

**UNITED NATIONS  
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

---

**REPORT OF THE  
GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**on the work  
of its first session**

---

**12-22 June 1973**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**OFFICIAL RECORDS: TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 25 (A/9025)**



**UNITED NATIONS**

New York, 1973

**NOTE**

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1 - 12	1
<u>Chapter</u>		
I. A. ACTION PLAN FOR THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT: PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT AND PRIORITIES (agenda item 6) . . . . .	13 - 60	4
B. REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT CO-ORDINATION BOARD (agenda item 8) . . . . .	61 - 87	13
II. ENVIRONMENT FUND		
(a) GENERAL PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE OPERATIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENT FUND		
(b) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE FUND PROGRAMME FOR 1973-1974 (agenda item 7) . . . . .	88 - 97	19
III. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE-EXPOSITION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (agenda item 9) . . . . .	98 - 125	21
IV. OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION (agenda item 10) . . . . .	126 - 136	26
V. ORGANIZATIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS . . . . .	137 - 173	28
A. Opening of the session (agenda item 1) . . . . .	137	28
B. Election of officers (agenda item 2) . . . . .	138	28
C. Agenda and organization of the work of the session (agenda item 3) . . . . .	139 - 142	28
D. Rules of procedure (agenda item 4) . . . . .	143 - 145	29
E. Attendance . . . . .	146 - 154	30
F. Credentials of representatives (agenda item 5) . . . . .	155	31
G. Organization of the work of future sessions of the Governing Council (agenda item 11) . . . . .	156 - 166	31
H. Provisional agenda, date and place of the second session of the Governing Council (agenda item 12) . . . . .	167 - 170	32

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. Financial implications of actions of the Governing Council (agenda item 13) . . . . .	171	34
J. Report of the Governing Council to the General Assembly (agenda item 15) . . . . .	172	34
K. Closure of the session . . . . .	173	34

ANNEXES

I. Decisions of the Governing Council at its first session . . . . .	35
II. Report of the Sessional Committee . . . . .	59
III. List of documents submitted to the Governing Council . . . . .	72

## INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 2997 (XXVII) adopted at its 2112th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1972, concerning Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental co-operation the General Assembly decided to establish a Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme composed of 58 members, and defined the functions and responsibilities of the Governing Council. By the same resolution the Assembly decided that an environment secretariat should be established, to be headed by the Executive Director of UNEP, and specified the responsibilities of the Executive Director. In addition, the Assembly adopted provisions relating to the establishment and administration of an Environment Fund and decided to establish an Environment Co-ordination Board under the auspices and within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

2. At the same meeting, the Assembly elected the following 58 States members of the Governing Council and determined their terms of office:

Argentina,\* Australia,\*\*\* Austria,\*\* Brazil,\*\* Burundi,\*\*\* Cameroon,\*\* Canada,\* Central African Republic,\*\*\* Chile,\*\*\* China,\* Czechoslovakia,\* France,\* Gabon,\* German Democratic Republic,\*\*\* Germany, Federal Republic of,\*\* Ghana,\* Guatemala,\* Iceland,\*\* India,\*\* Indonesia,\* Iran,\*\* Iraq,\*\*\* Italy,\*\* Jamaica,\* Japan,\*\* Jordan,\*\*\* Kenya,\*\* Kuwait,\*\* Lebanon,\* Madagascar,\*\*\* Malawi,\*\* Mexico,\*\*\* Morocco,\* Netherlands,\*\*\* Nicaragua,\*\*\* Nigeria,\*\*\* Pakistan,\*\*\* Panama,\*\*\* Peru,\*\* Philippines,\* Poland,\*\*\* Romania,\*\* Senegal,\*\*\* Sierra Leone,\* Somalia,\*\* Spain,\* Sri Lanka,\*\*\* Sudan,\* Sweden,\* Syrian Arab Republic,\* Tunisia,\*\* Turkey,\*\*\* Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,\*\* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,\*\*\* United Republic of Tanzania,\*\*\* United States of America,\*\* Venezuela,\*\* and Yugoslavia.\*

3. At that meeting the Assembly, on the nomination of the Secretary-General, elected Mr. Maurice F. Strong Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

4. At the opening meeting of the first session of the Governing Council, on 12 June 1973, the Executive Director of UNEP read out the text of a message from the Secretary-General, who was unable to be present. In his message, the Secretary-General referred to the formidable environment problems confronting the international community. He urged the Governing Council to find means of reconciling the satisfaction of the legitimate immediate needs of mankind with the protection of the interests of future generations. In that task, he said, both developed and developing countries should be actively involved by reason of the

---

\* Term expires on 31 December 1973.

\*\* Term expires on 31 December 1974.

\*\*\* Term expires on 31 December 1975.

inevitable interdependence of all nations. He considered that the Governing Council could perform a vital function in safeguarding or enhancing the quality of life and he expressed the hope that it would conduct its proceedings in the spirit of friendship and co-operation which had dominated the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and that Conference itself.

5. Mr. Ingemund Bengtsson (Sweden), having been elected President of the Governing Council by acclamation, made a statement in which he referred to the recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972 (the "Stockholm Conference") (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), 1/ and to the problems to be dealt with by the Governing Council.

6. The President expressed the hope that the constructive spirit of international co-operation manifested at the Stockholm Conference would continue to prevail. He stressed that the problems of the environment were well-known and that public opinion had been aroused; what was now needed was action to translate the existing knowledge into concrete measures; while action needed to be taken primarily at the national level certain problems should be dealt with at the international level. In this respect, he drew attention to the conclusion of certain conventions in recent months and to the establishment of the Environment Fund and of the Governing Council itself. While it was clearly impossible to act immediately on all 109 recommendations adopted by the Stockholm Conference, nevertheless, he stressed that the expectations to which that Conference had given rise must not be frustrated.

7. At the 1st meeting, Mr. Maurice F. Strong, Executive Director of UNEP, made a statement (UNEP/GC/L.10) in which he described the work done by the secretariat in preparation for the session and set out the subjects which, in his opinion, deserved priority treatment in the context of the programme of work proposed by the secretariat and in conformity with the recommendations of the Stockholm Conference and of the General Assembly.

8. He considered that the first session of the Governing Council was the commencement of the process of implementing the Stockholm recommendations within the machinery created by the General Assembly. The secretariat had concentrated on preparing the essential first steps, as reflected in the agenda, for the Governing Council's approval. Decisions were required concerning the main objectives of the Environment Programme and the consequential priorities within it, the draft general procedures to govern the operation of the Environment Fund and the Fund Programme for 1973-1974, and the recommendations to the General Assembly, in response to its resolution 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, regarding the Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements. The draft general procedures concerning the Environment Fund were the result of intensive consultations with the United Nations Secretariat in New York, which proposed to complement them with appropriate administrative arrangements concerning personnel matters and financial rules.

---

1/ This report will be printed as a United Nations Sales publication.

9. Having reviewed certain considerations regarding the Environment Programme, the Executive Director suggested that priority action was both desirable and feasible with respect to threats to human health and well-being posed by the contamination of food, air or water; improvement of water quality; soil degradation; and the deterioration of the marine environment. In addition, action was called for in the fields of economics and trade, energy and human settlements. These areas would, he expected, form the subject of detailed proposals to be submitted to the Governing Council at its second session, although work would proceed in the other important areas. He considered that UNEP should be able to provide assistance to Governments in dealing with their environmental problems, within the framework of its over-all objectives. The measures might take the form of technical assistance, training, development of institutional capacity, mobilization of additional financial resources and the development and dissemination of environmentally-sound technology; and he described some specific methods whereby such assistance might be provided.

10. Looking beyond the immediate and practical questions concerning the environment, the Executive Director mentioned the most important of various areas in which he proposed to initiate the necessary preparatory work and consultations, which would lead to specific proposals in an attempt to plot a future course of UNEP activities. These related to the identification of "outer limits" in certain human activities, weather and climate modification, industries whose activities had particularly significant environmental consequences, "eco-development" designed to help rural communities to make better use of their natural and human resources, and the development of international and environmental law.

11. In conclusion, the Executive Director stressed that the Governing Council now had the opportunity to set the direction of and to impart momentum to its mission of enabling man to survive and to improve the quality of life in a setting that was exposed to the hazards of the most rapid change known in human history, to ensure - in the words of the Stockholm Declaration - "an environment of a quality that permits a life of dignity and well-being".

12. The present report 2/ constitutes a summary of the proceedings and deliberations of the Governing Council during its first session.

---

2/ Previously issued under the symbol UNEP/GC/10.

## Chapter I

### ACTION PLAN FOR THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT: PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT AND PRIORITIES (agenda item 6)

### REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT CO-ORDINATION BOARD (agenda item 8)

#### A. Action plan for the human environment: programme development and priorities

13. The General Assembly by paragraph 2 of its resolution 2994 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 referred the Action Plan for the Human Environment adopted by the Stockholm Conference (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1, chap. II) to the Governing Council for appropriate action.

14. For the purpose of the consideration of this item by the Governing Council at its first session, the Executive Director of UNEP had prepared a report (UNEP/GC/5), setting out proposed objectives and programmes for future activities in the context of international co-operation relating to the environment. In his policy statement to the Governing Council, the Executive Director indicated five other areas - namely, the "outer limits" to changes in the environment, weather and climate modification, environmental problems of specific industries, "eco-development" and environmental law - on which preliminary work was being initiated which might give rise to specific proposals for future consideration by the Governing Council.

15. Representatives welcomed the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and its secretariat, the Governing Council, the Environment Fund and the Environment Co-ordination Board by the General Assembly. Many representatives noted that considerable progress had been made since the Stockholm Conference, in particular the signature of three international conventions relating to the environment (*ibid.*, para. 4). The secretariat had been able, despite limitations of time and staff, to prepare proposals for programme development and priorities which constituted a good basis for initiating activities. The target of \$100 million for the Environment Fund had been nearly reached. A few representatives considered that the proposed Action Plan was too

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_9643](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_9643)

