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Thirty-sixth session  
Agenda item 69 (k)DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION:  
HUMAN SETTLEMENTSReport of the Second Committee (Part XI)Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed OULD SID'AHMED (Mauritania)

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 69 (see A/36/694, para. 2). Action to be taken on subitem (k) was considered at the 25th, 28th, 31st, 35th, 39th and 40th meetings of the Committee, on 27 and 30 October and 6, 11, 13 and 16 November 1981. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/36/SR.25, 28, 31, 35, 39 and 40).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

1. Draft resolutions A/C.2/36/L.13 and A/C.2/36/L.69

2. At the 25th meeting, on 27 October, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.13), entitled "International Year of Shelter for the Homeless", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 35/76 of 5 December 1980, in which it expressed the view that an international year devoted to the problems of homeless people in the urban and rural areas of the developing countries would be an appropriate occasion to focus the attention of the international community on those problems,

"Recognizing the grave and generally worsening situation of the homeless in the developing countries,

"Emphasizing that the building, improvement and maintenance of shelter, related physical infrastructure and social facilities can contribute significantly to national development,

"Convinced of the imperative need to mobilize effectively the considerable skills and resources that the homeless themselves possess for building, improving and maintaining their own shelter and neighbourhoods,

"Convinced that, because of their complexity and magnitude, the problems of the homeless require co-ordinated and concerted action at all levels,

"Confident that an international year of shelter for the homeless would serve to increase public awareness at the local, national, regional and global levels and set in motion a process which would lead to significant improvement in the situation of the homeless,

"Aware that, for an international year of shelter for the homeless to be successful, adequate preparation and the support of Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the public at large would be required,

"Noting with satisfaction the follow-up action so far taken by Member States on the implementation of the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements 1/ and the support being provided by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to developing countries to facilitate that action,

"Recalling in that connexion its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on the question of international years and anniversaries,

"Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 B of 24 July 1981 on the proposal to declare an international year of shelter for the homeless,

"1. Decides to declare 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and that financing of the Year should be based in principle on voluntary contributions;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the administrative and financial implications of holding the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in 1987, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, through the Commission on Human Settlements at its fifth session and the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982;

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1/ See Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum).

"3. Designates the Commission on Human Settlements as the United Nations intergovernmental body responsible for organizing the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

"4. Requests the Commission on Human Settlements at its fifth session to formulate, for consideration by the General Assembly, a specific programme of measures and activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless on the basis of the draft programme to be prepared by the Secretary-General and to submit its first report on the Year to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

"5. Appeals to all States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the public at large to support the preparations for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and to make generous contributions to them."

3. At its 40th meeting, on 16 November, the Committee considered a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.69) submitted by Mr. Gerben Ringnalda, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.13. In introducing draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.69, the Vice-Chairman orally revised operative paragraph 1 by replacing the words "will be" with the word "are".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.69, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution I).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.69, draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.13 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

## 2. Draft resolutions A/C.2/36/L.25 and A/C.2/36/L.55

6. At the 28th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of Argentina, Bangladesh, Canada, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Kenya, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, the Philippines and Sweden, introduced three draft resolutions (A/C.2/36/L.25), under the general title "Human settlements". India and New Zealand subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolutions, which read as follows:

"A

### "Report of the Commission on Human Settlements

#### "The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977 on institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements and 34/116 of 14 December 1979 on the strengthening of human settlements activities,

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"Recalling also its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

"Further recalling the adoption in 1976 of the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements and the other recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 2/

"Affirming the importance of the promotion of human settlements development as a distinct and specific policy measure for the attainment of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

"Reaffirming that human settlements development should be viewed and taken into account in the context of national plans and priorities and the development of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

"Recognizing that the Commission on Human Settlements has continued to address itself effectively to substantive issues in the field of human settlements of priority concern to Member States, particularly developing countries,

"Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 A of 24 July 1981 on international co-operation in the field of human settlements,

"Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its fourth session, 3/

"1. Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its fourth session;

"2. Welcomes resolution 4/1 of 6 May 1981, entitled "Manila Communiqué on Human Settlements Movement", adopted by the Commission at its fourth session;

"3. Urges the Commission on Human Settlements to continue to take account of and to provide adequate support to technical co-operation among developing countries in the formulation and implementation of its programmes on human settlements.

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2/ Ibid.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/36/8).

"B

"Renewable sources of energy for human settlements

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 33/148 of 20 December 1978, 34/190 of 18 December 1979 and 35/204 of 16 December 1980 on the convening of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy,

"Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 C of 24 July 1981 on renewable sources of energy for human settlements,

"Taking note also of the report of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, held at Nairobi from 10 to 21 August 1981, 4/

"1. Welcomes the contributions made by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to the preparations for and success of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy;

"2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to take the appropriate steps for the implementation of those recommendations of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy within the mandate of the Centre.

"C

"Mobilization of financial resources for the United Nations  
Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 35/77 D of 5 December 1980, in which it urgently appealed to all States and appropriate financial institutions to make or increase their voluntary contributions in support of the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),

"Noting the continued need for financial resources for the full implementation of the projected activities of the Centre under the work programme for the biennium 1982-1983 and the draft medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 approved by the Commission on Human Settlements at its fourth session,

"Noting also Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 A of 24 July 1981, particularly paragraphs 4 and 5 thereof, on the need for adequate financing for the Centre's project activities,

"Expressing its appreciation to those Governments that have so far made financial contributions for the activities of the Centre,

"Reiterates its urgent appeal to Member States to continue and, if possible, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and to those that have not yet contributed, particularly developed countries and other countries in a position to do so, to make voluntary contributions in support of the activities of the Centre."

7. At its 39th meeting, on 13 November, the Committee had before it three draft resolutions (A/C.2/36/L.55) submitted by Mr. Gerben Ringnalda, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on the draft resolutions contained in document A/C.2/36/L.25.

8. At the same meeting, the Chairman informed the Committee that as a result of further consultations the operative paragraph of draft resolution C, which read as follows:

"Reiterates its urgent appeal to Member States to continue and, if possible, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and to those that have not yet contributed, particularly developed countries and other countries in a position to do so, to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in support of the activities of the Centre",

should be replaced with the following text:

"Reiterates its urgent appeal to Member States to contribute and, if possible, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in support of the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and appeals to those that have not yet contributed, particularly developed countries, and other countries in a position to do so, also to make voluntary contributions".

9. The Committee then adopted draft resolutions A to C contained in document A/C.2/36/L.55, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolutions II A to C).

10. In the light of the adoption of the draft resolutions in document A/C.2/36/L.55, draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.25 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

11. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics made a statement.

### 3. Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.31/Rev.1

12. At the 31st meeting, on 6 November, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic on behalf of Afghanistan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Djibouti, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Indonesia, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mali, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the United Arab

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Emirates, Yemen and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/36/L.31/Rev.1) entitled "Living conditions of the Palestinian people". Subsequently Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Cuba, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, the Sudan and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

13. A statement by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.31/Rev.1 was circulated in document A/C.2/36/L.41.

14. At the 35th meeting, on 11 November, the representative of Jordan proposed that in operative paragraph 1 the words "with satisfaction" after the words "Takes note" should be deleted. The amendment was accepted by the sponsors.

15. The representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Israel, Jordan and Iraq made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

16. The Committee then adopted draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.31/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 98 to 2, with 26 abstentions (see para. 18, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burma, Canada, Central African Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

17. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Japan, the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States members of the European Community).

### III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

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

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION I

##### International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/76 of 5 December 1980, in which it expressed the view that an international year devoted to the problems of homeless people in urban and rural areas of the developing countries would be an appropriate occasion to focus the attention of the international community on those problems,

Recognizing the grave and generally worsening situation of the homeless in the developing countries,

Emphasizing that the building, improvement and maintenance of shelter, related physical infrastructure and social facilities can contribute significantly to national development,

Convinced of the imperative need to mobilize effectively the considerable skill and resources that the homeless themselves possess for building, improving and maintaining their own shelter and neighbourhoods,

Also convinced that, because of their complexity and magnitude, the problems of the homeless require co-ordinated and concerted action at all levels,

Confident that an international year of shelter for the homeless could serve as a means of increasing public awareness at the local, national, regional and global levels and set in motion a process which would lead to significant improvement in the situation of the homeless,

Considering that human settlements activities constitute an important policy measure for the attainment of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Noting with satisfaction the follow-up action so far taken by Member States on the implementation of the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on

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Human Settlements, 5/ and the support being provided by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to developing countries to facilitate that action,

Recalling in that connexion its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on the question of international years and anniversaries,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 B of 24 July 1981 on the proposal to declare an international year of shelter for the homeless,

1. Decides, in principle, to designate 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, on the understanding that the criteria for financing and organizing international years set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 are complied with;

2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to prepare a proposal containing a specific programme of measures and activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and to report to the Economic and Social Council through the Commission on Human Settlements;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, on the basis of the above-mentioned proposal, a report on the organizational matters regarding the holding of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in 1987, including the availability of voluntary funds, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session through the Economic and Social Council during 1982;

4. Appeals to all States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the public at large to indicate appropriate support for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

## DRAFT RESOLUTION II

### Human settlements

#### A

#### Report of the Commission on Human Settlements

##### The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977 on institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements and 34/116 of 14 December 1979 on the strengthening of human settlements activities,

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5/ See Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum).

Recalling also its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Further recalling the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976 and the other recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 6/

Affirming the importance of the promotion of human settlements development as a distinct and specific policy measure for the attainment of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Reaffirming that human settlements development should be viewed and taken into account in the context of national plans and priorities and the development of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

Recognizing that the Commission on Human Settlements has continued to address itself effectively to substantive issues in the field of human settlements of priority concern to Member States, particularly developing countries,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 A of 24 July 1981 on international co-operation in the field of human settlements,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its fourth session, 7/

1. Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its fourth session;

2. Welcomes resolution 4/1 of 6 May 1981 entitled "Manila Communiqué on a Human Settlements Movement", adopted by the Commission on Human Settlements at its fourth session; 8/

3. Urges the Commission on Human Settlements to continue to take account of and to provide adequate support to technical co-operation among developing countries in the formulation and implementation of its programmes on human settlements.

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6/ Ibid.

7/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/36/8).

8/ Ibid., annex I, resolution 4/1.

B

Renewable sources of energy for human settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/148 of 20 December 1978, 34/190 of 18 December 1979 and 35/204 of 16 December 1980 on the convening of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 C of 24 July 1981 on renewable sources of energy for human settlements,

Taking note also of the report of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, held at Nairobi from 10 to 21 August 1981, 9/

1. Welcomes the contributions made by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to the preparations for and success of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy;

2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to take the appropriate steps for the implementation of those recommendations of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy within the mandate of the Centre.

C

Mobilization of financial resources for the United Nations  
Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/77 D of 5 December 1980, in which it urgently appealed to all States and appropriate financial institutions to make or to increase their voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in support of the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),

Noting the continued need for financial resources for the full implementation of the protected activities of the Centre under the work programme for the biennium 1982-1983 and the draft medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 approved by the Commission on Human Settlements at its fourth session, 10/

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9/ Report of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Nairobi, 10 to 21 August 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.I.24).

10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/36/8), annex I, decisions 4/17 and 4/18.

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Noting also Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 A of 24 July 1981, particularly paragraphs 4 and 5 thereof, on the need for adequate financing for the project activities of the Centre,

Expressing its appreciation to those Governments that have so far made financial contributions for the activities of the Centre,

Reiterates its urgent appeal to Member States to contribute and, if possible, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in support of the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and appeals to those that have not yet contributed, particularly developed countries and other countries in a position to do so, also to make voluntary contributions.

### DRAFT RESOLUTION III

#### Living conditions of the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, 11/ and the relevant recommendations for national action 12/ adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

Recalling also resolution 3, entitled "Living conditions of the Palestinians in the occupied territories", contained in the recommendations for international co-operation adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 13/ and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2026 (LXI) of 4 August 1976 and 2100 (LXIII) of 3 August 1977,

Recalling further its resolutions 3236 (XXIX) and 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 31/110 of 16 December 1976, 32/171 of 19 December 1977, 33/110 of 18 December 1978, 34/113 of 14 December 1979 and 35/75 of 5 December 1980,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people; 14/

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11/ See Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum), chap. I.

12/ Ibid., chap. II.

13/ Ibid., chap. III.

14/ A/36/260 and Add.1, 2 and 3.

2. Denounces Israel for refusing to allow the Group of Experts on the Social and Economic Impact of the Israeli Occupation on the Living Conditions of the Palestinian People in the Occupied Arab Territories 15/ to visit the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel;

3. Condemns Israel for the deteriorating living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories;

4. Affirms that the elimination of the Israeli occupation is a prerequisite for the social and economic development of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories;

5. Recognizes the need for a comprehensive report on the deterioration in the social and economic conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive and analytical report on the deteriorating living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General, in preparing the above-mentioned report, to consult and co-operate with the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people.

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15/ For the report of the Group of Experts, see A/35/533 and Corr.1, annex I.