

(a) The inclusion of reference to the United Republic of Tanzania in the terms of reference of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in order to enable that country to receive assistance in the implementation of programmes for combating desertification;

(b) The expansion of the scope of the work of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office so as to enable it to assist the States members of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference in implementing the recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme on combating desertification and drought, in the same way as the Office is currently assisting the States members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel;

10. *Urges* all Governments to increase their assistance, *inter alia*, by financing regional and subregional programmes, through appropriate channels, including the Special Account created under General Assembly resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, to countries suffering from desertification;

11. *Endorses* the decision of the Governing Council in paragraph 28 of its decision 12/10³² that a further overall assessment of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification should be carried out in 1992.

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1984*

B

IMPLEMENTATION IN THE SUDANO-SAHELIAN REGION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

The General Assembly.

Recalling its resolutions 36/190 of 17 December 1981, 37/216 of 20 December 1982 and 38/164 of 19 December 1983,

Taking note of decision 12/10 of 28 May 1984 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme³² on desertification,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/65 of 26 July 1984 on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and 1984/72 of 27 July 1984 on the environment and development in Africa,

Taking note also of the inclusion of Ghana and Togo in the list of countries to be covered by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office under the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,²⁸

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,³³

Bearing in mind the special review undertaken by the Governing Council of the progress made in implementing the Plan of Action, based, *inter alia*, on the general assessment by the Executive Director of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action during the period 1978-1984,³⁰ and on the document on the assessment of desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region,³⁴

Aware that the prime responsibility in the struggle against desertification and the effects of drought rests upon

the countries concerned, and noting the efforts of those countries to combat desertification and drought,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

2. *Notes with concern:*

(a) That the persistent drought in the Sahel has intensified and spread into other parts of Africa, assuming the catastrophic proportions of a generalized drought;

(b) That the inadequacy of financial resources continues to place a serious constraint on the fight against desertification;

(c) That struggle against desertification requires financial and human resources beyond the means of the affected countries;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* of the progress made towards overcoming these obstacles by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme, as part of a joint action by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme to assist the Governments of the region in combating desertification;

4. *Expresses its appreciation also* for the efficient and co-ordinated manner in which the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme have continued to develop this joint action through the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office;

5. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to continue to provide and increase their support to the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in order to enable it to respond fully to the urgent needs of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region;

6. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Governments, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental organizations and other organizations which have contributed to the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to redouble the efforts in order to implement in the Sudano-Sahelian region the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and urges all Governments to respond favourably to the requests submitted by the Governments of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region for assistance in combating desertification;

8. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to make the necessary arrangements at each session for submitting a report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification.

*103rd plenary meeting
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39/169. Living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories

The General Assembly.

Recalling the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976,³⁵ and the relevant recommendations for

³³ A/39/433, annex II.

³⁴ UNEP/GC.12/INF.3 and Corr.1.

³⁵ Report of Habitat, United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum), chap. I.

national action³⁶ adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.

Recalling also its resolution 38/166 of 19 December 1983,

Gravely alarmed by the continuation of the Israeli settlement policies, which have been declared null and void and a major obstacle to peace,

Recognizing the need to investigate ways and means of arresting the deterioration in the economy of the occupied Palestinian territories,

1. *Takes note with concern* of the report of the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories;³⁷

2. *Takes note also* of the statement made on 29 October 1984 by the Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization;³⁸

3. *Rejects* the Israeli plans and actions intended to change the demographic composition of the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly the increase and expansion of the Israeli settlements, and other plans and actions creating conditions leading to the displacement and exodus of Palestinians from the occupied Palestinian territories;

4. *Expresses its alarm* at the deterioration, as a result of the Israeli occupation, in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967;

5. *Affirms* that the Israeli occupation is contradictory to the basic requirements for the social and economic development of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To organize, in 1985, a seminar on remedies for the deterioration of the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories;

(b) To make the necessary preparations for the seminar providing for the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization;

(c) To invite experts to present papers to the seminar;

(d) To invite also relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(e) To report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the seminar.

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39/170. Human settlements

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The General Assembly,

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 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also its resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977 on institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements and 34/116 of 14 December 1979 on the strengthening of human settlements activities,

Seriously concerned at the continued low level of voluntary contributions being made available to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in support of the human settlements activities of the United Nations.

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/57 A of 26 July 1984 on international co-operation in the field of human settlements,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventh session,³⁹

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventh session and the resolutions contained therein;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and others which have made voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in support of the work of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and commends in particular those which have done so on a regular basis;

3. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, particularly those of the developed countries, to begin making regular voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation of the Centre, if they have not already done so, and, if they have, to consider increasing the amount of their contributions.

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17 December 1984*

B

CO-ORDINATION OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMMES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 35/77 C of 5 December 1980, in which it invited the Secretary-General to arrange, in consultation with the members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to participate in all aspects of the work of that Committee and its subsidiary machinery,

Recalling its resolution 37/223 C of 20 December 1982, in which it requested the Secretary-General to accelerate his efforts in arranging for such participation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session,

Recalling also its resolution 38/167 B of 19 December 1983 in which it took note of the report of the Secretary-General⁴⁰ summarizing decision 1983/18 of 27 October 1983 of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, which decision it noted did not completely meet the requirement of its earlier resolutions 35/77 C and 37/223 C, and requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session on the implementation of its resolutions on the question,

³⁶ *Ibid.*, chap. II.

³⁷ A/39/233-E/1984/79.

³⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Second Committee, 26th meeting, paras. 51-55*

³⁹ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/39/8)*.

⁴⁰ A/38/548.