DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE AFRICAN GROUP:

FIGHT AGAINST LOCUST AND GRASSHOPPER INFESTATION IN AFRICA

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 41/185 of 8 December 1986 and Council resolution 1988/2 of 5 February 1988 concerning locust and grasshopper infestation in Africa;

Having taken note of resolution 1988/L.25 of 17 May 1988, in which the Economic and Social Council "invites the appropriate bodies, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to give the necessary priority, in their regular activities, to the fight against locust and grasshopper infestation in Africa";

Recalling resolution 641 (XXIII) of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) adopted at its thirtieth session, held at Niamey in April 1988;

Bearing in mind the recommendations concerning the UNDP regional programme adopted by the Arab countries at their intergovernmental meeting held at Casablanca (Morocco) from 16 to 18 March 1988;

Noting with satisfaction the initiatives taken by the Maghreb countries and the countries members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, as well as the co-ordination between these countries and donors at FAO meetings;
Deeply concerned by the extent and seriousness of the locust and grasshopper infestation in Africa, particularly in North and West Africa and in the Sahel, which may adversely affect the programmes embarked upon by the African countries, the donor countries and the international organizations with a view to ensuring the agricultural development and food security and self-sufficiency of Africa;

Noting that, despite the commendable efforts of the countries affected and the international community to contain the locust and grasshopper infestation, Africa lacks the resources required to cope with the large-scale outbreaks anticipated in the coming Autumn and to finance a medium-term and long-term programme aimed at the eradication of this scourge;

Aware that desert locust control requires maximum rapidity and flexibility in the mobilization of appropriate human, scientific, technical, material and financial resources;

1. Approves the project contained in document DP/PROJECTS/REC/29 entitled "Emergency assistance to meet short and intermediate needs for desert locust control (INT/88/795)";

2. Urges UNDP and other sources of financing to provide, as a matter of urgency, the countries affected with the resources they require to cope with present outbreaks of desert locusts and to contain the infestations expected to occur in the coming months;

3. Invites UNDP and other sources of financing to provide the countries affected with supplementary resources enabling them to devise and implement a regional strategy for the continuous and co-ordinated control of the locust scourge with a view to its eventual eradication;

4. Requests the UNDP regional offices involved in the fight against locust and grasshopper infestation to co-ordinate their activities closely with the countries affected and/or the appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations in this field with a view to the effective control of locust and grasshopper infestations and reducing the adverse effects of treating infested zones on the environment;

5. Requests the donor countries to continue providing the countries affected with the products, equipment and aircraft necessary in the urgent fight against this scourge.