

(f) Interested intergovernmental organizations to be represented by observers at the Conference;

(g) Interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to be represented by observers at the Conference;

(h) Other interested non-governmental organizations that may have a specific contribution to make to the work of the Conference to be represented by observers at the Conference;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary arrangements are made for the effective participation in the Conference of representatives of the organizations referred to in paragraph 18 (b) and (c) above, including the requisite financial provisions for their travel expenses and daily subsistence allowances;

20. *Invites* the co-ordinating committee, to which reference is made in decision 8 (II) of 1 August 1980 of the Preparatory Committee,²⁵³ to play an active role in ensuring the effective implementation of the preparatory work programme of the Conference;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to mobilize further the assistance of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and other relevant services of the United Nations system in the implementation of the programme of information for the Conference to ensure world-wide awareness of the Conference and its objectives, particularly in the developing countries;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ascertain immediately the views of Member States concerning plans which have been drawn up for the organization of exhibitions-cum-demonstrations in the area of new and renewable sources of energy at Nairobi during the Conference and to keep in close touch with the Government of Kenya to ensure the best possible conditions for the exhibitions-cum-demonstrations;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the entire documentation for the Conference and its Preparatory Committee in all the working languages of the Conference is made available well in advance for consideration by Member States;

24. *Decides* that the languages of the Conference shall be those of the General Assembly and its Main Committees;

25. *Decides* to consider the results of the Conference at its thirty-sixth session.

*97th plenary meeting
16 December 1980*

35/205. United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned at the gravity of the deteriorating economic and social situation of the least developed countries and their dismal development during the past two decades, as well as at their bleak development prospects for the 1980s,

Also deeply concerned at the continued critical lack of basic infrastructure in the least developed countries,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 Sep-

tember 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also resolution 122 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,²⁵⁴ by which it endorsed, as one of its major priorities, a Comprehensive New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries in two phases: an Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981) and a Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s,

Recognizing that the primary responsibility for their development rests with the least developed countries themselves,

Recalling its resolution 34/210 of 19 December 1979, by which it endorsed the Comprehensive New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling also its resolution 34/203 of 19 December 1979, by which it decided to convene the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 1981,

Recalling further its resolution S-11/4 of 15 September 1980 on measures to meet the critical situation in the least developed countries,

Having considered the report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on its first and second sessions,²⁵⁵

Reaffirming that there is an immediate need for a greatly expanded increase in the transfer of resources to meet the critical needs of the least developed countries and to help promote their rapid and self-sustained socio-economic development,

Emphasizing the particular importance of the contribution that economic co-operation among developing countries can make, *inter alia*, to the development of the least developed among them,

Noting with appreciation that some developed countries have taken positive steps towards the implementation of resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Deeply concerned that, even more than one year after the adoption of the Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981), contained in resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, very limited progress has been made towards its implementation,

Recognizing the need for extensive public awareness throughout the world of the desperate plight of the least developed countries and the importance and objectives of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

I

1. *Urges* all developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so, multilateral development institutions and other sources to take urgent steps to implement without any further delay, and in any case before the end of 1981, the commitments undertaken in the Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981), contained in resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. *Urges* donor countries which have not yet done so to provide substantive information on the steps they

²⁵⁴ See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fifth Session*, vol. I, *Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.II.D.14), part one, sect. A.

²⁵⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/35/45)*.

are taking to implement the Immediate Action Programme;

3. *Urges* the least developed countries, to the extent of their possibilities, to submit information on the steps they are taking to implement the Immediate Action Programme;

4. *Also urges* donor countries to make equitable and all possible efforts with a view to doubling, at the earliest possible time within the first half of the 1980s, the flow of official development assistance to the least developed countries, in accordance with the commitments undertaken in paragraph 13 of resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and to give serious consideration to this end to the proposal that such a doubling should be in real terms, taking into account the relative performance of donor countries;

5. *Further urges* donor countries, in the context of the over-all increase of official development assistance, to give serious consideration, not later than at the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in 1981, to the proposals for further measures to provide an adequate minimum flow of official development assistance, including those proposals for tripling the net disbursement of concessional assistance by 1984 and quadrupling it by 1990, at 1977 prices, on a predictable, continuous and assured basis;

6. *Calls upon* all developed countries to provide official development assistance to the least developed countries, as a general rule in the form of grants, which, as a general rule, should be untied;

7. *Expresses satisfaction* at the readiness of other developing countries to take concrete measures to assist in meeting the development needs of the least developed countries on a priority basis and to give particular attention to the least developed countries, as an example of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries, and to make special efforts to ensure that all least developed countries can actively participate in and benefit from economic and technical co-operation among developing countries;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the concern of developed countries for the alleviation of the critical situation of the least developed countries;

9. *Urges* donor countries and multilateral development institutions to allocate increased financial resources and technical assistance in support of activities aimed at major structural transformations of the least developed countries, taking into account the relative over-all performance of the donor countries;

10. *Requests* multilateral development agencies, including international, interregional, regional and intergovernmental funds, to accord priority to the least developed countries in the programming and allocation of their resources;

11. *Urges* all developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so, multilateral development institutions and other sources to extend substantial assistance to the least developed countries for the development of their energy resources;

12. *Invites* all countries, as well as organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to accord due priority, in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,²⁵⁶ to the provisions relating to accelerated development of the least developed countries;

²⁵⁶ See resolution 35/56 above, annex.

II

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations put forward by the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at its second session,²⁵⁷ taking into account the views expressed by delegations at that session;

2. *Decides* that the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries shall be held from 1 to 14 September 1981, to be preceded by a two-day consultation among senior officials on 27 and 28 August 1981;

3. *Accepts with appreciation* the offer of the Government of France to act as host to the Conference, to be held in Paris;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite:

(a) All States to participate in the Conference;

(b) Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate, in the capacity of observers, in the sessions and the work of all international conferences convened under its auspices to participate in the Conference in that capacity, in accordance with Assembly resolutions 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and 31/152 of 20 December 1976;

(c) Representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity in its region to participate in the Conference in the capacity of observers, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974;

(d) Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia, to participate in the Conference in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 32/9 E of 4 November 1977;

(e) The specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as interested organs of the United Nations, to be represented at the Conference;

(f) Intergovernmental bodies in consultative status with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to be represented by observers at the Conference;

(g) Non-governmental organizations in consultative status (general category) with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Economic and Social Council to be represented by observers at the Conference;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure effective participation of representatives of the least developed countries in the Conference by seeking extrabudgetary funds to finance travel expenses of three representatives from each least developed country;

6. *Decides* that the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference shall be held at Geneva from 29 June to 10 July 1981;

7. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee to consider and finalize the draft agenda and draft rules of procedure for the Conference during its third session and to submit them to the Conference;

8. *Requests* the least developed countries to submit their individual country presentations to the Conference secretariat not later than 1 March 1981, since they are of crucial importance to the success of the Conference;

²⁵⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/35/45), part two, annex I.*

9. *Calls upon* the international community and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take all necessary measures to contribute to the success of the Conference, the primary objective of which will be to finalize, adopt and support the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s, as called for in resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements to ensure the availability of all relevant documents, in all the official languages of the Conference, well in advance for timely consideration by Member States;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary arrangements for requisite financial provisions to the maximum extent possible within existing resources are made to ensure the success of the Conference, including the arrangements for pre-Conference consultations, as envisaged in paragraph 2 of the present section;

12. *Decides* that the official languages of the Conference and its committees shall be those of the General Assembly and its Main Committees;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in pursuance of paragraph 8 of its resolution 34/203, to entrust the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation with the responsibility for taking necessary steps, with the collaboration of the Secretary-General of the Conference, to ensure the full mobilization and co-ordination of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the preparations for the Conference;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to provide, using, *inter alia*, existing resources to the extent possible, appropriate assistance, including technical assistance, to the least developed countries, at their request and in accordance with established procedures, in their preparations for the Conference at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

15. *Invites* the Governments in a position to do so to provide similar assistance;

16. *Urges* donor countries to provide assistance bilaterally or through appropriate multilateral channels such as the United Nations Development Programme, the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund, in response to requests from the least developed countries for immediate additional financial support for detailed preparations of the country programmes and other preparations for the Substantial New Programme

of Action for the 1980s, including identification of obstacles to planning and steps to correct them, a survey of resources, feasibility studies and investment projects, as envisaged in paragraph 3 (c) of resolution 122 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:

III

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to undertake a programme of public information activities designed to ensure awareness throughout the world of the importance of the Conference and its objectives, to the maximum extent possible within existing resources;

2. *Invites* Member States actively to promote public awareness of the Conference by disseminating relevant information, *inter alia*, to their mass communication media networks;

3. *Suggests* the exchange of high-level national delegations in order to generate public awareness with regard to the critical situation of the least developed countries and the importance and objectives of the Conference;

4. *Expresses the view* that an international year of the least developed countries could focus the attention of the international community on the situation in those countries, without prejudice to paragraph 10 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on guidelines for future international years, as adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Postal Administration to issue special stamps commemorating the Conference;

6. *Invites* Member States to consider issuing special national stamps of a commemorative nature on the Conference;

IV

Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session a report on the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and on the progress made in the implementation of the Immediate Action Programme (1979-1981).

97th plenary meeting
16 December 1980