



THIRTY-FIFTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Provisional agenda item 40.1

INDEXED

COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM - GENERAL MATTERS

Report by the Director-General

The Director-General reports in this document on selected matters of direct concern to WHO which have come up within the United Nations system since the Thirty-fourth World Health Assembly, and particularly on resolutions adopted by the United Nations Economic and Social Council at its first and second regular sessions in 1981 and by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-sixth regular session.

1. Introduction

1.1 The first regular session of the Economic and Social Council in 1981 was held in New York from 14 April to 8 May. It dealt with questions of racial discrimination, human rights, international years and conferences, narcotic drugs, and social development in general. Three resolutions were adopted that are of direct interest to WHO (see paragraphs 3.1 to 3.3 of this report). The second regular session was held in Geneva from 1 to 24 July 1981. Twenty-seven items were discussed and 39 resolutions were subsequently adopted. Two of these in particular merit the attention of the Health Assembly (see paragraphs 3.4 to 3.5). It should be noted with respect to resolutions adopted by the Council that many of these were subsequently taken up by the United Nations General Assembly and are thus reported on under section 4 below.

1.2 The first part of the thirty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly was held in New York from 15 September to 18 December 1981. In view of the large number of resolutions adopted (449), many of which have indirect implications for the Organization, the Director-General has necessarily been selective in reporting only on those which have a direct bearing on health programmes and policies (see paragraphs 4.1 to 4.31).

1.3 Three States were admitted to membership in the United Nations during the thirty-sixth regular session: Republic of Vanuatu (resolution 36/1); Belize (resolution 36/3); and Antigua and Barbuda (resolution 36/26). Furthermore, the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States was given observer status in the General Assembly by resolution 36/4.

2. Matters brought to the attention of the WHO Executive Board at its sixty-ninth session (January 1982)

2.1 The Director-General, in accordance with the requests addressed to him in United Nations General Assembly resolution 34/58 and Health Assembly resolution WHA34.36,¹ presented to the second regular session of the Economic and Social Council in 1981 the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000.² Following the statement given by the Director-General in plenary session and the discussion on the Global Strategy in the Council's Programme and

¹ Documents WHA33/1980/REC/1, p. 107 and WHA34/1981/REC/1, p. 35, respectively.

² Published as: "Health for All" Series, No. 3, Geneva, World Health Organization, 1981.

Coordination Committee under the item on "Health as an integral part of development", the Council, on 23 July, unanimously adopted resolution 1981/61 entitled "Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000". That resolution recommended to the United Nations General Assembly a proposed text of a resolution for its consideration at its thirty-sixth regular session. At this session the General Assembly adopted resolution 36/43 on 19 November (see Annex 1). All actions taken were brought to the attention of the Executive Board.¹

2.2 As will be seen in resolution 36/43, the United Nations General Assembly endorses the Global Strategy, urges all Member States to ensure its implementation as part of their multisectoral efforts to implement the International Development Strategy and, inter alia, requests the Director-General to ensure that measures to implement the Global Strategy are taken into account in the review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy. Also, all appropriate organizations and bodies of the United Nations system are urged to collaborate fully with WHO in carrying out the Global Strategy.

2.3 The Director-General drew the attention of the Executive Board, in document EB69/44, to the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries which was held in Paris from 1 to 14 September 1981. The Conference was convened in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 34/203 and its purpose was to finalize, adopt and support a Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

2.4 The objective of the Conference was accomplished after considerable debate. In the SNPA, governments reaffirmed their commitment to the target of 0.7% of their GNP for overall official development assistance, which is already mentioned in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. Donor countries further agreed to devote, between now and 1985, 0.15% of their GNP to the 31 LDCs. It was estimated that official development assistance will have to be quadrupled between 1985 and 1990 to enable the LDCs to reach a stage of development that will put them above the "poverty line".

2.5 A number of sections of the SNPA are of direct concern to WHO, including, of course, the specific chapter on health and nutrition, for which the text suggested by WHO was, with some modifications, included in the final version.

2.6 In his closing address at the Conference, the President (Mr Jean-Pierre Cot, French Minister for Cooperation and Development) noted that priority attention should be given during the implementation of the SNPA to education, health, nutrition, and population policies.

2.7 Regarding the institutional framework for following up the Conference, it was decided that each LDC would be responsible for organizing country review meetings with its aid partners. Assistance would be given in this respect primarily by UNDP and the World Bank, with the United Nations ensuring the fullest collaboration of other concerned organizations and institutions of the United Nations system. At regional level the United Nations regional economic commissions would have the main responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the SNPA. Other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system would be expected to help them in this connexion. At global level the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has been given the main responsibility for monitoring the SNPA. The Conference decided that UNCTAD VI (1983) and VII (1987) would be the main negotiating forums in this respect. The UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries would continue to serve as the preparatory body for discussions on the SNPA at these UNCTAD conferences.

2.8 The United Nations General Assembly endorsed the SNPA in resolution 36/194, which invites the governing bodies of appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take the necessary and appropriate measures for the effective implementation and follow-up of the SNPA within their respective spheres of competence and mandates.

¹ See the summary record of the third meeting in document EB69/1982/REC/2, p. 39.

2.9 Member States will wish to note that the Director-General ensured the Organization's fullest participation in the preparatory work for the Conference and in the Conference itself. He addressed the plenary session on 7 September, emphasizing the individual and collective work undertaken by WHO Member States in the formulation of the Global Strategy and expressing the hope that the Conference might benefit from the positive experience of WHO in recent years which had led to closer action and understanding between North and South as well as East and West.

3. Resolutions and decisions of the first and second regular sessions 1981 of the Economic and Social Council

3.1 In its resolution on the "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women" (resolution 1981/12) the Economic and Social Council reaffirms the importance of the Programme of Action and stresses the need for its urgent and full implementation at the international, regional and national levels. It invites relevant specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations and bodies to provide information on the follow-up action taken by them to the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1982, through the Commission on the Status of Women, at its twenty-ninth session.

3.2 In resolution 1981/26 dealing with "Women and development", the Economic and Social Council invites all the organizations of the United Nations system to refrain from perpetuating the widely accepted idea that women constitute a marginal category relating only to social welfare, and calls upon all these organizations to emphasize the right of women to participate as agents and as beneficiaries, in all aspects of economic and social development.

3.3 In its resolution on the "Strengthening of actions concerned with the fulfilment of the World Population Plan of Action" (resolution 1981/28) the Economic and Social Council urges all Member States and regional and international bodies, both governmental and nongovernmental, to develop and strengthen further activities designed to implement the World Population Plan of Action. It calls on WHO and other organizations of the United Nations system to take steps to include population matters in the deliberations of their periodic and special conferences and to integrate population questions more fully into their regular work programmes. It urges international organizations, including the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and WHO, and governments to give high priority to research on human reproduction and the development of more acceptable, safer and more effective means of fertility regulation; to promote the establishment of projects in which research workers in developed and less developed countries would cooperate fully in such research, and to emphasize to public and private donors the great importance of such research.

3.4 The Economic and Social Council decided, in resolution 1981/87, to convene in 1984 an International Conference on Population open to all States as full members, and to specialized agencies. The Conference, it decided, shall be devoted to the discussion of selected issues of the highest priority, giving full recognition to the relationships between population and social and economic development with the aim of contributing to the process of review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action and to its further implementation. The Council requests the Secretary-General to ensure the substantive contribution to the Conference of, inter alia, the specialized agencies.

3.5 In its resolution 1981/80 on "Water resources development", the Economic and Social Council notes the progress being made by organizations in the United Nations system in the context of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, in particular the role of the Steering Committee for Cooperative Action, in bringing about a concerted approach to these activities and calls upon the intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations concerned to increase their technical cooperation with and financial support for developing countries, so as to bring about a substantial improvement in the level of services in the supply of drinking-water and in sanitation by 1990. It also takes note of the guidelines agreed upon by the organizations of the United Nations system for consultation and coordination with regard to field project activities.

4. Resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-sixth regular session

4.1 The International Year of Disabled Persons (IYDP) was discussed by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-sixth regular session. WHO was invited, as a major contributor to IYDP activities, to participate in the debates. The Regional Director for the Americas addressed representatives concerning WHO's general strategies for disability prevention and rehabilitation as well as specific contributions made by WHO to IYDP. In resolution 36/77 the General Assembly inter alia requests that the draft World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons be finalized in 1982; requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of specialized agencies to ensure necessary cooperation and coordination of their activities relating to the disabled; invites Member States to promote effective cooperation between developed and developing countries on the prevention of disability and the rehabilitation of disabled persons; and calls upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of the specialized agencies to take all necessary measures to strengthen and expand technical cooperation activities in developing countries relating to the disabled, especially in the areas of prevention of disability, rehabilitation and integration of disabled in their societies.

4.2 The Director-General welcomes the emphasis which has been given to disability prevention and rehabilitation by the United Nations General Assembly, and it is foreseen that WHO will play its fullest role in assisting the members of the Advisory Committee of IYDP to formulate the World Programme of Action mentioned above and in implementing the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 36/77.

4.3 The resolution adopted by the General Assembly on "Strengthening the capacity of the United Nations system to respond to natural disasters and other disaster situations" (resolution 36/225), the text of which is contained in Annex 2, urges the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including inter alia WHO, to cooperate closely, in their respective areas of competence, with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator in disaster relief activities and other disaster situations, to respond effectively to the needs of the situation and to comply promptly with the requests of disaster-affected countries. It also sets out the mechanisms in the United Nations system for dealing with disaster situations.

4.4 In resolution 36/166 on "Exchange of information on banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products" (see Annex 3), the General Assembly reiterates the need to intensify international cooperation in the search for the solution to problems arising from the production and export of banned or severely restricted substances.

4.5 In its resolution entitled "International campaign against traffic in drugs" (resolution 36/132) the General Assembly recognizes the need for an effective international campaign against traffic in drugs in the context of the international drug control strategy, which would involve activities at the national, regional and international levels.

4.6 In its resolution on the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy (resolution 36/168) the General Assembly adopts the strategy and the basic five-year programme of action and urges that they be implemented as quickly as possible by the relevant bodies of the United Nations and other international organizations. It requests the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to establish a task force to review, monitor and coordinate the implementation of the international control strategy and the programme of action. It also urges all Member States and non-member States parties to the international drug abuse control treaties, specialized agencies and other international organizations and private institutions concerned with the drug abuse problem to participate in and support activities related to international drug control strategy and policies.

4.7 In a series of 21 resolutions adopted without a vote, the General Assembly called for greater assistance by concerned United Nations agencies to several countries, namely: Equatorial Guinea (resolution 36/204), Lebanon (resolution 36/205), Central African Republic

(resolution 36/206), Liberia (resolution 36/207), Benin (resolution 36/208), Sao Tome and Principe (resolution 36/209), Chad (resolution 36/210), Cape Verde (resolution 36/211), Comoros (resolution 36/212), Nicaragua (resolution 36/213), Zambia (resolution 36/214), Mozambique (resolution 36/215), Djibouti (resolution 36/216), Guinea-Bissau (resolution 36/217), Uganda (resolution 36/218), Lesotho (resolution 36/219), Gambia (resolution 36/220), Botswana (resolution 36/222), and Zimbabwe (resolution 36/223); and two regions: the Sudano-Sahelian region (resolution 36/203) and the drought-stricken areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda (resolution 36/221).

4.8 With regard to the Central African Republic, Liberia, Benin, Chad, Zambia, Mozambique, Djibouti, Uganda, and Gambia, WHO is explicitly requested, with other agencies, to expand its assistance programmes to these countries and to bring their special needs to the attention of its governing body and to report decisions taken to the Secretary-General.

4.9 The resolutions concerning Sao Tome and Principe, Cape Verde, Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Botswana, and Zimbabwe call for greater assistance by concerned United Nations agencies and specifically invite WHO, among other agencies, to bring the special needs of these countries to the attention of its governing bodies and report decisions taken to the Secretary-General.

4.10 United Nations General Assembly resolution 36/204 requests WHO and other agencies to maintain and expand their assistance programme to Equatorial Guinea and to report periodically to the Secretary-General on steps taken.

4.11 The ninth emergency special session of the General Assembly adopted a resolution entitled "The situation in the occupied arab territories" (ES-9/1), the full text of which is contained in Annex 4 and which, inter alia, calls upon all Member States to suspend economic, financial and technological assistance to and cooperation with Israel, and to cease forthwith, individually and collectively, all dealings with Israel in order totally to isolate it in all fields. The General Assembly calls upon all specialized agencies of the United Nations system and international institutions to conform their relations with Israel to the terms of this resolution.

4.12 In resolution 36/70 entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people", the General Assembly urges the relevant agencies, organizations, organs and programmes of the United Nations system to take the necessary steps in consultation and cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, for the full implementation of resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council on assistance to the Palestinian people. It also requests that United Nations assistance to the Palestinian people in the Arab host countries should be rendered through the specialized agencies, programmes, organs and other bodies of the United Nations system in consultation with the parties concerned.

4.13 In resolution 36/52 entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",¹ the General Assembly requests once again the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to provide all moral and material assistance to the newly independent and emerging States.

4.14 It reiterates its recommendation that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system should review and introduce greater flexibility in their procedures with respect to the formulation and preparation of assistance programmes and projects so as to be able to extend the necessary assistance without delay to help the colonial peoples and their national liberation movements.

4.15 It urges the specialized agencies, organizations and institutions of the United Nations system to increase their assistance to The South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the United Nations Institute for Namibia and the Nationhood Programme for Namibia.

¹ Resolution 1981/54 of the Economic and Social Council also deals with this subject.

4.16 It further urges the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system to extend, as a matter of priority, substantial material assistance to the governments of the front-line States in order to enable them more effectively to support the struggle of the people of Namibia for freedom and independence.

4.17 It urges the executive heads of specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to formulate, with the active cooperation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) where appropriate, and to submit, as a matter of priority, to their governing and legislative organs, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, in particular specific programmes of assistance to the peoples of the colonial territories and their national liberation movements.

4.18 In another resolution on "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa" (resolution 36/172) the General Assembly urges UNDP and other agencies of the United Nations system to expand their assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa and to the South African liberation movements recognized by OAU.

4.19 In resolution 36/9 entitled "Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights" the General Assembly calls for a maximization of all forms of assistance given by all States, United Nations organs, specialized agencies and nongovernmental organizations to the victims of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid through their national liberation movements recognized by the OAU.

4.20 It urges all States, competent organizations of the United Nations system, specialized agencies and other international organizations to extend their support to the Palestinian people through its representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, in its struggle to restore its right to self-determination and independence.

4.21 The General Assembly, in resolution 36/71, decided in principle to designate 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to prepare a proposal containing a specific programme of measures and activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Year.

4.22 The General Assembly, in resolution 36/30, decided that the World Assembly on Aging will be held in Vienna from 26 July to 6 August 1982.

4.23 The General Assembly, by resolution 36/40, proclaimed the year 1983 World Communications Year: Development of Communications Infrastructures, with the International Telecommunication Union serving as the lead agency for the Year and having responsibility for coordinating the interorganizational aspects of the programmes and activities of other agencies.

4.24 By resolution 36/120C the General Assembly, acting on its resolution ES-7/2, decided to convene under the auspices of the United Nations an international conference on the question of Palestine not later than 1984. The General Assembly authorized the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to act as the preparatory committee for the conference. As appropriate, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations have been invited to cooperate with the committee in the implementation of the resolution.

4.25 In resolution 36/23 entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference" the General Assembly notes with satisfaction the establishment of relations of cooperation between the specialized agencies and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and invites them to send to the Organization of the Islamic Conference studies and experts in their areas of specialization, including the combating of desertification and the elimination of poverty, hunger, illness and ignorance.

4.26 In resolution 36/24 dealing with "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States" the General Assembly notes with deep appreciation the increasing participation of the League of Arab States in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and its constructive contribution to that work, and recognizes the importance of continued close association by the United Nations and the specialized agencies with the efforts of the League of Arab States in order to promote social and economic development and to advance intra-Arab as well as international cooperation in this vital field.

4.27 The General Assembly, in resolution 36/80 on "Cooperation between the United Nations and OAU", noted with appreciation the increasing participation of OAU in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and its constructive contribution to that work. It approved the decisions, recommendations, proposals and arrangements contained in the conclusions of the Geneva meeting of representatives of the General Secretariat of OAU and the secretariats of the United Nations and of other organizations within the United Nations system, and called upon the competent organizations and bodies in the United Nations system to give urgent consideration to those various recommendations and proposals. It called upon, inter alia, the specialized agencies to ensure that their personnel and recruitment policies provide for the just and equitable representation of Africa at all levels. Also in response to this resolution the next intersecretariat meeting is being held in Geneva, from 6 to 8 April 1982.

4.28 It called upon all Member States and organizations within the United Nations to increase their assistance to the African States affected by serious economic problems, in particular problems of displaced persons, resulting from natural or other disasters, by mobilizing special economic and emergency assistance programmes.

4.29 It urged, inter alia, the specialized agencies to continue and expand their cooperation with OAU and, through it, their assistance to the liberation movements recognized by it.

4.30 The General Assembly adopted seven resolutions on the question of women, dealing, inter alia, with the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (resolution 36/126), the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (resolution 36/128), the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women (resolution 36/129) and the comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development (resolution 36/74).

4.31 In resolution 36/61 on the "Draft Code of Medical Ethics", to which are annexed the draft principles relevant to the role of health personnel in the protection of persons against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the General Assembly takes note with appreciation of the comments on the proposed principles of medical ethics endorsed by the WHO Executive Board which were received by the Secretary-General from governments, specialized agencies and nongovernmental organizations, and requests the Secretary-General to circulate these revised draft principles of medical ethics among Member States for further comments.

4.32 The Director-General is taking appropriate action in pursuance of the requests of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly and will take the above resolutions into account in formulating policy and planning activities in the future.

5. Collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Bank and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)

5.1 The General Assembly has kept the matter of operational activities for development under continuous review. Following the request to the Secretary-General and the heads of other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, contained in General Assembly resolution 35/81, that they adopt measures to enhance overall efficiency in the execution of programmes and projects in this field, the General Assembly had before it, under cover of a Note by the Secretary-General, the annual report for 1981 of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation (document A/36/478). The information thus provided included a

synthesis, prepared by ACC, of measures taken by the concerned organizations. The General Assembly subsequently adopted resolution 36/199 which, in operative paragraph 12, invites the governing bodies of the various organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take action relevant to accelerating governments' efforts for the effective implementation of section V (operational activities of the United Nations system) of the conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations system which were annexed to General Assembly resolution 32/197.

5.2 In previous reports¹ to the World Health Assembly, the Director-General has drawn the attention of Member States to section V of United Nations General Assembly resolution 32/197, concerning the "Restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system", and to resolution 35/81. In this connexion he notes that the World Health Assembly, in resolutions WHA28.30, WHA28.75, WHA28.76, WHA29.32, WHA29.48, WHA30.23, WHA30.30, WHA30.34, WHA31.39 and WHA34.17² has already, to the extent possible, taken measures to respond to most of the provisions contained in section V of resolution 32/197, as well as in resolution 35/81. Regarding maximum uniformity of administrative, financial, budgetary, personnel and planning procedures, such uniformity can be achieved only through agreements reached by the various secretariats within ACC, rather than by decisions of individual governing bodies. That being so the Director-General intends to ensure WHO's continued cooperation in the relevant work of the ACC subsidiary bodies concerned.

5.3 The central issue at the twenty-eighth session of the UNDP Governing Council in June 1981 was the resource situation. UNDP consultations with donor governments had indicated aggregate contributions for the third programming cycle (1982-1986) of US\$ 5100 million compared with the planned target of US\$ 6700 million. Reasons for this shortfall were seen by some donor countries to be a result of the world economic recession, but other donor countries pointed out that the forecast of US\$ 6700 million was based on a projected growth in contributions of 14% which they had criticized at the last Governing Council as overly optimistic, and unattainable.

5.4 Other issues under debate which were of special interest to the Governing Council included in particular project management and execution by governments, together with increased use of qualified national professional staff as an alternative to internationally recruited staff, which were seen as key elements in the attainment of the final objective of technical cooperation-self-reliance. However, a note of caution was sounded on the dangers of moving too fast and the need was stressed for further training of nationals in programme planning and development. Technical cooperation among developing countries, evaluation, and country programming were also discussed extensively.

5.5 Joint WHO/UNICEF action has been strengthened at all levels following recommendations formulated when the Executive Director of UNICEF and the Director-General of WHO met in November 1980. Agreements between the two Organizations have been drawn up in two regions.

5.6 Seven countries are being approached by the two Organizations in connexion with a study on the most effective joint UNICEF/WHO support to governments for the implementation of primary health care. This support includes, among other components of primary health care, a nutrition component. In this connexion a Joint WHO/UNICEF Five-Year Plan of Action in Nutrition, 1982-1986, has been developed.

5.7 A joint group-purchase of sixty selected drugs for some twenty countries of the African Region is in preparation.

5.8 Intersecretariat meetings, consultations and joint missions at all levels continue to stimulate collaboration between the two Organizations.

5.9 Collaboration between WHO and the World Bank has continued with particular respect to information exchange and the analyses of the health situation in various countries in the context of the Bank's broad development projects. The Bank's Department of Population, Health and Nutrition is the focal point for identifying and preparing loan projects in the health sector.

¹ Documents A31/40 Add.1, A32/21, A33/22, and A34/18.

² Document WHA34/1981/REC/1, p. 17.

5.10 There has been a health sector review mission to the Philippines carried out jointly by WHO and the World Bank, in association with the Asian Development Bank and USAID. WHO has also provided analyses to back up the Bank's loan projects, including the Chinese Government's initiatives to strengthen country health services projects.

5.11 Regarding the WHO/World Bank Cooperative Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation, water and sanitation sector studies for pre-investment activities have continued at country level.

5.12 The Bank has maintained its co-sponsorship of the Onchocerciasis Control Programme and the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) and began to contribute financially to TDR, as of 1981, at the level of 10% of total contributions for that year.

5.13 The Bank has also continued its interest in WHO's health work, such as the Diarrhoeal Diseases Control Programme and within the Health Resources Group for Primary Health Care.

5.14 UNFPA has continued to provide financial support for WHO activities in the area of health, population and development, with emphasis on the strengthening of the integrated family health component of health care systems. In 1981 expenditures totalled approximately US\$ 20 million, mainly for country level programmes in maternal and child health/family planning; these funds were also used in support of regional teams and interregional activities in family planning, maternal and child health, nutrition, and health statistics, including training and research aspects, and the Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction.

5.15 UNFPA support has also enabled the family health programme to enlarge many of its activities in such areas as infant and young child feeding, women and health, and health systems research. While support from UNFPA has followed an upward trend in recent years, there was a budgetary cut in the financial support to WHO during 1981 owing to UNFPA's financial limitations resulting from increasing calls on the Fund from countries, over-commitments, changes in exchange rates, etc., without a corresponding increase in donations to the Fund.

6. Other matters

6.1 Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ)

6.1.1 Article 17, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations provides that "The General Assembly shall consider and approve any financial and budgetary arrangements with specialized agencies referred to in Article 57 and shall examine the administrative budgets of such specialized agencies with a view to making recommendations to the agencies concerned". Under the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations General Assembly, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) is responsible, inter alia, for examining on behalf of the General Assembly the administrative budgets of specialized agencies and proposals for financial and budgetary arrangements with such agencies.

6.1.2 The Advisory Committee submitted to the thirty-sixth session (1981) of the General Assembly its report entitled "Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency" (United Nations document A/36/641). This report includes in addition to an introduction, a number of comparative tables containing data on budgetary, financial and personnel matters relating to the organizations in the United Nations system and the Committee's comments on the 1982 administrative budgets of the specialized agencies. Those on WHO's 1982-1983 budget are purely factual in nature and do not call for any special comments by the Director-General.

RESOLUTION 36/43 ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON 19 NOVEMBER 1981*

Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/58 of 29 November 1979 concerning health as an integral part of development,

Noting with approval World Health Assembly resolution WHA34.36 of 22 May 1981 by which the thirty-fourth Assembly unanimously adopted the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000,

Considering that the Global Strategy fully reflects the spirit of General Assembly resolution 34/58,

Considering that peace and security are important conditions for the preservation and improvement of the health of all people and that co-operation among nations on vital health issues can contribute substantially to peace,

Noting further that the Global Strategy is based upon the principles of the Declaration of Alma-Ata ^{1/} on primary health care, which implies an integrated approach to the solution of health care problems and requires the fullest support and involvement of all economic and social development sectors,

Recognizing that the implementation of the Global Strategy will constitute a valuable contribution to the improvement of over-all socio-economic conditions, and thus to the fulfilment of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, ^{2/}

1. Endorses the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000 as a major contribution of Member States to the attainment of the world-wide social goal of health for all by the year 2000 and to the fulfilment of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

2. Urges all Member States to ensure the implementation of the Global Strategy as part of their multisectoral efforts to implement the provisions contained in the International Development Strategy;

3. Also urges all Member States to co-operate with one another and with the World Health Organization to ensure that the necessary international action is taken to implement the Global Strategy as part of the fulfilment of the International Development Strategy;

4. Requests all appropriate organizations and bodies of the United Nations system - including the United Nations Children's Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Educational,

^{1/} See World Health Organization, Primary Health Care: Report of the International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, 6-12 September 1978 (Geneva, 1978).

^{2/} General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

* Document A/RES/36/14 of 15 December 1981.

Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and the World Bank - to collaborate fully with the World Health Organization in carrying out the Global Strategy;

5. Requests the Director-General of the World Health Organization to ensure that measures to implement the Global Strategy are taken into account in the review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy. 3/

3/ See General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex, para. 175.

RESOLUTION 36/225 ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON 17 DECEMBER 1981*

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/36/737/Add.1)]

Strengthening the capacity of the United Nations system to respond to natural disasters and other disaster situations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, by which it established the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, its resolution 3243 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974 on the strengthening of that Office, its resolution 3440 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, in which it provided, inter alia, for measures to be taken in support of the activities of the Office, and its resolution 3532 (XXX) of 17 December 1975 on the financing of emergency relief assistance and technical co-operation activities of the Office,

Recalling also its resolution 31/173 of 21 December 1976 on financial arrangements for the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator,

Recalling further the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, 1/

Recalling the report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries containing the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, in particular the section concerning disaster assistance for least developed countries, 2/

Deeply concerned about the increasing number of natural disasters and other disasters situations, the economic burden borne by disaster-stricken and affected countries, particularly the developing countries, and the disruption thereby caused to their development process,

Also recalling its resolution 35/107 of 5 December 1980,

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/43 of 23 July 1980 regarding international efforts to meet humanitarian needs in natural disaster and other disaster situations,

Fully cognizant of the sovereign interests and rights of affected countries and of the primacy of their role in caring for the victims of natural disasters and other disaster situations,

Anxious that the international community should respond speedily and effectively to calls for emergency humanitarian assistance,

Recognizing that the quality and appropriateness of material and other assistance provided by the international community should meet the particular needs of the populations of disaster-affected areas,

1/ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

2/ See A/CONF.104/22 and Corr.2 and 3, part one, para. 59.

* Document A/RES/36/225 of 16 February 1982.

Recognizing the contribution made by the United Nations system to the relief of suffering and provision of humanitarian relief in natural disasters and other disaster situations,

Recognizing that the primary responsibility of administration, relief operations and disaster preparedness lies with the affected countries and that the major part of the material assistance and human effort in disaster relief comes from the Governments of those countries,

Recognizing also the importance in international relief of the contribution of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and appropriate voluntary organizations,

Recognizing further that, in order to attain an effective co-ordination system of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance, it is essential to strengthen and improve the capacity and effectiveness of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and the United Nations system as a whole in order to enable the Office to respond to natural disasters and other disaster situations speedily, efficiently and effectively, and thereby ensure prompt delivery of concerted relief,

Recognizing that a major constraint for the United Nations system to respond effectively to natural disasters and other disaster situations has been the shortage of resources,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General and other reports on international efforts to meet humanitarian needs in emergency situations, as well as on measures for strengthening the capacity of the United Nations system to respond to natural disasters and other disaster situations ^{3/} and of the statement made by the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator before the Second Committee on 5 November 1981; ^{4/}

2. Reaffirms the sovereignty of individual Member States, recognizes the primary role of each State in caring for the victims of disasters occurring in its territory and stresses that all relief operations should be carried out and co-ordinated in a manner consistent with the priorities and needs of the countries concerned;

3. Reaffirms the mandate of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, established by the General Assembly in resolution 2816 (XXVI) as the focal point of the United Nations system for disaster relief co-ordination, and calls for strengthening and improvement of the capacity and effectiveness of the Office;

4. Endorses the approaches outlined by the Secretary-General in his comments on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit concerning the role of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in the various phases of disaster assistance; ^{5/}

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary steps to strengthen the management operations of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator;

^{3/} See A/36/73 and Add.1, A/36/259, E/1981/16 and Corr.1, annex. See also decision 1981/2 of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

^{4/} See A/C.2/36/SR.29, paras. 33-40.

^{5/} A/36/73/Add.1.

Annex 2

6. Stresses the need to take full advantage of information provided by existing early-warning monitoring systems that have been developed to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations system in responding to natural disasters and other disaster situations and to co-ordinate, as far as feasible and useful, all the relevant early-warning systems, and stresses that, to this effect, the capability of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in information collection and dissemination should be further strengthened and improved;

7. Urges the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme and other appropriate bodies, to co-operate closely, in their respective areas of competence, with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in disaster relief activities and other disaster situations, to respond effectively to the needs of the situation and to comply promptly with the requests of disaster-affected countries;

8. Decides that, in response to a request for disaster relief from a disaster-stricken State and, as necessary, in particular in disaster-prone countries, the United Nations resident co-ordinator shall, with the full concurrence, consent and participation of the Government, convene meetings of the concerned organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to plan, monitor and take immediate action to provide assistance; the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and appropriate voluntary organizations may be invited to participate in such meetings with the approval of the host country;

9. Decides that, following a request for disaster relief from a disaster-stricken State and whenever required to deal effectively with complex disasters and emergencies of exceptional magnitude, the Secretary-General or his representative, who would normally be the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, shall convene meetings of the concerned organizations of the United Nations system in order to develop a concerted relief programme and conduct ad hoc consultations with the heads or representatives of the agencies concerned with disaster-relief questions, with a view to ensuring speedy and efficient delivery of goods and services to the disaster-stricken areas, and decides that these ad hoc consultations should draw on information provided by the Government concerned, as well as on the assessments of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, the resident co-ordinator and representatives of other United Nations organizations in the countries concerned, and take into account advice offered by the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and appropriate voluntary organizations in the field with the understanding that all agencies with responsibilities for natural disasters and other disaster situations should be involved at the appropriate level in such consultations;

10. Decides that, once it has been determined - on the basis of the above-mentioned information and consultations - that an exceptional or complex natural disaster or other disaster situation requiring system-wide action exists, the Secretary-General shall designate, at the international level, a lead entity from among the United Nations organizations, agencies and bodies, including the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, and, at the country level, the appropriate entity of the United Nations system to carry out relief operations, taking into account the specific requirements of the situation and in consultation with the host Government, and calls upon all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to co-operate closely with one another in their relief operations;

11. Invites the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to examine urgently the role of the lead entity and participating organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in complex disaster situations, taking into account decision 1981/2 of that

Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982, to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, on the deliberations of the Committee;

12. Strongly calls upon all States to respond positively and expeditiously to the Secretary-General's appeals for contributions to meet natural disasters and other disaster situations;

13. Reiterates, in particular, its appeal in resolution 35/107 for increased contributions to the trust fund of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, in particular to the subaccount for humanitarian emergency relief;

14. Stresses in this regard the need to strengthen the operational capacity and the human, material and financial resources available to individual agencies and organizations, in order to enable them to play their respective roles more promptly, efficiently and effectively in natural disasters and other disaster situations;

15. Requests all States to ensure a full flow of information to the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, especially regarding relief actions, and also to provide the United Nations system with the necessary personnel and logistical support;

16. Urges Governments in disaster-prone countries to explore further, with the assistance of the donors, appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, the possibility of improving storage, communication and transportation facilities, as well as measures to ensure disaster preparedness and prevention;

17. Also urges the international community to assist disaster-prone countries, upon their request, with the establishment of effective national early-warning systems, the development of contingency plans for disasters and the strengthening of assessment capacity for relief requirements and for distribution and monitoring of relief supplies;

18. Calls upon organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to establish emergency units or focal points if they are not already in existence;

19. Reaffirms the need for the international community to respond fully to requests for emergency and humanitarian assistance, in particular through increased financial contributions for affected developing countries, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, 2/ as well as those of the trust fund of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator;

20. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a preliminary progress report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982, and a comprehensive report to the Assembly at its thirty-eighth session through the Council at its second regular session of 1983.

RESOLUTION 36/166 ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON 16 DECEMBER 1981*

Exchange of information on banned hazardous chemicals
and unsafe pharmaceutical products

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/173 of 17 December 1979, in which it recognized the urgent need to take concrete measures to prevent adverse effects on health on a world-wide basis,

Recalling also its resolution 35/186 of 15 December 1980, in which it invited Member States to provide information on measures they had taken on the exchange of information on hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products that have been banned in their territories and requested the Secretary-General in co-operation with the United Nations organs, organizations and bodies concerned to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session on the experience of Member States and the United Nations organs, organizations and bodies concerned,

Conscious of the importance of the information system on transnational corporations for the analysis of the activities of these corporations in certain sectors of special social and humanitarian interest to the countries in which operations take place, particularly developing countries,

Taking into account that in resolution 35/186 it requested the Commission on Transnational Corporations to study, during its seventh session, ways and means within the information system on transnational corporations to improve the exchange of information on those products with a view to formulating appropriate recommendations,

Bearing in mind the importance of objective information on banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products,

Aware that the production and export of banned or severely restricted hazardous substances - including pharmaceuticals, pesticides and industrial chemicals - endanger public health and the environment,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General 1/ on the exchange of information on banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products;
2. Takes note also of the conclusions and recommendations in the report of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations 2/ which was submitted to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its seventh session;
3. Reiterates the need to intensify international co-operation in the search for the solution to problems arising from the production and export of banned or severely restricted substances;

1/ A/36/255.

2/ E/C.10/90.

* Document A/RES/36/166 of 3 February 1982.

4. Urges Member States and other interested parties, including transnational corporations, to co-operate more fully in providing data on banned or severely restricted substances to the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with responsibility for information exchange in regard to such substances;

5. Calls upon the organs, organizations and other competent United Nations bodies involved in disseminating information on this subject to ensure that the documentation they prepare is adequately suited to the needs and clearly understood by all those engaged in processing, handling, dispensing or using all banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products;

6. Requests the Secretary-General and the organs, organizations and other competent United Nations bodies to provide, within the available resources, the necessary technical assistance to the developing countries, at their request, to help them establish an adequate system for monitoring the import of unsafe pharmaceutical products of doubtful therapeutic value and banned hazardous chemicals, on the one hand, and to train scientific personnel to handle these problems, on the other;

7. Invites Member States to deal with this subject through appropriate means, including possible legislation at the national level, where they do not yet exist;

8. Once again requests the Secretary-General to consult Member States on the existing information systems on banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceutical products and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session through the Economic and Social Council.

RESOLUTION ES-9/1 ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON 5 FEBRUARY 1982*

The situation in the occupied Arab territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the occupied Arab territories" at its ninth emergency special session, in accordance with Security Council resolution 500 (1982) of 28 January 1982,

Noting with regret and concern that the Security Council, at its 2329th meeting, on 20 January 1982, failed to take appropriate measures against Israel, as requested by the Council in resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, as a result of the negative vote of a permanent member of the Council,

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981),

Recalling its resolution 35/122 E of 11 December 1980,

Reaffirming its resolution 36/226 B of 17 December 1981,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 21 December 1981 ^{1/} and 31 December 1981, ^{2/}

Recalling its resolution 3314 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974, in which it defined an act of aggression as, inter alia, "the invasion or attack by the armed forces of a State of the territory of another State, or any military occupation, however temporary, resulting from such invasion or attack, or any annexation by the use of force of the territory of another State or part thereof", and provided that "no consideration of whatever nature, whether political, economic, military or otherwise, may serve as justification for aggression",

Stressing once again that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and relevant United Nations resolutions,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, ^{3/} to the occupied Syrian territory,

Noting that Israel's record and actions establish conclusively that it is not a peace-loving Member State and that it has not carried out its obligations under the Charter,

Noting further that Israel has refused, in violation of Article 25 of the Charter, to accept and carry out the numerous relevant decisions of the Security Council, the latest being resolution 497 (1981),

^{1/} A/36/846 and Corr.1-S/14805 and Corr.1.

^{2/} S/14821.

^{3/} United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973, p. 287.

* Document A/RES/ES-9/1 of 8 February 1982.

1. Strongly condemns Israel for its failure to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981) and General Assembly resolution 36/226 B;
2. Declares that Israel's decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan Heights constitutes an act of aggression under the provisions of Article 39 of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX);
3. Declares once more that Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan Heights is null and void and has no legal validity and/or effect whatsoever;
4. Determines that all actions taken by Israel to give effect to its decision relating to the occupied Syrian Golan Heights are illegal and invalid and shall not be recognized;
5. Reaffirms its determination that all the provisions of the Hague Conventions of 1907 ^{4/} and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon all parties thereto to respect and ensure respect of their obligations under these instruments in all circumstances;
6. Determines that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights since 1967 and its effective annexation by Israel on 14 December 1981, following Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on that territory, constitute a continuing threat to international peace and security;
7. Strongly deplores the negative vote by a permanent member of the Security Council which prevented the Council from adopting against Israel, under Chapter VII of the Charter, the "appropriate measures" referred to in resolution 497 (1981) unanimously adopted by the Council;
8. Further deplores any political, economic, military and technological support to Israel that encourages Israel to commit acts of aggression and to consolidate and perpetuate its occupation and annexation of occupied Arab territories;
9. Firmly emphasizes its demands that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Syrian Golan Heights, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory;
10. Reaffirms the overriding necessity of the total and unconditional withdrawal by Israel from all the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, which is a primary requirement for the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East;
11. Declares that Israel's record and actions confirm that it is not a peace-loving Member State and that it has carried out neither its obligations under the Charter nor its commitment under General Assembly resolution 273 (III) of 11 May 1949;
12. Calls upon all Member States to apply the following measures:
 - (a) To refrain from supplying Israel with any weapons and related equipment and to suspend any military assistance which Israel receives from them;
 - (b) To refrain from acquiring any weapons or military equipment from Israel;

^{4/} Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907 (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

Annex 4

(c) To suspend economic, financial and technological assistance to and co-operation with Israel;

(d) To sever diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with Israel;

13. Also calls upon all Member States to cease forthwith, individually and collectively, all dealings with Israel in order totally to isolate it in all fields;

14. Urges non-member States to act in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution;

15. Calls upon all specialized agencies of the United Nations system and international institutions to conform their relations with Israel to the terms of the present resolution;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon at intervals of two months to Member States as well as to the Security Council and to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session under the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East".

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