** of 15 December 1983, **39/152** of 17 December **1984**, 401156 A and B of 16 December 1985, **41/88** A and B of 4 December 1986, **42/46** A and B of 30 November 1987, **43/83** A and B of 7 December 1988 and **44/124** A and B of 15 December 1989,

Recalling also the relevant **paragraphs** of the final documents adopted **by the** Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, **3/** the second meeting of States **of the Zone of Peace** and Co-operation of the South Atlantic, held at Abuja, Nigeria, from 25 to 29 June 1990, **4/** and the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign **Ministers**, held at Cairo from 31 July to 5 August 1990, **5/**

Taking into account the debates **on** this item held since its thirty-eighth session,

Reaffirming the principle that the international community is entitled to information covering all aspects of Antarctica and that the United Nations should be made the repository for all such information in accordance with General Assembly resolutions **41/88** A, **42/46** B, **43/83** A and **44/124** B,

Conscious of the particular significance of Antarctica to the international community, inter alia, in terms of international peace and security, environment, its effects on global climatic conditions, economy and scientific **research**,

Conscious also of the interrelationship between Antarctica and the physical, chemical and biological processes that **regulate** the total Earth **system**,

3/ A/44/551-S/20870, annex.

4/ See A/45/474, annex.

5/ See A/45/421-5/21797.

Welcoming the increasing recognition of the significant impact that Antarctica exerts on the global environment and ecosystems and the need for a comprehensive agreement on the protection and conservation of the Antarctic environment and its dependent and associated **ecosystems**,

Sharing the concern over the environmental degradation of Antarctica and its impact on global environment expressed at the first **substantive** session of the Preparatory Committee for the **United Nations Conference on Environment and Development**, held ~~at~~ Nairobi from 6 to 31 August 1990,

Welcoming the increasing support for the establishment of Antarctica as a nature reserve or world park to ensure the protection and conservation of its environment and its dependent and associated **ecosystems** for the benefit **of** all mankind,

Welcoming also the increasing support within the international **community** for the banning of prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica,

Welcoming the initiative taken by **some** Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties in promoting Antarctica as a nature reserve or world park and the banning of **prospecting** and mining in and around Antarctica,

Welcoming the ongoing trend in acknowledging the need for internationally **co-ordinated** scientific research stations in Antarctica in **order** to **minimize** unnecessary duplication and **logistical** support facilities,

Welcoming the increasing awareness of and interest in Antarctica shown by the international community, and convinced of the advantages to the whole of mankind of a better knowledge **of** Antarctica,

Affirming its conviction that, in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue for ever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should **not** become the scene or object of international discord,

Reaffirming that the management and use **of** Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations **and** in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international co-operation for the benefit of mankind as a whole,

Convinced of the need to prevent or minimise any negative impact **of** human activity resulting **from** the large number **of** scientific stations and expeditions in Antarctica on the environment and its dependent and associated **ecosystems**,

Taking into account all aspects pertaining to all areas covered by the Antarctic Treaty, **6/**

6/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 402, No. 5776.

Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Secretary-General on the question of Antarctica, ^{1/}

1. Expresses its regret that, despite the numerous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General or his representative has not **been invited to the** meetings of the **Antarctic** Treaty Consultative Parties, including the special session **of** the Antarctic Treaty Consultative **Meeting** at Santiago from 19 November to 7 December 1990, **and** urges once again the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to invite the Secretary-General or **his** representative to **their** future **meetings**;

2. Calls upon the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to deposit information and documents covering all aspects of Antarctica **with** the Secretary-General of the United Nations and **requests** the Secretary-General to **submit** a report on his evaluations thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth **session**;

3. Expresses the conviction that any **move** to draw up a comprehensive environmental convention on the **conservation** and protection of Antarctica and its dependent and associated ecosystems as well **as** establishing a nature reserve or world park must be negotiated with the full participation of the international **community**, and in this regard stresses that this should be pursued **within** the context of the United Nations **system**, including the United Nations Conference on **Environment and Development**;

4. Urges all members of the **international** community to support all efforts to ban prospecting and **mining** in and around **Antarctica** and to ensure that all activities are used exclusively for the purpose of peaceful **scientific** investigation and that all such activities ensure the **maintenance** of international peace **and** security in Antarctica and the protection of its environment and **are for** the benefit of all mankind)

5. Requests the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive study with the help of relevant United Nations programmes and **specialized** agencies such as the World Meteorological Organisation and the United Nations Environment Programme, using available data and resources, on **the** establishment of a United Nations-sponsored station in Antarctica with a view to promoting **co-ordinated** international co-operation in **scientific** research for the benefit of mankind, particularly the importance of Antarctica to the global environment and **ecosystems**, **as well as** to act as an **early-warning system** on **climate** change and accidents, and **submit** a report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

6. Urges all States Members of the United Nations to co-operate with the Secretary-General and to continue consultations on all aspects relating to Antarctica;

^{1/} A/45/540 and A/45/549.

7. **Requests** the Secretary-General **to** submit a **report**, using available data **and resources**, on the state of the environment in Antarctica and its impact on the global system to the General Assembly **at** its forty-sixth session;

8. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Question **of** Antarctica".

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions **43/83 B** of 7 December 1988 and **44/124 A and B** of 15 December 1989,

Having considered the item entitled "Question of Antarctica",

Noting with regret that the racist **apartheid régime** of **South** Africa, which has been suspended from participation in the General Assembly of the United Nations, has continued to participate in the meetings **of** the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties,

Recalling the **resolution** adopted by the Council **of** Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity at its fiftieth ordinary session, held at **Addis Ababa** from 17 to 22 July 1989, **8/**

Recalling also the relevant paragraphs of the final documents adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, **9/**

Recalling further that the Antarctic Treaty **10/** is, by its terms, intended to further the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter **of** the United Nations,

Noting that the policy of **apartheid** practised by the racist minority **régime** of South Africa, which has been universally condemned, constitutes a threat to regional and international peace and security,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Secretary-General **11/** and expresses deep concern that no concrete measures have been taken in accordance with paragraph 2 **of** resolution **44/124 At**

8/ See A/44. 503, annex I.

9/ A/44/551-S/20870, annex,

10/ United Nations, **Treaty Series**, vol. 402, No. 5778.

11/ A/45/458.

2. **Views with concern** the continuing participation of the **apartheid régime** of South Africa **in** the meetings of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative **Parties**;

3. **Appeals once again** to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to take urgent **measures** to exclude the **racist apartheid** regime from participation in the meetings of the Consultative **Parties** at the earliest possible date, and invites them to inform the Secretary-General **of** the measures taken regarding the provisions of the present **resolution**;

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to submit **a** report in this regard to the General Assembly **at its forty-sixth** session, taking into account the concern expressed in **paragraph 1** of the present **resolution**;

5. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled *'Question **of** Antarctica".
