

development of the developing countries and could contribute to the well-being and prosperity of all,

Convinced of the necessity rapidly to eradicate colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and all forms of racial discrimination, *apartheid*, terrorism in all its forms, aggression, foreign occupation and alien domination and all forms of inequality, exploitation and subjugation of peoples, which constitute major obstacles to economic and social progress as well as to the promotion of world peace and security,

Reaffirming that the primary responsibility for their development rests with the developing countries themselves and that the commitment from other countries to support these efforts is of vital importance for achievement of this aim,

1. *Notes with deep concern* the continuing deterioration of the economic and social situation of the world, in particular of the developing countries, whose position has been further worsened by sharp fluctuations in exchange rates, high real rates of interest, the severe fall in commodity prices, serious deterioration in the terms of trade of developing countries, increased protectionist pressures, the reverse transfer of resources from developing countries, crushing debt burdens, the restrictive adjustment process demanded by financial and development institutions, the decline in official development assistance in real terms and the severe inadequacy of resources experienced by multilateral development and financial institutions;

2. *Notes also with deep concern* that the economic and social situation in Africa continues to be critical and that it has been exacerbated by the world recession and by famine, drought and desertification;

3. *Calls* for full implementation of General Assembly resolutions 39/29 on the critical economic situation in Africa and S-13/2 containing the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990;

4. *Notes with great concern* the slow progress in the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development⁴⁴ and in the attainment of the objectives and overall development goals adopted and reaffirmed in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

5. *Reaffirms* that the social aspects and goals of development are an integral part of overall development and that it is the sovereign right of each country freely to determine and implement appropriate policies for social development within the framework of its development plans and priorities;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance, for the achievement of social progress, of the establishment of the new international economic order;

7. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to implement the socio-economic development objectives set out in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, as well as the need to implement the socio-economic objectives of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;⁷⁴

8. *Emphasizes again* that the rapid socio-economic progress of developing countries requires substantially enhanced multilateral and bilateral financial support and

advanced technological assistance to national development efforts, rendered within the framework of the development plans of developing countries;

9. *Calls upon* all Member States to promote economic development and social progress by the formulation and implementation of an interrelated set of policy measures to achieve the goals and objectives established within the framework of national plans and priorities in the fields of employment, education, health, nutrition, housing facilities, environment, crime prevention, the well-being of children, equal opportunities for the disabled and the aged, full participation of youth in the development process and full integration and participation of women in development;

10. *Calls upon* the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take measures aimed at improving social conditions and achieving the main objectives set out in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to make all efforts to promote the accelerated and complete elimination of such fundamental elements hindering economic and social progress and development as colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, and all forms of racial discrimination, *apartheid*, terrorism in all its forms, aggression, foreign occupation, alien domination and all forms of inequality and exploitation of peoples, and to take effective measures to lessen international tensions and to halt the arms race and redistribute released resources in order to promote social and economic development;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue monitoring the world social situation in depth on a regular basis and to submit the next full report on the world social situation to the General Assembly in 1989, for consideration at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council and the Commission for Social Development;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda for its first regular session of 1989 the item entitled "World social situation".

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28 May 1987*

1987/53. Review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice under Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948, and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950, the importance of which was recently reaffirmed by the General Assembly in resolution 41/107 of 4 December 1986,

Bearing in mind the objectives of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, *inter alia*, the reduction of criminality, encouragement of more efficient and effective administration of justice, observance of all human rights and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Reaffirming the appeal to Member States and to the Secretary-General to make every effort to translate into action, as appropriate, the respective recommendations,

⁷⁴ *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

policies and conclusions stemming from the Milan Plan of Action and other relevant resolutions and recommendations adopted unanimously by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,⁶⁷ and to ensure that they are adequately followed up,

Recognizing the pivotal role of the United Nations in promoting the exchange of information, experience and expertise and closer regional and interregional co-operation for more effective crime prevention and criminal justice strategies and policies,

Noting with concern that the resources available to the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat have decreased, while the commitments of the United Nations in this field have increased,

Recalling its resolutions 1986/10, 1986/11 and its decision 1986/129 of 21 May 1986, as well as General Assembly resolution 40/32 of 29 November 1985,

Bearing in mind its own responsibility to assist in establishing the necessary institutional linkages between the programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and other relevant United Nations activities,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,⁷⁰

2. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of the report and requests the Secretary-General and the bodies concerned to implement them;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when implementing the measures and priorities in chapter III of the report:

(a) To develop the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat as a specialized body and facilitating agent in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, engaging the available resources of the United Nations system as well as relevant networks outside the United Nations;

(b) To accord priority attention to the prevention and control of the forms of crime identified in the Milan Plan of Action, including those of international dimensions;

(c) To strengthen technical co-operation projects on specific crime issues, action-oriented research and advisory services through the mobilization of the resources of the United Nations system and relevant networks outside the United Nations;

(d) To develop practical measures to assist those Member States that request it in developing crime prevention and criminal justice strategies, including the management of their criminal justice system, and in introducing crime prevention and criminal justice proposals in their national development plans;

(e) To devise strategies for the practical follow-up by the United Nations system of the decisions of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and to assist Member States in implementing standards and norms adopted by the Organization and in evaluating their impact and effectiveness;

(f) To take measures, in co-operation with the United Nations institutes and other appropriate bodies, to establish an efficient information system on crime prevention and criminal justice which includes a mechanism for the centralization of inputs from non-governmental institutions;

(g) To develop diversified funding strategies, including recourse to voluntary and mixed multilateral and bilateral contributions for specific projects, and strengthen the involvement of the United Nations development agencies including the United Nations Development Programme.

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to ensure that the United Nations programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice is supported by adequate resources through, *inter alia*, appropriate redeployment of staff and funds, and to ensure that the specialized and technical nature of the programme and the high priority attached by Member States to crime prevention and criminal justice are fully reflected in the future management and staffing of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the optimal functioning of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/11, and invites the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to foster more active intersessional involvement of its members;

6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to take further measures to strengthen the institutional linkages with the United Nations system between the programme of work of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and other relevant activities;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further the already valuable co-operation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including professional associations, taking particular advantage of their research, scientific, organizational and other resources;

8. *Reaffirms* the fundamental importance of the quinquennial congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders to progress in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice by providing unique opportunities for focusing on specific priority problems, as well as for assessing general trends and sharing perspectives, establishing norms and standards and evaluating their implementation, monitoring the results of the United Nations programme of work as a whole and setting priorities for action in the next quinquennium;

9. *Stresses* the need for adequate and cost-effective preparations for such congresses by the Secretary-General and Member States, including the appropriate scheduling of interregional preparatory meetings of experts, regional preparatory meetings and the timely circulation of papers prepared for the congresses;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore ways and means of supporting and further assisting the United Nations regional and interregional institutes for crime prevention and control, particularly the newly established African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, as well as the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, and of strengthening co-ordination between the institutes, and invites the United Nations Development Programme to continue to provide effective support and assistance to those institutes;

11. *Invites* Member States to include in the country programmes of the United Nations Development Programme indications of specific issues in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice for which they feel that assistance is needed;

12. *Invites* the regional commissions to consider the possibility of integrating appropriate elements of the programme of work of the United Nations in the field of

crime prevention and criminal justice into their activities in the field of social development and strengthening their co-operation with United Nations regional institutes and other bodies that conduct regionally oriented activities in this field;

13. *Invites* Member States to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence in order to facilitate appropriate technical co-operation and exchange of information and experience in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1988 on the implementation of the present resolution and to provide information on crime prevention and criminal justice activities throughout the United Nations system, including activities at the regional level and those supported by extrabudgetary resources.

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1987/54. Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1983/7 of 26 May 1983, 1985/9 of 28 May 1985 and 1986/66 of 23 July 1986,

Noting the ever-increasing volume of dangerous goods in world-wide commerce and the rapid expansion of technology and innovation,

Bearing in mind the constant need to meet the growing concern for the protection of life and property through the safe transport of dangerous goods, while at the same time facilitating trade,

Aware that in order to achieve internationally harmonized laws, complete reliance is placed on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by the specialized agencies and other international organizations and by interested Member States that are committed to taking the recommendations of the Committee as a basis for the formulation of their requirements and regulations,

Reaffirming the desirability of widening the decision-making base of the Committee by encouraging the participation of developing countries and other non-member countries in its future work.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods in the biennium 1985-1986⁷⁵ and of the new and amended recommendations approved by the Committee for inclusion in its existing recommendations, especially with regard to the transport of environmentally hazardous substances;⁷⁶

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To incorporate in the existing recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods all of the new and amended recommendations approved by the Committee at its fourteenth session;

(b) To publish the new and amended recommendations in all the official languages of the United Nations, in the most cost-effective manner, not later than the end of 1987;

(c) To circulate the new and amended recommendations immediately after their publication to the Govern-

ments of Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned;

3. *Invites* all Governments, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned to transmit to the Secretary-General their views of the Committee's work, together with any comments they may wish to make on the amended recommendations;

4. *Invites* all interested Governments and the international organizations concerned, when developing appropriate codes and regulations, to take full account of the recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods;

5. *Notes* that the requests in Council resolutions 1983/7, 1985/9 and 1986/66 have not yet been implemented, and reiterates the request to the Secretary-General to make available, within existing resources, the funding and staff necessary for the adequate servicing of the Committee of Experts;

6. *Recommends* that consideration be given to the provision of funding to support the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution for submission to the Council not later than at its second regular session of 1988

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1987/55. Public administration and finance for development

The Economic and Social Council,

Reiterating the importance of flexible, effective and responsive public administration systems for economic and social development and of improving the productivity and effectiveness of development administration structures,

Welcoming the Action Programme in Public Administration for Sub-Saharan Africa,⁷⁷

Noting with appreciation the establishment of the trust fund of the United Nations Development Programme to enhance public administration, planning and management in Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Eighth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance,⁷⁸ held in New York from 11 to 20 March 1987, and the report of the Secretary-General thereon;⁷⁹

2. *Emphasizes* the catalytic role of the United Nations programme in public administration and finance in the improvement of systems of public administration and finance for development, in particular of developing countries;

3. *Invites* all organizations of the United Nations system and the international community to follow up the diagnoses made within the Action Programme in Public Administration for Sub-Saharan Africa by intensifying and implementing programmes and projects to help solve the problems identified;

4. *Invites* also the United Nations Development Programme and donor countries to provide adequate funds

⁷⁷ E/1985/39/Add.1, sect. II.

⁷⁸ E/1987/38/Add.1.

⁷⁹ E/1987/38.

⁷⁵ E/1987/37.

⁷⁶ ST/SG/AC.10/13 and Add.1-4