

1. *Takes note with interest* of the draft World Charter for Nature,¹¹ which proposes principles of conservation arising out of the conviction that any act of man affecting nature must be guided and judged;

2. *Solemnly invites* Member States, in the exercise of their permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, to conduct their activities in recognition of the supreme importance of protecting natural systems, maintaining the balance and quality of nature and conserving natural resources, in the interests of present and future generations;

3. *Invites* Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and observations on the draft World Charter for Nature and the efforts they are making in the conservation and protection of nature;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the views and observations of Member States to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session and to formulate on the basis of the replies received, in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, appropriate recommendations with a view to the adoption of a world charter for nature;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session an item entitled "Draft World Charter for Nature: report of the Secretary-General".

*49th plenary meeting
30 October 1980*

35/8. Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations",

Conscious of the disastrous consequences which a war involving the use of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction would have on man and his environment,

Noting that the continuation of the arms race, including the testing of various types of weapons, especially nuclear weapons, and the accumulation of toxic chemicals are adversely affecting the human environment and damaging the vegetable and animal world,

Bearing in mind that the arms race is diverting material and intellectual resources from the solution of the urgent problems of preserving nature,

Attaching great importance to the development of planned, constructive international co-operation in solving the problems of preserving nature,

Recognizing that the prospects for solving problems so universal as the preservation of nature are closely linked to the strengthening and development of international détente and the creation of conditions which would banish war from the life of mankind,

Noting with satisfaction the drafting and signature in recent years of a number of international agreements designed to preserve the environment,

Determined to preserve nature as a prerequisite for the normal life of man,

1. *Proclaims* the historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations;

2. *Draws the attention* of States to the fact that the continuing arms race has pernicious effects on the environment and reduces the prospects for the necessary international co-operation in preserving nature on our planet;

3. *Calls upon* States, in the interests of present and future generations, to demonstrate due concern and take the measures, including legislative measures, necessary for preserving nature, and also to promote international co-operation in this field;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the co-operation of the United Nations Environment Programme, to prepare a report on the pernicious effects of the arms race on nature and to seek the views of States on possible measures to be taken at the international level for the preservation of nature;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session an item entitled "Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations: report of the Secretary-General".

*49th plenary meeting
30 October 1980*

35/17. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the General Assembly for the year 1979,¹²

Taking note of the statement of the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency of 6 November 1980,¹³ which provides additional information on developments in the Agency's activities during 1980,

Bearing in mind the urgent need to develop all sources of energy, with a view to helping both developing and industrialized countries to mitigate the effects of the energy crisis, and conscious of the fact that nuclear energy remains the main readily available alternative to fossil fuel for the generation of electric power in the coming decades,

Recognizing the importance of enhancing the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the promotion of the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Considering that the International Atomic Energy Agency will be called upon to play an increasingly important role in making the benefits of nuclear power available to all nations, in particular the developing countries,

Conscious of the continuing need to protect mankind from the perils resulting from the misuse of nuclear energy and noting with appreciation in this connexion the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the implementation of the relevant provisions

¹¹Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 113, document A/35/141, annex II

¹²International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 1979* (Austria, July 1980); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note of the Secretary-General (A/35/365).

¹³Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session Plenary Meetings, 52nd meeting, paras. 2-45.