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UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Additional measures and means of financing for the implementation
of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At its thirty-second session, the General Assembly, by paragraph 13 of its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, invited the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to have prepared, by a small group of high-level specialists in the international financing of projects and programmes, a study of additional measures and means of financing for the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, and to submit a final report on the subject of additional measures of financing to the Assembly at its thirty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council.
2. Pursuant to that resolution, and in view of the time-table specified for the preparation of that study, the Executive Director of UNEP convened a group of high-level specialists to prepare it. Following meetings by working subgroups, the Group met in Paris from 13 to 16 March 1978 and prepared and adopted the final text of the study.
3. The Executive Director transmitted the study to the Governing Council of UNEP at its sixth session held in May 1978 at Nairobi. The Governing Council adopted decision 6/11, in which it, inter alia, took note of the study prepared by the group of specialists; decided to submit the study to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session, together with an extract of the report of the Governing Council which reflected the differing views which had been expressed in the Council on this matter; and invited the General Assembly to request the Secretary-General to solicit the views of Governments and report on the results to the Assembly at its thirty-fourth session.

4. The study on additional measures and means of financing for the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification is available to the General Assembly in document UNEP/GC.6/9/Add.1. In line with paragraph 2 of the Governing Council's decision, attention is drawn to chapter V, paragraphs 306 to 311, of the report of the Governing Council on the work of its sixth session. 1/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/33/25).