



General Assembly

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Agenda item 20 (b)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

India and Senegal: draft resolution

Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/169 A of 16 December 1997,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹

Deeply concerned about the current conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which poses a serious threat to regional peace and security,

Reaffirming the obligation for respect for the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the other States in the region and the need for all States to refrain from any interference in each other's internal affairs,

Alarmed at the plight of the civilian population throughout the country, and calling for its protection,

Urging all parties to respect and protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular, the Geneva Conventions of 1949² and the additional protocols of 1977,³

Deeply concerned about the extensive destruction of life and property as well as the severe damage to infrastructure and the environment suffered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

¹ A/53/538.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

Bearing in mind that the Democratic Republic of the Congo also suffers from the problems encountered by a country that has received thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries,

Recalling that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a least developed country with severe economic and social problems arising from its weak economic infrastructure and aggravated by the ongoing conflict,

Also bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and security and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its damaged economy and in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

1. *Calls* for a peaceful solution to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including an immediate ceasefire, the withdrawal of all foreign forces, the initiation of a peace process, including negotiations to end the conflict, and a political dialogue with a view to national reconciliation;

2. *Supports* regional diplomatic initiatives aimed at a peaceful settlement of the conflict;

3. *Encourages* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to pursue sound macroeconomic policies and to promote good governance and the rule of the law, and urges the Government and the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to exert all efforts for economic recovery and reconstruction despite the ongoing armed conflict;

4. *Renews* its invitation to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other organizations in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction, stresses the need for the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to assist and protect the civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons within the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, regardless of their origin, and reaffirms the need for respect for the provisions of international humanitarian law, in particular the safety of humanitarian personnel, and safe and unhindered access to all affected populations;

5. *Renews* its urgent appeal to the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to keep under consideration the special needs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) *To continue* to consult urgently with regional leaders, in coordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, about ways to bring about a peaceful and durable solution to the conflict;

(b) *To keep* under review the economic situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to promoting participation in and support for a programme of financial and material assistance to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to enable it to meet its urgent need for economic recovery and reconstruction;

(c) *To submit* to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution.