



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

UN LIBRARY

NOV 21 1983

A/38/593
21 November 1983
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

UN Doc. A/38/593

Thirty-eighth session
Agenda item 74

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO AVERT NEW FLOWS OF REFUGEES

Report of the Special Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Edouard LINGANI (Upper Volta)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees: report of the Secretary-General" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 37/121 of 16 December 1982.
2. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1983, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Special Political Committee.
3. The Special Political Committee considered the item at its 8th, 9th, 17th and 29th meetings, on 21 October and 1 and 15 November 1983 (see A/SPC/38/SR. 8, 9, 17 and 29). The Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/38/274) and a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees (A/38/273) submitted pursuant to resolution 37/121.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/SPC/38/L.6 AND REV.1

4. At the 17th meeting, on 1 November, the representative of Senegal introduced a draft resolution (A/SPC/38/L.6), sponsored by Austria, Denmark, Djibouti, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Norway, the Philippines, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Thailand and Togo, subsequently joined by the Comoros, Costa Rica, Egypt, the Gambia, Honduras, Indonesia, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mali, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan and Zaire.

5. At the same meeting, the representative of Senegal, on behalf of the sponsors, revised operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution by adding after "Secretary-General" the words "without prejudice to the mandate contained in resolution 36/148", and operative paragraph 6 by deleting the words "earliest possible" before "fulfilment".

6. At the 29th meeting, on 15 November, it was announced that Rwanda, the United Republic of Cameroon and the Upper Volta had become sponsors of the revised draft resolution (A/SPC/38/L.6/Rev.1).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee had before it the statement submitted by the Secretary-General concerning the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.6/Rev.1 (A/SPC/38/L.11).

8. At the same meeting, the Committee also had before it amendments (A/SPC/38/L.9), sponsored by Cuba and Mexico, to draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.6/Rev.1, whereby:

(a) In the fourth preambular paragraph the words "least developed countries" would be replaced by "developing countries".

(b) In operative paragraph 4:

(i) The words "least developed countries" would be replaced by "developing countries";

(ii) The words "which provide asylum or other significant services to refugees, including returning refugees" would be deleted.

9. The Committee had before it the statement submitted by the Secretary-General concerning the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.6/Rev.1, as amended by document A/SPC/38/L.9 (A/SPC/38/L.12).

10. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Senegal, on behalf of the sponsors, and on the basis of consultations with interested delegations, announced that the sponsors of the amendments contained in document A/SPC/38/L.9 had agreed to their withdrawal. The representative of Senegal orally revised operative paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.6/Rev.1 to read as follows:

"4. Calls upon the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the rule contained in resolution 36/148, to assist, as far as possible and by way of exception, the experts coming from least developed countries, appointed by the Secretary-General in order to implement their mandate, to participate fully in the work of the Group of Experts;"

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.6/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 13).

12. Subsequently, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ethiopia, Australia, Belgium, Canada, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Bangladesh, France, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Togo.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

13. The Special Political Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 36/148 of 16 December 1981 and 37/121 of 16 December 1982 on international co-operation to avert new flows of refugees,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General containing observations received from Governments 1/ and on the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees, 2/

Considering the urgency, magnitude and complexity of the task before the Group of Governmental Experts,

Recognizing the necessity of having all the experts participate in the future sessions of the Group of Governmental Experts, and concerned that, due to financial constraints, experts from least developed countries had been unable to attend,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General containing observations received from Governments;

2. Welcomes the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees, including its programme of work and recommendations, as a constructive step in the fulfilment of its mandate;

1/ A/38/274.

2/ A/38/273, annex.

3. Reaffirms and extends the mandate of the Group of Governmental Experts as defined in General Assembly resolutions 36/148 and 37/121;
4. Calls upon the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the rule contained in resolution 36/148, to assist, as far as possible and by way of exception, the experts coming from least developed countries, appointed by the Secretary-General, in order to implement their mandate, to participate fully in the work of the Group of Governmental Experts;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a compilation of the comments and suggestions he may receive from Member States on this item;
6. Calls upon the Group of Governmental Experts to continue its work in two sessions of two weeks' duration each during 1984, with a view to the fulfilment of the Group's mandate;
7. Requests the Group of Governmental Experts to submit a report on its work in time for deliberations by the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;
8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees".
