



THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ES/III/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Convention to Combat Desertification
SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Council
SUBMITTED BY: Benin, Mexico, Morocco, Angola, China

The Economic and Social Council

- 1 *Recognizing* desertification as a growing concern across the globe in the 21st century,
- 2 *Noting with satisfaction* the ongoing work carried out by affected African nations and the assistance
3 provided by a number of countries, by multilateral organizations, including the United Nations
4 Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Sahelian Office,
5 the African Development Bank, and intergovernmental organizations, including the Organizations of
6 African Unity, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Economic Commission
7 for Africa and non-governmental organizations (NGOs),
- 8 *Recalling* resolutions 44/172 A and B of 19 December 1989 and 52/198, which develop the Plan of
9 Action to Combat Desertification, as well as 47/188 of 22 December 1989, and 47/188 of 22 December
10 1992, and 54/223 which promote cooperation and ingenuity in finding a solution to the problem of
11 desertification,
- 12 *Reaffirming* that the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21, adopted by the General
13 Assembly at its nineteenth special session, is the primary plan for the realization of sustainable
14 development,
- 15 *Realizing* the inability of some member states to contribute monetarily to anti-desertification and
16 prevention programmes,
- 17 *Deeply concerned* with the reciprocal relationship between desertification and poverty, famine, violent
18 conflict, displacement and loss of cultural identity,
- 19 *Believing* that any effective solution must be long-term and on an international scale,
- 20 *Noting* with appreciation the large number of states that have ratified the Convention to Combat
21 Desertification (CCD),
- 22 *Having adopted* the text of United Nations (CCD) in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought
23 and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

- 24 *Fully aware* that prevention is the best solution to combat the spread of desertification,
- 25 *Recalling* Chapter 1, Article 2 of the United Nations Charter, emphasizing the importance of the
26 sovereignty of its member nations,
- 27 1. *Solemnly affirms* the necessity of implementing environmental and technological education
28 programs to those peoples affected by the encroachment of desertification in order to provide them
29 with a method of protecting their surroundings and combating its further depletion;
 - 30 2. *Considers* this campaign as an essential element of the global development process and a means to
31 eliminate poverty;
 - 32 3. *Proclaims* the importance of coherent national action programmes while encouraging regional
33 cooperation and the creation of these programmes in affected nations that have not already
34 implemented them;
 - 35 4. *Further proclaims* the need for adequate follow up and continued commitment to these actions
36 programmes;
 - 37 5. *Supports* the increasing of land productivity, respecting ecological limits, so as to improve the
38 quality of life of the citizens by ensuring security, sustainable economic growth, productive
39 employment, and security and stability of financial resources;
 - 40 6. *Finds* the sharing of information and distribution of technology for the purpose of reclaiming
41 desert lands and promoting sustainable development to be of the utmost importance;
 - 42 7. *Invites* the assistance of technical and scientific research to developing countries in the areas of
43 education concerning resources management, with an emphasis on soil management and water
44 resources;
 - 45 8. *Encourages* the international community to participate in The Management of Natural Resources
46 Project, whose purpose is to promote regional environmental growth through good management of
47 natural resources and wildlife;
 - 48 9. *Further invites* consideration of the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization in future
49 discourse on this topic;
 - 50 10. *Urges* governments and non-governmental organizations to work together to contribute generously
51 to the goals of the CCD;
 - 52 11. *Calls upon* all states which are not yet party to the Convention to Combat Desertification to
53 promptly join the international community in this effort;
 - 54 12. *Supports* the Global Mechanism in coordinating the voluntary contributions of NGO's, internal
55 governmental organizations IGO's, and states to the general, special, and supplemental funds.

Final Vote: 36 In Favor/ 3 Opposed/ 3 Abstentions