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SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL
PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCEAssistance to ChadReport of the Secretary-General

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 36/210 of 17 December 1981 on assistance to Chad, the General Assembly recalled its earlier resolutions in which, inter alia, it had appealed to the international community to help Chad meet the urgent humanitarian needs of the population affected by the civil war and to assist the country in the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of its economy.
2. The General Assembly noted that some donors had provided emergency humanitarian assistance to Chad, but regretted that many of the needs listed in the report of the Secretary-General (A/36/261) had still to be met. With regard to the country's reconstruction, rehabilitation and development needs, the Assembly appealed to Member States, specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system, and international financial and economic institutions to provide generous assistance to meet the needs described in the report of the United Nations mission that visited Chad from 26 October to 6 November 1981 (A/36/739, annex).
3. The Secretary-General was requested in paragraph 5 of the resolution to organize a pledging conference at Nairobi in the first half of March 1982 in close co-operation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Government of Chad, to help Chad carry out its reconstruction programme.
4. In paragraph 10 of the same resolution, the Secretary-General was requested:

* A/37/150.

- (a) To organize an international programme of financial, technical and material assistance for Chad so as to enable it to meet its short-term and long-term reconstruction, rehabilitation and development needs;
- (b) To have the report of the review mission to Chad disseminated as widely as possible;
- (c) To contact the Government of Chad with a view to the urgent appointment of a resident co-ordinator who would also be his special representative for reconstruction, rehabilitation, development and emergency relief operations in Chad;
- (d) To ensure that appropriate financial and budgetary arrangements were made for the establishment of an effective international programme of assistance for Chad and for mobilizing that assistance;
- (e) To keep the situation in Chad under review and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982 and to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session on the implementation of the resolution.

II. ORGANIZATION OF A PLEDGING CONFERENCE

- 5. The situation in Chad has not yet enabled the Secretary-General to convene the International Conference on Assistance to Chad in response to paragraph 5 of resolution 36/210.
- 6. Although the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to organize the Conference at Nairobi in the first half of March 1982, it transpired that it would not be possible to complete preparations for the Conference within the time allowed because of unsettled political conditions within the country and an unavoidable delay in the preparation by the Government of the necessary documentation. In consultation with the Chairman of OAU and with the Government of Chad it was decided to postpone the Conference until 15 April 1982.
- 7. Unfortunately, the political situation within the country did not improve and there were reports of renewed fighting. Following representations by donors, and after consultation with the Chairman of OAU and the Government of Chad, it was agreed that the Conference should be further postponed until 15 June 1982.
- 8. By the beginning of June the situation in Chad had changed dramatically. The Forces armées du Nord (FAN), under the leadership of Mr. Hissene Habré, advanced and seized control of the capital on 7 June. The head of the Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT), Mr. Goukouni Oueddei, fled the country. A Provisional State Council has since been established by Mr. Hissene Habré to carry on the administration.
- 9. As these conditions did not seem conducive to the holding of the Conference, the Secretary-General, after further consultations with the Chairman of OAU and at the request of several donors, decided that the Conference should again be

postponed until the political situation in Chad had returned to normal and a favourable climate for development had been created. For these reasons it was agreed that the Conference should be postponed until later in the year.

10. Preparatory arrangements for the Conference are already in hand and remain unaffected by the postponement. Documentation has been printed and distributed and, at the request of the Government of Chad, invitations have been addressed to 60 Member States and 50 international organizations and financial institutions. Conference facilities have been provisionally reserved at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre at Nairobi.

III. INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME OF ASSISTANCE

11. Although the continued unsettled situation in Chad has deterred prospective donors from providing assistance for reconstruction and development, steps have been taken to initiate the organization of an international programme of assistance and to alert the international community to the country's urgent needs.

12. The report of the United Nations interagency mission which visited Chad from 26 October to 6 November 1981 (A/36/779, annex) has been sent to all Member States, international financial institutions, and specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system.

13. In addition to the report of the United Nations mission, a comprehensive two-volume document has been prepared by the Government, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and has been sent to all those invited to attend the Conference. The document, which has been printed in English and French, contains detailed information on the country's economic condition and is supported by project documents on priority needs in each sector.

Emergency relief programme

14. The internal situation in Chad has not interrupted the emergency assistance programme set up by the United Nations to help the Government cope with the country's urgent humanitarian needs. Arrangements were made to convene an international meeting on emergency assistance to Chad at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on 5 and 6 April 1982, at which 37 countries, 9 organizations of the United Nations system and 15 intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations were represented.

15. Introductory statements were made by the Chadian Minister for Planning and Reconstruction, the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs of OAU and the United Nations Resident Co-ordinator in Chad. The Director of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) introduced the emergency programme, which consisted of separate but co-ordinated components for food aid, medicines and medical supplies, educational material and transport requirements. The total value of the programme amounted to \$US 6.8 million. Several participants announced their contributions to the programme.

16. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Chairman announced that three of the five components of the emergency programme, namely, seeds, medicines and medical supplies, and educational material had been almost covered. Substantial contributions were also made towards the emergency needs for food and transport. It was also stated that, apart from the emergency programme, international assistance to Chad, as reported to UNDRO between November 1981 and March 1982, had amounted to \$US 90 million.

IV. APPOINTMENT OF A RESIDENT CO-ORDINATOR

17. A Resident Co-ordinator for United Nations activities in Chad has been appointed and has taken up his duties. In addition to his substantive responsibilities, the Resident Co-ordinator has been designated as the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, Development and Emergency Relief Operations in Chad. UNDRO has been designated by the Secretary-General to co-ordinate efforts at the international level with regard to the mobilization of assistance for emergency relief operation.

18. Following the change in Government, United Nations organizations have resumed their activities in Chad in those areas where conditions permit.

V. CONCLUSIONS

19. The Secretary-General will continue to do whatever is possible to obtain help from the international community to meet the urgent humanitarian needs of Chad, as set out in the emergency relief programme, and to mobilize resources for the rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of the country.

20. The Secretary-General will also keep in close touch with the current Chairman of OAU, as well as with the Chadian authorities, concerning an appropriate date for the international conference. The prospects of obtaining international assistance for the reconstruction and development of Chad will be largely dependent on the creation of a climate of confidence through the restoration of peace and political stability in the country. The Secretary-General will keep the international community informed in this regard.
