

and unacceptably low levels of income among the vast majority of the population,

Affirming the urgent need for international action to assist the Government of Liberia in its efforts for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of the country,

1. *Urgently appeals* to all Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international financial and development institutions to contribute generously, through bilateral or multilateral channels, to the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of Liberia;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to organize an international programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Liberia to enable it to meet its long-term needs with respect to reconstruction, rehabilitation and development;

3. *Requests* the appropriate organizations and programmes of the United Nations system—in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund—to expand their programmes of assistance to Liberia, to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General in organizing an effective international programme of assistance and to report periodically to him on the steps they have taken and the resources they have made available to help that country;

4. *Calls upon* regional and interregional organizations and other intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, as well as the international financial and development institutions, to give urgent consideration to the establishment of a programme of assistance to Liberia or, where one is already in existence, to the expansion of that programme;

5. *Urges* Member States and the relevant United Nations bodies—in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities—to provide all possible assistance to help the Government of Liberia to meet the critical humanitarian needs of the population and to provide, as appropriate, food, medicines and essential equipment for hospitals and schools;

6. *Invites* the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of Liberia and to report the decisions of those bodies to the Secretary-General by 15 July 1982;

7. *Invites* the Government of Liberia to provide the Committee for Development Planning, on the basis of the existing criteria, with up-to-date statistical data and information pertinent to the examination of the country's economic situation, with a view to considering the possibility of its inclusion in the list of the least developed countries;

8. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to invite the Committee for Development Planning, in the light of the new data and information provided by the Government of Liberia, to consider, on the basis of the existing criteria, the eligibility of that country for inclusion in the list of the least developed countries;

9. *Requests* Member States and the organizations of the United Nations system to accord Liberia, in view of its critical economic situation, assistance that is adequate to the needs of the country until the situation returns to normal;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To dispatch a mission to Liberia with a view to holding consultations with the Government on the additional assistance which it needs for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of the country and to communicate the report of the mission to the international community, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

(b) To ensure that adequate financial arrangements are made for the organization of an effective international programme of assistance to Liberia and for the mobilization of international assistance;

(c) To inform the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1982, of the assistance granted to Liberia;

(d) To keep the situation in Liberia under review and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1981*

36/208. Special economic assistance to Benin

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/88 of 5 December 1980, in which it appealed to the international community to provide effective and continuous financial, material and technical assistance to Benin so as to help that country overcome its financial and economic difficulties,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 419 (1977) of 24 November 1977, in which the Council appealed to all States and all appropriate international organizations, including the United Nations and the specialized agencies, to assist Benin,

Having heard the statement made by the representative of Benin before the Second Committee on 29 October 1981¹⁸³ describing his country's serious economic and financial situation,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁸⁴ to which was annexed the report of the interagency mission which he dispatched to Benin in May 1981.

Noting from the report the serious economic and financial problems that confront Benin, which arise primarily from the weak and underdeveloped state of its economic and social infrastructure, its lack of financial and material resources and its chronic foreign trade deficit,

Noting further that Benin's terms of trade have deteriorated sharply and that the production of export crops has been adversely affected by drought,

Taking note of the recommended programme of assistance to Benin drawn up by the mission in consultation with the Government,¹⁸⁵

Noting further Benin's urgent need for international assistance in its health programmes, as well as for food aid,

Aware of the desire of the Government of Benin to organize, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, a round-table conference of providers of funds in 1982 to discuss the country's development needs

¹⁸³ *Ibid.*, Second Committee, 27th meeting, paras. 30-33.

¹⁸⁴ A/36/269.

¹⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, annex, sect. IV.

and to consider ways and means of backing the Government in its efforts to meet those needs,

Bearing in mind that Benin is classified as one of the least developed countries,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the measures he has taken to organize an international economic assistance programme for Benin;

2. *Endorses fully* the assessment and recommendations of the mission, contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Urgently reiterates* its appeal to all Member States to provide ample and appropriate assistance, through bilateral and multilateral channels, wherever possible in the form of grants or concessionary loans, in order to enable Benin to implement fully the recommended special programme of economic assistance;

4. *Urges* Member States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and interregional governmental bodies, financial and development institutions and non-governmental organizations to support fully the efforts of the Government of Benin to mobilize funds for its special programme of economic assistance and, to this end, to respond generously to the needs of Benin at the forthcoming round-table conference;

5. *Requests* the appropriate organizations and programmes of the United Nations system—in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund—to maintain and expand their programmes of assistance to Benin, to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General in organizing an effective international programme of assistance and to report periodically to him on the steps they have taken and the resources they have made available to help that country;

6. *Calls upon* regional and interregional organizations and other intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, as well as international financial and development institutions, to give urgent consideration to the establishment of a programme of assistance to Benin, or where one is already in existence, to the expansion of that programme;

7. *Urges* Member States and the relevant United Nations bodies—in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities—to provide all possible assistance to help the Government of Benin to meet the critical humanitarian needs of the population and to provide, as appropriate, food, medicines and essential equipment for hospitals and schools;

8. *Invites* the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of Benin and to report the decisions of those bodies to the Secretary-General by 15 July 1982;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective program of financial, technical and material assistance to Benin;

(b) To ensure that the necessary financial and budgetary arrangements are made to continue the organization of the

international programme of assistance to Benin and the mobilization of that assistance;

(c) To keep the situation in Benin under constant review, to maintain close contact with Member States, the specialized agencies, regional and other intergovernmental organizations and the international financial institutions concerned, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1982, of the status of the special programme of economic assistance for Benin;

(d) To arrange for a review of the economic situation of Benin and the progress made in organizing and implementing the special programme of economic assistance for that country in time for the matter to be considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1981*

36/209. Assistance to Sao Tome and Principe

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/187 of 21 December 1976, in which, *inter alia*, it expressed deep concern at the serious economic and social situation in Sao Tome and Principe as a result of the total lack of infrastructure for development and appealed urgently to the international community to assist the Government of Sao Tome and Principe to enable it to establish the necessary social and economic infrastructure for development,

Recalling also its resolutions 32/96 of 13 December 1977, 33/125 of 19 December 1978, 34/131 of 14 December 1979 and 35/93 of 5 December 1980, in which it reiterated its appeal to the international community to provide financial, material and technical assistance to Sao Tome and Principe,

Bearing in mind its resolution 31/156 of 21 December 1976, in which it urged all Governments, in particular those of the developed countries, to lend their support, in the context of their assistance programmes, for the implementation of the specific action envisaged in favour of developing island countries, and its resolution 32/185 of 19 December 1977, in which it urged all organizations in the United Nations system to implement, within their respective spheres of competence, appropriate specific action in favour of developing island countries, as well as its resolution 34/205 of 19 December 1979, which sets out a specific action programme in favour of developing island countries,

Recalling its resolutions 32/160 of 19 December 1977 and 33/197 of 29 January 1979 on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Having considered the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Committee for Development Planning on its seventeenth session concerning identification of the least developed countries,¹⁸⁶

Noting the renewed request of Sao Tome and Principe that its exceptional economic circumstances should again be reviewed by the Committee for Development Planning,

Taking account of the statement made by the representative of Sao Tome and Principe before the Second Committee on 29 October 1981¹⁸⁷ to the effect that there are no recent official national income statistics available for Sao Tome and Principe and that available published data are out of date and do not reflect the current situation in that country,

¹⁸⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 7 (E/1981/27)*, chap. IV.

¹⁸⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Second Committee, 27th meeting*, paras. 52 and 53.