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MEASURES OF ASSISTANCE FOR
WOMEN IN SOUTHERN AFRICA
Item 7 (b) of the provisional agenda

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Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The present report is prepared in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/33, of 5 May 1978, in which the Council recommended that the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 1980, include in the agenda of the Conference an item on the effects of apartheid on women in southern Africa. In resolution 33/189, of 29 January 1979, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Council and included such an item in the provisional agenda of the Conference, annexed to resolution 33/189.

The item was subdivided as follows: (a) Review of the Situation; and (b) Special measures for assistance to women in southern Africa. Under item 7 (a) the following reports have been prepared: "The effects of apartheid on the status of women in southern Africa", and "The role of women in the struggle for liberation in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa". The present report, "Measures of assistance for women in southern Africa" has been prepared under item 7 (b).

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INTRODUCTION

1. This report is divided into two parts. The first part proposes a programme of action for women in southern Africa as part of the World Plan of Action to help sustain them in their efforts to participate in eradicating apartheid and racism in their countries and to establish new societies once that eradication is accomplished. The second part is a list, with brief annotations, of current programmes of assistance to the peoples of southern Africa. 1/ These programmes are not exclusively for women, but where special women's components do exist, they have been noted.

I. PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR WOMEN IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AS PART OF THE ACTIVITIES OUTLINED IN THE WORLD PLAN OF ACTION

2. The report prepared by the secretariat of the 1980 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women on the effects of apartheid on the status of women in southern Africa 2/ describes in great detail how women in southern Africa are faced with a threefold barrier to participation at all levels: they are objects of discrimination for reasons of class, race and sex. Consequently, special measures of assistance for women in southern Africa are imperative if the fuller participation of women in the struggle for national liberation and then for national reconstruction is to be ensured. While integrated programmes for the benefit of all members of society should be the basis for action in implementing these measures, special actions on behalf of women in southern African countries will be necessary.

3. The report prepared by the World Conference secretariat on the role of women in the struggles for national liberation in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa 3/ describes the heroic role women have played in fighting against apartheid and racism in spite of the enormous barriers to participation that they face. The women and the men know that unless the apartheid and racist systems are destroyed and those aspects of traditional culture that led to discrimination based on sex are eliminated, the full liberation of the oppressed peoples of southern Africa cannot be accomplished. Furthermore, the integration of women in national development after liberation will require widening their activities to embrace all aspects of political, social, economic and cultural life.

4. The strengthening of women's sections where they already exist in the national liberation movements of South Africa and Namibia and the creation of such sections where they do not currently exist would be an effective step towards accelerating the achievement of equal opportunity for women and their full integration into national life. Such women's sections should, in consultations

1/ This information was supplied to the secretariat of the 1980 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme and the World Health Organization.

2/ See A/CONF.94/7.

3/ See A/CONF.94/5.

with the United Nations, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, determine and make known their policy and programme priorities.

5. The recommendations made below for measures of assistance are addressed to the United Nations, the specialized agencies, Governments, international and regional intergovernmental organizations, women's and anti-apartheid groups, non-governmental organizations and other groups.

6. The assistance called for, divided into several categories, will be channelled through the southern African liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity.

A. Legal, humanitarian, moral and political assistance to women in southern Africa

1. Assistance to women inside South Africa and Namibia

7. As the repressive actions in South Africa and Namibia have expanded, an increasing number of women have been persecuted under repressive and discriminatory legislation. The number of women who have been banned or imprisoned for resisting apartheid is an indication of the level of resistance of women and of their increasing need for moral and material support.

8. The United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, portions of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, and voluntary funds and organizations in various countries have contributed to assistance measures for the victims of apartheid and racism in southern Africa.

9. Although substantial assistance has been provided, the needs are continuously expanding as a result of the more intensive repressive actions in South Africa and Namibia. Consequently, States Members of the United Nations and concerned groups should increase their humanitarian assistance to the men, women and children who are victims of apartheid and racial discrimination. Such assistance is critical at the present time.

10. Because of the unique legal disabilities suffered by African women in South Africa and Namibia, ^{3/} it is extremely difficult for women not to be in violation of the law and subject to arrest. Even by their efforts to keep their families together, women have been arrested for violations of the pass laws and resident acts. Specific forms of assistance which could be expanded or created from the increased contributions called for above might include - but should not be limited to - the following:

(a) Additional funds for the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa as well as direct donations to private organizations that provide legal assistance to those resisting apartheid and racism. Such funds, where possible, might be earmarked for use in the legal defence of women. In conjunction with this, the feasibility of establishing a legal advice office, composed of international lawyers, which would deal with the legal disabilities suffered by African women in South Africa and Namibia and undertake investigations on disappearances, secret trials and detentions without trial, should be examined;

(b) Special assistance to the children of women who have become political prisoners in southern Africa, to enable them to continue their education, to help them meet their living expenses, and to minimize - to the extent possible - the effects of being separated from their mothers. Assistance should also be provided to the wives and children of men who have become political prisoners, with the same purposes;

(c) Increased funds for women and men who have been sentenced to long prison terms for their opposition to apartheid and racism so that education will be possible for them while they are imprisoned, in order for them to assume or maintain roles in the liberation struggle upon their release;

(d) Women and men who have been persecuted for their opposition to apartheid and racism should be assisted if they wish to emigrate. Assistance should also be provided to their families, in emigrating and then in resettlement.

11. The international community should expand its assistance to those women inside South Africa and Namibia who continue to struggle against apartheid and racism from inside the system. Such women, both in urban and rural areas, need not only legal and moral support but also material and other humanitarian support. Food, clothing, medicine, books and funds for community projects are desperately needed in all areas. These could be channelled through church and other organizations which are dedicated to providing such assistance to oppressed people.

12. The international community could effectively help the oppressed peoples of southern Africa, their children, young people and women in particular by providing access to schools and universities in other countries of the world and by expanding the already existing programmes of fellowships and scholarships and training activities. These could be channelled through the United Nations Member States, church groups, trade unions, bilateral aid agencies, student and women's groups.

2. Assistance to women in refugee camps

13. All forms of humanitarian and material assistance are necessary for the rapidly growing number of refugees fleeing their homes to seek asylum in neighbouring countries as a result of the policies and practices of apartheid and racial discrimination in South Africa and Namibia. The international community should augment its assistance to women refugees in particular. Women and children - especially from Namibia, where armed struggle is now in progress - make up a large part of the population of the refugee camps.

14. The influx of large numbers of refugees has created severe economic and social burdens for the host countries. Substantial capital investment is necessary in order to help host Governments build reception and transit facilities, hostel accommodations, health facilities, housing in the camps and expanded or new educational facilities for the growing refugee population.

15. Individual social counselling at the reception and transit centres for those persons forced to leave their homelands and become refugees is necessary during their period of readjustment.

16. Assistance for the care and maintenance of the refugees will have to be provided in the form of allowances for a nutritionally balanced diet, clothing, adequate shelter, medical care and transportation within the country of asylum as well as expenses for travel in the case of resettlement to third countries. Attempts should be made to unite family members who have fled their homes separately.

17. The provision of adequate baby clothing and supplementary food for mothers, particularly nursing mothers, and young children is essential in the refugee settlements.

18. General education programmes at the elementary, secondary and university levels should be made available to refugee students upon entry into the host country so that their intellectual development may continue.

19. In the light of the above-mentioned needs, the relevant United Nations specialized agencies and bodies - in particular, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), are urged to increase and widen their activities in providing assistance to women refugees.

B. Training to integrate women into leadership and support positions within the national liberation movements

20. The integration of women into leadership and support positions within the liberation movements in South Africa and Namibia has been progressing over the past several years. However, women who have recently become refugees are bound by the limitations of the repressive laws of South Africa and Namibia. Thus, it has been possible for women to become nurses but not doctors, secretaries but not professionals, primary school teachers but not professors. On the whole, this has been enforced in South Africa and Namibia through the inferior "Bantu education" and a tightly controlled economy and labour market, with less than 2 per cent of the African population graduating from secondary school. It is thus obvious that training and educational opportunities will have to be provided at all levels for both men and women so they can lead their countries to majority control and then lead the independent States after liberation.

21. Southern African women must establish their own needs and priorities for specific training and educational programmes. Seminars should be organized for this purpose for the women in the liberation movements. The seminars should also develop plans for strengthening the institutional structures of the women's sections of the liberation movements, where they already exist, and provide assistance for the creation of such sections where they do not currently exist. They should be provided with opportunities for consultation by the various United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, international regional and intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations, which could give technical assistance in identifying needs and assess the feasibility of the international community's meeting those needs. All plans should provide for frequent reassessment. Given the comprehensiveness and diversity of the world-wide system of assistance agencies, actions could be taken without delay, once the needs are identified and made known throughout the United Nations system.

22. Although assistance to the liberation movements in general has been steadily increasing, development programmes aimed at increasing skills and technical levels have had disproportionately few women as recipients. ^{4/} While this situation has been improving, if the integration of men and women as a fundamental principle of the liberation movements is to be achieved, then care will have to be taken to ensure a balance between men and women as future programme recipients. All existing plans and projects should be examined for the purpose of ensuring that their areas of activities to include women are expanded. All new and innovative programmes that are developed should include women.

23. As a beginning, programmes aimed at upgrading the abilities of the participants in development and political activities should be developed for women from the various liberation movements; also, the institutional capabilities of the women's sections of the liberation movements should be strengthened. UNESCO has such a programme for Namibian women. The women will work as a nucleus promoting women's participation in liberation and, subsequently, in development. The programmes should include training courses in various leadership and communication skills, seminars focusing on political education, workshops on the preparation, implementation and evaluation of assistance programmes, and study tours to several independent African nations to learn about the experiences of other women's organizations and of national bodies for the integration of women in development. Assistance should be provided to national liberation movements and their women's sections to enable them to undertake research and run workshops on women's roles and needs in the liberation struggle and the development process, to set up research and documentation units and establish newsletters. UNESCO has already begun work with national liberation movements on such projects.

24. The co-ordination of assistance between the relevant United Nations agencies and the liberation movements should be explored. It might include:

(a) Encouraging the co-ordination of women's activities in the various liberation movements;

(b) The creation of a women's task force within each relevant agency of the United Nations system (in particular, UNESCO, ILO, WHO, FAO, UNICEF) which would include representatives of the liberation movements, preferably from the women's sections;

(c) The inclusion of specific projects for assistance to women who have been victims of apartheid and racism in southern Africa in United Nations programmes and United Nations proposals to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) regarding the education and training of women, and in the Joint Interagency Programme for the United Nations Decade for Women.

25. Various educational programmes should be developed or - where they already exist - expanded to aid the liberation movements in their respective struggles. Assistance in this area might include: the building of adequate primary schools in the refugee camps so that all girls and boys could receive a basic education; the development of programmes, curricula and standards of education and training

^{4/} See A/33/297, para. 16.

that are the same for men as for women; and the creation of widely diversified vocational programmes of all types, created on the basis of the immediate priority needs of the liberation movements and equally accessible to both sexes, enabling men and women to have a wide choice of employment opportunities.

26. Programmes should be formulated for the reduction of infant, child and maternal mortality by means of improved nutrition, sanitation, maternal and child health care and maternal education. Programmes should be designed in the area of mental health which will deal with the special problems that develop under circumstances of colonial and minority control, armed struggle and refugee status. Such programmes should also be planned for the period of national reconstruction.

C. Training and assistance to enable women, after liberation to play active roles in the reconstruction of their countries

27. Among the most serious problems besetting emergent African nations after independence has been that of a shortage of skilled people. The African population has received very little skilled training under the oppressive régimes in southern Africa. The shortage there is likely to be further aggravated by the continuing flight of many skilled people from certain countries in the region which have achieved nationhood through revolutionary armed struggle.

1. Education and training

28. If women in southern Africa are to be integrated into all aspects of economic, political, social and cultural development after liberation, then it will be necessary to expand vastly their access to education and training, both prior to and after liberation. With a view towards the reconstruction of their countries, the liberation movements have planned for more comprehensive educational programmes. The liberation movements in Namibia and South Africa have established, or are in the final stages of establishing, educational institutions to suit their own unique environments.

29. Educational scholarships for study in other countries should be made available for both men and women without any age limit and should be designed for the short-term administrative needs of the liberation movements, where the struggles continue and for the long-term foundations of the nation once independence is achieved. While it is recognized that the various scholarship funds, including the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa, and the educational and training programmes established by the Commonwealth, have made progress in increasing the number of scholarships for women, they are nowhere near equal. This situation should be rectified as soon as possible. Studies that are undertaken should emphasize balanced roles for women in a variety of fields identified by the liberation movements. Professional fields could include but should not be limited to medicine, public administration and management, agriculture, arts, computer and statistical studies, accounting, education and teacher training, economics, engineering, architecture, health, industry and trades, journalism, law, library science, natural sciences, mass communications media, political science, police and narcotics training, research training, sociology, social sciences, social work, telecommunications, air traffic control, aviation, town and regional planning, women and youth leadership.

30. Assistance should also be provided for vocational training for men and women. Fields should include but should not be limited to mechanical engineering and vehicle repair and maintenance, electronics, first aid, nursing and medical auxiliary work, secretarial and clerical work, photography, printing and publishing, construction and industry, tailoring and domestic science.
31. Training centres could be established to teach, among other subjects, home industries, child care, welfare and development, nutrition, adult literacy and home crafts.
32. Correspondence courses should be made available for refugees who cannot obtain places in formal schools.
33. Pre-school training centres should be established in the camps with the dual purpose of training pre-school teachers while freeing mothers who intend to pursue their own studies or work.
34. A survey of customary law practice and tradition should be undertaken with a view to modifying those aspects which inhibit the emancipation of women and supporting those aspects which act to strengthen the position of women in society.
35. Projects aimed at preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of the oppressed peoples of southern Africa should be undertaken; they should emphasize such areas as music, dance, poetry, art, handicrafts and folklore.

2. Employment

36. Assistance should be made available for the establishment of a foundation for policy decisions on the measures required to overcome the special employment-related disabilities of African women in southern Africa, due to the racial and sexual discrimination against them. A seminar planned by the International Labour Organisation should be held to identify the types and sources of discrimination against women in labour matters, the development of proposals to eliminate them, and the formulation of specific measures to be adopted in post-liberation society to assure equality of employment and pay opportunities for all men and women in southern Africa. Such measures should include legislation, affirmative action programmes, complaint procedures and subsequent sanction for non-compliance. Precautions should also be taken to ensure that minimum wages, which play an important role in the improvement of the working conditions of women, should be enforced and made applicable to cottage industries and domestic work; that special measures are taken to avoid the exploitation of female labour, in particular that of young girls, wherever it traditionally existed; and that discriminatory treatment of women in national social security schemes is eliminated. Women workers should be covered equally with men by all aspects of such programmes. All women workers should be ensured of the right to maternity protection, including maternity leave with a guarantee of returning to their former employment, and nursing breaks.

37. Study tours should be organized for women selected by the liberation movements in Namibia and South Africa so that they may enhance their knowledge of labour relations and affairs. Such tours might include opportunities for observing the functioning of institutions in Africa or abroad which deal with particular topics in the field of equality of opportunity for women workers. The women should spend further time at ILO headquarters working with experts in that field and learning the relevant technical services available at the ILO.

38. Resources should be made available for wider representation of trade union organizations from South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe at ILO conferences, seminars and meetings. Those trade unions should be urged to adopt policies designed to increase the participation of women in their work at every level, including the higher echelons. They should undertake special programmes to promote equality of opportunity for jobs and training for women workers and leadership training for women in post-liberation society. They should play a leading role in developing new and constructive approaches to problems faced by workers, paying special attention to the problems of women workers.

3. Health, nutrition and food production

39. Country health programmes need to be developed based on a study of the current and projected post-liberation health needs. Emphasis should be on preventive medicine. In view of the importance of women not only as users but as providers of health care, steps should be taken to incorporate them as fully informed and active participants in the health planning and decision-making process at all levels and in all phases. Men and women will have to be trained for all levels of medical care.

40. Southern African women play major roles in all areas of food production, supply and distribution. Therefore, any programmes for rural and agricultural development must have substantial women's participation. Training is especially necessary in modern methods of farming and animal husbandry, food economics, food science and nutrition, home economics, marketing, sanitation, food preservation, co-operative techniques, land surveying, purchasing and sales techniques, and basic accounting and agricultural methods.

41. Plans must be prepared to relieve women and men of some of the drudgery of rural labour so they can spend more time and effort on more productive rural development efforts. Plans should include collective mills for grinding grain, processing centres, clothes-washing areas with a water supply, community child-care centres and other schemes to free several hours of each day for income-producing work.

D. International support for and co-operation with southern African women

42. Women of all countries of the world should declare their solidarity with the oppressed peoples of southern Africa in their just struggle to end the gross violations of human rights and abolish the current racist and apartheid laws in those countries. In order to involve more women in the eradication of apartheid and racism, the ongoing efforts of women, in groups, as individuals and in national and international organizations, should be acknowledged and supported. Furthermore, women should be given every encouragement to participate actively in the endeavours of such organizations.

43. Specific expressions of solidarity should include but not be limited to:

(a) Condemning the policy of apartheid and racism in southern Africa;

(b) Appealing to Governments to refrain from all kinds of collaboration with the racist régimes in southern Africa, including the immediate cessation of political, military, economic and other assistance rendered by some States to the régimes in southern Africa;

(c) Appealing to all States, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to render all possible support and assistance - both moral and material - to the peoples who are the victims of apartheid and racist discrimination and to the liberation movements in South Africa and Namibia recognized by the Organization of African Unity;

(d) Encouraging campaigns for the release of all political prisoners in southern Africa;

(e) Appealing to Governments for the economic, military, cultural and sports isolation of South Africa;

(f) Appealing to international trade organizations in which women play an important role to strengthen their solidarity in the struggle against multinational corporations which collaborate with the apartheid and racial policies in South Africa and Namibia;

(g) Appeal to those Governments that have not yet done so to ratify and implement the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination of 1965, and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid of 1973, as well as the many relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council calling for the immediate cessation of all forms of assistance and of policies and measures of a

military, political, economic or other character which enable the racist régimes in southern Africa to continue to oppress the African peoples;

(h) Appeals to Governments:

- (i) To promote the exchange of experience at the national and international levels for the purpose of enhancing the involvement of women in the efforts of peoples for peace and their struggle for national independence and against colonialism, racism, apartheid, foreign aggression and occupation;
- (ii) To give effective publicity to the active role played by women in the struggle for peace, respect and understanding for all nations and peoples, for racial equality and equality of the sexes, for the implementation of the right of every nation to self-determination and for international co-operation, and against colonialism, apartheid, and racial discrimination, and to influence the work of mass media accordingly;
- (iii) To pay tribute to the contribution of women to the struggle for the safeguarding of peace and against colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, aggression, occupation and all forms of foreign domination, by proclaiming special days and by other marks of appreciation.

44. In order to create a better understanding of the liberation movements in South Africa and Namibia as well as the differences in the nature of the struggles in southern Africa, anti-apartheid groups, women's groups and others should sponsor speaking tours of women selected by the women's sections of the liberation movements to further international solidarity with the oppressed peoples of southern Africa.

45. The production of films and multimedia programmes on the role of women in the political struggles in southern Africa should be encouraged and be distributed as extensively as possible, in order to better inform the international community about the role of women and the nature of their struggle.

46. Women's groups could produce and distribute educational materials for children in schools which would depict the reality of life for the oppressed peoples of southern Africa and the nature and scope of their struggle for freedom.

47. Women artists and performers should hold fund-raising events for assistance to women in southern Africa. Anti-apartheid art exhibits focusing on women should be assembled and widely shown. Items such as calendars and graphics with the same theme could be designed to raise funds. These monies could be used by southern African women in the creative arts who work in support of the liberation struggles and national reconstruction. International artists and performers should also organize a cultural boycott of the oppressive régimes in South Africa and Namibia as part of the campaign to eradicate apartheid and racism.

48. Women's groups should lobby with their respective Governments so that they will increase their contributions to the various funds established by the United Nations, international, regional and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations that support the oppressed peoples of southern Africa. These women's groups should also provide assistance to women in the national liberation movements in South Africa and Namibia so that they may attend major international conferences.
49. The United Nations should promulgate a special day to be dedicated to those women in southern Africa who have borne much of the burden of the oppressive legislation there and who have heroically worked to eradicate apartheid and racism in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe. Every year, on the designated day, seminars and meetings should be organized by anti-apartheid and women's groups and should be given wide coverage in the press and other communications media.
50. The United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid, with its role of providing assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa and their liberation movements as an important element in international action for the elimination of apartheid, should organize hearings on the subject of the effects of apartheid on women in South Africa. Testimony could be provided by women and experts from the liberation movements as well as experts in this area.
51. Efforts should be made to disseminate information on women in southern Africa, including the information contained in the present and other reports of the United Nations and specialized agencies and that obtained from the liberation movements, as widely as possible in order to help people all over the world become more aware of the triple oppression of women in South Africa and Namibia. The information services of the United Nations, and those of other bodies, should be used for this purpose. United Nations radio broadcasts to southern Africa should focus on the role of women in the struggles for liberation in Namibia and South Africa. Women should request that their Governments make increased contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Publicity against Apartheid as a means of distributing this information.
52. The Secretary-General might be requested to prepare a report specifically on the role of women in the political struggle against apartheid and racism in South Africa and Namibia which could be based on extensive interviews with women from the liberation movements of those countries. United Nations specialized agencies and, in particular, UNESCO should be invited to continue research work undertaken in collaboration with national liberation movements on the effects of apartheid and racial discrimination on women in southern Africa and on their needs in post-liberation society.
53. The United Nations Commission on Human Rights might instruct the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on South Africa to hold hearings on the effects of apartheid and racial discrimination on the status of women as a violation of human rights.

II. CURRENT PROGRAMMES OF ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

54. The lists of current programmes of assistance to the peoples of southern Africa which follow were supplied to the secretariat of the 1980 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women by the ILO, FAO, UNHCR, WFP and WHO. They cover the period 1978-1979. ^{5/} These programmes are not exclusively for women but, where special women's components do exist, they have been noted in the text. Also included are programmes that were under consideration at the time the reports were submitted to the World Conference secretariat.

A. Assistance to refugees from southern Africa

1. FAO programmes

(a) In Mozambique FAO helped refugees under the care of the Patriotic Front to purchase small stock and cattle.

(b) FAO approved extensions to the World Food Programme (WFP) of emergency aid given to the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) for 30,000 refugees under its care in Angola.

(c) FAO approved of WFP emergency food aid for 1,400 refugees under the care of the African National Congress (ANC) in Angola.

2. Assistance from UNHCR

(a) By mid 1979 UNHCR had financed five rural settlements for Zimbabwean refugees in Mozambique. Women there bore the main responsibility for feeding and clothing the community, monitoring the general health conditions and even participating in construction work and agricultural programmes. A variety of measures were financed which were geared towards the improvement of the plight of refugee women, such as the provision of enriched foods for mothers and the purchase of medicine, clothing and domestic utensils. Schooling was organized, as were day-care centres and child welfare services.

(b) The Patriotic Front, Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), assumed over-all responsibility for the welfare of the majority of Zimbabwean refugees in Zambia and requested UNHCR to contribute towards several specific programmes for women and girls among the refugee caseload. In this connexion, UNHCR participated in the construction of the PF/ZAPU Girls' School at Victory Centre, near Lusaka, where an estimated 11,000 Zimbabwean refugee women and girls were taken care of. The complex included dormitories; classrooms; and sanitary, kitchen and dining facilities, as well as a hospital and staff housing. Relief, including supplementary food, clothing, blankets, beds and bedding, furniture, laboratory equipment, temporary accommodations, education and health care facilities, was

^{5/} It should be noted that programme changes may have been made since this information was submitted.

provided to these uprooted women. At the Centre, the refugees had the opportunity to learn new skills in home economics, handicrafts, needlework and weaving, and to assist disabled refugees.

(c) At the request of the Patriotic Front, Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) leadership in 1978, UNHCR made funds available to enable members of the liberation movement (of whom a large proportion are women) to establish a farm at Iringa in the United Republic of Tanzania, with the goal of becoming self-supporting in food production as well as cultivating cash crops.

(d) The UNHCR has provided relief to Namibian refugees who have sought asylum in Angola. After meeting the most urgent needs of the refugees in terms of food, medicine, clothing and shelter, UNHCR intends to implement a programme geared towards the local settlement of the refugees, which has been made necessary by their forced movement in order to avoid South African military attacks.

(e) The main thrust of the UNHCR programme in Lesotho is to assist individual South African refugee students. To this end, UNHCR has helped to finance the expansion and modernization of auxiliary services at the National University and the construction of classrooms, laboratories, student and staff housing for other schools, and transit and educational centres. As is true of many other UNHCR projects in the region, the assistance is geared towards the immediate needs of the refugees, as well as towards their future in their independent countries of origin, and therefore these programmes might also be listed below, under section B.

(f) The emphasis of the UNHCR programme in Swaziland on behalf of South African refugees is twofold. First, a contribution was made towards the construction of a refugee reception/transit centre. Secondly, assistance has been provided towards the rural settlement of a group of refugees. The refugee centre at Mpaka consists of a lower secondary school, student and staff housing, a transit centre and kitchen/dining facilities.

(g) In addition to the provision of relief to refugees in transit through Botswana, UNHCR, in conjunction with voluntary agencies, has established a rural settlement at Kukwe, with the goal of creating a viable community.

3. Assistance from WHO

The efforts of WHO fall into the following main categories of assistance in the medical and health fields: training; the provision of teaching materials; mobile service units; rehabilitation; the provision of hospital supplies and equipment; the provision of drugs. All of the programmes listed below are designed to provide assistance not only to alleviate current problems but also to prepare the peoples for participation in health care delivery after independence.

(a) WHO has designed a broad-based programme to promote health co-operation among and assistance to the national liberation movements through the UNDP-financed multinational training centre based at Morogoro in the United Republic of Tanzania. Fellowships are being awarded by WHO for attendance at this centre, and increasing attention is being given to practical training in the field in primary health care and basic sanitary measures.

(b) WHO provides medical care and health assistance to the populations helped by SWAPO in Angola and Zambia, and trains their health personnel. The activities of this programme include the provision of a medical officer at the Namibia health centre in Angola as well as a nutritionist/health educator and the services of nursing and midwifery personnel. In addition, WHO collaborates with UNHCR in providing urgently needed supplies for refugee camps for Namibians in Angola.

(c) WHO co-operates in the area of health with the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) of Azania. Its support to these national liberation movements takes the form of the provision of drugs, medical equipment and hospital supplies. In addition, fellowships have been arranged for ANC and PAC students in various training institutions in the WHO African region.

(d) WHO has also had a programme of co-operation with the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe. It has been the executing agency for a UNDP-financed project based in Mozambique and Zambia. It also provided stipends for doctors and nurses serving the displaced populations; medical supplies and equipment; and fellowships for students in training institutions in Africa.

4. WFP aid

(a) WFP aid has fallen into four categories: development; quick action; emergency relief; and expansion of existing projects. Aid is distributed through the national liberation movements recognized by the OAU.

(b) The WFP had projects for the Patriotic Front in Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia. Aid was reaching 18,000, 100,000 and 60,000 recipients, respectively, in those countries. The WFP estimated that 30 per cent of its recipients were women, most of whom (88 per cent) were girls under 16 years of age. Of the five projects, three were for development and two were for quick action.

(c) During the period under review, WFP completed distribution of 13 projects to recipients in Angola (three emergency projects for 40,000 Zimbabwean refugees, one emergency project for 1,140 ANC recipients, and one emergency project for 30,000 SWAPO recipients); Botswana (one expansion project for 2,500 Zimbabwe and ANC recipients); Mozambique (three quick-action projects for 180,000 Zimbabwean refugees) and Zambia (three quick-action projects for 86,000 ZAPU recipients, one quick-action project for 2,000 SWAPO recipients).

(d) Projects listed as "approval under consideration" included one quick-action programme for 30,000 SWAPO beneficiaries in Angola and one development programme for 6,500 SWAPO beneficiaries in Zambia.

B. Assistance to the peoples in southern African liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity

1. FAO programmes

(a) The FAO has worked closely with the United Nations Nationhood Programme for Namibia, and has prepared a comprehensive programme of project proposals, based on an analysis of problems likely to be faced. The following pre-independence projects are being considered by the Council for Namibia:

High-level fisheries fellowships (with UNDP assistance)

Assessment of potential land suitability (with UNDP assistance)

Analysis of policy options and preparation of contingency plans for fisheries (with UNDP assistance)

Development programme for agricultural education

Preparation for agrarian reform, and resettlement programmes

Planning water development for agriculture

Fellowships in food economics, food science and nutrition

Preparation of plans for protecting food supplies and nutrition upon independence

Training for food distribution

(b) The FAO sent a senior expert to participate in the workshop on agrarian and land reform options for independent Namibia, organized by the United Nations Institute for Namibia in Lusaka, from 22 to 26 January 1979.

(c) A consultant provided by FAO to the United Nations Institute for Namibia prepared a report on assistance for the preparation of training programmes in rural development and related project areas.

(d) The FAO's Technical Co-operation Programme funded a specially designed training programme on agricultural education and land-use planning and development for Zimbabwe, in which 10 Zimbabwean fellows participated. The project represented a major contribution to the task of preparing Zimbabweans for the challenge of independence. In 1979, two trainees nominated by the Patriotic Front also took part in an FAO dairy training course in Zambia.

(e) The FAO has involved its country representatives and experts in operational projects in the host countries in the formulation of projects for the liberation movements. In this way, a dialogue is being established with the officers of the movements who will finally be responsible for implementing projects, thereby making it considerably easier to solve procedural and logistical problems.

(f) The FAO developed a project with UNDP for the Pan-Africanist Congress entitled "Self-reliance in food production". It assists the movement in establishing a self-sufficient farm and resettlement camp in the United Republic of Tanzania for some 400 refugees. A similar project for the African National Congress in the United Republic of Tanzania is currently being formulated in discussion with the movement.

(g) The FAO is now approaching possible host countries and donors for a project to establish a specialized institution for accelerated training in rural development for the national liberation movements of southern Africa.

(h) In the context of International Anti-Apartheid Year, FAO commissioned two major studies: "African agriculture and production techniques in South Africa"; and "The effects of apartheid on African rural family life and nutrition in South Africa". In the field of information, FAO devoted a special double issue of the March 1979 bulletin to apartheid and has prepared a number of radio programmes for the United Nations broadcasts to southern Africa.

(i) The FAO has invited representatives of the liberation movements to appropriate FAO-sponsored events, including the Tenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa, held in September 1978 and the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, held in March 1979.

2. ILO programmes

(a) The ILO participated in the Namibia Nationhood Programme. It is establishing a pilot vocational training centre, with UNDP financing; UNDP is also financing group training for junior-level labour administrators. The training will include the services of a labour administration expert, consultants, a language teacher, and United Nations volunteers. Finally, a project has been created for the preparation of plans for non-discriminatory labour legislation, which would be implemented after independence.

(b) The ILO is involved in other projects for the peoples of Namibia, including a co-operative fellowship programme and a labour administration fellowship programme, both of which are approved by the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA). Under the ILO regular budget, two short-term fellowships for the SWAPO office of the Secretary for Labour were granted, and the ILO has provided documentation for the Institute of Namibia. A project for the training of clerical and basic administrative staff has been approved.

(c) The ILO, with UNDP financing, provided emergency assistance to the liberation movements of Zimbabwe and Namibia in the fields of technical and vocational training, including a course for railway traffic controllers. The course agreement was signed by the representatives of ZANU (Zimbabwe), SWAPO (Namibia), UNDP and the ILO. The immediate objectives were to provide: instructor training and supervisor training at the Turin Centre in Italy; railway training at the Wardan Centre in Egypt; basic training in a variety of fields in existing institutions in the frontline States.

(d) The ILO regular budget provided for the costs of preparation and publication of two ILO studies on Namibia and Zimbabwe.

(e) With financing from Norway, supplemented by funds from its special budget covering liberation movements, the ILO approved a workshop on equality of rights in labour matters. The workshop was held in 1979, with a view to examining legislative and other changes, with a view to eliminating discrimination in labour matters in Zimbabwe.

(f) Under its special budget, a project was designed for Zimbabwe trade unionists. Ten fellowships were provided, in order to enable the Zimbabwe African Congress of Trade Union Representatives to participate in a three-week course, to be held in Zambia.

(g) A pilot vocational training programme for the liberation movements of South Africa (ANC and PAC) became operational in March 1978. The project agreement was signed by the representatives of ANC, PAC, UNDP and the ILO. The immediate objective was to train 60 South Africans (30 ANC refugees and 30 PAC refugees) in industrial skills in institutions in the United Republic of Tanzania.

(h) The ILO financed the following projects from its regular budget: the cost of a workers' education seminar for southern Africa (as co-hosts with the Zambian Trade Union), held in March 1978; the southern Africa Seminar on Labour Migration, organized by the Economic Commission for Africa, held in Lusaka in 1978; and the Seminar for Southern African Liberation Movements on Equal Rights in Labour Matters, held in Lusaka, 28 September-6 October 1978. The ILO has planned a seminar on the equality of treatment for women workers in southern Africa.

3. Assistance from UNHCR

(a) The UNHCR, in conjunction with ANC, is planning to contribute to the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College (SOMAFCO), known as a multipurpose educational, agricultural and vocational training centre, located in the Morogoro District of the United Republic of Tanzania. At the Centre, a kindergarten will be created for the children of students and teachers, and for orphans. It will form part of a schooling complex which will include pre-school facilities for primary through secondary school. A day-care centre is planned to ensure proper care for the children of women ANC members who are employed in the Dar-es-Salaam area.

(b) The UNHCR has also provided substantial educational funding in Botswana; it will naturally benefit refugee women at various levels. Hostels and secondary schools have been constructed, audio-visual equipment and library books purchased and scholarships awarded, for students in Botswana as well as for southern African refugees who travelled through Botswana en route to Ghana, Nigeria and elsewhere, for both academic and vocational training. Correspondence courses and remedial instruction have been organized.

(c) In 1978 and 1979, UNHCR, within the framework of the Nationhood Programme for Namibia and in co-operation with SWAPO, provided funds for expanding and equipping the SWAPO Education and Health Centre at Nyango. This assistance has enabled refugees to attend courses in basic physical sciences, secretarial skills and nursing training. In addition to their poultry and pig-breeding projects, the refugees also produce food crops, mainly maize and beans. It is hoped that such training for Namibian refugee women and children will enable them to contribute positively to the reconstruction of their country once it is liberated.

(d) The goal is the same for UNHCR programming for Namibian refugees in Angola, where 25 per cent of the 30,000 refugees are women. A small number of these have had training in the fields of health, education, child and mother care, and handicrafts. Under the guidance of SWAPO, which is responsible for the promotion of their self-sufficiency, refugees are encouraged to share their knowledge and skills. In conjunction with UNHCR, plans have been prepared to establish, inter alia, kitchens, clinics, schools, vocational workshops, day-care centres and sewing and secretarial courses.

4. Assistance from WHO

(a) As has been stated in section A above, most WHO programmes serve the dual purpose of alleviating current problems and preparing the peoples for participation in health care delivery after independence.

(b) The WHO is collaborating with the United Nations Council for Namibia and SWAPO in launching country health programming. A workshop, supported by WHO as part of a nationhood programming workshop which is scheduled for 1980, is expected to include promotive activities for women to supplement ongoing fellowships and family health activities.
