International co-operation on questions related to the oceans

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the considerations set forth in its resolution 2172 (XXI) of 6 December 1966,

Considering the growing interest of the world community in problems related to the oceans, as they hold the key to the future, and its resources and of the marine environment is increasingly needed resources,

Being aware that the present knowledge of the ocean and its resources and of the marine environment is limited and incomplete,

Recognising the need for extensive exploration and research in order to develop the wealth of the sea for the benefit of all mankind, irrespective of the geographical location of States, taking into account the special needs and interests of developing countries,

Having given preliminary consideration to the report entitled “Marine science and technology: survey and proposals” prepared by the Secretary-General under General Assembly resolution 2172 (XXI),

Taking into account the comments of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1380 (XLV), 1381 (XLV) and 1382 (XLV) of 2 August 1968,

Recalling the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Study the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction,

Taking into account the activities in this field at present being carried out by the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, the World Meteorological Organization and its Panel on Meteorological Aspects of Ocean Affairs, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Maritime Consultative Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other specialized agencies, and also the possibility of extending technical assistance services to the Governments of Member States which may request them in relation to the development of mineral resources of their continental shelf areas;

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Marine science and technology: survey and proposals”;

2. Requests the Economic and Social Council to review further this report at its forty-seventh session, taking into account such views as may be expressed by Governments of Member States, by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development and by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction;

3. Endorses the concept of a co-ordinated long-term programme of oceanographic research designed to assist in a better understanding of the marine environment through science and to increase, in the interests of world economic development, the resources available to all the people of the world;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to present to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-seventh session a comprehensive outline of the scope of this long-term programme, taking into account such scientific recommendations as may be formulated by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization within its terms of reference and in co-operation with other interested international organizations;

5. Recommends that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission should consider strengthening the existing marine educational and training programmes and initiating new programmes in connexion with the implementation of the long-term programme of oceanographic research;

6. Recommends further improvement of international co-operation in relation to fisheries development and conservation, taking into account the important role played by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries as well as the work of regional and other specialized fishery bodies;

7. Invites Member States and organizations dealing with marine pollution, especially the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency, to promote the adoption of effective international agreements on the prevention and control of marine pollution as may be necessary;

8. Recognizes the importance of the meteorological aspects of ocean science and calls upon the World Meteorological Organization to continue its activities in this field in close co-operation with other interested organizations;

9. Invites the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, to consider the possibility of extending technical assistance services to the Governments of Member States which may request them in relation to the development of mineral resources of their continental shelf areas;
10. Calls upon the Secretary-General to pursue the task of collecting and disseminating available information regarding the mineral and other resources of the sea-bed and the ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and techniques appropriate for their development and of providing the assistance which the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction may request for the solution of related issues;

11. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, the World Meteorological Organization, the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other organizations concerned, to report, through appropriate channels, to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

1745th plenary meeting, 17 December 1968.

2415 (XXIII). External financing of economic development of the developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2170 (XXI) of 6 December 1966 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1183 (XLI) of 5 August 1966,

Recalling further its resolutions 2274 (XXII) of 4 December 1967 on the flow of external resources to developing countries and 2276 (XXII) of 4 December 1967 dealing with the outflow of capital from developing countries and debt-serving burdens of these countries,

Taking note of decisions 27 (II) on the aid volume target and 29 (II) on improving the terms and conditions of aid and alleviating the problems of external indebtedness adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on 28 March 1968,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the external financing of economic development of the developing countries,

Noting with appreciation that some developing countries have reached and even surpassed the 1 per cent target as defined in decision 27 (II) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and that others have announced definite time-tables for the acceleration of the flow of assistance, have set up subsidiary targets for official flow and have made provision for future annual increases in official budgetary allocations for assistance in order to reach the target within the time-limits accepted by them,

Noting with concern that:

(a) In recent years the flow of financial resources from developed to developing countries has remained relatively stagnant and that there has been a declining trend in the transfer of resources as a proportion of the gross national product of developed countries,

(b) Certain advanced countries have not so far been able to accept the aid volume target as defined in decision 27 (II) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

(c) In recent years there has been an increase in the degree of tying aid to procurement from donor countries,

(d) The reverse flow of financial resources on account of debt services from developing to developed countries further increased in 1966 and 1967 and it has been estimated that, if current trends of borrowing and repayment continue, net lending would become negative by 1970; and

(e) Fifteen months after the termination of the period for which the first replenishment was intended, the second replenishment of the International Development Association has not materialized and that this has impeded the efforts of planned economic development of a number of developing countries,

(f) The inability of multilateral financial institutions and multilateral development programmes to attain their resource target threatens to undermine their ability to render their tasks satisfactorily and, in certain instances, hampers their functioning in a continuing and steady manner,

1. Endorses decision 27 (II) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which includes the recommendation that each economically advanced country should endeavour to provide developing countries annually with a financial resources transfer of a minimum net amount of 1 per cent of its gross national product at market prices in terms of actual disbursements, having regard to the special position of those countries which are net importers of capital;

2. Recommends that, as a key element of the international development policy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, economically advanced countries which have not already done so should accept 1972 as the target year for the attainment of the aid volume target, as defined in decision 27 (II) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and take urgent appropriate action to achieve this objective;

3. Further recommends that efforts should continue to be made to reach agreement on a target for net official financial resources transfers within the 1 per cent target;

4. Endorses decision 29 (II) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on improving the terms and conditions of aid and alleviating the problems of external indebtedness, and urges developed countries to exert maximum efforts to implement this decision;

5. Strongly appeals to Governments of States members of the International Development Association to make the second replenishment of the Association effective from early 1969;

6. Requests Member States to give long-term pledges, whenever possible, and to consider seriously other proposals to enable international financial institutions, international development programmes and relevant