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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

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ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

ASSISTANCE TO UGANDA

Report of the Secretary-General

GE.82-12765

1. At its first regular session the Economic and Social Council by its decision 1982/139 approved the decision taken by the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1982/37 of 11 March 1982, to request the Secretary-General, in response to the interest expressed by the Government of Uganda, to provide consultative advisory services and other forms of appropriate assistance to help the Government of Uganda to take appropriate measures to continue guaranteeing the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, paying particular attention to the following areas: (a) the need for appropriate assistance to restore a law library for the High Court and Ministry of Justice; (b) the need for a qualified and experienced expert to serve as Commissioner for the revision of Ugandan laws in conformity with recognized norms of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the printing of consolidated volumes of the revised laws; (c) the need for the training of prison officers with a view to securing the application of recognized norms of treatment of prisoners; and (d) the need for the training of police officials, particularly investigative and scientific experts.
2. In order to implement the above-mentioned resolution a meeting was held in New York on 28 April 1982 with the Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations. Another informal meeting was held in Geneva with the Director, International Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uganda.
3. During these meetings the representative of the Government of Uganda was informed of the procedures and modalities required in order to implement the resolution within the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme, including advisory services in the field of human rights. The representative of the Government of Uganda agreed to provide the Secretary-General with the final proposal for the projects to be carried out.
4. The Secretary-General in the meantime approached the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, the International Labour Office and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in order to ascertain the type of assistance that they might be able to provide in relation to the projects mentioned in paragraph 1 of the resolution in question. The replies received from the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, the International Labour Office and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization have been positive. The International Labour Office further informed the Secretary-General that it had bilateral arrangements for assistance with the Government of Uganda.
5. The Government was informed of the positive replies from the above-mentioned United Nations body and the specialized agencies, and was requested to send the Secretary-General its final proposal relating to the projects for assistance.
6. The Secretary-General wishes to inform the Commission that the final proposal of possible projects for which assistance might be required is still awaited from the Government of Uganda.