

SELECTED DOCUMENTS

UN / SC

Maintenance of International Peace and Security

At the 5705th meeting of the Security Council, the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in particular the Security Council's primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. In this respect, the Security Council recognizes the role that natural resources can play in armed conflict and post-conflict situations."

"The Security Council reaffirms that every state has the full and inherent sovereign right to control and exploit its own natural resources in accordance with the Charter and the principles of international law."

"The Security Council stresses that natural resources are a crucial factor in contributing to long-term economic growth and sustainable development."

"The Security Council recalls resolution 1625 (2005) whereby the Council adopted the declaration on strengthening the effectiveness of the Security Council's role in conflict prevention, particularly in Africa, in which it reaffirmed its determination to take action against illegal exploitation and trafficking of natural resources and high-value commodities in areas where it contributes to the outbreak, escalation or continuation of armed conflict."

"Moreover, the Security Council notes that, in specific armed conflict situations, the exploitation, trafficking, and illicit trade of natural resources have played a role in areas where they have contributed to the outbreak, escalation or continuation of armed conflict. The Security Council, through its various resolutions, has taken measures on this issue, more specifically to prevent illegal exploitation of natural resources, especially diamonds and timber, from fuelling armed conflicts and to encourage transparent and lawful management of natural resources, including the clarification of the responsibility of management of natural resources, and has established sanctions committees and groups and panels of experts to oversee the implementation of those measures."

"The Security Council emphasizes the importance of improving the work of and strengthening the contributions made by existing sanctions committees and the various experts' groups and panels established

by the Council in dealing with the impact of illegal exploitation of natural resources on conflicts in the countries under its consideration. The Security Council also recalls the work done by the Security Council Informal Working Group on General Issues of Sanctions (2006) and refers in this regard to its report (S/2006/997)."

"The Security Council recognizes that UN missions and peacekeeping operations deployed in resource-endowed countries experiencing armed conflict could play a role in helping the governments concerned, with full respect of their sovereignty over their natural resources, to prevent the illegal exploitation of those resources from further fuelling the conflict. The Security Council underlines the importance of taking this dimension of conflict into account, where appropriate, in the mandates of UN and regional peacekeeping operations, within their capabilities, including by mak-

request, in ensuring that natural resources become an engine for sustainable development. In this regard, the Security Council recognizes the role of voluntary initiatives aiming at improving revenue transparency such as Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). The Security Council also stresses that the use, disposal and management of natural resources is a multifaceted and cross sector issue that involves various UN organizations. In this regard, the Security Council acknowledges the valuable contribution of various UN organizations in promoting lawful, transparent and sustainable management and exploitation of natural resources."

"The Security Council recognizes the need for the private sector to contribute to the good governance and avoidance of illegal exploitation of natural resources in countries in conflict. In this regard, the Council also notes the important contribution voluntary principles and standards play in encouraging multinational enterprises to adopt a responsible business conduct *such as* provided for by OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the OECD Risk Awareness Tool for Multinational Enterprises in Weak Governance Zones and the UN Global Compact."

"The Security Council stresses the important role, in the context of Security Sector Reform in post-conflict environment, of transparent and effective national security and customs structures for the effective control and management of natural resources by preventing the illegal access to and the trade and exploitation of those resources."

"The Security Council emphasizes that, in countries emerging from conflict, lawful, transparent and sustainable management, – at local, national and international level – and exploitation of natural resources is a critical factor in maintaining stability and in preventing a relapse into conflict. The Council recalls in this respect that it has welcomed country specific initiatives *such as* the Governance and Economic Assistance Management Program (GEMAP) in Liberia (S/RES/1626 (2005)) and related efforts *such as* the Liberia Forest Initiative."

"The Security Council reiterates the important role of regional organizations in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations as well as its relevant resolutions 1625 (2005) and 1631 (2005), PRST 2006/39 and PRST 2007/7. In this regard, the Security Council recognizes, in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, the need for a more coordinated approach by the United Nations, regional organizations and governments concerned, in particular the empowerment of governments in post-conflict situations to better manage their resources."



Officers and soldiers were feeding medicine to the eagle

Courtesy: CTIC

ing provision for assisting governments, upon their request, in preventing the illegal exploitation of natural resources by the parties to the conflict, in particular, where appropriate, by developing adequate observation and policing capacities to that end."

"The Security Council recognizes, in conflict and post-conflict situations, the importance of cooperation, in shared responsibility, among source, transit and destination countries in preventing and combating trafficking, illicit trade, and illegal exploitation of natural resources. The Security Council also emphasizes the important contribution of commodity monitoring and certification schemes such as the Kimberley Process."

"The Security Council acknowledges the crucial role that the Peacebuilding Commission, together with other UN and non-UN actors, can play, in post-conflict situations, in assisting governments, upon their

* S/PRST/2007/22. See also page 364.

G8 / Summit 2007

Joint Statement*

Today's purposeful discussions between the G8 and Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa mark an important step towards an equal and enduring partnership for building the framework conditions of a globalized and competitive world economy. In a globalizing world, we have to look beyond national and regional boundaries and work together. Towards this endeavour, we commit to cooperate in the following fields:

Promoting Research and Innovation:

Strategies to encourage and support research and innovation are key elements for future sustainable development of our economies. In this context, we underline the importance of integrating the promotion and protection of innovation in our national policies and legislation. We encourage a positive exchange of views on international experiences related to the crucial role and economic value of intellectual property rights (IPR) protection and implementation of agreed international IPR protection standards. In this exchange we also need to consider the protection of IPRs in conjunction with common good of human kind for the purposes of protecting the environment and supporting public health. In this regard, we recall the Doha Declaration on the TRIPs Agreement and public health. We affirm our commitment for further cooperation in capacity building, human resource development and public awareness programmes in the field of intellectual property.

Fighting Climate Change:

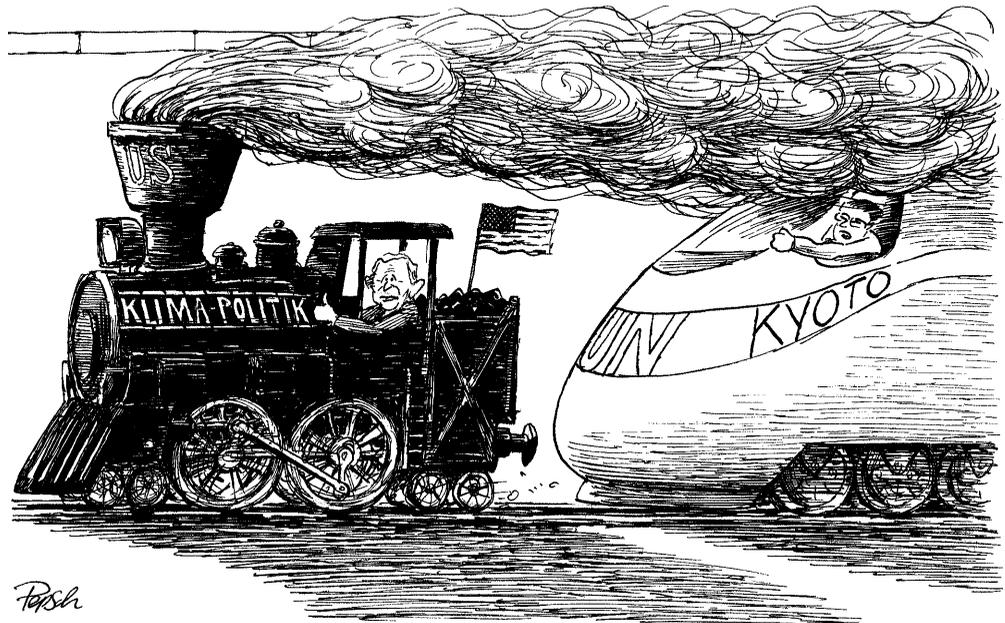
We face serious challenges in tackling climate change and achieving sustainable development globally. We reaffirm our commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and to its objective through both mitigation and adaptation in accordance with our common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. On this basis and taking into

account the scientific knowledge as represented in the recent IPCC reports, we remain committed to contribute our fair share to tackle climate change in order to stabilize green house gas concentrations at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. To this end we need a flexible, fair and effective global framework and concerted international action. We underline the crucial role of economic incentives, in particular by carbon markets, for the necessary investments in climate friendly technologies at large scale. The adaptation to climate change will be a major challenge for all countries, in particular for developing countries, and

technologies. We confirm our commitment to promote energy efficiency, through cost-effective solutions, to advance the effective use of fossil fuels, such as the clean coal technology, and to increase the use of cleaner and renewable energy sources, such as biofuels and biomass, as an important step towards secure, stable and competitive energy supplies for achieving sustainable development.

Development, particularly in Africa:

We reiterate our commitment to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the eradication of poverty and sustainable



Courtesy: SZ

means for adaptation need to be included in a future agreement along with enhanced technology cooperation and financing. We call on all parties to actively and constructively participate in the negotiations on a comprehensive agreement at the UNFCCC Conference in Indonesia in December 2007.

Energy:

We recognise the need for closer, more practical and result-oriented regional and international cooperation in the energy sector, especially in ensuring secure and affordable supplies of energy as well as in improving energy efficiency and the access to advanced and affordable energy

global development. In view of our responsibility regarding the challenges of development we shall strengthen cooperation and coordination between us to achieve these goals.

We commit to embark on a high-level dialogue on specific challenges as proposed by the G8 (Heiligendamm Process) as a follow up to continue our discussion in a more structured manner for a period of two years until the G8 Summit in 2009 where we will review the progress made on the following issues: Promoting cross border investment to our mutual benefit, Promoting Research and Innovation, Development, particularly Africa, and Sharing Knowledge for improving Energy Efficiency.

* by the German G8 Presidency and the Heads of State and/or Government of Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa, 8 June 2007. See also page 365.

Proposal for the UN/GA*

..... Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 54/33 of 24 November 1999, 57/141 of 12 December 2002 and 60/30 of 29 November 2005, we were appointed as the Co-Chairpersons of the eighth meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea. We now have the honour to submit to you the attached report on the work of the Consultative Process at its eighth meeting, which was held at United Nations Headquarters from 25 to 29 June 2007.

Also annexed to the report are the Co-Chairpersons' possible elements on marine genetic resources, the topic of focus of the meeting, to be suggested to the General Assembly for consideration under its agenda item "Oceans and the law of the sea". They have been proposed by the Co-Chairpersons in the absence of the agreed consensual elements referred to in paragraph 6(a) of the format and annotated agenda for the eighth meeting (A/AC.259/L.8).

Annex Marine Genetic Resources: Co-Chairpersons' Possible Elements to be Suggested to the General Assembly

The Co-Chairpersons suggest that the General Assembly:

1. Note the abundance and diversity of marine genetic resources, their dynamic nature, and the role of these resources as important constituents of marine biodiversity, and their role in biogeochemical cycles and in sustaining life on Earth;

2. Also note the vulnerability of marine biological diversity, including marine genetic resources, posed by diverse threats and influences, including pollution, climate change, habitat destruction, destructive fishing practices, physical alteration to the marine environment, and overexploitation;

3. Recognize that the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the "Convention") sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out;

4. Note discussion on the relevant legal regime on marine genetic resources in areas beyond national jurisdiction in accordance with the Convention, and call on States to further consider this issue in the context of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, with a view to making further progress on this issue;

5. Recognize the important role of the Convention on Biological Diversity which has, as its objectives to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, the

conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources;

6. Recognize that coastal States have sovereignty or sovereign rights, as appropriate, and duties with respect to resources, including marine genetic resources, in areas within national jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention;

7. Note the importance of sharing, disseminating and using results of current marine scientific research as well as the need for further marine scientific research to understand the distribution, composition, vulnerability, resilience and ecological functions of marine genetic resources in marine biodiversity;

8. Note the importance of identifying and mapping biodiversity across all marine ecosystems for improving our understanding of the ecological functions, conservation needs, and current and potential uses of marine genetic resources, in accordance with the Convention;

9. Recognize the current and potential benefits of research on marine genetic resources for understanding ecosystems services, environmental change, and oceans processes, and note that the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity and its components are a key requirement for safeguarding such benefits;

10. Also recognize the value of goods and services from marine genetic resources and the range of sectors, including food, health, industry and environmental remediation, that seek to explore the potential of marine genetic resources, and note that the commercial development of marine genetic resources can often be a lengthy process that may involve risk, uncertainty and significant capital investment and further note that the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity and its components are a key requirement for safeguarding such goods;

11. Recognize that there are several aspects of intellectual property regimes relating to marine genetic resources that need to be better considered, including in relation to disclosure of source of origin of marine genetic resources, links to traditional knowledge, impacts on the sharing of knowledge, and on implications for access and benefit-sharing, and note the ongoing discussions and expertise of relevant intergovernmental organizations, including the World Intellectual Property Organization and the World Trade Organization;

12. Encourage States and international organizations, including through bilateral, regional, and global cooperation programmes and partnerships, to continue in a sustainable and comprehensive way, when possible, to strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scien-

tific research, by training personnel, investing in facilities, providing research platforms, and transferring environmentally-sound technologies;

13. Recognize the fundamental role of taxonomy for the classification of marine organisms in research, data integration, and conservation, and invite States and relevant international organizations to promote training and careers in taxonomy in order to address the shortage in taxonomic expertise, particularly in developing countries;

14. Invite States, relevant international organizations and stakeholders to promote further scientific cooperation and multi-disciplinary research efforts, partnerships, and public and private joint ventures in order to encourage research related to marine genetic resources;

15. Note the technological and financial challenges of marine scientific research on deep water ecosystems, and encourage States and scientific institutions to engage in further international collaborative opportunities and assistance for this work, to be conducted in accordance with international law;

16. Recognize the need to support collaborative efforts so that the potential of marine genetic resources in areas beyond national jurisdiction can be fully realized for mutual benefit, and emphasize the need to share the results of marine scientific research;

17. Encourage existing international efforts, such as the work of the Census of Marine Life, and other ongoing relevant partnerships and initiatives, including within the United Nations system, to systematically collect and integrate marine scientific data and information and make it publicly available, in accordance with international law, including the Convention;

18. Encourage States, in view of the endemism of some species and the vulnerability of many marine ecosystems, to ensure that any activities with respect to marine genetic resources that take place under their national jurisdiction or control is conducted sustainably, taking into account the ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach;

19. Recognize the mutual need among researchers, commercial interests, and local communities for fair, transparent, predictable and effective frameworks for accessing marine genetic resources in areas under national jurisdiction, and invite States to take appropriate steps to that end;

20. Encourage relevant organizations, institutions, and researchers to consider adopting, as appropriate, codes of conduct, standards and technical guidelines for the sustainable exploration and sampling of marine genetic resources;

21. Invite States to use the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising out of their Utilization in areas under their jurisdiction.

* Letter dated 30 July 2007 from the Co-Chairpersons of the Consultative Process addressed to the President of the General Assembly. See also page 366.