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OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES
International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees
and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa
Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 45/137 of 14 December 1990, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa, held at Oslo from 22 to 24 October 1988 (A/45/480), and reaffirmed the need to continue the implementation of the Oslo Declaration and Plan of Action on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa adopted by the Conference (see A/43/717 and Corr.1 and Add.1). In that resolution, the General Assembly, inter alia, (a) called upon the international community to provide increased assistance to the countries of southern Africa to enable them to strengthen their capacity to provide the necessary facilities and services for the care and well-being of the refugees, returnees and displaced persons; and (b) urged all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and governmental and non-governmental organizations to undertake the measures required of them under the Oslo Declaration and Plan of Action.

2. The General Assembly also decided to consider the question at its forty-sixth session on the basis of a report to be submitted by the Secretary-General. The present report has been prepared in response to that decision.

II. ACTION TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO THE APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

A. Replies received from Member States

Belgium

The Government of Belgium is supporting two projects in southern Africa:

(a) Assistance is being provided for the resettlement of returnees in the Chtima valleys in the Tete province of Mozambique. The project is being implemented by the Development Cooperation Fund; the contribution of the General Administration for Development Cooperation is estimated at 6,791,400 Belgian francs, of which 3,440,000 were spent in 1989;

(b) Assistance is also being provided for the rehabilitation of returnees in the Espungabera area, again the form of a Development Cooperation Fund project. The participation of the General Administration for Development Cooperation amounts to 8,370,000 Belgian francs, of which 3,710,000 were expended in 1990.

Canada

1. Canada pledged and provided substantial assistance for refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees in the southern African region between April 1990 and March 1991, through a variety of multilateral,

bilateral and non-governmental channels. As one of the largest contributors to the core resources of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the World Food Programme (WFP), Canada provided considerable non-earmarked support through those agencies. Following is a summary of \$Can 14,740,422 in earmarked grants:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Beneficiary</u>	<u>Channel a/</u>	<u>Amount (\$Can)</u>
Angola	Internally displaced	CARE Canada	217 815
		ICRC	500 000
		UNICEF	750 000
		WFP	1 300 000
		World Relief	<u>417 470</u>
	Total		3 185 485
Malawi	Mozambique refugees	LRCS	470 000
		Save the Children	100 000
		UNHCR	2 500 000
		UNICEF	100 000
		WCC	200 000
		WFP	3 300 000
		World Vision	<u>150 000</u>
	Total		6 820 000
Mozambique	Internally displaced	COCAMO	194 937
		UNDRO	135 000
		UNICEF	750 000
		WCC	295 000
		World Vision	<u>2 000 000</u>
	Total		3 374 937
Regional	South Africa refugees	WCC	400 000
South Africa	Mozambique refugees	ICRC	180 000
		WCC	180 000
	Natal displaced	ICRC	100 000
		WCC	100 000
	Returnees	NCCR	<u>200 000</u>
	Total		760 000
Zimbabwe	Mozambique refugees	World Vision	200 000

a/ COCAMO Cooperation Canada Mozambique
 ICRC International Committee of the Red Cross
 LRCS League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
 NCCR National Coordinating Committee for Repatriation
 WCC World Council of Churches/Canadian Council of Churches

2. Canada pledged during this period \$Can 5,850,000 for the repatriation of South African refugees and the resettlement of returned refugees as well as political prisoners, but the great bulk of disbursements had to be postponed to fiscal year 1991/92 owing to political conditions.

China

1. In 1988, the Government of China contributed material assistance to Mozambique, worth RMB 800,000.
2. In 1990, the Government of China contributed 60 sets of sewing machines to Zimbabwe worth RMB 78,000.
3. The Government of China will contribute 6,000 suits of children's clothes to Namibia in 1991.

Ecuador

Ecuador, as a result of serious economic problems, has not been in a position to provide material or economic assistance to the independent States of southern Africa that are facing a critical situation as a result of the acts of aggression and destabilization committed by the Pretoria regime. Ecuador wishes to reiterate, however, that it has maintained an unshakeable and firm position of rejection of all forms of racial discrimination, and especially of the abominable system of apartheid, one of the unfortunate consequences of which is, precisely, that South African citizens who are struggling to establish a majority government, based on democratic principles, are subjected to the voluntary or forced abandonment of their country.

Ghana

The Government of Ghana has been giving material and other assistance through the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Liberation Fund, the OAU Emergency Disaster Relief Fund, the Africa Fund, and also on a bilateral basis to the countries of southern Africa in particular, and other deserving African countries in general, in order to mitigate the plight of refugees, returnees, displaced persons as well as to counter the effects of the destabilization policies of the apartheid regime of South Africa.

India

1. The assistance that India has been able to give to the countries of southern Africa to enable them to strengthen their capacity to provide the necessary facilities and services for the care of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in their countries is as follows:

(a) Aid given to the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) for the rehabilitation of returnees: India presented a cheque for \$US 5 million to Mr. Nelson Mandela, President of ANC during his visit to India, for the purpose of the rehabilitation of ANC members in exile;

(b) Aid package for Namibia: India has announced a total aid package of Rs. 200 million to be used for a variety of developmental projects;

(c) Assistance given under the Africa Fund: consumer durable valued at Rs 14.5 million, including beds, clothing material, tents, typewriters, mattresses, shoes, sleeping bags, stationery, kitchenware, sports goods, medicines, trucks and bicycles, were sent to ANC at Dar-es-Salaam in 1988.

2. Emergency supplies of consumer articles including bed linen, blankets, toiletries worth Rs 258,000 were sent to ANC at Dar-es-Salaam in February 1991.

3. The Government of India has undertaken a further project to assist ANC at Dar-es-Salaam and in Uganda through the supply of essential items like food, clothing, medicines, stationery, office equipment and vehicles, valued at Rs 20 million.

Netherlands

1. The Netherlands made available in 1990 an amount of approximately f.13 million to various emergency aid projects for the benefit of refugees and displaced persons in southern Africa.

2. In 1990, the Netherlands contributed f.450,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Southern Africa and made available f.550,000 through the intermediary of non-governmental organizations for the benefit of refugees and displaced persons coming from southern Africa.

New Zealand

New Zealand has contributed to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, the United Nations Fund for Namibia and the United Nations Trust Fund for the Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africans a total of \$NZ 80,000. New Zealand has also contributed an amount of \$NZ 85,000 to the "Skills for South Africa Programme".

Sweden

1. The Government of Sweden states that the fact that approximately half of Sweden's development assistance currently goes to sub-Saharan Africa is a clear reflection of the priority the Government of Sweden attaches to that region.

2. For the fiscal year 1990/91, an amount of around SKr 440 million (approximately \$US 70 million) was allocated for refugees, returnees and displaced persons in southern Africa, out of which:

(a) Around SKr 185 million was emergency assistance to Mozambique, directly as well as through the United Nations system (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP)) and through non-governmental organizations;

(b) Around SKr 55 million was emergency assistance to Angola, which has been channelled directly to the Government of Angola, as well as through the United Nations system (UNICEF, WFP, International Labour Organisation (ILO)) and through non-governmental organizations;

(c) Around SKr 200 million was given to refugees, displaced persons and returnees in southern African countries other than those mentioned above. This assistance has been channelled through the Governments concerned, ANC, non-governmental organizations, for example, churches and scholarship programmes, and the United Nations system, including its Trust Fund for South Africa.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

1. The United Kingdom continues to respond promptly and generously to the consequences of the continuing emergencies in the region. In 1989 the United Kingdom provided £9,406,000 to assist refugees, returnees and displaced persons in southern Africa. That included £3,253,000 to UNHCR for its work with refugees in Malawi, £710,000 to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for its work in Angola, food aid valued at £2,930,000 for Mozambique and £2,493,000 to voluntary agencies in Mozambique, Malawi, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Swaziland and the United Republic of Tanzania.

2. In 1990 the United Kingdom provided £8,549,000: £4 million to UNHCR for refugees in Malawi, £2,355,000 to voluntary agencies in Mozambique, food aid valued at £1,700,000 to Mozambique, and £100,000 to ICRC for its work in Angola and Mozambique.

3. So far in 1991, the United Kingdom has provided assistance of £6,169,000: £3 million to UNHCR for refugees in Malawi, £1,356,000 to voluntary agencies in Mozambique, and food aid valued at £1,400,000 to Mozambique.

4. The United Kingdom also committed almost £2 million per annum to projects under the auspices of the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, including several in southern African countries, and will continue at that rate in 1991. Also in 1989, the United Kingdom responded to appeals by UNHCR and WFP for returning refugees in Namibia with contributions

of £500,000 and £650,000, respectively. From 1989 to date, United Kingdom contributions towards humanitarian assistance in the countries that were the subject of the Oslo Conference totals some £24,124,000.

B. Action taken by the United Nations system

United Nations Secretariat

1. In addition to the activities of general coordination, the Secretariat takes action in those situations involving large numbers of displaced persons that require the Secretary-General to coordinate the work of a number of agencies, or which have a dimension requiring a political approach.
2. The Secretariat continues to maintain an inter-agency African Emergency Task Force, which monitors and assesses the situation in countries where emergencies have led to the creation of large numbers of displaced persons and/or refugees. The Task Force facilitates coordination of the implementation of programmes.
3. During the period under review, an inter-agency needs assessment mission was dispatched to Angola to review the emergency situation, which continued to generate large numbers of displaced persons. The mission produced a detailed report, reviewing the emergency needs sector by sector, which formed the basis for an appeal to donors by the Secretary-General for a Special Relief Programme for Angola designed to provide humanitarian assistance to Angolans on both sides of the civil conflict.
4. The Secretariat also assisted the Government of Mozambique with the preparation of an appeal document which was placed before a World Bank consultative group meeting.

United Nations Children's Fund

5. The responsibility of UNICEF to assist children and mothers in all difficult situations is at the core of its mandate. The Fund's country response depends on the specific situation it addresses and the overall framework of its regular programme. Assistance ranges from activities aimed at establishing critical household food security levels to the provision of vaccines, supplementary feeding and basic drugs to save the lives of children and mothers caught in many types of life-threatening situations. At the present time, however, the circumstances that trigger the Fund's emergency response are still defined as "situation of hardship and human suffering arising from events which cause physical loss or damage, social or economic disruption, or both with which the country or community concerned is unable to cope alone".

6. It is within the above context that UNICEF continues to coordinate closely with the assisted Governments, UNHCR and the other concerned United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations in planning and implementing its humanitarian programmes for refugees, returnees and the displaced population, which is accorded special attention.

7. Assistance to the above-mentioned groups is provided through acceleration of the regular country programme, appeals or release of funds from the UNICEF Emergency Reserve Fund.

8. In Angola, the Special Relief Programme set up in October 1990 continued until mid-1991 with UNICEF providing assistance for health and nutrition services for the improvement of water resources and supplies as well as providing relief and agricultural inputs both to internally displaced, war and drought affected areas. The programme is now being reorganized into an Accelerated Relief and Rehabilitation Programme for the whole of Angola in which UNICEF will be playing a part in the evolution of the post-war recovery period.

9. In March 1991, torrential rains in the Mulanje area of Malawi resulted in massive flooding, which devastated the entire town of Palombe and the surrounding villages. Over 20,000 persons were left homeless and 500 others died. At the request of the Government and in close collaboration with UNDP, UNICEF immediately responded to the situation through the provision of shelter material, water containers, operating room supplies, basic drugs and logistical support. Assistance was also extended to the affected refugee population in the disaster area.

10. UNICEF assistance continues to be provided to some 950,000 Mozambican refugees (almost 11 per cent of the total population) in Malawi. In agreement with UNHCR, UNICEF emergency support to refugee children and mothers is complementary to both UNICEF's regular programme activities as well as those of UNHCR. These interventions, which include health (especially the expanded programme of immunization), water and sanitation and programme support, are implemented in 1991 within the overall context of a UNICEF appeal of \$925,000.

11. The emphasis of UNICEF emergency programmes in Mozambique has been on the provision of seeds and tools for internally displaced peoples and returnees as well as strengthening its support of government services encompassing the rehabilitation of schools, health posts and water supplies. A special focus of the Mozambique programme is the care of children in difficult circumstances as well as providing institutional support to the Department for the Prevention of Natural Disaster.

12. In Namibia UNICEF has helped to alleviate a drought during 1990, which had caused severe food shortages and exacerbated the already chronic water shortages in many of the urban and rural areas. UNICEF continued to provide technical and material support to the National Drought Committee, and with WFP provided supplementary food to children assisted in a joint Council of Churches of Namibia project. Assistance to returnees and former exiles had

broadened into support also to the communities hosting them. This includes provision of primary health care supplies and agricultural inputs as well as consolidating the development of immunization into underserved areas.

13. In Zimbabwe, over 88,200 Mozambican refugees (the majority of whom are children and women) have been assisted by UNICEF to help them avert the health problems faced. Drugs, health equipment and supplies were provided. In addition, educational materials for primary education, literacy programmes and women's training activities were also brought in.

United Nations Development Programme

14. UNDP, mandated to strengthen the capacity of Governments to promote, manage and monitor programmes related to refugees, returnees and displaced persons, continued to participate in the formulation of development programmes related to displaced persons. As recommended by the Oslo Declaration and Plan of Action, UNDP resident representatives continue to serve as focal points within the United Nations system in the identification, formulation and implementation of rehabilitation, recovery and development programmes in the southern African countries of Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. UNDP has also been providing assistance to national liberation movements since 1976.

15. In the past year, several programmes and projects related to displaced persons (internal and external) have been approved and implemented. For example, in Angola, projects for agricultural extension and strengthening of production and marketing associations are being implemented. In Botswana, under a tripartite (UNDP/UNHCR/Government) agreement, some 50 low-cost community housing units are to be constructed. In Lesotho, the construction of two health centres is being completed. In Malawi, health, forestry, fuelwood supply and water projects have been implemented. The first phase of the health and the water projects have been funded by the Government of the United States. While UNDP from its Special Programme Resources funded the fuelwood supply project, the second phase of the health project is being funded by the Government of Greece through its "special contribution" of \$100,000 for assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in southern Africa allocated in response to General Assembly resolution 43/116 of 8 December 1988. In Swaziland, the construction of a high school co-financed by EEC and implemented by the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is completed at the Ndzevane Settlement. In the United Republic of Tanzania, health, road and cooperative development projects are in the process of being implemented. In Zambia, UNDP is currently implementing projects in:

(a) Aquaculture extension services in the North-Western Province;

(b) Training of community health workers and traditional birth attendants in Eastern Province;

(c) Extension of a project for marketing of honey and beeswax;

(d) Cattle disease control in Eastern Province. In collaboration with Africare, a non-governmental organization involved in the implementation of projects in Malawi and Zambia.

16. The country programmes in Angola and Mozambique recognize the dual focus of emergencies on one hand, and rehabilitation and development on the other. In view of that focus, major rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes are under way.

17. The resident coordinators play a coordinating role for assistance geared towards internally displaced persons, in close cooperation with Governments, local representatives of donors, the United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations in the field. UNDP collaborates with UNHCR in programme and project identification, formulation and implementation. During the past year, the two organizations have drawn up a joint work programme related to resource mobilization, identification of regions for particular cooperation, integrated training approaches and development of a database.

18. Moreover, recognizing the complexity of the task of bridging the gap between relief assistance and development, the Governing Council during its June 1990 session authorized the Administrator to spend up to \$500,000 from special programme resources for on-the-spot assessment of emergencies relating to displaced persons and refugees.

Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator

19. At the Luanda Conference on Assistance to Angola held in September 1989, UNDRO was requested to establish a computerized information system for contribution data. UNDRO, in response to that request, dispatched a computer expert to the Government of Angola's Technical Unit for Emergency Assistance. The project was completed at the end of November 1990. As a result, the Unit has established a reporting system to tally and monitor the pledges against the requirements enumerated in the appeal. The total project cost of \$US 58,295 was financed by the Governments of Sweden and the United Kingdom.

20. The presence of UNDRO in Mozambique has been continuous since the first international appeal for emergency assistance to Mozambique was launched in February 1987. UNDRO activities concentrated in the two areas:

- (a) strengthening local relief coordination by supporting the office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Emergency Relief Operations; and
- (b) carrying out operations in the relief and survival sector.

21. For relief coordination, an UNDRO delegate participated in inter-agency assessment missions and UNDRO produced and distributed a monthly report on requirements/contributions/unmet needs. For the appeal year 1990-1991 (May 1990-April 1991), UNDRO calculated that cash and in-kind contributions for the Mozambique emergency totalled \$US 134 million against the requirements

for the appeal year of \$136 million. In addition, UNDRO managed an aeroplane put at the disposal of officials involved with the emergency permitting them to reach areas otherwise inaccessible.

22. Operationally, UNDRO used its stockpile stored in the UNDRO warehouse at Maputo for distribution to recently identified displaced persons in need of urgent assistance. For the appeal year, \$1.6 million have been made available for the procurement and distribution of relief supplies. Distribution operations are now under way. For similar operations in the appeal year 1989-1990, approximately 260,000 displaced people benefited from UNDRO assistance. In addition to the assistance given to displaced persons, UNDRO has been giving training to Mozambican warehouse personnel of the Department for the Prevention and Combat of Natural Calamities, with whom UNDRO manages its stockpile. UNDRO is completing a documentary film showing the emergency seen from the perspective of a Mozambican warehouse worker. It is hoped that the documentary will give a deeper insight into the issues associated with the emergency and the development of the country.

23. UNDRO activities were made possible by cash contributions amounting to \$2 million from the Governments of Canada, Ireland, Italy, Sweden and Switzerland, and from the European Community.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

24. During the period 1990-1991, the continuing interest of UNHCR in and follow-up of the results of the International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa was reflected in the Office's normal activities and programming in the countries concerned.

25. The emergency preparedness profiles for Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zimbabwe were kept up to date and that for Mozambique completed. In continuation of its training programmes for relief assistance officials, a further multisectoral emergency management training seminar was held at Madison, Wisconsin, United States of America, in the last quarter of 1990. The seminar was attended by officials from non-governmental organizations and Governments and by UNHCR staff members. In addition to the activities of the Tripartite Voluntary Repatriation Commission (UNHCR, Mozambique and Malawi) various discussions were held with Governments and non-governmental organizations with a view to laying the groundwork for a systematic and orderly repatriation of the large numbers of Mozambican refugees in the neighbouring countries, whenever the conditions permit.

26. With regard to needs assessment and delivery of assistance, the Office made every effort, in spite of severe financial constraints, to ensure that at least minimal life-sustaining needs of refugees and returnees in the southern African region were met through careful prioritization of budgets. The programmes were assessed together with implementing partners and the concerned Governments. According to the Government of Mozambique, by the end of 1990 a total of 243,000 Mozambicans had returned to their country of origin. A new

appeal for Mozambican refugees and returnees in the region for the period from January to December 1991 was launched, for a total of \$35.8 million.

27. In Malawi, UNHCR continued to cooperate with the Government, UNDP and the World Bank in determining the additional financial burden placed on the economy as a result of the refugee presence in the country. That assessment formed part of the agenda at the 1990 Paris Club meetings on Malawi. A more detailed account of the situation in Malawi is contained in a separate report prepared by UNHCR pursuant to General Assembly resolution 45/159 (A/46/433).

28. In addition to the above-listed activities, UNHCR participated in various meetings of the Conference Steering Committee held in New York. Further, in meetings with OAU, topics related to the Oslo Conference have formed part of the agenda. As mentioned above, the Office continued to follow-up on these issues, through its normal protection and programming activities and in discussions with concerned organizations.

World Food Programme

29. WFP continued to play a key role in the purchase and shipment of food commodities for distribution to internally displaced persons in Mozambique and refugees in neighbouring countries. More than 1 million refugees in Malawi, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, approximately 300,000 displaced persons in Mozambique and 43,000 returnees in Namibia received food assistance from WFP. The Programme has used its own resources, but also acted on behalf of bilateral donors to purchase and transport food.

30. An important element in WFP assistance has been the use of cash resources for the purchase of food commodities in the region, in that way not only providing badly needed foreign exchange but also promoting local production. The triangular transactions under which WFP buys food in one developing country for distribution in another country amounted to 190,000 tons at a total value of \$34,000,000.

31. In addition, WFP resources have been committed in support of agricultural development, improvement of food security, self-help urban development, improvement of infrastructure and the development of human resources. WFP also provided non-food inputs to meet logistics requirements and played a lead coordinating role in the mobilization and distribution of food aid and logistics inputs.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

32. The FAO Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) intensified the monitoring of the plight of refugees and returnees in southern Africa and in its regular reports and special alerts communicated to the international community the serious food supply problems for nations hosting refugees. Special attention is given to Mozambican refugees in Malawi where the number

of refugees is increasing and for 1991 is estimated to average more than 900,000 people, putting a severe burden on the host country and the donor community alike. That burden is further compounded by dwindling cereal surpluses in the subregion, notably in Zimbabwe, which up to now has been the main source of food supply for the refugee populations. The necessity for the donor community to secure deliveries of cereal food aid from outside the subregion has been highlighted in the Special Report on the Food Supply Situation and Crop Prospects in Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as in a recent special alert on the food supply prospects in southern Africa.

33. In Angola, FAO is providing assistance through the execution of a project entitled "Emergency Assistance for Agricultural Rehabilitation". The project benefits refugees, returnees or displaced persons, even if it is not specifically oriented to their exclusive assistance. It provides inputs and equipment for the development of basic crops and for the rehabilitation of areas most affected by the civil war.

34. Another project, "Provision of Agricultural Inputs for Horticulture and Fruit Garden Rehabilitation", is due to start shortly. It will complement the assistance provided under the above-mentioned project.

35. In addition, an official request from the Government of Angola has just been received for the approval by FAO of a project with the following objectives:

(a) To assess the food and agriculture situation in drought-affected areas and those into which displaced persons have moved;

(b) To identify the requirements to support emergency relief and rehabilitation activities in favour of the aforementioned persons;

(c) To provide technical assistance to carry out such emergency relief and rehabilitation activities;

(d) To help alleviate the burden of support placed on the local population and the Government by the presence of the displaced persons by encouraging them to take up production activities in the food, agriculture and related sectors and assure equitable access of resources and services to both local and displaced persons;

(e) To take all possible measures to contain the potential harmful effects on the environment;

(f) In general, to carry out the role of FAO in the Special Relief Programme for Angola.

36. With regard to national liberation movements, since Namibia became independent in March 1990, FAO provided assistance during the period from March 1990 to March 1991 directly to one African national liberation movement recognized by OAU, namely, the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC).

37. Technical assistance was provided to PAC for longer-term development activities through the project "Assistance to PAC in Food Production at Masiguri-Kitonga in the United Republic of Tanzania".

38. Through that project, technical advisory and supervisory assistance has been provided by FAO to develop and establish a self-reliant capacity for food production for subsistence of PAC followers at the Masiguri-Kitonga Settlement. In the process, the experience so gained is expected to contribute to the preparation of PAC followers for agricultural production responsibilities when they ultimately return to South Africa.

39. In addition to the training of PAC members in various aspects of agricultural production and management, provision was made in the farm mechanization project for farm machinery, as well as training in its use and management.

40. In Mozambique, a project formulation mission (budget: \$27,000) on "Agricultural rehabilitation support to the displaced population in the Boane district" was fielded in December 1990; the mission's proposal is currently being assessed by FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme.

41. In Zambia, the objective of the project "Emergency supply of tools and agricultural inputs for the resettlement of refugees" (budget: \$250,000) in Zambia was to assist Angolan and Mozambican refugees in achieving self-sufficiency in food production.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

42. UNESCO has cooperated closely with UNHCR with a view to elaborating strategies involving UNESCO and its partner agencies in the World Conference on "Education for All" held at Jomtien. In addition, the special project "Contribution to the elimination of apartheid: towards an apartheid-free world" includes assistance for training refugees to members of ANC and PAC exiled from South Africa.

International Fund for Agricultural Development

43. Long before the plight of refugees and displaced persons in southern Africa became a matter of urgent concern to the international community, the continent of Africa as a whole and the sub-Saharan countries in particular had suffered economically as a result of prolonged drought and general economic degradation. Civil strife and the influx of refugees only added to the huge inventory of economic and social ills of many African countries. Aware of their unbearable burden, IFAD had been taking special initiatives to provide some measure of relief and had given increased impetus to its overall activities on the continent.

44. In accordance with the goals of an international development agency of the United Nations, IFAD programmes have always been development-oriented. Its special mandate, the alleviation of rural poverty in its member States, gives high priority to agricultural development and employment supporting the social and material well-being of rural people. Because in many areas of Africa refugees, displaced persons and returnees constitute the poorest segment of rural society, that mandate fits in well with international efforts to assist them.

45. The emphasis by IFAD on development in its determination to relieve their problems is thus in harmony with the concept of General Assembly resolution 44/137 of 15 December 1989 which states that "durable solutions for refugees in developing countries can, in many cases, be achieved through a development-oriented approach".

46. In 1986, when the tragic suffering of the rural poor and destitute, including refugees, and the continuing economic decline of many African countries engaged world attention, IFAD initiated its Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification with total resources of about \$300 million. The Special Programme sought to achieve the rehabilitation of the productive capacity of smallholders, the enhancement of the food security of households and communities and the setting in motion of projects for environmental protection. Twenty-two priority countries in sub-Saharan Africa, including southern Africa, are the beneficiaries of the programme. In view of the fact that 36 countries of sub-Saharan Africa are hosts to uprooted people, the IFAD initiative in launching the Special Programme was timely.

47. Short- and long-term activities under the Special Programme are all directed at helping the afflicted countries to achieve sustained growth in food production and the rehabilitation of their agricultural resource base. Short-term programmes aim at increasing the smallholders' production capacity by protecting them from the adverse effects of budgetary constraints that diminish their support services and by providing them with credit and agricultural supplies.

48. Long-term programmes of IFAD focus on environmental and institutional improvements. Soil and water conservation, irrigation schemes, agro-forestry, improved pasture and livestock-management, applied research and extension services are the major components of the measures taken to rehabilitate and enhance the production base of agriculture in the countries of the region. Those programmes have been supplemented by the strengthening of local institutions and the promotion of farmer groups and the informal sector.

49. Since the inception of the Special Programme in 1986, the following African countries have received concessionary loans under short- or long-term programmes: in 1986, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania and the Sudan; in 1987, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, the Niger, Uganda and Zambia; in 1988, Guinea, Lesotho, Mali, Senegal and the Sudan; in 1989, Angola, the Gambia, Mauritania, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania; and in 1990, Cape Verde, Ghana and Kenya.

50. Under the Spécial Programme, and by 1990, IFAD had approved five loans of \$59.86 million to support projects in Angola, Lesotho, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. In addition to those activities under the Special Programme, at the end of 1990, IFAD had made loans under its regular lending programmes to the countries of southern Africa amounting to more than \$175.92 million (\$177.5 million including grants for 1990) for 16 projects, most of which were on highly concessional terms. IFAD's financial contributions helped mobilize an additional \$120.64 million from external donors and \$122.19 million from the recipient countries.

51. Southern Africa has benefited from the IFAD Agricultural Management Training Programme, which aims at improving the smallholders' sector. The Programme will enable a number of returnees to acquire the necessary skills to become self-reliant.

52. Where IFAD has been unable to reach refugees, returnees and displaced persons directly, collaboration with non-governmental organizations that possess operational ability has helped IFAD to do so indirectly. The outreach capacity of non-governmental organizations has proved useful on several occasions under difficult circumstances, especially in cases where uprooted people have been involved.

53. Thus, a number of non-governmental organizations have become collaborators in IFAD projects, particularly those in Africa, both as consultants and co-financiers. Such collaboration was envisaged in the agreement establishing IFAD, section 2, article 8 of which states that "the Fund shall cooperate closely, inter alia, with NGOs". Broad guidelines for this cooperation were established by the IFAD Executive Board in 1984.

54. With the advent of the Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification in 1986, the scope of IFAD collaboration with non-governmental organizations was widened. Efforts are being made to involve them when it is appropriate and acceptable to Governments concerned. Collaboration with non-governmental organizations was further strengthened with the initiation of the IFAD/NGO Extended Cooperation Programme, under which support is provided to their activities that have potential application to IFAD projects.

55. At present, IFAD is collaborating with a number of non-governmental organizations in the Central African Republic, the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe and Zaire.

56. In search of a better approach to the problem of how best to assist uprooted people during the initial emergency period as well as over the long-term to become productive and self-reliant, IFAD and UNHCR entered into a cooperation agreement in 1988, thus establishing a creative linkage between the humanitarian and development approaches. IFAD and UNHCR, which seeks to provide protection and render assistance to refugees and returnees, and to find durable solutions to their daunting problems, share many common objectives. Their target groups are largely the same, particularly in Africa,

where most uprooted people are to be found in rural areas. With common goals and a common target group, IFAD and UNHCR can cooperate usefully in mobilizing resources for the identification, preparation, appraisal and implementation of projects for people in southern Africa as they are already doing for Afghan refugees in Iran, Guatemalans in Mexico and Somali displaced persons in Ethiopia.

57. IFAD has participated in the meetings and deliberations of the Africa Fund Committee, which was established in 1986 to support the front-line States against the possible repercussions of the economic sanctions imposed against South Africa on whose infrastructure they were dependent. Governments as well as international organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations have either pledged assistance or identified specific areas in which they can render assistance to donors or recipients.

58. IFAD initially earmarked \$50 million through its Special Programme for Africa for co-financing projects in the front-line States with Africa Fund donors. In the absence of project proposals, other than that for the smallholders rehabilitation programme in Mozambique, from Africa Fund recipients, however, the Special Programme for Africa proceeded to utilize directly the \$50 million.

59. At the sixth Senior Officials Meeting of the Africa Fund Committee held at Lusaka, IFAD was able to identify several potential activities in Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia, as well as Namibia, which is planning to become a member State of IFAD. That progress was further consolidated at the seventh Senior Officials Meeting held in Namibia in December 1990. The Africa Fund allocated \$100,000 to finance project development in collaboration with IFAD in the front-line States. Informal agreements were reached with Algeria, India, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Norway to co-finance projects with IFAD through the Africa Fund in Angola, Mozambique and Namibia. A Tripartite Informal Understanding between IFAD, the Africa Fund and UNDP is expected to be signed shortly that will further strengthen inter-agency cooperation in addressing the issue of increasing economic opportunities for the region's destabilized population.

60. Through its regular and special lending operations, IFAD has taken a development-oriented approach in order to improve the income-generating opportunities of refugees, displaced persons and returnees. To reach them directly it has collaborated when appropriate with UNHCR and non-governmental organizations in designing projects that offer training and employment to the uprooted persons.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

61. Although UNIDO does not have a specific programme aimed at refugees, returnees and displaced persons, the Organization has endeavoured to assist the South African liberation movements recognized by OAU. As a result, one project each for ANC and PAC, both aimed at supporting and strengthening their respective repair and maintenance facilities in their camps in the United Republic of Tanzania, are under implementation. Furthermore, as a consequence of the broad technical assistance of UNIDO in supporting and strengthening industrial development in the southern African countries, with the overall aim of generating employment and alleviating poverty, refugees, displaced persons and returnees should benefit as the economies of the host countries are strengthened.

C. Action taken by other intergovernmental organizations

European Community

62. The European Community recognizes the problems confronted by refugees, returnees and displaced persons; there is specific provision for them in the Lomé Conventions and notably article 255 of the Lomé IV Convention.

63. Since the beginning of 1990, there has been support for refugees and returnees in several countries of southern Africa:

(a) In Mozambique, a programme totalling 12.7 million ECU began in 1990. It contributes towards meeting the needs of displaced persons through a variety of non-governmental organizations. It has medical, agricultural, emergency relief and water supply components;

(b) In Angola, 745,000 ECU was allocated for agricultural activities of displaced persons, and some 1 million ECU has been accorded for medical relief;

(c) The refugee problem in Malawi is particularly intense, with some 900,000 refugees from Mozambique, some 11 per cent of the population. EEC has granted some 13.5 million ECU refugee aid since 1988, to strengthen local health structures, repair and maintain access roads, bore wells for drinking-water and other inputs. These facilities are open to needy Malawians as well as refugees.

64. The situation has been complicated by a cholera outbreak, amounting to some 3,000 cases so far. The Community provided 570,000 ECU in November 1990 for medicines and medical equipment, shelter materials, sanitation and other logistic equipment.

65. In Zimbabwe, three projects totalling 1.5 million ECU and focusing on assistance to Mozambican refugees (art. 204 of Lomé III) are presently being implemented.

66. Swaziland has received the following assistance under article 204:

(a) ECU 730,000 for the construction and equipment of a new secondary school and ancillary buildings for 12,000 Mozambican and South African refugees at Mdzevane;

(b) ECU 750,000 for the transfer of Mozambican refugees to the Malindza Refugee Centre and expansion of the camp to accommodate 10,000 further refugees from Mozambique;

(c) ECU 35,000 for a study on livelihood strategies for Mozambican refugees in Swaziland.

67. Under the EEC special programme on South Africa there has been provided to Swaziland:

(a) Assistance to Mozambican refugees and local South African communities: 375,000 ECU;

(b) First response to immediate needs of returning South African exiles: 400,000 ECU.

68. Another budget line aims to give support to the front-line States and to the member States of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC). Projects covered under that budget line must be designed to counteract the destabilization measures undertaken in the region and to contribute to the needs of displaced persons living in the region. Allocated budgets are the following:

(Millions of ECU)

1988	5.2
1989	7.0
1990	15.0
1991	17.0

69. Additional support has been provided for displaced people and refugees through food aid and emergency aid. The Community is eager not to differentiate displaced persons and refugees from the societies in which they live, and is prepared to envisage combining support for them with support through the national indicative programmes of the countries in which they have taken refuge.
