



## CONTENTS

## Agenda item 27:

Page

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees . . . . .	143
---	-----

*President* : Mr. T. BOUATTOURA (Algeria)

*Present* :

Representatives of the following States: Algeria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Greece, India, Iran, Iraq, Luxembourg, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America.

Observers for the following Member States: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Central African Republic, China, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Tunisia.

Observers for the following non-member States: Holy See, Switzerland.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization.

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

## AGENDA ITEM 27

**Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/4201 and Corr.1 and Add.1)**

1. Prince Sadruddin AGA KHAN (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)<sup>1</sup> introducing his annual report (E/4201 and Corr.1 and Add.1), drew attention to the similarity of the problems being tackled by the Council and by UNHCR, and noted that, as UNHCR assistance programmes tended to identify themselves with problems of development, the Office had become an instrument for peace and social progress.

2. He expressed the hope that UNHCR would shortly be able to close its books on refugee activities in Europe but emphasized the magnitude of the refugee problem in Africa, where some 650,000 refugees had to be provided

with the basic necessities of life. The gravity of the situation in Africa was amply demonstrated by the fact that UNHCR now had nine missions there as against only two three years before. He drew attention to the interest displayed in African refugee problems by OAU, whose meeting of Heads of State at Accra had devoted considerable attention to the subject.

3. The basic objectives of UNHCR remained unchanged, namely, voluntary repatriation, local integration or emigration. However, as repatriation was impossible in the absence of a political solution of the causes of the refugee problem in the country of origin, and as emigration was feasible only for a very limited number of refugees, the main emphasis had been placed on integration. It should be borne in mind that if the international community, through the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, imposed on host countries a moral obligation to respect the right of asylum, that community also had an obligation to provide international assistance whenever necessary and justified by circumstances. Refugees represented a potential source of disorder and tension, and steps must in any event be taken to ensure that they did not remain a burden on the international community for an indefinite period. In the African countries, refugees could be settled on land generously provided by the Governments concerned, but UNHCR, in its efforts to establish and expand new agricultural communities, encountered problems such as the clearing and draining of land, the eradication of the tse-tse fly and the choice of crops to be grown, with which, owing to its non-operational nature, it was not competent to deal. Such activities were the responsibility of other United Nations bodies, such as the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). He thanked all those bodies and also the non-governmental organizations for their assistance and co-operation, and expressed particular gratitude for the World Food Programme's contribution of food valued at \$10 million.

4. He emphasized that the task of UNHCR was to provide immediate assistance and shelter whereas the activities of the other bodies he had mentioned were of a long-term nature. It had been the problem of development which had led UNHCR to integrate its activities more fully into the regular activities of the United Nations as a whole and to follow closely all aspects of the work of the Council and the ACC. The task of co-ordination, in his opinion, should be approached pragmatically; it was therefore gratifying that the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme had endorsed the suggestion made by the French delegation that the problem of co-

<sup>1</sup> The full text of the statement made by Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan was subsequently circulated as document E/L.1139.

ordinating UNHCR activities with those of other United Nations bodies should be included as an item in the agenda for its next session.

5. The international community should demonstrate the value of refugees as a human resource rather than as a liability and a source of instability and tension. Indeed, the results obtained in a very short time as a result of the co-operation established by UNHCR had been little short of spectacular, and he cited a number of examples of groups of refugees who, in certain African countries, had made a significant contribution to the economic development of their host countries.

6. He drew attention to the importance of education for refugees in Africa. They could not be singled out for special treatment, however, since in some of the host countries only 50 per cent of the local children attended school. Accordingly, in line with a policy which had been endorsed by the Executive Committee, a number of primary classes were provided when new rural communities for refugees were created. Such schools in resettlement areas were attended by thousands of refugee children and were also open to the children of the local population if there were no other schools in the vicinity. That was a good example of the type of integration that had been achieved. In the matter of secondary and higher education, UNHCR co-ordinated its activities with programmes undertaken by other United Nations bodies on behalf of refugees from the Republic of South Africa, South West Africa and territories under Portuguese administration, in pursuance of Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. UNHCR also received sums from Governments and private organizations which enabled it to undertake similar activities on behalf of other groups of refugees not covered by specific resolutions.

7. At the fifteenth session of the Executive Committee he had submitted a number of suggestions with a view to providing education for refugees in a more coherent and systematic manner and he wished to thank UNESCO which had promised its co-operation in that connexion.

8. International protection was not limited to the "old" refugees but also applied to refugees in the developing countries. Any artificial distinction between those two types of refugee would be unthinkable. The developing countries were in fact amending their inherited legal and legislative structures and were enacting new laws and regulations. In Africa and Asia, as in Europe, the refugee was legally a foreigner deprived of the protection of his national authorities. His status therefore required to be defined and improved. A large number of groups of new refugees were not covered by the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and a draft protocol had been drawn up at Bellagio, Italy, in 1965 with a view to the extension of the Convention's effects *ratione personae*. Many States had already expressed their agreement with the principle involved. He hoped that the draft protocol could be submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration in the near future. That approach, however, did not exclude the possibility of regional instruments and, as he attached great importance to co-operation with

regional bodies, he had established a mission at Addis Ababa to keep in close touch with OAU.

9. UNHCR activities demonstrated that refugee problems could be solved, and the international community should not be dismayed or discouraged by the emergence of new refugee problems. Like all United Nations bodies, UNHCR had been established by Governments and could do only what Governments wished it and enabled it to do by providing the necessary funds. He noted that there was a shortfall of about \$1 million in relation to the 1966 financial target of \$4.2 million approved by the Executive Committee. He paid tribute to the remarkable effort made by voluntary organizations which, even when Governments had shown signs of apathy, had continued to contribute to refugee programmes. He hoped that the campaign to be launched by national committees in a number of European countries in the autumn of 1966 would spur Governments to greater efforts.

10. The Council should indicate whether the prompt and effective measures which had to be taken by UNHCR in coping with dangerous refugee situations could, as he considered they should, be incorporated in over-all long-term development activities. A great deal had already been said on the subject of the gap between the developing and developed countries, but it would be just as dangerous to allow a wide gap to remain between the level of living of the local population and that of the refugees in the African countries. By assisting those refugees to resettle without prejudice to their possible repatriation and by enabling them to help themselves, UNHCR was assisting the United Nations in the attainment of its objectives and contributing to international stability. However, if it was to continue its work, UNHCR must be provided with the necessary resources and, in view of the magnitude of the problems being encountered, it was unlikely that its future programmes would remain as limited in scope as the 1966 programme. If the solution of existing refugee problems was delayed owing to lack of funds they would become increasingly difficult to solve, both politically and financially. UNHCR was prepared to face the challenge and hoped that it would be provided with the necessary resources to do so.

11. Mr. WURTH (Luxembourg) noted that both the High Commissioner's statement and his annual report revealed a certain amount of pessimism concerning the number of refugees and their requirements, as well as the financial situation of UNHCR. The 1966 budget target, which was based on a reasonable attempt to speed up the solution of various refugee problems, might unfortunately lead to even greater deficits and thus aggravate the already serious situation brought about by the fact that the 1964 and 1965 targets had not been achieved. In that connexion, he noted that although the number of contributing countries was increasing, most of the contributions made were of a symbolic nature and were inadequate to solve the UNHCR's financial difficulties.

12. Satisfactory progress had been made in carrying out resettlement and assistance programmes and his delegation shared the High Commissioner's opinion that new groups of refugees should be integrated or resettled as

quickly as possible. It was gratifying that, through the current supplementary assistance programme, it had been possible to prevent the appearance of new refugee problems similar to those that had arisen during the first few years after the establishment of UNHCR. A great deal of the credit for that was due to the efforts made by countries of first asylum and countries of immigration and to the effective co-operation of voluntary organizations.

13. His delegation considered that in Europe special emphasis should be placed on legal protection whereas, in Africa, the greatest attention should be paid to material assistance. It was most gratified by the manner in which African countries of first asylum had catered to the basic needs of refugees. Refugee programmes in Africa should not only provide for immediate assistance but also, and above all, be designed to provide lasting solutions to refugee problems. Accordingly, an attempt should be made to integrate African refugee assistance programmes into the framework of development projects being undertaken in the areas concerned. It was therefore vital that close co-operation should be established between UNHCR and the specialized agencies engaged in development activities in Africa.

14. The share of UNHCR in the total assistance effort was inevitably modest since the bulk of the work involved had to be carried out by Governments, specialized agencies and voluntary organizations; the High Commissioner's report clearly revealed UNHCR's predominantly co-ordinating function.

15. His delegation was pleased with the manner in which refugee problems in Africa were being tackled. Co-operation with OAU was most useful, since it would contribute to a better understanding of African problems, to the co-ordination of material assistance and the solution of the legal problems encountered.

16. His delegation had always attached great importance to international protection, which was one of the High Commissioner's main tasks. It was seriously concerned at the limitations imposed by the date specified in the 1951 Convention and welcomed the colloquium on that subject that had been held. He hoped that its recommendations would be given serious consideration, so that a greater number of refugees could benefit from the High Commissioner's activities.

17. Mr. BENYAHIA (Algeria) said that the international community should not waver in its efforts to improve the lot of refugees throughout the world.

18. His delegation noted that the centre of UNHCR activities had been shifting from Europe towards Africa and Asia. Refugee problems in Africa were extremely serious since the countries of asylum, owing to their limited resources, were unable to assume alone the heavy burden of meeting the immediate needs of refugees. The High Commissioner had therefore rightly emphasized the importance of food supplies. However, despite the efforts being made, African refugees were still living at a subsistence level and further assistance would obviously be necessary to improve their situation or at least to consolidate what had been achieved. In providing assistance

to refugees, emphasis should be placed, not so much on emergency aid, as on the search for over-all lasting solutions, and that implied a combination of direct material assistance and assistance in the establishment of production units likely to ensure that the refugees would become self-sufficient. The establishment of rural agricultural communities offered particularly promising prospects in Africa. Furthermore, material assistance should be supplemented by educational assistance, since the human dignity of refugees could be restored only through education and training. Accordingly, co-operation should be established between UNHCR and UNESCO, which was in a position to provide the technical services necessary for the implementation of educational programmes for refugees. His delegation endorsed the High Commissioner's proposal for the establishment of a refugee education fund, and hoped that it would be approved by the Executive Committee at its next session. It also hoped that UNHCR and UNESCO could draw up a joint plan for the education and vocational training of refugees.

19. His delegation endorsed the High Commissioner's efforts to establish co-operation with the specialized agencies and to perform a catalytic role. It was concerned at the financial situation of UNHCR and hoped that countries in a position to do so would make good the anticipated 1966 shortfall. His Government had supported the adoption of the draft protocol extending the scope of the effects *ratione personae* of the 1951 Convention.

20. Mr. ROOSEVELT (United States of America) said that it was a sad commentary on the times that there were still in the world a significant number of refugees, both "new" and "old". Real progress had been made in the international efforts to assist European refugees, but new and even more complicated refugee problems had arisen to claim the attention of the United Nations in other areas. The High Commissioner's report covered a period in which two High Commissioners had held office. His Government wished to pay particular tribute to the former High Commissioner, Mr. Schnyder, during whose term of office a long series of constructive achievements had taken place and to express its genuine and deep satisfaction at the appointment of Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan as successor.

21. The report before the Council described the activities of UNHCR over the past year in the two principal areas of its activity, international protection and material assistance to refugees. The demands occasioned by the overwhelming problem of affording material assistance to refugees should not cause Governments to lose sight of the equally important responsibility of the High Commissioner for securing legal and political protection for refugees everywhere.

22. Although the major aid programmes approved by the Executive Committee in 1962 were largely completed, certain impediments had been encountered, with the result that several million dollars in UNHCR funds were still unexpended and some 15,000 refugees remained on the case list. His delegation stressed the need for priority efforts so that the programmes could be completed as soon as possible.

23. Chapter III of the report showed that the major focus of UNHCR activities had now shifted from Europe to Africa and, to a lesser degree, Asia. The High Commissioner had played an essential role in Africa in assisting countries of asylum to cope with the great economic and political burden imposed upon them by the influx of refugees across their borders. It was gratifying to note that he had been able to mobilize the interest and resources of a wide variety of international organizations. It was regrettable that there might be a deficit in the funds required for the 1966 programme. The United States Government, in addition to making a substantial cash contribution to the 1966 programme, had also made a large contribution in commodities. It would seek to ensure that the total resources it contributed represented a reasonable share of the requirements for solving existing and foreseeable problems at any given time.

24. The General Assembly in resolution 2038 (XX) had decided that United Nations Day in 1966 should be dedicated to the cause of refugees, in support of an intensive campaign to raise funds on behalf of refugees in Africa and Asia. His delegation hoped that that campaign would receive wide support and that all members of the United Nations would find it possible to lend the High Commissioner the assistance he needed to carry out his essential tasks.

25. Mr. de CHALVRON (France) congratulated the High Commissioner on his appointment and on the clear and comprehensive statement he had made to the Council. The activities of UNHCR in areas such as human rights, economic and social development, the use of human resources, education and the campaign against hunger, were closely linked with the problems facing the Council. The fact that there were 650,000 refugees in Africa alone showed the magnitude of the High Commissioner's task. That figure should not, however, distract attention from the fact that there was still a refugee problem in Europe, where protection work was essential and where limited projects should be undertaken for the benefit of aged or handicapped refugees.

26. Obviously, however, Africa had become the main centre of the High Commissioner's work. It was necessary to recognize that the refugees imposed a burden on African Governments. There was even a danger that they might be a source of disorder or of friction with the local population or neighbouring countries. It was essential, therefore, that plans should be developed for their settlement. There should be no question of allowing them to remain idle in camps when they could become a factor in the development of the country of asylum. It was from those three angles—the use of human resources, the development of the country of asylum and the maintenance of peace—that the High Commissioner's work in Africa should be viewed. Having become involved through the refugees in matters relating to the development of countries, the High Commissioner had naturally come into contact with the United Nations specialized agencies; his delegation fully supported the efforts to improve co-ordination with those agencies and with voluntary organizations.

27. Concern with the material needs of refugees should not cause UNHCR to neglect its essential work of protection. It was to be hoped that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees would soon be applied to all refugees, wherever they were and whatever the date of the event which had led to their exodus. All refugees would be able to enjoy the same rights and guarantees as those afforded to the "old" refugees.

28. Mr. DELISLE (Canada) said that, in his first report communicated to the Council, the High Commissioner had afforded proof of his competence to discharge the important functions assigned to him by the General Assembly. On behalf of the Canadian Government and people, he wished to express admiration for the splendid contribution the former High Commissioner for Refugees had made to the task of bettering the lot of thousands of human beings. His successor could rest assured that Canada would continue to support UNHCR's various programmes aimed at improving the lot of refugees throughout the world. Since the end of the Second World War Canada had received more than 300,000 refugees. Despite the fact that political asylum could not be granted under Canadian law, 2,131 refugees, more than half of them stateless, had settled in Canada in 1965 as a result of a relaxation of the normal immigration procedure. A special programme for handicapped refugees was also being carried out in Canada.

29. His delegation hoped that an increasingly large number of Governments would be able to assist the High Commissioner in solving the many different problems with which he was faced and that he would receive further co-operation from the specialized agencies in his humanitarian task.

30. Mrs. MANTZOULINOS (Greece) congratulated the High Commissioner on the excellent first report he had communicated to the Council. After the First World War Greece had received and gradually absorbed into the national economy 1,200,000 refugees from Asia Minor. After the Second World War, although faced with problems of reconstruction and development, it had not hesitated to receive "old" European refugees, including a number of so-called difficult cases, and had done its best to resettle them satisfactorily; in that endeavour Greece had matched the funds provided by UNHCR. Also, it had ratified the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. Because of its geographical position, her country had always been an asylum for persons compelled to flee their homeland. In many cases, UNHCR assistance had been requested in dealing with such refugees. Her Government wished to express its appreciation of the fact that such assistance had always been willingly granted.

31. Greece fully supported the steps taken to assist refugees in Africa and Asia, and was convinced that all refugees, "old" and "new", would benefit from the High Commissioner's programmes.

32. Mr. RAHNEMA (Iran) joined previous speakers in congratulating the High Commissioner on his appointment and praising the report before the Council.



33. The refugee problem had almost disappeared from Europe, where refugee camps were more or less a thing of the past and the difficulties caused by diseased and handicapped refugees had been largely resolved. A large part of the UNHCR's activities were now concentrated in Africa. The extent of the African problem should not, however, detract attention from the situation in Asia and the Far East, where much work remained to be done. The High Commissioner was to be congratulated on his efforts to settle the refugees and provide educational facilities for them and their children. It was essential that the refugees should contribute to the development of, rather than be a burden on, the countries of asylum. By co-operating with the specialized agencies the High Commissioner could make his contribution to the economic and social advancement of the developing countries. The Iranian delegation hoped that Governments would lend all possible assistance to the High Commissioner in his admirable work and that those countries which had not yet done so would ratify the 1951 Convention and the Bellagio protocol.

34. Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom) assured the High Commissioner of the United Kingdom's continued and very warm support in facing his increasingly difficult task of protection and resettlement, with the shift of emphasis of his work away from the resettlement of European refugees to the new and growing refugee problems in Asia and, particularly, in Africa. The falling off in financial support for the High Commissioner's programme was a matter for regret. In keeping with General Assembly resolution 2039 (XX), the United Kingdom had increased by £20,000 its contribution in 1966. It noted that the number of Governments making voluntary contributions had risen to 57 in 1965 and hoped that that trend would continue. It also hoped that the dedication of United Nations Day 1966 to the cause of refugees would result in increased support. Publicity and support for the occasion, which would at the same time mark the opening of the European refugee campaign, was being planned in his country. The United Kingdom appreciated the problems described in paragraph 81 of the report and the difficulties the High Commissioner encountered in seeking to make available the means of assistance undoubtedly required. It believed that the solution lay in co-operation between UNHCR, the appropriate United Nations specialized agencies, the host Governments and other governmental and non-governmental organizations. The growing tradition of such co-operation was to be welcomed.

35. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) commended the High Commissioner on the report and on his statement to the Council. The High Commissioner had justified the confidence placed in him.

36. The refugee problem was one that seemed likely to continue to engage the attention of the Council for some time to come. The High Commissioner had referred to the fact that the situation was now most serious in Africa. It was necessary, however, to look into the underlying causes of that situation, for a proper understanding of the origins could point to the remedies which must be applied. His delegation wished to express its appreciation of the

generous efforts which had been and were being made by UNHCR and by other bodies, but would prefer to see eliminated the problem which made those efforts necessary. The basic causes underlying the refugee problem in Africa were the pernicious and persistent evil of apartheid as practised in the Republic of South Africa, the so-called Trust Territory of South West Africa and in Rhodesia, the continued existence of colonialism, particularly in the Portuguese colonies, and unsolicited and unwarranted interference by foreign elements in the domestic affairs of African States. The presence of foreign elements had exacerbated the difficulties which were sometimes encountered in any community and which the African States would otherwise have succeeded in overcoming. The apartheid policies practised in the Republic of South Africa, South West Africa and Rhodesia had driven thousands of Africans to flee from oppression unparalleled in the history of mankind and to seek refuge in friendly countries. His own country had opened its doors to many of its African brethren. Similar inhuman treatment had led to an exodus of Africans from the Portuguese colonies of Mozambique, Angola and the so-called Portuguese Guinea. Countries in which the influence of foreign elements had provoked internal strife included the Congo, Uganda and Rhodesia. There was, in his view, no justification for the continuation of that situation. He called upon all countries which maintained friendly relations with the régimes responsible for the oppressive policies he had mentioned, and which were, at the same time, the friends of the independent African States, to use their considerable influence upon those régimes to persuade them to put an end to the oppression of the people of Africa. By responding to that call they would be making the greatest possible contribution not only to the welfare of the African States but also to the High Commissioner's campaign, whose need would in fact disappear. In addition to its own direct efforts on behalf of refugees his Government would continue to welcome the useful contribution made by UNHCR and would continue to extend to the High Commissioner its full support and goodwill. In particular his Government would continue to work for a solution through OAU and to co-operate with the efforts being made by individual States and regional organizations.

37. Mr. YASSEEN (Iraq) said that the importance and urgency of the heavy task assumed by the High Commissioner was recognized by all. He commended the report and considered that the present programme was the best one that could be carried out with the limited resources available. He congratulated the High Commissioner on the measures he was taking to deal with the very serious situation prevailing in Africa.

38. The problem was not one of merely administering first aid; the objective of UNHCR must be to establish the status of the refugee as a human being. In those efforts it was important that there should be the closest co-operation between UNHCR and other United Nations organs, particularly the specialized agencies concerned, and non-governmental organizations. It was gratifying to note that the High Commissioner was fully conscious of the value of co-ordination of effort.

39. He congratulated the High Commissioner on his appointment; his ability to carry out the difficult tasks entrusted to him inspired every confidence.

40. Mr. ASTROM (Sweden) said that the High Commissioner's statement had been marked by deep compassion and insight; he would enjoy the full confidence and support of the Swedish Government in discharging his heavy responsibilities.

41. It was evident that the excellent work achieved by UNHCR was due in large measure to the efforts of its small but devoted staff, which had had to operate with very limited and uncertain resources. Those scant resources had been stretched to breaking point in the endeavour to meet the urgent needs arising from emergency situations that were occurring with increasing frequency, as well as to continue to deal with the accumulated problems resulting from earlier refugee movements. The time had come to consider the refugee problem in the wider context of economic and social development.

42. As previous speakers had pointed out, there had been a decisive shift of emphasis in recent years from Europe, where the refugee problem resulting from the Second World War had been brought under control, to Africa. The alarming situation which had arisen there was due not only to the very large number of refugees but to the heavy additional burden their presence imposed on the under-developed economies of the newly independent African States. The outstanding generosity of the countries of first asylum to their African brethren did not detract in any way from the devoted efforts being made by the High Commissioner and his staff, aided by the voluntary contributions of individual Governments. Now that the High Commissioner's programme was centred on the less developed countries it could no longer be considered as marginal or emergency relief, nor as a form of charity. Assistance to refugees had become an essential part of over-all development assistance. UNHCR had long recognized that fact and had initiated regional development projects in co-operation with the specialized agencies and with regional organizations. The objective was to integrate refugees as equals into the economies of the developing countries and to help them to become self-supporting and productive members of the community. The High Commissioner had initiated those common activities, which would be carried on by various participating agencies once the first phase of operations was concluded. There was a need for more of such integrated projects. The success of the programme depended not only on the fullest co-operation between UNHCR and other United Nations bodies but also on the support of the host countries and regional organizations, such as OAU. Increased contributions from the major donor countries to the High Commissioner's programme and more vigorous support from them in the Executive Committee and in the governing bodies of the specialized agencies were essential if the wastage of human resources which would result from the failure to integrate refugees into the developing economies was to be avoided.

43. The High Commissioner's statement had shown that he was conscious of the need for increased efforts in the

educational field. Within the limits of the resources available to him the High Commissioner had endeavoured to include some educational projects in his programme, but assistance had had to be confined to the primary education level because of the pressure of more urgent needs. Assistance for secondary education could only be contemplated on the basis of voluntary contributions, and it was gratifying to note that the High Commissioner was considering the establishment of a special educational fund which would make possible more coherent and systematic activities in that field. That suggestion was fully supported by the Swedish delegation.

44. The Swedish Government had established some years previously a special programme for African education with resources which had risen from \$200,000 to approximately twice that figure. It was primarily directed to refugees from the Republic of South Africa and the Portuguese colonial territories, but it had proved possible to extend educational and training facilities to a considerable number of refugees from other African countries as well. Some of the resources had been channelled through UNHCR; results had been encouraging and his Government intended to continue its co-operation with the High Commissioner's Office. The Swedish programme covered primary and secondary education and vocational training; it had not been extended to university education, the need for which was less pressing.

45. His Government had advocated the consolidation and amalgamation of the United Nations programmes intended to assist the education of African refugees from the Republic of South Africa, South West Africa and the Portuguese colonies. Although those programmes differed in origin, they were all an expression of the will of the international community to assist young Africans in obtaining the education and training needed to enable them to play a constructive part in the reconstruction of their homelands once apartheid was abolished and independence achieved by the subject territories. He was convinced that the amalgamation of the programmes would be in the interests of the actual and potential beneficiaries in that it would lead to a more effective use of limited resources and would make it easier to mobilize increasing contributions from donor countries. If the High Commissioner succeeded in establishing the proposed education fund and it was integrated with the other programmes to which he had referred, the Swedish Government would consider placing its present bilateral contributions on a multilateral basis and amalgamating them in the consolidated United Nations programmes. That contribution would be over and above the present Swedish contribution to existing multilateral programmes.

46. The Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, which had been recently established by the General Assembly (resolution 2054 B (XX)) to provide legal aid to persons suffering persecution in the Republic of South Africa, so far had at its disposal resources amounting to only about \$100,000. It was therefore too early to say what resources might be available to it for assistance to refugees. However, the attention of that Committee had been drawn to the refugee problem

and his Government was actively co-operating in its work in collaboration with UNHCR.

47. He hoped that the High Commissioner would shortly receive the increased financial support necessary to enable him to continue his programme and to take up the challenge the suffering of refugees posed for the world community.

48. Mr. KASSUM (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) said that UNESCO would continue to co-operate closely with UNHCR in the educational field. Proposals for such co-operation had been endorsed by the Programme's Executive Committee (E/4201/Add.1, para. 154). For its part, UNESCO had included in its draft programme and budget for 1967-1968 a number of proposals for joint action, which he cited in illustration of the type of activities envisaged.

49. Mrs. KASTALSKAYA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that UNHCR was making a valuable contribution to the alleviation of the sufferings of refugees in Africa.

50. She had been impressed by the statement of the Tanzanian representative and regretted that other delegations had not joined in castigating apartheid and colonialism which were the real causes of the refugee

problem in Africa. The United Nations could not be indifferent to the oppressive policies being pursued in Africa by certain countries. Every effort must be made to eliminate the practices which had given rise to so much human suffering.

51. Prince Sadruddin AGA KHAN (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) said that the appreciation expressed by members of the Council for the efforts made by his Office would be a considerable encouragement to himself and his staff in their future work. The discussion had also provided useful guidelines for the future activities of UNHCR. The atmosphere of mutual understanding and goodwill which had characterized the discussion would be of great assistance in attaining the common objective of all concerned—that refugees should no longer be refugees.

52. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should adopt a resolution taking note with appreciation of the report prepared by the High Commissioner for transmission to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session (E/4201 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

*It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.