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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1982-1983

Review of the financing of the administrative costs of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has been informed that the Executive Committee of the High Comissioner's Programme has adopted the following decision concerning administrative and financial matters:

"The Executive Committee,

"Recalling its recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirtyfourth, thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sessions that the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General of the United Nations review the question of the apportionment of the adminstrative costs of UNHCR between the regular budget of the United Nations and UNHCR's voluntary funds,

"Recalling further that the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session on the accounts of the voluntary funds administered by UNHCR for the year ended 31 December 1980 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 5E (A/36/Add.5)):

"(a) Had noted that over the years voluntary funds have assumed an ever increasing share of the adminstrative cost of UNHCR,

"(b) Had recommended that appropriate steps be taken to ensure compliance with article 20 of the High Commissiner's statute,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the financing of the adminstrative costs of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/AC.96/611 and Corr.1),

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"Noting the reservations of the High Commissioner outlined in paragraph 32 of this report,

"Taking further note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on this subject (A/AC.96/611/Add.1),

"1. <u>Commends</u> the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner for their efforts in resolving this long-standing problem;

"2. <u>Affirms</u> its full support for the principles outlined in the Secretary-General's report which were in keeping with article 20 of UNHCR's statute;

"3. <u>Recommends</u> to the General Assembly that it take due note of the comments of ACABQ as contained in document A/AC.96/611/Add.1 and that it approve the principles outlined in the Secretary-General's report which formed the basis of an equitable apportionment of the administrative costs of UNHCR between the United Nations regular budget and voluntary funds."
