

67 as recommended by the Governing Council and set forth in section II of the annex to the present resolution;

4. *Reiterates* its invitation to Governments to prepare thoroughly for the session of a special character and to participate therein at the highest political level, and specifically invites ministers dealing with the environment to participate in the session;

5. *Agrees* that there should be a special public information programme, along the lines indicated by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, which should to a large extent be financed from existing resources;

6. *Decides* that the present resolution should be implemented with due regard for the need for economy in respect of the preparations and arrangements for the session of a special character;

7. *Encourages* the participation of non-governmental organizations in the session of a special character, in accordance with the practices normally followed by the Governing Council.

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ANNEX

I. DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SESSION

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
3. Election of the President of the session.
4. Organizational and procedural matters:¹²⁵
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
 - (b) Election of officers other than the President.
5. Credentials of representatives.
6. Review of the major achievements in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Human Environment.
7. Future perspectives, action and international co-operation in the field of the environment, and major environmental trends to be addressed by the United Nations Environment Programme over the next ten years.
8. Adoption of the report of the session.
9. Closure of the session.

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL FOR THE SESSION

Rule 17 (Representation and credentials). Paragraph 2 of this rule shall read as follows:

"A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the session of a special character. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the session of a special character without delay."

Rule 18 (Elections):

(a) Paragraph 1 of this rule shall read as follows:

"At the commencement of the first meeting of the session of a special character, the Governing Council shall elect, for the duration of that session, a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur from among its members. Those officers shall constitute the Bureau of the Governing Council. The Bureau shall assist the President in the general conduct of business of the Governing Council. The Chairman of such sessional committees or working parties as may be established under rule 60 below shall be invited to participate in meetings of the Bureau."

¹²⁵ Statements in plenary meeting are expected to be made in accordance with decision 9/2 of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex I*).

(b) Paragraph 2 of this rule shall remain unchanged;

(c) Paragraph 3 of this rule shall be suspended for the duration of the session of a special character.

Rule 19 (Terms of office). This rule shall be suspended for the duration of the session of a special character.

Rule 31 (Quorum). This rule shall read as follows:

"The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to start when at least one third of the members of the session of a special character of the Governing Council are present. The presence of a majority of the members shall be required for any decision to be taken."

Rule 67 (Participation of States not members of the Governing Council). This rule shall be suspended for the duration of the session of a special character.

36/190. Implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/170 and 32/172 of 19 December 1977, 33/88 and 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/184, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979, and 35/72 and 35/73 of 5 December 1980,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/37 of 21 July 1978, 1979/51 of 2 August 1979, 1980/52 of 23 July 1980 and 1981/72 of 24 July 1981,

Noting decision 9/22 B of 26 May 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme¹²⁶ and decision 81/4 of 19 June 1981 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,¹²⁷

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,¹²⁸

Reiterating its concern over the severe effects of desertification, a major form of environmental degradation and an obstacle to development in fragile ecosystems, on the socio-economic development and the way of life of the people of the Sudano-Sahelian region, and emphasizing again the need to hasten the implementation in the region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,¹²⁹

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

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the addition of Benin to the list of countries to be assisted by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in the efforts to implement the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

4. *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 develop the joint venture through the instrumentality of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office;

¹²⁶ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr.1), annex I*.

¹²⁷ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 11 (E/1981/61/Rev.1), annex I*.

¹²⁸ A/36/144, annex.

¹²⁹ A/CONF.74/36, chap. 1.

5. *Takes note* of the decisions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme aimed at expanding and strengthening the joint venture and invites them to continue to intensify their support for the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in order to enable it to carry out its increased responsibilities at a level commensurate with the pressing needs of the countries of the region;

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

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

8. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to report annually, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification.

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36/191. Study on financing 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,¹²⁹ and its resolutions 33/88 and 33/89 of 15 December 1978, 34/184, 34/185 and 34/187 of 18 December 1979 and 35/72 and 35/73 of 5 December 1980, 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 ninth session¹³⁰ and Governing Council decisions 9/22 A and B of 26 May 1981¹³¹ on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

1. *Notes with concern* that the problem of insufficient financing and the increasing demands on the scarce resources of countries suffering from desertification are constraining the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General¹³² and the annex thereto which contains feasibility studies on and detailed modalities for financing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, prepared by a group of high-level specialists in international financing;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to obtain the views of Member States on the feasibility studies and concrete recommendations for the implementation of the additional measures of financing deemed practicable by the Secretary-General, and also on the modalities for obtaining financial resources, as described in paragraphs 13 to 17 of the report of the Secretary-General;

¹²⁹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr. 1).*

¹³¹ *Ibid.*, annex 1.

¹³² A/36/141.

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to obtain the views of Member States on the establishment of an independent corporation for the financing of desertification-control projects on the basis of the plan presented in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General and also to ascertain the views of Governments as to their interest in participating financially therein;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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36/192. International co-operation in the field of the environment

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its ninth session,¹³³ in particular annex II thereto,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 1981/51 of 22 July 1981 and 1981/73 of 24 July 1981 concerning, respectively, the interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development, and international co-operation in the field of the environment,

Taking into account the note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment,¹³⁴

Bearing in mind the importance which the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade¹³⁵ attaches to an ecologically sustainable development process and the need for further international co-operation in the field of the environment, and taking into account the fact that environmental considerations should be viewed in the context of national plans and priorities and development objectives of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

Welcoming the convening of an *Ad Hoc* Meeting of Senior Government Officials Expert in Environmental Law at Montevideo from 28 October to 6 November 1981,

Stressing the need for additional resources to be made available to the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme for the developing countries to deal with their most serious environmental problems, such as soil degradation and deforestation, which are examples of very severe deterioration of natural resources calling for particular attention,

Recognizing that environmental deficiencies generated by the conditions of underdevelopment pose grave problems and can best be remedied by accelerated development through the transfer of substantial quantities of financial and technical assistance as a supplement to the domestic effort of the developing countries and such timely assistance as may be required,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as adopted, on the work of its ninth session and the decisions adopted by the Governing Council at that session;¹³⁶

¹³³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr. 1).*

¹³⁴ A/36/142.

¹³⁵ Resolution 35/56, annex.

¹³⁶ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25 and Corr. 1), annex 1.*