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EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION OF LIBERIA

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Martin RAKOTONAIVO (Madagascar)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1991, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "International assistance for the economic and social rehabilitation of Liberia" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.
2. The Second Committee considered the item, together with the following questions:
 - "Report of the Economic and Social Council: Critical humanitarian situation in the Horn of Africa", under item 12;
 - "International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction", under item 83;
 - "Special economic and disaster relief assistance:
 - (a) Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator;
 - (b) Special programmes of economic assistance", under item 84; and
 - "International assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola", under item 85.
3. The cluster of items was considered at the 26th to 29th meetings, on 31 October and 1 November. Action on item 91 was taken at the 42nd and 52nd meetings, on 15 and 27 November. An account of the Committee's general

discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/46/SR.26-29, 42 and 52). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 9th meetings, from 1 to 4 October 1991 (A/C.2/46/SR.3-9).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on emergency assistance for the economic and social rehabilitation of Liberia (A/46/403).

5. At the 26th meeting, on 31 October, introductory statements were made by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship (see A/C.2/46/SR.26).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.2/46/L.43

6. At the 42nd meeting, on 15 November, the representative of Gabon, on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group, Barbados, Belgium, Mexico, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and subsequently joined by Jamaica, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/46/L.43), entitled "Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia", and orally revised it, as follows:

(a) In the sixth preambular paragraph, the word "demobilization" was replaced by "encampment and disarmament";

(b) In operative paragraph 5 (b), the word "Government" was replaced by "authorities".

7. At the 52nd meeting, on 27 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Bozorgmehr Ziaran (Islamic Republic of Iran), informed the Committee that, as a result of informal consultations, it had been agreed to add the words "and their families" after the word "combatants", in operative paragraph 3.

8. The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.43, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 11).

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Liberia made a statement.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

11. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly, the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Assistance for the rehabilitation and
reconstruction of Liberia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/232 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling also the statement of the Security Council of 21 February 1991 on the situation in Liberia, in which the Council, inter alia, welcomed the regional initiative of the Economic Community of West African States and called for international support for those efforts aimed at a peaceful settlement of the conflict,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on emergency assistance for the economic and social rehabilitation of Liberia, 1/

Noting that, despite the efforts made to provide assistance for the Liberian refugees, the situation with regard to the displaced persons and the returnees remains precarious,

Noting with deep concern the devastating effects of the conflict on the Liberian economy and the urgent need to rehabilitate basic sectors of society in order to restore normalcy,

Welcoming the recent agreement reached at the fourth meeting of the Committee of Five and other members of the Standing Mediation Committee of the Economic Community of West African States in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, on the immediate encampment and disarmament of combatants and for the holding of democratic elections, 2/

1. Expresses its gratitude to the States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have responded and continue to respond to the appeals by the Government of Liberia and the Secretary-General for emergency assistance;

2. Expresses also its gratitude to the Secretary-General for his efforts in mobilizing the international community, the United Nations system

1/ A/46/403.

2/ Final Communiqué of the Fourth Meeting of the Committee of Five on the Liberian Crisis, held in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, 29-30 October 1991.

and other organizations to provide emergency assistance to Liberia, and urges that such assistance be continued, as necessary;

3. Calls upon the international community and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide Liberia with technical, financial and material assistance for the repatriation and resettlement of Liberian refugees, returnees and displaced persons and for the rehabilitation of combatants and their families, as provided for in the national action plans, which constitute important elements for facilitating the holding of democratic elections in Liberia;

4. Further calls upon the international community, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide adequate assistance to programmes and projects identified in the report of the Secretary-General; 1/

5. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue his efforts to coordinate the work of the United Nations system and to mobilize financial, technical and material assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia;

(b) To undertake, in close collaboration with the authorities of Liberia, an overall assessment of needs, with the objective of holding as soon as possible a round-table conference of donors for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia, as a basis for the earliest resumption of the process of development;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.
