BOOK REVIEWS

Cede Resolutions

The European Council of Environmental Law, a non-profit making association with the purpose of promoting the development and the study of environmental law with particular reference to Europe, was founded on the 19th May 1974.

Meetings were periodically held by the Council, in which a great number of problems concerning environmental law were discussed. As a result of these studies, the following 11 resolutions were adopted, and have now been printed in book form:* The Harmonization and Improvement of Systems of State Aid for Projects aimed at Protecting the Environment; Legal Principles Applying to the Conservation of Migratory Species; Consultation Procedure Prior to the Installation of Polluting Establishments in Frontier Regions; Marine Pollution from Offshore Drilling Platforms; Environmental Protection and Criminal Law; Draft Convention on Deterioration of the Marine Environment as a Result of Exploration and Exploitation of the Seabed and its Subsoil in Maritime Areas under the National Jurisdiction of States; Guiding Principles for an Impact Procedure; The Law of Associations and the Environment; Comment upon the Proposal for a Council Directive on the Major Accidents Hazards of Certain Industrial Activities of July 16, 1979: Present Issues in International Environmental Law; Procedures for Mutual Information and Consultation Concerning Shared Resources and Transfrontier Pollution.

*Published by the Erich Schmidt Verlag, Berlin, Federal Republic of Germany. European Council of Environmental Law, Resolutions 1975–1981. Band A 75. Supplementary information concerning the Council and its activities can be obtained from the following address: C.E.D.E., Université des Sciences juridiques, politiques et sociales, Place d’Athènes, F-68084 Strasbourg Cedex.

The Environmental Law of the Sea*

At the time of the winding down of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, it is appropriate to reassess the emerging new framework for marine law and policy.

IUCN’s Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration has undertaken a study to place the environmentally relevant aspects of UNCLOS III in global and historical perspective. The study has been an ambitious undertaking. The subject is a complicated one, requiring a wide range of expertise on matters as diverse as fishery conservation, marine pollution from land-based sources, and sea-use planning techniques. As a result, the work is the result of a team effort, with several leading experts making contributions.

The study consists of five chapters. The first three provide a historical overview of marine conservation, the fourth is devoted to analyzing regional approaches to the subject, and a final chapter on conclusions and recommendations identifies legal and administrative follow-up measures that must be taken for sound management and development of ocean resources at the global, regional or national level.

In the aftermath of UNCLOS III, a great deal of important work will have to be undertaken to implement and supplement the environmental provisions agreed upon. Even before the new Convention on the Law of the Sea comes into force, developments in international environmental law will require significant conservation initiatives to be taken within the framework of the Convention.

It is hoped that the study will serve two functions: to provide useful background information about the present state of marine conservation measures and, more important, to generate future initiatives for marine conservation.

SELECTED DOCUMENTS

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY: COUNCIL DECISION ON LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

The Council of the European Communities

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 235 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,¹

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,²

Whereas the aim of the Community environmental policy as stated in the Declaration of the Council of the European Communities and of the representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting in the Council of 22 November 1973 on the programme of action of the European Communities on the environment,³ supplemented by the resolution of the Council of the European Communities and of the representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council of 17 May 1977 on the continuation and implementation of a European Community policy and action programme on the environment,⁴ namely the improvement of the quality and setting of life, of the surroundings and living conditions of the peoples of the Community, implies, in particular, preventing, reducing and as far as possible, eliminating pollution and nuisances as well as seeking common solutions to environmental problems with States outside the Community, particularly in international organizations;

Whereas one of the principles of the said environmental policy is that, in accordance with the declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment adopted in Stockholm in 1972, care should be taken to ensure that activities carried out in one State do not cause any degradation of the environment in another;

Whereas the Community participated in the negotiations, within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe, of a Convention and resolution on long-range transboundary air pollution;

Whereas on 14 November 1979 the Community signed the Convention on long-range transboundary air pollution and approved the resolution on long-range transboundary air pollution in which the signatories to the Convention decided to initiate the provisional implementation of the Convention, within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe on an interim basis, and undertook to carry out the obligations of the Convention to the maximum extent possible pending its entry into force;

Whereas the Community’s participation in the implementation of this Convention is necessary in order to attain one of the objectives

¹OJ No C 59, 10.3.1980, p. 71.
²OJ No C 72, 24.3.1980, p. 25.

Environmental Policy and Law, 7 (1981)