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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Second Committee (Part I)

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 21 September 1979, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council" in its agenda and to allocate to the Second Committee the following parts of the Council's report: 1/ chapters II to IV, VI to XVI, XXVI to XXVIII, XXX to XXXV and XXXIX.
2. The Committee considered this item in conjunction with the general debate at its 4th to 18th meetings, from 1 to 15 October 1979, and at its 19th, 23rd and 25th meetings, on 16, 26 and 29 October. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/34/SR.4-18, 19, 23 and 25).
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of its organizational session for 1979, its first and second regular sessions of 1979, and its resumed second regular session of 1979; 2/
 - (b) Letter dated 16 February from the Permanent Representative of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/34/96);

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/34/3).

2/ Ibid., chaps. II to IV, VI to XVI, XXVI to XXVIII, XXX to XXXV and XXXIX.

- (c) Letter dated 28 February 1979 from the Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/34/115);
- (d) Letter dated 19 April 1979 from the Permanent Representative of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/34/205);
- (e) Letter dated 6 July 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 4 to 9 June 1979 (A/34/357);
- (f) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Comoros (A/34/361 and Corr.1);
- (g) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Djibouti (A/34/362);
- (h) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Guinea-Bissau (A/34/370);
- (i) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Sao Tome and Principe (A/34/371);
- (j) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Cape Verde (A/34/372 and Corr.1);
- (k) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Seychelles (A/34/373);
- (l) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Mozambique (A/34/377);
- (m) Letter dated 27 July 1979 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the resolutions and final communiqué of the Tenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Fez from 8 to 12 May 1979 (A/34/389 and Corr.1);
- (n) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Lesotho (A/34/393-S/13485);
- (o) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Zambia (A/34/407);
- (p) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Botswana (A/34/419);
- (q) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region (A/34/432);
- (r) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (A/34/485);

- (s) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon (A/34/504);
- (t) Letter dated 19 September 1979 from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the President of the General Assembly (A/34/528);
- (u) Letter dated 27 September 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/34/530);
- (v) Note verbale dated 29 September 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Declaration adopted on 29 September 1979 by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77 (A/34/533 and Corr.1);
- (w) Letter dated 1 October 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Declaration of the Sixth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana from 3 to 9 September 1979;
- (x) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Botswana, Cape Verde, the Comoros, Djibouti, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles and Zambia (A/34/556);
- (y) Report of the Economic Commission for Africa for the period 5 May 1978 to 28 March 1979 (part II, sect. D); 3/
- (z) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (E/1979/61 and Add.1-2);
- (aa) Report of the Secretary-General on the role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries (E/1979/66);
- (bb) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (E/1979/74);
- (cc) Progress report of the Secretary-General containing the report of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications, Information and Planning, held at Addis Ababa from 8 to 12 May 1979, and addendum (E/1979/77 and E/CN.14/726/Add.1);
- (dd) Follow-up to, and implementation of, the Mar del Plata Action Plan. Report of the Secretary-General on the results of the third special session of the Committee on Natural Resources (E/1979/91);
- (ee) Note by the Secretary-General on the promotion of tourism (E/1979/99);

3/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Supplement No. 15
(E/1979/50 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

- (ff) A draft resolution entitled "United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, 1978-1988", recommended by the Economic and Social Council for adoption by the General Assembly (see Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/61);
- (gg) Economic and Social Council decision 1979/73, transmitting a draft resolution entitled "Transnational corporations: code of conduct on transnational corporations and international agreement on illicit payments" and a draft resolution entitled "International agreement on illicit payments".

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.6

4. At the 8th meeting, on 8 October, the Secretary-General of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development made an introductory statement.

5. At the 16th meeting, on 12 October, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/34/L.6) entitled "World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development" on behalf of the Bahamas, Botswana, Burundi, the Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, India, Mauritania, Nepal, Panama, Peru, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, the Upper Volta, Venezuela, Zaire and Zambia. At the same time, he orally revised the draft resolution by deleting the fourth preambular paragraph, which read:

"Believing that, as a result of underdevelopment, poverty, hunger and malnutrition in developing countries retard development efforts and negatively affect world social and economic stability and that their eradication should be one of the main objects of all countries."

He further orally revised the draft resolution by inserting the word "as" before the words "adopted by" in operative paragraph 1.

6. Subsequently, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Cape Verde, Chad, Cyprus, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname and Yugoslavia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. At its 19th meeting, on 16 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.6, as orally revised (see para. 18 below, draft resolution I).

8. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, the Netherlands, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republics (on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Brazil, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France and Japan.

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B. Draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1979/61 for adoption by the General Assembly

9. At its 25th meeting, on 29 October 1979, the Committee took up consideration of the draft resolution entitled "United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, 1978-1988", recommended by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1979/61 for adoption by the General Assembly.

10. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee stated that the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, submitted by the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1979 (E/1979/C.1/L.4/Add.1), remained the same.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Council (see para. 18 below, draft resolution II).

12. Statements on the draft resolution were made by the representatives of Ireland (on behalf of the States members of the European Economic Community), the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) and Nigeria.

C. Draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.8

13. At the 7th meeting, on 5 October, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme made an introductory statement.

14. At the 23rd meeting, on 26 October, the representative of Mauritania introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/34/L.8) entitled "Implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region" on behalf of Cape Verde, Chad, the Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Senegal, Togo and the Upper Volta. At the same time, he orally revised the draft resolution by replacing the words "Sudano-Sahelian region", in both the fifth preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 5, by the word "Sahel".

15. Subsequently, Botswana, France, the Ivory Coast and Uganda joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

16. At its 25th meeting, on 29 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.8, as orally revised (see para. 18 below, draft resolution III).

17. Statements in connexion with the draft resolution were made by the representatives of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

18. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also the results of various United Nations conferences held during recent years on major topics relating to economic and social development and the establishment of the new international economic order, particularly the World Food Conference held at Rome from 5 to 16 November 1974,

Recognizing the need for an intensification of development efforts aimed at the accelerated development of developing countries and the satisfaction of the aspirations and requirements of their peoples, especially in the rural areas, consistent with the principles of human dignity, equity and international social justice,

Convinced that the sustained improvement of rural areas in each country, in the context of the promotion of national self-reliance, requires fuller and more equitable access to land, water and other natural renewable resources, increasing and more productive employment fuller use of human skills and energies, the participation and integration of rural people in the production and distribution systems, increased production, productivity and food security for all groups and increased mobilization of internal resources, as well as greatly enhanced international support measures,

Recalling its resolution 33/193 of 29 January 1979, in which it was decided that the new international development strategy should provide a set of interrelated and concerted measures in all sectors of development in order to promote the economic and social development of the developing countries and to ensure their equitable, full and effective participation in the formulation and application of all decisions in the field of development and international economic co-operation,

Noting with satisfaction the results of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in co-operation with the organs and organizations of the United Nations system, and held at Rome from 12 to 20 July 1979,

1. Endorses the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action as adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development; 4/

2. Urges the Governments of all Member States to take appropriate measures, on a priority basis, in order to implement the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action;

3. Invites the international organizations, organs and bodies concerned within the United Nations system to implement, as appropriate, the conclusions and recommendations of the Programme of Action.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, 1978-1988

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling further its resolutions 32/160 of 19 December 1977 and 33/197 of 29 January 1979 on the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Noting with satisfaction the initiative of the Organization of African Unity and the Economic Commission for Africa in establishing an integrated African road network and the rationalization of Africa's railway systems and other transport systems in order to facilitate the promotion of multinational economic co-operation in Africa, intra-African trade and the political, social and economic integration of Africa,

Noting also with satisfaction the work carried out since June 1977,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2097 (LXIII) of 29 July 1977 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Taking note of resolution CM/Res.675 (XXXI) on the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-first ordinary session, held at Khartoum from 7 to 18 July 1978, 5/

4/ See Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Rome, 12-20 July 1979 (WCARRD/REP); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/34/485).

5/ See A/33/235 and Corr.1.

Taking note also of resolution 341 (XIV) adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa at the fourteenth session of the Commission, held at Rabat from 20 to 28 March 1979, 6/ which urged States members of the Commission to participate effectively in the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications, Information and Planning at Addis Ababa from 9 to 12 May 1979, for the purpose of reviewing and adopting the programme for the first phase of the Decade,

Noting with satisfaction the progress report submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/160, 7/ which contains the general strategy and plan of action for the first phase of the Decade,

1. Takes note of the general strategy for the implementation of the programme for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, as adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications, Information and Planning, held at Addis Ababa from 9 to 12 May 1979; 8/

2. Notes that the estimated cost for the implementation of the programme approved by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications, Information and Planning for the first phase of the Decade, 1980-1983, is approximately \$8,000 million;

3. Also notes with satisfaction the role of the Economic Commission for Africa as the lead agency for the Decade and the positive co-operation of the Organization of African Unity, the appropriate specialized agencies and the United Nations Development Programme in the implementation of the programme for the Decade;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his work of organizing a pledging conference of donors, which should take place as soon as possible in the light of the progress achieved in the preparations for the Decade, with a view to mobilizing the financial resources necessary for implementing the programme for the first phase of the Decade;

5. Invites all Member States to participate positively in the pledging conference referred to in paragraph 4 above and to pledge contributions generously;

6. Further invites all international multinational and African regional banking and financial institutions to participate positively in the pledging conference referred to in paragraph 4 above and to pledge contributions on a generous scale;

7. Calls upon all appropriate specialized agencies and the United Nations organs to continue to give all material and technical support to the Economic Commission for Africa for the implementation of the approved programme of action for the Decade;

6/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 15 (E/1979/50), part II, sect. D.

7/ E/1979/77.

8/ Ibid., part VI, resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.79/1.

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1980 a report on the outcome of the pledging conference referred to in paragraph 4 above;

9. Decides to take a decision, in the light of the report mentioned in paragraph 8 above, on the convening of a further pledging conference for the purpose of mobilizing additional resources for the implementation of the programme for the Decade;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the necessary resources, in order to enable it to play fully and effectively its role as lead agency for the Decade.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, 2959 (XXVII) of 12 December 1972, 3054 (XXVIII) of 17 October 1973, 3253 (XXIX) of 4 December 1974, 3512 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, 31/180 of 21 December 1976, 32/159 of 19 December 1977 and 33/133 of 19 December 1978,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1918 (LVIII) of 5 May 1975, 2103 (LXIII) of 3 August 1977, 1978/37 of 21 July 1978 and 1979/51 of 2 August 1979,

Taking note of decision 79/20 of 28 June 1979 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme concerning the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region, 9/

Noting with satisfaction the decisive role played by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, on the one hand, in helping to combat the effects of the drought and to implement the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme adopted by the States members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and, on the other hand, in mobilizing the necessary resources to finance priority projects,

Considering that the nature and magnitude of the needs of the countries of the Sahel, which are among the least developed countries, make it necessary for the international community to continue and to strengthen its action of solidarity in support of the recovery efforts and the economic development of those countries,

9/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 10 (E/1979/40), chap. XXI, sect. H.

Taking account of the appeal made by the Council of Ministers of the Inter-State Committee on Drought Control at its eleventh regular session, held at Dakar in June 1979, with regard to the food situation in certain States members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, and particularly in Cape Verde, Chad and Mauritania,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region, 10/

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region; 10/

2. Expresses its gratitude to the Governments, United Nations agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, private organizations and individuals that have contributed to the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sahel;

3. Requests all Member States, specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, private organizations and individuals to give special attention to the current food situation in Cape Verde, Chad and Mauritania;

4. Urges all Governments, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations, private organizations and individuals to continue to respond favourably, either bilaterally or through the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office or any other intermediary, to requests for assistance from the Governments of the States members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and from the Committee itself;

5. Reaffirms the role of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office as the central point and principal body responsible for co-ordinating the efforts of United Nations agencies to help the countries of the Sahel to implement their recovery and rehabilitation programme;

6. Invites the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to continue to co-ordinate the efforts of the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system with a view to ensuring an effective contribution by the United Nations system to the implementation of the recovery and rehabilitation programme for the Sahelian countries and increasing its own ability to respond adequately to additional requests for assistance from the Governments of the States members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and from the Committee itself;

10/ A/34/432.

7. Further invites the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to continue its close co-operation with the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel with a view to the implementation of the recovery and rehabilitation programme and of priority projects;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly, through the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region.
