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RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMME IN THE SAHEL REGION

Activities of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office and
assistance to other drought stricken countries in Africa

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 86/39 of 27 June 1986, and resolution 87/1 of 17 February 1987 on the implementation of the medium- and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme and the implementation of the plan of action to combat desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region,

Deeply concerned by the serious effect of drought and desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region which have aggravated food shortages and famine and undermined the development of the countries in the region,

Convinced that Africa's socio-economic recovery will be severely handicapped in the absence of more concerted international effort to counter the effects of drought and desertification,

Taking note of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, annexed to resolution S-13/2 of the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa,

Recalling decision 13/30 B of 23 May 1985 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Taking note of the efforts of the Administrator to establish within the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office a unit responsible for East African countries,

Taking note also of the efforts made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to implement the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme of the member countries of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, and noting with satisfaction the co-operation that UNSO has started with the newly established Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development,

1. Takes note of the report of the Administrator on the activities of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office and United Nations assistance to other drought stricken countries in Africa (DP/1987/50);

2. Expresses its gratitude to the Government, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals that have contributed to the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region and commends the Administrator on the progress achieved by UNSO in implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the face of financial constraints;

3. Appeals to all Governments to strengthen further their support to the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, including voluntary contributions on the occasion of the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, as well as through direct financing of UNSO-sponsored projects which enable it to respond to the priority requirements of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region;

4. Reaffirms the role of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in co-ordinating United Nations efforts to help the States members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD) in implementing their recovery and rehabilitation programme, with due regard to ecological considerations and urges all Governments of the affected areas and specialized and operational agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their co-ordination to assure concerted efforts to combat desertification;

5. Requests the Administrator to review the staffing situation of UNSO with a view to considering the need for strengthening it in order to render the office more effective in the discharge of its mandates;

6. Requests the Administrator to continue to report annually to the Governing Council on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region and on efforts to combat drought and desertification, as well as on co-operation of the United Nations system in this area.
