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SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL
PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Assistance to Chad

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 36/210 of 17 December 1981 on assistance to Chad, the General Assembly recalled its earlier resolutions in which it had appealed to the international community to help Chad meet the urgent humanitarian needs of the population affected by the civil war and to assist the country in the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of its economy.
2. In paragraph 5 of the resolution, the Secretary-General was requested to organize a pledging conference at Nairobi in the first half of March 1982, in close co-operation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Government of Chad, to help Chad carry out its reconstruction programme.
3. As reported to the General Assembly in document A/37/125 of 30 July 1982, it was not considered possible, because of the situation in Chad, to hold the International Conference on Assistance to Chad at the time originally envisaged by the Assembly. It was, therefore, tentatively agreed that the Conference be convened later in the year.

II. PREPARATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

4. On 14 October 1982, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Chad, His Excellency Mr. Idriss Miskine, addressed a letter to the Secretary-General,

confirming the wish of his Government that the proposed International Conference on Assistance to Chad take place by the end of November 1982 at Geneva. After consultations with the Chairman of OAU, and in response to representations by donors, it was decided to convene the Conference on 29 and 30 November 1982 at Geneva.

5. At the request of the Government of Chad, invitations to participate in the Conference were confirmed to 70 Member States and observers and to more than 50 international and other organizations and financial institutions.

III. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

6. The International Conference on Assistance to Chad was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on 29 and 30 November 1982. The following States participated: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Romania, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Venezuela. The following States were represented by observers: Australia, Holy See, Japan, Lebanon, Somalia and Switzerland.

7. The following specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system participated:

United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

Economic Commission for Africa

Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

United Nations Children's Fund

United Nations Development Programme

United Nations Capital Development Fund

United Nations Volunteers programme

United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office

World Food Programme

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

United Nations Fund for Population Activities

International Labour Organization

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
International Civil Aviation Organization
World Health Organization
World Bank
International Monetary Fund
Universal Postal Union
International Telecommunication Union
World Meteorological Organization

8. The following intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and financial institutions participated:

Action Internationale contre la Faim
African Development Bank
Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
Architectes sans Frontières
Aviation sans Frontières
Banque de Développement des Etats de l'Afrique Centrale
Banque des Etats de l'Afrique Centrale (Yaoundé)
BELACO
CARE Inc. Europe
Caritas Internationalis
Catholic Relief Services
Club de Sahel
Euro Action Accord
European Economic Community
Hôpital sans Frontières
International Committee of the Red Cross
Islamic Development Bank
International Council of Voluntary Agencies
Lake Chad Basin Commission
League of Red Cross Societies
Médecins du Monde
Médecins sans Frontières
Muslim World League
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Special Fund
Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)
Union des Avocats Arabes
World Association of Former United Nations Internes and Fellows
World Council of Churches
World ORT Union
World Vision International

The Office of the Executive Secretary of OAU in Geneva was represented by an observer.

9. The Conference was opened on behalf of the Secretary-General by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, Mr. Jean Ripert, who made an introductory statement drawing the attention to the needs of Chad. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Chad, His Excellency Mr. Idriss Miskine, delivered a message from the Head of State of the Republic of Chad in which he appealed to the international community for assistance. The Minister of Planning and Reconstruction of Chad, His Excellency Mr. Joseph Yodeiman, gave a detailed statement outlining his Government's emergency programme, which consisted of three main parts: food aid, action in the industrial sector, and modalities for rebuilding the national system of finance.
10. At the end of the Conference, the Chairman, the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Mr. A. A. Farah, summarized the proceedings and conclusions.
11. It was evident that the States and organizations represented were deeply concerned over the tremendous tragedy which had befallen Chad and they wished the Conference to be associated with the appeal of the General Assembly that everything possible be done by the international community to assist the Government and people of Chad in rehabilitating, reconstructing and developing their economy shattered by years of hostilities as well as by natural disasters.
12. Appreciation was due to the Government of Chad for the excellent documentation prepared for the Conference in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme and for the important supplementary statements. The priority programme for 1983-1984 had as its major objective the satisfaction at the earliest possible date of basic needs in the field of food, health and education, the rehabilitation of private and public property and the search for strong economic growth. One of the most pressing needs was for the supply of 50,000 tonnes of food to reach Chad by February 1983 and a balance of 142,000 tonnes to be delivered before June 1983.
13. The Conference took note of the pledge by the Government of Chad that all international assistance would be efficiently administered and of its intention to work closely with the United Nations in establishing an effective planning programme. Studies were in hand of measures needed to ensure better co-ordination, efficient follow-up of the programme, application of strict rules in the management

of assistance and the establishment of a rigorous co-ordination structure in which partners of Chad would all have a role to play.

14. Given Chad's extremely precarious financial situation, the donors were asked to give special consideration to improving the modalities of assistance to Chad. These were to cover, where possible, the provision of grants, the untying of loans and the adequate provision for local and recurring cost financing, as well as favourable consideration to the question of debt relief. Budgetary aid was also urgently required.

15. A positive and sympathetic attitude prevailed throughout the Conference and it was possible for a number of States and organizations to announce their aid. During the course of the Conference, the following States announced their contributions and pledges to ongoing projects and new programmes: Belgium, Egypt, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and the United States of America. Certain organizations and financial institutions also announced assistance. These included the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Bank Group, the African Development Bank, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the European Economic Community. Precise details of all contributions will be published as soon as they have been confirmed.

16. A number of participants, while expressing solidarity with the people of Chad and their support for the reconstruction programme, were not able, at the time, to provide specific information as to how they intended to respond to the appeal of the General Assembly. It was the Conference's hope that they would be able to do so in the very near future, either through bilateral channels or multilaterally.

17. The Conference recognized the important role which had been played and continued to be played by the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO). The Office had kept the international community aware of Chad's most pressing needs, had been actively involved in mobilizing assistance, and in ensuring that such assistance was effectively and promptly delivered. The Conference considered that, so long as circumstances in Chad warranted it, the United Nations emergency relief programme, co-ordinated by UNDRO, should continue and requested all States and organizations to contribute generously.
