

consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding are in conformity with the Convention;

3. *Reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention;

4. *Recalls* its decision to fund the budget for the administrative expenses of the International Seabed Authority initially from the regular budget of the United Nations, in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement;¹⁰⁷

5. *Approves* the provision by the Secretary-General of such services as may be required for the two meetings of the Authority to be held in 1997, from 17 to 28 March and from 18 to 29 August;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the Meetings of States Parties to the Convention from 10 to 14 March and from 19 to 23 May 1997;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made in the establishment of the institutions created by the Convention, requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance to those institutions, and invites the Secretary-General to take steps to conclude relationship agreements between the United Nations and the Authority, and between the United Nations and the Tribunal, to be applied provisionally pending the approval of the General Assembly and as appropriate by the Assembly of the Authority or the States parties to the Convention;

8. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to consider making a written declaration choosing from the means set out in article 287 of the Convention for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual comprehensive report on the law of the sea¹⁰⁸ and the activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the mandate set forth in resolution 49/28;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of ensuring the uniform and consistent application of the Convention and a coordinated approach to its overall implementation, and of strengthening technical cooperation and financial assistance for this purpose, stresses once again the continuing importance of the efforts of the Secretary-General to these ends, and reiterates its invitation to the competent international organizations and other international bodies to support these objectives;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the institutional capacity of the Organization adequately responds to the needs of States, the newly established institutions and other competent international organizations by providing

advice and assistance, taking into account the special needs of developing countries;

12. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the further development of the fellowship programme on the law of the sea and training and educational activities on the law of the sea and ocean affairs established by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/116 of 10 December 1980, as well as advisory services and assistance in support of effective implementation of the Convention;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to further strengthen the existing system for the collection, compilation and dissemination of information on the law of the sea and related matters and to further develop, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, a centralized system for providing coordinated information and advice;

14. *Reaffirms* its decision to undertake an annual review and evaluation of the implementation of the Convention and other developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea;

15. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on the impact of the entry into force of the Convention on related existing and proposed instruments and programmes throughout the United Nations system, for submission to the Assembly at its fifty-second session, and calls upon competent international organizations and other international bodies to cooperate in the preparation of the report;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, including other developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, in connection with his annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session an item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

*77th plenary meeting
9 December 1996*

51/35. Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/192 of 22 December 1992, concerning the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and 50/24 of 5 December 1995, concerning the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982

¹⁰⁷ See resolution 48/263, para. 8; and *ibid.*, annex: Annex to the Agreement, sect. 1, para. 14.

¹⁰⁸ A/51/645.

relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks,¹⁰⁹

Recalling also resolutions I and II adopted by the Conference,¹¹⁰

Noting the opening for signature of the Agreement on 4 December 1995,

Recognizing the importance of the Agreement for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and the need for the regular consideration and review of developments relating thereto,

Recognizing also the importance of artisanal and subsistence fishers,

Noting with appreciation the information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, international organizations, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations in accordance with resolution 50/24,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹¹¹

1. *Recognizes* the significance of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks¹⁰⁹ as an important contribution to ensuring the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of the early entry into force and effective implementation of the Agreement;

3. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement that have not done so to ratify or accede to it and to consider applying it provisionally;

4. *Takes note with concern* that many commercially important straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks have been subject to heavy and little-regulated fishing efforts and that some stocks continue to be overfished;

5. *Welcomes* the fact that a growing number of States and other entities, as well as regional and subregional fishery management organizations and arrangements, have adopted legislation, established regulations or taken other measures to implement the provisions in the Agreement, and urges them to enforce those measures fully;

6. *Calls upon* States and other entities and regional and subregional fishery management organizations and

arrangements that have not done so to consider taking measures to implement the provisions of the Agreement;

7. *Urges* States, relevant specialized agencies, international organizations, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations that have not yet done so to provide information to the Secretary-General to ensure as comprehensive a report as possible;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and biennially thereafter on further developments relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including the status and implementation of the Agreement, taking into account information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, as well as other relevant intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that reporting on all major fishery-related activities and instruments is effectively coordinated and duplication of activities and reporting minimized, and that relevant scientific and technical studies are disseminated to the international community, and invites the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as regional and subregional fishery organizations and arrangements, to cooperate with the Secretary-General to that end;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session, under an item entitled "Oceans and law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks".

*77th plenary meeting
9 December 1996*

51/36. Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing; unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction; and fisheries by-catch and discards

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/215 of 20 December 1991, 49/116 and 49/118 of 19 December 1994 as well as other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming also its resolution 50/25 of 5 December 1995 on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, and fisheries by-catch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources,

¹⁰⁹ A/CONF.164/37; see also A/50/550, annex I.

¹¹⁰ A/CONF.164/38, annex; see also A/50/550, annex II.

¹¹¹ A/51/383.