

## ECOSOC Resolution 2003/63

### Trust Fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2000/35, particularly its paragraph 4 establishing the United Nations Forum on Forests as a subsidiary body of the Council composed of all States Members of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies with full and equal participation,

*Also recalling* paragraph 6 of the same resolution inviting voluntary extrabudgetary contributions in support of the participation of representatives of developing countries that are not members of the Commission on Sustainable Development in sessions of the Forum and its subsidiary bodies,

*Further recalling* paragraph 16 of the same resolution calling upon interested donor Governments, financial institutions and other organizations to make voluntary financial contributions to a trust fund in order to facilitate the continuing work of the Forum and the secretariat,

*Taking note* of the oral report by the secretariat at its third session on the status of the secretariat, and the views expressed by many countries on the need for enhanced participation of Member States that are developing countries, least developed countries or countries with economies in transition in the sessions of the Forum,

*Noting* that the Trust Fund is an important resource for carrying out activities to support the work of the Forum and to ensure the increased participation of representatives of developing countries, least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, as well as experts from those countries, in the sessions of the Forum, and other meetings aimed at supporting the work of the Forum, and ad hoc expert groups,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the voluntary extrabudgetary contributions made by a number of donor Governments to the Trust Fund to support the Forum and its secretariat and recognizing the need for additional resources,

1. *Invites* donor Governments, institutions and other organizations to provide contributions to the Trust Fund;

2. *Recommends* that the General Assembly decide that support to participants from developing countries, with priority to the least developed countries, as well as from countries with economies in transition may be provided from the Trust Fund for travel and daily subsistence from funds designated for that purpose.

*49th plenary meeting  
25 July 2003*