

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1998

New York, 22 January and 3 and 6 February 1998

RESUMED ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1998

New York, 7 May 1998

SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1998

New York, 6–31 July and 5 August 1998

RESUMED SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1998

New York, 16 December 1998

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1998

SUPPLEMENT No. 1



UNITED NATIONS

New York, 2000

10. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

11. *Welcomes* the continuing initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

12. *Encourages* Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

13. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations;

14. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

15. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 1998 of the Economic and Social Council;

16. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee and to report thereon to the Council;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the present resolution, paying particular attention to cooperation and integration arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system, and to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999;

18. *Decides* to keep these questions under continuous review.

*46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998*

1998/39. Status of the least developed countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/210 of 18 December 1997 which included, *inter alia*, a reference to an assessment of the usefulness of a vulnerability index for small island developing States as a criterion for the designation of least developed countries,

Noting that the requested assessment has not been completed,

Welcoming the proposals to continue the work on improvements to the criteria and methodology for the designation of least developed countries,¹³⁰

Taking note of the content of the letter dated 8 July 1998 from the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Vanuatu to the President of the Economic and Social Council on the proposed graduation of Vanuatu from the list of the least developed countries,¹³¹ wherein reasons were advanced to support the position that the review of the status of Vanuatu should be deferred to the year 2000, and which was circulated as a document of the Council,

1. *Reaffirms* the need for such an assessment to be made in respect of a decision on the graduation of Vanuatu from the list of the least developed countries;

2. *Notes* that the Economic and Social Council will discuss the programme of work of the Committee for Development Planning during the organizational session for 1999 of the Council, and, in this regard, stresses the need for the Committee to include in its report to the Council at its substantive session of 1999 an assessment of the usefulness of a vulnerability index for small island developing States as a criterion for the designation of least developed countries and consideration of the work of all relevant international agencies on the vulnerability of small States;

3. *Decides* to postpone its consideration of the graduation of Vanuatu until the above-mentioned report of the Committee for Development Planning has been submitted and to take a decision accordingly.

*46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998*

1998/40. Declaring the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in which the Council recognized the contribution of international years to the furtherance of international cooperation and understanding,

Recalling also Agenda 21,¹¹⁹ which was adopted by one hundred and eighty-two Governments at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit), on 14 June 1992, and the conclusions of the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session relative to sustainable tourism,¹³²

Stressing that the implementation of Agenda 21 requires the full integration of sustainable development into the tourism industry in order to ensure, *inter alia*, that travel and tourism provide a source of income for many people, that travel and tourism contribute to the conservation, protection and restoration of the Earth's ecosystem, that international trade in travel and tourism services takes place on a sustainable basis

¹³⁰ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 14 (E/1998/34), chap. IV, sect. A.*

¹³¹ E/1998/89, annex.

¹³² General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex, paras. 67-70.