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THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Chad, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Democratic Kampuchea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran, (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Yemen, Zaire and Zambia: draft resolution

Assistance to refugees in Somalia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 35/130 of 15 December 1980, 36/13 of 16 December 1981, 37/174 of 17 December 1982, 38/88 of 16 December 1983, 39/104 of 14 November 1984, 40/132 of 13 December 1985, 41/138 of 4 December 1986 and 42/127 of 7 December 1987 on the question of assistance to refugees in Somalia,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees in Somalia, 1/

Deeply concerned about the heavy burden that has been placed on the fragile economy of Somalia by the continuing presence of large numbers of refugees,

1/ A/43/535.

Concerned by the need to ensure continuing and adequate supplies of food in refugee camps in Somalia,

Conscious of the pressure that the refugee presence continues to impose on the public services, in particular education, health, transport and communications, and water supplies,

Noting with concern the deleterious effect of the refugee presence on the environment, which has resulted in widespread deforestation, soil erosion and the threat of destruction to an already fragile economic balance,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 42/127;
2. Commends the measures that the Government of Somalia is taking to provide material and humanitarian assistance to refugees, in spite of its own limited resources and fragile economy;
3. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, donor countries and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their efforts to assist the refugees in Somalia;
4. Calls upon the High Commissioner to ensure, as appropriate, that the care, maintenance and rehabilitation needs of the refugees are adequately covered;
5. Appeals to Member States, international organizations and voluntary agencies to render maximum and timely material, financial and technical assistance to enable the Government of Somalia to implement the projects and activities identified in the report of the 1987 inter-agency mission annexed to the report of the Secretary-General 2/ as the basis for a comprehensive programme of action combining both refugee-related humanitarian and developmental needs;
6. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme to assume the leading role, as required by the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, 3/ in the conceptualization, implementation and monitoring of refugee-related projects, and to be involved in the mobilization of the financial and technical means required, in close co-operation with the High Commissioner and the World Bank;
7. Requests the pertinent organizations of the United Nations system, namely the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Food Programme, to

2/ A/42/645.

3/ A/39/402, annex.

prepare, in consultation with the Government of Somalia, detailed project documentation for the implementation of those projects and activities identified in the report of the Secretary-General 4/ as priority endeavours for a comprehensive programme of action;

8. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue and expand their activities in Somalia, in co-operation with the Government of Somalia, to protect and rehabilitate its damaged environment;

9. Recognizes the important role that non-governmental organizations are playing with regard to programmes for the care, maintenance and rehabilitation of refugees, particularly in activities related to small-scale development projects, and in the fields of health and agriculture;

10. Calls upon the international community to support the activities of non-governmental organizations in Somalia, in the planning and implementation of refugee projects and refugee-related development activities;

11. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to apprise the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1989 of the progress made in their respective fields of responsibility with regard to those provisions of the present resolution which concern them;

12. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner and United Nations Development Programme, to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

4/ A/42/645, paras. 55-66.