3312 (XXIX). Reduction of the increasing gap between the developed countries and the developing countries

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item on the reduction of the increasing gap between the developed countries and the developing countries,

Decides that the subject-matter of this item will be fully taken into account by the General Assembly at its special session devoted to development and international economic co-operation to be held in September 1975.

2319th plenary meeting
14 December 1974

3313 (XXIX). United Nations University

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2951 (XXVII) of 11 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the United Nations University,

Recalling also its resolution 3081 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, by which it adopted the Charter of the United Nations University,53 authorized the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to implement the provisions of the Charter of the University and requested him to continue efforts for raising the funds required for the dynamic development of the United Nations University,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General,54

Welcoming the fact that the members of the Council of the United Nations University have been appointed in accordance with the Charter of the University and have already met three times,

Welcoming also the fact that the Rector of the United Nations University has been appointed in accordance with the Charter of the University,55

Appreciating the strenuous efforts made by the Secretary-General to raise the funds for the United Nations University,

Bearing in mind that the United Nations University will be a most appropriate institution for stimulating and conducting scholarly and objective studies, on a truly international basis, of the most crucial problems facing the world,

Bearing also in mind that the dynamic development of the United Nations University makes it imperative that it be provided with adequate and stable financial resources,

1. Urges the Council of the United Nations University to approve an initial work programme for the University as a first priority;
2. Invites Member States, in particular developed States, to make voluntary contributions, in cash as well as in kind, to the United Nations University;
3. Further invites the agencies and bodies of the United Nations system to co-operate positively with the United Nations University;
4. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Rector and the Council of the United Nations University, to intensify his efforts to raise the funds required for the dynamic development of the University from Governments and non-governmental sources, including foundations, universities and individuals, and to submit a progress report on fund-raising to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session, together with the annual report of the Council.

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The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 and 3128 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973,

Fully conscious of the importance, urgency and universality of the problems of human settlements,

Noting with satisfaction the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements,56

Stressing the need to pursue vigorously the preparations for the Conference,

Affirming that human settlements policies should be considered in the context of over-all economic and social development, taking into account the special needs of development in developing countries,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its second session,57

Having considered also the report of the Secretary-General,58 called for in General Assembly resolution 3128 (XXVIII),

Noting that the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements held informal consultations from 28 to 31 May 1974,

2. Considers that, for the Conference to achieve its objectives, it is essential that its agenda be selective, its organizational structure be simple and efficient, and its documentation be kept within reasonable limits;
3. Agrees that the Secretary-General should convene the first formal session of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements at United Nations Headquarters from 15 to 24 January 1975;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Preparatory Committee on its first formal session to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its third session;
5. Reaffirms its request to the Secretary-General to submit, through the Governing Council of the United

53 A/9149/Add.2.
54 A/9762 and Add.1.
55 A/9762/Add.1.
56 See A/9729, para. 5.
58 A/9729.
Nations Environment Programme, a brief progress report to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session.

2321st plenary meeting
16 December 1974


The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2849 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 and 2994 (XXVII), 2997 (XXVII), 3000 (XXVII) and 3002 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

Bearing in mind its resolution 3201 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and its resolution 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Reaffirming that both aspects of man's environment, the natural and the man-made, are vital to his well-being and to the exercise of basic human rights,

Further reaffirming that the protection, preservation and enhancement of the environment for present and future generations is the responsibility of all States,

Conscious that pollution and the degradation and exhaustion of natural resources are essential problems of the environment,

Concerned about the environmental impact of the irrational and wasteful exploitation and consumption of natural resources, particularly those of the developing countries, and about the fact that such exploitation and consumption represents a threat to these countries in the exercise of their permanent sovereignty over their natural resources,

Convinced of the need for and urgency of attaining rational and optimal exploitation and consumption of natural resources, of avoiding their waste and of controlling pollution, intensifying, to that end, international co-operation within the framework of collective ecological security,

Fully conscious of the importance and universality of environmental problems, including, inter alia, those pertaining to under-development, inequity and social injustice, and of the fact that, in order to attain an urgent and effective solution to all such problems, national measures as well as measures of co-operation at the international level should be adopted,

Reaffirming the interdisciplinary and intersectoral nature and approach of the United Nations Environment Programme, and recognizing the benefits that the implementation of such an approach may provide for the solution of the problems of international co-operation on the environment that affect Member States, particularly developing countries,

Taking note of the Cocoyoc Declaration, adopted by the Symposium on Patterns of Resource Use, Environment and Development Strategies, held under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, at Cocoyoc, Mexico, from 8 to 12 October 1974,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its second session and being convinced of the need to continue to strengthen the Programme's activities and its co-ordinating functions,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its second session and of its adopted work programme;

2. Requests the United Nations Environment Programme:

(a) To conduct its activities, in its field of competence, in line with the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order;

(b) To adopt measures for intensifying efforts to facilitate the participation of institutions of developing countries in the preparation, development and implementation of the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme;

3. Requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, taking fully into account the permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources and on the basis of close co-operation and continuous consultations with all States:

(a) To ensure that, in the design, implementation and development of the Global Environment Monitoring System, on the basis of voluntary participation of Member States, its objective of detecting, with enough anticipation, impending changes, whether man-made or natural, occurring in any part of the environment and threatening to cause significant damage to man's well-being is fully taken into account, in order to provide Governments with a basis for immediate preventive action;

(b) To give attention, when considering the report on the International Referral System to be submitted to it by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, at its third session, to the needs especially of developing countries for information on the environment and, in particular, to such needs of countries affected by problems of degradation and depletion of their natural resources with respect to which the timely exchange and provision of adequate information, through the International Referral System, would facilitate the adoption of measures for their solution;

4. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in keeping with the goals and objectives of the Programme:

(a) To prepare a report on the environmental impact resulting from the irrational and wasteful use of natural resources, as reflected in the current methods and forms of production and consumption, and to present it to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fourth session;

(b) To prepare the new formulation of the programme activities in the priority subject areas of trade, economics, technology and transfer of technology, which is to be submitted to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its third session, by bringing these activities into line with the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, in its field of competence;

50 A/C.2/292.