

shipments to proceed, to inquire with the authorities of importing States about the legitimacy of transactions of concern and to inform the International Narcotics Control Board of the action taken, in particular when they do not receive any reply to their inquiries;

3. *Also requests* Governments of States exporting such precursors to inform the States concerned and the Board, as soon as possible, if export orders are cancelled pending a reply to inquiries made to importing States;

4. *Requests* Governments of both importing and exporting States, in cooperation with the Board, to take appropriate action to protect the legitimate interests of industries that cooperate in inquiries to verify the legitimacy of transactions involving the precursors specified in paragraph 1 above;

5. *Also requests* Governments of importing and exporting States to take steps to initiate a cooperative, rapid and effective exchange of information, with each other and with the Board, concerning stopped or cancelled shipments of such precursors, in order to alert Governments of other States that might be targeted as points of diversion;

6. *Encourages* Governments to consider making voluntary contributions to assist the Programme in the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to all Governments for consideration and implementation as a matter of priority.

*36th plenary meeting  
21 July 1997*

#### **1997/42. Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 49/128 of 19 December 1994 and 50/124 of 20 December 1995 on the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development and 51/176 of 16 December 1996, in which the Assembly reiterated that the Commission on Population and Development had the primary responsibility for monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Conference,<sup>3</sup>

1. *Takes note* of decision 97/14 adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund on 16 May 1997,<sup>205</sup>

2. *Recommends* that the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, decide on the process and modalities, including the possibility of convening a special session of the Assembly in 1999, for reviewing and appraising the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, under agenda item 97 (c), entitled "Population and development";

<sup>205</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 13 (E/1997/33)*, part three.

3. *Recommends* that the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted to the General Assembly under that agenda item contain consolidated recommendations from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Population Fund, the regional commissions and other relevant United Nations entities on activities to be undertaken in preparation for the review.

*37th plenary meeting  
22 July 1997*

#### **1997/43. Report of the Council of the United Nations University**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 3081 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973,

*Stressing* the need to rationalize further the agenda of its substantive session in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Council of the United Nations University for 1996;<sup>206</sup>

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the outgoing Rector of the United Nations University for his contribution to the work of the University during his term in office;

3. *Recommends* that the General Assembly adopt a decision whereby, beginning in 1998, the report of the Council of the University would be considered directly by the Second Committee of the General Assembly in accordance with its programme of work.

*37th plenary meeting  
22 July 1997*

#### **1997/44. International Year of Volunteers, 2001**

*The Economic and Social Council*

*Recommends* to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

*"The General Assembly,*

*"Recalling* its resolutions 2659 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 31/131 of 16 December 1976, 31/166 of 21 December 1976, 40/212 of 17 December 1985 and 49/139 B of 20 December 1994, and bearing in mind decision 96/32 adopted on 10 May 1996 by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund,<sup>207</sup> in which the Executive Board acknowledged the importance of the contribution made by volunteers worldwide and expressed its support for the efforts of the United Nations Volunteers to promote further volunteer work,

*"Taking into account* its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council

<sup>206</sup> E/1997/7.

<sup>207</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1996, Supplement No. 13 (E/1996/33)*, part three.

resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 concerning guidelines for international years and anniversaries,

“*Noting* the significant contribution that volunteers make in their own countries to improving the welfare and realizing the aspirations of their fellow citizens for improved economic and social well-being and the financing of their work largely through civil society, including the private sector, as well as the important achievements of volunteers assigned internationally to the attainment of the development goals of Member States,

“*Noting also* the assistance provided by the United Nations Volunteers, in particular to United Nations organizations and operations in the fields of social and economic development, humanitarian aid and the promotion of peace, democracy and respect for human rights and, above all, in helping to link these efforts closely to the populations for whom they are intended,

“*Noting further* the importance of new players taking the initiative at the local, national and international levels, in particular individuals and organizations of civil society, in partnership with Governments, as emphasized in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,<sup>76</sup>

“*Bearing in mind* the conclusion of the Fourth World Conference on Women, that women should be enabled to benefit from lifelong learning, including volunteer activity,<sup>208</sup> and noting that much volunteer activity is performed by women and that such socially useful work should be appropriately recognized and supported,

“*Convinced* that the need for volunteer effort is greater than ever in the light of the adverse impact of such global problems as environmental degradation, poverty, drug abuse and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) on the more vulnerable sectors of society and of the trend for civil society, in partnership with government and the private sector, to assume ever greater responsibilities in the development process,

“*Convinced also* that a year designed to enhance the recognition, facilitation, networking and promotion of volunteer service, with particular emphasis on activity at the local level, could make a significant contribution to generating increased awareness of the achievements and the further potential of volunteer service, to encouraging offers of service from a greatly expanded number of individuals and to channelling resources to augment the effectiveness of such service,

“*Noting with satisfaction* that the proposal for the year has gained widespread support within civil society,

“1. *Proclaims* the year 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers;

“2. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system and intergovernmental, volunteer and non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations to collaborate and identify ways and means of enhancing the recognition, facilitation, networking and promotion of volunteer service in the preparations for and observance of the Year;

“3. *Designates* the United Nations Volunteers programme, without prejudice to existing priorities, as the focal point for the preparations, implementation and follow-up of the Year, in close collaboration with other organizations of the United Nations system, and encourages the United Nations Volunteers to continue the process of close collaboration and partnership with Governments and international and national volunteer and non-governmental organizations, in particular, with regard to the preparations for and implementation of the Year;

“4. *Invites* policy-making organs and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to consider, in the context of their substantive mandates, the principles and objectives of the Year, making special efforts through new and existing programmes during the period 1998–2001 and to pursue follow-up action to the Year for the benefit of all countries and peoples;

“5. *Appeals to* Member States, as well as all other participants in the observance of the Year, to highlight the year 2001 as a special occasion benefiting the peoples of the world in their quest for a better life for all, based on the voluntary commitment of individuals and groups to make available their time and to share their resources and skills in the interest of those less advantaged;

“6. *Calls for* a concerted promotional and information campaign on behalf of the Year at the national, regional and international levels, with the strong participation of the mass media;

“7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take specific measures, within existing resources and with support from voluntary resources, through all the communications media at his disposal, in particular within the mandate of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to give widespread publicity to the preparations for and observance of the Year and to disseminate information on the subject.”

37th plenary meeting  
22 July 1997

#### 1997/45. Proclamation of an international year of mountains

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Mindful* that mountains represent an essential component of the global life-support system and a positive asset offering opportunities for sustainable development, if adequately managed on the basis of the best available scientific

<sup>208</sup> Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II, para. 73.