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### SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE

#### Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Boris N. GOUDIMA (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1986, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled:

"Special economic and disaster relief assistance:

"(a) Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator: report of the Secretary-General;

"(b) Special programmes of economic assistance: reports of the Secretary-General"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Committee considered this item at its 18th, 19th, 22nd, 23rd, 26th to 29th and 33rd to 35th meetings, on 21, 22, 24, 28, and 29 October and on 4, 12, 17, 19, 21 and 28 November 1986. The Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 18th, 19th, 22nd and 23rd meetings. An account of the Committee's discussions on the item is contained in the relevant summary records (see A/C.41/SR.18, 19, 22, 23, 26-29, 33-35).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator
- (i) Report of the Economic and Social Council 1/
- (ii) Report of the Secretary-General on the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (A/41/295-E/1986/65)
- (b) Special programmes of economic assistance
- (i) Report of the Economic and Social Council 1/
- (ii) Report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the special economic assistance programmes (A/41/308-E/1986/67)
- (iii) Report of the Secretary-General on international relief to Mexico (A/41/369 and Corr.1)
- (iv) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Democratic Yemen (A/41/395)
- (v) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Bangladesh (A/41/396)
- (vi) Report of the Secretary-General containing summary reports on special programmes of economic assistance to Djibouti, Madagascar, Mozambique and Vanuatu (A/41/522)
- (vii) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Nicaragua (A/41/538)
- (viii) Report of the Secretary-General containing summary reports on special programmes of economic assistance on Benin, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone (A/41/592)
- (ix) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Uganda (A/41/593)
- (x) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Mauritania (A/41/616)
- (xi) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon (A/41/679)
- (xii) Note by the Secretariat transmitting the text of a draft resolution entitled "Special programmes of economic assistance" recommended by Economic and Social Council decision 1986/165 for adoption by the General Assembly (A/C.2/41/L.8)

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/41/3), chap. VI, sect. A.

4. At the 18th meeting, on 21 October 1986, the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions and Co-ordinator for Special Economic Assistance Programmes, as well as the Deputy Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa of the United Nations Development Programme made introductory statements (see A/C.2/41/SR.18).

5. At the 19th meeting, on 22 October, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/41/SR.19).

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 28 October, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Relief Operations in Mexico also made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/41/SR.23).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

7. Informal consultations on all of the proposals were held under the chairmanship of Mr. Oscar R. de Rojas (Venezuela), Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

### A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/41/L.8 and L.39

8. By decision 1986/165 of 22 July 1986, the Economic and Social Council had recommended the text of a draft resolution entitled "Special programmes of economic assistance" for adoption by the General Assembly. The text of the draft resolution was before the Committee in document A/C.2/41/L.8.

9. At the 28th meeting, on 12 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.39) entitled "Special programmes of economic assistance" submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Oscar R. de Rojas (Venezuela), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.8.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.39 (see para. 46, draft resolution I).

### B. Draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.23

11. At the 27th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of Papua New Guinea, on behalf of Australia, Fiji, Japan, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Vanuatu, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.23) entitled "Assistance to Solomon Islands". Subsequently, Canada joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

12. At the 28th meeting, on 12 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.23 (see para. 46, draft resolution II).

13. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Solomon Islands made a statement (see A/C.2/41/SR.28).

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/41/L.27 and Rev.1 and 2

14. At the 27th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of Honduras, on behalf of Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama and Paraguay, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.27) entitled "Assistance to El Salvador". Subsequently, Niger joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Bearing in mind its resolution 41/2 of 14 October 1986 concerning emergency assistance to El Salvador,

"Recalling its resolutions 3440 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 on assistance in cases of natural disaster and other disaster situations, 36/225 of 17 December 1981 on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations system to respond to natural disasters and 37/144 of 17 December 1982 on the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator,

"Noting with satisfaction the support that Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have given to the efforts of the Government of El Salvador to render immediate assistance to the population affected by the natural disaster,

"Bearing in mind that, in recent years, the Salvadorian economy has been adversely affected by various events and natural disasters, such as the earthquake of 10 October 1986,

"Considering that, despite the efforts of the Government and people of El Salvador, the country's economic situation has not returned to normal,

"Deeply concerned that El Salvador is experiencing serious economic difficulties directly affecting its development efforts,

"1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts regarding immediate assistance to El Salvador;

"2. Expresses its appreciation also to the States and organizations that have provided assistance to El Salvador;

"3. Urges all Governments to continue contributing to the reconstruction and development of El Salvador;

"4. Appeals to all States and organizations of the United Nations system, primarily the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to provide all possible assistance to help the Government of El Salvador to meet the critical humanitarian needs of the population, in particular to provide, as appropriate, food, general and

specialized medicines, vaccines and essential equipment for hospitals and schools;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to exert every effort to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance for the reconstruction of hospitals, schools, clinics and other centres, making it possible to provide the necessary assistance to the most vulnerable groups of the population stricken by natural disasters;

"6. Invites the organizations of the United Nations system to continue and to increase their assistance in this endeavour;

"7. Invites the regional and interregional organizations, as well as the non-governmental humanitarian organizations, urgently to consider the establishment of a programme of assistance to the Republic of El Salvador and to implement it as soon as possible;

"8. Recommends that El Salvador should receive treatment appropriate to the special needs of the country until the economic situation returns to normal;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-second session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution."

15. At its 33rd meeting, on 19 November, the Committee had before it, as a result of informal consultations, a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.27/Rev.2), which incorporated the following changes:

(a) Operative paragraph 4 was reworded as follows:

"4. Appeals to all States and appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the World Bank, to continue and to increase their assistance in response to the humanitarian, reconstruction and development needs of El Salvador through existing mechanisms;"

(b) Operative paragraphs 5 and 6 were deleted;

(c) Operative paragraphs 7 and 8, now renumbered 5 and 6, were reworded as follows:

"5. Invites regional and interregional organizations, as well as non-governmental humanitarian organizations, urgently to consider the establishment of programmes of assistance to El Salvador, and to implement them as soon as possible;

"6. Invites concerned States and organizations to examine the possibility of extending to El Salvador special assistance appropriate to its needs;"

(d) Operative paragraph 9 was deleted;

(e) Two new operative paragraphs were added, as new operative paragraphs 7 and 8, as follows:

"7. Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to mobilize the technical, financial and material assistance required for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of El Salvador;

"8. Also requests the Secretary-General to keep the question of assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of El Salvador under review, and to inform the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1987, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution."

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.27/Rev.2 as revised (see para. 46, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.38

17. At the 28th meeting, on 12 November, the representative of Uganda, on behalf of Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania, Rwanda, Somalia, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.38) entitled "Assistance to Uganda". Subsequently, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Niger also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

18. At the 33rd meeting, on 19 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out revisions to the draft resolution, as a result of informal consultations. The revisions were as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 3, the word "annex" was replaced by the word "appendix";

(b) In operative paragraph 4, the words "in particular" between the words "international community" and "the United Nations system" were deleted;

(c) In operative paragraph 6, the words "in so far as possible" were inserted between the words "and increase" and "their current and future programmes";

(d) In operative paragraph 9, the words ", in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/\_\_\_," were added after the words "Requests the Secretary-General".

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.38 as orally revised (see para. 46, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.40

20. At the 28th meeting, on 12 November, the representative of Lebanon, on behalf of Australia, Bangladesh, France, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritanian, Oman, Qatar, Spain, the Sudan, Tunisia, the United States of America and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.40) entitled "Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon". Subsequently, Canada and Niger also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

21. At the 33rd meeting, on 19 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out revisions to the draft resolution, as a result of informal consultations. The revisions were as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 3, the words "Takes note of" were replaced by the words "Commends further";

(b) In operative paragraph 4, the words ", in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/\_\_\_," were inserted between the words "Secretary-General" and "to continue and intensify".

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.40 as orally revised (see para. 46, draft resolution V).

F. Draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.41

23. At the 28th meeting, on 12 November, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, the German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, India, Italy, Liberia, Madagascar, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Suriname, Swaziland, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.41) entitled "Assistance to Mozambique". Subsequently, Austria, Canada, the Congo, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Peru, Romania, Tunisia and Zaire, joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

24. At the 33rd meeting, on 19 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out revisions to the draft resolution, as a result of informal consultations. The revisions were as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 4, the words ", in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/\_\_\_:" were added after the words "Requests the Secretary-General";

(b) In subparagraph 4 (c), the word "sustained" between the words "on the basis of" and "consultations with the Government of Mozambique" was deleted.

25. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.41 as orally revised (see para. 46, draft resolution VI).

26. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Mozambique made a statement (see A/C.2/41/SR.33).

G. Draft resolutions A/C.2/41/L.54 and L.54/Rev.1

27. At the 29th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the Cameroon, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, China, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, France, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, the Sudan and Zaire, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.54) entitled "Special economic assistance to Chad", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 40/218 of 17 December 1985 and its previous resolutions on assistance in the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of Chad, emergency humanitarian assistance to Chad and special economic assistance to that country,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General <sup>2/</sup> on special economic assistance to Chad, relating, inter alia, to the economic and financial situation of Chad, the status of assistance provided for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country and the progress made in organizing and executing the programme of assistance for that country,

"Considering that the war and the drought are compromising all the efforts at reconstruction and development of the Government of Chad,

"Concerned by the recent invasion of locusts which has compounded the already precarious food and health situation in Chad, particularly that of the people displaced as a result of the war and the drought,

"Taking note of the numerous appeals launched by the Government of Chad and governmental and non-governmental organizations regarding the gravity of the food and health situation in Chad,

"Recognizing the need for emergency humanitarian assistance to Chad,

"Also recognizing the need for assistance in the reconstruction and development of Chad,

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<sup>2/</sup> A/41/592.



"Welcoming the conference of donors and contributors of funds held on 4 and 5 December 1985, in accordance with the arrangements agreed upon at the International Conference on Assistance to Chad, held in November 1982,

"1. Expresses its gratitude to the States and governmental and non-governmental organizations that responded and are continuing to respond generously to the appeals of the Government of Chad and of the Secretary-General by furnishing assistance to Chad;

"2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts to make the international community aware of the difficulties of Chad and to mobilize assistance for that country;

"3. Renews the request made to States, appropriate organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and international economic and financial institutions;

"(a) To continue to provide the necessary humanitarian assistance to the people of Chad who have suffered as a result of the war, of the effects of the drought, of locusts and of predators;

"(b) To continue to contribute to the reconstruction of Chad;

"4. Notes with satisfaction that the International Conference on Assistance to Chad was held on 4 and 5 December 1985, and invites the States and agencies to take part in the sectoral meetings scheduled at the Conference and to honour the commitments they made at the Conference;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General:

"(a) To continue his efforts to implement the interim development plan submitted at Geneva;

"(b) To assess, in close collaboration with the humanitarian agencies concerned, the humanitarian needs, particularly in the areas of food and health, of the people displaced by the war and the drought;

"(c) To mobilize special humanitarian assistance for persons who have suffered as a result of the war, the drought and the invasion of locusts and predators and for the resettlement of displaced persons;

"(d) To keep the situation in Chad under review and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-second session."

28. At its 33rd meeting, on 19 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.54/Rev.1), which was also sponsored by Japan, Senegal and the United States of America. Subsequently, Italy, Morocco, Nigeria, Togo and Tunisia also joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution. The revised draft resolution incorporated the following changes:

(a) The eighth preambular paragraph was reworded to read as follows:

"Welcoming the round table on assistance to Chad convened by the United Nations Development Programme on 4 and 5 December 1985, in accordance with the arrangements agreed upon at the international pledging conference on assistance to Chad held in November 1982,";

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the word "request" was replaced by the word "appeals";

(c) Subparagraph 3 (a) was reworded as follows:

"(a) To continue to provide the necessary humanitarian assistance to the people of Chad, who have suffered as a result of the war, the drought and the invasion of locusts and predators,";

(d) Operative paragraph 4 was reworded as follows:

"4. Notes with satisfaction that a round table on assistance to Chad was held on 4 and 5 December 1985, and invites States and agencies to take part in the sectoral meetings scheduled at the round table and to honour the commitments they made,";

(e) In operative paragraph 5, the words ", in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/\_\_\_" were added after the words "Requests the Secretary-General .

(f) Subparagraph 5 (a) was reworded to read as follows:

"(a) To continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Chad,".

29. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.54/Rev.1 as revised (see para. 46, draft resolution VII).

#### H. Draft resolutions A/C.2/41/L.52 and Rev.1 and 2

30. At the 29th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Zambia, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Cuba, Ethiopia, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.52) entitled "Special assistance to front-line States\*", which read as follows:

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\* Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

"The General Assembly,

"Deeply concerned about the deteriorating situation in southern Africa, which has aggravated the economic problems confronting the front-line States, arising from the apartheid policies of the Pretoria régime,

"Conscious of the responsibility of the international community to address the problems of the region,

"Commending the concerted and determined efforts of the countries of the region to cope with the prevailing adverse conditions by strengthening their economic co-operation and lessening their dependence on South Africa, particularly in the areas of transportation, communications and related sectors,

"Reaffirming the importance of close co-operation between the United Nations and the front-line States,

"Mindful of Security Council resolutions 568 (1985) of 21 June 1985, 571 (1985) of 20 September 1985, and 581 (1986), by which the Council, inter alia, requested the international community to render assistance to the front-line States,

"1. Strongly urges the international community to provide in a timely and effective manner the financial, material and technical assistance necessary to enhance the individual and collective capacity of the front-line States to withstand the effects of economic measures taken by or against South Africa, in accordance with their national and regional plans and strategies;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to mobilize organs and organizations of the United Nations system so that they may respond to such requests for assistance as might be forthcoming from individual States and appropriate subregional organizations;

"3. Appeals to all States and appropriate intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to give full support to the emergency programmes that have been prepared by the front-line States to overcome the critical problems arising from the situation in southern Africa;

"4. Notes with appreciation the assistance being rendered to the front-line States by donor countries and intergovernmental organizations;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-second session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution."

31. At its 34th meeting, on 21 November, the Committee had before it, as a result of informal consultations, a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.52/Rev.2), which the delegations of Argentina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, China, the Congo, Denmark, Finland, Ghana, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, the Sudan, Sweden and Uganda had also joined in sponsoring. Subsequently, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bolivia, the German Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mali, Nigeria, Romania, Rwanda and Swaziland also joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution. The revised draft resolution incorporated the following changes:

(a) The first preambular paragraph was reworded to read:

"Deeply concerned at the deteriorating situation in southern Africa, which has aggravated the economic problems confronting the front-line States and other bordering States, arising from the apartheid policies of the Pretoria régime,";

(b) Operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 were reworded to read as follows:

"1. Strongly urges the international community to provide in a timely and effective manner the financial, material and technical assistance necessary to enhance the individual and collective capacity of the front-line States and other bordering States, to withstand the effects of economic measures taken by South Africa or by the international community against South Africa, in accordance with their national and regional plans and strategies;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to mobilize organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system so that they may respond to such requests for assistance as might be forthcoming from individual States and appropriate subregional or regional organizations, and further urges all States to respond favourably to such requests;

"3. Appeals to all States and appropriate intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the national and collective emergency programmes prepared by the front-line States and other bordering States, to overcome the critical problems arising from the situation in southern Africa;".

32. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee, as a result of further informal consultations, read out, on behalf of the sponsors, oral revisions to operative paragraph 2 of the revised draft resolution. Operative paragraph 2, as further orally revised, read as follows:

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to mobilize organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system so that they may respond to such requests for assistance as might be forthcoming from individual States or the appropriate subregional organization, and further urges all States to respond favourably to such requests;".

33. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Mozambique and Zambia (see A/C.2/41/SR.34).

34. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted revised draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.52/Rev.2, as further orally revised, by 135 votes to none, with 1 abstention (see para. 46, draft resolution VIII).

35. After the adoption of the revised draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Ghana and Zambia (see A/C.2/41/SR.34).

I. Draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.55/Rev.1

36. At the 34th meeting, on 21 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Oscar R. de Rojas (Venezuela), on the basis of informal consultations, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.55/Rev.1) entitled "Assistance to Benin, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Democratic Yemen, Equatorial Guinea, Djibouti, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone and Vanuatu".

37. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution (see para. 46, draft resolution IX).

38. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany and Bolivia (see A/C.2/41/SR.34).

J. Draft resolutions A/C.2/41/L.22 and A/C.2/41/L.69

39. At the 26th meeting, on 29 October, the representative of Morocco, on behalf of Algeria, China, the Congo, Democratic Yemen, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guyana, Indonesia, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Somalia, Tunisia and Zaire, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.22) entitled "Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator". Subsequently, Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malta, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, by which it established the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and, inter alia, recognized the need to ensure prompt, effective and efficient responses, in times of natural disasters and other disaster situations, that would bring to bear the resources of the United Nations system, prospective donor countries and voluntary agencies,

"Recalling also its resolution 36/225 of 17 December 1981, by which it reaffirmed the mandate of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, called for the strengthening and improvement of the capacity and effectiveness of the Office, and stressed the need to ensure prompt delivery of concerted relief through an efficient and effective co-ordination system of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance,

"Recalling further its resolution 37/144 of 17 December 1982 and other relevant resolutions and decisions, including Economic and Social Council resolutions 1983/47 of 28 July 1983 and 1984/60 of 26 July 1984, in which the Assembly and the Council, inter alia, stressed the need to strengthen and improve the capacity and effectiveness of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in order to attain an effective co-ordination system of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance, and recognizing that, as a result of those resolutions and decisions, there is now in place a workable system to promote, facilitate and co-ordinate relief activities carried out by the United Nations system, in co-operation with Governments and voluntary agencies,

"Noting the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, 3/ as discussed by the General Assembly at its forty-first session,

"Convinced that the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator is in a special position, with adequate staff and facilities, to provide a world-wide system of mobilizing and co-ordinating disaster relief, including the collection and dissemination of information on disaster assessment, priority needs and donor assistance,

"Recognizing in this connection the importance of the contribution of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies and competent voluntary and non-governmental organizations,

"Recognizing also that the primary responsibility for administration, relief operations and disaster preparedness lies with the Governments of affected countries and that the major part of the material assistance and human effort in disaster relief comes from the Governments of those countries,

"Deeply concerned about the additional economic burden placed upon the developing countries by devastating natural disasters and other disaster situations, as well as the disruption of the development process in those countries,

"Appreciating the contributions made by donors in supporting international relief operations, including those made to the Trust Fund of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator,

"Recognizing that shortage of resources has been one of the major constraints on an effective response of the United Nations to disaster situations and continues to hamper the full achievement of the aim of a rapid and effective response to the needs of countries affected by disasters and that, if the shortage is to be overcome, efforts will be required by the international community to provide both funds and assistance in kind,

"Recalling in this regard its resolution 35/107 of 5 December 1980, in which it reaffirmed the necessity of ensuring a continued sound financial basis for the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator,

"Noting with appreciation that the agreements between the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, which define areas and means of co-operation, have helped to strengthen the collective response of the United Nations system to disasters,

"1. Welcomes the decision of the Secretary-General by which a working group was established to review the emergency response of the United Nations system and looks forward to receiving his recommendations;

"2. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator 4/ and of the statement made by the Co-ordinator before the Second Committee on 21 October 1986; 5/

"3. Reaffirms the sovereignty of individual Member States, recognizes the primary role of each State in caring for the victims of disasters occurring in its territory and stresses that all relief operations should be carried out and co-ordinated in a manner consistent with the priorities and

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4/ A/41/295-E/1986/65.

5/ A/C.2/41/Sk.19.

needs of the countries concerned, and that the material and other assistance provided by the international community should be appropriate to the particular needs of the populations of the disaster-affected areas;

"4. Recognizes the importance of disaster preparedness and prevention activities, and calls upon the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, Governments and organizations concerned to ensure that due priority attention is given to them;

"5. Reaffirms the mandate of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, established in Assembly resolution 2816 (XXVI) as a permanent office in the United Nations and a distinct element within the United Nations Secretariat reporting directly to the Secretary-General, to serve as the focal point in the United Nations system for disaster relief matters, and therefore calls for reinforcing and improving the capacity and effectiveness of the Office;

"6. Affirms that the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator plays an active role in executing United Nations Development Programme-assisted projects in the field of disaster preparedness;

"7. Reiterates its call to all Governments and competent organs and organizations to co-operate with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in order to improve, in particular, the flow of information to Governments and organizations concerned, so that a more complete picture of relief activities, assistance received and further requirements may be provided to all concerned;

"8. Calls upon those contributing assistance in kind to provide, when appropriate, special grants to cover the costs of transport and distribution of the assistance to and within the affected country;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General and the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to intensify their efforts to mobilize additional voluntary resources to meet the needs arising from disaster and emergency situations;

"10. Appeals to Governments for urgent voluntary contributions, channelled directly or through the Trust Fund of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, to enable the Office to cover, inter alia, unforeseen expenses in connection with disaster relief operations;

"11. Recommends that, as the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator phases out his responsibility for disaster relief co-ordination in a given country, he should contribute to ensuring the necessary transition to the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase by passing on relevant data to competent organs and agencies of the United Nations system;



"12. Emphasizes the essential need for the work of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to be placed and kept on a sound financial basis, and calls upon the international community to respond positively and expeditiously to the appeal of the Secretary-General for contributions to the Trust Fund to meet natural disasters and other disaster situations;

"13. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1988."

40. At the 35th meeting, on 28 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Oscar R. de Rojas (Venezuela) introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/41/L.69) entitled "Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator" on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.22.

41. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany and Norway (on behalf also of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden). The Secretary of the Committee also made a statement (see A/C.2/41/SR.35).

42. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.69 (see para. 46, draft resolution X).

43. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of New Zealand and Australia, as well as by the representative of Morocco (on behalf of the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.22). The Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation also made a statement (see A/C.2/41/SR.35).

44. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/41/L.69, the draft resolution in A/C.2/41/L.22 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

K. Reports of the Secretary-General on international relief to Mexico and on assistance to Bangladesh

45. At its 35th meeting, on 28 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee took note of the reports of the Secretary-General on international relief to Mexico (A/41/369 and Corr.1) and on assistance to Bangladesh (A/41/396) respectively (see para. 47, draft decision).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

46. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Special programmes of economic assistance

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the special programmes of economic assistance, 6/

Affirming the validity of the concept of special programme of economic assistance and the need to enhance their efficiency,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. Endorses the recommendation made by the Secretary-General that special programmes of economic assistance should be limited to countries genuinely in need of such assistance and to special circumstances falling outside the competence of the regular programmes of the United Nations system; 7/
3. Also endorses the recommendation that the special programme of economic assistance for a country should be of limited duration and should be terminated after the review mission and, where the special circumstances that gave rise to the special programme of economic assistance remain, any continuing assistance should then be channelled through the regular programmes of the systems; 7/
4. Recommends that efforts to transfer the implementation of the special programmes of economic assistance to other United Nations bodies should be continued, if practicable;
5. Affirms that special programmes of economic assistance should be drawn up in consultation with the recipient Governments concerned and recommends that the programmes should, as far as possible, be established and reviewed through the field offices of the United Nations system.

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6/ A/41/308-E/1986/67.

7/ Ibid., sect. III.B.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Assistance to Solomon Islands

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned at the devastation in Solomon Islands caused by cyclone "Namu" from 17 to 19 May 1986, which resulted in loss of life, destruction of housing and extensive damage to the economic and social infrastructures and to the agricultural, stock-farming, transport and industrial sectors,

Concerned at the negative impact of this damage on the development efforts of Solomon Islands,

Noting with appreciation the emergency assistance provided by several States, international and regional organizations, specialized agencies and voluntary agencies,

Noting the efforts of the people and Government of Solomon Islands to deal with the emergency situation and to initiate a reconstruction and rehabilitation programme,

Affirming the need for prompt and concerted international action to assist the people and Government of Solomon Islands in carrying out the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the affected regions and sectors,

1. Expresses its gratitude to the States, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental, non-governmental and voluntary organizations that provided assistance to Solomon Islands during the emergency;

2. Urges all States to participate generously through bilateral or multilateral channels in projects and programmes for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Solomon Islands;

3. Requests international organizations, in particular the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system, regional organizations and voluntary agencies to continue and increase their assistance in response to the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development needs of Solomon Islands;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to mobilize the financial, technical and material assistance needed for implementing the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development programme of Solomon Islands;

5. Further requests the Secretary-General to keep the question of assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Solomon Islands under constant review and apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1987, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Assistance to El Salvador

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its resolution 41/2 of 14 October 1986 concerning emergency assistance to El Salvador,

Recalling its resolutions 3440 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, on assistance in cases of natural disaster and other disaster situations, resolution 36/225 of 17 December 1981, on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations system to respond to natural disasters, and resolution 37/144 of 17 December 1982 on the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator,

Noting with satisfaction the support that Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have given to the efforts of the Government of El Salvador to render immediate assistance to the population affected by the natural disaster,

Bearing in mind that, in recent years, the economy of El Salvador has been adversely affected by various events and natural disasters, such as the earthquake of 10 October 1986,

Considering that, despite the efforts of the Government and people of El Salvador, the country's economic situation has not returned to normal,

Deeply concerned that El Salvador is experiencing serious economic difficulties directly affecting its development efforts,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts regarding immediate assistance to El Salvador;
2. Also expresses its appreciation to the States and organizations that have provided assistance to El Salvador;
3. Urges all Governments to continue contributing to the reconstruction and development of El Salvador through bilateral and multilateral channels;
4. Appeals to all States and appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the World Bank, to continue and to increase their assistance in response to the humanitarian, reconstruction and development needs of El Salvador through existing mechanisms;

5. Invites regional and interregional organizations, as well as non-governmental humanitarian organizations, urgently to consider the establishment of programmes of assistance to El Salvador and to implement them as soon as possible;

6. Invites concerned States and organizations to examine the possibility of extending to El Salvador special assistance appropriate to its needs;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, to mobilize the technical, financial and material assistance required for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of El Salvador;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General to keep the question of assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of El Salvador under review, and to inform the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1987, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

#### Assistance to Uganda

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions and decision 40/453 of 17 December 1985 on assistance to Uganda,

Recognizing that the Government of Uganda, which came to power in January 1986, is facing arduous tasks of rehabilitation and reconstruction following years of conflict that have resulted in tragic loss of life, ravaging of the country's socio-economic infrastructure and uprooting of large segments of its population,

Taking into account the Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation Programme launched by the Government in February 1986 and the interim macro-economic measures issued in July 1986,

Noting that a special programme of economic assistance has been formulated covering short-term emergency and rehabilitation needs, including restoration of services encompassing health, water and sanitation, education, housing, and roads and rehabilitation of the agriculture and livestock sectors, as well as productive industrial enterprises,

Recognizing that Uganda is not only land-locked, but also one of the least developed and most seriously affected countries,

Noting the appeals made by the Secretary-General for assistance to Uganda,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 8/ presenting a special programme of economic assistance for international funding, 9/

Reaffirming the urgent need for further international action to assist the Government of Uganda in its continuing efforts for national reconstruction, rehabilitation and development,

Encouraged that the economic policies of the Government of Uganda and the support assistance provided by the donor countries and international organizations have already produced positive signs of economic recovery,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the steps he has taken to mobilize assistance for Uganda;

2. Also expresses its appreciation to those States and organizations that have provided assistance to Uganda;

3. Endorses the assessment and recommendations contained in the appendix to the report of the Secretary-General;

4. Invites the international community, the United Nations system and donor countries and organizations, to make available more resources to implement the country's Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation Programme, the interim macro-economic measures and the special programme of economic assistance;

5. Urgently renews its appeal to all Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international economic and financial institutions to contribute generously, through bilateral and multilateral channels, to the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development needs of Uganda and to its emergency and rehabilitation requirements;

6. Requests the appropriate organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to maintain and increase in so far as possible their current and future programmes of assistance to Uganda and to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the steps they have taken and the resources they have made available to help that country;

7. Invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural

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8/ A/41/593.

9/ Ibid., annex, sect. V.

Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of Uganda and to report the decisions of those bodies to the Secretary-General;

8. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue his humanitarian assistance programmes in Uganda, in particular the task of repatriation and resettlement, which involves the return of refugees and displaced persons to their former habitat and the emergency provision to them of, inter alia, food, medicine, clothing and shelter;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/\_\_\_; 10/

(a) To continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Uganda;

(b) To keep the situation in Uganda under constant review, to maintain close contact with Member States, the specialized agencies, regional and other intergovernmental organizations and the international financial institutions concerned, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1987, of the current status of the special programme of economic assistance for Uganda;

(c) To report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-second session.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION V

##### Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/146 of 20 December 1978, 34/135 of 14 December 1979, 35/85 of 5 December 1980, 36/205 of 17 December 1981, 37/163 of 17 December 1982, 38/220 of 20 December 1983, 39/197 of 17 December 1984 and 40/229 of 17 December 1985,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/15 of 29 April 1980, 1985/56 of 25 July 1985 and 1986/46 of 22 July 1986, and decisions 1983/112 of 17 May 1983 and 1984/174 of 26 July 1984,

Noting with deep concern the continuing heavy loss of life and the additional destruction of property, which have caused further extensive damage to the economic and social structures of Lebanon,

Noting with concern the serious economic situation in Lebanon,

Welcoming the determined efforts of the Government of Lebanon in undertaking its reconstruction and rehabilitation programme,

Reaffirming the urgent need for further international action to assist the Government of Lebanon in its continuing efforts for reconstruction and development,

Considering that filling the vacant post of United Nations Co-ordinator of Assistance for the Reconstruction and Development of Lebanon would facilitate the normal operations of international assistance to Lebanon,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General 11/ and of the statement made on 22 October 1986 by the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs, 5/

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report and for the steps he has taken to mobilize assistance to Lebanon;

2. Commends the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs for his co-ordination of system-wide assistance for Lebanon;

3. Commends further the efforts undertaken by the Government of Lebanon in the implementation of the initial phase of reconstruction of the country, despite adverse circumstances, and of the steps it has taken to remedy the economic situation;

4. Requests the Secretary-General in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/\_\_\_, 10/ to continue and intensify his efforts to mobilize all possible assistance within the United Nations system to help the Government of Lebanon in its reconstruction and development efforts;

5. Invites the Secretary-General to consider the urgent need to nominate a United Nations Co-ordinator of Assistance for the Reconstruction and Development of Lebanon and the implementation of his functions therein;

6. Requests the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to intensify their programmes of assistance and to expand them in response to the needs of Lebanon, and to take the necessary steps to ensure that their offices at Beirut are adequately staffed at the senior level;

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



DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Assistance to Mozambique

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolution 386 (1976) of 17 March 1976 and General Assembly resolutions 31/43 of 1 December 1976, 32/95 of 13 December 1977, 33/126 of 19 December 1978, 34/129 of 14 December 1979, 35/99 of 5 December 1980, 36/215 of 17 December 1981, 37/161 of 17 December 1982, 38/208 of 20 December 1983, 39/199 of 17 December 1984 and 40/232 of 17 December 1985,

Considering that Mozambique still ranks among the first 15 countries most in need of international special assistance in the world, according to the summary report of the Secretary-General 12/ and the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, 4/

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

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

3. Appeals to the international community to continue to provide adequate financial, material and technical assistance to Mozambique;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/\_\_\_, 10/

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

(b) To keep the situation in Mozambique under constant review, to maintain close contact with Member States, the specialized agencies, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and other bodies concerned, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1988, of the current status of the special programme of economic assistance for Mozambique;

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

12/ A/41/522, sect. IV.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Special economic assistance to Chad

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 40/218 of 17 December 1985 and its previous resolutions on assistance in the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of Chad, emergency humanitarian assistance to Chad and special economic assistance to that country,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on special economic assistance to Chad, 13/ relating, inter alia, to the economic and financial situation of Chad, the status of assistance provided for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country and the progress made in organizing and executing the programme of assistance for that country,

Considering that the war and the drought are compromising all the reconstruction and development efforts of the Government of Chad,

Concerned at the recent invasion of locusts, which has compounded the already precarious food and health situation in Chad, in particular that of the people displaced as a result of the war and the drought,

Taking note of the numerous appeals launched by the Government of Chad and governmental and non-governmental organizations regarding the food and health situation in Chad,

Recognizing the need for emergency humanitarian assistance to Chad,

Also recognizing the need for assistance in the reconstruction and development of Chad,

Welcoming the round table on assistance to Chad convened by the United Nations Development Programme on 4 and 5 December 1985, in accordance with the arrangements agreed upon at the international pledging conference on assistance to Chad held in November 1982,

1. Expresses its gratitude to the States and governmental and non-governmental organizations that responded and are continuing to respond generously to the appeals of the Government of Chad and of the Secretary-General by furnishing assistance to Chad;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts to make the international community aware of the difficulties of Chad and to mobilize assistance for that country;

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13/ A/41/592, sect. IV.

3. Renews the appeals made to States, competent organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and international economic and financial institutions;

(a) To continue to provide the necessary humanitarian assistance to the people of Chad, who have suffered as a result of the war, the drought and the invasion of locusts and predators;

(b) To continue to contribute to the reconstruction of Chad;

4. Notes with satisfaction that a round table on assistance to Chad was held on 4 and 5 December 1985, and invites States and agencies to take part in the sectoral meetings scheduled at the round table and to honour the commitments they made;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/\_\_\_, 10/

(a) To continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Chad;

(b) To assess, in close collaboration with the humanitarian agencies concerned, the humanitarian needs, particularly in the areas of food and health, of the people displaced by the war and the drought;

(c) To mobilize special humanitarian assistance for persons who have suffered as a result of the war, the drought and the invasion of locusts and predators and for the resettlement of displaced persons;

(d) To keep the situation in Chad under review and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-second session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

Special assistance to front-line States\*

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned at the deteriorating situation in southern Africa, which has aggravated the economic problems confronting the front-line States and other bordering States, arising from the apartheid policies of the Pretoria régime,

Conscious of the responsibility of the international community to address the problems of the region,

Commending the concerted and determined efforts of the countries of the region to cope with the prevailing adverse conditions by strengthening their economic co-operation and lessening their dependence on South Africa, particularly in the areas of transportation, communications and related sectors,

Reaffirming the importance of close co-operation between the United Nations and the front-line States,

Mindful of Security Council resolutions 568 (1985) of 21 June 1985, 571 (1985) of 20 September 1985 and 581 (1986) of 13 February 1986, by which the Council, inter alia, requested the international community to render assistance to the front-line States,

1. Strongly urges the international community to provide in a timely and effective manner the financial, material and technical assistance necessary to enhance the individual and collective capacity of the front-line States and other bordering States, to withstand the effects of economic measures taken by South Africa, or by the international community against South Africa, in accordance with their national and regional plans and strategies;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to mobilize organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system so that they may respond to such requests for assistance as might be forthcoming from individual States or the appropriate subregional organization, and further urges all States to respond favourably to such requests;

3. Appeals to all States and appropriate intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the national and collective emergency programmes prepared by the front-line States and other bordering States, to overcome the critical problems arising from the situation in southern Africa;

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\* Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

4. Notes with appreciation the assistance being rendered to the front-line States by donor countries and intergovernmental organizations;

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

DRAFT RESOLUTION IX

Assistance to Benin, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Democratic Yemen, Equatorial Guinea, Djibouti, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone and Vanuatu

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/196 of 17 December 1984 on assistance to Haiti, as well as resolutions 40/215 on assistance to Democratic Yemen, 40/216 on assistance to Equatorial Guinea, 40/217 on assistance for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of the Central African Republic, 40/220 on assistance to Sierra Leone, 40/222 on special economic assistance to Benin, 40/223 on assistance to the Comoros, 40/224 on assistance to the Gambia, 40/225 on special economic assistance to Guinea-Bissau, 40/227 on assistance to Djibouti, 40/230 on assistance to Madagascar, 40/233 on economic assistance to Vanuatu, 40/234 on assistance to Nicaragua and 40/235 on special economic assistance to Guinea, all of 17 December 1985,

Having considered the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, 14/

Noting with satisfaction the financial, economic and technical support that Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional, interregional and intergovernmental organizations have provided to those countries,

Deeply concerned that those countries continue to face special economic and financial difficulties owing to a variety of factors,

Noting the efforts made by Democratic Yemen in its rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes pursuant to the devastating consequences caused by floods in 1982,

Noting the particularly difficult problems faced by island developing countries in responding to negative and special economic circumstances as referred to in resolution 41/\_\_\_, on specific measures in favour of island developing countries, 15/

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14/ A/41/395, A/41/522, A/41/538, A/41/592.

15/ See A/C.2/41/L.31.

Noting with concern that Vanuatu is an island developing country, that it is a geographically remote archipelago with a small but rapidly growing and unevenly distributed population, that it has a severe shortage of development capital and declining budgetary support from present donors, that its dependence on imports is overwhelming and that it has a scarcity of adequate transportation and communication links, all of which pose special development problems, making the provision of services difficult and entailing very high overhead costs,

Deeply concerned that Benin continues to experience serious economic and financial difficulties, characterized by a marked balance-of-payments disequilibrium, the heavy burden of its external debt and a lack of resources necessary for the implementation of its planned economic and social development programme,

Noting in particular that, despite the progress achieved recently in re-establishing economic stability, the situation in the Central African Republic remains precarious, as the Secretary-General emphasized in his report, 2/ which notes that the results achieved by the Government of the Central African Republic in the context of the national action programme it has adopted are encouraging, and that more external assistance is required to finance the remainder of the projects as indicated in table 2 of the report, and appealing to the international community, including international organizations, to participate at a high level of representation at the round table of the Central African Republic's development partners to be held at Bangui in December 1986,

Deeply concerned that the Comoros continues to face serious economic difficulties arising from its geographical isolation and scarcity of natural resources, compounded by the recent drought and frequent cyclones,

Noting also that adverse climatic conditions that impede any meaningful agricultural activities, the lingering effects of recurrent drought and the presence of large numbers of refugees have a devastating impact on the economic and social development of Djibouti,

Noting that the instability of export markets for the principal exports of Equatorial Guinea, coffee, cocoa and wood, have affected its ability to finance its pressing needs and bearing in mind that country's continuing need for international assistance to complement its own national development efforts,

Noting further that, owing to the lack of external financial assistance, the Government of the Gambia has not been able to implement the six projects recommended by the Secretary-General in his report submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session, 16/

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16/ A/39/392, para. 226.

Noting that Guinea continues to face serious difficulties in the implementation of its interim programme of economic rehabilitation for the period 1985-1987,

Noting in particular that, in spite of efforts of the Government of Guinea-Bissau to rehabilitate its economy, the economic and financial situation of the country, which has been worsened by drought and desertification, constitutes a handicap in the economic and social development process,

Noting that the Government of Haiti urgently requires international assistance to finance its Interim Programme of Development to enable it to reinforce the productive capacities of the country, reduce unemployment, promote education, reinforce health coverage and strengthen public administration,

Noting that Madagascar's economic and social development efforts are being thwarted by the adverse effects of the cyclones and floods that afflict that country periodically, particularly in December 1983 and in January and April 1984, and that the execution of reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes requires the mobilization of sizeable resources exceeding the country's real possibilities,

Noting also that, in recent years, the economy of Nicaragua has been adversely affected by various events and natural disasters, such as drought, the intense rains and floods of 1982, a sequence of natural disasters repeated during June, July, October and November 1985, and the drought of May, June and July 1986, all of which have worsened and impeded the normalization of its economic situation,

Noting further that the severe socio-economic problems experienced by Sierra Leone, manifested, *inter alia*, in a continuous decline, since 1980, in real gross domestic product per capita and investments, are intractable without urgent and generous international economic assistance, and that the Government of Sierra Leone recently introduced far-reaching stabilization and structural adjustment measures, including the floating of the national currency from June 1986, eliminating subsidies for petroleum products and rice, liberalizing the import licensing régime, and increasing producer prices of major agricultural commodities as an incentive for greater production,

Noting that Benin, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Sierra Leone and Vanuatu are classified as least developed countries,

Having heard the statements of Member States at the forty-first session on the situations currently prevailing in those countries,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the steps he has taken to mobilize resources for carrying out the special programmes of economic assistance to those countries;

2. Also expresses its appreciation for the assistance provided or pledged to those countries by Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional, interregional and intergovernmental organizations;
3. Further expresses its appreciation for the efforts undertaken by the Governments of those countries to overcome their economic and financial difficulties;
4. Notes with concern that the assistance made available to those countries has fallen short of their urgent requirements and that additional assistance is still needed;
5. Reaffirms the need for all Governments and international organizations to implement the commitments undertaken within the framework of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;
6. Appeals to Member States, international financial institutions, the specialized agencies and organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to respond generously and urgently to the needs of those countries as identified in the reports of the Secretary-General; 16/
7. Invites the international community to contribute to the special accounts established at United Nations Headquarters by the Secretary-General for the purpose of facilitating the channelling of contributions to the countries facing special difficulties;
8. Urgently appeals to all international organizations, in particular the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, regional organizations, humanitarian organizations and voluntary agencies to continue and increase, in so far as possible, their assistance in response to the reconstruction, economic recovery and development needs of those countries;
9. Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps, in collaboration with the programmes, organs and agencies of the United Nations system, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/\_\_\_ on special programmes of economic assistance, to provide assistance for all disasters, natural or otherwise, striking those countries and to mobilize the necessary resources to enable them to meet their short-, medium- and long-term needs;
10. Further requests the Secretary-General to keep the question of assistance to those countries and their economic situation under review and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.



DRAFT RESOLUTION X

Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, by which it established the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and, inter alia, recognized the need to ensure prompt, effective and efficient responses, in times of natural disasters and other disaster situations, that would bring to bear the resources of the United Nations system, prospective donor countries and voluntary agencies,

Recalling also its resolution 36/225 of 17 December 1981, by which it reaffirmed the mandate of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, called for the strengthening and improvement of the capacity and effectiveness of the Office, and stressed the need to ensure prompt delivery of concerted relief through an efficient and effective co-ordination system of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance,

Recalling further its resolution 37/144 of 17 December 1982 and other relevant resolutions and decisions, including Economic and Social Council resolutions 1983/47 of 28 July 1983 and 1984/60 of 26 July 1984, in which the Assembly and the Council, inter alia, stressed the need to strengthen and improve the capacity and effectiveness of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in order to attain an effective co-ordination system of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance, and recognizing that, as a result of those resolutions and decisions, there is now in place a workable system to promote, facilitate and co-ordinate, on a world-wide basis, relief activities carried out by the United Nations system, in co-operation with Governments and voluntary agencies, including the collection and dissemination of information on disaster assessment, priority needs and donor assistance,

Convinced of the distinct characters of immediate humanitarian emergency response and longer-term development assistance and of the need to respond to these in a co-ordinated manner, and noting in this regard the different nature and functions of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and the United Nations Development Programme,

Noting that the number of disasters to which the United Nations system was called upon to respond has increased from twelve in 1980 to fifty-three in 1985,

Recognizing in this connection the importance of the contribution of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other competent voluntary and non-governmental organizations,

Recognizing also that the primary responsibility for administration, relief operations and disaster preparedness lies with the Governments of affected countries and that the major part of the material assistance and human effort in disaster relief comes from the Governments of those countries,

Deeply concerned about the additional economic burden placed upon the developing countries by devastating natural disasters and other disaster situations, as well as the disruption of the development process in those countries,

Appreciating the contributions made by donors in supporting international relief operations, including those made to the Trust Fund of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator,

Recognizing that shortage of resources has been one of the major constraints on an effective response of the United Nations to disaster situations and continues to hamper the full achievement of the aim of a rapid and effective response to the needs of countries affected by disasters and that, if the shortage is to be overcome, efforts will be required by the international community to provide both funds and assistance in kind,

Recalling in this regard its resolution 35/107 of 5 December 1980, in which it reaffirmed the necessity of ensuring a continued sound financial basis for the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator,

Noting with appreciation that the agreements between the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, which define areas and means of co-operation, have helped to strengthen the collective response of the United Nations system to disasters,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator 4/ and of the statement made by the Co-ordinator before the Second Committee on 21 October 1986; 5/

2. Reaffirms the sovereignty of individual Member States, recognizes the primary role of each State in caring for the victims of disasters occurring in its territory and stresses that all relief operations should be carried out and co-ordinated in a manner consistent with the priorities and needs of the countries concerned, and that the material and other assistance provided by the international community should be appropriate to the particular needs of the populations of the disaster-affected areas;

3. Recognizes the importance of disaster preparedness and prevention activities, and calls upon the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, Governments and organizations concerned to ensure that due priority attention is given to them;

4. Reaffirms the mandate of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, established by the General Assembly in resolution 2816 (XXVI) as the focal point in the United Nations system for disaster relief co-ordination, and calls for reinforcing and improving the capacity and effectiveness of the Office, without prejudice to any decision taken by the General Assembly in the context of the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations; 3/

5. Affirms that the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator plays an active role in executing United Nations Development Programme-assisted projects in the field of disaster preparedness;

6. Reiterates its call to all Governments and competent organs and organizations to co-operate with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator in order to improve, in particular, the flow of information to Governments and organizations concerned, so that a more complete picture of relief activities, assistance received and further requirements may be provided to all concerned;

7. Calls upon those contributing assistance in kind to provide, when appropriate, special grants to cover the costs of transport and distribution of the assistance to and within the affected country;

8. Requests the Secretary-General and the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to intensify their efforts to mobilize additional voluntary resources to meet the needs arising from disaster and emergency situations;

9. Appeals to Governments for urgent voluntary contributions, channelled directly or through the Trust Fund of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, to enable the Office to cover contingency expenses in connection with disaster relief operation;

10. Recommends that, as the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator phases out his responsibility for disaster relief co-ordination in a given country, he should contribute to ensuring the necessary transition to the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase by passing on relevant data to competent organs and agencies of the United Nations system;

11. Emphasizes the essential need for the work of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to be placed and kept on a sound financial basis, and calls upon the international community to respond positively and expeditiously to the appeal of the Secretary-General for contributions to the Trust Fund to meet natural disasters and other disaster situations;

12. Welcomes the decision of the Secretary-General by which a working group was established to review the emergency response of the United Nations system in relation to the emergency situation in Africa;

13. Stresses in this regard the need to take into account the experience gained by the United Nations in responding to the emergency situation in Africa and other disaster situations in strengthening the functioning and capacity of the United Nations in the area of emergency assistance;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including a comprehensive review of the existing mechanisms and arrangements within the system for disaster and emergency assistance as well as co-ordination, to the General Assembly at its forty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1987.

47. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

DRAFT DECISION

Reports of the Secretary-General on international relief  
to Mexico and on assistance to Bangladesh

The General Assembly takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General on international relief to Mexico 17/ and on assistance to Bangladesh. 18/

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17/ A/41/369 and Corr. 1.

18/ A/41/396.