1993/72. Science and technology for sustainable development

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992 on institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Emphasizing the importance of effective interaction between the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development,

1. Takes note of the following documentation considered by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its first session under the agenda item entitled "Science and technology for sustainable development":

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the implications of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including Agenda 21, for the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development;

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the utilization and marketing of energy technologies, focusing on policy issues and options for the effective transfer and application of environmentally sound energy technologies;

2. Stresses the critical importance of supporting countries, in particular the developing countries, in harnessing the potential of science and technology, with a view to achieving the objectives set forth by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

3. Emphasizes, in this respect, the relevance of the activities of the United Nations system in the areas of science and technology, particularly in endogenous capacity-building, including the improvement of traditional technologies, as well as aspects related to technology transfer, technology assessment and forecasting, science and technology information dissemination and management, and science for sustainable development;

4. Decides that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development should place particular emphasis in its work on policy issues and options related to the development, transfer and utilization of technologies that promote sustainable development objectives, in accordance with the mandate of the Commission and taking into account the provisions of Agenda 21 concerning science and technology;

5. Supports the activities of the United Nations system and the international cooperation aimed, taking into account the elements of chapter V.B of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its first session, at promoting the use of the following:

(a) New and renewable sources of energy technologies;

(b) Clean coal, fossil fuels and other energy technologies;

(c) Alternative fuel technologies;

6. Encourages bilateral and multilateral donors to provide further support for the development, transfer and application of environmentally sound technologies;

7. Calls upon the Commission on Sustainable Development to interact closely with the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and to take advantage of its work while reviewing the implementation of Agenda 21;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that information on those aspects of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development that have a bearing on the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development is distributed to members of the latter Commission and that the work of the two Commissions is coordinated effectively.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1993