



**General Assembly**  
**Based on A/RES/65/155**  
**Abdelghani Merabet**  
**Amerabet@algeria-un.org**

Distr.: Limited  
15 October 2012

Original: English

**Sixty-seventh session**

**Second Committee**

Agenda item 20 (b)

**Sustainable development:**

**Follow-up to and implementation of the**

**Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the**

**Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of**

**Small Island Developing States**

**20 November**

**2:30 pm**

**Algeria:<sup>1</sup> draft resolution**

**Towards the sustainable development of the  
Caribbean Sea for present and future generations**

*The General Assembly,*

PP1 *Reaffirming* the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>2</sup> the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,<sup>3</sup> the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>4</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>5</sup>, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on

<sup>1</sup> on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China

<sup>2</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>3</sup> See *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>5</sup> *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.



---

Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”),<sup>6</sup> and the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (“The Future We Want”) as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP2 *Recalling* the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,<sup>7</sup> [*agreed ad ref*]

PP3 *Taking into account* all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004, 61/197 of 20 December 2006, 63/214 of 19 December 2008 and 65/155 of 20 December 2010, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP4 *Taking into account also* the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>8</sup> [*agreed ad ref*]

PP5 *Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>9</sup> [*agreed ad ref*]

PP6 *Recalling also* the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,<sup>10</sup> and the protocols thereto, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP7 *Reaffirming* the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,<sup>11</sup> which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP8 *Recalling* the Convention on Biological Diversity and other biodiversity-related conventions, including the Convention on International Trade in

---

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution S-22/2, annex.

<sup>8</sup> *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum) chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

<sup>9</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>10</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

---

Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora<sup>12</sup> and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,<sup>13</sup> [*agreed ad ref*]

PP9 *Emphasizing* the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,<sup>14</sup> [*agreed ad ref*]

PP10 *Recalling* the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP11 *Considering* that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile and socially and economically vulnerable and are also affected, *inter alia*, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems, and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP12 *Recognizing* that the Caribbean Sea has unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP13 *Recognizing also* that the Caribbean has been shown to be the most tourism-dependent region in the world relative to its size, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP14 *Noting* that the Caribbean Sea, when compared to all other large marine ecosystems, is surrounded by the largest number of countries in the world, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP15 *Emphasizing* that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes, [*agreed ad ref*]

PP16 *Bearing in mind* the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals, [*agreed ad ref*]

---

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., vol. 996, No. 14583.

<sup>14</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

---

PP17 *Acknowledging* that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of resources, *[agreed ad ref]*

PP18 *Noting* the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area, *[agreed ad ref]*

PP19 *Taking note* of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on safety of transport of radioactive materials, *[agreed ad ref]*

PP20 *Mindful* of the diversity and dynamic interaction and competition among socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources, *[agreed ad ref]*

PP21 *Mindful also* of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the wider Caribbean Sea region and, in so doing, to promote integrated management of the wider Caribbean Sea region in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries, *[agreed ad ref]*

PP22 *Welcoming* the continued efforts of the States members of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and recognizing in this regard the firm commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association to take the steps necessary to ensure the recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law, *[agreed ad ref]*

PP23 *Recalling* the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and welcoming its ongoing work, *[agreed ad ref]*

PP24 *Cognizant* of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area and of the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community, *[agreed ad ref]*

1. *Recognizes* that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional

---

initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, including the consideration of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to international law; [*agreed ad ref*]

2. *Notes* the efforts of the Caribbean States and the work undertaken by the Caribbean Sea Commission of the Association of Caribbean States, including the development of their concept of the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, and invites the international community to support such efforts; [*agreed ad ref*]

3. *Welcomes* the plan of action adopted by the Caribbean Sea Commission, including its scientific and technical components and its governance and outreach components, and invites the international community and the United Nations system to enhance support, including financial, technical and capacity building assistance, as appropriate, to Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to implement the plan of action; [*agreed ad ref*]

4. *Also welcomes* the resources provided by some donors to support the work of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and invites the international community to continue and to enhance its support, as appropriate, to the Commission, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technical support, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the sharing of experience in the areas of work of the Commission; [*agreed ad ref*]

5. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters; [*agreed ad ref*]

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist, as appropriate, Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and pollution from the illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities; [*agreed ad ref*]

7. *Invites* the Association of Caribbean States to submit to the Secretary-General a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present

---

resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session; **[agreed ad ref]**

8. *Calls upon* all States to become parties to relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste; **[agreed ad ref]**

9. Welcomes, in this regard, the Special Area designation for the Caribbean, under Annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, which entered into effect in May 2011; **[agreed ad ref]**

10. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes and to meet the principles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;<sup>15</sup> **[agreed ad ref]**

11. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup> to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves; **[agreed ad ref]**

12. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing those conventions and protocols effectively; **[agreed ad ref]**

13. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to support actively the national and regional activities of the Caribbean States towards the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources; **[agreed ad ref]**

14. *Expresses deep concern* about the severe destruction and devastation caused to several countries by heightened hurricane activity in the wider Caribbean region in recent years; **[agreed ad ref]**

14 bis. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ongoing activities of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Intergovernmental Co-ordination

---

<sup>15</sup> *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. III.

---

Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean Sea and Adjacent Regions and invites Member States and other partners to support early warning systems in the region. [*agreed ad ref*]

15. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, on the basis of their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development; [*agreed ad ref*]

16. *Acknowledges* the pivotal role of the Association of Caribbean States in regional dialogue and in the consolidation of a wider Caribbean cooperation zone in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the importance of the international community in deepening existing cooperation and consolidating new initiatives with that regional mechanism in the context of the outcomes of the High-level Conference on Disaster Reduction of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Saint-Marc, Haiti, from 14 to 16 November 2007, and the plan of action approved by the Ministerial Council of the Association upon the recommendation of the Conference; [*agreed ad ref*]

17. *Invites* Member States, international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to consider training programmes for the development of a human resources capacity at different levels and to develop research aimed at enhancing the food security of Caribbean countries, as well as the sustainable management of renewable marine and coastal resources; [*agreed ad ref*]

18. *Calls upon* Member States to improve, as a matter of priority, their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation; [*agreed ad ref*]

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty- ninth session, under the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States” of the item entitled “Sustainable development”, on the implementation of the present resolution, including a section on the possible legal and financial implications of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to relevant international law, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and relevant regional organizations. [*agreed ad ref*]

