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**Governing Council  
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Environment Programme**

**Twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/  
Global Ministerial Environment Forum**

Nairobi, 18–22 February 2013

Item 5 of the provisional agenda\*

**Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of  
United Nations summits and major intergovernmental  
meetings, including the decisions of the Governing  
Council**

**Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its  
sixty-seventh session of relevance to the United Nations  
Environment Programme**

**Note by the Executive Director<sup>1</sup>**

*Summary*

The present note highlights selected resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session that are relevant to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), including those grouped in conformity with the six sub-programmes of the work programme for the current biennium, and also those of regional and administrative significance.

Special attention has been given to those resolutions related to the follow up on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) entitled “The Future We Want”, which includes provisions for strengthening and upgrading UNEP and measures for an enhanced institutional framework for sustainable development.

\* UNEP/GC.27/1.

<sup>1</sup> Issued without formal editing.

## I. Introduction

1. At its sixty-seventh session, the General Assembly adopted 248 resolutions between 18 September and 24 December 2012, including those adopted in plenary and those recommended by the six Main Committees. The resolutions covered diverse areas of focus, including disarmament and international security; human rights, social, humanitarian and cultural matters; economic, environmental and sustainable development matters; administrative and budgetary matters; and matters related to cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.

2. A significant number of the General Assembly resolutions are of direct relevance to the programme of work of UNEP, particularly to its current six sub-programmes: environmental governance; ecosystem management; climate change; disasters and conflict; harmful substances and hazardous waste; and resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production. Many resolutions took into account the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012; as well as the preparations for the post-2015 development agenda.

3. A total of 36 draft resolutions were recommended for General Assembly adoption by the Second Committee, whose deliberations and decisions on economic and financial issues are of special relevance to the UNEP programme of work, particularly with regards to resolutions and provisions on environmental matters, sustainable development and the follow up to the Rio +20 conference and preparations of the post-2015 development agenda.

4. The Second Committee recommended for General Assembly adoption resolution 67/213 on the *Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and on the implementation of section IV.C, entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development", of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development*, which provides for the strengthening and upgrading of UNEP pursuant to paragraph 88 (a) to (h) of the Rio +20 outcome document, "The Future we Want" as endorsed by the General Assembly through its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012.

5. The Committee recommended for General Assembly adoption resolution 67/203 on the *Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development*, which provides for further follow up on various decisions of the Rio +20 outcome document, with particular focus on the institutional framework for sustainable development.

6. The General Assembly also adopted on the recommendation by the Second Committee resolution 67/226 on the *Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system*, which sets out the principles, objectives and guidelines for the deployment of operational activities for development carried out by the United Nations system.

7. The following sections summarize relevant resolutions in the context of the six UNEP subprogrammes, highlighting not only the diversity and breadth of the issues considered by the General Assembly, but also their significance to the programme as a whole. The final text of all the resolutions adopted by the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session will be available online in 2013 from <http://www.un.org/en/ga/67/resolutions.shtml>.

## I. Resolutions relevant to environmental governance subprogramme

### A. Resolution 67/203: Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

8. In resolution 67/203, the General Assembly reaffirmed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNSCD), entitled "The Future we Want", which the GA endorsed through its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012. Among other aspects the GA: recalled in its resolution 67/203 the commitment to strengthen the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and recognized its key role in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development; recalled that the working group on sustainable development goals would submit its report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session; called for the intergovernmental committee established to propose options on an effective sustainable development financing strategy to start its work; and decided to hold a series of four workshops on options for a facilitation

mechanism that would promote the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies.

9. The resolution called for the negotiation process to define the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum (HLPF) and for such work to be concluded by May 2013 so as to provide enough time to prepare the first high-level forum to be convened at the beginning of the sixty eighth session of the Assembly. The GA welcomed the adoption at Rio +20 of the ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns; established a ten-member small board; recalled that UNEP serves as the framework's secretariat, and decided to designate the Economic and Social Council as the ad interim Member State body to receive reports from the board and secretariat. It also requested UNEP to establish a trust fund for sustainable consumption and production programmes to mobilize voluntary contributions from multiple sources; and invited Member States and other stakeholders to designate focal points for sustainable consumption and production.

**B. Resolution 67/207: Follow-up to the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**

10. In resolution 67/207, the General Assembly reaffirmed the decision to convene in 2014 the third international conference on small island developing states (SIDS) as called for in the Rio +20 outcome document, and welcomed the offer of the Government of Samoa to host the conference. Among other aspects related to the 2014 conference, the General Assembly also outlined its objectives and decided to convene preparatory meetings in each of the three SIDS regions. It also invited the President of the General Assembly to launch the preparatory process, and decided to consider further at its sixty-eighth session the modalities and format of the conference.

**C. Resolution 67/213: Report of the UNEP Governing Council on its twelfth special session and on the implementation of section IV.C, entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development", of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

11. In resolution 67/213, the General Assembly decided to strengthen and upgrade the United Nations Environment Programme as set out in subparagraphs (a) to (h) of paragraph 88 of the Rio +20 outcome document, entitled "The Future we Want" as endorsed by GA resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012. The GA established universal membership in UNEP Governing Council and mandated it to hold its first universal session in February 2013, in Nairobi, in order to expeditiously initiate the implementation of the provisions contained in paragraph 88 of the outcome document, make a recommendation on the designation of the Governing Council to reflect its universal character and decide on future arrangements for the Global Ministerial Environment Forum.

12. The General Assembly recalled the decision to have secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations and voluntary contributions for UNEP to fulfil its mandate, and requested the Secretary-General to reflect in the 2014-2015 biennium budget proposal resources that take into account the proposed revised programme of work and the implementation of paragraph 88 of the Rio +20 outcome document, "The future we Want". The GA also urged donors to increase voluntary funding to UNEP and requested the Secretary-General to maintain the UNEP resource needs from the UN regular budget under review, in the light of the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document.

**D. Resolution 67/216: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**

13. In resolution 67/216, the General Assembly reaffirmed its decision to convene in 2016 a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III). It welcomed the offer of the Government of Turkey to host the Conference and decided on provisions related to its scope, outcome and preparatory process. It also decided to consider final dates, format and organizational aspects of the Conference no later than at its sixty-ninth session.

## **II. Resolutions relevant to ecosystem management subprogramme**

### **A. Resolution 67/78: Oceans and the law of the sea**

14. In resolution 67/78, which was adopted by a vote of 125 in favour, with 1 against, and 4 abstentions, the General Assembly, among many other things, called on States to take action related to the health of the oceans and marine biodiversity, which were being negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris. In that context, it noted UNEP work and called for the implementation of initiatives such as the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA). The Assembly requested that the first draft of the global marine assessment, under the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including socioeconomic aspects, be made available for Member States' comment from June to August 2014. It invited the UNESCO-IOC, UNEP, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and other competent UN specialized agencies to continue to provide technical and scientific support to the Regular Process.

15. The Assembly highlighted the continued call by Member States for enhanced inter-agency cooperation by the UN system through UN-Oceans. The Assembly welcomed the work done by the secretariats of relevant UN specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation on ocean issues, including through UN-Oceans. It also noted the initiative of the Secretary-General, "Oceans Compact – Healthy Oceans for Prosperity", and requested the Secretary-General to undertake open and regular consultations with Member States on all aspects of that initiative.

### **B. Resolution 67/79: Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments**

16. In resolution 67/79, the General Assembly expressed concern over the effects of climate change on food security and the sustainability of fisheries and noted the work of IPCC, UNEP and FAO. It also called for the implementation of plans of action for the conservation and management of sharks, such as those developed under the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). The resolution also recognized, for the first time, the need to collect data on the use of fish aggregating devices, so as to improve monitoring and mitigation measures for those devices. The Assembly noted that the Rio +20 conference had addressed the sustainable development of fisheries and stressed the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for food security and nutrition, and in providing for livelihood of millions of people.

17. The Assembly also noted the commitments made by States at Rio+20 on the need to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing as a threat to sustainable development; to eliminate subsidies that contributed to such fishing and over-capacity; and to enhance actions to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from adverse impacts. It also called for the adoption, by 2014, of strategies to assist developing countries in developing their national capacity in the area of sustainable fisheries.

### **C. Resolution 67/174: The right to food**

18. In resolution 67/174, the General Assembly, among other things, expressed its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters, diseases and pest infestations, as well as the negative impact of climate change, and their increasing impact in recent years, which had resulted in massive loss of life and livelihood and threatened agricultural production and food security. It recognized the importance of the protection and preservation of agrobiodiversity in guaranteeing food security and the right to food for all, as well as the critical contribution made by the fisheries sector. It also stressed the importance of fighting hunger in rural areas, including through national efforts supported by international partnerships to stop desertification and land degradation and through investments and public policies that were specifically appropriate to the risk of drylands. It also stressed the importance of international cooperation and development assistance as an effective contribution both to the expansion and improvement of agriculture and its environmental sustainability, as well as to the achievement of sustainable food security.

**D. Resolution 67/200: International Day of Forests**

19. In resolution 67/200, the General Assembly decided to proclaim 21 March of each year the International Day of Forests, to be observed starting in 2013, in order to celebrate and raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests and of trees outside forests. It also invited all Member States to devote the International Day to present, promote and organize activities with regard to all types of forests and trees outside forests.

**E. Resolution 67/211: Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa**

20. Among other provisions, in resolution 67/211 the General Assembly reaffirmed its resolve to take coordinated action, in accordance to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, to globally monitor land degradation and restore degraded lands in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, and to support and strengthen the implementation of the Convention and the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance its implementation (2008-2018). The GA also encouraged giving consideration to the issues of desertification in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda; stressed the importance of efforts under way to strengthen the scientific base of activities to address desertification and drought; reiterated the need for cooperation through the sharing of climate and weather information; and reiterated its invitation to the Global Environment Facility to consider increasing allocations to the land degradation focal area.

**F. Resolution 67/212: Convention on Biological Diversity**

21. In resolution 67/212, the General Assembly welcomed the establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and invited an early commencement of its work, in order to provide the best available policy-relevant information on biodiversity to assist decision makers. The General Assembly also acknowledged the importance of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and invited all stakeholders to take them into account in the post-2015 development agenda. It also recognized the role of indigenous and local communities in the stewardship and sustainable management of natural renewable resources, and the possible role of market- and non-market-based approaches in the management of those resources. It stressed the importance of private-sector engagement for the implementation of the Convention; and called upon Governments and all stakeholders to take measures to mainstream consideration of the socioeconomic impacts and benefits of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components.

22. As part of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity and to further efforts to improve coherence, the GA decided to devote one event of the Second Committee during the sixty-eighth session to a joint briefing by UNEP, WIPO, UNESCO, UNDP, UNCTAD, the secretariat of the CBD and other UN bodies, on the implementation of the objectives of the Convention, including actions undertaken to promote access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization and associated traditional knowledge.

**G. Resolution 67/214: Harmony with nature**

23. In resolution 67/214, the General Assembly requested the President of the General Assembly to convene an interactive dialogue during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day, on 22 April 2013, including the participation of Member States and United Nations organizations to advance discussions on economic approaches, in the context of sustainable development, to further a more ethical basis for the relationship between humanity and the Earth. The General Assembly recognized the need for measures of progress to complement gross domestic product and recalled the request made to the Statistical Commission to launch a programme of work in this area, in accordance to paragraph 38 of the Rio +20 outcome document.

**H. Resolution 67/223: Promotion of ecotourism for poverty eradication and environment protection**

24. In resolution 67/223, the General Assembly welcomed the efforts of the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Convention on Biological Diversity to promote ecotourism and sustainable tourism worldwide. The Assembly emphasized that ecotourism could contribute to sustainable development, particularly environmental protection; and could create significant opportunities for the conservation, protection and sustainable use of biodiversity and of natural areas by encouraging local and indigenous

communities in host countries and tourists alike to preserve and respect the natural and cultural heritage.

### **I. Resolution 67/228: Agriculture development and food security**

25. In resolution 67/228, the General Assembly reiterated the need to address agriculture development and food security, taking into account the importance of enhancing synergies between sustainable agriculture practices, biodiversity, food security, nutrition, and development policies. It also reaffirmed the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and its funding, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. It invited Member States and other stakeholders to give appropriate consideration to the issue of agriculture development, food security and nutrition in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda.

## **III. Resolutions relevant to climate change subprogramme**

### **A. Resolution 67/210: Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind**

26. In resolution 67/210, the General Assembly recognized the need to build on the existing political momentum with a view to advancing climate change negotiations. The General Assembly also took note of the decision by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to launch a process to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force; the decision that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall complete this work no later than 2015, towards implementation as from 2020; and the decision to launch a workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition to identify and explore options for a range of actions that can close the ambition gap, with a view to ensuring the highest possible mitigation efforts by all parties.

### **B. Resolution 67/215: Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy**

27. In resolution 67/215, the General Assembly decided to declare the decade 2014-2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All and invited the Secretary-General a report on the Decade. It also encouraged efforts by Governments aimed at creating and developing an enabling environment at all levels to ensure the promotion and use of new and renewable sources of energy; recognized the importance of giving appropriate consideration to energy issues in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda.

## **IV. Resolutions relevant to disasters and conflicts subprogramme**

### **A. Resolution 67/31: Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia**

28. In resolution 67/31, the General Assembly, by a vote of 146 in favour, with 2 against, and 35 abstentions, emphasized the role of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia in promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination. It also welcomed the submission at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of a working paper on the environmental consequences of uranium mining.

### **B. Resolution 67/36: Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium**

29. In resolution 67/36, the General Assembly, by a vote of 155 in favour, with 4 against, and 27 abstentions, recognized the importance of implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of UNEP, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Health Organization to mitigate potential hazards to human beings and the environment from the contamination of territories with depleted uranium (DU) residues. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to request relevant international organizations to update and complete, as appropriate, their studies and research on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing DU on human health and the environment and invited Member States that have used armaments and ammunitions containing DU in armed conflicts to provide the relevant authorities of affected States, upon request, with information, as detailed as possible, about the location of the areas of use and the amounts used, with the objective of facilitating the assessment of such areas.

**C. Resolution 67/37: Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control**

30. In resolution 67/37, the General Assembly called upon States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its selective contribution to attaining sustainable development.

**D. Resolution 67/113: International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space**

31. In resolution 67/113, the General Assembly emphasized that cooperation in the field of space activities is essential to assist States in the development of their space capabilities and contribute to the achievement of the goals of the Millennium Declaration, as well as the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications to sustainable development, including mitigation of the consequences of disasters. The General Assembly noted with appreciation the contribution of the Group on Earth Observations to the Rio +20 conference by addressing issues related to the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development; and urged entities of the UN system to continue to examine, in cooperation with the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to implementing the development agenda, in areas such as food security and increasing opportunities for education.

**E. Resolution 67/52: Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status**

32. In resolution 67/52, the General Assembly invited Member States to continue to cooperate with Mongolia in taking the necessary measures to consolidate and strengthen its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders, its independent foreign policy, its economic security and its ecological balance, as well as its nuclear-weapon-free status.

**F. Resolution 67/149: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

33. In resolution 67/149, the General Assembly expressed its concern about the challenges associated with climate change and environmental degradation to the protection activities of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees and the assistance it provided to vulnerable populations of concern across the globe, particularly in the least developed countries. The Assembly called upon the Office to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, and noted with appreciation those donor States, organizations and individuals that contributed to improving the condition of refugees who remained vulnerable members of society.

**G. Resolution 67/150: Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa**

34. In resolution 67/150, the General Assembly noted with great concern that, despite all of the efforts made so far by the United Nations, the African Union and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remained precarious. Among other things, the Assembly called upon the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum, as well as internally displaced persons.

**H. Resolution 67/201: Oil slick on Lebanese shores**

35. In resolution 67/201, which was adopted by a vote of 172 in favour, with 9 against, and 5 abstentions, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to give further consideration to the option of securing the relevant compensation for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to measure and quantify environmental damage resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks, in consultation with the relevant United Nations agencies.

**I. Resolution 67/208: International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon**

36. In resolution 67/208, the General Assembly welcomed the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño and noted its contribution as reference centre on El Niño, including through developing a new climatic database, applied research in climate change and vulnerability assessments in highlands, coastal zones and marine-protected and urban areas. It also called upon the Secretary-General, the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt measures to further strengthen the Centre on El Niño, and provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose.

**J. Resolution 67/209: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**

37. In resolution 67/209, the General Assembly stressed the importance of continued consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction for the achievement of sustainable development. It also welcomed the fourth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, which will be held in Geneva in May 2013 and will focus on reviewing progress in the implementation of commitments made in this area; and requested the Secretary-General to keep the institutional arrangements of the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction under review, with a view to supporting it in effectively and efficiently carrying out its cross-cutting mandate and its role as the focal point for disaster reduction within the United Nations system.

38. The General Assembly decided to convene the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Japan, in early 2015, to review the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and to adopt a framework for disaster risk reduction beyond 2015.

**K. Resolution 67/229: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources**

39. In resolution 67/229, which was adopted by a vote of 170 in favour, with 7 against, and 9 abstentions, the General Assembly reaffirmed the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and of the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land, water and energy resources. The Assembly demanded that Israel cease the exploitation, damage, cause of loss or depletion, and endangerment of those natural resources. It called upon Israel to cease all actions harming the environment, including the dumping of waste materials in the territory, which posed an environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian populations. It requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the resolution, including on the cumulative impact of the exploitation, damage and depletion of natural resources.

**L. Resolution 67/231: International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development**

40. In resolution 67/231, the General Assembly expressed its concern at the increasing impact of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences. It also acknowledged that climate change, among other factors, contributed to environmental degradation and to the increase in the intensity and frequency of climate and extreme weather events, both of which amplified disaster risk, and encouraged Member States and all relevant organizations to support adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early-warning systems.

**V. Resolutions relevant to harmful substances and hazardous wastes subprogramme**

**A. Resolution 67/112: Effects of atomic radiation**

41. In resolution 67/112, the General Assembly commended the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) for the valuable contribution it had been making to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation. The Assembly urged UNEP to continue to strengthen the funding of the Scientific Committee and encouraged Member States to make voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by UNEP's Executive Director to support the work of the Scientific Committee. It welcomed UNSCEAR's scientific reports on attributing health effects to radiation exposure and inferring risks

and on uncertainties in risk estimates for cancer due to exposure to ionizing radiation. The Assembly endorsed the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee to complete an assessment of the levels of exposure and radiation risks attributable to the accident following the great east-Japan earthquake and tsunami and a report on the effects of radiation exposure on children, and its decision to initiate its next Global Survey of Medical Radiation Usage and Exposures. It also welcomed the strategy of the Scientific Committee to improve data collection, and encouraged the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the World Health Organization (WHO) and other relevant organizations to establish and coordinate with the Secretariat the arrangements for periodic collection and exchange of data on radiation exposures of workers, the general public and, in particular, medical patients.

## **VI. Resolutions relevant to resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production subprogramme**

### **A. Resolution 67/196: International trade and development**

42. In resolution 67/196, the General Assembly reiterated the important role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and called upon the international community to work towards the strengthening of the Conference. It also welcomed the convening and recalled the outcome of the thirteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Doha on the theme "Development-centred globalization: Towards inclusive and sustainable growth and development.

### **B. Resolution 67/197: International financial system and development**

43. In resolution 67/197, the General Assembly recognized the need to continue and intensify efforts to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, and reiterated the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national development efforts to ensure sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. It also stressed the need to tackle the challenges confronting the global economy in order to ensure balanced, sustainable, inclusive and equitable global growth with full and productive employment and quality job. The General Assembly reiterated the resolve to strengthen the coordination of the United Nations system and multilateral financial, trade and development institutions so as to support economic growth, poverty eradication, job creation and sustainable development worldwide.

### **D. Resolution 67/198: External debt sustainability and development**

44. In resolution 67/198, the General Assembly encouraged the United Nations and the international financial institutions to continue to support global efforts towards sustained, inclusive and equitable growth, sustainable development and the external debt sustainability of developing countries, including through continued monitoring of global financial flows and their implications in this regard; and stressed that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, economic development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. In this regard, it also urged countries to direct the resources freed through debt relief, towards achieving those objectives, including in the context of the post-2015 development agenda, according to their national priorities and strategies. The Assembly welcomed the efforts of and invited creditors to provide flexibility to developing countries affected by natural disasters.

### **F. Resolution 67/199: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development**

45. In resolution 67/199, the General Assembly recalled paragraphs 255, 256 and 257 of the Rio +20 outcome document, and stressed the need to reinforce coherence and coordination and to avoid duplication of efforts with regard to the financing for development follow-up process. The General Assembly also reaffirmed its determination to advance and strengthen the global partnership for development as the centrepiece of cooperation in the years ahead, as stated in several UN conferences and summits, including Rio +20. It reaffirmed that the United Nations funds and programmes and the regional commissions, and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system an important role to play in advancing development and protecting development gains, in accordance with national strategies and priorities, including progress towards achieving the Millennium

Development Goals. The GA decided to hold the sixth High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development in the second half of 2013 at United Nations Headquarters.

## **VII. Resolutions relevant to UNEP regional activities and inter-regional activities**

### **A. Resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations**

46. In a series of resolutions, the General Assembly welcomed the cooperation between the United Nations system and regional and other organizations on a range of issues, including the environment, climate change, water management, desertification and new and renewable energy sources, among many others. Those specifically mentioning UNEP's work included resolution 67/7 on "Cooperation between the UN and the Central European Initiative"; resolution 67/10 on "Cooperation between the UN and the Eurasian Economic Community"; resolution 67/13 on "Cooperation between the UN and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization"; and resolution 67/14 on "Cooperation between the UN and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

### **B. Resolution 67/127: 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**

47. In resolution 67/127, the General Assembly requested the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on, among other things: environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories; the impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories; and the illegal exploitation of the marine and other natural resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories.

### **C. Resolution 67/130: Question of New Caledonia**

48. In resolution 67/130, the General Assembly noted the measures pursued by the French authorities in the area of environmental protection within the Territory of New Caledonia, while also noting the concerns expressed by indigenous people regarding the environmental impact of mining activities. It noted the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund in such areas as the environment and climate change, among others. It also noted the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the Territory's natural environment, including the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone.

### **D. Resolution 67/132: Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands**

49. In resolution 67/132, the General Assembly noted the particular vulnerability of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation and, in that connection, the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action or outcome documents of all United Nations world conferences. It also requested the Territories and the administering powers to take all measures necessary to protect, conserve and monitor the environment of each territory. On Guam, the Assembly noted the concerns expressed by the island's inhabitants regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the planned transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory, the United States.

### **E. Resolution 67/194: Building connectivity through the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway**

50. In resolution 67/132, the General Assembly invited the international community, including Member States, international organizations, the private sector and civil society, to support efforts to improve global telecommunications connectivity, with a focus on countries with inadequate access to the international information and communications technologies backbone, by way of participation in such initiatives as the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway project.

## **F. Resolution 67/205: Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations**

51. In resolution 67/205, the General Assembly recognized that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources. In this regard, it called upon the United Nations system and the international community to support national and regional activities towards the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources.

52. Among other provisions, the General Assembly also expressed support for the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes and to meet the principles of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries; called upon the United Nations system and the international community to enhance assistance to Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships; and urged the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery.

## **VIII. Other resolutions of particular relevance to UNEP**

### **A. Resolution 67/81: Global health and foreign policy**

53. In resolution 67/81, the General Assembly welcomed the recommendations contained in the background report of the World Health Organization (WHO) on the interlinkages between health and the environment and health and natural disasters, as contained in document A/67/377. It also recognized the responsibility of Governments to scale up efforts to accelerate the transition towards universal access to affordable and quality health-care services, and urged States, civil society organizations and international organizations to promote the inclusion of universal health coverage as an important element in the international development agenda and in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

### **B. Resolution 67/106: Follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace**

54. In resolution 67/106, the General Assembly invited the entities of the United Nations system, within their existing mandates, to integrate, as appropriate, the eight action areas of the Programme of Action into their activities, focusing on promoting a culture of peace and non-violence at the regional, national and international levels. It and commended the practical initiatives and actions by relevant United Nations bodies in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace.

### **C. Resolution 67/141: Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly**

55. In resolution 67/141, the General Assembly expressed deep concern that the ongoing adverse impact of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile food and energy prices and food insecurity and the challenges posed by climate change, as well as the lack of results so far in the multilateral trade negotiations, had negative implications for social development. The Assembly, among many other things, underlined the responsibility of the private sector regarding not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development.

### **D. Resolution 67/152: Rights of the child**

56. In resolution 67/152, the General Assembly, among other things, recognized the threat to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, posed by the global financial and economic crisis, which was connected to multiple, interrelated global crises and challenges, such as the food crisis and continuing food insecurity, volatile energy and commodity prices, and environmental degradation and climate change. It called

upon States to address, in their response to those crises, the negative impact on the full enjoyment of the rights of children.

**E. Resolution 67/153: Rights of indigenous peoples**

57. In resolution 67/153, the General Assembly, among other things, recognized the value and the diversity of the cultures and the form of the social organization of indigenous peoples and their holistic traditional scientific knowledge of their lands, natural resources and environment.

**F. Resolution 67/164: Human rights and extreme poverty**

58. In resolution 67/164, the General Assembly, among other things, encouraged the international community to strengthen its efforts to address challenges that were contributing to extreme poverty, including those derived from the financial and economic crisis, the food crisis and ongoing concerns over food security, as well as the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity in all parts of the world, especially in developing countries, by enhancing its cooperation to help to build national capacities.

**G. Resolution 67/165: Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights**

59. In resolution 67/165, which was adopted by a vote of 133 in favour, with 54 against, and 2 abstentions, the General Assembly noted that globalization was not merely an economic process, but that it also had social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions, which had an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms. It expressed deep concern at the negative impact of the continuing global food and energy crises and climate change challenges on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights for all. It called upon Member States, relevant agencies of the UN system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society to promote inclusive, equitable and environmentally sustainable economic growth for managing globalization so that poverty was systematically reduced and the international development targets were achieved.

**H. Resolution 67/171: The right to development**

60. In resolution 67/171, which was adopted by a vote of 154 in favour, with 4 against, and 28 abstentions, the General Assembly, among other things, expressed its deep concern about the negative impact on the realization of the right to development due to the further aggravation of the economic and social situation as a result of the ongoing international energy, food and financial crises, as well as the increasing challenges posed by global climate change and the loss of biodiversity, which had increased vulnerabilities and inequalities and had adversely affected development gains, particularly in developing countries.

**I. Resolution 67/175: Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order**

61. In resolution 67/175, which was adopted by a vote of 126 in favour to 53 against, with 6 abstentions, the General Assembly reaffirmed that a democratic and equitable international order required the realization of, among others, the right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources; the right of every human person and all peoples to development; the right of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment and to enhanced international cooperation that responded effectively to the needs for assistance of national efforts to adapt to climate change, particularly in developing countries, and that promoted the fulfilment of international agreements in the field of mitigation.

**J. Resolution 67/189: Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity**

62. In resolution 67/189, the General Assembly expressed its deep concern about environmental crimes, including trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, and emphasized the need to combat such crimes by strengthening international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts. It also drew attention to emerging policy issues such as environmental crime, including illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, and invited the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to explore ways and means of addressing those issues.

**K. Resolution 67/191: United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders**

63. In resolution 67/191, the General Assembly encouraged the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, in cooperation with relevant UN agencies, to take into account the various planning authorities in the region that focused attention on the coordination of activities that promoted development based on sustainable agricultural production and preservation of the environment in developing its crime prevention strategies.

**L. Resolution 67/195: Information and communication technologies for development**

64. In resolution 67/195, the General Assembly recognized that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion. It also encouraged the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates and strategic plans, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society; and invited the United Nations development system to continue its effort to promote the use of information and communications technologies as a critical enabler of development and a catalyst for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

**M. Resolution 67/202: Entrepreneurship for development**

65. In resolution 67/202, which was adopted by a vote of 141 in favour, with 31 against, and 11 abstentions, the General Assembly expressed recognition for the important contribution entrepreneurship can make to sustainable development by creating jobs and driving economic growth and innovation, improving social conditions and contributing to addressing environmental challenges, and stressed the importance of giving consideration to the promotion of entrepreneurship in the context of the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda. The General Assembly requested the President of the General Assembly, at its sixty-seventh session, to convene a high-level thematic debate to discuss the promotion of entrepreneurship in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication at the national, regional and international levels, as well as the role of the United Nations and the international community.

**N. Resolution 67/204: Implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013**

66. In resolution 67/204 the General Assembly encouraged Member States and invited organizations of the United Nations system and all other actors to cooperate to take advantage of the International Year for Water Cooperation, as well as to promote actions at all levels towards the achievement of the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21, the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the outcome document of Rio +20. It also invited the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level interactive dialogue during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly in New York on 22 March 2013, World Water Day, to mark the International Year and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of World Water Day.

**O. Resolution 67/206: International Year of Small Island Developing States**

67. In resolution 67/206, the General Assembly decided to declare 2014 the International Year of Small Island Developing States. In this context, it invited the Secretary-General to facilitate the implementation of the Year in consultation with relevant organizations within the United Nations system and encouraged all Member States, the United Nations system and all other stakeholders to use the Year to promote actions aimed at the achievement of sustainable development of small island developing States.

**P. Resolution 67/217: Towards a New International Economic Order**

68. In resolution 67/217, which was adopted by a vote of 132 in favour, with 47 against, and 5 abstentions, the General Assembly decided, among other provisions, to continue considering the international economic situation and its impact on development at its sixty-ninth session, and requested the Secretary-General to include in his respective report an updated overview of major international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development and of the role of the United Nations in addressing these issues, as well as possible ways and means to overcome those challenges, taking into account the outcomes of

relevant United Nations conferences and summits and the preparations for the post-2015 development agenda.

**Q. Resolution 67/218: Promoting transparency, participation and accountability in fiscal policies**

69. In resolution 67/218, the General Assembly recognized the critical role that transparency, participation and accountability in fiscal policies can play in pursuit of financial stability, poverty reduction, equitable economic growth and the achievement of sustainable development.

**R. Resolution 67/219: International migration and development**

70. In resolution 67/219, which was adopted by a vote of 129 in favour, with 3 against, and 49 abstentions, the General Assembly recalled the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference, as a general framework within which each country could formulate specific policies in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development. The GA decided to hold a two-day high-level dialogue on international migration and development on 3 and 4 October 2013, whose overall theme would be “Identifying concrete measures to strengthen coherence and cooperation at all levels, with a view to enhancing the benefits of international migration for migrants and countries alike and its important links to development, while reducing its negative implications”.

**S. Resolution 67/220: Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries**

71. In resolution 67/220, the General Assembly reaffirmed the agreement to effectively implement the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011 to 2020, and invited all organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations, including the Bretton Woods institutions and international and regional financial institutions, to contribute to it. The Assembly invited the Secretary-General, in his capacity as the Chair of the Chief Executives Board, to include implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action as a standing item on the agenda of the Board.

**T. Resolution 67/221: Smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries**

72. In resolution 67/221, the General Assembly reiterated the importance of ensuring that the graduation of least developed countries does not cause disruptions in their development progress and, in this regard, agreed on several provisions aimed at extending support from the United Nations system and the international community to graduating countries.

**U. Resolution 67/222: Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation**

73. In resolution 67/222, the General Assembly invited Member States, development partners and organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant organization to speed up further the implementation of the specific actions agreed upon in the Almaty Programme of Action. It also expressed concern that the economic growth and social well-being of landlocked developing countries remained highly vulnerable to external shocks and to the multiple challenges faced by the international community. In addition, the Assembly decided, among others, to convene a comprehensive ten-year Review Conference on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2014.

**V. Resolution 67/224: Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)**

74. In resolution 67/224, the General Assembly reaffirmed that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. It also reaffirmed that poverty eradication is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

**W. Resolution 67/225: Industrial development cooperation**

75. In resolution 67/225, the General Assembly agreed on several provisions that establish important links between industrial development and aspects of sustainable development and environmental protection. Among others, it took note of development challenges such as food security, resource efficiency, energy, pollution and climate change, which should be addressed through industrial development cooperation. The General Assembly also acknowledged the importance of reporting on corporate sustainability, and it encouraged industry, Governments and relevant stakeholders to develop models for best practices and to facilitate action for the integration of sustainability reporting, with the support of the United Nations system.

**X. Resolution 67/226: Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system**

76. In resolution 67/226, the General Assembly, provided the framework for the operational activities for development carried out by the United Nations system. Among others, the Assembly set principles, objectives and guidelines in various areas of operational activities for development such as funding, the contribution to national capacity development and development effectiveness and improved functioning of the United Nations development system. The General Assembly recognized the important role and comparative advantage of the United Nations development system in supporting national efforts, accelerating progress on the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, addressing all development challenges, including inequality, supporting the poor and people in vulnerable situations and advancing the integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development.

**Y. Resolution 67/227: South-South cooperation**

77. In resolution 67/227, the General Assembly encouraged the funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system to take concrete measures to effectively mainstream support to South-South and triangular cooperation in their policy and regular programming work. It also decided to hold the eighteenth session of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation from 19 to 22 May 2014.

**IX. Resolutions of relevance to programme and administrative matters****A. Resolution 67/124: Questions relating to information**

78. In resolution 67/124, the General Assembly called upon the Department of Public Information (DPI) and its network of UN information centres to play an active role in raising public awareness of the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and of the global challenge of climate change, particularly the actions taken within the framework of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, especially in the context of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. It also requested DPI and content-providing offices of the Secretariat to ensure that UN publications were produced in all official languages, as well as in an environmentally friendly and cost-neutral manner.

**B. Resolution 67/236: Programme planning**

79. In resolution 67/236, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the proposed strategic framework for 2014-2015 and decided that the priorities for 2014-2015 shall include the promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development; maintenance of international peace and security; development of Africa; promotion of human rights; effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts; promotion of justice and international law; disarmament; and drug control.

**C. Resolution 67/237: Pattern of conferences**

80. In resolution 67/237, the General Assembly approved the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2013, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences. Noting that the overall utilization factor at the four main duty stations in 2011 was above the established benchmark of 80 per cent the Assembly reiterated its request to intergovernmental bodies to review their meeting entitlements. The General Assembly also emphasized the importance of the equality of the six official languages in documentation and publications, and asked the Secretary-General to redouble efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all six official languages.

**D. Resolution 67/238: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations**

81. In resolution 67/238, the General Assembly decided that the scale for the period 2013-2015 be based on several criteria that included, among others, estimates of gross national income; average statistical base periods of three and six years; conversion rates based on market exchange rates; and the debt burden approach employed in the scale of assessments for the period 2010-2012. The General Assembly noted that the application of the current methodology reflected changes in the relative economic situation of Member States and recognized the need to study the methodology. The text included a list of the exact scale for the period 2013-2015 for each of the Organization's 193 Member States that the Assembly would approve.

**E. Resolution 67/247: Programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013**

82. In resolution 67/247, which was divided into three sections, the General Assembly revised budget appropriations for the biennium 2012-2013; income estimates for the biennium 2012-2013; and the financing of the appropriations for 2013. Concretely, the General Assembly resolved that the amount of \$5.15 billion appropriated for the biennium 2012-2013 shall increase by \$243.26 million to \$5.39 billion; and that the estimates of income of \$507.75 million for the biennium 2012-2013 shall increase by \$3.99 million to \$511.74 million.

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