

the environment,¹¹² and requested the Governing Council to ensure its completion,

Taking note of resolution 32 of 19 August 1976 of the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, regarding compensation for the material remnants of war,¹¹³

Recalling also decisions 80 (IV) of 9 April 1976¹¹⁴ and 101 (V) of 25 May 1977¹¹⁵ of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Taking note also of resolution 26/11-P, concerning the right to compensation for the effects of wars and mines, adopted by the Eleventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Islamabad from 17 to 22 May 1980,¹¹⁶

Recognizing that most developing countries have been subjected to foreign occupation and exposed to wars waged by certain colonial Powers, thus incurring tremendous loss of life and property,

Recognizing also that the presence of material remnants of war, particularly mines, on the territories of certain developing countries seriously impedes their development efforts and entails loss of life and property,

Convinced that the removal of those remnants of war should be the responsibility of the countries that implanted them and should be carried out at their expense,

1. *Regrets* that no real action has been taken to solve the problem despite the various resolutions and decisions adopted by both the General Assembly and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

2. *Calls upon* those States which took part in those wars to make available forthwith to the affected States all information on the areas in which such mines were placed, including maps indicating the position of those areas, and information concerning the types of mines;

3. *Supports* the demand of the States affected by the implantation of mines on their lands for compensation for the losses incurred from the States which planted the mines;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult with the States concerned to find ways and means, including the possibility of convening a conference under the auspices of the United Nations, for solving the problem of material remnants of war, particularly mines, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session on the steps taken towards the implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions and decisions and on the obstacles he has faced in that regard.

*83rd plenary meeting
5 December 1980*

35/72. Implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/170 of 10 December 1977, 32/172 of 19 December 1977, 33/88 and 33/89 of

¹¹² A/31/210.

¹¹³ See A/31/197.

¹¹⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25)*, annex I.

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/32/25)*, annex I.

¹¹⁶ See A/35/419-S/14129, annex I.

15 December 1978 and 34/184, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979,

Recalling also section II of Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/37 of 21 July 1978 and Council resolutions 1979/51 of 2 August 1979 and 1980/52 of 23 July 1980,

Noting decision 8/17 of 29 April 1980 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme¹¹⁷ and decision 80/45 of 30 June 1980 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,¹¹⁸

Having considered:

(a) 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,¹¹⁹

(b) The report of the Secretary-General on the restoration and improvement of the Fouta-Djallon massif,¹²⁰

Reiterating its concern over the particular seriousness of desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region and the severe effects on the region's economic and social development and on the way of life of its population, as well as the need for the implementation in the region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification on an intensified and sustained basis,

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 and the report of the Secretary-General on the restoration and improvement of the Fouta-Djallon massif;

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the progress made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in assisting the Governments of the region, under a joint venture of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme, in implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

3. *Commends* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme for the effective and co-ordinated manner in which they have continued to support the joint venture;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the addition of Djibouti, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau to the list of countries to be assisted by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in their efforts to implement the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, and the inclusion of the pilot project for the improvement and restoration of the Fouta-Djallon massif within the programme of action of the United Nations Environment Programme against desertification;

5. *Invites* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to examine at its next session the possibility of including Benin in the list of countries which receive assistance, through the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, in implementing in the Sudano-Sahelian region the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and to report on this matter to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

¹¹⁷ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/35/25)*, annex I.

¹¹⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 12 (E/1980/42/Rev.1)*, chap. XI.

¹¹⁹ A/35/411, annex, sect. III.

¹²⁰ A/35/368.

6. *Also notes with satisfaction* the decisions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to expand and strengthen their support to the joint venture and invites them to continue their support so that the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office may carry out its expanded responsibilities at a level commensurate with the pressing needs of the region;

7. *Urges* all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental bodies, private organizations and individuals to respond favourably, bilaterally or through the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office or any other intermediary, to requests from the Governments concerned of the region for assistance in combating desertification;

8. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the inclusion of the programmes of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office among those considered at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities and urges all Governments and donor organizations to consider contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities;

9. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to report annually 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.

83rd plenary meeting
5 December 1980

35/73. Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

The General Assembly.

Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, in which it approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,¹²¹ and its resolutions 33/88 and 33/89 of 15 December 1978 and 34/184, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979, dealing with various aspects of the implementation of the Plan of Action,

Taking note of the relevant sections of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighth session¹²² and Governing Council decision 8/17 of 29 April 1980¹²³ on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,¹²⁴ the report on financing the Plan of Action, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Governing Council,¹²⁵ the study on the same subject prepared by a group of high-level specialists in international financing convened by the Executive Director of the Programme, as called for in General Assembly resolution 34/184,¹²⁶ and the report of the Secretary-General on the restoration and improvement of the Fouta-Djallon massif,¹²⁷

1. *Notes with concern* the findings of the analysis made by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme¹²⁸ of the constraints on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, particularly the problem of insufficient financing and the increasing demands on the scarce resources of countries suffering from desertification;

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the decision by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to include pilot projects for the development and restoration of the Fouta-Djallon massif in the programme to combat desertification, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/185, and of the initiatives taken by the Executive Director of the Programme for the implementation of those projects;

3. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the initiatives taken by the United Nations Environment Programme in seeking to overcome those constraints through its coordinating and catalytic role in the United Nations system, its role in seeking additional means and measures for financing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, the convening by its Executive Director of the Consultative Group for Desertification Control, and efforts by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, on its own behalf and as a joint venture with the Programme, in combating desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region, and invites the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to extend their full co-operation to the Programme in its task of ensuring the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

4. *Invites* the Governments of countries affected by desertification to continue to give priority, as far as possible, to desertification-control projects in their development plans and in their requests for multilateral and bilateral financial support;

5. *Strongly appeals* to international financial institutions, multilateral financial institutions and Governments of industrialized countries, and of those developing countries in a position to do so, to give their financial support and contribute generously to the Special Account, with a view to enhancing the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

6. *Urges* the Consultative Group for Desertification Control to develop its work further, in order to ensure the availability of the financial resources required for the implementation of the projects supported by it;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General and the study annexed thereto of the group of high-level specialists on additional measures for financing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to draw the attention of donor Governments and international organizations concerned to the continuous threat of desert encroachment and to the meagre resources available for combating desertification and further requests him to mobilize the international community with a view to implementing speedily the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To prepare, in consultation with the United Nations Environment Programme and with the assistance of similar groups of experts on the subjects concerned to be convened by the Executive Director of the Programme;

¹²⁸ See A/35/411, annex, sect. IV.

¹²¹ A/CONF.74/36, chap. I.

¹²² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/35/25).

¹²³ *Ibid.*, annex I.

¹²⁴ A/35/411, annex.

¹²⁵ A/35/396.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, annex.

¹²⁷ A/35/368.