The Governing Council,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, particularly General Assembly resolutions 33/86 of 15 December 1978, and 34/187 of 18 December 1979 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/57 of 21 July 1978,


Conscious of the need for the immediate implementation in the region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification as an integral part of the general efforts to promote the economic and social development of the Sudano-Sahelian region,

Having considered decision 8/17 adopted on 29 April 1980 by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification with special reference to the Sudano-Sahelian region,

Having also considered the report of the Administrator on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region (DP/494),
1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Administrator (DP/494) on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region;  

2. Commends the Administrator for the results achieved by UNSO within the terms of its mandate to assist the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region in implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;  

3. Endorses the decision of the Governing Council of UNEP to add Djibouti to the list of countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region and to include Guinea and Guinea-Bissau among the countries eligible to receive assistance through the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, and, to that effect, authorizes the Administrator, after consultation with the Executive Director of UNEP, to increase, in an amount equal to a UNEP increase, the UNDP share of the costs of the UNDP/UNEP joint venture;  

4. Requests the Administrator to continue to examine the specific needs of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region and to grant to them, within the available resources of the Programme, additional assistance through UNSO, with a view to ensuring the timely and effective implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the region;  

5. Urges governments, United Nations system agencies, intergovernmental organizations, private organizations and individuals to intensify their assistance, either bilaterally or through the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office or any other intermediary, in response to the priority requirements of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region;  

6. Further requests the Administrator to continue to report annually to the Governing Council on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region.