

2082nd meeting

Thursday, 28 July 1977, at 3.40 p.m.

President: Mr. L. ŠMÍD (Czechoslovakia)

E/SR.2082

Organization of work

1. The PRESIDENT said that there was a matter still pending regarding the recommendation to be made by the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly on the question of the participation of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council (Council resolution 2057 (LXII), para. 4 (j)) in the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

2. Since it was likely that the Third Committee of the General Assembly would begin its work at the Assembly's thirty-second session with the item relating to the World Conference, he wished to invite interested delegations to undertake informal consultations on the question, with a view to the Council's taking a formal decision at a meeting to be scheduled during the last week of September. The Council's recommendation could then be transmitted to the General Assembly within about 10 days of the opening of its thirty-second session on 20 September 1977.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Assistance to Mozambique (*continued*)
(A/32/96, E/L.1773, E/L.1783)

AGENDA ITEM 28

Assistance to Botswana (*continued*) (E/L.1772, E/L.1784)

AGENDA ITEM 29

Assistance to Lesotho (*continued*) (E/L.1772, E/L.1785)

AGENDA ITEM 5

Assistance in emergency situations (*continued*)
(E/5939 and Corr.1, E/L.1786)

3. Count YORK (Federal Republic of Germany) said that, on the question of the inclusion of the countries to

which agenda item 5 related in the list of the least developed countries, his delegation agreed with the conclusions of the Committee for Development Planning (see E/5939, paras. 82 and 83).

4. His Government had, up to the end of 1976, provided from official and private sources grants totalling some DM 3 million to Cape Verde, part of which had been humanitarian aid of a special emergency nature. It had participated actively in the assistance programmes of the European Economic Community, through the European Development Fund, to the Comoros, amounting in all to some \$10 million.

5. With respect to assistance to Lesotho and Botswana, his Government had actively supported Security Council resolutions 406 (1977) and 407 (1977) and its delegation had clearly stated its position and policy during the meetings of the Security Council on that question, held in May 1977.

6. By the end of 1976, his country's financing of development projects in Botswana had totalled more than DM 35 million. In 1977, it had pledged an additional sum of DM 23 million, most of the projects involved being based on the long-term planning of the Government of Botswana and relating mainly to industrialization and infrastructural improvement.

7. Assistance to Lesotho up to 1975 had totalled some DM 15 million and had consisted primarily of the dispatch of medical personnel and supplies of medical equipment. His Government had also helped to establish training facilities for automobile and metal workers and had provided a DM 6 million loan for the improvement of water supplies. In view of Lesotho's growing difficulties, his Government had increased its assistance in 1976 to some DM 13 million, while for 1977 it had pledged an additional DM 31.5 million, 24 million of which would consist of loans on IDA terms.

8. The Federal Republic of Germany ranked among the major contributors to multilateral assistance programmes to Botswana and Lesotho, including assistance through the European Economic Community under the Lomé Convention.

9. Ms. FINBORUD (Norway), speaking on behalf of the delegations of the Nordic countries, said that those countries had followed developments in Mozambique closely. The decision by that country to close its borders with Southern Rhodesia and impose mandatory sanctions was a self-sacrificing act of solidarity which had harmed the economy of the newly independent State. Since the Nordic countries thought it the joint responsibility of the world community to put an end to vestiges of colonialism and minority régimes practising racial discrimination, they had pledged some \$13 million of assistance to Mozambique in response to the appeal by the Security Council in its resolution 386 (1976) of 3 March 1976.

10. Although the international community had responded positively to that appeal, the report of the second review mission to Mozambique (see A/32/96) revealed that the assistance offered to date was far below that required for normal development and that increased grants of money and materials were urgently needed, as well as assistance in carrying out a number of emergency and high-priority development projects.

11. The Governments of the Nordic States, which had sent fact-finding missions to Mozambique when that country had attained independence, had engaged in substantial bilateral assistance programmes to that country, in addition to their considerable contributions to multilateral assistance programmes. They had concentrated in particular, in co-operation with FAO, on agricultural programmes geared to raising food production through short-term projects.

12. The Nordic countries hoped that the measures taken by the international community to support the independence and freedom of Mozambique would also be instrumental in ending colonial domination and institutionalized racism.

13. Mr. LAZAREVIĆ (Yugoslavia), speaking on behalf of the States members of the Economic and Social Council which were members of the Group of 77, informed the Council of a number of changes made to the three draft resolutions (E/L.1783, E/L.1784 and E/L.1785) which his delegation had submitted on behalf of those States. The changes had been supplied in writing to the Secretariat.

14. His delegation associated itself with the previous speakers who had expressed support for Botswana, Lesotho and Mozambique in their struggle against the illegal minority régime in southern Africa. The provision of assistance to the peoples of the front-line States was more than a gesture of solidarity; it was a duty incumbent upon the international community. All the States in question were exposed to direct and continued aggression by the racist régime and, as a result, the General Assembly and the Security Council had taken a number of decisions on the provision of assistance to them. His own Government had

participated actively in the adoption of those decisions and had contributed its share of material and other assistance. Consequently, it strongly supported the draft resolutions in question, which it commended to the Council for adoption.

15. Mr. BRUCE (Canada) said that the Council had heard some comprehensive accounts of the critical economic, social and political challenges facing Mozambique, Lesotho and Botswana. All countries and international organizations in a position to do so should provide those countries with prompt and continuous assistance.

16. His Government, which recognized the urgency and importance of enabling those countries not only to maintain their minimum basic social services but also to carry forward their economic development plans, had provided assistance to all three of the States in question.

17. Owing to the recent difficulties suffered by Mozambique, it was giving favourable consideration to a further grant of food aid to that country, in addition to the \$3 million it had already contributed directly and \$400,000 that it had contributed to the Commonwealth Technical Assistance Fund for Mozambique.

18. Canada's assistance to Botswana for the period 1978-1983, which would total \$22 million, was designed to strengthen that country's key economic sectors.

19. As a result of the difficulties resulting from the establishment of the Transkei, Canada had increased the assistance earmarked for Lesotho for the period 1978 to 1983 from \$22 million to \$30 million, of which \$17 million had been assigned to build a road through the southern portion of the country.

20. Although his delegation would need to consider carefully the three draft resolutions submitted by the Yugoslav representative, he felt sure that consensus resolutions along those lines would be acceptable to the Council.

21. Mr. AL-KHUDHAIRY (Iraq) said that his delegation welcomed the addition of items 28 and 29 to the Council's agenda, for it was convinced that the granting of assistance to countries actively helping the just struggle of national liberation movements deserved the support, not only of all Governments and peoples, but also of the United Nations system. It considered that the subject should be discussed not only in the Council and in the General Assembly but also in the governing bodies of the specialized agencies and other United Nations organs, since it rejected the contention that the subject was a political one unsuitable for discussion in technical forums. Nothing relating to the struggle of oppressed people could be considered devoid of economic and social implications.

22. His Government, which had long given material and moral support to the national liberation movements in Africa and elsewhere, would continue to do so. It was not only the national liberation movements, however, that required support and assistance from the international community. The aggressive actions of the minority régimes in southern Africa had led to the creation in that region of a situation very similar to that found in his country's own

region, namely, front-line States bearing the brunt of daily aggression and suffering accordingly.

23. The Iraqi Government felt in duty bound to give all possible assistance to the front-line States, both bilaterally and multilaterally. At the bilateral level, it had pledged a sum of \$1 million to Mozambique. At the multilateral level, it had made substantial contributions through the multilateral organizations and had committed some specific sums at the first Afro-Arab Summit Conference, held at Cairo in March 1977.

24. No material and moral assistance, despite its importance, could take the place of the removal of the root cause of the problem. Only through the complete liquidation of the illegal racist régime in Southern Rhodesia and the ending of *apartheid* in southern Africa could the people of the front-line States hope to lead a normal life and have the necessary conditions for the normal development of their economies. It was for that reason that his Government called for the strictest enforcement of sanctions against Southern Rhodesia and their extension to cover the *apartheid* régime in South Africa. In that connexion, it was alarming that investments by the developed Western countries in southern Africa had reached a staggering sum. His own Government, ever since it had chosen to exercise its right of sovereignty over its natural resources through its nationalization of the foreign oil companies operating in Iraq, had taken care to ensure that no Iraqi oil reached the illegal racist régimes in southern Africa.

25. Iraq had also been prominent in urging the developed countries to curb and terminate the activities of their transnational corporations in white-dominated southern Africa, since those activities helped both to shore up the régimes in question and to win support for them in the developed countries through intensive lobbying. Moreover, by their merciless depletion of natural resources, such corporations jeopardized the post-independence future of the southern African countries.

26. It was not only the transnational corporations but many other States and entities that co-operated with and assisted the illegal régimes in southern Africa. Some developed Western countries were prominent in that regard, while there was a close and growing relationship between the southern African régimes and the Zionist régime. He cited a number of examples illustrating that relationship and co-operation between those two "international pariahs", quoted in the international press, mentioning in particular the fact that Southern Rhodesia was to produce under Israeli licence the Uzi sub-machine gun, the Rhodesian version of which would be called the Ruzi. There was little doubt regarding the people against whom the Ruzi would be used.

27. At the International Seminar on the Eradication of *Apartheid* and in Support of the Struggle for Liberation in South Africa, organized by the Special Committee against *Apartheid* at Havana in May 1976, the supply of arms to South Africa or any form of military co-operation with the *apartheid* régime had been declared "a hostile act not only against the people of South Africa and the Organization of African Unity, but also against the United Nations system

and the international community".⁵¹ That was even more true of the supply of arms to the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia.

28. With regard to section A of chapter III of the report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirteenth session (E/5939 and Corr.1), his delegation was in favour of including Cape Verde and the Comoros in the list of the least developed countries and strongly urged that the Committee should re-examine the possibility of including Angola and Sao Tome and Principe in the list.

29. His delegation fully supported the three draft resolutions introduced by the representative of Yugoslavia on behalf of the Group of 77 which, he was convinced, would be adopted by acclamation.

30. Mr. SODHI (Observer for India), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that Botswana had joined Zambia and Mozambique in imposing sanctions against the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia, with the result that the three front-line States shared many of the same problems and the same burdens. Military attacks had been launched against both Botswana and Mozambique by the illegal régime, acts which his Government strongly condemned. Effective international action was thus more imperative than even before to enable the oppressed peoples to secure their liberation and to establish freedom and peace in southern Africa.

31. Consistent with its policy of support to the liberation movements in southern Africa, his Government had already pledged a contribution of \$100,000 to Mozambique in the form of goods and services. It was also co-operating bilaterally with the Government of Mozambique in other spheres. At the recent Commonwealth Conference, it had announced its willingness to contribute a certain sum to Botswana and Rs.500,000 to Lesotho in the form of goods and services.

32. His delegation reaffirmed its assurance of full support to the three front-line States and fully endorsed the three draft resolutions relating to them.

33. His Government would give urgent consideration to the question of assistance to Angola, Cape Verde, Comoros, and Sao Tome and Principe.

34. Mr. CHANG Ping-chien (China) said that the Smith racist régime of Southern Rhodesia had recently launched troops, aircraft and artillery in a large-scale attack on Mozambique and Botswana, killing peaceful civilians and seriously damaging villages and towns. The Chinese Government and people strongly condemned that action and assured the people of Mozambique and southern Africa of their support in their struggle against white racism.

35. The Smith régime had repeatedly threatened, provoked and attacked its neighbouring States. Such action was not a sign of strength; on the contrary, it showed that the armed struggle of the people of southern Africa had reduced the Smith régime to a hopeless situation, beset

⁵¹ A/31/104, annex I, para. 8.

with difficulties at home and abroad. Faced with the increasingly awakened African people, the Smith régime, despite its desperate struggle, would be driven to complete collapse.

36. In his delegation's view, it was the duty of the United Nations to support Mozambique, Botswana and Lesotho in their just struggle against aggression and to assist them to overcome the resulting hardship. His delegation would support the draft resolutions.

37. Mr. SHAPOVALOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Soviet delegation had carefully studied the report of the Secretary-General on aid to Mozambique, which described the difficult economic situation in that country resulting from its application of sanctions against the illegal racist régime in Southern Rhodesia, from the barbarous acts of aggression perpetrated against it by the Salisbury régime and from natural disasters. It was the duty of every United Nations Member State to play its part in implementing Security Council resolution 411 (1977) and other United Nations resolutions calling for financial, technical and material assistance to Mozambique as a front-line State in the struggle against *apartheid*, colonialism and racism in southern Africa.

38. At a time when the peoples of Africa were scoring historical successes in their struggle for freedom and national independence and when the international role of the southern African countries was steadily growing in importance, it was the duty of all democratic forces to assist in the fight for the final liquidation of the consequences of colonialism and racism on the African continent.

39. In the joint Soviet-Mozambique communiqué of 31 March 1977, the Soviet Union had reaffirmed its support for the people of Mozambique and had condemned the aggressive acts of Southern Rhodesia. Under a series of bilateral agreements, the Soviet Union was providing assistance to the people of Mozambique in technical co-operation, trade, air transport, shipping and fisheries. It had provided Mozambique with substantial credits for mineral exploration, the purchase of machinery and equipment and assistance in carrying out projects in various branches of the national economy—in particular, transport, communications, education and the health services—in accordance with the priorities laid down in the Secretary-General's report. In addition, large numbers of Mozambique trainees had been granted fellowships in Soviet educational institutions and Soviet teachers were working in Mozambique schools and colleges. The Soviet Union's co-operation with Mozambique was based on the principles of equal rights, non-interference in internal affairs and respect for national sovereignty.

40. In accordance with resolutions 31/188, 31/17, 31/42 and 31/187 adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-first session, calling on United Nations Member States and organizations in the United Nations system to help the Governments of Angola, Cape Verde, the Comoros and Sao Tome and Principe to overcome the difficult economic situation in their countries, the Soviet Union was providing bilateral aid to those countries. In particular, on

26 May 1976 it had concluded an agreement on friendship and co-operation with the Government of Angola. Article 8 of that Agreement provided for a further extension of economic, technical and scientific co-operation between the two countries in the fields of industry, transport, agriculture, food production, fisheries, the exploitation of national resources, energy and communications. Soviet experts were assisting in the reconstruction of the Angolan economy, especially in respect of the health services and education, where the Soviet Union was organizing a number of specialized training centres. Soviet experts were also training specialists for the Angolan fishing industry.

41. Under an agreement signed in January 1977, the Soviet Union was increasing the help it was giving to Cape Verde. Assistance to the value of 140,000 roubles had been provided in the form of medicaments, medical equipment and teaching aids. More than 200 trainees from Cape Verde were being trained in the Soviet Union.

42. Under an agreement on economic and technical co-operation, the Soviet Union was also assisting Sao Tome and Principe in the fields of air transport, energy and fisheries. Tractors, assorted machinery, tents, beds, medicaments and medical instruments had been sent to Sao Tome and Principe and specialist training was being provided.

43. Mr. SHIBUYA (Japan) said that his delegation fully supported the action of the Government of Mozambique in closing its border with Southern Rhodesia, in conformity with United Nations resolutions, and appreciated the economic loss incurred by Mozambique as a consequence. Accordingly, Japan had contributed about \$840,000 to UNHCR in December 1976 as emergency assistance to Mozambique, and in March 1977 it had supplied Mozambique with rice to the value of more than \$1,000,000.

44. In the case of Lesotho, the Security Council had adopted resolution 402 (1976), calling upon all States Members of the United Nations to provide assistance to that country. His Government recognized the economic difficulties caused by the closure of border posts between South Africa and Lesotho and fully supported draft resolution E/L.1785 on assistance to Lesotho.

45. His Government endorsed Security Council resolution 403 (1977), calling for assistance to Botswana and denouncing the action of Southern Rhodesia against that country. It also supported the decision adopted at the twenty-fourth session of the UNDP Governing Council to provide \$1 million each to Lesotho and Botswana during the following two years (see E/6013, para. 270).

46. Turning to agenda item 5 on the question of assistance in emergency situations, his delegation understood the economic difficulties facing the newly independent States and particularly the hardships suffered by Cape Verde, the Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe, and Angola. The international community should meet the short-term as well as the long-term development needs of those countries. His Government, for its part, intended to give favourable consideration to requests for development assistance from them. In such emergency situations, the

whole system of United Nations assistance should be properly co-ordinated so that available resources could be utilized in the most effective manner.

47. His delegation supported the recommendation of the Committee for Development Planning in chapter III of its report on its thirteenth session that Cape Verde and the Comoros should be included in the list of the least developed countries, and hoped that at its fourteenth session that Committee would give further consideration to the inclusion of Angola and Sao Tome and Principe in the list.

48. Mr. ROUGÉ (France) said that he wished to express the esteem and friendship of his country for the African peoples. His country was aware of the difficulties which the African countries were facing in southern Africa, where the odious practice of *apartheid* still existed. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in his statement to the Council (2081st meeting), had mentioned the contributions forthcoming from the French Government. His Government's concern for those countries had also been expressed in various bilateral agreements. In accordance with Security Council resolution 386 (1976), France had entered into negotiations with Mozambique regarding the procedure for the provision of loans by the French Government.

49. France was providing Cape Verde with food, assistance in rural development, and scientific and technical assistance, in particular in connexion with submarine exploration. In the case of the Comoros, it was true that aid from France had been interrupted following independence, but the French Government continued to guarantee the currency of the new State and had offered a co-operation agreement. France had signed a co-operation agreement with Sao Tome and Principe and had provided approximately 2 million francs in assistance.

50. Turning to assistance in emergency situations, he noted that the Committee for Development Planning had pointed out that the *per capita* GDP of Angola and Sao Tome and Principe appeared to be much higher than the limiting value used by the Committee in its general review of 1975 (see E/5939, para. 83). He felt that the Committee should safeguard the position of the least developed among the developing countries and not include countries which could receive aid more in keeping with their situation.

51. Mr. NETTEL (Austria) said that the Austrian Government was increasing its assistance to Lesotho and Botswana. Lesotho had received equipment from Austria for the construction of the Trans-Lesotho road and help with training hotel personnel in connexion with the development of the country's tourist industry. A project for the improvement of medical services in Botswana, to include the provision of trucks for mobile hospitals and the training of national personnel, was under active consideration by his Government. His Government was also proposing to grant development assistance to Mozambique, particularly in the field of education and training. His delegation fully supported the three draft resolutions before the Council.

52. With regard to assistance in emergency situations, his delegation agreed with the recommendation of the Com-

mittee for Development Planning regarding the inclusion of Cape Verde and the Comoros in the list of the least developed countries.

53. Ms. FINBORUD (Norway) said that, as long as the illegal régime of Southern Rhodesia continued to exist, the long-term development of neighbouring countries like Botswana would be jeopardized.

54. In response to the Security Council's appeal to all States to provide assistance to Botswana, the Norwegian Government had decided that, in addition to its regular contributions to that country under bilateral technical co-operation programmes, it would repay half the loan extended to Botswana by the World Bank to finance the improvement and expansion of the road between Lobatse and Kazangula, the so-called "life-line project". The Norwegian contribution in that case amounted to \$10 million and would be in the form of grants. Norway had also contributed \$8 million over the period 1974-1976 for improving the road between Francistown and Nata, which also formed part of the "life-line project". The regular Norwegian bilateral assistance to Botswana for the year 1977 amounted to approximately \$5.5 million. The Security Council mission to Botswana had drawn special attention to the heavy financial burden on Botswana resulting from the great influx of refugees. The Norwegian Government had substantially increased its contribution to UNHCR, in order to provide *inter alia*, increased assistance for refugees now in countries adjacent to Southern Rhodesia, and particularly in Mozambique and Botswana. He had just received information that his Government, in response to the appeal by UNHCR, had decided to contribute approximately \$1 million.

55. In response to Security Council resolution 402 (1976), calling upon all States to provide financial, material and technical assistance to Lesotho, the Norwegian Government had decided to finance an appropriate project jointly with the African Development Bank or with the World Bank.

56. Mr. MCGILCHRIST (Jamaica) said that the present debate was taking place against the background of repeated threats to and violations of the territorial integrity of Botswana, Mozambique and other front-line States, and against the background of the serious difficulties encountered by Lesotho because of its courageous refusal to recognize the independence of South Africa's so-called bantustans. Jamaica denounced those violations of territorial integrity and joined in the call to all States, regional organizations and other appropriate international and national bodies to provide greater financial, technical and material assistance to those States.

57. Although many countries, including his own, together with various international bodies, had given assistance to Mozambique, Botswana and Lesotho, the response of the international community as a whole had been grossly inadequate. Although he had been glad to hear that additional assistance was forthcoming, he still had the impression that many Members of the United Nations considered that they had done enough to satisfy their consciences. For that reason, his delegation had noted with

satisfaction the plea by the United Nations Secretary-General at the recent conference of OAU for a greater effort by the international community to provide generous help to the front-line States. His own country would continue to give direct aid to the freedom fighters as far as its means allowed.

58. It should not be forgotten that some of the States which had announced contributions had close economic relations with Southern Rhodesia and South Africa. Yet the international community left them virtually free to enjoy the benefits of those relations. That situation should be brought to an end, in conformity with United Nations resolutions, as should the support being given to Southern Rhodesia and South Africa by the operations of transnational corporations. Although the great majority of the world community was united in condemning South Africa, as had been shown recently by the International Conference in Support of the Peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia, and by the communiqué issued at the end of the Meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government in London in June 1977, there was still not sufficient financial and moral commitment to the eradication of racism and *apartheid* in southern Africa.

59. He hardly needed to emphasize that South Africa was the centre of the system of racist domination in southern Africa. Any settlement must place squarely and irrevocably in the hands of the people of Zimbabwe and Namibia the full and unqualified control of their respective nations. His delegation called upon all countries, particularly those of the developed world, to mobilize public opinion in support of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and southern Africa. It urged them to refrain from having commercial relations with Southern Rhodesia and South Africa, to sever all military dealings with the Pretoria régime by the full implementation of the arms embargo and to give full political, moral, financial and other material support to the movements established by the indigenous people of South Africa for the liberation of their homeland.

60. Mozambique, Botswana and Lesotho and other front-line States were suffering violations of their territorial integrity and having to deal with a large influx of refugees; in order to fight the world's battle against racism and injustice, they were being deprived of the possibility of economic and social development. Those countries, the hardest hit of all, must not be allowed to fight the battle against injustice and *apartheid* alone; they should be provided with the moral and material assistance they needed to bear their burden.

61. Mr. OSMAN (Somalia) said that the Somali delegation had noted with satisfaction the role played by the United Nations system in co-ordinating and mobilizing technical, financial and material assistance programmes for the countries affected by the repressive policies of the racist régimes in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia. The reports of the special review missions dispatched by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to those countries, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, revealed beyond all doubt the great difficulties and problems encountered by the peoples of those countries and the urgent need for action by the international

community. His delegation paid a particular tribute to the special missions, and to the Assistant Secretary-General for Special Political Questions for his detailed and comprehensive analysis of the situation. Nevertheless, the assistance measures taken so far under United Nations auspices were incommensurate with the requirements of the countries concerned and it was necessary to increase the aid provided.

62. His delegation had listened with interest to the report given by the Assistant Secretary-General for Special Political Questions (2081st meeting) on the economic difficulties being experienced by certain newly independent States, in particular, Cape Verde, the Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe and Angola. The widespread damage inflicted on the social and economic infrastructure of Angola during its struggle for independence created an urgent need for the establishment of a fund by the international community to alleviate the economic problems which Angola was facing. The Somali delegation also favoured efforts to meet the short and long-term development needs of Cape Verde, the Comoros and Sao Tome and Principe.

63. With regard to the refugee problem resulting from the policy of oppression pursued by the racist régimes in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia and the consequent economic burden imposed on the front-line States, Somalia was in full agreement with the statement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and hoped that the international community would respond to the appeal he had made for assistance to those countries in dealing with the refugee problem.

64. Mr. LICHILANA (Observer for Zambia), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that the item on assistance to Zambia had consistently appeared on the agenda of the Council since 1973. It might have been expected that the question of assistance to Zambia would have disappeared from the agenda by now, but, on the contrary, during the sixty-first session of the Council a similar item had appeared in respect of Mozambique, and now Botswana and Lesotho had been forced, by circumstances beyond their control, to seek assistance from the international community.

65. He invited the Council to view the situation in southern Africa in the light of the information in the annual report of ECA (see E/5941), from which it was clear that the activities of the United Nations system in the field of economic and social development were being denied to the majority of the people in that part of the world because they happened to live in the Republic of South Africa or in Southern Rhodesia. It might be argued that South Africa was a developed country, but the greater part of the population did not share the fruits of its development. The people were denied the right to exercise sovereignty over their natural resources. They could only look on helplessly while their country continued to be plundered by foreigners at a time when acts of plunder were condemned by the whole world.

66. There could not be any significant subregional development in southern Africa as long as Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and South Africa were not included in its programmes. The economies of the various States were

not only complementary but were interwoven in an intricate manner. Roads and railways had been constructed to serve the region as a whole, and power-generating stations were communal; for example, Kariba served both Zambia and Southern Rhodesia and Cabora Bassa served Mozambique and South Africa.

67. Unfortunately, the minority racist régimes were using their economic superiority to frustrate the hopes and aspirations of independent States in the region. The international community should therefore come to the assistance of the weaker economies that were being strangled.

68. Mr. HACHANI (Tunisia) said that Mozambique, Botswana and Lesotho, like Zambia, were encountering difficulties as a result of their courageous attitude towards the racist minority régimes in South Africa. Mozambique's problems derived largely from its application of the sanctions decreed by the Security Council in respect of the illegal racist régime of Ian Smith, which perpetrated repeated acts of aggression against its neighbours. Botswana, too, was compelled to devote part of its limited resources to the strengthening of its defences.

69. As the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had explained, the economic situation of those countries was further aggravated by the problem of refugees. The international community had unanimously condemned the racist régime of Ian Smith and *apartheid*. The efforts made to assist those countries were encouraging, but much remained to be done. His delegation hoped that the United Nations would respond to the appeal to increase the volume of financial, material and technical aid furnished to the countries concerned and that the relevant draft resolutions would be adopted unanimously by the Council.

70. His delegation had listened with interest to the report of the Assistant Secretary-General for Special Political Questions concerning Angola, Cape Verde, the Comoros and Sao Tome and Principe. It hoped that the international community would quickly adopt adequate measures to come to the aid of those countries and, in particular, that the General Assembly would take, as soon as possible, the appropriate decisions concerning their inclusion in the list of the least developed countries, following the opinion expressed in that connexion by the Committee for Development Planning.

71. Mr. YUNUS (Pakistan) said that his delegation supported everything that had been said by previous speakers concerning assistance to the front-line States of Mozambique, Botswana and Lesotho. As the Assistant Secretary-General for Special Political Questions had pointed out, those States were involved in the challenging task of creating viable social and economic systems and of overcoming the legacies of past colonial policies. In addition, they were being compelled to combat the adverse effects on their economies and on their security of the oppressive political climate in southern Africa. Mozambique not only had to face great economic problems because of its decision to comply with the United Nations policy of sanctions against the illegal Salisbury régime, it had also

been the victim of a series of savage attacks by the armed forces of that régime. His delegation condemned those attacks, which it regarded as among the most barbarous examples of contemporary aggression.

72. The Government of Pakistan welcomed the decision of the Government of Mozambique to close its borders with Southern Rhodesia and to intensify its support for the liberation struggle of the people of Zimbabwe. It also reaffirmed its solidarity with Mozambique and pledged its support for all efforts to counter the threats to its security and well-being from the illegal Salisbury régime. It was the duty of the international community to come to the assistance of Mozambique. His delegation would strongly support all measures of financial, technical and material assistance to Mozambique designed to provide it with a suitable infrastructure upon which a programme of adequate economic development could be based. From its own limited resources, Pakistan had provided the sum of \$100,000 for the purchase of goods in Pakistan.

73. Botswana, too, had been the victim of continued aggression committed against its territory and people by the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia. It had also to cope with a large influx of refugees from Southern Rhodesia fleeing from the oppressive policies of the Ian Smith régime. His delegation wished to express its admiration for Botswana's resistance to aggressive actions by Southern Rhodesia and for its decision to impose sanctions against the illegal régime in that country. It endorsed the appeal for assistance to Botswana to help it to cope with its difficult economic situation.

74. His delegation also lent full support to the appeal for financial, technical and material assistance to Lesotho to enable it to overcome the economic difficulties arising from the closing of its frontier with South Africa. It endorsed the recommendations of the United Nations Mission that had visited Lesotho in order to ascertain its economic needs.

75. His delegation was fully aware of the serious economic situation encountered by the newly independent States of Angola, Cape Verde, the Comoros and Sao Tome and Principe and would support the draft decision on assistance in emergency situations proposed by the President (E/L.1786). It also supported the three draft resolutions submitted by Yugoslavia on behalf of the Group of 77 and hoped that the Council would adopt them unanimously. It wished to express particular appreciation of the humanitarian assistance provided by UNHCR to the front-line States in southern Africa and hoped that it would receive the necessary support from the international community. It fully agreed with the proposal by the Yugoslav delegation that an additional operative paragraph should be included in the three draft resolutions calling on UNHCR to strengthen its programme of assistance to the countries in question to meet the additional burden imposed on their economies by the refugee problem.

76. Mr. OLSZOWKA (Poland) said that his delegation whole-heartedly endorsed the appeal made by other delegations for help to the countries fighting for the liberation of the African peoples. Poland had always supported the national liberation movements and was in favour of

assistance to the front-line States which were suffering on account of their opposition to the illegal racist régimes in southern Africa.

77. Poland was among the countries which had established diplomatic relations with Mozambique as soon as it had gained independence, and it was expanding its economic co-operation with that country.

78. Angola was now engaged in rebuilding its economy, which had suffered very severely during the struggle for independence. The international community should do all in its power to help Angola in the difficult task confronting it. Poland had developed broad economic co-operation with Angola, especially in foreign trade, transport, shipping and fisheries. That co-operation would be expanded as the result of the Angolan President's visit to Poland in April 1977.

79. The Polish delegation was prepared to support all the drafts submitted in connexion with the items under discussion.

80. Mr. GEORGE (Nigeria) said that the problems in Mozambique and Botswana had the same origin, namely the illegal minority racist régime of Zimbabwe under Mr. Smith, who had been defying not only the United Kingdom Parliament but also the organized conscience of mankind expressed through resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.

81. The problems of Lesotho arose from its resistance to the attempt to coerce it into recognizing the so-called independence of Transkei, which the United Nations General Assembly had declared null and void. The illegal South African régime was at the core of the problem of southern Africa because of the support it gave to the Southern Rhodesian régime and its stubborn resistance to the legitimate desires of the majority of the people not only of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa, but also of the entire African continent.

82. Mr. Smith and Mr. Vorster were receiving assistance from some developed countries and their transnational corporations in the form of nuclear technology and massive

investments designed to ensure the racial supremacy of the minority in southern Africa. The reason given for that support was the need to protect the sea route round the Cape and to protect Western civilization against what was called the growing influence of communism. His delegation totally rejected those arguments, which ignored the reality of the degradation of humanity in southern Africa. Lesotho was being intimidated, Mozambique and Botswana were being terrorized. As a result, the economic development of those countries had slowed down considerably.

83. His country would continue to give the maximum possible moral, financial and material support for the total liberation of southern Africa. His delegation fully supported the three draft resolutions under consideration and suggested that they should be adopted by acclamation.

84. Mr. MWANGAGUHUNGA (Uganda) said that the representatives of Botswana and Lesotho had described to the Council the difficulties which their countries were facing owing to the presence of the illegal régime in southern Africa and to the fact that they had complied with the United Nations resolutions concerning those illegal régimes. The world owed them the modest assistance they required.

85. The position of his country with regard to the illegal racist régimes in southern Africa was well known. Liberation would come, sooner or later, to the countries of southern Africa.

86. The three draft resolutions were unanimously supported by the countries of the African group and he hoped that the Council would adopt them by acclamation.

87. With regard to assistance in emergency situations, he supported the recommendation of the Committee for Development Planning regarding the least developed among the developing countries.

88. In conclusion, he thanked the Secretary-General for his personal efforts to arouse world opinion in favour of assistance to Mozambique, Botswana and Lesotho.

The meeting rose at 6.20 p.m.