

Economic Rights and Duties of States, to be convened for three weeks in 1985, to carry out the review mentioned in paragraph 1 above, and requests the Committee to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fortieth session;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, to be submitted to the *Ad Hoc* Committee in 1985.

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1984*

39/164. Report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development⁵ and General Assembly resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979.

Noting the forthcoming mid-decade review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action to be considered by the Intergovernmental Committee at its seventh session in the context of the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,⁶

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development on its sixth session⁷ and of Economic and Social Council decisions 1984/168 and 1984/169 of 25 July 1984;

2. *Supports* the initiatives of the Intergovernmental Committee with a view to strengthening its role and effectiveness and, in particular, its decision to adopt a selective approach that will enable it, at each of its sessions, to conduct deliberations of greater depth by selecting in advance themes for consideration;⁸

3. *Notes*, in this context, that information systems for science and technology for development have been selected as the theme for consideration at the seventh session of the Intergovernmental Committee in 1985 and that the two themes selected for the eighth session are mobilization of resources for science and technology for development for developing countries and technology applied to agricultural development and related development areas.⁹

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1984*

39/165. Critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa

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.

Gravely concerned at the dramatic deterioration in food and agricultural production in Africa, as a result of which there has been an alarming increase in the number of

people exposed to hunger, malnutrition and even starvation.

Recognizing the special emphasis placed upon food and agriculture and the undertaking and resolve of Africa to devote its scarce resources on a priority basis to the rehabilitation of food and agricultural production as reflected in and in accordance with the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa,¹⁰

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa,¹¹

Noting the exacerbation of Africa's food and agricultural crisis by the adverse impact of prolonged drought and accelerating desertification and, moreover, that the African countries have been hit by adverse external forces, including falling trade earnings resulting from the global economic recession, the worsening terms of trade and the debt crisis,

Convinced that the food and agricultural crisis in Africa has a long genesis and has been rendered more acute by natural factors, such as poor rainfall, widespread bush fires, unusually severe crop infestation, and epidemics of plant and animal diseases,

Welcoming the adoption, on 25 July 1984, by the Thirteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa, of the Harare Declaration on the food crisis in Africa, prepared by the African Ministers for Agriculture and Rural Development,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 38/159 of 19 December 1983, as well as all other relevant resolutions on the critical situation of food and agriculture in Africa, and calls for their immediate and effective implementation;

2. *Welcomes* the conclusions and recommendations of the World Food Council at its tenth ministerial session, held at Addis Ababa from 11 to 15 June 1984,¹² in particular those relating to the African region;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the encouraging response by the international community to the various appeals made for the alleviation of the present critical food supply situation in Africa;

4. *Welcomes* the unanimous adoption by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes on 8 November 1984 of a resolution on the food crisis in Africa,¹³ and calls for its full and prompt implementation;

5. *Urges* the international community, in view of the continued critical food supply situation in a large number of African countries, to sustain and increase its efforts to provide the additional food aid required on an emergency basis, as well as technical and other forms of assistance needed in that connection;

6. *Urges* the international community also to respond generously to the urgent need for agricultural inputs for the rehabilitation of agriculture and animal husbandry;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support efforts undertaken by African countries at the national, subregional and regional levels to increase food production through, *inter alia*, the provision, on a priority and long-term basis, of additional financial and technical assistance to Africa by organizations of the United Nations system, such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Development Programme and other organizations involved in the

⁵ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

⁶ Resolution 35/56, annex.

⁷ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/39/37).

⁸ *Ibid.*, annex, resolution 6 (VI), sect. I, para. 1.

⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 3.

¹⁰ A/S-11/14, annex I.

¹¹ A/39/270-E/1984.97.

¹² See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/39/19), part one.

¹³ WFP/CFA: 18/18 Add.1, para. 34.