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OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Naoharu FUJII (Japan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 18 September 1981, the General Assembly decided to include in its agenda the item entitled:

"Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees:

- (a) Report of the High Commissioner;
- (b) International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa: report of the Secretary-General."

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered this item at its 50th, 52nd to 55th, 59th and 60th meetings, from 16 to 18 and on 24 November 1981. The views expressed by the representatives of Member States and of a specialized agency are contained in the summary records of those meetings (A/C.3/36/SR.50, 52-55, 59 and 60).

3. The Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; 1/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/36/12) and Supplement No. 12 A (A/36/12/Add.1).

(b) International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa: report of the Secretary-General (A/36/316);

(c) Report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter XXII (A/36/3/Add.22); 2/

(d) Letter dated 29 December 1980 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/61);

(e) Letter dated 5 January 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/66-S/14323);

(f) Letter dated 19 January 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/77);

(g) Letter dated 27 January 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/82-S/14345);

(h) Letter dated 25 February 1981 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines to the Secretary-General (A/36/111-S/14386);

(i) Letter dated 25 February 1981 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of two paragraphs on Kampuchea contained in the Final Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries held at New Delhi from 9 to 12 February 1981 (A/36/113-S/14388 and Corr.1);

(j) Letter dated 3 March 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/118-S/14392);

(k) Letter dated 25 March 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/152-S/14420);

(l) Letter dated 14 April 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/203);

(m) Letter dated 26 August 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/457-S/14649);

(n) Letter dated 28 August 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/463-S/14667);

2/ To be incorporated in Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/36/3/Rev.1).

(o) Note verbale dated 23 September 1981 from the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/552-S/14706);

(p) Letter dated 30 October 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/640);

(q) Letter dated 12 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/672).

(r) Note verbale dated 25 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/723-S/14775).

(s) Letter dated 27 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/735-S/14775).

4. At the 50th meeting, on 16 November, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees made an introductory statement on the item.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.56 and Corr.1 and Rev.1

5. The Committee had before it a draft resolution (A/C.3/36/L.56 and Corr.1) entitled "International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa", sponsored by Benin on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the African Group, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 35/42 of 25 November 1980 relating to the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA),

"Taking note of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) resolution 868 (XXXVII) regarding the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees and on its follow-up - adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh session in Nairobi, Kenya, from 15-26 June 1981,

"Having considered the reports of the United Nations Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa,

"Gravely concerned at the growing number of refugees on the African continent, who now constitute over half the population of refugees in the world,

"Noting with regret the gross inadequacy of the assistance provided to the growing number of African refugees,

"Aware of the economic and social burden imposed on African countries of asylum by the growing influx of refugees and its consequences for their development, and of the heavy sacrifices made by them, despite their limited resources, to alleviate the plight of those refugees,

"Thus recognizing the need of the countries of asylum for adequate human, technical and financial assistance to enable them properly to shoulder their increased responsibilities and assume the additional burden which the presence of refugees represents for their economies,

"Further recognizing the need to assist similarly the countries of origin in the voluntary repatriation and resettlement of returnees as set out in the procedures of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

"Convinced that the participation of high-ranking officials and representatives of 99 countries and over 120 non-governmental organizations in ICARA bears evidence to the fact that the Conference drew international public attention to the situation and needs of African refugees,

"1. Commends the initiative taken by the three co-sponsors of ICARA, namely the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to maintain their close co-operation to properly define the follow-up actions that will be called for, and invites them to continue and develop their tripartite consultations and co-operation at all appropriate levels, so that the Conference funds are channelled to priority projects and put to the best use;

"2. Reiterates its congratulations to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his efforts towards the preparation of ICARA in close consultation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as for his personal concern for African refugee problems and for the very able manner in which he presided over the Conference, thus bringing it to a successful end;

"3. Expresses its appreciation and gratitude to all the donor countries and to the international community at large for their very positive response to the appeal for assistance to African refugees, and for their contributions to the assistance to refugees in Africa;

"4. Urges the international community to continue to support the annual programmes of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and of other United Nations agencies co-operating with that Office on behalf of refugees in Africa;

"5. Calls upon the pertinent development-oriented organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to envisage, at the stages of conception and implementation, all concerted efforts and co-ordinated actions aimed at harmonizing assistance programmes in the countries of asylum as well as in the countries of origin, during the repatriation process and current or future development programmes, so that the potentialities of refugees or returnees may constitute an advantage rather than a burden on national development;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General in close co-operation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to convene at Geneva in 1983, at a ministerial level, an international review conference to consider the progress achieved on the basis of ICARA and to provide maximum financial and material assistance to refugees in Africa;

"7. Invites governmental bodies of United Nations specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to consider, within their sphere of competence, various ways and means to increase substantially this assistance to African refugees and returnees;

"8. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in close co-operation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to keep under constant review the situation of refugees in Africa in order to ensure maximum international assistance on a global basis;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. At the 59th meeting, on 24 November, the representative of Benin introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/36/L.56/Rev.1) on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the African Group.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.56/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.58 and Rev.1

8. The Committee had before it a draft resolution (A/C.3/36/L.58) entitled "Report of the High Commissioner", sponsored by Australia, Austria, Botswana, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Iceland, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Somalia, and Sweden, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office, as well as the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner on its thirty-second session, and having heard the High Commissioner's statement,

"Recalling its resolutions 35/41 and 35/42 dated 8 and 4 December 1980 respectively,

"Expressing deep concern at the persistence and gravity of the problems of refugees and displaced persons in the world, particularly in different parts of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe,

"Noting with great appreciation the positive response of Governments to the problems of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner through offers of asylum, voluntary repatriation, resettlement, rehabilitation and financial contributions, as well as the generous support given to the Office of the High Commissioner in its humanitarian task,

"Reaffirming the eminently humanitarian and non-political character of the High Commissioner's activity,

"Extending its congratulations to the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees for the award of the 1981 Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of their work for refugees,

"Considering further the continuing and urgent need for a substantial international effort to promote durable solutions to the problems of refugees and displaced persons drawing particular attention to women and children refugees, the disabled and the elderly refugees,

"Noting with satisfaction that a growing number of States have acceded to the 1951 United Nations Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the status of refugees,

"Noting with great concern that despite an increasingly broad understanding of the principles of international protection, refugees still encounter serious difficulties in many parts of the world in obtaining asylum and that they are exposed to the threat of refoulement, arbitrary detention and physical violence,

"Deploring, in particular, the instances of military attacks on refugee camps in southern Africa and elsewhere and physical attacks on asylum seekers at sea,

"Drawing attention to the problem of refugees rescued at sea and the difficulties encountered for their disembarkation, involving threats of refoulement,

"Welcoming the success achieved by the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA) held in Geneva in April 1981, as a first step in arousing world-wide interest and support for refugees in Africa,

"1. Commends the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his staff for the manner in which they have continued to discharge their

responsibilities for protecting and assisting refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office;

"2. Takes due note of the proposals made by the High Commissioner and generally endorsed by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner to strengthen the management of his services also bearing in mind the widest possible representation in the staff of his Office; and welcomes the intention to seek the assistance of the Administrative Management Service in undertaking expeditiously a review of the managerial methods and organizational structure of his Office, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

"3. Calls upon the international community to share the burden of assisting refugees and displaced persons the world over;

"4. Reaffirms the fundamental nature of the High Commissioner's function to provide international protection and the importance of promoting durable and speedy solutions in consultation with the countries concerned, through voluntary repatriation and subsequent assistance in rehabilitation, integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in other countries of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the High Commissioner;

"5. Urges Governments to intensify their support for activities which the High Commissioner is carrying out in accordance with his mandate and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, especially by:

(a) Facilitating the High Commissioner's efforts in the field of international protection in particular by scrupulously observing the principle of asylum and non-refoulement, and by protecting asylum seekers in situations of large-scale influx, as endorsed by the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner at its thirty-second session;

(b) Supporting his efforts to promote, in co-operation with Governments, United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations, durable and speedy solutions to the problems of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office;

"6. Urges governments to co-operate in the repression of piracy on the high seas in accordance with their international obligations and to take appropriate action to protect asylum-seekers from acts of violence at sea;

"7. Notes with great concern the serious humanitarian problems resulting from armed attacks on refugee camps and settlements which are the concern of UNHCR and the need for special measures to protect and ensure the safety of such refugees;

"8. Welcomes the measures taken to implement the recommendations on the subject of assistance to women refugees and displaced women of concern to the High Commissioner in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United

Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women and in resolution A/RES/35/135 of 28 January 1981;

"9. Commends the High Commissioner for his special efforts on behalf of disabled refugees on the occasion of the International Year for Disabled Persons;

"10. Requests the High Commissioner to continue participating in the follow-up of the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA) and urges the international community to maintain the momentum gained by ICARA in providing assistance to refugees in Africa commensurate with the growing number of African refugees;

"11. Urges the High Commissioner to provide humanitarian assistance to meet the needs of the vastly increased numbers of refugees in various regions of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe;

"12. Stresses the importance of maintaining the relief efforts and the resettlement momentum for boat and land cases in South-East Asia and urges all Governments to provide opportunities for durable solutions to these refugees;

"13. Urges the High Commissioner to explore further elaboration of arrangements in order to facilitate the prompt and unhindered disembarkation of asylum-seekers rescued at sea;

"14. Reaffirms the High Commissioner's leading responsibility in emergency situations regarding refugees and his role as a co-ordinator in this field and commends him for the considerable progress made in the elaboration of adequate procedures to meet emergency situations, in co-ordination with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

"15. Requests the High Commissioner, while carrying out his responsibilities, to closely co-ordinate and co-operate with other organizations within and outside the United Nations system for greatest efficiency of relief in the case of major emergencies;

"16. Urges all Governments in a position to do so to contribute generously in order to provide the High Commissioner with the necessary means to attain the objectives of his humanitarian programme."

9. At the 60th meeting, on 24 November, the representative of Norway introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/36/L.58/Rev.1), sponsored by Australia, Austria, Barbados, Botswana, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Somalia, the Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden and Thailand, and further revised it orally as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 3, the following words were added at the end of the paragraph: "taking into account the economic and demographic absorptive capacity of the host countries";

(b) In operative paragraph 6, the words "to co-operate in the repression of" between the words "Urges governments" and the word "piracy" were replaced by the words "to join in greater international efforts in the suppression of";

(c) In operative paragraph 13, the words "and resettlement" were inserted between the word "disembarkation" and the words "of asylum-seekers".

10. At the same meeting, the representative of Norway accepted a suggestion of the representative of Ethiopia to replace, at the end of operative paragraph 3 as further revised, the words "the host countries" by the words "the countries concerned", and further revised the draft resolution accordingly.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.58/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution II).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

12. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/42 of 25 November 1980 relating to the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa,

Taking note of resolution CM/Res. 868 (XXXVII) regarding the Conference and its follow-up adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh session, held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 June 1981, 3/

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Conference 4/ and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office, 5/

3/ See A/36/534, annex I.

4/ A/36/316.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/36/12).

Gravely concerned at the growing number of refugees on the African continent, who now constitute over half the population of refugees in the world,

Regretting that, in spite of the efforts made, the assistance provided to an increasing number of African refugees is still very inadequate,

Aware of the economic and social burden imposed on African countries of asylum by the growing influx of refugees and its consequences for their development and of the heavy sacrifices made by them, despite their limited resources, to alleviate the plight of those refugees.

Recognizing therefore the need of the countries of asylum for adequate human, technical and financial assistance to enable them properly to shoulder their increased responsibilities and assume the additional burden which the presence of refugees represents for their economies,

Recognizing further the need to assist similarly the countries of origin in the voluntary repatriation and resettlement of returnees, as set out in the procedures of the Office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees,

Convinced that the participation of high-ranking officials and representatives of 99 countries and over 120 non-governmental organizations in the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa bears evidence to the fact that the Conference drew international public attention to the situation and needs of African refugees,

1. Commends the initiative taken by the three sponsors of the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa - the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees - to maintain their close co-operation properly to define the follow-up actions that will be called for, and invites them to continue and develop their tripartite consultations and co-operation at all appropriate levels, so that the Conference funds are channelled to priority projects and put to the best use;

2. Reiterates its congratulations to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his efforts towards the preparation of the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa in close consultation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as for his personal concern for African refugee problems and for the very able manner in which he presided over the Conference, thus bringing it to a successful end;

3. Expresses its appreciation and gratitude to all donor countries and to the international community at large for their very positive response to the appeal for assistance to African refugees and for their contribution to the assistance to refugees in Africa;

4. Urges the international community to continue to support the annual programmes of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and of other United Nations agencies co-operating with that Office on behalf of refugees in Africa;

5. Calls upon the pertinent development-oriented organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to envisage, at the stages of conception and implementation, all concerted efforts and co-ordinated actions aimed at harmonizing assistance programmes in the countries of asylum as well as in the countries of origin during the repatriation process and current or future development programmes, so that the potentialities of refugees or returnees may constitute an advantage rather than a burden on national development;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in close co-operation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to keep the African refugee situation under close and constant scrutiny and to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982 a report containing up-to-date information on the condition of refugees in the countries concerned in order to facilitate consideration by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session of the necessity of convening an international conference in 1983 to review the status of contributions and commitments made at the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, and to assess the needs and measures for further assistance for refugees and returnees in implementation of programmes for their relief, rehabilitation and resettlement;

7. Invites governmental bodies of specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to consider, within their sphere of competence, various ways and means to increase substantially assistance to African refugees and returnees;

8. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in close co-operation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to keep under constant review the situation of refugees in Africa in order to ensure maximum international assistance on a global basis;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office, 6/ as well as the report of the Executive

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/36/12).

Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner on its thirty-second session, 7/ and having heard the High Commissioner's statement, 8/

Recalling its resolutions 35/41 A and B and 35/42 of 25 November 1980,

Expressing deep concern at the persistence and gravity of the problems of refugees and displaced persons in the world, particularly in different parts of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe,

Noting with great appreciation the positive responses of Governments to the problems of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner through offers of asylum, voluntary repatriation, resettlement, rehabilitation and financial contributions, as well as the generous support given to the Office of the High Commissioner in its humanitarian task,

Reaffirming the eminently humanitarian and non-political character of the activity of the Office of the High Commissioner,

Extending its congratulations to the Office of the High Commissioner for the award of the 1981 Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of its work for refugees,

Considering the continuing and urgent need for a substantial international effort to promote durable solutions to the problems of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner through voluntary repatriation or return and resettlement, drawing particular attention to women and children refugees, and disabled and elderly refugees,

Noting with satisfaction that a growing number of States have acceded to the 1951 Convention 9/ and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, 10/

Noting with great concern that, despite an increasingly broad understanding of the principles of international protection, refugees still encounter serious difficulties in many parts of the world in obtaining asylum and that they are exposed to the threat of refoulement, arbitrary detention and physical violence,

Deploring, in particular, the instances of military attacks on refugee camps in southern Africa and elsewhere and physical attacks on asylum-seekers at sea,

7/ Ibid., Supplement No. 12 A (A/36/12/Add.1).

8/ See A/C.3/36/SR.50.

9/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545, p. 137.

10/ Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791, p. 267.

Drawing attention to the problem of refugees rescued at sea and the difficulties encountered for their disembarkation, involving threats of refoulement,

Welcoming the success achieved by the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, held at Geneva on 9 and 10 April 1981, as a first step in arousing world-wide interest and support for refugees in Africa,

1. Commends the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his staff for the manner in which they have continued to discharge their responsibilities for protecting and assisting refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office;

2. Takes due note of the proposals made by the High Commissioner 11/ and generally endorsed by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner 12/ to strengthen the management of his Office on the basis of the principles and guidelines of the General Assembly - and welcomes his intention to seek the assistance of the Administrative Management Service in undertaking expeditiously a review of the managerial methods and organizational structure of his Office, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 13/

3. Calls upon the international community to share the burden of assisting refugees and displaced persons the world over, taking into account the economic and demographic absorptive capacity of the countries concerned;

4. Reaffirms the fundamental nature of the High Commissioner's function to provide international protection and the importance of promoting durable and speedy solutions in consultation and agreement with the countries concerned, through voluntary repatriation or return and subsequent assistance in rehabilitation and, whenever appropriate, integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in other countries of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner;

5. Urges Governments to intensify their support for activities which the High Commissioner is carrying out in accordance with his mandate and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, especially by:

(a) Facilitating the High Commissioner's efforts in the field of international protection, in particular by scrupulously observing the principle of asylum and non-refoulement and by protecting asylum-seekers in situations of

11/ A/AC.96/594/Add.1 and Corr. 1.

12/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12 A (A/36/12/Add.1), para. 64.

13/ A/AC.96/597.

large-scale influx, as endorsed by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner at its thirty-second session; 14/

— (b) Supporting his efforts to promote, in co-operation with Governments, United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations, durable and speedy solutions to the problems of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office;

6. Urges Governments to join in greater international efforts in the suppression of piracy on the high seas, in accordance with their international obligations, and to take appropriate action to protect asylum-seekers from acts of violence at sea;

7. Notes with great concern the serious humanitarian problems resulting from armed attacks on refugee camps and settlements which are the concern of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the need for special measures to protect and ensure the safety of such refugees;

8. Welcomes the measures taken to implement the recommendations on the subject of assistance to women refugees and displaced women of concern to the High Commissioner in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace 15/ adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women and endorsed in General Assembly resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980;

9. Commends the High Commissioner for his special efforts on behalf of disabled refugees on the occasion of the International Year of Disabled Persons;

10. Requests the High Commissioner to continue participating in the follow-up of the International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa and urges the international community to maintain the momentum gained by the Conference in providing assistance to refugees in Africa commensurate with the growing number of African refugees;

11. Urges the High Commissioner to provide humanitarian assistance to meet the needs of the vastly increased numbers of refugees in various regions of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe;

12. Stresses the importance of maintaining the relief efforts and the resettlement momentum for boat and land cases in South-East Asia, including the Programme of Orderly Departure, and urges all Governments to provide opportunities for durable solutions to these refugees;

14/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12 A (A/36/12/Add.1), para. 57 (2).

15/ See Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I.

13. Urges the High Commissioner further to explore elaboration of arrangements in order to facilitate the disembarkation and resettlement of asylum-seekers rescued at sea;

14. Reaffirms the High Commissioner's leading responsibility in emergency situations regarding refugees and displaced persons of concern to his Office as well as his responsibility in the co-ordination of assistance in those situations and commends him for the considerable progress made in the elaboration of adequate procedures to meet emergency situations, in co-ordination with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

15. Requests the High Commissioner, while carrying out his responsibilities, to co-ordinate and co-operate closely with other organizations within and outside the United Nations system for greatest efficiency of relief in the case of major emergencies;

16. Urges all Governments in a position to do so to contribute generously in order to provide the High Commissioner with the necessary means to attain the objectives of his humanitarian programme.
