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PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE
GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Martha DUEÑAS de WHIST (Ecuador)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1989, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 18th, 21st to 24th and 33rd, 40th, 48th and 51st meetings, on 23, 25 and 27 October, 15 and 20 November and 4 and 17 December. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/44/SR.18, 21-24 and 33, 40, 48 and 51). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 10th meetings, from 2 to 6 and 9 October (A/C.2/44/SR.2-10).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

A/44/260 Letter dated 27 April 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the address by H.E. Mr. José Sarney, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, at the Sixth Ministerial Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean

A/44/264 Letter dated 2 May 1989 from the Permanent Representative
E/1989/73 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United

Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a letter dated 30 April 1989 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics addressed to the Secretary-General on proposals concerning the ways of establishing objectives and functions of a centre for emergency environmental assistance

A/44/340
E/1989/120

Letter dated 20 June 1989 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Declaration of The Hague of 11 March 1989 concerning the Earth's atmosphere and possible approaches to preserve its quality

A/44/394

Letter dated 14 July 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a letter addressed to the Heads of State or Government of the seven major industrialized countries concerning environmental issues facing the world at the present time

A/44/409-S/20743
and Corr.1 and
Corr.2

Letter dated 19 July 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held at Harare from 17 to 19 May 1989

A/44/463

Letter dated 11 August 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Final Communiqué of the Twentieth South Pacific Forum, held at Tawara, Kiribati, on 10 and 11 July 1989

A/44/477

Letter dated 22 August 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Grenada to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the tenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community held at Grand Anse, Grenada, from 3 to 7 July 1989

A/44/484

Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

A/44/683

Letter dated 25 October 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Declaration of Brasilia, issued by the Ministers of State in charge of environmental management and the representatives of the

countries participating in the Sixth Ministerial Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, held at Brasilia on 30 and 31 March 1989

- A/44/689-S/20921 Letter dated 26 October 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the communiqué adopted by the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting on 24 October 1989
- A/44/694 Letter dated 23 October 1989 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the texts of the Ica Declaration and Communiqué issued on 12 October 1989 by the Presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela at the Third Meeting of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action
- A/C.2/44/2 Letter dated 27 September 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Statement of the Meeting of Legal and Policy Experts, which met at Ottawa from 20 to 22 February 1989
- A/C.2/44/5 Letter dated 20 November 1989 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Declaration of the Ministerial Conference on Atmospheric Pollution and Climate Change, held in Noordwijk, the Netherlands, on 6 and 7 October 1989
- A/C.2/44/7 Letter dated 20 November 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the Male' Declaration on Global Warming and Sea Level Rise, adopted by the Small States' Conference on Sea Level Rise, held in Male', Maldives from 14 to 18 November 1989
- A/C.2/44/8 Letter dated 20 November 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the inaugural address by His Excellency Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, President of the Republic of Maldives, to the Small States' Conference on Sea Level Rise, held in Male', Maldives from 14 to 18 November 1989

4. At the 18th meeting, on 23 October, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/44/SR.18).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/44/L.38 and Rev.1

5. At the 33rd meeting, on 15 November, the representative of Australia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/44/L.38) entitled "Adverse effects of sea level rise on islands and low-lying coastal areas", on behalf of Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Vanuatu, subsequently joined by Cape Verde, Maldives, Myanmar, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 42/202 of 11 December 1987 and 43/53 of 6 December 1988,

"Aware of the global problem of sea level rise, which could adversely affect islands and low-lying coastal areas,

"Noting the final communiqué of the Twentieth South Pacific Forum held at Tarawa, Kiribati, on 10 and 11 July 1989, in which the Forum expressed concern at the possible effects on island countries of rising sea levels resulting from global warming and agreed that world attention should be drawn to the way the environmental problem affected the South Pacific region, 1/

"Noting also the Langkawi Declaration on Environment issued in Kuala Lumpur on 21 October 1989 by Heads of Government of the Commonwealth, in which they expressed support for low-lying and island countries in their efforts to protect themselves and their vulnerable natural marine ecosystems from the effects of sea-level rise, 2/

"Expressing concern that sea level rise resulting from global warming could possibly lead, inter alia, to abnormally high tides, which could intensify the erosion of coastal areas and damage infrastructure in islands and low-lying coastal areas,

"1. Welcomes the growing attention being given world wide to the potentially serious effects on islands and low-lying coastal areas of sea level rise resulting from global warming;

1/ A/44/463, annex, para. 20.

2/ A/44/673, para. 8 (k).

"2. Urges the international community to develop and implement strategies that would provide effective and timely support to islands and low-lying coastal areas in addressing problems of climate change and protecting themselves and their vulnerable natural marine ecosystems from the particular threats of sea level rise;

"3. Requests the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and their Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to take account in their work of the particular situation of islands and low-lying coastal areas and to seek ways to address the problems of sea level rise, inter alia, through improved management of coastal zones;

"4. Recommends that the vulnerable situation of islands and low-lying coastal areas and their marine ecosystems be considered during negotiations on a convention on climate change and during the proposed United Nations conference on environment and development and its preparations;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme."

6. At the 48th meeting, on 4 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Payton (New Zealand), made a statement in which he informed the Committee of the results of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/44/L.38 and drew the Committee's attention to a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/44/L.38/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/44/L.38, now joined by Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Dominica, the German Democratic Republic and Trinidad and Tobago, on the basis of informal consultations on that draft resolution. The Federal Republic of Germany, Guyana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Morocco and Poland subsequently joined in co-sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/44/L.38/Rev.1 by consensus (see para. 14, draft resolution I).

8. After the adoption of the revised draft resolution, the representative of Australia made a statement (see A/C.2/44/SR.48).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/44/L.40 and Rev.1

9. At the 40th meeting, on 20 November, the representative of Malta introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/44/L.40) entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, the Gambia, Germany, Federal Republic of, Jamaica, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Togo, Turkey, Vanuatu and Yugoslavia, subsequently joined by Argentina, Belgium, China, the

German Democratic Republic, Guinea-Bissau, Ireland, Italy, Singapore and Thailand.
The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 43/53 of 6 December 1988, in which it recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind,

"Recalling also decision 15/30 of 25 May 1989 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on global climate change, 1/

"Noting the message of the Chairman of the Conference on Saving the Ozone Layer, held in London in March 1989, the Declaration of The Hague adopted on 11 March 1989, 4/ the Helsinki Declaration on the Protection of the Ozone Layer adopted in May 1989, the Langkawi Declaration on Environment, issued by the Commonwealth Heads of Government at their meeting in Kuala Lumpur on 21 October 1989 5/ and the Declaration adopted at Noordwijk by the Ministerial Conference on Atmospheric Pollution and Climate Change in November 1989,

"Noting also the communiqué of 16 July 1989 adopted in Paris at the fifteenth annual economic summit by seven major industrialized countries and the President of the Commission of the European Communities which supported the decision of the World Meteorological Organization to establish a global reference network to detect climate change, agreed that a framework convention on climate was urgently required and recognized that specific protocols with commitments could develop within this framework,

"Noting further the conclusions of the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Movement held at Belgrade in September 1989, which, inter alia, emphasized that necessary and timely action should be taken to deal with climate changes and their consequences within a global framework and, in this context, called for the preparation and adoption of a framework convention on climate on an urgent basis in conformity with General Assembly resolution 43/53,

"Recognizing the need for international collaboration to adopt effective measures on the question of climate change, within a global framework, and taking into account the particular needs and development priorities of developing countries,

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/44/25), annex I.

4/ A/44/340-E/1989/120, annex.

5/ A/44/673, annex.

"1. Welcomes the emerging consensus on the need to address with urgency the question of climate change as reflected in the conclusions of various important international meetings;

"2. Urges Governments and intergovernmental organizations to collaborate in making every possible effort, in keeping with their national policies, priorities and regulations, to limit, reduce and prevent adverse climate change and calls upon non-governmental organizations, industry and other productive sectors to play their due role;

"3. Welcomes also the joint efforts of the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme in providing support to the urgent work being undertaken by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and its three Working Groups established to report on scientific assessments, social and economic impact of climate change and the formulation of response strategies;

"4. Invites all Governments to participate actively in the work of the Intergovernmental Panel;

"5. Urges the Intergovernmental Panel to take the necessary steps to ensure the scientific and policy participation of developing countries and invites the international community to provide assistance in this respect;

"6. Endorses decision 15/36 adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, which, inter alia, requested the Executive Director, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, to begin preparation for negotiations on a framework convention on climate, taking into account the work of the Intergovernmental Panel, as well as the results achieved at international meetings on the subject, and recommended that such negotiations be initiated as soon as possible after the adoption of the interim report of the Intergovernmental Panel;

"7. Urges Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and scientific institutions to collaborate in efforts to prepare as a matter of urgency a framework convention on climate, with specific protocols containing concrete commitments in the light of priorities that may be authoritatively identified on the basis of sound scientific knowledge, and taking into account the particular concerns of developing countries;

"8. Recommends that Governments and competent intergovernmental organizations consider, while awaiting the outcome of the negotiations, the range of possible options for averting the potentially damaging impacts of climate change as outlined in paragraph 11 of decision 15/36 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

"9. Encourages Governments and relevant international organizations to further the development of international funding mechanisms, not excluding a possible climate fund, for additional assistance, in particular to developing

countries, for the implementation of national and international policies to protect the environment from climate change;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General, in the context of ongoing intergovernmental and other efforts in this field, to continue with his support for the formulation and implementation of strategies to respond to climate change;

"11. Also requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, as well as intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and recognize scientific institutions with expertise in matters concerning climate;

"12. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution;

"13. Decides to include this item in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session."

10. At the 51st meeting, on 17 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Payton (New Zealand), made a statement in which he informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/44/L.40 and drew the Committee's attention to a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/44/L.40/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/44/L.40, subsequently joined by Côte d'Ivoire, on the basis of informal consultations held on that draft resolution.

11. At the same meeting, following statements by the representative of Nigeria, the Secretary of the Committee, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Payton (New Zealand), and the representatives of Nigeria, New Zealand, Algeria, Venezuela and Malta, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/44/L.40/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 14, draft resolution II).

12. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Malta.

C. Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind 6/

13. At the 51st meeting, on 17 December, upon the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind, (see para. 14, draft decision).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

14. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Possible adverse effects of sea-level rise on islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/202 of 11 December 1987 and 43/53 of 6 December 1988,

Aware of the potential global problem of sea-level rise, which could adversely affect islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas,

Recognizing the need for further scientific study of climate change, including the possibility of sea-level rise induced by global warming,

Noting the ongoing work within the United Nations system, in particular within the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, on the potential global problem of sea-level rise and, in this connection, decision 15/36 of 25 May 1989 on global climate change adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Noting that the South Pacific Forum expressed concern in the final communiqué of its twentieth meeting, held at Tarawa, Kiribati, on 10 and 11 July 1989, at the possible effects on island countries of rising sea levels resulting from global warming, 7/

Noting also that the Heads of Government of the Commonwealth, in the Langkawi Declaration of 21 October 1989, expressed support for low-lying and island countries in their efforts to protect themselves and their vulnerable natural marine ecosystems from the effects of sea-level rise, 8/

Noting further the Male' Declaration on Global Warming and Sea Level Rise, issued at the Small States Conference on Sea Level Rise held in Male', Maldives, from 14 to 18 November 1989, 9/ in which the participants declared

7/ A/44/463, annex, para. 20.

8/ A/44/673, para. 8 (k).

9/ A/C.2/44/7, annex.

their intent to work, collaborate and seek international co-operation to protect the low-lying small coastal and island States of the world from the dangers posed by climate change, global warming and sea-level rise,

Expressing concern that sea-level rise resulting from global climate change could lead, inter alia, to abnormally high tides, which could intensify flooding and the erosion of coastal areas and damage infrastructure in islands and low-lying coastal areas,

1. Welcomes the growing attention being given world-wide to the potentially serious effects on islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas, of sea-level rise resulting from climate change;

2. Urges the international community to provide effective and timely support to countries affected by sea-level rise, particularly developing countries, in their efforts to develop and implement strategies to protect themselves and their vulnerable natural marine ecosystems from the particular threats of sea-level rise caused by climate change;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to invite the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and, through them, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to take account in their work of the particular situation of islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas, by undertaking further scientific studies and by seeking ways to address the problems of sea-level rise, inter alia, by providing expertise, as requested, in accordance with their specific mandates for improved management of coastal zones;

4. Recommends that the vulnerability of affected countries and their marine ecosystems to sea-level rise be considered during discussions of a draft framework convention on climate, and within the framework of the United Nations conference on environment and development to be held in 1992 and during its preparatory process;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/53 of 6 December 1988, in which it recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind,

Recalling also decision 15/36 of 3 May 1989 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on global climate change, 10/

Noting the message of the Chairman of the Conference on Saving the Ozone Layer, held in London in March 1989, the Declaration adopted at The Hague in March 1989, 11/ the Helsinki Declaration on the Protection of the Ozone Layer adopted in May 1989, the relevant parts of the Langkawi Declaration issued by the Commonwealth Heads of Government at their meeting in Malaysia in October 1989, 12/ the Declaration adopted at Noordwijk, the Netherlands, by the Ministerial Conference on Atmospheric Pollution and Climate Change held on 6 and 7 November 1989, 13/ and relevant parts of the Caracas Declaration adopted at the Special Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, 14/ held at Caracas from 21 to 23 June 1989,

Noting the relevant declarations and decisions adopted at intergovernmental regional meetings during 1989, including the Amazon Declaration, 15/ adopted on 6 May by the Presidents of the States Parties to the Treaty for Amazonian Co-operation at their meeting in Manaus, Brazil, the Declaration of Brasilia, 16/ adopted at Brasilia in March, and the relevant parts of the Final Communiqué of the Twentieth South Pacific Forum, held at Tarawa, Kiribati, in July, 17/

Noting also the relevant parts of the Communiqué of 16 July 1989 adopted in Paris at the fifteenth annual economic summit by seven major industrial nations and the President of the Commission of the European Communities, which supported the decision of the World Meteorological Organization to establish a global reference network to detect climate change, agreed that a framework convention on climate was urgently required and recognized that specific protocols with commitments could develop within this framework,

10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/44/25), annex I.

11/ A/44/340-E/1989/120, annex.

12/ A/44/673, annex.

13/ A/C.2/44/5, annex.

14/ A/44/361, annex.

15/ A/44/275, annex.

16/ A/44/683, annex.

17/ A/44/463, annex.

/...

Noting further the conclusions of the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade in September 1989, 18/ which, inter alia, emphasized that necessary and timely action should be taken to deal with climate changes and their consequences within a global framework and, in this context, called for the preparation and adoption of a framework convention on climate on an urgent basis in conformity with General Assembly resolution 43/53,

Recognizing the need for additional research and scientific studies into all sources, causes and effects of climate change,

Noting the fact that the largest part of the current emission of pollutants into the environment originates in developed countries, and recognizing therefore that those countries have the main responsibility for combating such pollution,

Recognizing the need for international collaboration with a view to adopting effective measures on the question of climate change, within a global framework and taking into account the particular needs and development priorities of developing countries,

Concerned that the participation of the developing countries in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change remains limited, and stressing the need for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in view of its intergovernmental nature, to do all that it can to ensure adequate participation and governmental involvement in its activities in accordance with United Nations practice,

1. Emphasizes the need to address with urgency the question of climate change as reflected in the conclusions of various important international meetings;
2. Recommends that Governments, with due consideration of the need for increased scientific knowledge of the sources, causes and impact of climate change and of global, regional and local climates, continue and, wherever possible, increase their activities in support of the World Climate Programme and the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, including the monitoring of atmospheric composition and climate conditions, and further recommends that the international community support efforts by developing countries to participate in these scientific activities;
3. Urges Governments, in keeping with their national policies, priorities and regulations, and intergovernmental organizations to collaborate in making every possible effort to limit, reduce and prevent activities that could adversely affect climate, and calls upon non-governmental organizations, industry and other productive sectors to play their due role;

4. Reaffirms that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their environmental policies, and also reaffirms their responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and the need to play their due role in preserving and protecting the global and regional environment in accordance with their capacities and specific responsibilities;

5. Reaffirms that the United Nations system, through the General Assembly, owing to its universal character, is the appropriate forum for concerted political action on global environmental problems;

6. Welcomes the joint efforts of the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme in providing support to the urgent work being undertaken by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and its three Working Groups established to assess scientific information on, and the social and economic impact of, climate change and to formulate response strategies;

7. Invites all Governments, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support fully and participate actively in the work of the Intergovernmental Panel;

8. Welcomes the establishment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Trust Fund and the contributions made to it;

9. Urges the Intergovernmental Panel to take the necessary steps to ensure the scientific and policy participation of developing countries in its work, and calls upon the international community, in particular the developed countries, to consider contributing generously to the Trust Fund, with a view to financing the participation of experts designated by Governments of developing countries in all the meetings of the Panel, including its working groups and subgroups;

10. Supports the request made by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in its decision 15/36, that the Executive Director of the Programme, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, begin preparations for negotiations on a framework convention on climate, taking into account the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, as well as the results achieved at international meetings on the subject, including the Second World Climate Conference, and recommends that such negotiations begin as soon as possible after the adoption of the interim report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and that the General Assembly at an early date during its forty-fifth session take a decision recommending ways and means and modalities for further pursuing these negotiations, taking into account the work of the preparatory committee for the conference on environment and development to be held in 1992;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to circulate for the information of delegations the reports of the third and fourth plenary sessions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, as well as its interim report, as official documents of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

12. Urges Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and scientific institutions to collaborate in efforts to prepare as a matter of urgency a framework convention on climate, and associated protocols containing concrete commitments in the light of priorities that may be authoritatively identified on the basis of sound scientific knowledge, and taking into account the specific development needs of developing countries;

13. Recommends that Governments and competent intergovernmental organizations consider, while awaiting the outcome of the negotiations, the range of possible options for averting the potentially damaging impacts of climate change, for removing the causes of the phenomenon and for developing programmes for implementing those more appropriate to national needs as outlined in paragraphs 11 (a) to (f) of decision 15/36 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

14. Encourages Governments and relevant international organizations to further the development of international funding mechanisms, taking account of proposals for a climate fund and other innovative ideas, bearing in mind the need to provide new and additional financial resources to support developing countries in identifying, analysing, monitoring, preventing and managing environmental problems, primarily at their source, in accordance with national development goals, objectives and plans, so as to ensure that development priorities are not adversely affected;

15. Decides that the concept of assured access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies for developing countries on favourable terms and its relation to intellectual property rights should be explored in the context of the elaboration of a framework convention on climate with a view to developing effective responses to the needs of developing countries in this area;

16. Requests the Secretary-General, in the context of ongoing intergovernmental and other efforts in this field, to continue his support for the formulation and implementation of strategies to respond to climate change;

17. Also requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, as well as intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and scientific institutions with expertise in matters concerning climate;

18. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution;

19. ~~Decides~~ to include this item in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session, without prejudice to the application of the principle of biennialization.

15. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of global
climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly decides to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind. 19/
