

Resolutions and Decisions of the Economic and Social Council

Organizational session for 2001
New York, 29–31 January 2001

Resumed organizational session for 2001
New York, 8, 13 and 22 March, 3 May and 4 June 2001

Substantive session of 2001
Geneva, 2–26 July 2001

Resumed substantive session of 2001
New York, 10 and 24 October and 20 December 2001

Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2001
Supplement No. 1



United Nations • New York, 2002

NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council are identified as follows:

Resolutions

Until 1977 (up to and including the resumed sixty-third session), the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council were numbered consecutively and were identified by an arabic numeral followed by an indication of the session in parentheses (for example: resolution 1733 (LIV), resolution 1915 (ORG-75), resolution 2046 (S-III), adopted at the fifty-fourth session, the organizational session for 1975 and the third special session, respectively). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter (for example: resolution 1926 B (LVIII), resolutions 1954 A to D (LIX)). The last resolution so numbered is resolution 2130 (LXIII), of 14 December 1977.

Since 1978, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of Council documents, the resolutions have been numbered on a yearly basis and identified by two arabic numerals separated by an oblique stroke, the first numeral indicating the year, the second the number of the resolution in the annual series (for example: resolution 1990/47).

Decisions

Until 1973 (up to and including the resumed fifty-fifth session), the decisions of the Council were not numbered. From 1974 to 1977 (up to and including the resumed sixty-third session), the decisions were numbered consecutively and were identified by an arabic numeral followed by an indication of the session in parentheses (for example: decision 64 (ORG-75), decision 78 (LVIII), adopted at the organizational session for 1975 and the fifty-eighth session, respectively). The last decision so numbered is decision 293 (LXIII), of 2 December 1977.

Since 1978, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of Council documents, the decisions have been numbered on a yearly basis and identified by two arabic numerals separated by an oblique stroke, the first numeral indicating the year, the second the number of the decision in the annual series (for example: decision 1990/224).

E/2001/99

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to continue to disseminate the Consolidated List as widely as possible and to look at the possibility of using online dissemination in collaboration with the World Trade Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme.

43rd plenary meeting
26 July 2001

2001/34. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals⁹⁷ during the biennium 1999–2000,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals;

2. *Decides* to approve the programme of work of the Committee for the biennium 2001–2002 as contained in paragraph 31 of the report of the Secretary-General;⁹⁷

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General to publish the eleventh revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations* in Arabic, as well as the third revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Manual of Tests and Criteria* in Arabic, French and Spanish, without delay;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate the new and amended recommendations⁹⁸ to the Governments of member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international organizations concerned;

(b) To publish the twelfth revised edition⁹⁹ of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations*, and amendments to the third revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous*

*Goods: Manual of Tests and Criteria*¹⁰⁰ in all the official languages of the United Nations, in the most cost-effective manner, not later than the end of 2001;

(c) To give further consideration to the possibility of publishing the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods* on CD-ROM, if possible as a navigable version, for example, by commercial arrangement with external contractors;

5. *Decides* to defer further consideration of the report of the Secretary-General to its resumed substantive session of 2001.

43rd plenary meeting
26 July 2001

2001/35. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999 and 55/163 of 14 December 2000, and reiterating Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 entitled “International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction: successor arrangements”,

Recalling also the forward-looking platform for international concerted disaster reduction, as developed by the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and as expressed in the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,¹⁰¹ as well as the Geneva mandate on disaster reduction and the strategy document entitled “A safer world in the twenty-first century: risk and disaster reduction”,¹⁰²

Emphasizing the multisectoral, interdisciplinary and cross-cutting nature of natural disaster reduction, and stressing that continued interaction, cooperation and partnerships among the institutions concerned are considered essential to achieve jointly agreed objectives and priorities,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁰³ including the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

Having also considered the current institutional arrangements, as established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/219,

⁹⁷ E/2001/44.

⁹⁸ ST/SG/AC.10/27/Add.1 and 2.

⁹⁹ ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.12.

¹⁰⁰ ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.3, amendment 1.

¹⁰¹ A/CONF.172/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

¹⁰² Adopted by the programme forum on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, held at Geneva from 5 to 9 July 1999.

¹⁰³ A/56/68-E/2001/63 and Corr.1.

with the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction and the inter-agency secretariat for the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and taking into account the assessment after the first period of operations,¹⁰⁴

Recognizing that disaster reduction is an important element contributing to the achievement of sustainable development and that it should be taken into account in the preparatory process of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002,

Reiterating that natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, although the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper their sustainable development,

Welcoming the emphasis placed on natural disaster reduction in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,¹⁰⁵ adopted at Brussels in May 2001,

Recognizing that disaster reduction should be regarded as an important function of the United Nations and should receive continued attention,

Stressing the need for the international community to demonstrate the firm political determination required to utilize scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental hazards, taking into account the particular needs of developing countries,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies worldwide, in particular in developing countries;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction should perform the functions as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁰³ in particular to serve as a main forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for disaster reduction and to ensure complementary action by agencies involved in disaster reduction, mitigation and preparedness, and decides to review the activities of the Task Force in 2003;

3. *Decides* that the Task Force should be modified in order to provide for the increased participation of regional organizations and to ensure the continued membership of key United Nations agencies;

4. *Recognizes* that the framework for action for the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster

Reduction,¹⁰⁶ as endorsed by the Task Force, constitutes the basic guide for the implementation of the Strategy, and that the framework shall be periodically reviewed, according to the evolving needs in the field of natural disaster reduction;

5. *Urges* all relevant bodies within the United Nations system to cooperate fully within the context of the framework;

6. *Stresses* that the inter-agency secretariat for the implementation of the Strategy should be consolidated to perform its functions effectively, in particular to serve as the focal point within the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among disaster-reduction activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations and activities in socio-economic and humanitarian fields;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with the United Nations system, other international organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, in order to ensure effective synergies in the field of natural disasters, and urges the Strategy secretariat to develop such synergies, as appropriate;

8. *Underlines* the importance of adequate financial and administrative resources for the effective functioning of the Task Force and the Strategy secretariat, under the direct authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs;

9. *Calls upon* Governments to establish national platforms or focal points for disaster reduction, urges the United Nations system to provide appropriate support for those mechanisms, and invites the Secretary-General to strengthen the regional outreach of the Strategy secretariat in order to ensure such support;

10. *Invites* Governments and relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen national participation, in particular of disaster-prone countries, in the Strategy, including through national multisectoral and interdisciplinary platforms, in order to achieve sustainable development goals and objectives, with the full utilization of scientific and technical knowledge, including through capacity-building at all levels and the development and strengthening of global and regional approaches that take into account regional, subregional, national and local circumstances and needs, as well as the need to strengthen coordination of national emergency response agencies;

11. *Recognizes* the urgent need to develop further and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, and emphasizes the

¹⁰⁴ Ibid., paras. 54-59.

¹⁰⁵ A/CONF.191/11.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid., para. 14; see also www.unisdr.org.

need for developing countries to have access to technology so as to tackle natural disasters effectively;

12. *Encourages* the international community to provide the necessary financial resources to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and to provide adequate scientific, technical, human and other resources to ensure adequate support for the Strategy secretariat and for the Task Force and its working groups;

13. *Requests* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the goals of the Strategy, including by seconding technical staff to the Strategy secretariat;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on disaster reduction to the preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002;

15. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General to review the implementation of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,¹⁰¹ within the context of the framework for action for the implementation of the Strategy;

16. *Reiterates* the need to continue international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon, within the framework for the Strategy, as requested by the Council in its resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000 and by the General Assembly in its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185, 54/220 of 22 December 1999 and 55/197 of 20 December 2000;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of early warning as an essential element in the culture of prevention, and encourages renewed efforts at all levels to contribute to natural hazard monitoring and impact prediction, the development and transfer of technology, capacity-building for disaster preparedness, the detection of natural hazards and the issuance and communication of early warning, as well as education and professional training, public information and awareness-raising activities, and stresses the need for appropriate action in response to early warning;

18. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen the international framework for the improvement of early warning systems and disaster preparedness by developing an effective international mechanism for early warning, including the transfer of technology related to early warning to developing countries, which ensures that vulnerable people receive appropriate and timely information, and by expanding and improving existing systems, in particular those under the auspices of the United Nations, as an integral part of the Strategy;

19. *Decides* to maintain the annual observance of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction on the second Wednesday of October, as a vehicle to promote a global culture

of natural disaster reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness;

20. *Invites* the General Assembly to give full consideration to the report of the Secretary-General¹⁰³ at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

*43rd plenary meeting
26 July 2001*

2001/36. Report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development on its second session

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development on its second session,¹⁰⁷

1. *Decides* to transmit the report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development¹⁰⁷ to the Commission on Sustainable Development;

2. *Also decides* to defer the approval of the provisional agenda of the third session of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development to its next resumed session, bearing in mind that the third session of the Committee is to take place from 8 to 20 December 2002.

*43rd plenary meeting
26 July 2001*

2001/37. Global Code of Ethics for Tourism

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling subparagraph (c) of its decision 109 (LIX) of 23 July 1975, in which the Council decided that the World Tourism Organization might participate, on a continuing basis, in the work of the Council in areas of concern to that organization,

Recalling also article III of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/156 of 19 December 1977 in which, inter alia, the General Assembly stipulated that the activities of the World Tourism Organization and the activities in respect of or related to tourism of the United Nations and other organizations within the United Nations system shall be coordinated by the Economic and Social Council through consultations and recommendations,

Having considered the note by the Secretariat¹⁰⁸ bringing to its attention a significant result achieved at the thirteenth session

¹⁰⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 12 (E/2000/32).*

¹⁰⁸ E/2001/61.