

was acceptable as a compromise which would remain open to review and further development in the mutual negotiation of the future regime and machinery.

(b) Decision to convene a law of the sea conference

A second major achievement at the 25th session was the adoption of Resolution 2750C (XXV) of January 14, 1971, by which the General Assembly decided to convene, in 1973, a conference which would deal with the broad range of issues of the law of the sea, including

- (i) the establishment of an equitable international regime (including international machinery) for the seabed and ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction;
- (ii) a precise definition of this area of the seabed,
- (iii) the breadth of the territorial sea and the question of international straits;
- (iv) fishing and conservation of the living resources of the high seas, including the preferential rights of coastal states;
- (v) preservation of the marine environment and the prevention of pollution;
- (vi) marine scientific research.

Both the agenda and timing of the conference are subject to review at the 27th session of the General Assembly, and by the terms of the resolution the conference may be postponed by the 27th session if its preparation has not sufficiently progressed by that time. As already noted, the task of preparing for the conference has been entrusted to the expanded Seabed Committee.

The adoption of resolution 2750C required lengthy and difficult negotiations in light of the wide divergence of views regarding the scope of the conference and the priority attaching to the various issues it will