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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA
TWENTY-THIRD REGULAR SESSION

24 September 1968

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INTRODUCTION

The General Assembly will begin its twenty-third regular session at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 24 September 1968, at United Nations Headquarters.

The session, originally scheduled to begin on 17 September in accordance with the Assembly's rules of procedure, was postponed for one week with the agreement of a majority of Member States. The request for postponement had been made on 16 July by the African-Asian Group, "on the understanding that the general debate ... will not start until 2 October to afford sufficient time for those members attending the Conference of Non-Nuclear Powers in Geneva to come to New York in time to participate effectively in the work of the twenty-third session".

Up to 7 September, the Assembly has been asked to consider 95 items. In 1967, there were 98 items on the agenda as approved.

The provisional agenda (A/7150), issued on 19 July, lists 90 items. On 3 September, a supplementary list (A/7190) was issued containing five items. No requests for additional items have been received as of 7 September.

The provisional agenda and the supplementary list include recurring questions -- such as annual reports of the Secretary-General and the Councils -- as well as items ordered for inclusion by the Assembly at previous sessions, an item proposed by the Economic and Social Council, one by the Secretary-General and four items proposed by Member States.

Rule 12 of the Assembly's rules of procedure requires the provisional agenda to be communicated to Members at least 60 days before the opening of the session.

Under rule 14, any Member, or principal organ of the United Nations, or the Secretary-General may request, at least 30 days before the opening of the regular session, inclusion of supplementary items in the agenda.

Rule 15 allows inclusion of additional items "of an important and urgent character" proposed less than 30 days before a regular session, or during a session, provided the Assembly so decides by a majority of Members present and voting.

This press release, which covers events through 7 September, contains background information on all items proposed for discussion. They are numbered as they appear on the provisional agenda. However, this is not necessarily the order in which they will appear on the final agenda as adopted by the Assembly.

An addendum to this press release will be issued later in September.

ITEMS ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of Session

The General Assembly elects its President at each session. The Chairman of the delegation of the previous President occupies the Chair until the election. Corneliu Manescu of Romania was President of the twenty-second session.

2. Minute of Silent Prayer or Meditation

At the opening of the first plenary meeting and at the end of the final meeting, the President invites representatives to rise for a minute of silent prayer or meditation.

3. Credentials

The Assembly appoints, on the proposal of the President, a nine-member Committee to examine the credentials of representatives. The Committee's report is submitted for approval towards the end of the session.

4. Election of President

The President is elected by secret ballot and by a simple majority. There are no nominations. Past Assembly Presidents were:

First regular session	London and New York	1946	Paul Henri Spaak (Belgium)
First special session	New York	1947	Oswaldo Aranha (Brazil)
Second regular session			
Second special session	New York	1948	José Arce (Argentina)
Third regular session	Paris and New York	1948-49	Herbert V. Evatt (Australia)
Fourth regular session	New York	1949	Carlos P. Romulo (Philippines)
Fifth regular session	New York	1950-51	Nasrollah Entezam (Iran)
Sixth regular session	Paris	1951-52	Luis Padilla Nervo (Mexico)
Seventh regular session	New York	1952-53	Lester B. Pearson (Canada)

Eighth regular session	New York	1953-54	Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit (India)
Ninth regular session	New York	1954	Eelco N. van Kleffens (Netherlands)
Tenth regular session	New York	1955	José Maza (Chile)
First and second emergency special sessions	New York	1956	Rudecindo Ortega (Chile)
Eleventh regular session	New York	1956-57	Prince Wan Waithayakon (Thailand)
Twelfth regular session	New York	1957	Sir Leslie Munro (New Zealand)
Third emergency special session		1958	
Thirteenth regular session	New York	1958-59	Charles Malik (Lebanon)
Fourteenth regular session	New York	1959	Victor Andrés Belaúnde (Peru)
Fourth emergency special session		1960	
Fifteenth regular session	New York	1960-61	Frederick H. Boland (Ireland)
Third special session		1961	
Sixteenth regular session	New York	1961-62	Mongi Slim (Tunisia)
Seventeenth regular session	New York	1962	Muhammad Zafrulla Khan (Pakistan)
Fourth special session		1963	
Eighteenth regular session	New York	1963	Carlos Sosa Rodríguez (Venezuela)
Nineteenth regular session	New York	1964-65	Alex Quaison-Sackey (Ghana)
Twentieth regular session	New York	1965	Amintore Fanfani (Italy)
Twenty-first regular session	New York	1966	Abdul Rahman Pazhwak (Afghanistan)
Fifth special session		1967	
Fifth emergency special session		1967	
Twenty-second regular session	New York	1967-68	Corneliu Manescu (Romania)

5. Main Committees. Election of Officers

The General Assembly has seven Main Committees, on which all Member States are represented. They are: First Committee (Political and Security); Special Political Committee; Second Committee (Economic and Financial); Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural); Fourth (Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories); Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary), and Sixth Committee (Legal).

Each Main Committee elects its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur by secret ballot or by acclamation.

According to a pattern fixed by the Assembly in 1963 (resolution 1990 (XVIII) of 17 December), the seven Chairmen are elected as follows:

- (a) Three representatives from African and Asian States;
- (b) One from an Eastern European State;
- (c) One from a Latin American State;
- (d) One from a Western European or other State;
- (e) The seventh chairmanship to rotate in alternate years between representatives of States referred to in (c) and (d) /this year it is the turn of a Western European State/.

The Main Committees examine and make recommendations on matters referred to them by the Assembly.

6. Election of Vice-Presidents

For the 17 vice-presidencies, the General Assembly elects Member States, not individuals, and the heads of the delegations of the elected States serve in these posts. Elections are by secret ballot and by simple majority.

The Assembly decided in 1963 (resolution 1990 (XVIII)) that the Vice-Presidents shall be elected according to the following pattern:

1.
 - (a) Seven representatives from African and Asian States;
 - (b) One from an Eastern European State;
 - (c) Three from Latin American States;
 - (d) Two from Western European and other States;
 - (e) Five from the permanent members of the Security Council.
2. The election of the President of the Assembly will, however, have the effect of reducing by one the number of vice-presidencies allocated to the region from which the President is elected.

7. Notification by Secretary-General under Article 12 (2) of the Charter

Article 12, paragraph 1, of the United Nations Charter provides that: "While the Security Council is exercising in respect of any dispute or situation the functions assigned to it in the present Charter, the General Assembly shall not make any recommendation with regard to that dispute or situation unless the Security Council so requests."

As required by paragraph 2 of that Article, the Secretary-General, with the consent of the Council, submits at each Assembly session a list of matters relative to the maintenance of peace and security which are being dealt with

by the Council and also of matters with which the Council has ceased to deal. The notification is issued on the opening day of the session.

The Assembly normally takes note of the communication without debate.

8. Adoption of Agenda

The provisional agenda (A/7150) and any requests for inclusion of further items are considered first by the Assembly's General Committee, a steering committee concerned with the agenda and organizational matters.

The Committee, composed of the President, the 17 Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the seven Main Committees, recommends which proposed items should be placed on the agenda, and their allocation to the Main Committees and plenary meetings. Approval of these recommendations by the Assembly requires a majority of Members present and voting.

The rules of procedure do not permit the General Committee to discuss the substance of an item except in so far as this bears on the question of its inclusion and on what priority should be accorded to an item recommended for inclusion.

9. General Debate

For several weeks at the beginning of each General Assembly session, heads of delegations express the views of their Governments on current political, economic, social and other matters.

10. Report of Secretary-General

Article 98 of the Charter requires the Secretary-General to report each year to the General Assembly on the work of the Organization. His report (A/7201) presents an account of United Nations activities during the period 16 June 1967 to 15 June 1968. The introduction to the report (A/7201/Add.1), containing the Secretary-General's observations on a number of current international issues, will be issued separately before the opening of the session. The Assembly normally takes note of the report without discussion.

11. Report of Security Council

Article 24 of the Charter requires the Security Council to submit annual reports to the Assembly. The Council has not yet adopted its report for the period 16 July 1967 to 15 July 1968 (A/7202).

The Assembly normally takes note of the Council's report without debate.

12. Report of Economic and Social Council

This year's report of the Economic and Social Council (A/7203) covers the period 5 August 1967 to 2 August 1968. During that time, the Council held its resumed forty-third session in New York (1, 13 and 14 November, 18 December 1967), its forty-fourth session in New York (6-31 May) and the first part of its forty-fifth session in Geneva (8 July-2 August 1968). The resumed forty-fifth session, to be held in New York in November and December, will be the subject of a supplementary report.

13. Report of Trusteeship Council

The Trusteeship Council's annual report to the General Assembly (A/7204) contains conclusions and recommendations on Australian-administered New Guinea, one of the two remaining Trust Territories, which it considered during its thirty-fifth session in New York from 27 May to 19 June 1968.

The other Territory, the Pacific Islands under United States administration, is a strategic area, on which the Trusteeship Council reports to the Security Council. The Territory has been under United Nations Trusteeship since 1 November 1947.

Originally there were 11 Trust Territories. Nine have now attained independence or the status of self-government. The last of these was Nauru, which attained its independence on 31 January 1968. [Other former Trust Territories are: British Togoland, which became a part of Ghana in 1957; French Cameroons, which became the Republic of Cameroon in 1960; French Togoland, which became the Republic of Togo in 1960; Italian Somaliland, which, in union with British Somaliland, became the Republic of Somalia in 1960; British Cameroons, of which the northern part joined Nigeria and the southern part became a federal part of Cameroon in 1961; Tanganyika, administered by the United Kingdom, which became independent in 1961 and joined with Zanzibar to form the United Republic of Tanzania in 1964; Western Samoa, administered by New Zealand, which became independent in 1962, and Ruanda-Urundi, administered by Belgium, which became the Republic of Rwanda and the Kingdom (now Republic) of Burundi in 1962.]

The members of the Trusteeship Council are: Australia and the United States, which administer the remaining Trust Territories; China, France, the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom, who serve in their capacity as permanent members of the Security Council; and Liberia, elected by the Assembly to a term ending 31 December 1968.

The Trust Territory of New Guinea consists of the north-east part of the island of New Guinea, the islands of the Bismark Archipelago, and the two northernmost islands of the Solomon Group (Buka and Bougainville). It has a land area of 93,000 square miles and, in 1967, had a population of more than 1,650,000 all but 20,000 of them indigenous. It became a Trust Territory in 1946, and is governed in administrative union with the neighbouring Territory of Papua, which lies to the south.

In resolutions adopted over the past three years, the Assembly called on Australia to fix an early date for the independence of the Territory in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people (resolution 2112 (XX) of 21 December 1965, reaffirmed in resolutions 2227 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 and 2348 (XXII) of 19 December 1967).

In its 1966 resolution, the Assembly called on Australia to remove discriminatory electoral qualifications, abolish discriminatory practices in other fields, and hold elections on the basis of universal suffrage with a view to transferring power to the people. It deplored what it described as Australia's failure to implement the 1965 resolution. It also called on Australia to refrain from using New Guinea or Papua for military activities incompatible with the United Nations Charter.

In its consideration of the question in 1968, the Trusteeship Council discussed the report of its Visiting Mission (T/1678) which had toured the Territory from 27 February to 2 April this year. It adopted a resolution stating that it had taken the conclusions and recommendations of the Mission and the observations of the Administering Authority into account in framing its own conclusions and recommendations.

In these decisions, the Council stressed the need for a continual and intensified programme of political education in New Guinea to bring the population of that Territory to a full understanding of the meaning and implications of self-determination with all its options.

The Council recommended that every effort be made to associate the people of the Territory more closely with the exercise of power in order to facilitate a transfer of responsibility when self-government or independence is achieved and urged that some firm assurance be given the people of the Territory that independence or self-government did not in itself involve the cessation of financial assistance from Australia.

The Council called for the abolition of separate schools and also recommended that a common salary scale for local and expatriate officers be put into effect as soon as possible.

14. Report of International Atomic Energy Agency

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an autonomous inter-governmental organization under the aegis of the United Nations, reporting annually to the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

Its report consists of two parts: the annual report of the Board of Governors to the twelfth General Conference, covering the period from 1 July 1967 to 30 June 1968 (A/7175); and a supplement dealing with later developments, including an account of the Conference (meeting in Vienna from 24 September to about 1 October), to be issued subsequently (A/7175/Add.1).

Significant developments noted in the Board's report include the following:

-- Under an agreement approved in June 1968, IAEA safeguards will be applied to all nuclear activities in Mexico, ensuring that they are not directed towards military purposes. This is the first such comprehensive agreement concluded by the Agency, which has now approved 39 safeguards agreements with 29 States;

-- Nuclear power plants with a capacity of 35,000 megawatts were ordered in 1967, a confirmation of the "growing role of nuclear power in meeting the world's needs for electric energy". Most plants were for industrially advanced countries, but others will be built in developing countries;

-- Studies show that nuclear-powered "energy centres" may become feasible in the future and produce desalted water "at a cost low enough for agricultural use", an objective not yet attained;

-- Encouraging results have been obtained from continuing work on isotopes and radiation sources, aimed at stimulating agricultural output, eliminating pests and conserving foodstuffs; and

-- The inadequacy of resources for the regular programme of technical assistance of IAEA is causing growing concern; in 1968, the Agency will be able to meet less than 30 per cent of Member States' requests for experts and equipment.

15. Election of Five Non-Permanent Members of Security Council

The Security Council consists of five permanent members (China, France, Soviet Union, United Kingdom and United States) and 10 non-permanent members elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms.

The terms of Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia and India expire at the end of 1968. The five other non-permanent members of the Council, elected to serve through 1969, are Algeria, Hungary, Pakistan, Paraguay and Senegal.

The Council, which originally had 11 members, became a 15-member body on 1 January 1966, in accordance with amendments to Article 23 of the United Nations Charter, which came into effect on 31 August 1965.

In the resolution by which it adopted the Charter amendments (1991 A (XVIII) of 17 December 1963), the Assembly decided that the 10 (formerly six) non-permanent members would be elected according to the following pattern: five from African and Asian States, one from Eastern European States, two from Latin American States, and two from Western European and other States.

Election is by two-thirds majority on a secret ballot. In elections, the Charter calls for "due regard" to be "specially paid, in the first instance to the contribution of Members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization, and also to equitable geographical distribution". Retiring members are not eligible for immediate re-election.

The following States have served so far as non-permanent members of the Council:

Algeria (1968-69)	Jordan (1965-66)
Argentina (1948-49, 1959-60, 1966-67)	Lebanon (1953-54)
Australia (1946-47, 1956-57)	Liberia (1961)
Belgium (1947-48, 1955-56)	Malaysia (1965)
Bolivia (1964-65)	Mali (1966-67)
Brazil (1946-47, 1951-52, 1954-55, 1963-64, 1967-68)	Mexico (1946)
Bulgaria (1966-67)	Morocco (1963-64)
Canada (1948-49, 1958-59, 1967-68)	Netherlands (1946, 1951-52, 1965-66)
Ceylon (1960-61)	New Zealand (1954-55, 1966)
Chile (1952-53, 1961-62)	Nigeria (1966-67)
Colombia (1947-48, 1953-54, 1957-58)	Norway (1949-50, 1963-64)
Cuba (1949-50, 1956-57)	Pakistan (1952-53, 1968-69)
Czechoslovakia (1964)	Panama (1958-59)
Denmark (1953-54, 1967-68)	Paraguay (1968-69)
Ecuador (1950-51, 1960-61)	Peru (1955-56)
Ethiopia (1967-68)	Philippines (1957, 1963)
Ghana (1962-63)	Poland (1946-47, 1960)
Greece (1952-53)	Romania (1962)
Hungary (1968-69)	Senegal (1968-69)
India (1950-51, 1967-68)	Sweden (1957-58)
Iran (1955-56)	Syria (1947-48)
Iraq (1957-58)	Tunisia (1959-60)
Ireland (1962)	Turkey (1951-52, 1954-55, 1961)
Italy (1959-60)	Uganda (1966)
Ivory Coast (1964-65)	Ukraine (1948-49)
Japan (1958-59, 1966-67)	United Arab Republic* (1961-62)
	Uruguay (1965-66)
	Venezuela (1962-63)
	Yugoslavia (1950-51, 1965)

16. Election of Nine Members of Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council consists of 27 members, elected by the General Assembly for three-year terms. One third of the membership is elected each year.

This year, the Assembly is to elect members to succeed Czechoslovakia, Iran, Morocco, Panama, Philippines, Sweden, Soviet Union, United Kingdom and Venezuela, whose term expires at the end of 1968. The other members of the Council are Belgium, France, Guatemala, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Turkey, and the United Republic of Tanzania, elected to serve until the end of 1969, and Argentina, Bulgaria, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), India, Ireland, Japan, United States and Upper Volta, whose term expires at the end of 1970.

* Egypt served on the Council in 1946 and 1949-50.

The Council, which originally had 18 members, was enlarged to its present membership on 1 January 1966, in accordance with an amendment to Article 61 of the Charter, which came into effect on 31 August 1965.

In the resolution by which it adopted the amendment (1991 B (XVIII) of 17 December 1963), the Assembly set a pattern of geographical distribution of the nine additional seats on the Council. As a consequence, the 27 members are elected according to the following pattern: 12 from African and Asian States, three from Eastern European States, five from Latin American States, and seven from Western European and other States.

Election is by two-thirds majority on a secret ballot. Retiring members are eligible for immediate re-election.

17. Election of 15 Members of Industrial Development Board

The Industrial Development Board, the principal organ of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), consists of 45 members, elected by the General Assembly for three-year terms. One-third of the membership is elected each year.

The entire membership of the Board was chosen at the first election, in December 1966. To provide for the retirement of one-third of the members each year, 15 States were selected by lot to serve for the full three years, another 15 for two years and the remaining 15 for one year. The 15 chosen for one year were re-elected last year for a full three-year term.

This year, the Assembly is to elect members to succeed Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Finland, France, India, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Romania, Sudan, Thailand, United Arab Republic and the United States, whose term expires at the end of 1968. The other members of the Board are Argentina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, Iran, Ivory Coast, Pakistan, Philippines, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom and Uruguay, elected to serve until the end of 1969, and Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Guinea, Indonesia, Italy, Nigeria, Peru, Rwanda, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Soviet Union and Zambia, whose term expires at the end of 1970.

Members of the Board are elected from among States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency. In the resolution by which it established UNIDO

(2152 (XXI) of 17 November 1966), the Assembly decided that the 45 members would be elected according to the following pattern: 18 from the developing countries of Africa and Asia (Group A); 15 from the developed countries of western Europe, the Pacific region and North America (Group B); seven from Central and South America and the Caribbean (Group C); and five from the socialist countries of eastern Europe (Group D). (The States in each group are listed in the annex to resolution 2152 (XXI).)

Election is by simple majority on a secret ballot. Retiring members are eligible for immediate re-election.

18. Election of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The present term of Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan of Iran as High Commissioner for Refugees expires on 31 December 1968. The High Commissioner is elected by the Assembly on the nomination of the Secretary-General, who also proposes the terms of appointment for Assembly approval.

Prince Sadruddin has served since 1 January 1966. His predecessors were G.J. van Heuven Goedhart of the Netherlands (1951-1956), Auguste R. Lindt of Switzerland (1956-1960) and Felix Schnyder of Switzerland (1961-1965).

The Assembly last year decided to extend the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner for a further five years from 1 January 1969 (resolution 2294 (XXII) of 11 December 1967). [The report of the High Commissioner appears as item 51 of the provisional agenda.]

19. Admission of New Members

Under Article 4 of the Charter, "Membership in the United Nations is open to all ... peace-loving States which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and, in the judgement of the Organization, are able and willing to carry out these obligations". Admission to membership is effected by a decision of the Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council. Decisions on admission of new Members require a two-thirds majority in the Assembly.

The United Nations now has 124 Members.

20. Fourth International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

Three International Conferences on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy have been held, in 1955, 1958 and 1964, under the auspices of the United Nations.

Reporting on the third Conference (A/5913), which concentrated on nuclear reactor development and the engineering and economic aspects of nuclear power, the Secretary-General said it was his belief, and that of the United Nations Scientific Advisory Committee, that further international conferences along the lines of the 1964 meeting were desirable. Future conferences, he suggested, should deal with specialized applications of nuclear energy, rather than embracing the entire field of atomic energy, as the first two conferences sought to do.

In 1967, the General Assembly declared that a fourth conference of comparatively limited size, cost and duration should be convened in 1970 or 1971. The Secretary-General was requested to prepare plans and to report to the twenty-third session of the Assembly (resolution 2309 of 13 December).

In his report to the Assembly (A/7186), the Secretary-General proposes that the fourth conference be held in Geneva during 1971, and that its thematic title should be: "Benefits for mankind from peaceful uses of atomic energy"; and that it should last for eight or nine working days.

21. Installation of Mechanical Means of Voting

In 1964, mechanical voting equipment was installed in the General Assembly Hall on an experimental basis, as authorized in resolution 1957 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963. The Assembly, on 7 December 1966, approved the use of the system in the Assembly Hall on a permanent basis, and also approved a recommendation by the Secretary-General that a decision on the possible extension of the system to other meeting rooms be postponed to 1967.

In a report to the Assembly on 20 October 1967 (A/6870), the Secretary-General stated that the experience gained with the mechanical voting equipment in the General Assembly Hall demonstrated the desirability of extending the system to one or two committee rooms. He proposed to undertake in 1968 the preparation of engineering plans and the development of cost estimates, and to present detailed recommendations at the twenty-third session, anticipating completion of the project before the opening of the twenty-fourth session in 1969. The Assembly took note of the report on 16 December 1967. On the same date, in resolution 2323 (XXII), it amended rules 89 and 128 of its rules of procedure, to the effect that, when the Assembly votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands or by standing and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call vote.

22. Implementation of Declaration on Ending of Colonialism

The Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (resolution 1514 (XV)), adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1960, proclaims the necessity of bringing a speedy and unconditional end to colonialism in all its forms and manifestations.

On 27 November 1961, the Assembly established a Special Committee of 17 members to examine the application of the Declaration and to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress of its implementation (resolution 1654 (XVI)). In 1962, the membership of the Committee was enlarged to 24 (resolution 1810 (XVII) of 17 December 1962).

Forty-seven territories now come within the scope of the Special Committee's consideration. They range in population from 97 inhabitants (Pitcairn) to more than 7 million (Mozambique). They are administered by Australia, France, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States. Another 16 territories considered by the Committee since 1963 later attained independence or self-government, or joined with other countries to form new States. Four of these attained independence in the past year: Southern Yemen (formerly Aden) on 30 November 1967, Nauru on 31 January 1968, Mauritius on 12 March 1968, and Swaziland on 6 September. Stated for independence later this year in Equatorial Guinea, under Spanish administration (on 12 October).

The present membership of the Special Committee is: Afghanistan, Australia, Bulgaria, Chile, Ethiopia, Finland, Honduras, India, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Poland, Sierra Leone, Syria, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. The Chairman is Mahmoud Mestiri (Tunisia).

The 1968 series of meetings of the Special Committee, which began on 26 February, is continuing at Headquarters. (The Committee's annual report for 1968 will appear in A/7200 and addenda.)

Some of the topics considered by the Special Committee this year appear as separate items on the Assembly's provisional agenda. These are:

Namibia [item 64], Portuguese-administered Territories [item 65], Fiji [item 66], Oman [item 67], activities of foreign interests impeding implementation of the Declaration [item 68] and implementation of the Declaration by international agencies [item 69]. In addition to these topics, the Committee this year has so far considered and made recommendations on a number of other territories, and at the specific request of the Assembly, it is also considering the compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on decolonization. (A report on the latter subject, containing replies from Member States, appears in A/AC.109/295 and addenda.)

After considering last year's report of the Special Committee, the Assembly took a number of decisions relating to particular territories and also adopted a resolution (2326 (XXII) of 16 December 1967) giving its views on some of the main issues of decolonization.

In this resolution, it reiterated its 1966 declaration (resolution 2189 (XXI) of 13 December 1966) that the continuation of colonial rule threatens international peace and security, and that the practice of apartheid and all forms of racial discrimination constitutes a crime against humanity. It reaffirmed its recognition, first expressed in 1965 (resolution 2105 (XX) of 20 December) and repeated in 1966, of the legitimacy of the struggle of colonial peoples to exercise their right to self-determination, and it again urged all States to provide moral and material assistance to national liberation movements.

As it had in 1966, the Assembly drew the attention of all States to what it described as the grave consequences of the development in southern Africa of an entente between South Africa, Portugal and Southern Rhodesia, and it called on all States, particularly the main trading partners of the entente, to withhold any support or assistance to the three countries.

Repeating another request of 1965 and 1966, it requested colonial Powers to dismantle their military bases in colonial territories, and to refrain from establishing new ones and from using those that exist

to interfere with the liberation of colonial peoples. (The Special Committee is studying military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in territories under their administration which might impede implementation of the Declaration. Its Sub-Committee I will report on the topic this year.)

As it had in 1966, the Assembly condemned policies, which it said were pursued by certain administering Powers, of imposing non-representative regimes and constitutions, strengthening the position of foreign economic and other interests, misleading world public opinion, and encouraging the systematic influx of foreign immigrants while displacing, deporting and transferring the indigenous inhabitants to other areas. It called on those Powers to desist from such manoeuvres.

Several requests were addressed to the Special Committee by the Assembly last year. It was asked to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration in all territories which have not yet become independent, to make concrete suggestions to the Security Council with regard to developments in colonial territories which are likely to threaten international peace and security, and to submit recommendations this year on the holding early in 1969 of a conference of representatives of colonial peoples. One of the aims of the conference would be to consider the most effective means by which the international community can intensify its assistance to colonial peoples in their efforts to achieve self-determination, freedom and independence. The Committee was invited to recommend, whenever appropriate, a deadline for each territory's accession to independence.

The Assembly urged administering Powers to co-operate with the Special Committee by permitting United Nations visiting missions to gain access to the territories. Since the Assembly first made this request in 1966, most of the administering Powers have taken the position that such visits would not be desirable. This position was restated this year in a document (A/AC.109/296) containing the replies of administering Powers to a letter by the Special Committee's Chairman, soliciting their views on the matter.

Last year's Assembly resolution on implementation of the Declaration on the ending of colonialism was adopted by a vote of 86 in favour to none against, with 17 abstentions.

So far this year, the Special Committee has considered conditions in the following territories which are not the subject of separate items on the Assembly's provisional agenda:

Southern Rhodesia: The General Assembly and the Special Committee have sought since 1962 to bring about a regime in this Territory which would adequately represent the black Africans of the land, who outnumber the white population by almost 20 to 1. To this end, both bodies have addressed numerous appeals to the United Kingdom as administering Power. The action of the minority regime in unilaterally proclaiming Southern Rhodesia's independence on 11 November 1965 was promptly condemned as illegal by the United Kingdom, the General Assembly and the Security Council.

The response of the Security Council to this situation has been to impose successively tighter sanctions against the Rhodesian regime. The first step in this direction came on 20 November 1965, when the Council called on all Member States to desist from supplying Southern Rhodesia with arms and to do their utmost to break off economic relations with it, including an embargo on oil and petroleum products (resolution 217 (1965)). When this action failed to bring down the regime, the Council, on 16 December 1966, imposed selective mandatory sanctions directed against Southern Rhodesia's exports of asbestos, iron ore, chrome, pig-iron, sugar, tobacco, meat and meat products, hides, skins and leather, and its imports of arms, ammunition, aircraft, vehicles, and equipment and materials for their manufacture and maintenance (resolution 232 (1966)). This marked the first time the Council had ever imposed sanctions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

When even these sanctions did not meet with the desired result, the Council, in its most recent action, decided on 29 May 1968 (resolution 253 (1968)) to make the sanctions comprehensive, extending them to all exports and imports except for certain humanitarian and related goods. Acting unanimously on this question for the first time, the Council also

decided that Member States shall not make financial or economic resources available to the Territory. In an effort to restrict other interchange with Southern Rhodesia, the Council decided on measures to bar persons from travelling on Rhodesian passports and to cut off air transport links.

As in the case of its 1966 sanctions resolution, the Council reminded Member States that failure to comply with these decisions would be a violation of Article 25 of the Charter. Without naming them, it censured those States which persisted in aiding and trading with the Rhodesian regime.

The Council decided to establish a committee to examine reports by Member States on their implementation of the sanctions resolution. This Committee, whose membership was announced on 29 July after agreement was reached among Council members, is composed of Algeria, France, India, Paraguay, Soviet Union, United Kingdom and United States.

In other provisions of the 29 May resolution, the Council called on the United Kingdom to put an end to political repression in Southern Rhodesia, and to take all effective measures to bring the rebellion to an end and enable the people to secure their rights. It urged all Member States to assist in the people's struggle for freedom and independence. In a reference to the economic dependence on Southern Rhodesia from which the neighbouring State of Zambia is gradually emerging, the Council requested members and United Nations organizations to help Zambia solve the economic problems arising from the imposition of sanctions.

In his first report to the Council on the implementation of comprehensive sanctions, dated 28 August (S/8786), the Secretary-General transmits the text of replies by 61 Governments and a number of international organizations concerning the measures which they have taken or contemplate taking. The most recent report containing statistics on trade with Southern Rhodesia (S/7781/Add.5), issued on 13 June 1968, dealt with implementation of the 1966 resolution on sanctions. It stated that exports by Southern Rhodesia to countries which reported their trade figures to the United Nations fell from \$330 million in 1965 to \$40 million in 1967, while its imports from those countries fell from \$187 million to \$54 million.

These figures covered countries that in 1965 received 79 per cent of the Territory's exports and supplied 68 per cent of its imports.

Southern Rhodesia has also been the main subject of 12 Assembly resolutions and 15 by the Special Committee of 24 since the United Nations first acted on the matter in 1962. In the most recent Assembly action (resolution 2262 (XXII) of 3 November 1967), the legitimacy of the people's struggle for freedom and independence was reaffirmed, as it had been since 1965 (resolution 2022 (XX) of 5 November 1965). The "policies of oppression, racial discrimination and segregation" in Southern Rhodesia were characterized as a "crime against humanity", a term which the Assembly first applied to those policies in 1965.

The Assembly reaffirmed what it described as a United Kingdom obligation to transfer power to the people without delay. It condemned "the failure and the refusal" of the British Government to take effective measures to bring down the regime and transfer power to the people -- a "failure" which it had deplored in 1966 (resolution 2151 (XXI) of 17 November 1966).

The Assembly affirmed that sanctions would have to be backed by force. Declaring that the use of force was the only effective and speedy way for the United Kingdom to put down the rebellion, it called on the British Government to use all measures including force to end the illegal regime and ensure the application of Assembly resolutions. Reliance on British use of force was first advocated by the Assembly in November 1966. In the Security Council, however, African proposals calling for the use of force by the United Kingdom fell three votes short of adoption in April and again in May 1966, although on 9 April 1966 the Council called on the United Kingdom to use force if necessary to prevent the arrival of tankers carrying oil for Southern Rhodesia (resolution 221 (1966)). The British Government has opposed the use of force to bring down the regime, arguing that all means of peaceful settlement must first be exhausted.

On the issue of peaceful settlement, the Assembly restated last year what it has been maintaining in essence since 1962 -- that consultation by the United Kingdom to determine the Territory's future must be with all

political parties and not with the illegal regime. It called on the United Kingdom to consult immediately with parties favouring majority rule.

In another provision of last year's resolution, the Assembly condemned the activities of States which trade with the Rhodesian regime and called on them to sever all relations with it. Specifically, it condemned in the strongest terms the continued support of the regime by South Africa and Portugal -- Governments which it had first singled out for condemnation in 1966. Referring to the South African police who entered Southern Rhodesia last year with the announced aim of assisting the security forces of the Smith regime against African nationalists infiltrating into the Territory, the Assembly condemned the presence of South Africa's armed forces and its arms aid extended to suppress the people's struggle. Expressing grave concern at what it described as the threat to independent States, the Assembly called on the United Kingdom to expel these forces and prevent armed assistance to the illegal regime.

The Assembly strongly condemned the detention and imprisonment of African nationalists and, as it had done repeatedly since 1962, it invited the United Kingdom to secure their immediate release. It urged all States to assist the national liberation movements in the Territory, and appealed to international organizations to aid refugees and those suffering from oppression. It also invited the Secretary-General to promote the publicizing of United Nations work on the question of Southern Rhodesia.

The 1967 resolution, sponsored by 48 African-Asian States plus Yugoslavia, was adopted by 92 votes in favour to 2 against (Portugal, South Africa), with 18 abstentions.

In another action last year, the Assembly decided to include assistance to Southern Rhodesians in the United Nations Training and Educational Programme for Southern Africans (resolution 2349 (XXII) of 19 December 1967) [see notes on item 58 below].

The Special Committee of 24 discussed Southern Rhodesia in March 1968 without adopting a general resolution on the subject. However, on 19 March, before the Security Council adopted its resolution imposing comprehensive

sanctions, the Committee decided to transmit to the Council a statement by its Chairman calling for an extension of the scope of the sanctions imposed in 1966. The Chairman, recalling the Assembly's request that the United Kingdom use force if necessary, said it was the Council's duty to call on the British Government to act along these lines.

The Committee did take action this year on the matter of three Southern Rhodesians executed by the Salisbury regime after trials in which they had been declared guilty of arson and murder. On 7 March, a day after the executions took place despite an order by Queen Elizabeth commuting the sentences to life imprisonment, the Committee strongly condemned the "assassination" of the Africans, deplored the United Kingdom's failure to prevent such crimes, urgently called on it to take immediate and effective steps to prevent a recurrence and to safeguard the persons of Africans, and drew the Security Council's attention to the "grave situation". The resolution to this effect (A/AC.109/287), sponsored by 16 African, Asian and Latin American States plus Yugoslavia, was adopted by 20 votes to none with 4 abstentions (Australia, Italy, United Kingdom, United States). Similar action was taken in the form of a consensus by the Commission on Human Rights on 7 March (E/CN.4/L.1031) and a further consensus by the Commission condemning the execution on 11 March of two more Southern Rhodesians (E/CN.4/L.1038).

The Commission also endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of a report by its Special Rapporteur on apartheid and racial discrimination in Southern Africa (E/CN.4/94(and Add.1-5). The report includes a chapter on racial discrimination in Southern Rhodesia and another on past United Nations action to eliminate it. In another action, the Commission enlarged the mandate of its Working Group of Experts on the treatment of prisoners in South Africa, to include an investigation of alleged ill-treatment of political prisoners, detainees and persons in police custody in Southern Rhodesia. In May 1968, the

Economic and Social Council requested the Group to examine the denial and infringements of trade union rights in the Territory. [Other Commission and Council resolutions on apartheid and racial discrimination in Southern Rhodesia and other parts of southern Africa are mentioned in the notes to item 30 above.]

Equatorial Guinea: This Territory, scheduled to achieve independence from Spain on 12 October 1968, has been under consideration by the Special Committee since 1963, when the Territory was formed from the merger of Rio Muni on the West African coast and the islands of Fernando Poo. The Committee and the Assembly have repeatedly affirmed the right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence. In the first Assembly resolution on this question, Spain was requested to set the earliest possible date for independence after consulting the people on the basis of universal suffrage (resolution 2067 (XX) of 16 December 1965).

A sub-committee of the Special Committee, which visited Equatorial Guinea in 1966 on the invitation of Spain, recommended that Spain convene a conference to establish the modalities for the transfer of power, fix a date for independence not later than July 1968, and undertake a number of reforms. The Special Committee endorsed these recommendations in November 1966.

The Assembly, in resolution 2230 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, requested Spain to hold a general election in the Territory based on universal adult suffrage and a unified electoral roll, to ensure that it accedes to independence as a single political unit, to set a date for independence as recommended by the Special Committee, to convene a broadly representative conference for this purpose, and to establish full democratic freedoms. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure a United Nations presence in the Territory to supervise the proposed election and participate in other measures leading towards independence. These recommendations were repeated last year (resolution 2355 (XXII) of 19 December 1967), when the Assembly also expressed regret that no independence date had yet been fixed.

A constitutional conference to determine the future of Equatorial Guinea met from 30 October to 15 November 1967. In February 1968, Spain announced that the records of the conference made it evident that the representatives of the people wanted independence. One of the main topics at the conference was the demands of the Bubis, the principal population group on Fernando Poo, for separation from Rio Muni, whose most numerous ethnic group is the Fangs.

On 1 April 1968, the Special Committee called on Spain to proclaim without delay a date for independence not later than 15 July, in conformity with the people's wishes, and to expedite the reconvening of the constitutional conference. The Committee's resolution (A/AC.109/289) reiterated most of the provisions of earlier Assembly resolutions.

The resumed constitutional conference ended on 22 June with the adoption of a draft constitution. Spain informed the Special Committee on 10 July that it planned to hold a referendum on the draft in August and general elections in September, to be followed by the granting of independence in October.

After hearing a number of petitioners from various groups in the Territory, the Committee adopted a consensus on 19 July (with reservations by Australia and the United States) in which it expressed hope that the United Nations presence to supervise steps leading to independence would begin work without delay. Noting with regret the differences that had arisen among political groups, it urged all concerned to contribute to the creation of conditions which would enable the Territory to accede to independence in peace and harmony.

The United Nations mission to Equatorial Guinea -- composed of representatives of Chile, Iran, Niger, Syria and the United Arab Republic, and chaired by Adamou Mayaki (Niger) -- arrived in the Territory on 10 August and supervised the referendum of 11 August. It is to perform the same function regarding general elections planned for mid-September, after which its report will be submitted to the Special Committee.

Swaziland: This Territory, which achieved independence from the United Kingdom on 6 September 1968, has been a matter of concern for the Special Committee and the Assembly since 1962. Until the end of 1966, when Botswana (formerly Bechuanaland) and Lesotho (formerly Basutoland) attained independence, the three southern African Territories were considered together. In resolution adopted in 1962, 1963 and 1965, the Assembly warned that any attempt by South Africa to annex or encroach on their territorial integrity would be considered an act of aggression. It also requested that economic, financial and technical assistance be furnished them through the United Nations and specialized agencies.

In a consensus on 23 October 1967, the Special Committee called on the British Government to grant independence to Swaziland without delay, requested it to ensure the return to the indigenous inhabitants of all land taken from them, asked it to take all appropriate action to protect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Swaziland in view of what the Committee described as the interventionist policy of South Africa, and urged it to take steps to bring about the Territory's economic independence from South Africa. The Assembly did not adopt a resolution dealing specifically with Swaziland in 1967.

On 22 May 1968, the Committee reiterated its requests regarding the return of alienated land and action by the United Kingdom to bring about the Territory's economic independence, protect its territorial integrity and enable it to achieve genuine independence. The resolution to this effect (A/AC.109/291) was adopted by 20 votes in favour to none against, with 3 abstentions (Australia, United Kingdom, United States).

Other Territories: At the request of the Assembly, repeated last year, the Special Committee continued in 1968 to give particular attention to smaller territories. Although since 1965 the Assembly has adopted resolutions covering these territories as a group, the Committee and its three sub-committees consider conditions in each and make specific observations and recommendations.

In its most recent resolution on the smaller territories (2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, adopted by 86 to none with 27 abstentions), the Assembly reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these territories to self-determination and independence. As it had done in 1966 (resolution 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966), it reiterated that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of colonial territories, and the establishment of military bases and installations there, is incompatible with the United Nations Charter and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence. It repeated a request of 1965 and 1966 that administering Powers allow United Nations visiting missions to visit the territories, and it decided that the United Nations should render all help to the peoples in their efforts freely to decide their future status.

So far in 1968, the Special Committee has made recommendations on the following Territories:

Regarding Caribbean Territories, the Committee sought unsuccessfully to have the United Kingdom defer the elections of 22 May in Bermuda until conditions returned to normal following the declaration of a state of emergency and the dispatch of British troops. It urged the United Kingdom to take immediate steps to transfer power to the peoples of that Territory as well as Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, Cayman Islands and Montserrat. It called on the United Kingdom to promote closer ties among Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. It invited the administering Power for the United States Virgin Islands to encourage free public discussion of the political alternatives open to the people and to ensure that they exercised self-determination in full knowledge of those alternatives.

Concerning Pacific Territories, the Committee stated that the political changes which had occurred in Niue and the Tokelau Islands, administered by New Zealand, were insufficient to enable their peoples to exercise the right of self-determination in the near future. It urged

the United Kingdom to give the indigenous inhabitants of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands a direct role in the control and management of the phosphate industry. It recommended that France and the United Kingdom, the joint administrators of New Hebrides, take urgent measures to introduce representative political institutions and executive machinery there.

As to Seychelles in the Indian Ocean and St. Helena in the Atlantic, the Committee called on the United Kingdom to reduce the vast economic gap between rich and poor, and urged it to desist from establishing military bases and installations in the Indian Ocean Territory.

In the case of all these territories, the Committee asked the administering Powers to admit a visiting mission or other form of United Nations presence.

So far this year, the Committee has not taken up the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) or Gibraltar, which have been the subject of a number of Assembly and Committee resolutions in the past.

In regard to the former, the Committee in 1964, and the Assembly in 1965, invited Argentina and the United Kingdom to negotiate their dispute concerning sovereignty over the Territory. Talks between the two Governments, begun in 1966, continued in 1967 and were the subject of a report by the parties to the Secretary-General. In a consensus approved on 19 December 1967, the Assembly urged that the negotiations be continued and that the two sides again report on their progress. No such report has been received thus far this year.

Concerning Gibraltar, which is the subject of a dispute between Spain and the United Kingdom the Assembly repeated in 1965 a call for bilateral negotiations which the Committee first issued in 1964. However, talks between the two Governments in 1966 were inconclusive. On 10 September 1967, despite protests by Spain, and a declaration by the Committee that the provisions of an Assembly resolution would be contradicted, the United Kingdom held a referendum in Gibraltar; according to the official results, 12,138 votes were cast for retention

of the Territory's link with the United Kingdom and 44 for transfer to Spanish sovereignty.

On 19 December 1967, the Assembly, in resolution 2353 (XXII), declared the holding of the referendum to be a contravention of an earlier Assembly resolution (2231 (XXI) of 20 December 1966) which had called for continued negotiations. It expressed regret at the interruption of negotiations and invited the two Governments to resume them without delay, "with a view to putting an end to the colonial situation in Gibraltar and to safeguarding the interests of the population upon the termination of that situation". The Secretary-General was requested to assist the parties in implementing the resolution and to report to the Assembly in 1968. The resolution was adopted by 73 votes to 19, with 27 abstentions.

The Secretary-General's report (A/7121 and Add.1-4) contains the text of communications sent to him by the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom. These communications indicate that the two Governments have been unable to agree on a basis for negotiation. They also contained details of a decision by Spain, with effect from 6 May, to close the land frontier with Gibraltar to transit by all persons except workers who commute across it daily, civilians who permanently reside in Gibraltar and others crossing in emergencies for humanitarian reasons. Also mentioned in the communications are constitutional talks held in Gibraltar in July, looking towards a new constitution for the Territory.

Other Territories which the Special Committee has not yet considered this year are Ifni, Spanish Sahara, French Territory of the Afars and the Issas (formerly French Somaliland), British Honduras, American Samoa, Guam, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Papua, Trust Territory of New Guinea, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Brunei, Hong Kong and the British Virgin Islands.

23. International Co-operation in Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

The question of the peaceful uses of outer space was first discussed by the General Assembly in 1958 when it established an ad hoc committee.

In 1959, the Assembly set up a 24-member committee to consider the subject. The Committee held its first meeting in November 1961, and was expanded to its present membership of 28 later that year.

Last year, the Assembly adopted three resolutions relating to outer space. In one of these, the Assembly commended to States the agreement on the rescue of astronauts, the return of astronauts and the return of objects launched into outer space; expressed hope for the widest adherence to the agreement, the text of which was annexed to the resolution; and called on the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to complete urgently a draft agreement on liability for damage caused by the launching of objects into outer space, and to submit it to the Assembly in 1968 (resolution 2345 (XXII) of 19 December 1967).

The agreement on assistance and return was opened for signature on 22 April 1968 at ceremonies in London, Moscow and Washington, the capitals of the three Depositary Governments, and up to now has been signed by more than 50 Governments.

In 1966, the Assembly had commended to States the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 2222 (XXI) of 19 December 1966).

That Treaty was opened for signature on 27 January 1967, and came into force on 10 October 1967 upon receipt of the necessary instruments of ratification.

The Assembly last year also adopted a resolution expressing hope that all those invited to the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space would attend (resolution 2261 (XXII) of 3 November 1967). All Member States and members of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency had been invited.

The Conference was held from 14 to 27 August in Vienna, with more than 600 delegates -- scientists and non-scientists -- from 79 countries, nine United Nations agencies and four specialized organizations taking part. More than 180 papers on space themes, prepared by invited Governments and organizations, were presented and discussed.

The discussions were devoted to communications, meteorology, navigation, other space techniques of practical benefit, biology and medicine, non-space applications of space technology, education and training, international co-operation and opportunities for participation in space research and applications, and economic, legal and social problems of the exploration and use of outer space relevant to international co-operation and practical benefits.

The objectives of the Conference were to examine the practical benefits to be derived from space research and exploration and the extent to which non-space Powers, especially the developing countries, might enjoy them, and to examine the opportunities available to non-space Powers for international co-operation in space activities, taking into account the extent to which the United Nations might play a role.

The third resolution adopted by the Assembly last year on this question endorsed the recommendations made by the Outer Space Committee in its report (A/6804) (resolution 2260 (XXII) of 3 November 1967).

In other provisions of that resolution, the Assembly approved the continuing sponsorship by the United Nations of the Thumba, India, equatorial rocket launching station; endorsed the sending of a group of scientists to Mar del Plata, Argentina, to consider United Nations sponsorship of the sounding rocket station there; and requested the Outer Space Committee to continue its work on the legal agreements and a definition of outer space and on the applications of satellite technology, and finally, to study the technical feasibility and implications of direct broadcasting from satellites.

The Legal Sub-Committee of the Outer Space Committee held its seventh session from 5 to 28 June 1968 in Geneva. Several provisions of a future agreement on liability were adopted. The report of the Legal Sub-Committee (A/AC.105/45) will come before the Outer Space Committee at its next session, scheduled to be held from 15 to 18 October at Headquarters.

The Legal Sub-Committee is one of two sub-committees of the whole of the Outer Space Committee. The other body, the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, is not expected to meet this year.

Members of the Outer Space Committee are: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, Soviet Union, Sweden, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United States.

24. Question of Korea

The General Assembly has been considering the Korean question since 1947, when it established a Commission to facilitate the holding of elections and the withdrawal of occupying troops.

Although unable to visit the area north of the thirty-eighth parallel, the Commission reported that it had supervised elections in the south.

In 1948, the Assembly decided that a lawful government had been established in South Korea, and sent a new Commission to that country to assist in bringing about unification.

In 1950, the Commission reported that North Korean forces had invaded the Republic of Korea on 25 June. The Security Council then established a unified command under the United States, to which it recommended that Member States make forces available in order to repel the attack and restore peace.

On 7 October 1950, the Assembly established the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea (UNCURK), to "represent the United Nations in bringing about the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic government of all Korea" (resolution 376 (V)). The Commission remained in Korea after the armistice of 27 July 1953.

Since its establishment, UNCURK has reported annually to the Assembly on political and economic conditions in Korea.

In its most recent action on the subject [resolution 2269 (XXII) of 16 November 1967], the Assembly reaffirmed the objectives of the United Nations in Korea and stated that the United Nations, under the Charter, was "rightfully empowered to take collective action to maintain peace and

security" in Korea. The objectives of the United Nations, the resolution stated, were to bring about by peaceful means the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic Korea under a representative form of government".

25. Reservation for Peaceful Purposes of Sea-Bed and Ocean Floor

The question of the reservation exclusively for peaceful purposes of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, underlying the high seas beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction, and the use of their resources in the interests of mankind was discussed for the first time, on the initiative of Malta, at the twenty-second session of the General Assembly. The Assembly decided then to set up an ad hoc committee to deal with the subject and to report to its twenty-third session.

The Assembly, in resolution 2340 (XXII) of 18 December 1967, adopted by a vote of 99 in favour to none against, with no abstentions, established the Ad Hoc Committee to be composed of the following 35 members: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Malta, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States and Yugoslavia.

Under the resolution, the Assembly requested the Committee, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, to prepare for consideration at its twenty-third session (1968) a study which would include:

- (a) A survey of past and present activities of the United Nations, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other intergovernmental bodies with regard to the sea-bed and ocean floor, and of existing international agreements concerning these areas;
- (b) An account of the scientific, technical, economic, legal and other aspects of the question; and
- (c) An indication of the practical means to promote international co-operation in the exploration, conservation and use of the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof, and of their resources, having regard to the views expressed and the suggestions put forward by Member States during consideration of this question at the Assembly's twenty-second session.

The Assembly stated, in the preamble to its resolution, that it was "mindful ... of the importance of preserving the sea-bed and the ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof ... from actions and uses which might be detrimental to the common interests of mankind".

The exploration and use of the environment concerned should be conducted, the Assembly stated, in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and for the benefit of all mankind.

The Ad Hoc Committee, whose Chairman is H.S. Amerasinghe (Ceylon), held three sessions during 1968: two in New York (March and June/July) and the third in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It set up two working groups -- the Legal Working Group and the Economic and Technical Working Group.

The report to the twenty-third session, adopted at the Rio session, states:

-- that virtual agreement was reached on a proposal to create a standing committee for the peaceful utilization of the sea-bed, but that the final decision on the composition of that permanent committee and its terms of reference was left to the twenty-third session of the Assembly;

-- that it endorses the Secretary-General's proposal for an expanded programme of international co-operation under the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

-- that it endorses the proposal for an International Decade of Ocean Exploration;

-- that international co-operation in the development and exploitation of the resources of the sea would be the best way to foster research in the area to fill the present gap;

-- that it was widely recognized that an internationally acceptable definition of the precise limits of the sea under consideration was central to the whole question and that this complex matter required careful study;

-- that unanimity was reached that the sea-bed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction should be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that the Assembly be asked to adopt principles to ensure this -- though no agreement was reached on the interpretation of "peaceful purposes"; and

-- that elaboration of agreed principles needed further consideration and study since no final agreement could be reached on them.

26. Question of General and Complete Disarmament

The question of disarmament was the subject of the first resolution adopted by the Assembly in 1946, establishing the Atomic Energy Commission. That Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments, set up in 1947, were replaced in 1952 by the Disarmament Commission, which was enlarged in 1959 to include all Members of the United Nations. The Disarmament Commission last met in June 1965.

Although it had called on a number of occasions for agreement on measures to end the armaments race, the Assembly used the term "general and complete disarmament" for the first time in 1959.

That year, agreement was reached outside the United Nations on setting up a Ten-Nation Disarmament Committee, composed of five members each of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Warsaw Pact.

In 1961, the Assembly endorsed the agreement reached between the Soviet Union and the United States on the composition of a new negotiating body -- the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament. This body consisted of the 10 members of the former Committee plus eight non-aligned States. It has been meeting in Geneva, and reporting to the Assembly, each year since 1962.

Last year the Assembly requested the Committee to resume its deliberations and to report to the 1968 Assembly.

The Committee's report will be available shortly (A/7189-DC/231).

Members of the Committee are: Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, France, India, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United States. (France has not attended any of the meetings.)

It was on the basis of the Committee's work that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was drawn up. This treaty was commended by the General Assembly on 12 June 1968 (resolution 2373 (XXII)) and is now open for signature. It would have nuclear-weapon States undertake not

to let non-nuclear-weapon States have nuclear weapons or their know-how and have non-nuclear-weapon States voluntarily give up any attempt to obtain nuclear weapons.

In adopting the resolution commending the treaty, the Assembly requested the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament and the nuclear-weapon States urgently to pursue negotiations on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and nuclear disarmament and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

The non-nuclear-weapon States are holding a conference in Geneva in September to consider, among other things, co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy and security guarantees for non-nuclear-weapon States.

27. Urgent Need for Suspension of Nuclear and Thermonuclear Tests

The General Assembly first urged the immediate suspension of testing of nuclear weapons in 1957 as part of a disarmament agreement accompanied by effective international control (resolution 1148 (XII) of 14 November 1957).

On 5 August 1963, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States signed a treaty in Moscow banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water. This treaty was subsequently signed by more than 100 other States. However, it does not ban underground tests, and two nuclear Powers -- France and the People's Republic of China -- are not signatories.

Noting the treaty with approval, the Assembly, on 27 November 1963, called on all States to become parties to it and requested the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to continue negotiations on the subject (resolution 1910 (XVIII)). After inconclusive negotiations in 1964 and 1965, the Assembly repeated its call for a suspension of tests and for continued work by the Disarmament Committee on a test ban treaty (resolution 2032 (XX) of 3 December 1965).

The Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament was again unable to reach agreement in 1967. On 19 December, the Assembly urged all States which had not yet done so to adhere to the 1963 test ban treaty, and called on all nuclear-weapon States to suspend nuclear weapon tests in all environments.

28. Elimination of Foreign Military Bases in Asia, Africa and Latin America

This question was first included in the General Assembly's agenda in 1966 at the request of the Soviet Union. The Soviet letter (A/6399) recalled that the Assembly had requested the colonial Powers to dismantle the military bases installed in colonial territories and to refrain from establishing new ones (resolution 2105 (XX) of 20 December 1965).

Resuming consideration of the item last year, the Assembly, in resolution 2344 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, noted that the Disarmament Committee had not yet been able to give sufficient consideration to the question of the elimination of foreign military bases in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. It requested that Committee to resume consideration of the question and report to the 1968 Assembly.

The Disarmament Committee's report is not yet available.

29. Effects of Atomic Radiation

The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation was established by the Assembly in 1955, and requested to assemble, study and disseminate information on observed levels of ionizing radiation and radio-activity in the environment, and on the effects of such radiation upon man and his environment. The information is furnished by Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies (resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955).

The Committee has reported annually to the Assembly since 1956. In 1958 and 1962, it submitted comprehensive reports on radiation levels and effects. Last year, the Assembly unanimously requested the Committee to continue its work (resolution 2258 (XXII) of 25 October 1967).

This year, the Committee held its eighteenth session from 8 to 17 April. Among the subjects discussed at the session were recent information on radio-active contamination of the environment by nuclear tests, effects of ionizing radiation on the nervous system and radiation-induced chromosome anomalies in man. The Committee expressed its intention of preparing for the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly a report dealing with such evaluations of risk as might result from consideration of these subjects.

The Committee also reviewed the data that it needed to assess levels of radiation from nuclear tests and, in a letter to members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies, it outlined the information required. The letter was attached to its report (A/7126).

The Committee is composed of scientists from 15 nations: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Japan, Mexico, Soviet Union, Sweden, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United States.

30. Policies of Apartheid of South Africa

The racial policies of the Government of South Africa have been under discussion in the United Nations, in one form or another, since the first session of the General Assembly in 1946 when India complained that South Africa had enacted legislation against South Africans of Indian origin.

The wider question of apartheid (racial separation) was placed on the agenda of the Assembly in 1952, at the request of 13 delegations, under the title "Question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Union of South Africa". The two related questions continued to be discussed as separate agenda items until 1962 when they were combined under the title: "The policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa".

In 1952, the Assembly established an investigating commission and called on all Member States to bring their policies into conformity with their obligation to promote human rights (resolution 616 (VII) of 5 December 1952).

The Assembly, on 6 December 1955, noted with regret that South Africa had refused to co-operate with the Commission and expressed concern that South Africa continued to give effect to the policies of apartheid (resolution 917 (X)).

Since 1956, the Assembly has repeatedly called on South Africa to revise its racial policies.

South Africa, on the other hand, has maintained that its racial policies are essentially within its domestic jurisdiction.

The Security Council considered the matter after the Sharpeville incident in 1960. In 1963, it called on all States to cease sales and shipments of arms, ammunition of all types, and military vehicles to South Africa, including equipment and materials for the manufacture and maintenance of arms and ammunition there (resolution 181 (1963) of 7 August).

At its seventeenth session in 1962, the Assembly requested Member States to take various diplomatic and economic measures against South Africa and established a special committee -- called the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa -- to keep the situation under review and to report to the General Assembly and to the Security Council as appropriate (resolution 1761 (XVII) of 6 November). The Special Committee has submitted annual and special reports to both organs of the United Nations.

The United Nations has established two programmes financed by voluntary contributions to give assistance to the victims of the policies of apartheid. In pursuance of Security Council resolution 191 (1964) of 18 June 1964, the Secretary-General established a United Nations educational and training programme for South Africans.

Also this year, the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts, established by the Commission on Human Rights in 1967 to investigate the treatment of political prisoners in southern Africa, held meetings in New York, London, Geneva, Conakry, Kinshasa, Brazzaville, Lusaka and Dar es Salaam to hear the testimony of witnesses on this matter.

The reports of the Apartheid Committee and the Working Group of Experts are not yet available.

31. Review of Peace-Keeping Operations

The 33-nation Special Committee on Peace-Keeping Operations was established by the General Assembly at its nineteenth session, on 18 February 1965, and was instructed to undertake, as soon as possible, a comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects, including ways of overcoming the present financial difficulties of the United Nations (resolution 2006 (XIX)).

The Assembly, at its twenty-second session, on 13 December 1967, re-affirmed resolution 2249 (S-V), adopted by the Assembly at a special session earlier in the year, and requested the Committee of 33 to continue the work assigned to it by the Assembly under that resolution.

The Assembly expressed the view that the preparation of a study on matters related to facilities, services and personnel, which Member States might provide in accordance with the Charter for United Nations peace-keeping operations, would be appropriate.

It requested the Committee of 33 to prepare a report on the progress made by 1 July 1968, including the study referred to above, and transmitted to the Committee of 33 the records of the debates on this question at the twenty-second session of the Assembly, with the request that the suggestions and proposals contained in them be taken into account (resolution 2308 (XXII)).

In the resolution adopted at the special session, the Assembly requested the Committee of 33 "to continue the review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all its aspects and to study the various suggestions made by different delegations during the Committee's last session, in particular those relating to: (a) Methods of financing future peace-keeping operations, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations; and (b) Facilities, services and personnel which Member States might voluntarily provide, in accordance with the Charter, for United Nations peace-keeping operations".

The Assembly also renewed its appeal "to all Member States and, in particular, to the highly developed countries to make voluntary contributions to overcome the continuing financial difficulties of the United Nations".

Following a series of meetings during the first half of 1968, the Committee adopted a progress report to the Assembly on 27 June (A/7131), in which it noted that a Working Group established by the Committee in April to prepare working papers for the study requested by the Assembly had "approved as a first model in its programme of work a study of the United Nations military observers established or authorized by the Security Council for observation purposes pursuant to Security Council resolutions".

That would mean, the report stated, studying:

"1. The strength and equipment of the group of observers; their recruitment and organization; facilities and services; financial questions;

"2. The relationship between observers and the State or States on the territory or territories of which they have to operate;

"3. The status of observers; privileges and immunities; duration and termination of the mission of observers".

The report said that the Secretary-General had been requested to give instructions for the preparation of:

"(a) A compilation of the statements made in the Security Council and in the Special Committee on the military observers established or authorized by the Security Council, covering all the aspects referred to above;

"(b) A report containing all the documents and materials available in the Secretariat which refer to the military observers established or authorized by the Security Council, covering all the aspects referred to above".

It was understood, the report stated, that the documents and materials which the Secretariat would submit to the Working Group would not put forward any conclusions or recommendations.

The material requested was submitted early in September to the Working Group, which is composed of the representatives of Canada, Czechoslovakia, Mexico and the United Arab Republic -- the officers of the Committee -- and also the representatives of France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The progress report also noted that in March the Chairman of the Committee, Francisco Cuevas Cancino (Mexico), had invited Member States of the Committee to make contributions to the study requested by the Assembly, either orally or in writing. Various statements had been made in the course of the Committee's meetings, and communications had been received from a number of States, including States which were not members of the Committee. These communications had been circulated as Committee documents.

Members of the Committee are: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Hungary, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Mauritania, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, Soviet Union, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

32. Report of Commissioner-General of UNRWA

United Nations assistance for Palestine refugees first began in November 1948, when the General Assembly authorized the advance of \$5 million for the purpose of relief, urged all countries to contribute to a special fund, and appealed to the specialized agencies to extend their full co-operation in the field of relief.

The United Nations Relief for Palestine Refugees (UNRPR) was established on 1 December 1948 with voluntary contributions of \$35 million from 33 Governments.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) began work in May 1950, in accordance with Assembly resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949. The assets and liabilities of the UNRPR were transferred to UNRWA.

The present Commissioner-General of UNRWA, Laurence Michelmore, is assisted by an Advisory Committee, with Belgium, France, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States as members. His report to the Assembly for the year ended 30 June 1968 (A/7213) will be issued later.

The Agency, financed by voluntary contributions, provides relief, education, training and other services to Arab refugees from Palestine now living in Jordan, the Gaza Strip, Lebanon and Syria.

As of 31 May 1967, 1,344,576 refugees were registered with UNRWA. However, as a result of the Arab-Israeli hostilities in June 1967, about 350,000 to 400,000 persons, including about 130,000 registered Palestine refugees, were reported to have been rendered homeless or to have left their homes.

In July 1967, the Secretary-General appointed Nils-Göran Gussing of Sweden as his Special Representative and sent him to the Middle East to obtain on-the-spot information. The appointment followed the adoption of Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June and of Assembly resolution 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July concerning the welfare of the civilian population and prisoners-of-war in the area of conflict. Both resolutions requested the Secretary-General to report on their implementation.

The Secretary-General, in a report to the Security Council and the Assembly dated 18 August 1967 (A/6787 and Corr.1), gave information on the humanitarian aspects of the Middle East situation, based on information received from the Commissioner-General and interim reports of Mr. Gussing. The report dealt with the two categories of persons requiring assistance from UNRWA -- those who had lost their homes in the 1948 conflict and who were registered with the Agency, and others who had been newly displaced by the recent hostilities.

The newly displaced persons, the report stated, included a large number of persons displaced a second time; persons who were not on UNRWA rolls, since they had not lost their homes and livelihood in 1948; and an intermediate group of persons who had been displaced in 1948, but were able to fend for themselves. The movement of refugees was both within the Agency's area of operations -- from the west to the east bank of the Jordan River and from the now occupied part of Syria into non-occupied areas -- and from the Sinai into the United Arab Republic where UNRWA had not previously operated relief services.

In resolution 2341 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, the Assembly directed the Commissioner-General to ensure the most equitable distribution of relief based on need, and called upon all Governments to make "the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs ..." of UNRWA.

33. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) held its first session in 1964 and, in December of that year, was established as an organ of the General Assembly. A 55-member Trade and Development Board was created to carry out its functions between sessions. Specifically, the Board was empowered to review and to take appropriate action for the implementation of UNCTAD's recommendations and decisions. Subsidiary bodies were set up to assist the Board, including four main committees to deal respectively with commodities, manufactures, shipping, invisibles and financing (resolution 1995 (XIX)).

In 1966, the Assembly decided to convene the second session of UNCTAD in New Delhi, India, from 1 February to 25 March 1968. It directed that that session should serve as a forum for examining major trade and development

issues and for considering further action for the implementation of the recommendations of the first UNCTAD (resolution 2206 (XXI)).

Last year, the Assembly expressed satisfaction over the final preparations for the second UNCTAD, and decided to consider its results as a matter of high priority (resolution 2296 (XXII)).

The results are presented to the Assembly in a report (A/7214), which states that, while the second UNCTAD adopted recommendations, decisions and guidelines for the work programme of its continuing machinery and on some important issues, it was unable to reach generally acceptable conclusions on other issues of substance.

Major world trade questions on which the Conference made decisions and recommendations included those on commodities, preferences, financing and aid for development, East-West trade and trade between developing and socialist countries, the world food problem, the special problems of land-locked countries, and expansion of trade among developing countries.

Under one recommendation, the Conference proposed that the Assembly amend its resolution governing the membership of UNCTAD, so as to suspend South Africa until that country had terminated its policy of racial discrimination. Other specific proposals were referred to the Trade and Development Board, including a proposal for a series of steps to improve institutional arrangements for UNCTAD and to ensure action programmes.

The Board met in Geneva on 6 and 7 May, and decided to give priority to consideration of the question of the improvement of the institutional machinery at its seventh session, to be held in Geneva from 29 August to 28 September. The Board's report to the Assembly this year will deal mainly with action taken by it on this question as well as other topics listed in its 16-point provisional agenda (TD/B/168).

The Assembly will also receive a report on the functioning of the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre, established on 1 January 1968 to assist developing countries in their export promotion efforts (resolution 2297 (XXII)).

34. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) was established in 1966 as an organ of the General Assembly to promote industrial development and, in particular, to help accelerate the industrialization of the developing countries.

Under other provisions of resolution 2152 (XXI) establishing it, a 45-member Industrial Development Board was set up to serve as its principal organ. The Board was assigned a number of functions, including the power to formulate principles and policies for UNIDO and to consider and approve its programme of activities. The Assembly requested the Board to report to it annually through the Economic and Social Council. It received and considered, so far, one report from the Board on its first session, held in New York from 10 April to 5 May 1967 (A/6715).

Acting on the Board's report last year, the Assembly strengthened the autonomy of UNIDO. It established, in Part V of the United Nations budget, a separate section to provide for the programme of technical assistance in industrial development, at an appropriate level commensurate with the expanding requirements of the developing countries.

In resolution 2298 (XXII), the Assembly also vested the Board with authority to consider and approve projects and programmes in industrial development. The Board was also authorized to provide general policy guidance and direction regarding utilization of resources appropriated for activities in this field.

At the same time, the Assembly called for a study of the possibility of intensifying international industrial co-operation to further the purpose and functions of UNIDO, and invited the new organization to undertake this study in close co-operation with other appropriate United Nations bodies (resolution 2299 (XXII)).

This year, the Assembly will have before it the report of the Board on its second session held in Vienna, its headquarters, from 17 April to 14 May (A/7215).

In a statement to the session, the Executive Director of UNIDO, Ibrahim H. Abdel-Rahman, said that major activities during the past year concerned

the promotion and servicing of field activities and the adjustment of support activities towards the achievement of practical and concrete results. UNIDO, it was stated, now had four main programmes: the UNDP/Special Fund component, the UNDP/Technical Assistance component, the Special Industrial Services Programme, and the Regular Programme of the United Nations.

Actions taken by the Board include a call for intensified efforts by UNIDO in areas of activities where there were gaps of action. The Board also made a call for closer co-operation and more effective co-ordination between UNIDO and other United Nations bodies dealing with industrial development. The Board recommended \$1.5 million as the planning level of the Regular Programme of Technical Assistance for industrial development in 1969 and 1970, respectively.

In another action, the Board requested its Executive Director to prepare long-term programme proposals, which would take into account the development strategy to be implemented during the Second Development Decade. The Board made this last request in response to Assembly resolution 2370 (XXII), inviting United Nations programme-formulating bodies to develop their own processes for carrying out a system of long-term planning and programme formulation.

35. United Nations Capital Development Fund

In 1966, the Assembly decided to bring into operation the United Nations Capital Development Fund which it had established to assist developing countries in the development of their economies. It directed that the Fund provide its assistance in the form of grants or loans, particularly loans made interest-free or at low-interest rates, to supplement existing sources of capital.

Under resolution 2186 (XXI) bringing the Fund into operation, the Assembly established a 24-member Executive Board to control its policies and operations, as well as the post of a Managing Director to exercise over-all responsibility for operations, subject to the directives of the Board. The Board was requested to report annually to the Assembly through the Economic and Social Council. Expenses for the Fund's operational activities were to be met from voluntary contributions of States.

Pledges made to the Fund at the first pledging conference, held in New York on 31 October 1967, amounted to the equivalent of \$1.3 million, part of which was in non-convertible currency. The Assembly considered that, in view of the initial lack of financial resources, it would not be possible to give full effect, in 1968, to its decision to bring the Fund into operation.

The Assembly postponed action on the election of the Fund's Executive Board, and on the appointment of a Managing Director. In a series of provisional measures, it authorized the Governing Council of the UNDP to perform the Board's functions, and invited the UNDP Administrator to administer the Fund by performing the functions of the Managing Director.

In resolution 2321 (XXII) providing for these measures, the Assembly decided to review, at this year's session, institutional arrangements for operating the Fund.

The Economic and Social Council, at its forty-fifth session, considered the UNDP Governing Council's first report on the Fund. It endorsed plans for continued efforts by the UNDP Administrator to start the operations of the Fund and to identify specific projects of the United Nations family, which could benefit from the Fund's investment activities.

In resolution 1350 (XLV), the Council also called for maximum participation by States in the second pledging conference of the Fund, to be convened in New York on 18 October 1968.

36. United Nations Development Decade

The current decade was designated as the United Nations Development Decade by the General Assembly in 1961. Each developing country was asked to set its own growth rate, taking as an objective a minimum annual growth rate of 5 per cent by the end of the 10-year period. Member States were called upon to pursue policies and to take measures aimed at helping the developing countries achieve that goal (resolution 1710 (XVI)).

Over the years, the operation of the Decade has been the subject of periodic review, particularly by the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, on the basis of progress reports by the Secretary-General.

In his 1966 progress report, the Secretary-General reaffirmed an earlier conclusion that progress during the first half of the Decade had been disappointing. He warned that, unless the world community was prepared to give a massive impetus to development, it was unlikely that the Decade's objectives would be achieved (E/4196 and Add.1-3).

At its 1966 session, the Assembly addressed two requests to the Secretary-General concerning preparatory work for the next decade. In one, he was asked to elaborate a preliminary framework of international development strategy for the 1970s. In the other, the Assembly called for a survey of principles, directives and guidelines, established by the United Nations, for action with regard to development. In making this request, the Assembly considered that the possibility and advisability of proclaiming a development charter deserved consideration. It approved a request of the Economic and Social Council that the Committee on Development Planning assist the Secretary-General in his task (resolutions 2218 A and B (XXI)).

The Committee on Development Planning discussed the matter in April 1967 and suggested that the United Nations adopt a development charter. It established a working group to prepare a precise programme of action for the 1970s.

Reporting on the Committee's proposals last year, the Secretary-General expressed the hope that that working group would assist in carrying preparatory work for the 1970s forward to its next phase. Specifically, he hoped that the work of the group would help in meeting the 1966 requests of the Assembly (E/4376).

Last year, the Assembly stressed the importance of intensifying such preparatory work. It asked the Secretary-General to expedite work on the survey which it had requested in 1966, and directed that he recommend appropriate means of harmonizing measures that could be considered within the context of a preliminary framework of development strategy. Finally, the Assembly decided to consider, at this year's regular session, the appropriate procedures to be followed for proclaiming the 1970s as the Second Development Decade, and for approving a programme of action during that decade (resolution 2305 (XXII)).

The Committee for Development Planning gave further attention to the question in May this year. It considered a tentative outline of an international development strategy for the 1970s, and recommended that seven of its members meet as a Working Group to prepare a preliminary sketch of such a strategy.

Further, the Committee expressed the view that the preparation of a sound framework of a development strategy required careful thought and work, and ought to be spread over a reasonable length of time. It proposed a time-table for further preparatory work, designed to pave the way for appropriate decisions by the Assembly in the latter part of 1970 (E/4525).

The preparations for the next decade was also reviewed in July this year at a joint meeting of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), which also recognized the need for a longer preparatory period and for more intensive and thorough preparations for the next decade (E/4557).

At its 1968 summer session, the Economic and Social Council noted with appreciation the proposals of the Committee for Development Planning and took special steps, including assignment to the Council's Economic Committee of special tasks, as part of the preparation for the 1970s (resolution 1356 (XLV)).

First, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit to Member States, for their comments, the preliminary outline of an international development strategy which was being prepared by the Committee for Development Planning. He was further asked to submit that outline, and the comments on it by Governments, to the Council's Economic Committee for consideration.

In addition to examination of the outline on development strategy, the Economic Committee was requested to prepare an outline of an international development policy, to hold as many inter-sessional meetings as would be necessary for these tasks, and to submit a progress report to the Council at its 1969 spring session.

The Council requested the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and other appropriate bodies of the United Nations system to co-operate with the Economic Committee. The Council also decided to consider the matter again at its 1969 summer session, with a view to facilitating the tasks assigned to the Secretary-General by the Assembly in its 1967 resolution, including particularly the Assembly's call for recommendations on the appropriate means of harmonizing measures that could be considered within the context of a development strategy.

In a related action, the Council drew the attention of Governments to the need for mobilizing public opinion in the developed and developing countries, so as to ensure participation by policy-makers and peoples in the attainment of the goals and targets of the Second Development Decade. The Secretary-General was asked, further, to give particular attention to the formulation of programmes by which such mobilization of public opinion could be achieved (Council resolution 1357 (XLV)).

The Secretary-General will report to the Assembly, at its forthcoming session, on these developments in a Secretariat note which has not yet been issued. The note will also deal with the results of the examination of the question of preparations for the Second Development Decade by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), as requested in the Assembly's 1966 resolution, and by the Trade and Development Board.

37. International Education Year

In 1967, the Assembly decided to observe an International Education Year to mobilize energies and inspire initiatives in education and training. It provisionally designated the year 1970 for this purpose, and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a programme of activities in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The Secretary-General was also asked to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, a progress report to the Assembly at its 1968 regular session, so that it might decide on the proclamation of International Education Year, in the light of the preparations which had been made (resolution 2306 (XXII)).

The Secretary-General reported to the Council, at its 1968 summer session, on tentative proposals made by UNESCO, including a suggestion that the Year should go beyond the scope of a celebration and aim at promoting action for educational progress by Governments and the international community at large.

In the report (E/4518), the Secretary-General stated that the Director-General of UNESCO had expressed the readiness of his organization to assume primary responsibility for the preparatory work for the programme of activities, and that the General Conference of UNESCO would examine the question at its next regular session to be held from 15 October to 21 November 1968.

Following review of the report, the Council recommended that the Assembly definitely designate the year 1970 as International Education Year. It invited the UNESCO general assembly to transmit to the Assembly any resolution which it might adopt on the question. It also invited all organizations of the United Nations family to participate in the preparation of programmes for the Year (resolution 1355 (XLV)).

On this question, the Assembly will receive a Secretariat note which has not yet been issued.

38. Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources

In 1952, the General Assembly recommended that all Member States, in the exercise of their right freely to exploit their natural resources, should pay due regard, consistent with their sovereignty, to the need for maintaining the flow of capital. It also recommended that Members refrain from impeding the exercise of a State's sovereignty over its resources (resolution 626 (VII)).

The Assembly kept the question under periodic review, and took several actions including a declaration which it adopted in 1962. In it, the Assembly, among other measures, declared that "the right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources must be exercised in the interest of their national development and the well-being of the people of the State concerned". This declaration was incorporated in a resolution which requested the Secretary-General to continue study of the question and to report to the Assembly (resolution 1803 (XVII)).

A report (E/3840) prepared by the Secretary-General in response to this request was submitted to the Assembly which, in 1965, deferred consideration of the matter until its 1966 regular session (A/6196).

At the 1966 session, the Assembly reaffirmed the inalienable right of all countries to exercise permanent sovereignty over their natural resources in the interest of their national development. It declared that the United Nations should undertake a maximum concerted effort to channel its activities so as to enable all countries to exercise that right fully.

The Secretary-General was requested to co-ordinate the activities of the Secretariat in the field of natural resources with those of other United Nations organs and programmes. He was also asked to facilitate exploitation of the natural resources of developing countries within the context of the programmes for their accelerated economic growth. Finally, the Secretary-General was asked to submit a progress report to the Assembly, at its forthcoming session, on the implementation of its request (resolution 2158 (XXI)).

A report and a note by the Secretariat, which are expected to be submitted to the Assembly this year on this question, have not yet been issued.

39. Conversion to Peaceful Needs of Resources Released by Disarmament

In 1962, the General Assembly expressed its unanimous conviction that disarmament and the conversion of huge resources to peaceful uses would open up vast opportunities for peaceful co-operation and trade, ensure the growth of production and provide jobs for millions of people (resolution 1837 (XVII)).

The Secretary-General reported annually until 1966 to the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on the status of national and international activity in this field.

On 6 December 1966, the Assembly noted with approval a decision of the Council that reports on the matter should be submitted on a biennial basis, unless developments warranted additional reports.

The Secretary-General's most recent report (E/4494) incorporates replies from 17 Governments regarding national studies of the matter.

40. Resources of Sea

On 6 December 1966, the General Assembly endorsed a resolution of the Economic and Social Council requesting the Secretary-General to make a survey of the present state of knowledge of the resources of the sea beyond the continental shelf, excluding fish, and of the techniques for exploiting

these resources (resolution 2172 (XXI)). The report was to be considered by the 1968 Assembly, after consideration by the Economic and Social Council.

The Secretary-General submitted two reports which were considered by the Council in August 1968. They are: "Resources of the Sea beyond the Continental Shelf" (E/4449 and Add.1 and 2), and "Marine Science and Technology" (E/4487 and Corr.1).

After consideration of the reports, the Council expressed its conviction that the nations of the world should join together, with due respect for existing national jurisdictions, in a common, long-term programme of exploration of the ocean as a potential source of resources which could eventually be used for meeting the needs of all mankind.

As a step towards this objective, the Council invited the General Assembly to endorse the concept of a co-ordinated long-term programme of oceanographic research designed to increase, in the interest of the world economic development, the resources available to all people of the world.

The Secretary-General's reports find that substantial mineral deposits await development in the ocean environment and some "living populations" in the open sea promise to yield significant quantities of non-fish food. Economic exploitation of the mineral resources, however, "is largely dependent on the development of greatly increased engineering capability, and the inability to use the food resources is largely a consequence of a lack of knowledge concerning marine animals and the ocean environment".

41. The Role of United Nations in Training National Technical Personnel of Developing Countries

In 1962, the General Assembly reiterated its earlier recommendation that the training of technical personnel should be regarded as an important factor in the economic development of under-developed countries, and called for measures to intensify the role of the United Nations in the training of such personnel for the accelerated industrialization of those countries (resolution 1824 (XVII)).

The Secretary-General, in a report prepared at the Assembly's request, reviewed the national and international action already undertaken in this field, and made recommendations for further action by the developing countries and international organizations (E/3901 and Add.1 and 2).

The Assembly, in 1965, said that this report was a valuable document. It requested Governments and appropriate United Nations bodies to consider the recommendations contained in it, and to transmit to the Secretary-General their comments and suggestions (resolution 2090 (XX)).

Reporting to the Assembly in October last year, the Secretary-General said that only four replies had been received, as of that date, in response to the Assembly's request, and that this limited response did not provide an adequate basis for an analysis of the views of Governments on the matter (A/6855).

The Assembly considered this report last year, and requested Governments which had not done so and the appropriate United Nations bodies to communicate their observations and comments to the Secretary-General, in the light of the results of the first half of the United Nations Development Decade. The Secretary-General was requested to prepare the report called for by the Assembly in its 1965 resolution, and to include in the report the question of the drain of national technical personnel from the developing countries. The Assembly directed further that the report be submitted to it at its 1968 regular session (resolution 2259 (XXII)).

This report has not yet been issued.

42. External Financing of Economic Development of Developing Countries

The General Assembly's efforts concerning the flow of capital to developing countries began in 1950, when the Economic and Social Council was asked to consider practical methods for achieving the adequate expansion and steadier flow of such capital (resolution 400 (V)).

In subsequent years, the Council and the Assembly made a number of recommendations on ways of making more public capital from abroad available to the developing countries, of increasing the flow of private investment capital, and of measuring international economic assistance.

An earlier recommendation was replaced by a decision, taken by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) at its second session in New Delhi this year, that developed countries should provide a net flow of development finance equal to 1 per cent of their gross national product. Hope was expressed that this target would be reached at an early date.

The latest action by the Assembly itself was taken last year, when it approved a series of steps by which developed countries could make external resources available to developing countries. These steps, recommended originally by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1183 (XLI), included a call on developed countries to provide, by 1968, at least 80 per cent of their assistance in the form of grants or loans at interest rates of 3 per cent or less and with a repayment period of 25 years or more.

In resolution 2274 (XXII), approving the Council's recommendation, the Assembly also noted, with appreciation, a Secretariat report (E/4375) which analysed the factors affecting the ability of the developed countries to provide resources to the developing countries and suggested measures by which these factors could be overcome. The developed countries were requested to study the possibility of implementing the measures suggested in the report, and the Secretary-General was asked to report to the Assembly, at its 1968 session, on action taken in response to this request. The Secretary-General was also asked to report on the implementation of the steps recommended by the Economic and Social Council.

The latest statistical data on the international flow of capital and assistance are set forth in three reports prepared by the Secretary-General this year (E/4438, E/4495 and E/4512).

Proposals for continued United Nations efforts in the field are set out in other reports, dealing with the question of foreign investment in developing countries, export credit and development financing, and the establishment of an advisory service on industrial equipment.

On foreign investment, a Secretariat report and note proposed that a panel be convoked to discuss the principal issues arising in the context of foreign investment in developing countries and the solutions that might be appropriate to them. The panel, it was proposed further, should consist of officials from Governments and international agencies and of leaders in the investment community (E/4446 and E/4565).

A Secretariat progress report on export credit proposed a work programme providing for the convening of a round-table discussion, to be attended by interested international and national agencies and institutions. At this discussion, the experience of existing national schemes relating to export

credit insurance and financing would be reviewed and assessed, the results of this assessment would be evaluated, and proposals for appropriate future action would be formulated (E/4481).

The report on advisory service on industrial equipment concerned the proposed establishment, within the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), of such a service to provide information to the developing countries on the sources of supply, the cost and the quality of equipment needed for their development. The report said that UNIDO had included the establishment of this service in its programme for 1968, to be operational by the end of the year (E/4549).

The proposals respectively on the convocation of a panel on foreign investment and on the convening of a round-table discussion on export credit were approved this summer by the Economic and Social Council, which requested the Secretary-General to report to it on their implementation (Council resolutions 1358 (XLV) and 1359 (XLV)).

The report of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO dealing, among other topics, with the proposal relating to the advisory service on industrial equipment was noted with appreciation by the Council which transmitted it to the Assembly (Council resolution 1349 (XLV)).

43. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The first steps towards the establishment of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) were taken in 1962 when the Assembly requested a report on the desirability and feasibility of setting up, under United Nations auspices, a training and research programme financed by voluntary contributions from public and private sources (resolution 1827 (XVII) of 18 December 1962).

A plan prepared by the Secretary-General (E/3942) was approved by the Economic and Social Council and the Assembly the following year. The Secretary-General was then authorized to take the necessary steps to establish such an institute, and to explore possible sources of financial assistance (resolution 1934 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963). UNITAR was formally opened on 24 March 1965. An Executive Director, Gabriel d'Arboussier of Senegal, and a Board of Trustees were appointed and the first session of the Board was held in New York on 24 and 25 March 1965.

That year, the Executive Director and the Secretary-General reported to the Council and the Assembly on progress made. Some of the tasks which the Institute could perform, as a central agency for training and research related to the United Nations system, were outlined (E/4049). The Assembly, noting the progress made, expressed the hope that regular operations would begin not later than the end of 1965.

In resolution 2044 (XX) of 8 December 1965, the Assembly further appealed to Member States and private institutions which had not yet done so to give the Institute their generous financial support. The Executive Director was requested to report annually to the Assembly and, as appropriate, to the Council.

The Executive Director has so far reported to the Assembly three times. His report this year will be issued after the seventh session of the Board, which will be held in New York on 11 and 12 September.

The Executive Director, in a report this year to the Council, says that, up to 15 May 1968, governmental and non-governmental sources had pledged a total of \$4,812,386 in voluntary contributions. Of this, \$3,408,739 has been paid to the Institute.

Following the expiry of the term of office of Mr. d'Arboussier as Executive Director on 31 December 1967, Chief S.O. Adebo of Nigeria was appointed to succeed him by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Board of Trustees. Chief Adebo assumed his duties on 1 March 1968.

44. Operational Activities for Development

(a) Activities of the United Nations Development Programme

In 1965, the General Assembly established the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to consolidate, in one programme, the activities of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and the Special Fund. EPTA came to be known as the Technical Assistance component of the UNDP, and the Special Fund became the Special Fund component.

(EPTA was established to combine the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to assist the economic development of developing countries, and plans for the scheme were approved in 1949. The Special Fund

was established in 1958 to supplement EFTA by a scheme which would provide pre-investment assistance to relatively large development projects.)

Arrangements for the establishment of the UNDP were approved in November 1965, and became effective on 1 January 1966. These included the creation of a 37-member Governing Council which provides general policy guidance for the Programme, approves projects, allocates funds and submits reports and recommendations to the Economic and Social Council which, in turn, reports to the Assembly (resolution 2029 (XX)).

Last year, the Assembly expressed concern at the increasing disproportion between the assistance needs of the developing countries and the resources available to the UNDP. It appealed to Member States to help as much as possible to increase the Programme's resources, bearing in mind the call made in 1966 by the Secretary-General for a target of \$350 million to be reached by 1970. It also requested the UNDP Governing Council to examine the means whereby UNDP could do more to stimulate and facilitate the financing of projects which had already benefited from UNDP pre-investment (resolution 2280 (XXII)).

In other actions, the Assembly approved new procedures for the preparation, approval and implementation of projects of the technical assistance component of the UNDP (resolution 2279 (XXII)); and authorized continued use of the technical assistance funds for the provision, in 1969, of operational personnel to Governments (A/6916).

A report (E/4451 and E/4545) on the UNDP's 1967 activities stated that total expenditure during the year amounted to \$144 million, of which \$93 million was for the Special Fund component and \$51 million for the Technical Assistance component. This represented a 7 per cent increase over its 1966 expenditure.

Under the Special Fund component, the report stated that 151 new projects were approved, bringing the total number to 925. The total cost of the approved projects was \$2,226 million, of which the UNDP contributed \$909 million, while recipient Governments contributed \$1,317 million. By year's end, follow-up investment related directly to UNDP survey projects amounted to about \$1,019 million.

In a section dealing with the Assembly's request concerning follow-up investment, the report stated that the UNDP Governing Council had approved arrangements designed to promote financing of projects which had already benefited from UNDP pre-investment. These included plans to appoint a panel of senior financial advisers to assist in the performance of a number of functions, such as identification of specific investment opportunities, formulation of proposals for investment and the dissemination of information on these investment opportunities and proposals.

The Economic and Social Council considered this report last summer and, in transmitting it to the Assembly, drew attention to the Governing Council's action regarding follow-up investment. The Council also approved the recommendation that the Assembly authorize the UNDP to continue to provide operational personnel, on the request of Governments, as an integral part of the normal UNDP assistance (Council resolution 1344 (XLV)).

(b) Activities Undertaken by the Secretary-General

The United Nations supplies teams of experts, offers fellowships and organizes seminars to promote economic development, under a scheme which was established by the Assembly in 1948 and came to be known as the United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Assistance (resolution 200 (III)).

Assistance provided under this programme have cost \$6.4 million annually, and appropriations are made yearly by the Assembly under the regular budget to meet this cost. Apart from economic development, the programme provides for assistance in the fields of social development, public administration, industrial development, human rights and narcotic control.

Policy guidance for the programme is provided by the UNDP Governing Council which, among other functions, allocates funds for its projects. However, the Assembly decided last year in resolution 2298 (XXII) that policy guidance for activities concerning industrial development should be provided by the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO, which should allocate funds for projects in this field.

Proposals on the operations of the programme and the appropriation of funds for its 1969 activities will be presented to the Assembly, at its forthcoming session, in the relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/7203) and two Secretariat notes.

The UNDP Governing Council has recommended a planning level of \$6.4 million for the programme's over-all activities in 1969, subject to final determination by the Assembly after it had considered all the proposals submitted to it. These proposals include the recommendation of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO that the planning level for projects in the industrial development field be set at \$1.5 million in 1969 as well as 1970.

Besides the regular programme, operational activities of the United Nations include its participation, as executing agency, in UNDP projects as well as funds-in-trust operations. The Economic and Social Council was informed at its summer session that a record sum of \$46.6 million was devoted to the Organization's technical assistance activities in all three areas in 1967, as compared with \$40.5 million in 1966.

45. Multilateral Food Aid

United Nations concern regarding food shortages dates from the end of World War II, and resulted in a call by the General Assembly in 1960 for a study by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on the feasibility of multilateral arrangements to distribute surplus foodstuffs to places where they were most needed (resolution 1496 (XV)).

As an outgrowth of this study, a World Food Programme was established in 1961 which, with total resources of \$93.6 million from voluntary contributions in cash and kind in the initial three-year period, met emergency food needs (resolution 1714 (XVI)). Started as an experimental joint undertaking of the United Nations and FAO, the Programme was extended in 1965 on a continuing basis. The target for voluntary contributions was set at \$275 million for the three-year period 1966-1968 (resolution 2095 (XX)).

In the meantime, work continued on a study, requested by the Assembly in 1965, on the means and policies which would be required for large-scale multilateral action, under United Nations auspices, to combat world hunger effectively (resolution 2096 (XX)). A Secretariat decision setting 1968 as a dateline for completing this study was approved by the Assembly in 1966 (resolution 2215 (XXI)).

A Secretariat preliminary report (E/4352), prepared last year, called for an expanded programme of food aid. The report also suggested guidelines and procedures for such an expanded programme, emphasizing at the same time, as a long-term objective, the need to raise domestic production to eliminate food transfers.

Noting this report last year, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to pay particular attention, in the next phase of the study, to problems of the co-ordination of all food aid programmes. He was also asked to assess and recommend modifications in existing institutional arrangements for handling food aid, especially a substantially increased volume of food aid. Government signatories of the Food Aid Convention, established under the 1967 International Grains Agreement, were invited to make use of multilateral food aid facilities in implementing that Convention (resolution 2300 (XXII)).

In other actions, the Assembly established a target of \$200 million for voluntary contributions to the Programme for the two-year period 1969-1970 (resolution 2290 (XXII)). It also called for intensified international efforts to increase the production of staple food cereals, especially rice, and invited FAO to submit a progress report on the question (resolution 2301 (XXII)).

Contributions in cash and kind, announced at a pledging conference for the Programme held in January this year at the Assembly's request, amounted to the equivalent of \$118,994,530.

A Secretariat report (E/4538), prepared in response to the Assembly's requests of 1966 and 1967, deals with the possibilities and problems of food aid in developing countries, aid policies for meeting food deficits in developing countries, and institutional arrangements.

A chapter on institutional arrangements lays special emphasis on the role that can be played by United Nations bodies, including the World Food Programme, in an expanded world food aid effort. It also sets forth elements of a global strategy for solving the food problem of developing countries in the context of general economic development.

The Economic and Social Council will review the question of multilateral aid at its resumed forty-fifth session, to be held in New York in October or November 1968.

46. Increase in Production and Use of Edible Protein

The United Nations made its first major effort at promoting international co-operation in the application of science and technology to economic development in February 1963, when it convened the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of the Less Developed Areas (UNCSAT). The same year, the Assembly approved the creation, by the Economic and Social Council, of an 18-member Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development to give practical effect to the results of the 1963 Conference (resolution 1944 (XVIII)).

Specifically, the Advisory Committee was asked to examine the possibility of establishing a United Nations programme on co-operation in this field, to consider ways of mobilizing the skill of specialists in the developed countries to assist in the proposed programme, and to examine the types of training and research institutions and governmental planning needed in developing countries to accelerate the application of science and technology.

The Advisory Committee has held nine sessions so far. It has issued reports on a number of problems which it had selected for study, including one on increasing the production and use of edible protein. That report (E/4343) was entitled: "Feeding the expanding world population: recommendations for international action to avert the impending protein crisis". The report set forth the Advisory Committee's proposals on activities designed to close the world protein gap.

Acting on the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council last year, the Assembly welcomed the policy objectives and the technical aspects of the proposals in the report, and called for concerted and well co-ordinated action by organizations of the United Nations system to combat protein malnutrition. It requested the Secretary-General to submit a report, to the forthcoming session, on the implementation of its request for concerted action (resolution 2319 (XXII)).

A Secretariat note, prepared in response to this request, will describe action taken by Governments and organizations of the United Nations system in their efforts to combat malnutrition.

47. Outflow of Trained Personnel from Developing Countries

The outflow of trained personnel from developing countries was among specific topics proposed, in a Secretariat report in May 1967, for intensified concerted international action as part of the United Nations effort to assist in the development and utilization of human resources in the developing countries.

In a report on human resources, prepared in response to an earlier Assembly request (resolution 2090 (XX)), the Secretariat suggested that this problem called for concerted action by the United Nations system, beginning with an urgent study of the underlying motivations (E/4353 and Add.1, Chapter IX, Section D).

The Economic and Social Council, at its 1967 summer session, welcomed the report and invited Member States to make observations on the recommendations to be drawn from it. The Secretary-General was requested to examine the proposals set forth in it, in consultation with interested United Nations bodies, and to submit recommendations on their implementation. He was also asked to report on the progress made in the studies by interested United Nations bodies on the question of "brain-drain" (Council resolution 1274 (XLIII)).

In December 1967, the Assembly approved the action taken by the Council. In two separate resolutions, the Assembly also decided to keep the subject under constant review, called for a report to be submitted to it on the question at this year's regular session, and decided to include it as a separate item in the agenda for the session (resolutions 2259 (XXII) and 2320 (XXII)).

A report (E/4483, Chapter IV), prepared by the Secretariat last April, stated that identification of priorities for future concerted international action would only be possible after the completion of the studies and research currently under way.

At its 1968 summer session, the Economic and Social Council noted this report and requested the Secretariat and the United Nations system of organizations to continue their work in this vital field, particularly in connexion with preparations for the Second Development Decade (A/7203).

48. Assistance in Cases of Natural Disasters

The first United Nations step towards ensuring rapid and concerted relief assistance to countries which had experienced natural disasters was taken in 1964, when the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to study the types of assistance which interested international organizations might provide in such cases (Council resolution 1049 (XXXVII)).

A report prepared by the Secretary-General in response to this request was subsequently considered by the Council which made recommendations to the General Assembly (Council resolution 1090 C (XXXIX)).

Acting on the Council's recommendations, the Assembly in 1965 noted with satisfaction arrangements of the United Nations family for providing emergency assistance to countries stricken by natural disasters. It called for intensified efforts to ensure co-ordination of such arrangements, under the leadership of the Secretary-General.

In resolution 2034 (XX), the Assembly also authorized the Secretary-General to draw on the Organization's Working Capital Fund to the amount of \$100,000 for emergency aid in any one year, with a normal ceiling of \$20,000 per country in the case of any one disaster.

In other recommendations, Member States were invited to consider setting up appropriate national planning and operating machinery to give unified direction to relief operations. They were also urged to consider establishing national Red Cross or Red Crescent societies.

Finally, the Assembly decided to review, at this year's regular session, its decision authorizing the Secretary-General to draw on the Working Capital Fund for emergency aid.

A Secretariat report, prepared for the purpose of this review, provides information on recent developments relating to implementation of the Assembly's 1965 recommendations. This includes the information that the Secretary-General, acting under the authority given him by the Assembly that year, had so far authorized the use of funds for emergency aid on eight occasions, to the total amount of \$139,000 to seven countries.

The report also contains proposals for future action, including the suggestion that authority given to the Secretary-General relating to the use of the Working Capital Fund be extended for a further three-year period (E/4544).

The Economic and Social Council considered these proposals at its 1968 summer session, and decided to postpone action on them until its resumed session, to be held in New York this fall (A/7203).

49. World Social Situation

Each year, the General Assembly's Third Committee reviews questions of social development, as well as United Nations policies and programmes in the social field. Following the 1966 review, the Assembly approved new guidelines for United Nations work in this field, including new priorities for the work of the Commission for Social Development of the Economic and Social Council.

In resolution 2215 (XXI) approving the new guidelines, the Assembly also requested the Commission to prepare a draft declaration on social development which would define, in general terms, the objectives of social development and the methods and means of achieving them. It called for a report to be submitted to it this year by the Secretary-General on implementation of its decisions concerning the new guidelines.

For the 1967 review, the Assembly had before it the Secretary-General's report as requested (A/6826); a report of the Commission containing recommendations on review of programmes and methods of activities of the United Nations family in the social field, as well as information on progress made concerning the draft declaration on social development (E/4324); and information on action taken by the Economic and Social Council on these two reports (A/6703).

Following consideration of these reports, the Assembly expressed deep concern that the social situation remained unsatisfactory, in spite of the resolutions adopted by it on the question and of efforts in many countries of the world.

In resolution 2293 (XXII), the Secretary-General and appropriate United Nations bodies were asked to continue implementation of the Assembly's 1966 decisions on new guidelines. Member States, particularly the economically advanced ones, were urged to expand significantly international assistance for development which was likely to contribute to the improvement of the world social situation.

The Assembly also requested that the next report on the world social situation should be submitted to this year's regular session and decided to accord high priority to the question at the session.

The Assembly will have before it the 1967 Report on the World Social Situation, as requested. After describing the state of such world social questions as education, health, food production, employment, personal income, consumption and housing, this report noted that social development in the less developed countries had remained generally slow. It also noted that, in absolute terms, the gap between those countries and the rich countries had in fact widened (ST/SOA/84).

Having considered this report at its 1968 spring session, the Economic and Social Council requested that proposals for goals and programmes of the next decade should take into consideration, among other factors, the urgent necessity of encouraging increased international assistance, so as to bridge the widening economic gap between developed and developing countries (Council resolution 1320 (XLIV)).

The Economic and Social Council will report to the Assembly on the latest recommendations of the Commission for Social Development on a number of questions relating to the Commission's work programme. These include the Commission's proposals for work in the field of social policy, the distribution of national income and the social aspects of industrialization.

The Economic and Social Council, at its 1968 spring session, considered these recommendations, and endorsed the orientation of the Commission's work programme towards strengthening the social aspects of over-all development (A/7203, Chapter X).

50. Draft Declaration on Social Development

The Assembly will have before it at this session a draft declaration prepared by the Commission for Social Development.

The preparation of such a draft declaration was authorized in 1966 by the Assembly (see item 49 above).

The draft declaration, attached as an annex to the Commission's report (E/467/Rev.1), consists of a preamble and three parts. The last paragraph of the preamble would have the Assembly proclaim the Declaration on Social Development and call for national and international action for its use as a common basis for social development policies. The proposed principles and objectives of social development, and the means and methods of achieving them are set out in the three parts.

The Economic and Social Council considered the draft at its 1968 spring session, and decided to transmit it to the forthcoming session, together with amendments submitted during its examination in the Council as well as the comments of Governments (A/7203, Chapter X).

51. Report of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The High Commissioner for Refugees, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, states in his annual report (A/7211) that, after Europe -- where it has been possible to deal successfully with long-standing problems and to prevent the emergence of any serious new ones -- settlement programmes in Africa and Asia are also gradually achieving their objectives.

In the field of international protection, the High Commissioner notes that considerable progress had been made since his last report, particularly with regard to intergovernmental action. The most significant developments were the adoption by the General Assembly last year of the Declaration on Territorial Asylum and the entry into force of the Protocol to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

The report states that the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's programme has adopted a target of \$4,631,600 for the 1968 programme, more than two-thirds of which is intended for the local settlement of refugees in Africa. As of 30 April 1968, \$2,982,052 had been paid or pledged towards the 1968 target by 37 Governments.

52. Housing, Building and Planning

United Nations interest in these related fields dates from the first session of the Assembly in 1946, which called attention to grave shortcomings and asked the Economic and Social Council to initiate remedial action. In subsequent years, the Assembly, the Council and other United Nations bodies (notably the Social Commission, now the Commission for Social Development) continued to study and urge action on housing, and, in 1962, the Council took a major initiative, setting up an 18-member Committee on Housing, Building and Planning -- enlarged to 21 members in December 1962 and to 27 in August 1966 -- to provide stronger and more specialized leadership (resolution 903 (XXXIV)).

Recommendations of this Committee have since been at the origin of numerous substantive decisions of the Council -- to which it reports -- and of the Assembly. Some of these have been:

-- A recommendation by the Assembly in 1963 for emergency action to improve housing and related facilities in developing countries during the Development Decade (resolution 1917 (XVIII));

-- A recommendation by the Council in 1964 that a Centre for Housing, Building and Planning be set up within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs; this Centre was established in June 1965; and

-- A recommendation by the Assembly in 1965 that Member States "assume a major role in the solution of the housing problem in every country" by encouraging local building industries, training architects and engineers, enacting land reforms and creating planning infrastructures (resolution 2036 (XX)).

In 1967, the Assembly was unable, for lack of time to consider housing, building and planning, postponing its examination to the twenty-third session. It will take up the subject this year in the context of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/7203), which, at its forty-fourth session last May, adopted three substantive resolutions on the basis of the fifth report of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning (E/4440).

The first of these resolutions (E/RES/1299 (XLIV)) asks the Assembly to substitute a quinquennial housing survey "of an analytical and comparative character" for biennial reports previously asked for under the Assembly's resolution 2036 (XX). The second (E/RES/1300 (XLIV)) recommends that competent United Nations bodies consider convening regional conferences and initiating a public information programme in housing and allied subjects. The third (E/RES/1301 (XLIV)) asks the Secretary-General to take steps towards the establishment of a United Nations Institute for Documentation on Housing, Building and Planning in New Delhi.

The Assembly will have before it two progress reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Assembly's resolution 2036 (XX) of 1965, one originally prepared for the twenty-second session (A/6842) and the other bringing the subject up to date in the light of new developments (A/7201). The first of these two documents states in its concluding paragraphs that, although "the magnitude and the ramifications of the world housing problems are recognized and some effort is being made towards solving them", concrete achievements in terms of improved shelter and general environment are "alarmingly low". It adds that, whereas the first Development Decade called for the construction of 10 dwelling units per 1,000 population, few developing countries have attained even one-fifth of that objective.

53. Town Twinning as a Means of International Co-operation

Town Twinning -- the linking of one town with another in a different country -- aims at bringing citizens of both places into close contact. It may take the form of visits between officials and groups of the two towns, cultural exchanges and technical assistance. In Europe, where this activity has developed greatly since World War II, the impetus was to alleviate distress caused by war or disaster; sometimes the link is based on common industries or other economic interests. The movement has spread to other parts of the world in recent years, and often takes the form of citizens of a town in a developed country assisting particular projects in a town in a developing country. While local authorities often take the initiative in establishing this kind of link, a number of international organizations also sponsor this activity.

Both the Economic and Social Council in 1964 and the General Assembly in 1965 have encouraged town twinning as a means of international co-operation. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to take all suitable measures to encourage town twinning.

Reporting to the Economic and Social Council in March 1967, the Secretary-General observed that Governments had not proposed that the Secretariat should engage in town twinning or that additional financial provision should be made for such activity. In the Assembly, he noted, the question had been raised whether this would be a proper function for an inter-governmental body or whether it should not remain non-governmental and largely bilateral, as in the past. There was general agreement, he added, that the Secretariat should encourage it and, within existing programmes and at the request of Governments, expand its role in intermunicipal assistance. The Secretary-General would be happy to match requests for this type of assistance with offers from municipalities of developed countries, he stated. The report describes United Nations co-operation with non-governmental organizations in rendering technical assistance to local governments, and it also states that the United Nations Development Programme is prepared to consider ways for more actively promoting town twinning. In addition, the report contains a statement by UNESCO describing its activities in encouraging town twinning, with particular reference to educational scientific and cultural programmes.

The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1217 (XLII) of 1 June 1967, suggested that Governments seek the participation of non-governmental organizations in assisting in the formulation and implementation of UNDP projects in which town twinning or other forms of intermunicipal co-operation might play an important role. To this end, the Council invited non-governmental organizations to be prepared to assist in carrying out such projects.

At its last session, the General Assembly, on 18 December, approved the recommendation of the Third Committee that the consideration of this item should be postponed to the twenty-third session.

54. Elimination of All Forms of Religious Intolerance

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims the principle of non-discrimination and the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief. A study on discrimination in religious rights and practices, published in 1960 under the auspices of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, was taken into account when the General Assembly drafted an article on freedom of thought, conscience and religion for inclusion in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

To bring into effect the principle of equality of all persons with respect to religion, the Assembly in 1962 requested that the Commission on Human Rights draft a declaration and a convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance (resolution 1781 (XVII) of 7 December).

(a) Draft Declaration

A preliminary draft declaration was prepared by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in 1964, but a working group set up by the Commission on Human Rights to study this draft had time to revise only six articles (texts in the Commission's 1964 report E/3873).

In resolution 2020 (XX) of 1 November 1965, the Assembly asked that the Commission make every effort to complete the draft declaration and the draft convention in 1966. The Commission dealt with the draft convention in 1966 and 1967, but did not have time to take up the draft declaration. Furthermore, the draft declaration was not considered by the Commission in 1968.

(b) Draft Convention

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in 1966 submitted to the Commission on Human Rights a preliminary draft of an international convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance (C/CN.4/900).

At its sessions in 1965, 1966 and 1967, the Commission adopted a preamble and 12 articles of a draft convention, but, for lack of time, was unable to adopt measures of implementation. The Commission's text, along with draft articles of implementation prepared by the Sub-Commission, was transmitted to the Assembly by the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1233 (XLII) of

6 June 1967). The Council expressed the hope that the Assembly would decide on suitable measures of implementation and final clauses.

At its twenty-second session last year, the Assembly amended the title of the draft to "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination based on Religion or Belief". However, it had time only to adopt the text of the preamble and article 1, and to decide not to mention any specific examples of religious intolerance in the text.

The articles of the draft convention would commit the States Parties to it to: condemn all forms of religious intolerance and all discrimination on the ground of religion or belief; ensure to everyone within their jurisdiction the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, and freedom to worship, teach and practise religion; respect the right of parents or legal guardians to bring up children in the religion or belief of their choice; ensure the freedom to enjoy and exercise political, civic, economic, social and cultural rights without such discrimination; adopt measures, particularly in the fields of teaching, education, culture and information, to combat prejudices leading to intolerance and discrimination, and to promote understanding and friendship among nations, groups and individuals; enact or abrogate legislation in order to prohibit such discrimination by any person, group or organization; ensure equality before the law; ensure equal protection of the law against promotion of or incitement to religious intolerance or discrimination; and ensure effective protection, through tribunals and other State institutions, against discrimination. (Background, with texts, in A/7177.)

55. Punishment of War Criminals and Crimes Against Humanity

On 13 February 1946, while the Nürnberg trial of Nazi war criminals was in progress, the Assembly recommended that United Nations Members take all necessary measures to cause the arrest of war criminals and their return to the countries where their crimes had been committed, for judgement and punishment (resolution 3 (I)). This resolution was reaffirmed in 1947.

Meanwhile, the Nürnberg International Military Tribunal handed down its judgements on 30 September and 1 October 1946 and the Assembly, on 11 December 1946, affirmed the principles of international law recognized by the Tribunal (resolution 95 (I)). These principles, including definitions of crimes against

peace, war crimes and crimes against humanity, were formulated by the International Law Commission in 1950.

In 1948, the Assembly adopted the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, which defines genocide as a crime under international law. Seventy-six States are now Parties to the Convention.

In 1965, on a motion by Poland, the Commission on Human Rights placed on its agenda the item "Question of the punishment of war criminals and of persons who have committed crimes against humanity". Poland and others contended that in the Federal Republic of Germany, where most of the war criminals were concentrated, a law was about to be enacted which would apply a statute of limitations to such crimes, so that no prosecutions could be begun after a certain date.

On 13 April 1965, a law was enacted by the Federal Republic of Germany providing that the prosecution of previously undetected offences of the most serious kind shall be admissible beyond 8 May 1965, until 31 December 1969.

On the basis of a unanimous resolution of the Commission, the Economic and Social Council, on 28 July 1965, urged all States to continue their efforts to ensure that criminals responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity are traced, apprehended and equitably punished by the competent courts.

A study by the Secretary-General of the question of the non-applicability of statutory limitation to war crimes and crimes against humanity, made in response to a request by the Commission, was published in February 1966 (E/CN.4/906). The study concluded: "It therefore appears natural and in conformity with legal principles that such crimes should not be subject to any period of limitation unless and until international law, which determines what charges can be brought, decides otherwise". The Secretary-General suggested that it might be advisable to proclaim the principle of the inapplicability of a period of limitation for such crimes by means of an international convention or an Assembly resolution.

On 5 August 1966, the Council, on the basis of a resolution approved by the Commission, urged all States to prevent the application of statutory limitation to war crimes and crimes against humanity, and to continue their efforts to ensure the arrest, extradition and punishment of persons responsible for such crimes.

The Council also invited the Commission to prepare in 1967 "a draft convention to the effect that no statutory limitation shall apply to war crimes and crimes against humanity, irrespective of the date of their commission", and to make any further recommendations to develop international co-operation in the prosecution and punishment of those responsible for such crimes (resolution 1158 (XLI)).

Accordingly, the Secretary-General submitted to the twenty-third session of the Commission in 1967 a preliminary draft convention which would apply to war crimes and crimes against humanity as defined in the Charter of the Nürnberg Tribunal, as well as to genocide. An 11-member Working Group of the Commission redrafted the first article, adopted a text defining war crimes, but did not reach agreement on the definition of "crimes against humanity".

Because the Commission did not have time to draft a convention, it transmitted the various texts to the Council which, on the Commission's recommendation, passed on to the Assembly the Secretary-General's draft, the report of the Working Group, nine proposals made to the Commission and the records of the discussions. It expressed the hope that the Assembly would adopt a convention at the earliest possible moment (resolution 1220 (XLII) of 6 June 1967).

At its twenty-second session last year, the Assembly established a Joint Working Group of the Third and Sixth Committees which prepared a draft convention on the basis of the documents transmitted by the Council. However, owing to the lack of time, the Assembly was unable to adopt the draft convention. The Assembly recommended that no legislative or other action be taken which might be prejudicial to the aims and purposes of such a convention, pending its adoption. The Secretary-General was requested to transmit the draft convention to Member States and to issue a report containing their replies before the twenty-third session. Finally, the Assembly decided to give high priority to completion of the draft convention at its twenty-third session (resolution 2338 (XXII) of 18 December 1967).

The draft convention, containing a preamble and 10 articles, defines war crimes and crimes against humanity and sets forth the obligations of the States Parties in this respect. The provisions of the draft convention also apply to complicity in any of the crimes defined, and to direct incitement or conspiracy to commit them.

States Parties ratifying the convention would undertake to adopt, in accordance with their respective constitutional processes, any legislative or other measures necessary to ensure that statutory or other limitations shall not apply to the prosecution and punishment of the crimes referred to and that, where they exist, such limitations shall be abolished.

Greece has submitted an amendment (A/C.3/L.1504) which states that nothing in the convention shall be interpreted as imposing any obligation on a Contracting Party in respect of crimes to which limitations or prescription had already applied prior to adoption of the convention.

56. Post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Costa Rica proposed in 1965 (A/5963) the election of a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to supplement action under the International Covenants on Human Rights and to "make it possible for violations of human rights to be considered at a higher level of the United Nations". The Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to consider the proposal and report in 1966.

At its twenty-second session in 1966, the Commission set up a nine-member Working Group to study the question. The Working Group submitted in February 1967 a set of guiding principles for the office of a High Commissioner (E/CN.4/934). The Commission, and later the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1237 (XLII) of 6 June 1967), approved a draft resolution according to which the Assembly would be asked to establish a United Nations High Commissioner's Office for Human Rights, with "the degree of independence and prestige required".

The Commissioner's functions would be to assist in promoting and encouraging universal and effective respect for human rights. On the request of other United Nations bodies active in this field, he could give advice and assistance. At the request of a State, he could render assistance and services.

The High Commissioner would be appointed by the Assembly, on the recommendation of the Secretary-General, for a term of five years. An expert panel of not more than seven members would advise and assist him. The Office would be financed from the regular United Nations budget.

The Assembly did not have time to consider the item in 1967. (Background on the item, together with comments by Governments, appears in A/7170.)

57. Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

(a) Implementation of Declaration on Elimination of Racial Discrimination

The United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was unanimously adopted by the Assembly on 20 November 1963, in resolution 1904 (XVIII). It calls for equality before the law, equal justice, educational steps to eliminate prejudice, punishment of incitement to or acts of violence against a racial group, an end to public policies of segregation and especially apartheid, and governmental measures to revise policies and rescind laws which create and perpetuate discrimination.

In resolutions 1905 (XVIII) of 20 November 1963, 2017 (XX) of 1 November 1965 and 2142 (XXI) of 26 October 1966, the Assembly appealed to all States to implement the Declaration. The Assembly, in the 1966 resolution, condemned "all policies and practices of apartheid, racial discrimination and segregation, including the practices of discrimination inherent in colonialism", and proclaimed 21 March -- the anniversary of the killing in 1960 of peaceful demonstrators in Sharpeville, South Africa -- as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. In 1967 and 1968, the Day was commemorated in special meetings of United Nations bodies.

The Commission on Human Rights, in resolution 10 (XXIII) of 10 March 1967, called for annual observance of the date. The Assembly, in resolution 2307 (XXII) of 13 December 1967, requested all States to commemorate the Day in 1968 in solidarity with the oppressed people of South Africa. (A Secretariat report on the 1968 commemoration is contained in document A/AC.115/L.217.)

In resolution 2332 (XXII) of 18 December 1967, the Assembly requested the International Conference on Human Rights to consider the question of giving effect to the Declaration and related international conventions; condemned the "open and nefarious practices" of racial discrimination in South Africa, Southern Rhodesia and Namibia (then known as South West Africa), and called on South Africa to desist from such practices. It recommended that the Commission on Human Rights continue to give priority consideration to measures for speedy implementation of the Declaration, and report to the Assembly at its twenty-third session.

The International Conference on Human Rights, held in Teheran from 22 April to 13 May 1968, adopted resolutions in which it: condemned racial discrimination and all ideologies based on racial intolerance; called on all States to eliminate all forms and manifestations of racial discrimination; proposed a new United Nations programme on the elimination of racial discrimination, in which the organization would make available to Governments "the results of research into the causes of racial discrimination and measures to eliminate them, as well as measures to promote inter-racial understanding and harmony"; urged the Assembly to consider designating an international year for action to combat racism; and called on all Governments to observe the principle of non-discrimination in employment.

In accordance with a request of the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1103 (XL) of 4 March 1966), a United Nations Human Rights Seminar on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was held in New Delhi, from 27 August to 3 September.

(b) Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

On 21 December 1965, in resolution 2106 (XX), the Assembly adopted the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. States which become Parties to it undertake "to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating racial discrimination in all its forms and promoting understanding among races". The Convention provides for the establishment of machinery to oversee implementation of its provisions.

In resolution 2332 (XXII) of 18 December 1967 (see above), the Assembly urged all eligible Governments which had not yet done so to sign, ratify and implement without delay the International Convention and other conventions directed against discrimination in employment and occupation and education. Such action had been recommended previously by the Assembly in resolution 2142 (XXI) of 26 October 1966, and by the Economic and Social Council in resolutions 1234 (XLII) and 1244 (XLIII) of 6 June 1967.

The International Conference on Human Rights (see above) also urged States to ratify and give effect to the International Convention.

The Convention will enter into force 30 days after the twenty-seventh instrument of ratification or accession has been deposited with the Secretary-General.

As of 7 September, 19 States have ratified the Convention (Brazil, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Hungary, Iceland, Iran, Niger, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, Uruguay, Yugoslavia, Venezuela) and three have acceded to it (Ecuador, Libya, Nigeria). Sixty-seven countries have signed the Convention, including those which later ratified.

A report by the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention will be presented to the Assembly as an addendum to A/7163.

(c) Measures to be Taken Against Nazism and Racial Intolerance

On 18 December 1967, in resolution 2331 (XXII) adopted unanimously, the Assembly noted that concern had been expressed regarding "recent manifestations of racial intolerance, including the revival of certain groups and organizations professing totalitarian ideologies such as nazism". It said that measures should be taken to halt Nazi activities wherever they occur; resolutely condemned "any ideology, including nazism, which is based on racial intolerance and terror"; and called upon all States to take immediate and effective measures against such manifestations of nazism and racial intolerance.

The International Conference on Human Rights in Teheran (see above) strongly condemned "nazism, neo-nazism, racism and all similar ideologies and practices based on terrorism and racial intolerance" and said that their development might jeopardize peace and security. It urged all States "to declare illegal and prohibit Nazi and racist organizations and groups", and to declare participation in such activities a criminal act punishable by law.

On 31 May 1968, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1335 (XLIV), in which it recommended that the Assembly: once again condemn nazism, apartheid, and all similar ideologies based on racial intolerance and terror; urgently call upon all States to take legislative and other positive measures to outlaw groups and organizations disseminating propaganda for nazism, apartheid and other forms of racial intolerance, and to prosecute

them in the courts; call for the eradication of such ideologies; and request the Secretary-General to submit a survey on national and international measures taken or envisaged with a view to halting such activities (A/7163).

58. Question of Violation of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The question of human rights violations, including policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid in all countries, was first considered by the Commission on Human Rights in March-April 1966, at the invitation of the Economic and Social Council.

Acting on the recommendations of the Commission and the Council, the Assembly, in resolution 2144 A (XXI) of 26 October 1966, expressed the conviction that gross violations of human rights continued to occur in certain countries. It also expressed concern at the evidence of persistent practices of apartheid in South Africa and South West Africa (now Namibia), and at the racial discrimination practices in Southern Rhodesia and the Portuguese Territories, and restated its earlier view that these practices constitute crimes against humanity. It reaffirmed its strong condemnation of human rights violations wherever they occurred. The Commission and the Council were asked to consider ways to improve the capacity of the United Nations to put a stop to human rights violations.

In 1967 and 1968, the Commission continued its examination of the question, and, in 1967, appointed a Special Rapporteur to report on measures that might be taken by the Assembly to combat racial discrimination, apartheid and segregation. It also set up an Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts to investigate the treatment of prisoners in South Africa.

On 31 May 1968, the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Human Rights Commission, proposed that the Assembly adopt two resolutions relating to the matter, which will be considered by the Assembly at the twenty-third session. (The texts are in A/7155.)

In the first resolution, 1332 (XLIV), the Council recommends that the Assembly: call upon South Africa to repeal, amend and replace the various discriminatory laws in force in South Africa; urge all States to encourage the information media to publicize the evils of apartheid and racial discrimination and the inhuman acts practised by the Government of South

Africa and the illegal regime in Southern Rhodesia; condemned actions of Governments continuing to maintain diplomatic, commercial, military, cultural and other relations with South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, and call upon those Governments to break off such relations; and request the Secretary-General to undertake measures to publicize the evils of apartheid and racial discrimination.

In the Council's second resolution, 1333 (XLIV), the Council recommends that the Assembly: reaffirm its recognition of the legitimacy of the struggle by the opponents of apartheid to realize their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Council in resolution 1336 (XLIV), on the recommendation of the Human Rights Commission, noted with appreciation the resolutions adopted by the Security Council and General Assembly regarding human rights in the territories occupied as a result of the hostilities in the Middle East. It requested the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of development regarding this matter.

The International Conference on Human Rights meeting in May in Teheran unanimously adopted the Proclamation of Teheran containing an appeal for redoubled efforts to guarantee for all human beings a life of freedom and dignity. The Proclamation condemned racial discrimination in general as a gross violation of human rights and approved measures for its eradication wherever it existed; it expressed grave concern about human rights violations in the Arab territories occupied by Israel and requested the appointment by the Assembly of a special committee to investigate these violations; and it condemned the treatment of opponents of minority regimes in southern Africa as a flagrant violation of the Universal Declaration.

Various countries have also submitted reports on actions taken by them in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2144 A (XXI) to strengthen efforts against violations of human rights.

59. Capital Punishment

United Nations concern for the question of capital punishment dates from 1959, when the General Assembly invited the Economic and Social Council to initiate a study of the laws and practices relating to it and the effects of it on the rate of criminality.

The Council, in resolution 934 (XXXV) of 9 April 1963, urged Governments to ensure the most careful legal procedures and greatest possible safeguards for the accused in capital cases in countries where the death penalty still obtained.

A draft resolution on capital punishment, drawn up by Sweden and Venezuela in 1967 and later revised, was considered by the Council at its forty-fourth session in 1968. Under the draft, the Assembly would invite Member States to provide that a person condemned to death shall not be deprived of the right to appeal to a high judicial authority or to petition for pardon or reprieve; and that no death penalty should be carried out until the procedures of appeal or of petition for pardon or reprieve have been terminated. Member States would also be invited to consider whether legal procedures and safeguards may not be further strengthened by the fixing of a certain time-limit before the expiry of which no death sentence shall be carried out, and to inform the Secretary-General not later than 10 December 1970 of actions taken in accordance with the draft.

The Council decided to submit the two-Power draft for consideration by the Assembly. It also requested Governments of Member States to inform the Secretary-General -- after an appropriate interval and at his request -- of any new developments in regard to the law and practice in their countries concerning the death penalty (resolution 1337 (XLIV) of 20 June 1968).

The Assembly will also have before it a report on developments concerning capital punishment between 1961 and 1965 (ST/SAO/SD/10).

60. Freedom of Information

The General Assembly declared in 1946 that "freedom of information is a fundamental human right and is the touchstone of all the freedoms to which the United Nations is consecrated". However, efforts to embody in a written text a more precise definition of this freedom have not yet met with general acceptance, and discussion of the item has been postponed each year since 1962.

(a) Draft Convention

The Assembly has before it a draft Convention originally prepared in 1948 by the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information, and revised in 1951 by an ad hoc Committee of the Assembly. Between 1959 and 1961, the Assembly's Third Committee approved a preamble and four articles. The approved articles deal with the freedom to gather, receive and impart information and opinions; the extent of permissible restrictions to that freedom; the relationship of the Convention to existing freedoms; and the right of reply. (Text of approval and draft articles in A/7164.)

The 15 articles not yet considered contain provisions dealing with measures to encourage the observance of high standards of professional conduct, as well as the right of contracting States to develop and protect national news enterprises, to prevent restrictive and monopolistic practices, and to control international broadcasting originating in their territory.

(b) Draft Declaration

In 1960, the Economic and Social Council approved the text of a draft Declaration on freedom of information, and transmitted it to the Assembly (resolution 756 (XXXIX) of 21 April). The Assembly has not yet considered the draft, which has been on its agenda each year since 1960.

The five articles of the draft Declaration deal with the right to seek, receive and impart information; the responsibility of Governments to pursue policies under which the free flow of information would be protected; the employment of the information media in the service of the people; the obligation of the information media to report accurately and respect rights; and the permissible limitations to the rights and freedoms proclaimed in the Declaration. (The text, with background notes, is in A/7165.)

61. Status of Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Protocol

Two International Covenants on Human Rights were unanimously adopted by the General Assembly in 1966 -- 19 years after the Commission on Human Rights began work on them. They had been under consideration in the Assembly since the Commission submitted its draft in 1954. The Covenants put into binding legal form, and in many cases amplify, the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the Assembly in 1948.

The Covenants and a related Protocol, whose texts are in Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI) of 16 December, are:

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights -- This treaty deals with self-determination, conditions of work, trade unions, social security, protection and assistance for the family, standards of living and health, education and cultural life. It provides that rights in these categories are to be realized progressively and without discrimination.

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights -- This treaty deals, in part, with self-determination, liberty and security of person, liberty of movement, equality before the law, presumption of innocence, guarantees of justice, freedom of conscience and religion, freedom of opinion and expression, peaceful assembly, freedom of association, protection of children, participation in public affairs and elections, equal protection of the law, and minority rights. It prohibits arbitrary deprivation of life, torture, cruel or degrading treatment or punishment, slavery, forced labour, arbitrary arrest or detention, arbitrary interference with privacy, war propaganda, and advocacy of racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination or violence. The Covenant provides for a Human Rights Committee to consider measures taken to implement its provisions, and a conciliation procedure to deal with allegations that Parties have failed to live up to the Covenant.

Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights -- This instrument provides for the consideration of communications from individuals who claim to be victims of violations of any right set forth in the Covenant. Only claims against Parties to the Protocol can be considered.

When it adopted the three instruments last year, the Assembly expressed the hope that they would be signed and ratified or acceded to without delay and come into force at an early date. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1234 (XLII) of 6 June 1967, recommended that the Assembly continue to encourage States to ratify these and other human rights instruments.

Each Covenant will come into force after 35 States have ratified or acceded. The Protocol requires 10 ratifications or accessions.

On 18 December 1967, the General Assembly adopted resolution 2337 (XXII) concerning the status of these three instruments. After noting in the preamble of the resolution that there had been no ratifications or accessions to any of these instruments, the Assembly invited States eligible to become parties to the Covenants and to the Optional Protocol to hasten their ratification or accession. The Assembly also asked the Secretary-General to report on their status to the International Conference on Human Rights, which was held in Teheran from 22 April to 13 May 1968. (In a resolution adopted at that Conference, States were invited to consider their participation in international instruments on human rights with a view to their accession to as many as possible. The Conference also called on the General Assembly "to take steps in order to ensure the principle of universality of human rights and the widest possible accession to such instruments".)

As of 6 September 1968, no State has ratified or acceded to either of the Covenants or the Protocol.

Thirty States have signed the two Covenants, and fourteen of these have also signed the Protocol.

The two Covenants have been signed by Argentina, Byelorussia, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Iran, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Liberia, Mongolia, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Tunisia, Ukraine, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, Uruguay and Yugoslavia. To date, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Honduras, Jamaica, Norway, Philippines, Sweden and Uruguay have also signed the Optional Protocol.

62. International Year for Human Rights

The year 1968, the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, is being commemorated as International Year for Human Rights, in accordance with a General Assembly decision (resolution 1961 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963). The Assembly unanimously decided that the year should be devoted to intensive national and international efforts in the field of human rights and also to an international review of achievements (resolution 2081 (XX) of 20 December 1965).

A note by the Secretary-General giving background on this item appears in A/7194.

(a) Measures and Activities in Connexion with Year

The Assembly, in 1965 and 1966, approved a programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year by Member States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other international organizations. Also in 1966, the Assembly asked the Secretary-General to co-ordinate these activities and disseminate information about them (resolution 2217 A (XXI) of 19 December 1966). The activities include the holding of a special meeting of the Assembly on 10 December 1968 (Human Rights Day) and the awarding on that day of a United Nations prize, in the form of a metal plaque, for outstanding contributions to human rights. A special committee, composed of the President of the Assembly and the presiding officers of certain other United Nations bodies, will meet later this year to select the award winner or winners from among nominations submitted by Member States, specialized agencies and certain non-governmental organizations.

The Secretary-General will report to the Assembly later this year on measures and activities in connexion with the International Year.

(b) International Conference on Human Rights

The first world-wide governmental conference ever held on the entire field of human rights met at Teheran from 22 April to 13 May 1968. The General Assembly decided in 1965 to convene this International Conference on Human Rights, and gave it the threefold task of reviewing progress since the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948, evaluating the effectiveness of methods used by the United Nations in this field, and preparing a programme of further measures to be taken after 1968. The Conference's agenda was drafted by a 23-member Preparatory Committee appointed by the Assembly.

The product of the Conference was a Proclamation of Teheran, setting forth a consensus on the major human rights problems considered by the Conference, and a set of 29 resolutions on specific topics. (The Final Act of the Conference, containing the text of these documents will be circulated in A/CONF.32/41.)

In the Proclamation, the Conference declared that international human rights instruments had created new standards and obligations to which States should conform. It urged all peoples and Governments to dedicate themselves to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and "to redouble their efforts to provide for all human beings a life consonant with freedom and dignity and conducive to physical, mental, social and spiritual welfare".

In its resolutions, the Conference dealt with subjects ranging from racial discrimination and decolonization to women's rights and family planning. It invited the Secretary-General to transmit to the competent United Nations organs a further 17 proposals which it did not have time to examine.

Among the proposals which it made to the Assembly were the following: to appoint a committee to investigate violations of human rights in the territories occupied by Israel; to examine the question of measures against nazism and racial intolerance; to consider the possibility of proclaiming an international year for action to combat racism and racial discrimination; to draw up a specific programme for the granting of independence to colonial territories; to invite Member States to transmit to the Commission on the Status of Women their long-term programmes for the advancement of women; to draw the attention of other organs to the importance of combating illiteracy as a means of ensuring the enjoyment of human rights; to invite the Secretary-General to study steps to secure the better application of existing international humanitarian conventions and rules in all armed conflicts, and the need for additional or revised conventions to protect persons and prohibit and limit certain methods and means of warfare; and to take steps in order to ensure the principle of the universality of human rights and the widest possible accession to instruments in this field. Many other recommendations were addressed to other United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and Member States.

63. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

Under Article 73 e of the Charter, Member States administering Non-Self-Governing Territories accept the obligation to transmit to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as

security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information relating to economic, social, and educational conditions in the territories for which they are responsible.

(a) Report of Secretary-General

The Secretary-General will report to the General Assembly this year that information under Article 73 e has been received from Australia, France, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Last year, the Assembly deplored the fact that, despite its repeated recommendations, some Member States having responsibilities for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories had not transmitted information, had not transmitted sufficient information or had transmitted it too late. (resolution 2351 (XXII) of 19 December 1967).

(b) Report of Special Committee of 24

By resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, the Assembly dissolved the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, which had examined the information annually from 1948 to 1963. The Assembly requested the Special Committee of 24 to take into account the information when it examined the situation regarding implementation of the Declaration on decolonization.

In 1964, the Special Committee approved a procedure for dealing with the information. The Secretariat uses the data to prepare working papers which are taken into account by the Committee when it examines conditions in each Territory. The Assembly approved this procedure in resolution 2109 (XX) of 21 December 1965.

64. Question of Namibia*

Namibia (formerly known as South West Africa) was a German colony from 1884 until 1915, when it was surrendered to South Africa during World War I. It was made a Mandated Territory in 1920 by the League of Nations, with South Africa as the Mandatory Power. With an area of 318,000 square miles, the Territory had a population of 452,540 non-Europeans and 73,464 Europeans at the time of the 1960 census.

* Formerly South West Africa.

The question of South West Africa, as it was then called until the General Assembly in June 1968 decided that the Territory shall henceforth be known as "Namibia", has been discussed in the United Nations since the first General Assembly session in 1946. The Assembly repeatedly sought South Africa's co-operation to ensure that it fulfilled the obligations it had assumed under the Mandate, and recommended that the Territory be placed under the Trusteeship System. South Africa maintained that its international commitments in regard to the Territory had lapsed with the demise of the League of Nations.

In resolution 2145 (XXI) of 27 October 1966, the Assembly declared that South Africa had failed to fulfil its obligations under the Mandate and to ensure the moral and material well-being and security of the indigenous inhabitants of the Territory. It decided that the Mandate was terminated, that South Africa had no other right to administer the Territory, and that henceforth South West Africa came under the direct responsibility of the United Nations.

The Assembly also established a 14-member Ad Hoc Committee to recommend practical means by which the Territory should be administered, and decided to hold a special session -- the fifth in its history -- to consider the matter.

At the special session, the Assembly, after considering various proposals made in the Ad Hoc Committee, established an 11-member United Nations Council for South West Africa to administer the Territory until it achieved independence. In taking this action in resolution 2248 (S-V) of 19 May 1967, the Assembly requested the Council, which "shall be based in South West Africa", to contact South African authorities to lay down procedures for the transfer of the administration of the Territory. The Council, responsible to the Assembly, was to entrust "such executive and administrative tasks as it deems necessary" to a United Nations Commissioner for South West Africa, appointed by the Assembly.

The Assembly entrusted to the Council the following powers and functions, "to be discharged in the Territory": to administer the Territory until independence with the maximum possible participation of the people; to promulgate laws, decrees and administrative regulations until a legislative assembly was

established following elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage; to take measures for the establishment of a constituent assembly to draw up a constitution, on the basis of which elections would be held for a legislative assembly and a responsible government; to take all necessary measures to maintain law and order; and to transfer all powers to the people upon the declaration of independence.

Members of the Council -- elected by the Assembly on 13 June 1967 -- are Chile, Colombia, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Turkey, United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia and Zambia. Constantin Stavropoulos, Legal Counsel of the United Nations, was appointed by the Assembly as Acting Commissioner for South West Africa pending appointment of a Commissioner.

In its report to the Assembly last year (A/6897), the Council stated that the refusal of the South African Government to co-operate in the implementation of Assembly resolutions made it impossible for the Council to discharge effectively all the functions and responsibilities entrusted to it.

In resolution 2325 (XXII) of 16 December 1967, the Assembly called on the South African Government to withdraw from the Territory, unconditionally and without delay, all its military and police forces as well as its administration, to release all political prisoners and to allow all political refugees to return.

The Assembly also condemned the refusal of the Government to comply with resolutions 2145 (XXI) and 2248 (S-V); declared that the continued presence of South African authorities in the Territory was a flagrant violation of its territorial integrity and international status; and appealed to all Member States, particularly the main trading partners of South Africa, to take effective economic and other measures to ensure immediate withdrawal of the South African administration.

Further, it requested the Security Council to take steps to enable the United Nations and the Council for South West Africa to discharge their responsibilities to the Territory.

During its twenty-second session last year, the attention of the Assembly was drawn by the Council for South West Africa to the arrest and trial in Pretoria of 37 African nationals from the Territory on charges of terrorism. In resolution 2324 (XXII) of 16 December 1967, the Assembly

condemned the illegal arrest, deportation and trial of the South West Africans as a flagrant violation of their rights and of the international status of the Territory. It called on the South African Government to discontinue the trial forthwith and to release and repatriate the men concerned.

On 25 January 1968, the Security Council condemned South Africa's refusal to comply with the Assembly resolution on release and repatriation of the prisoners, called on the Government to discontinue the trial and to release and repatriate them, and invited all States to exert their influence to induce the Government to comply with this resolution of the Council (245 (1968)).

After sentences had been handed down on 33 of the South West Africans, the Security Council adopted resolution 246 (1968) of 14 March, in which it censured the South African Government for its "flagrant defiance" of the Council's 25 January resolution and demanded that the Government release and repatriate the prisoners. The Council also decided that if the Government failed to comply with the new resolution, it would meet immediately to determine effective steps or measures under the charter.

In March 1968, the Council for South West Africa decided to proceed to South West Africa to discharge the functions and responsibilities entrusted to it by the Assembly and to visit Zambia and the United Republic of Tanzania to interview representatives of the people of the Territory who resided in those countries.

The Council, accompanied by the Acting Commissioner for South West Africa, arrived in Lusaka on 7 April and later visited Dar es Salaam.

In a report (A/7088) to the resumed twenty-second session of the Assembly (24 April - 12 June 1968), the Council stated that while in Lusaka it continued efforts to charter a commercial aircraft to enter the Territory, but it was told that landing clearances had been denied.

Later, the Council referred to the Secretary-General a conditional offer of a Zambia Airways Corporation aircraft. However, it reported that, as the Secretary-General had indicated that his reply could not be expected for some time because of the need for consultations, it had decided to

return to New York. It reaffirmed its determination to enter the Territory and stated that it would do so as soon as the necessary arrangements had been made.

The Council reported that it had met in conference with representatives of the South West African political parties in Lusaka and Dar es Salaam.

Acting on the Council's report, the Assembly on 12 June 1968 adopted resolution 2372 (XXII) containing 15 operative paragraphs. Firstly, the Assembly proclaimed that, "in accordance with the desires of its people, South West Africa shall henceforth be known as 'Namibia'".

The Assembly recommended to the Security Council that it urgently take effective measures, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter, "to ensure the immediate removal of the South African presence from Namibia, and to ensure for Namibia its independence".

The Assembly expressed the view that "the continued foreign occupation of Namibia by South Africa in defiance of the relevant United Nations resolutions and of the Territory's established international status constitutes a grave threat to international peace and security".

The Assembly condemned South Africa for its refusal to comply with United Nations resolutions on this question, its refusal to withdraw from Namibia, its obstruction of the efforts of the Council to proceed to Namibia, and its actions "designed to consolidate its illegal control over Namibia and to destroy the unity of the people and the territorial integrity of Namibia".

In other provisions of the resolution, the Assembly condemned the actions of those States which, by "their continued collaboration" with the Government of South Africa, had encouraged that Government to defy the authority of the United Nations; and called upon all States to take economic and other measures with a view to securing the withdrawal of the South African administration.

The Assembly asked the Council for Namibia to perform certain functions, "as a matter of priority", including the establishment of a co-ordinated emergency programme for technical and financial assistance to Namibia, and of a training programme for Namibians, in co-operation with interested Governments, "so that a cadre of civil servants and of technical and

professional personnel may be developed who would be in a position to undertake the public administration and the social, political and economic development of the State".

At its forthcoming session, the Assembly will have before it a new report by the Council for Namibia (not yet adopted), as well as a report by the Special Committee of 24 on the ending of colonialism (a chapter in the Committee's annual report to the Assembly, A/7200 and addenda), and a report by the Secretary-General (A/7171) containing the replies of 11 States and eight organizations on implementation of Assembly resolution 2372 (XXII).

The Assembly will also consider the appointment of a United Nations Commissioner for Namibia to succeed the Acting Commissioner, Mr. Stavropoulos. The Secretary-General has not thus far made a nomination for this post.

65. Territories under Portuguese Administration

The Territories under Portuguese administration have been the subject of numerous resolutions by the Special Committee of 24, the General Assembly and the Security Council. These have called, inter alia, for Portugal's recognition of the right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination and independence for an arms embargo and for a suspension of economic and technical aid to that country.

Portugal has taken the position that the Territories are its overseas provinces and are not Non-Self-Governing Territories within the meaning of Chapter XI of the Charter, as decided upon by the Assembly in 1960. It also states that its aim is to create a multi-racial society and to further the participation of the population in all phases of activity in the Territories.

The Territories under Portuguese administration are Angola; Mozambique; Guinea, called Portuguese Guinea; Cape Verde Archipelago and Sao Tome and Principe; Macao and dependencies; and Timor and dependencies.

The Security Council was first seized with the question of Angola in 1961, but the question of the Portuguese Territories in general was dealt with by the Assembly in 1962 and by the General Assembly and Security Council in 1963.

On 23 November 1965, the Council requested all States to prevent the sale and supply of arms and military equipment and the giving of any aid to Portugal which could be used to continue the repression of the people of the Territories. The Assembly took a similar decision on 21 December 1965 in resolution 2107 (XX). Noting with concern that Portugal was intensifying its repressive acts, the Assembly urged States to impose a trade boycott on Portugal, and to sever diplomatic and consular relations with it.

After considering the question during its meetings in Africa in 1966, the Special Committee of 24 recommended a series of actions which were later reflected in resolution 2184 (XX) of 12 December 1966. In the resolution, the Assembly requested all States, particularly the military allies of Portugal in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), to stop the sale and shipment of arms and military equipment to Portugal, and to prevent their nationals from co-operating with the Portuguese authorities, especially regarding investment in the Territories.

The Assembly also appealed to the specialized agencies, including the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, to refrain from granting any aid to Portugal as long as it failed to implement the Declaration on decolonization, and it requested the Secretary-General to enter into consultation with the World Bank in order to secure compliance with the resolution and other resolutions on the subject. The Assembly appealed for moral and material support for the peoples of the Territories, asked the specialized agencies to increase their assistance to the refugees and condemned as a crime against humanity Portugal's policy of settling foreign immigrants in the Territories and forcibly exporting African workers to South Africa.

All these elements were reaffirmed by the Special Committee of 24 in its decision of 20 June 1967 and by the Assembly in resolution 2270 (XXII) of 7 November 1967. In addition, the Assembly supporting the earlier recommendations of the Committee, condemned the policies of Portugal of using its Territories for violations of the integrity and sovereignty of independent African States and drew the urgent attention of the Security Council to the consequences of such violations. The Assembly recommended

that the Security Council consider adoption of the necessary measures to make mandatory the provisions of resolutions concerning the question and advocated widespread and continuous publicizing of the work of the United Nations on the item.

Resuming its examination of the question in 1968, the Special Committee of 24 decided on 26 June to call again on all States -- particularly the military allies of Portugal in NATO -- to prevent any sale or supply of weapons and military equipment to Portugal. It repeated its recommendation that the Security Council consider urgently the adoption of necessary measures to make mandatory the provisions of the Security Council's and General Assembly's resolutions concerning the question, and it requested that the Secretary-General publicize the question of the Portuguese Territories, taking into full consideration the views of the Committee.

Among the Committee's new recommendations was a request that the Secretary-General, in consultation with the specialized agencies and other interested parties, develop and expand the existing programme of training indigenous inhabitants from the Portuguese Territories, taking into account their needs for cadres of civil servants and technical and professional personnel to assume responsibilities for the public administration and the economic and social development of their own countries.

66. Fiji

Since 1963, when the General Assembly and the Special Committee first dealt with the question of Fiji, they have on several occasions affirmed the right of the people to self-determination and independence, and called for the drawing up of a constitution and the holding of free elections conducted on the principle of "one man, one vote". Two years after its initial action on this matter (resolution 1951 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963), the Assembly considered constitutional changes contemplated by the administering Power, the United Kingdom, and declared that they would foment separatist tendencies and stand in the way of the integration of the people as a whole (resolution 2068 (XX) of 16 December 1965).

The population of the Territory, at the end of 1966, was reported by the administering Power to be 42 per cent indigenous Fijian, 50 per cent Indian, and 8 per cent European, Chinese and others. Under the present Constitution, promulgated in September 1966, the majority of elected members of the Legislative Council are chosen from separate communal voting rolls, while the remainder are elected by a system of cross-voting. The United Kingdom has stated that the constitutional changes were a step towards racial harmony and that immediate adoption of a common electoral roll would exacerbate communal divisions. The opposition Federation Party in Fiji has protested that the Constitution is unjust, since under it the Indian majority has only 12 seats in the Legislative Council, compared to 12 for the European-Chinese community and 14 for the Fijians.

In 1966, the General Assembly called on the United Kingdom to hold general elections on the "one man, one vote" principle to form a constituent assembly which would draw up a democratic constitution and in turn form a representative government (resolution 2185 (XXI) of 12 December 1966). It also called on the United Kingdom to transfer full powers to that government, fix an early date for independence and abolish all discriminatory measures. This resolution was reaffirmed last year, by 91 votes in favour to 6 against (including the United Kingdom, with 20 abstentions) (resolution 2350 (XXII) of 19 December 1967).

Since 1966, the Special Committee and the Assembly have urged the United Kingdom to receive a United Nations visiting mission. In September 1967, the Special Committee formed a Sub-Committee on Fiji consisting of Bulgaria, Chile, Finland, India and the United Republic of Tanzania. However, the United Kingdom informed the Committee last year that it did not regard a visit to Fiji by a sub-committee as necessary. In its resolution of December 1967, the Assembly expressed regret at this refusal and appealed to the British Government to reconsider it.

The Special Committee has not yet dealt with the question of Fiji in 1968.

67. Oman

In three resolutions adopted in 1965, 1966 and 1967, the General Assembly has affirmed the right of the people of Oman to self-determination and independence, and has called for the withdrawal of British troops and the cessation of "repressive action" against the people. The United Kingdom has contended that the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman is an independent State whose affairs the United Nations has no right to discuss.

Although the first United Nations resolution on this question was adopted in 1963, the matter was first brought to the attention of the Organization in 1957, when the Security Council declined for lack of a majority vote to place on its agenda an item proposed by 11 Arab States concerning alleged aggression by the United Kingdom against the Imamate of Oman. (The Sultanate is the regime which the United Kingdom recognizes as the legitimate government; the Imamate is a regime that formerly controlled the interior of the country but now operates in exile from Saudi Arabia and has appointed representatives to several Arab States.)

The Special Political Committee of the Assembly approved draft resolutions in 1961 and 1962 calling for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Oman and inviting the parties to settle their differences peacefully, but the Assembly failed to adopt them for lack of a two-thirds majority.

After a Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Herbert de Ribbing of Sweden, visited the Sultanate in May and June 1963 to obtain information, the Assembly, on the recommendation of its Fourth Committee, appointed a five-member Ad Hoc Committee on Oman (resolution 1948 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963). The Committee, which was not permitted by the Sultan to visit the Territory, reported in January 1965 (A/5846) that the Sultanate, although not formally a colony, was to a great extent under British influence. The problem, in the Committee's view, derived from "imperialistic policies and foreign intervention". It proposed negotiations assisted by a United Nations good offices committee.

In its 1965 resolution (2073 (XX) of 17 December), the Assembly, besides calling for the withdrawal of British troops and the cessation of

"repressive actions", called on the United Kingdom to effect the release of political prisoners and detainees, the return of political exiles and the elimination of "British domination in any form". It stated that the "colonial presence" of the United Kingdom prevented the people from exercising their rights to self-determination and independence.

In 1966 (resolution 2238 (XXI) of 20 December), the Assembly repeated its call for the measures mentioned in its 1955 resolution. It deplored the United Kingdom's refusal to implement its earlier resolutions and what it described as the British Government's policies "in installing and supporting any unrepresentative regime". It declared that the natural resources of the Territory belong to the people of Oman and that concessions to foreign monopolies without the people's consent violate their rights. It stated that the maintenance of military bases and troops in Oman constituted a major hindrance to the exercise of self-determination and independence and was prejudicial to peace and security. It appealed to all Members to assist the people in their struggle for freedom and independence.

These provisions were repeated by the Assembly last year (resolution 2302 (XXII) of 12 December 1967), in a text adopted by 72 votes in favour to 18 against, with 19 abstentions.

This year, the Assembly is to consider the chapter on Oman in the annual report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/7200 and addenda). The Committee, which considered the matter in 1966 and 1967 at the Assembly's request, did not adopt any recommendations on Oman. It has not yet taken the question up in 1968.

Also before the Assembly will be a report by the Secretary-General (not yet issued), in compliance with the Assembly's request that, in consultation with the Special Committee, he take appropriate measures to implement the relevant resolutions. Last year's report by the Secretary-General (A/6909) contained a communication from the United Kingdom stating that the United Nations had no right to discuss the internal affairs of the Sultanate, that there were no British bases in Oman and that the United Kingdom would not participate in any discussions of this question by the Special Committee.

68. Activities of Foreign Interests Impeding Implementation of Declaration on Ending of Colonialism

The question of the influence of foreign economic and financial interests in colonial Territories, although frequently discussed by the General Assembly in past years in connexion with specific territories, appeared last year for the first time as a separate item on the provisional agenda of the Assembly, after such consideration was advanced in 1966 by the Special Committee of 24 on the ending of colonialism.

In resolution 2288 (XXII) of 7 December 1967, the Assembly reaffirmed the right of the peoples of Southern Rhodesia, South West Africa (now known as Namibia), Territories under Portuguese domination and all other colonial Territories to dispose of the natural resources of their Territories in their best interests; declared that colonial Powers which deprived them of such rights were violating Charter obligations and impeding decolonization; deplored the policies of the colonial Powers which permitted the exploitation of the natural resources of the Territories under their administration, contrary to the interests of the indigenous population; called upon all States to ensure that concessions, investments and enterprises of their nationals in colonial Territories did not run counter to the interests of the indigenous inhabitants; and further called upon colonial Powers to prohibit the exploitation of human and natural resources contrary to the interests of the indigenous inhabitants.

The Assembly approved the report on the subject by the Special Committee of 24, and requested the Special Committee to continue its study concerning the activities of foreign economic and other interests which were impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence.

In resolution 2189 (XXI) of 13 December 1966, the Assembly had already condemned the activities of those financial and economic interests in colonial Territories which supported colonial regimes and thus constituted a serious obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the ending of colonialism; and it called upon Governments concerned "to take the necessary measures to put an end to those activities".

Since 1964, the Special Committee's Sub-Committee I had studied separately the activities of foreign economic and other interests in Namibia (formerly known as South West Africa) and in the Territories under Portuguese administration. It had been dealing with such activities in Southern Rhodesia since 1966. In October 1966, the Special Committee adopted a suggestion by its Sub-Committee that the activities of economic and other interests in all these Territories be considered as one problem.

The Special Committee concluded in 1964 that foreign capital held a dominant position in the economy of Namibia; that the main sectors of production were controlled by foreign enterprises or by settlers of European descent who were mainly from South Africa; that South Africa's desire to annex Namibia was directly connected with the activities of international companies interested in keeping the Territory as a field for the investment of their capital and a source of raw material and cheap labour; and that their activities constituted one of the main obstacles to the country's development towards independence. Consequently, the Special Committee recommended that the Assembly call upon South Africa to put an end to such activities; and appealed to all States whose nationals had public or private interests in these companies, especially the United States and the United Kingdom, to cease to give any support to South Africa.

In 1965, the Assembly endorsed the Special Committee's recommendations and condemned the policies of financial interests operating in Namibia.

With regard to foreign interests in the Territories under Portuguese administration, the Special Committee in 1965 concluded that concessions had been granted to foreign investors without the consent of the African inhabitants who were the rightful owners of the resources; that foreign interests directly or indirectly supported Portuguese colonialism which made it possible for them to enjoy the profits of exploitation; and that foreign capital held a dominant position in all sectors of the economic life of the Territories. The Special Committee approved the recommendations of its Sub-Committee that the Assembly should strongly condemn the activities and operating methods of the foreign economic and other interests; appeal to the United Kingdom, the United States, Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany and other Powers to induce their nationals

owning and operating such enterprises to end such activities; and that the Security Council should consider measures to ensure Portugal's implementation of the Declaration on the ending of colonialism.

In 1965, the Assembly expressed "deep concern that the activities of the foreign financial interests in the Territories under Portuguese administration are an impediment to the African people in the realization of their aspirations to freedom and independence".

In 1966, the Special Committee reaffirmed the 1965 recommendations, and its report was approved by the Assembly in resolution 2189 (XXI).

With regard to Southern Rhodesia, the Special Committee in 1966 adopted conclusions to the effect that foreign interests played a decisive role in the economic life of Southern Rhodesia; that foreign undertakings were closely linked with international economic and financial interests in other parts of southern Africa; that the economic sanctions against the illegal regime had relative lack of impact on the Southern Rhodesian economy; and that the private sector of the economy -- almost entirely owned and operated by the European settlers and foreign companies -- had supported the regime's economic measures. The Special Committee therefore recommended that the Assembly condemn the illegal declaration of independence by the white settlers who represented the interests of the international monopolies; strongly condemn the activities of foreign economic interests supporting the minority regime; and urge the interested Powers to exert influence on nationals owning and operating enterprises in Southern Rhodesia to end their activities.

The Assembly, in resolution 2151 (XXI) of 17 November 1966, noted with concern the "increasingly harmful role played by those foreign monopolies and financial interests in Southern Rhodesia whose support for the illegal racist minority regime" impeded the people's attainment to independence; condemned the activities of foreign interests which, by supporting the regime, prevented the people from attaining freedom and independence; and called upon the Governments of the States concerned to take all necessary measures to bring to an end such activities.

In resolutions adopted during its 1967 meetings in Africa, the Special Committee again condemned the activities of foreign financial and other economic interests in colonial territories -- particularly in Namibia, Southern Rhodesia and the Territories under Portuguese domination -- which supported colonial regimes and thus constituted a serious obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on granting of independence.

69. Implementation of Declaration on Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by Specialized Agencies and International Institutions Associated with United Nations

Although the General Assembly had dealt with the specialized agencies implementation of the Declaration on the ending of colonialism in a number of past resolutions, it was only last year that it considered the question as a separate item on the agenda.

After examining the question during the twenty-second session, the Assembly recommended on 14 December 1967 in resolution 2311 (XXII) that the specialized agencies and international institutions take urgent and effective measures to assist the peoples struggling for their liberation from colonial rule, and, in particular, to extend "all necessary aid to the oppressed peoples" of Southern Rhodesia and the Portuguese territories. It also recommended that the specialized agencies and international institutions not grant any assistance to South Africa and Portugal until they renounced racial discrimination and colonial domination, and expressed appreciation to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and to the specialized agencies which have co-operated in seeking to implement Assembly resolutions.

In the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee of 24 on the ending of colonialism, appropriate measures for co-ordinating policies and activities of the specialized agencies in implementing the relevant resolutions; and requested the Secretary-General to assist the specialized agencies and international institutions concerned in working out measures to implement the resolutions.

During the twenty-second session, the Assembly adopted a number of resolutions relating to specific Territories, which contain references or appeals to the specialized agencies, including the following:

Resolution 2262 (XXII) of 3 November 1967, on Southern Rhodesia -- appealing to the specialized agencies to aid and assist refugees from Zimbabwe and victims of oppression in Southern Rhodesia.

Resolution 2270 (XXII) of 17 November 1967, on Portuguese Territories -- appealing to the specialized agencies, "in particular to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund", to refrain from granting Portugal assistance until Portugal implements the Declaration.

Resolution 2324 (XXII) of 16 December 1967, on the arrest and trial of South West Africans -- appealing to international organizations to use their influence with South Africa in connexion with the case.

Resolution 2326 (XXII) of 16 December 1967, on colonial Territories in general -- requesting all States, directly and through action in international institutions, to withhold assistance of any kind from Portugal, South Africa and Southern Rhodesia.

Resolution 2347 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, on Nauru -- urging the specialized agencies to aid the people of Nauru in building a new nation.

Resolution 2372 (XXII) of 12 June 1968, on Namibia -- directing the Council for Namibia to establish a technical and financial assistance programme, in co-operation with the specialized agencies and other appropriate organs of the United Nations.

On 18 December 1967, in pursuance of the Assembly's request in resolution 2311 (XXII), the Economic and Social Council decided to consider the item at its forty-fifth session in 1968.

In consultations between the Council and the Special Committee of 24 in June 1968, it was generally agreed that the specialized agencies should be invited to participate fully in discussion of the item at the Council's forty-fifth session, to provide the most recent information on their policies and activities in that regard, and to advance such suggestions as they might consider appropriate. It was agreed that further consultations should take place between the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee. (See report of the President of the Council, E/4547.)

The Secretary-General, in a note dated 10 July 1968 (E/4546), said he had held consultations with the executive heads of the agencies and institutions concerned in regard to implementation of resolution 2311 (XXII), through the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination. The results of these consultations are set out in a report by the Secretary-General to the twenty-third session (E/4557), outlining actions taken by a number of agencies.

The Economic and Social Council, during the first part of its forty-fifth session in Geneva (8 July-2 August), discussed the subject and decided to continue consideration of the item at its resumed session this fall.

70. United Nations Training and Educational Programme

The General Assembly decided last year to integrate three previously existing programmes for the education and training of persons from southern Africa -- the special educational and training programme for South West Africa (now known as Namibia), the special training programme for Territories under Portuguese administration, and the educational and training programme for South Africans (resolution 2349 (XXII) of 19 December 1967). It also decided to include in the programme assistance to Southern Rhodesians, provided this did not interfere with existing United Nations schemes and was done with due regard to Security Council resolutions relating to non-recognition of the Southern Rhodesian regime.

The oldest of the three previous training programmes, that for South West Africans, dates from 1961, when the Assembly decided to establish it (resolution 1705 (XVI) of 19 December 1961). Its aim was to provide fellowships and scholarships for technical education, education for leadership and teacher training. The programme for inhabitants of Portuguese-administered Territories, with a similar aim, was established in the following year (resolution 1808 (XVII) of 14 December 1962).

The educational and training programme for South Africans was set up pursuant to a Security Council resolution (191 (1964) of 18 June 1964). A group of Experts had recommended its establishment in order to "enable as many South Africans as possible to play a full part as quickly as possible in the political, economic and social advance of this country".

In a report to the Assembly in 1967 (A/6890 and Corr.1-3), the Secretary-General stated that 46 scholarships had been awarded under the programme for South West Africans from 1963 to 1966, 149 under the programme for Portuguese-administered Territories from 1964 to 1966, and 268 under the programme for South Africans from its inception to October 1967. A report on the consolidated programme will be presented to the Assembly later this year.

The consolidated programme is to be financed from a trust fund made up of voluntary contributions, although as a transitional measure \$100,000 was appropriated by the Assembly out of the regular United Nations budget for 1968 to ensure continuity pending receipt of adequate voluntary contributions. In accordance with the Assembly's 1967 resolution, the Secretary-General has appealed to States Members of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies to achieve a target of \$3 million for the three-year period 1968-1970. As of 7 September, seven States have pledged contributions totalling \$162,983.

The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to include in the Programme the granting of subventions to educational and training institutions in Africa, so that beneficiaries of the Programme could be trained in Africa as far as practicable. A seven-member committee, to be nominated by the President of the Assembly, is to advise the Secretary-General on these subventions. The Assembly also asked the Secretary-General to study the means of promoting the further development and expansion of the Programme.

71. Study Facilities for Inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

In 1954, the General Assembly invited Member States to offer the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories facilities for technical and vocational training of immediate practical value and for training at the post-primary and university levels (resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954). A similar invitation has been repeated almost every year since.

In 1966, the Assembly urged Member States to continue offering scholarships and requested them to facilitate the travel of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories. It invited administering Powers to ensure that all scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States are utilized by inhabitants of the Territories, and to assist scholarship students,

particularly by facilitating their travel formalities (resolution 2234 (XXI) of 20 December 1966). This resolution was reaffirmed last year without objection (resolution 2352 (XXII) of 19 December 1967).

The role of the Secretariat is to disseminate information about the scholarships offered by Member States, and to transmit applications for scholarships to the offering States and the administering Powers.

In his 1967 report on this subject (A/6918 and Add.1), the Secretary-General informed the Assembly that 27 Member States were offering scholarships in 1966-67. Between October 1966 and October 1967, 285 students received information and application forms from the Secretariat. Ninety-two of these applications were completed and returned to the Secretariat during this period, and 76 of these were found eligible and forwarded to offering States. Other scholarships were offered directly by Member States rather than through the Secretariat.

The Secretary-General will submit a further report later this year.

72. Financial Reports and Accounts for 1967, Reports of Board of Auditors

Each year, the Board of Auditors transmits to the General Assembly the financial statements of the United Nations and of the various extra-budgetary accounts in the custody of the Secretary-General, covering the previous financial year (which is also the calendar year). After external audit, the Board certifies that the statements are correct and submits reports on the accounts to the Assembly. In addition, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions makes observations on these reports. (This year the Committee's comments appear in document A/7219.)

(a) United Nations

Under its regular budget, the United Nations spent or obligated \$131,486,813 for 1967, according to financial reports by the Secretary-General to be published shortly (A/7206). Income from staff assessment was \$13,654,512 and miscellaneous income was \$8,933,212. Total income, including these two income sources plus assessments on Member States, exceeded obligations by \$2,137,773.

However, only 68.85 per cent of assessed contributions receivable for 1967 were actually paid during that year -- \$75,331,534 out of \$109,413,985. The Secretary-General states that the collection record in 1967 was worse than in 1966; unpaid contributions for all previous years rose from \$36,318,825 at the end of 1966 to \$46,700,602 at the end of 1967.

There was also a further deterioration in the Organization's over-all financial position during 1967, the report states. Counting all United Nations accounts for which Member States are assessed -- including those for the peace-keeping operations in the Congo and the Middle East -- cash inflow of \$135,353,000 during the year fell short of expenditures, which came to \$145,195,000. At 31 December 1967, current accounts payable exceeded cash plus current accounts receivable by \$2,429,000, representing a decrease of \$9.8 million in net liquid assets as compared to the position a year earlier.

For the regular United Nations account plus the two peace-keeping accounts, unpaid balances of assessed contributions rose by \$14,158,000 during 1967, to a total of \$184,895,000. As of the end of the year, 19 Members had donated \$21,168,314 in voluntary contributions to assist the Organization out of its financial difficulties.

The Board of Auditors cites a number of "unsatisfactory features" in connexion with construction of a building at Santiago, Chile, to house the Economic Commission for Latin America. It observes that cost estimates for the building have risen from the original figure of \$1,550,000 to the current estimate of \$4,187,700. The Advisory Committee, in its report, says it will comment on the matter after the Secretary-General submits a report to the 1968 Assembly session.

(b) United Nations Development Programme

Allocations by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) during 1967 totalled \$248,963,363, according to the financial report to be issued shortly (A/7206/Add.1). Of this total, \$67,433,549 was allocated from the Technical Assistance Account and \$181,529,814 from the Special Fund Account. Administrative expenses accounted for \$14,884,900 of total allocations.

Ninety-five Governments contributed a total of \$66,511,982 to the Technical Assistance Account in 1967, while 96 Governments contributed \$118,277,800 to the Special Fund Account.

(c) United Nations Children's Fund

Expenditures by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) totalled \$39,967,054 in 1967, according to the financial report to be issued shortly (A/7206/Add.2). Income was \$38,468,379 or \$1,498,676 higher than expenditures.

Expenditures included \$6,474,219 for Africa, \$6,959,150 for East Asia and Pakistan, \$8,092,456 for South Central Asia, \$3,408,648 for the Eastern Mediterranean, \$435,231 for Europe, \$5,268,068 for the Americas and \$3,054,516 for administrative costs.

In 1967, a total of 123 Governments voluntarily paid or pledged \$28,382,345 to UNICEF. Private contributions, including those from organized campaigns, amounted to \$5,544,789. The Greeting Card Fund supplied an additional \$3 million.

(d) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) spent or committed \$40,540,693 in 1967, according to the accounts (A/7206/Add.3). With income of \$43,069,129, there was a surplus of \$2,528,436.

The financial statements show that for relief services (basic rations, supplementary feeding, shelter and special hardship assistance) the Agency spent or committed \$19,621,997 in 1967. For health services, the figure was \$5,024,991, and for education services \$15,233,442. Losses due to the hostilities of June 1967 totalled \$834,380, according to the Board of Auditors.

For 1967, 50 Governments made contributions in cash or supplies, totalling \$32,704,589, while \$2,348,808 was received from non-governmental sources.

(e) United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Obligations for \$955,965 were incurred by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) during 1967, according to the financial report (A/7206/Add.4). Income last year came to \$537,348, including \$453,971 in pledges from seven Governments and \$20,001 in private contributions. Counting income from previous years, UNITAR had an unencumbered balance of \$1,880,844 as of 31 December 1967.

Obligations incurred during 1967 consisted of \$504,376 for programme activities, \$264,883 for management and \$186,706 for general expenses.

The UNITAR statement is being presented separately from the general United Nations financial statements for the first time, in accordance with the Institute's Statute.

(f) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Obligations incurred by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) from voluntary funds administered by him totalled \$5,842,865 in 1967, according to the financial accounts (A/7206/Add.5). Contributions and other income amounted to \$6,509,783. Taking account of accumulated surpluses carried forward, the surplus and balances as of 31 December 1967 stood at \$2,156,007.

Thirty-nine countries contributed \$3,014,994 to UNHCR during 1967, while private donations totalled \$2,101,436. The administrative expenditure of UNHCR, paid for out of the regular United Nations budget, was \$3,259,977.

73. Supplementary Estimates for 1968

Each year, the Secretary-General proposes to the General Assembly any revisions he considers necessary in the appropriation and income estimates for the current year, as approved at the previous session. A report by the Secretary-General on supplementary estimates for 1968 is expected in October, to be followed by a report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

The gross appropriation for 1968 totals \$140,430,950 (resolution 2363 (XXII) of 19 December 1967). Estimates of income, other than assessments on Member States, totalled \$23,635,000.

The Secretary-General has informed the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that, according to a tentative estimate, gross expenditures in 1968 may exceed the approved appropriations by about \$2 million. This forecast, cited in the Advisory Committee's report on the 1969 budget estimates (A/7207), includes such unforeseen items as investigations of human rights situations in southern Africa, purchase of television equipment, a trip by the United Nations Council and Commissioner for Namibia, increases in staff salary and wage rates, hiring of temporary personnel for meetings and for the International Computing Centre, overtime expenses, higher costs for rental and maintenance of office equipment and for communications and utilities, and increased requirements for special missions such as the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine.

74. Budget Estimates for 1969

The Secretary-General has presented initial estimates (A/7205) of a regular United Nations budget of \$140,520,210 in 1969. He has informed the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that this figure may well be increased by \$10 million when items not yet provided for have been precisely estimated.

The Advisory Committee, whose recommendations are generally adopted by the General Assembly, has recommended (A/7207) a reduction of \$2,203,260 in the initial estimates, for a gross budget of \$138,316,950.

The Secretary-General's budget proposals include income estimates totalling \$25,059,240 -- a figure in which the Advisory Committee concurs. This would give a net budget of \$115,460,970 according to the Secretary-General's estimates, and \$113,257,710 if the Advisory Committee's recommendations are adopted.

A major factor in the projected budget rise is the Secretary-General's request for approval of 607 new posts, mainly to staff expanding economic and social programmes and to service a growing schedule of meetings. This

increase, which would bring to 8,435 the total number of United Nations personnel financed from the regular budget, would comprise 233 professional, 278 general service, and 96 local and manual worker posts.

The Advisory Committee recommends that only about 460 new posts be provided, including 169 in the professional category, 210 general service posts, and 81 manual and local positions. Stating that there is room for curtailment or redeployment of staff resources, it says it is satisfied that the reduction in the number of new posts which it has proposed should not prejudice the fulfilment of the programme laid down for the Secretariat by United Nations organs. It recommends a detailed survey of existing personnel, their deployment and utilization.

The Secretary-General, in his budget estimates, discloses that higher salary and wage rates and other staff costs account for \$4 million of the \$7.3 million increase under budget sections 3 and 4, covering the bulk of the Organization's personnel costs. The remaining \$3.3 million is attributable to the proposal to expand the staff. The only other major increase is for the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, which will cost \$1.2 million more next year -- for a total of \$9.4 million -- if the Secretary-General's request is approved. Partly offsetting these higher figures are declines of \$1.5 million for special meetings and conferences, and \$1.3 million for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Of the total budget cut of \$2.2 million recommended by the Advisory Committee, approximately \$1.3 million relates to staff costs and related expenses; the rest is scattered over most other sections of the budget.

The largest expenditure item whose dimensions cannot yet be precisely estimated relates to the regular United Nations programme for technical co-operation. In recent years, this programme has cost \$6.4 million annually, but the bodies responsible for policy guidance for the programme have this year recommended appropriations that would add up to \$6.9 million, leaving it to the Assembly to fix the over-all total and its allocation among major fields of activity. [See notes on agenda item 44 (a).]

Besides the basic budget document and Advisory Committee report, the Assembly will consider reports to be made by the Secretary-General and

the Advisory Committee on revised estimates for certain sections of the budget. As listed in the foreword to the budget estimates, these reports will deal with the costs of technical co-operation programmes, the International Trade Centre in Geneva, office accommodation at Headquarters and at Santiago, the possible payment of a language bonus to staff members and improved language training programmes, and salaries of professional and higher level staff. The outcome of the work of the Secretary-General's Expert Group on the organization of the Secretariat will also be communicated to the Assembly.

As requested by the Assembly in resolution 2370 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, the Advisory Committee will report on a definition of "unforeseen and extraordinary expenses". This term refers to expenditures not provided for in the regular budget but authorized when a special need for them arises. The Advisory Committee will also submit a report on administrative and budgetary procedures and practices of United Nations programmes financed from sources other than the regular budget. On this point, the Committee expressed the opinion last year that greater uniformity was required between the administrative and budgetary arrangements of the United Nations and those of its voluntary programmes.

Another document submitted under this agenda item is the Secretary-General's report on the budget performance of the United Nations in 1967 (A/7125). This details the reasons for divergences between the amounts appropriated under each chapter and section of the 1967 budget and the amount actually spent or obligated. It shows that a balance of \$1,597,187 remained from the total appropriation of \$133,084,000. The balance will be credited to Member States against their assessments for 1969.

75. Pattern of Conferences

Efforts by the General Assembly to rationalize the growing number of United Nations meetings date back to 1952, when the Assembly established a four-year regular pattern of conferences, laying down principles to govern the places and dates of such meetings (resolution 694 (VII) of 20 December). A further fixed pattern of conferences was established for the period 1958 to 1964. The pattern in effect for 1966 to 1968 is set out in resolution 2116 (XX) of 21 December 1965.

The present pattern specifies that, with certain exceptions, meetings of United Nations bodies should be held at the headquarters of those bodies. One exception is when a Government offers to act as host for a meeting to be held on its territory, in which case that Government must agree to defray the additional costs involved. Other provisions state that any meeting which is not of an emergency nature and which is not covered by the basic annual programme should not be held during that year, and that not more than one major special conference should be scheduled in any one year.

In 1966, the Assembly took a further step to deal with the problem by establishing a 15-member Committee on Conferences (resolution 2239 (XXI) of 20 December 1966). The Committee was instructed to submit to the Assembly at each regular session a calendar of United Nations conferences and meetings for the following year. Early in the Assembly's session, the Committee is to review the information submitted to it by the Secretary-General on plans for the following year. As the session progresses, it is to examine any proposals for new meetings which may be made in the Assembly's Main Committees, and submit its recommendations to the Committee concerned. Finally, in the closing stages of the regular session, the Committee on Conferences is to draw up the calendar of United Nations conferences and meetings for the following year, with recommendations for the succeeding year. The calendar is then submitted to the Assembly for final approval.

This procedure, followed for the first time last year, resulted in a calendar of meetings for 1968 (contained in the Committee's report, document A/6991/Rev.2) approved by the Assembly on 19 December 1967 (resolution 2361 (XXII)). At the same time, the Assembly requested United Nations bodies to review their methods of work and calendar of meetings with a view to reducing the total meeting time. The Committee was asked to submit to the Assembly recommendations on the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1969 through 1971. It was also requested to submit a definition of the term "major special conference".

The Committee has already held a number of meetings this year and will convene its next series of meetings in early September. Besides considering the 1969 calendar, it is expected to review and submit recommendations on the proposed calendar for 1970 and 1971.

The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in its report on the 1969 budget estimates (A/7207), expresses the hope that the Committee on Conferences will recommend concrete action to reduce the total number of meetings for 1969 and future years.

Members of the Committee on Conferences are: Algeria, Burma, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Czechoslovakia, France, India, Jamaica, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, Soviet Union, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Zambia.

76. Appointments to Subsidiary Bodies

(a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

This Committee, established in 1946, examines and makes recommendations to the General Assembly on the United Nations budget, the administrative budgets of the specialized agencies and related questions.

Its 12 members are elected by the Assembly for three-year terms. They serve as individuals, not as representatives of Governments. Four retire each year, but are eligible for reappointment.

Members this year are: Jan P. Bannier (Netherlands), Chairman; Abdou Ciss (Senegal); Paulo Lopes Corrêa (Brazil); André Ganem (France); Pedro Olarte (Colombia); John I.M. Rhodes (United Kingdom); Mchamed Riad (United Arab Republic); E. Olu Sanu (Nigeria); Dragos Serbanescu (Romania); Shilendra K. Singh (India); Viktor F. Ulanchev (Soviet Union); and Wilbur H. Ziehl (United States).

The terms of office of Mr. Ciss, Mr. Ganem, Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Singh expire on 31 December, and the Assembly will be required to fill the resulting vacancies. The persons elected will begin their term on 1 January 1969 (A/7151).

(b) Committee on Contributions

Established in 1946, this Committee advises the Assembly on the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations among Member States.

Its 10 members are elected by the Assembly for three-year terms. Members retire in rotation, and this year the terms of office of three members end on 31 December. The members are appointed in their personal capacities. They are eligible for reappointment.

Members this year are: Amjad Ali (Pakistan), Chairman; Thomas H. Bennett (Canada); Raymond T. Bowman (United States); Jorge Pablo Fernandini (Peru); F. Nouredin Kia (Iran), Vice Chairman; Evgeny N. Makeev (Soviet Union); Stanislaw Raczkowski (Poland); John I.M. Rhodes (United Kingdom); David Silveira da Mota (Brazil), and Maurice Viaud (France).

The retiring members are Mr. Bennett, Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Silveira da Mota. The term of the new appointees will begin on 1 January 1969 (A/7152).

(c) Board of Auditors

The Board, established in 1947, performs the external audit of the accounts of the United Nations.

It has three members, with one retiring every year. They are eligible for reappointment. The present members are the Auditors-General (or officers of equivalent title) of Canada, Colombia and Pakistan.

The term of office of the Auditor-General of Colombia expires on 30 June 1969. The new appointee will serve for a period of three years beginning 1 July (A/7153 and Corr.1).

(d) United Nations Administrative Tribunal

Established in 1949, the Tribunal hears and passes judgement on applications alleging non-observance of contracts of employment of staff members of the United Nations and certain specialized agencies.

Its seven members, appointed by the Assembly for three-year terms, serve in their individual capacities and are eligible for reappointment.

The terms of two members expire on 31 December.

The present members are: Mrs. Paul Hastid (France), President; Lord Crook (United Kingdom), First Vice-President; Hector Gros Espiell (Uruguay); Louis Ignacio-Pinto (Bahomey); Francis T.P. Plimpton (United States); Zenon Rossides (Cyprus), and R. Venkataraman (India), Second Vice-President.

The retiring members are Lord Crook and Mr. Plimpton. Those appointed will begin their terms on 1 January 1969 (A/7154).

77. Scale of Assessments

Member States contribute to the regular budget of the United Nations in accordance with a scale of assessments fixed by the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Committee on Contributions. The rates of assessment are determined broadly according to capacity to pay, as measured by national income statistics.

Last year, the Assembly approved a scale for the three years 1968, 1969 and 1970 (resolution 2291 (XXII) of 8 December 1967). According to this scale, 57 Member States are contributing at the minimum rate of 0.04 per cent, while the five largest contributors are the United States (31.57 per cent), the Soviet Union (14.61 per cent), the United Kingdom (6.62 per cent), France (6.00 per cent) and China (4.00 per cent). This scale was approved by a vote of 76 in favour to 4 against, with 5 abstentions.

This year, when the Contributions Committee held its twenty-seventh session at Headquarters from 1 to 20 May, the only specific matter before it concerned the rates of assessment of two new Member States, Southern Yemen and Mauritius, which entered the United Nations on 14 December 1967 and 24 April 1968, respectively. In its report to the Assembly (A/7210), it recommends that the rate for each be set at the minimum level of 0.04 per cent.

As agreed during last year's Assembly discussion, the Committee this year considered the views expressed during that discussion. In its report, it comments on certain criticisms of its recommendations and on observations and suggestions made concerning its procedures. It makes no recommendation for changes in the criteria used to evaluate Members' capacity to pay or in the application of these criteria. Among specific comments, the Committee repeats its view that the grounds for maintaining a minimum rate of 0.04 per cent are as valid now as in the past. It says it is unable to support the suggestion that it should consult any Member State in advance concerning that State's rate of assessment, inasmuch as it would be improper for it to act as a negotiating committee.

The Committee took note of reports by the Secretary-General which showed that, as of 20 May, the Dominican Republic and Haiti were in arrears in the payment of their contributions to the regular budget within the terms of Article 19 of the Charter. (Article 19 provides that a Member "shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years".)

[Members of the Committee are listed in the notes on item 76 above.]

78. Audit Reports on Expenditure by Specialized Agencies of UNDP Funds

Each year, the General Assembly receives audit reports relating to expenditures by the United Nations, specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of Funds allocated to them from the Technical Assistance Account of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and from the Special Fund Account of UNDP. The Funds are used to carry out programmes and projects approved by the Governing Council of UNDP.

The 12 organizations participating in the technical co-operation activities of UNDP last year were: the United Nations; the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); IAEA; the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD); the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); the International Labour Organisation (ILO); the International Telecommunication Union (ITU); the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); the Universal Postal Union (UPU); the World Health Organization (WHO); the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); and the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO).

Allocations were made from the Technical Assistance Account to all these organizations except IBRD, and from the Special Fund Account to all except UPU and WMO.

Since the audit reports relating to the participation of the United Nations in these programmes are included in the United Nations accounts [see agenda item 72 (a) above], the Assembly considers under item 77 only the specialized agency and IAEA accounts. [Information about total allocations of UNDP funds appears in the notes to item 72 (b) above.]

The reports for 1967 are not yet available. The Assembly will examine them together with pertinent reports by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

79. Administrative and Budgetary Co-ordination with Specialized Agencies

Paragraph 3 of Article 17 of the Charter provides: "The General Assembly shall consider and approve any financial and budgetary arrangements with specialized agencies ... and shall examine the administrative budgets of such specialized agencies with a view to making recommendations to the agencies concerned."

The Assembly has assigned to its Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions the task of examining the administrative budgets of the agencies and proposals for financial and budgetary arrangements with them.

The Advisory Committee reports to the Assembly each year on administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency. This year's report, will be prepared after the Advisory Committee takes up the question in September. The Assembly, after considering this report, normally asks the Secretary-General to refer the Committee's observations to the specialized agencies concerned.

The Advisory Committee will also submit a report reviewing the administrative and management procedures concerning the programme and budget of the Food and Agriculture Organization, one of a series of such studies of the specialized agencies recommended in 1966 by the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies.

80. Implementation of Recommendations of Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine Finances of United Nations and Specialized Agencies

As an outgrowth of a debate on the financial problems of the United Nations, the General Assembly, in 1965, set up a 14-member expert committee to study ways of improving the use of funds spent by the United Nations system of organizations.

In a report of July 1966 (A/6343), the Ad Hoc Committee concentrated on "basic measures needed to ensure greater efficiency and real value for money" in the United Nations system, especially with regard to human, social and economic development. It made a series of recommendations which were approved by the Assembly in 1966 (resolution 2150 (XXI) of 4 November). These called for such steps as the establishment of a joint inspection unit to investigate "all matters having a bearing on the efficiency of the services and the proper use of funds" throughout the United Nations system; the institution of long-term planning, programme formulation and budget preparation; strengthening the process of evaluating the results of programmes; improved procedures for co-ordinating the work of the United Nations and its agencies; rationalization of the meetings schedule; reduction of documentation, and certain budgetary reforms.

Ever since it approved these recommendations, the Assembly has emphasized the need for each organization in the United Nations system to carry them out, and has called for reports on action taken. Last year, it reaffirmed its continuing concern that "rapid progress" be made in this direction (resolution 2360 A (XXII) of 19 December 1967). At the Assembly's request, the Economic and Social Council has considered the recommendations falling within its competence and has adopted resolutions bearing upon some of them.

A report by the Secretary-General (A/7124), submitted in April 1968 in response to an Assembly request, sets out the 52 recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee and describes, point by point, the action taken or contemplated by the United Nations and each specialized agency. An updated report is to be before the Assembly at its twenty-third session, along with comments to be made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

Some of the main developments in connexion with the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations include the following:

-- The Joint Inspection Unit, based in Geneva, began work on 1 January 1968. Its members were nominated by Argentina, France, India, Soviet Union, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States and Yugoslavia;

-- With regard to long-term planning and budgeting, the Secretary-General states in his April report that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) and other bodies of the Economic and Social Council have made progress in a number of areas. However, he adds, introduction of a system of long-term planning, programme formulation and budget presentation is a time-consuming process. Since this report was issued, the Council has endorsed plans by the CPC to help in establishing priorities and formulating programmes responsive to those priorities (resolution 1378 (XLV) of 2 August 1968). The Committee (its 1968 report is in E/4493/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1) plans to consider in depth, over a three-year period, all sectors of the United Nations economic, social and human rights programme. The Council has reminded its own commissions and other subsidiary bodies that, before proposals regarding their work programmes are carried out, they must be considered by the Council (resolution 1367 (XLV) of 2 August 1968);

-- Regarding evaluation of programmes to see if they are achieving their aims, the Council has decided to review, at its summer 1969 session, the policies, methods and activities of the United Nations and its agencies for evaluating programmes of technical co-operation (resolution 1364 (XLV) of 2 August 1968). The subject of evaluation procedures for substantive as distinguished from operational programmes is one which the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination has decided to take up in future;

-- Co-ordination between the United Nations and related agencies is of continuing concern to the Assembly's Advisory Committee, the Council's Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Council itself. In the past couple of years, the Council has concentrated on specific topics having both substantive and co-ordination aspects. In 1968, these topics were population and its relation to development, and the United Nations Development Decade; both were the subject of resolutions. The Council has recommended that the Assembly add to its rules of procedure a provision requiring consultation between the Secretary-General and any specialized agencies directly concerned whenever the Assembly receives a proposal for new economic or social activities (resolution 1374 (XLV) of 2 August 1968). It has also

requested the Secretary-General to report in 1970 on the ways in which Member States co-ordinate their national policies in respect to activities of the United Nations family (resolution 1369 (XLV) of 2 August 1968);

-- Budgetary reforms of the past two years include a new procedure -- to take effect in 1969 -- according to which the Assembly will adopt a "planning estimate" for a "forecast period" two years in advance. The procedure was decided on by the Assembly last year (resolution 2370 (XXII) of 19 December 1967). The first planning estimate, for 1971, is to be submitted to the Assembly by the Secretary-General not later than 1 December 1969. As regards preparation of the regular budget, the Secretary-General, at the Assembly's request, is to submit to the 1968 session a schedule of meetings for the bodies responsible for programme and budget matters, to enable them to take advantage of each other's work. To relate the budget document more closely to programme activities, the Secretary-General, in recent years, has been including in the budget estimates increasing amounts of information on staff costs for individual units of the Secretariat. The International Labour Organisation has decided to switch from an annual to a two-year budget cycle, in compliance with a recommendation in this regard which the Ad Hoc Committee addressed to specialized agencies;

-- With regard to the meetings schedule, the Assembly's Committee on Conferences is to present its second annual report on the calendar of conferences for the forthcoming year [see notes to agenda item 757]; and

-- Concerning documentation, the Assembly last year approved a series of recommendations designed to limit the number and length of documents, and asked that these policies be brought to the attention of each session of United Nations bodies (resolution 2292 (XXII) of 8 December 1967). This year, the Economic and Social Council, which in 1967 had asked its subsidiary bodies to review their documentation requirements with a view to reducing the volume of documentation, welcomed decisions by three of those bodies to dispense with summary records of meetings and asked for a report next spring on ways to reduce the cost of such records (resolution 1379 (XLV) of 2 August 1968).

81. Personnel Questions

(a) Composition of Secretariat

Paragraph 3 of Article 101 of the United Nations Charter states:

"The paramount consideration in the employment of the staff and in the determination of the conditions of service shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence, and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible".

The General Assembly has in recent years noted with satisfaction the efforts by the Secretary-General to achieve a more equitable geographical distribution of posts, but has requested continued efforts to improve the situation, especially as regards higher level posts. The latest of these requests was made last year (resolution 2359 A (XXII) of 19 December 1967). The Secretary-General reports annually to the Assembly on the steps he has taken to comply with its recommendations.

On the basis of factors laid down by the Assembly in 1962 (resolution 1852 (XVII) of 19 December), the Secretary-General has worked out a system for computing a desirable range of posts for each nationality, based largely on the contributions of each Member to the United Nations budget, with special allowance for States with large populations but low per capita incomes, and with a minimum of 1 to 6 posts for each nationality. This system applies to most professional staff members of the Secretariat, except interpreters and translators, who are recruited for their linguistic abilities without regard to nationality.

In August 1967, according to last year's report (A/6860 and Corr.1), 1,789 posts were subject to geographical distribution and 112 nationalities were represented. The report stated that all regions except Eastern Europe closely approximated their desirable range and the number of Eastern Europeans on the staff had almost doubled in five years.

Besides the issue of nationality, the question of language has taken a prominent place in recent Assembly discussions of the composition of the Secretariat. French-speaking delegations in particular have deplored what they regarded as the over-representation of English-speaking countries in

the Secretariat and the consequent imbalance between the Secretariat's two working languages. On this point, the Assembly last year, by a vote of 88 in favour to none against, with 30 abstentions, invited the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure "linguistic balance within the Secretariat" and the early introduction of a language bonus for professional staff who use two working languages (resolution 2359 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967). Before a language bonus is put into effect, however, the Assembly will consider at its 1968 session a report by the Secretary-General on practical measures to implement this and other incentives "to encourage broad linguistic proficiencies".

Although this year's report on the composition of the Secretariat is not expected until October, the Secretary-General states in his annual report on the work of the Organization (A/7201) that measures have been taken to bring about further improvement in the geographical distribution of the staff and in its linguistic composition. Accelerated language courses have been placed on a continuing basis and proposals have been worked out for extending these facilities in 1969. Through co-ordination machinery with the specialized agencies, the Secretary-General adds, steps have been taken to formulate a common position on the institution of special incentives to encourage greater use of the working languages by the staff.

(b) Other Personnel Questions

The Secretary-General reports annually to the Assembly on any changes made in the Staff Rules during the past year. Such changes do not require action by the Assembly. (The report for 1968 is expected in October.)

Another personnel matter on which the Secretary-General will report concerns salaries of professional and higher level staff. The International Civil Service Advisory Board, an 11-member expert body appointed by the Secretary-General, has recommended (in a report not yet published) that United Nations salary rates be set on the basis of "world market rates" for the required skills, covering both home civil services and expatriate services. In the Board's view, the level of remuneration must be high enough to attract and retain staff from all Member States, including those with the highest salary levels in their own national services. The Board

also considers that the purchasing power of the total remuneration should, as far as possible, be the same in all parts of the world. The Board's specific proposals, together with comments by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, will be taken up by the Assembly.

84. Report of United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board

The Board administers the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, which pays pension benefits for staff employed by the United Nations, nine specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency. The Fund's investments exceeded \$300 million as of September 1967.

This year's report of the Board (A/7.081), which is not yet available, will be examined by the Assembly along with any comments that may be submitted by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. A report by the Advisory Committee on the accounts of the Pension Fund appears in A/7.079. It notes that the Board of auditors had recommended that a study be made to improve handling procedures, recording systems and safe-keeping arrangements of the Pension Fund's investments, and that the suggestions would be considered during 1968.

85. United Nations International School

The United Nations International School had its origin in a nursery school established by United Nations staff in 1947. Enrolment during the 1967/68 school year totalled a record 770 students from 78 countries, principally from Secretariat and delegation families.

A search for a suitable permanent site has occupied the attention of School officials for the past several years. In February 1965, the General Assembly approved in principle the use of the north end of the Headquarters site for the construction of the school building, but in December of that year it authorized acceptance of an alternative offer of a site on the East River at East 24th Street, a mile south of Headquarters.

In June 1967, the Secretary-General reported (A/7.071) that proposals had been advanced for still another site, two blocks south of Headquarters, on First Avenue from East 24th to 40th Street. These proposals provided for a school of 1,500 pupils to be built by September 1971, as part of a

complex including housing and recreational facilities for United Nations staff and delegations. They were advanced by the Ford Foundation, which in 1965 contributed \$7.5 million for constructing and equipping the new building. The Secretary-General reported in December 1967 (A/6962) that the School's Board of Trustees had accepted the new site in principle, with final acceptance dependent on the outcome of feasibility studies. In the meantime, the School is temporarily housed at 418 East 54th Street, between First Avenue and Sutton Place South, and at a former New York City school building on First Avenue from East 51st to 52nd Street.

Last year, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to extend his good offices to the Board of Trustees "with a view to reaching a fully satisfactory and speedy solution for both the interim and the permanent accommodation problems" (resolution 2358 (XXII) of 19 December 1968).

One of the conditions of the Ford Foundation's original grant of \$7.5 million was that a \$3 million Development Fund be established to ensure the financial viability of the School. Since 1963, the Assembly has appealed for voluntary contributions for an endowment fund. The Development Fund has been established, but the Secretary-General reported last December that only \$338,000 had been paid or pledged by Governments. (Non-governmental sources have donated \$800,000.) He added that he would consult with interested delegations on possible courses of action for the Assembly's consideration in 1968.

Since the School was set up, the Assembly has contributed financially to cover deficits in its operating costs. For the 1967/68 school year, it donated \$49,000 to the School's \$872,250 budget, which is financed mostly from tuition and other fees.

The Secretary-General will report to the Assembly in October on the proposed new site, the status of the Development Fund and other matters pertaining to the School. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions will also submit a report on this item.

84. Report of International Law Commission on Its Twentieth Session

Each year, the General Assembly reviews the work of the International Law Commission, whose task is to codify and progressively develop international law.

Established in 1947, the Commission is composed of jurists from 25 countries elected in their personal capacity by the Assembly. (The membership was originally 15, but the Assembly increased it to 21 in 1956 and to 25 in 1961.)

The Commission held its twentieth session in Geneva from 27 May to 2 August. Having completed its work in 1966 on the law of treaties and in 1967 on special missions, the Commission devoted its 1968 session mainly to consideration of relations between States and international organizations, succession of States and Governments, and the most-favoured-nation clauses in treaties.

Concerning relations between States and international organizations, the Commission unanimously adopted 21 draft articles on permanent representatives of States to international organizations. These draft articles will now be submitted to Governments for comments. General provisions will be completed at the next session of the Commission by adding another set of draft articles on the privileges and immunities of permanent representatives and permanent missions. In undertaking this task, the Commission intends to complete the codification of contemporary diplomatic law, following the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic and Consular Relations and the draft articles prepared on special missions.

In relation to the succession of States and Governments, the Commission examined general questions concerning succession in respect of treaties and succession in respect of matters other than treaties. It reached a number of conclusions clarifying issues before proceeding to study draft articles on the two aspects of the topic. Concerning succession in respect of matters other than treaties, the Commission agreed to begin the study with succession of States in economic and financial matters. (The Commission's 1968 report will be issued as A/7209.)

85. Draft Convention on Special Missions

The preparation of an international legal instrument defining the privileges and immunities of special diplomatic missions has been under study for 10 years by the International Law Commission. This year, the Assembly will take up this subject as a separate item, and examine draft articles approved by the Commission in 1967, along with the comments of Governments on this text.

At its tenth session in 1958, the Commission named a Special Rapporteur to study the rules of law applying to "ad hoc diplomacy" between States -- itinerant envoys, diplomatic conferences and special missions -- and in 1960 it drew up a preliminary draft of rules. The General Assembly examined this text at its fifteenth session (1960) and referred it to the 1961 Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities convened in Vienna. This Conference drew up the document known as the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, but decided not to include the proposed articles on special missions, which it considered needed further study. It referred them back to the General Assembly.

At its sixteenth session in 1961, the Assembly asked the International Law Commission to study the matter further (resolution 1687 (XVI)). The Commission took it up at its fifteenth session (in 1963), asking another Special Rapporteur to draw up a draft based on the Vienna Convention.

At its sixteenth session in 1964, the Commission asked the Special Rapporteur to continue his study, and it adopted 16 draft articles, which it submitted to the Assembly.

Owing to the circumstances prevailing at the nineteenth regular session, the Assembly did not examine these articles. However, at its 1965 session, the International Law Commission adopted a further 28 draft articles and asked the Assembly to consider all 44 articles as a single draft. It also invited the comments of Governments.

Reviewing once more the work of the Commission, the Assembly in 1965 (resolution 2045 (XX)) recommended that it continue its codification, taking account of views expressed in the Assembly and other comments by Governments.

The Commission was unable to re-examine in detail the draft articles at its eighteenth session (in 1966), and was invited by the Assembly to continue its work and present a final draft the following year (resolution 2167 (XXI) of 5 December 1966).

At its nineteenth session in 1967, the Commission adopted a final text and submitted it to the Assembly along with a draft preamble for a convention on special missions, which it recommended that the Assembly take steps to conclude (Report of the Commission's nineteenth session, A/6709/Rev.1).

In resolution 2273 (XXII) of 1 December 1967, the Assembly invited written comments by Member States on the draft articles, asked the Secretary-General to circulate them, and decided to take up the question at its twenty-third session, with a view to the adoption of a convention. The text before the Assembly contains 50 articles and is divided into three parts: sending and conduct of special missions; facilities, privileges and immunities; and general provisions. Each article is accompanied by a commentary. Fourteen Governments have so far made comments on the text (A/7156 and Add.1).

86. Report of Special Committee on Question of Defining Aggression

This 35-member Committee was set up by the Assembly last year (resolution 2330 (XXII)), and was instructed "to consider all aspects of the question in order that an adequate definition of aggression may be prepared", and to report to the Assembly's twenty-third session. It met in Geneva in June and July and studied two draft resolutions citing certain acts as acts of aggression, but was unable to finish its work. It therefore recommended that the Assembly authorize it to resume its work "as soon as possible before the end of 1968", so that it could submit a generally acceptable draft definition of aggression before the end of the twenty-third session (see the Special Committee's report, A/7185).

This is the fourth subsidiary body of the Assembly to deal with defining aggression. The Assembly first took up the subject in 1950, when the Soviet Union submitted a draft resolution listing acts which might be considered as constituting aggression. This text was referred to the International

Law Commission, which did not agree on a definition but included aggression among the offences defined in its draft Code of Offences against the Peace and Security of Mankind.

In 1952, the Assembly reaffirmed its interest in a definition of aggression and asked Member States to submit their views (resolution 599 (VI)). Later in the same year, it set up a 15-member committee to formulate draft definitions of aggression or statements of the notion of aggression (resolution 688 (VII)). This body considered several texts, but decided to submit them to Member States rather than put them to a vote.

The Assembly set up a second committee in 1954 (resolution 895 (IX)). It met in 1956 and considered a number of definitions and draft definitions, but transmitted them to the Assembly without putting them to the vote. It was followed by a third committee established by the Assembly in 1957, this time to study the comments of Member States so as to determine "when it shall be appropriate for the General Assembly to consider again the question of defining aggression" (resolution 1181 (XII)). This committee met in 1959, 1962, 1965 and 1967, but reached no decision.

The creation of the present Committee arises from an initiative of the Soviet Union, which in September 1967 proposed that the need to draft a definition of aggression be once more inscribed on the Assembly's agenda.

The members of the Committee are: Algeria, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Finland, France, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Madagascar, Mexico, Norway, Romania, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Syria, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

87. Consideration of Principles of International Law Concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation Among States

In 1962, the Assembly resolved to undertake a study of the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter. It enumerated seven such principles (resolution 1815 (XVII)):

-- The principle that States shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purpose of the United Nations (hereafter referred to as principle I);

-- The principle that States shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered (principle II);

-- The duty not to intervene in matters within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter (principle III);

-- The principle of the sovereign equality of States (principle IV);

-- The duty of States to co-operate with one another in accordance with the Charter (principle V);

-- The principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples (principle VI); and

-- The principle that States shall fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the Charter (principle VII).

The Assembly examined the first four principles at its eighteenth session (in 1963) and established a 27-member Special Committee to study them, with a view to their progressive development and codification (resolution 1966 (XVIII)). However, this Committee reported in 1964 that it had reached a consensus on a text for only one principle, principle IV.

Returning to the question in 1965, the Assembly resolved to reconstitute the Special Committee, enlarging its membership to 31. It asked the Committee to consider and report on all seven principles, with a view to the eventual adoption of an Assembly declaration (resolution 2103 (XX)).

The enlarged Special Committee reached a consensus on principles II and IV, but was unable to agree on texts for the remaining five. However, on principle III, it declared that it would abide by the Assembly's resolution 2131 (XX) of 21 December 1965 (a Declaration on "the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the Protection of their Independence and Sovereignty").

At its twenty-first session, the Assembly asked the Special Committee as a priority task to formulate agreed texts on principles I, V, VI and VII, and to widen its area of agreement on principle III, and in addition to try to widen its area of agreement on principles II and IV (resolution 2181 (XXI)). The Committee's Drafting Committee succeeded in formulating consensus texts on principles V and VII, and its working groups reached a certain measure of agreement on principles I and VI; but it was unable to report progress on the other principles (see its report, A/6799).

Re-examining the situation at its twenty-second session last year, the Assembly asked the Special Committee to continue its work, and notably to formulate agreed texts on principles I and VI and try to widen the area of agreement previously reached on principle III. It asked that a "comprehensive report" on the principles entrusted to the Committee be presented to its twenty-third session (resolution 2327 (XXII)). This will be the mandate of the Committee at its forthcoming meeting, due to take place at United Nations Headquarters from 9 to 27 September.

88. Report of United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

This Commission was set up by the Assembly on 17 December 1966 (resolution 2205 (XXI)), following an initiative by Hungary. Its object is to "further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade".

The Assembly instructed it notably to co-ordinate the work of organizations active in international trade law; prepare new international conventions and model and uniform laws and promote their adoption, as well as wider participation in existing instruments; collect and disseminate information on national legislation; and promote the uniform interpretation and application of international conventions and uniform laws. The Commission maintains close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and with other United Nations organs and specialized agencies, as well as with other international bodies concerned with international trade.

The Commission has 29 members, elected by the Assembly on 30 October 1967. In principle, Member States serve for six years; however, 14 of the

initial members (marked with an asterisk in the list below) will serve only three years, up to 31 December 1970. The members are: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile*, Colombia*, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Czechoslovakia*, France*, Ghana*, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy*, Japan*, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria*, Norway*, Romania, Spain, Syria, Thailand*, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*, United Arab Republic*, United Kingdom*, United Republic of Tanzania* and United States.

The first session of the Commission took place in New York from 29 January to 26 February 1968 under the chairmanship of Emmanuel K. Dadzie (Ghana). At that session, three topics were selected for priority consideration: international sale of goods, international payments and international commercial arbitration. It was decided that, at such an early stage of its work, the Commission would deal only with some major items within each of these topics. It asked for the views of States on the acceptance of certain existing and draft conventions, and called for studies by the Secretary-General, by States members of the Commission, and by organizations concerned with international trade law.

It also asked the Secretary-General to set up a register of organizations active in this field and another containing the texts of existing international conventions, model and uniform laws, written customs and usages, along with a brief summary of proposed instruments of this type. Finally, the Commission decided to consider at its second session (in 1969) the establishment of co-operative relations with organizations concerned with training and assistance in international trade law.

(For further details, see the Commission's report (A/7216). This report will also be considered at a meeting in Geneva in September of the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD.)

89. Programme of Assistance in International Law

The General Assembly on 14 December 1967 adopted a resolution entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law". By this resolution (2313 (XXII)), the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to carry out in 1968 the activities specified in his 1967 report on the subject (A/6816).

Also, the Assembly noted with thanks the offer of the Government of Ecuador to provide facilities for the regional seminar to be held in Latin America in 1968.

The Assembly stated in 1947 (resolution 176 (III)) that one of the most effective means of furthering the development of international law was to promote public interest in the subject, and it requested States to extend or initiate teaching in international law.

The idea of United Nations assistance to this end was put forth in 1962, when the Assembly initiated a study of ways in which Member States could be helped to establish training and exchange programmes in international law (resolution 1816 (XVII)). In the following year, the Assembly appointed a committee to work out a practical plan and proposals. On the basis of that body's work, the Assembly decided on 20 December 1965, to establish what has now become known as the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

The programme was divided into two parts: steps to encourage existing international law programmes carried out by States, organizations and institutions; and direct assistance and exchange, such as seminars, training and refresher courses, fellowships, advisory services of experts, the provision of legal publications and libraries, and translations of major legal works.

The Assembly also established an Advisory Committee of 10 Member States to advise the Secretary-General on the content of the programme. The members are Afghanistan, Belgium, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Hungary, Soviet Union, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania and United States. The Committee will meet during the second or third week of October, and its recommendations will be submitted to the Assembly in a report by the Secretary-General.

The Assembly appropriated \$66,300 from the regular United Nations budget to finance the Programme in 1967, and a further \$50,000 in 1968 to finance about 15 fellowships. It also appealed for voluntary contributions from Member States, organizations, institutions and individuals.

90. Need to Impart to Teaching Staff of Primary and Secondary Schools A Knowledge of United Nations and Its Specialized Agencies, with Particular Reference to Universal Declaration of Human Rights

This item was placed on the agenda at the request of Italy, which stated in an explanatory memorandum (attached to a note verbale to the Secretary-General, dated 5 July; A/7141) that inadequate knowledge about purposes and principles of the United Nations "inevitably has an unfavourable effect on the political, economic and social life of nations, and on relations among the peoples of different countries", and that, since the older generations resist changes in ideas and customs, it is "to the young generations that one must chiefly look in order to overcome the inertia of psychological forces which are, at times, formidable".

In a draft resolution attached to the note verbale, Italy proposes that the Assembly urge Governments to take certain steps to provide primary and secondary school teaching about the United Nations and to provide for instruction of teachers in the subject of international organization.

The Italian draft proposes the introduction, in all university faculties and any other institutions intended for the training of primary and secondary school teachers, "the study, on a compulsory basis for teaching purposes, of the phenomenon of the international organization, with particular reference to the United Nations and its related agencies and to the principles proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights". The draft would have the Assembly further urge the introduction in primary and secondary schools of progressive instruction in the subject, and request the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to encourage the study of means to promote such instruction.

Previous Assembly actions dealing with teaching about the United Nations have included:

Resolution 157 (II) of 17 November 1947, in which the Assembly recommended that Member Governments "take measures at the earliest possible date to encourage the teaching of the United Nations Charter and the purposes and principles, the structure, background and activities of the United Nations in the schools and institutes of higher learning of their

countries, with particular emphasis on such instruction in elementary and secondary schools", and invited UNESCO to assist Members in implementing this programme; and

Resolution 1511 (XV) of 12 December 1960, in which the Assembly stated that knowledge and understanding about the United Nations contributes to fostering among young people the ideas of peace and international co-operation and should therefore be widely promoted, and urged continued efforts to promote such teaching.

Measures in support of these objectives also have been recommended in various resolutions of the Economic and Social Council.

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ITEMS ON THE SUPPLEMENTARY LIST

S.1. Problems of Human Environment

The Economic and Social Council unanimously recommended this summer that the General Assembly consider the desirability of convening a United Nations conference on problems of the human environment (resolution 1346 (XLV) of 30 July 1968).

The Council resolution referred to "the continuing and accelerating impairment of the quality of the human environment caused by such factors as air and water pollution, erosion and other forms of soil deterioration, secondary effects of biocides, waste and noise". It expressed concern at the effects of these factors "on the condition of man, his physical and mental well-being, his dignity and his enjoyment of basic human rights in developing as well as developed countries".

Stating that there was urgent need for intensified national and international action to protect and improve the natural surroundings, the Council added that it was desirable to provide a framework for considering these problems in the United Nations, with the aim of focussing the attention of Governments and public opinion on the importance of the question and of identifying those aspects that could best be solved internationally. It recommended that the Assembly consider ways to further these objectives.

The Council also recommended that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to prepare a report for the Council's summer 1969 session on the scope and progress of work already being done on these problems by national and international organizations, and the main areas requiring international co-operation. The report would also suggest what areas might best be considered at an international conference, how long it would take to prepare for such a gathering, and where and when it might be held.

This subject was first raised in May of this year by Sweden (E/4466/Add.1). The Swedish delegation originally expressed the hope that the Assembly would take a decision this year on the holding of a conference, but the proposal was later modified to ask simply for Assembly consideration of the matter, after some delegations argued in the Council that further thought should be given to the question of whether the subject could best be dealt with by convening a conference.

(A report by the Secretary-General on activities and programmes of the United Nations family relevant to the human environment appears in E/4553.)

S.2. Report of International Court of Justice

For the first time, the International Court of Justice will submit to the Assembly a report on its activities (A/7217, not yet issued). In an explanatory memorandum on this item (A/7181), the Secretary-General states that the President of the Court has informed him that the Court, conscious of the need for closer co-operation with other United Nations organs, has drawn up a report covering the period 1 August 1967 to 31 July 1968. The Court feels, adds the memorandum, that such a report would contribute to a better understanding of its functions and of its activities within the framework of the United Nations.

(All of the other principal organs of the United Nations -- the three Councils and the Secretariat -- have submitted annual reports to the Assembly since the beginning of the Organization.)

S.3. Dissolution of United Nations Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea

This item was submitted on 22 August by Cambodia, Hungary, Mali and Syria (A/7182), later joined by Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Mongolia, the Ukraine and the Soviet Union (A/7182/Add.1) and by Czechoslovakia (Add.2).

In an explanatory memorandum, the sponsors state that the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea "has become an instrument of the aggressive policies of the United States in Korea". Established in "violation" of the United Nations Charter, UNCURK "is one of the major obstacles to the unification of Korea" and must be dissolved urgently, the memorandum adds. The question of Korean unification must be settled by negotiations between the two Koreas, it declares.

Czechoslovakia, supporting the request for inclusion of the item, states that "the principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs of any country and the right of self-determination of peoples are essential conditions for a solution of the Korean question".

An item on withdrawal of United States and other foreign forces occupying South Korea under the United Nations flag and the dissolution of UNCURK, was considered by the General Assembly in 1966, but the First Committee rejected a draft resolution submitted under this item by seven Eastern European countries, Cuba, Mongolia and the Soviet Union. A sub-item on the dissolution of UNCURK was considered in 1967, as part of "The Korean question" at the request of Cambodia, Congo (Brazzaville) and Yemen, but a 15-Power proposal to dissolve the Commission within two months was rejected on 7 November by a vote of 60 in favour to 24 against, with 29 abstentions (see the First Committee's report, A/6906).

[For notes on the item entitled "The Korean question", see item 24 above.]

S.4. One Day of War for Peace

Cambodia, Gabon and Madagascar, in a letter dated 22 August 1968, requested inclusion in the agenda of an item entitled "One day of war for peace" (A/7183). They stated that they would submit an explanatory memorandum in the near future.

S.5. Withdrawal of United States and Other Foreign Forces Occupying South Korea

On 23 August 1968, 11 States requested inclusion in the agenda of an item entitled "Withdrawal of United States and all other foreign forces occupying South Korea under the flag of the United Nations". Sponsors of the request are Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Cambodia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Syria, Ukraine and the Soviet Union (A/7184), later joined by Romania (A/7184/Add.1).

In an explanatory memorandum, the original sponsors state that the responsibility for the "abnormal situation" in Korea lies first of all with the United States, "whose armed forces arbitrarily continue the military occupation of South Korea". The memorandum adds that the United States "has transformed South Korea into a military springboard in this area of the world and the puppet Seoul clique into an obedient executor and accomplice" which sent more than 50,000 mercenaries to fight against the

Viet-Nameese people. The main task in this situation, the sponsors declare, is to eliminate any foreign interference into the domestic affairs of the Korean people.

Romania, supporting the request for inclusion of the item, states that it "has always called for the dismantling of foreign military bases and the withdrawal within their national frontiers of all forces occupying other States", including South Korea.

An item covering this subject matter was considered by the General Assembly in 1966 [see notes to item S.3 above]. A sub-item on this same subject was again considered in 1967, as part of "The Korean question", at the request of Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Ukraine and the Soviet Union. The operative part of a 14-Power draft resolution calling for the withdrawal of foreign forces from South Korea within six months was rejected by the First Committee on 7 November 1967 by 24 votes in favour to 59 against, with 29 abstentions (see the Committee's report, A/6906).

[For notes on the item entitled "The Korean question", see item 24 above.]

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