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MULTILATERAL FOOD AID

Note by the Secretary-General

I. Programme of studies on multilateral food aid

1. In 1965 the General Assembly, in its resolution 2096 (XX), initiated a programme of studies on multilateral food aid, by requesting the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and other interested members of the United Nations family, "to examine, with a view to suggesting various alternative types of action and in the context of the efforts being made in connexion with the United Nations Development Decade, the means and policies which would be required for large-scale international action of a multilateral character, under the auspices of the United Nations system, for combating hunger effectively".
2. The Secretary-General reported to the Economic and Social Council and to the Assembly, in 1966, on the arrangements that had been made for the preparation of the programme of studies. In resolution 2155 (XXI), the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to bear in mind certain suggestions made by the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems and by members of the Council for the modification of the draft outline for the study, and expressed satisfaction at his decision to submit a detailed preliminary report in 1967 on the first results obtained in the preparation of the comprehensive study.
3. The Secretary-General's preliminary report was considered by the Economic and Social Council at its forty-third session and is now before the Assembly in

documents E/4352 and Corr.1 and Add.1. An account of the discussions in the Council will be found in chapter IV, section I, of its annual report to the Assembly.^{1/}

II. Review of the World Food Programme

4. At its forty-third session, the Economic and Social Council considered the annual report of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme and the report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme. The deliberations in the Council are summarized in chapter IV, section II, of its report to the Assembly.^{2/}

5. The Council adopted two resolutions concerning the World Food Programme. In resolution 1256 (XLIII), it approved an amendment to the General Regulations of the Programme. Resolution 1255 (XLIII), on the review of the World Food Programme, embodies a draft resolution for the consideration of the Assembly and reads as follows:

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the fifth annual report of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme^{3/} and the report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme^{4/} transmitted by the Committee,

Noting the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee concerning the target for voluntary contributions for the period 1969-1970,

Recalling that the potentialities of the World Food Programme were recognized by the General Assembly in its resolution 2095 (XX) of 20 December 1965 and by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in its resolution 4/65,

1. Appeals to States Members of the United Nations and members and associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to undertake the necessary preparations for the announcement of pledges at the Third Pledging Conference for the World Food Programme;

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/6703 and Corr.1).

^{2/} Ibid.

^{3/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 13, document E/4378.

^{4/} Ibid., document A/4332.

2. Recommends that, in any consideration of a possible increase in the level of international food aid, due account be taken of the part which could be played by the World Food Programme;

3. Submits for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly the following draft resolution:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the provisions of its resolution 2095 (XX) of 20 December 1965 that the World Food Programme is to be reviewed before each pledging conference and that, subject to the review so provided for, the next pledging conference should be convened in 1967, at which time Governments would be invited to pledge contributions for 1969 and 1970, with a view to reaching such target as may be recommended by the General Assembly and the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization,

"Noting that review of the Programme was undertaken by the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme at its eleventh session and by the Economic and Social Council at its forty-third session,

"Having considered resolution 1255 (XLIII) of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee contained in its report and the report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme,

"Recognizing the value of multilateral food aid both as a form of capital investment and for meeting food needs,

"1. Establishes for the two years 1969 and 1970 a target for voluntary contributions of \$200 million, of which not less than one-third should be in cash and services and urges States Members of the United Nations and members and associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to make every effort to ensure the full attainment of the target;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to convene a pledging Conference at United Nations Headquarters (early in 1968);

"3. Urges Governments that have pledged contributions of commodities of services for the period 1966-1968 to make every possible effort to carry over and make available for the period 1969-1970 any portion of such pledges that may remain unused at the end of 1968, and to indicate their readiness to effect such carry-over when announcing pledges at the Third Pledging Conference;

"4. Decides that the next following Pledging Conference, subject to the review provided for in General Assembly resolution 2095 (XX), should be convened, at the latest, early in 1970, at which time Governments would be invited to pledge contributions for 1971 and 1972, with a view to reaching such target as may be recommended by the General Assembly and the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations."
