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Special economic and disaster relief assistance

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, by which it established the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator,

Recalling also its resolution 42/169 of 11 December 1987 and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/51 of 26 July 1988,

Taking note with interest of the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the Co-ordinator and on special economic and disaster relief assistance,

Recognizing that activities related to disaster preparedness and prevention were significantly greater than in 1986-1987, and appreciating, in this regard, the contribution of bilateral donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as the good performance of the Office of the Co-ordinator in strengthening the national emergency services of affected developing countries by providing, inter alia, advice and expertise on the utilization of early warning systems and on the elaboration and implementation of disaster contingency plans for pre-disaster planning and post-disaster periods,

- 1. Encourages the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to expand further its information base and its capacity to disseminate timely and reliable disaster-related information and to continue to update its profiles of disaster-prone countries, as well as to develop its International Disaster Management Information Network, bearing in mind the report to be prepared by the Secretary-General in response to the request made by the General Assembly in paragraph 5 of its resolution 42/169;
- 2. Notes with interest the close co-operation between the Office of the Co-ordinator and the United Nations Development Programme, as described in the final report of the joint United Nations Development Programme/Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator task force;
- 3. Requests the Office of the Co-ordinator to strengthen its relationship with Member States, in particular with national focal points in disaster-prone countries, and, in this connection, recognizes the need to hold meetings at the regional and/or international level, at appropriate intervals, with the participation of heads of national emergency relief services of donor and recipient countries.