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Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Third Committee (part I)

Rapporteur: Mrs. GUNAWARDANA (Belgium)

1. The General Assembly, at its 1843rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1970, allocated to the Third Committee agenda item 12 entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council". The parts of the report that were referred to the Third Committee were the following: chapters VII (sections A, except paragraphs 234 to 239, and B), IX, X (section D), XI (sections A, K and M) and XIII (sections A and B).
2. The Committee, at its 1791st meeting on 17 November, decided to consider chapter XI, section M, entitled "Assistance in cases of natural disaster", as a matter of priority owing to the situation in East Pakistan.
3. At the same meeting, the Committee had before it, in connexion with this item, a draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1811) entitled "Assistance to Pakistan in connexion with the cyclone and tidal bore of November 1970". The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Turkey on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Ceylon, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, the Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Arab Republic, the United States of America, Yemen and Yugoslavia. The Assistant-Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs made a statement outlining the action already taken by the organs of the United Nations system following the cyclone and tidal bore.

4. The Third Committee, after expressing its deep grief over the disaster which had struck Pakistan, adopted the draft resolution unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

5. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Assistance to Pakistan in connexion with the cyclone and
tidal bore of November 1970

The General Assembly,

Deeply grieved over the immense loss of human life and destruction of property as a result of the recent severe cyclone and tidal bore in East Pakistan,

Recalling its resolution 2435 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1533 (XLIX) and 1546 (XLIX) of 23 and 30 July 1970,

Aware of the immediate and effective measures taken by the Government of Pakistan to provide relief for the victims of the disaster and to restore satisfactory living conditions in the devastated areas,

Aware also that the assistance envisaged in cases of natural disaster in its resolution 2435 (XXIII) is inadequate for relief in calamities of major magnitude,

Believing that assistance to a Member of the United Nations which has suffered a natural disaster of such magnitude is an expression of international solidarity,

Bearing in mind that immediate relief assistance on an international level should be followed by concerted action for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of the disaster area,

1. Expresses its deep sympathy to the people and the Government of Pakistan on the loss of life and the devastation caused by the recent disaster;

2. Appeals to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies and to governmental and non-governmental organizations to make generous contributions through the United Nations system or other channels for emergency relief to the victims of the disaster;

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3. Further requests the Secretary-General, Member States, specialized agencies, and other members of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the World Food Programme, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Monetary Fund and also the International Atomic Energy Agency and governmental and non-governmental organizations, to provide the largest possible volume of resources in order to assist the Government of Pakistan in implementing the programmes it envisages for rehabilitation, reconstruction and development in the afflicted area;

4. Invites the Secretary-General, in exercising his functions relating to natural disasters, to take steps to ensure the fullest possible co-ordination of the assistance to be provided through the United Nations, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to co-operate with other international sources of such assistance.
