

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recalling also its resolution 165(XV) of 18 May 1989 on environment and development in the ESCWA region,

Referring to the efforts by member countries of the Commission towards developing environmental programmes and policies and of the results of the Arab Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development held in Cairo from 10 to 12 September 1991 and of the related reports submitted to the present session, including the report of the Executive Secretary<sup>1/</sup> concerning agenda item 5(b)(i) on the implementation of resolution 165(XV),

Taking note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the Arab Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development submitted to the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the Arab Declaration on Environment and Development and Future Prospects, being the main substantive contribution by the countries of the ESCWA region to that Conference,

Taking note also of the report of the Executive Secretary on follow-up action at the regional level on United Nations world conferences and ESCWA regional meetings,<sup>2/</sup>

Stressing the need for the improvement of environmental management to achieve sustainable development as outlined in Agenda 21,

1. Endorses the Arab Declaration on Environment and Development and Future Prospects adopted by the Arab Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development, which incorporates the results of the Conference in the work and programmes of the Commission;

2. Calls for the establishment of an Arab and international inter agency coordinating committee on environment and development for the ESCWA region that would bring together concerned agencies and bodies with the purpose of promoting environmentally sound and sustainable development and implementing Agenda 21;

3. Reiterates the appeal in paragraph 7 of its resolution 165(XV) of 18 May 1989 to funding institutions and regional and international agencies and programmes concerned with the environment, and to those countries in a position to do so, to provide financial support in order to enable the secretariat to implement regional and subregional environmental projects and to render assistance to member countries in identifying, analyzing, monitoring, preventing and overcoming environmental problems;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventeenth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

5th plenary meeting  
2 September 1992

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1/ E/ESCWA/16/4/Add.1.

2/ E/ESCWA/16/5.