

(b) To keep the question of assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Madagascar under constant review;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1986, of the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

*120th plenary meeting  
17 December 1985*

**40/231. Long-term and effective solution of the problems caused by natural disasters in Bangladesh**

*The General Assembly,*

*Aware* of the grave devastation and substantial loss of life and property caused by the cyclone that struck large areas of Bangladesh on 25 May 1985,

*Having heard* the statement made on 12 November 1985 by the representative of Bangladesh,<sup>165</sup> in which he enumerated the enormous losses suffered by Bangladesh in the cyclone as well as the adverse consequences of recurring natural disasters, particularly cyclones, tidal waves and floods, for the economic development of that country,

*Concerned* about the serious damage to infrastructure caused by such natural disasters, which has a far-reaching impact on the implementation of the national development plan in that country,

*Considering* that Bangladesh is one of the least developed countries, and that its situation has been worsened by the frequent recurrence of natural disasters having devastating consequences,

*Aware* that the coastal areas of Bangladesh are particularly vulnerable to natural calamity resulting in widespread human and material loss,

*Recognizing* the relief and rehabilitation efforts of the Government of Bangladesh to alleviate the sufferings of disaster victims, and its programmes for a more permanent solution,

*Noting with appreciation* the support and solidarity displayed by the countries of the South Asian region in assisting Bangladesh in the immediate aftermath of the cyclone of 25 May 1985,

*Recognizing* that natural disasters constitute a development problem of great magnitude, the solution of which calls for substantial resources, requiring national efforts to be supplemented by international financial and technical assistance,

*Aware* that considerable expertise and technical capabilities are available within the organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations to strengthen the preparedness and prevention capability of disaster-prone countries through the promotion of a long-term and effective solution of the problems caused by natural disasters,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the international community for its interest in and support to Bangladesh in its relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts following the natural disaster;

2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the support provided by him, particularly through the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordi-

nator and other operational agencies of the United Nations system in Bangladesh;

3. *Appeals* to all Member States, specialized agencies, and other organs and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as international economic and financial institutions, to respond urgently and generously to assist Bangladesh in its plans and programmes to secure a long-term and effective solution of the problems caused by natural disasters;

4. *Requests* the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations to take appropriate measures to provide assistance to Bangladesh for disaster preparedness and prevention programmes, taking into account the existing co-ordinated efforts of Member States;

5. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to assist, in co-operation with other relevant agencies, the Government of Bangladesh in preparing a time-bound plan in this regard;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*120th plenary meeting  
17 December 1985*

**40/232. Assistance to Mozambique**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 386 (1976) of 17 March 1976, in which the Council appealed to all States to provide financial, technical and material assistance to enable Mozambique to carry out its economic development programme, and requested the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, to organize, with immediate effect, such assistance,

*Recalling further* its resolution 39/199 of 17 December 1984 and its earlier resolutions, in which it urged the international community to respond effectively and generously with assistance to Mozambique,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>166</sup> submitted pursuant to its resolution 38/208, to which was annexed the report of the mission to Mozambique,

*Deeply concerned* at the loss of life and the destruction of essential infrastructures such as roads, railways, bridges, petroleum facilities, electricity supply, schools and hospitals, as identified in the reports of the Secretary-General,<sup>167</sup>

*Further concerned* about the present difficult economic situation of Mozambique, as illustrated in the summary report of the Secretary-General, submitted pursuant to its resolution 39/199,<sup>168</sup>

*Noting with deep concern* that Mozambique has continued to suffer from a prolonged drought causing heavy losses in human lives, food production and livestock and resulting in dislocation of its affected people,

*Also noting with deep concern* the extensive damage caused by the cyclone "Demoina" at the end of January 1984,

*Noting* that Mozambique faces an emergency food situation of an exceptional scale and needs imports of 638,000 tonnes of cereals in 1985/1986 to meet its food requirements, according to government estimates,

<sup>165</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Second Committee, 32nd meeting, paras. 14-16.

<sup>166</sup> A/39/382.

<sup>167</sup> A/38/201-E/1983/69 and Corr. 1 and 2, annex 1, sect. E; A/38/216, sect. XIII; A/39/382.

<sup>168</sup> A/40/441, sect. XI.

Recognizing that substantial international assistance is required for the implementation of a number of reconstruction and development projects,

1. *Strongly endorses* the appeals made by the Security Council and the Secretary-General for international assistance to Mozambique;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the measures he has taken to organize an international economic assistance programme for Mozambique;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* for the assistance provided to Mozambique by various States and regional and international organizations and humanitarian institutions;

4. *Regrets*, however, that the total assistance provided to date falls far short of Mozambique's pressing needs;

5. *Appeals* to the international community to provide adequate food aid to Mozambique to prevent further starvation and malnutrition;

6. *Draws the attention* of the international community to the two areas for immediate action — the supply of crude oil and petroleum products and the supply of basic inputs and consumer goods for the agricultural sector — that are critical for the functioning of the economy;

7. *Also draws the attention* of the international community to the additional financial, economic and material assistance identified in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General<sup>166</sup> as urgently required by Mozambique;

8. *Calls upon* Member States, regional and inter-regional organizations and other governmental and non-governmental organizations to provide financial, material and technical assistance to Mozambique, wherever possible in the form of grants, and urges them to give priority to the inclusion of Mozambique in their programmes of development assistance;

9. *Urges* Member States and organizations that are already implementing or negotiating assistance programmes for Mozambique to strengthen them;

10. *Strongly appeals* to the international community to contribute to the special account for Mozambique established by the Secretary-General for the purpose of facilitating the channelling of contributions to Mozambique;

11. *Invites* the appropriate organizations and programmes of the United Nations system—in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization—to maintain and increase their current and future programmes of assistance to Mozambique, to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General in organizing an effective international programme of assistance and to report periodically to him on the steps they have taken and the resources they have made available to help that country;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary financial, technical and material assistance to Mozambique;

(b) To keep the situation in Mozambique under constant review, to maintain close contact with Member States, the specialized agencies, regional and other inter-governmental organizations, international financial institutions and other bodies concerned, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session

of 1986, of the current status of the special programme of economic assistance for Mozambique;

(c) To prepare, on the basis of sustained consultations with the Government of Mozambique, a report on the development of the economic situation and the implementation of the special programme of economic assistance for that country in time for the matter to be considered by the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

120th plenary meeting  
17 December 1985

#### 40/233. Economic assistance to Vanuatu

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 39/198 of 17 December 1984 on economic assistance to Vanuatu, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Vanuatu,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 31/156 of 21 December 1976, 32/185 of 19 December 1977, 34/205 of 19 December 1979, 35/61 of 5 December 1980, 37/206 of 20 December 1982 and 39/212 of 18 December 1984, relating to the special needs and problems of island developing countries,

*Noting* the difficult problems faced by island developing countries, owing mainly to their smallness, remoteness, constraints in transport, great distances from market centres, highly limited internal markets, lack of natural resources, heavy dependence on a few commodities, shortage of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens,

*Taking into account* the fact that Vanuatu is an island developing country, that it is a geographically remote archipelago with a small population, that it has demographic disadvantages, that its dependence on imports is overwhelming and that it has a scarcity of adequate transportation and communications links, all of which pose special development problems, making the provision of services difficult and entailing very high overhead costs,

*Noting* that the Committee for Development Planning, as stated in its report on its twenty-first and resumed twenty-first sessions, of which the Economic and Social Council took note in its decision 1985/182 of 25 July 1985, reached the conclusion that Vanuatu qualified for inclusion in the list of the least developed countries on the basis of the existing criteria and in the light of the available data,<sup>169</sup>

*Noting further* the damage caused by two major cyclones in January 1985 and the resulting additional constraints on the economic development of Vanuatu,

1. *Calls the attention* of the international community to the summary report of the Secretary-General;<sup>170</sup>

2. *Also calls the attention* of the international community to the projects listed in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session,<sup>171</sup> endorsed by the Assembly in resolution 39/198, which still require funding;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the steps he has taken to mobilize assistance for Vanuatu;

4. *Also expresses its appreciation* to those States and organizations which have provided assistance to that country;

<sup>169</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1985, Supplement No. 9 (E/1985/29)*, para. 115.

<sup>170</sup> A/40/441, sect. XV.

<sup>171</sup> A/39/388, annex.