



Seventeenth session  
Agenda item 91

MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED IN CONNEXION WITH THE EARTHQUAKE IN IRAN

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mme MARIE SIVOMEY (Togo)

INTRODUCTION

1. At its 1129th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1962, the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee, for consideration and report, item 91 of the agenda of its seventeenth session: "Measures to be adopted in connexion with the earthquake in Iran". The Committee considered this item at its 1138th and 1139th meetings held on 2 October 1962.

2. The Third Committee had before it the explanatory memorandum attached to the request of the Governments of Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Leopoldville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Finland, France, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen and Yugoslavia to the General Assembly for the inclusion of the item in its agenda (A/5198). In the memorandum attention was drawn to the great tragedy that took place in the north-western region of Iran as a result of the severe earthquake on 2 September 1962, and the hope was expressed that because of the urgency of the matter, the General Assembly would examine this item as early in its session as possible.

3. The Committee also had before it a cable dated 27 September 1962 from the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/L.979) reading as follows:

"REQUEST FOLLOWING MESSAGE BE PLACED BEFORE THIRD COMMITTEE. MOST URGENT NEED PROVIDE SOME MINIMUM HOUSING IRAN BEFORE ONSET OF WINTER. IT WILL TAKE AT LEAST SIX WEEKS TO GET PREFABRICATED HOUSING IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES FROM FINLAND VIA USSR RAILWAYS SYSTEM WHICH MOST CONVENIENT AND EXPEDITIOUS. EVERY DAY THEREFORE COUNTS. RELIEF DELAYED IS RELIEF DENIED. MOST URGENT ACTION ON PART MEMBER GOVERNMENTS PROVIDE MINIMUM FUNDS WHICH ESTIMATED AT LEAST ONE MILLION DOLLARS FOR THIS PURPOSE... PRESENT ESTIMATE AT LEAST FIVE THOUSAND FAMILIES LACK ADEQUATE WINTER PROTECTION FOR SEVERE CONDITIONS ARE PREVAILING WITH WEATHER ALREADY GETTING COLD AND SEVERAL CHILDREN REPORTED DEAD DUE TO EXPOSURE.

(Signed) SEN"

4. Reference was also made to the report on international co-operation in the field of seismological research prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) with the collaboration of the Bureau of Social Affairs of the United Nations (E/3617 and Add.1), which had been submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-fourth session in pursuance of Council resolution 767 (XXX).

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION AND AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

5. At the 1138th meeting of the Third Committee, Afghanistan, Chile, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Tanganyika, United Arab Republic, and the United States of America submitted a draft resolution (A/C.3/L.981) which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Noting with deep concern the great tragedy which has overtaken the north-western region of Iran as a result of the recent and severe earthquake,

"Recalling resolutions 766 (XXX), 767 (XXX) and 912 (XXXIV) of the Economic and Social Council on international co-operation in the field of seismological research,

"Having considered the report on international co-operation in the field of seismological research, seismology and earthquake engineering (E/3617 and Add.1),

"1. Notes with satisfaction the assistance given to Iran by a number of Governments, non-governmental organizations and private persons, and expresses the hope that such assistance will be increased;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General and the heads of the specialized agencies to give consideration to the urgent needs of Iran when deciding, within the scope of their resources and authority, on the services to be extended to Member States;

"3. Requests the Managing Director of the Special Fund to consider sympathetically any qualified project which is presented by Iran in connexion with the work of rehabilitating the people and economy of the region;

"4. Requests the Executive Director of the World Food Programme to give urgent and sympathetic attention to any requests from Iran to meet emergency food requirements resulting from the disaster;

"5. Recommends that the Technical Assistance Committee, the Technical Assistance Board and the Executive Chairman of the Board take account of the special needs of Iran in 1962-1964, and do what is possible to meet them;

"6. Draws the attention of Member States to the recommendations contained in the report (E/3617 and Add.1) on international co-operation in the field of seismological research concerning the improvement of seismological observations, the analysis of seismological data, seismic and seismo-tectonic mapping, codes and regulations for the design of earthquake-resistant structures, tsunami warning system and relief measures;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General, and invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Meteorological Organization and other agencies concerned, to continue to promote actively international co-operation in the study of the origin and mechanism of earthquakes of the type which devastated north-west Iran and to improve the protective measures which can be taken against earthquakes as well as the remedial measures designed to repair damage caused by them."

6. In the examination of the draft resolution, amendments were suggested orally by the representatives of the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Venezuela.

7. The sponsors of the draft resolution, joined by Australia, Guinea, Poland, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, submitted a revised draft resolution incorporating the amendments which had been suggested (A/C.3/L.981/Rev.1).
8. At the 1139th meeting, the nineteen-Power revised draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

#### RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

9. The Third Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED IN CONNEXION WITH THE EARTHQUAKE IN IRAN

The General Assembly,

Noting with deep concern the great tragedy which has overtaken the north-western region of Iran as a result of the recent and severe earthquake, Recalling resolution 766 (XXX), as well as resolutions 767 (XXX) and 912 (XXXIV) of the Economic and Social Council on international co-operation in the field of seismological research,

Having considered the report on international co-operation in the field of seismological research, seismology and earthquake engineering (E/3617 and Add.1),

1. Notes with satisfaction the assistance given to Iran by a number of Governments, the United Nations, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and private persons, and expresses the hope that such assistance will be increased;
2. Requests the Secretary-General and the heads of the specialized agencies to give consideration to the urgent needs of Iran when deciding, within the scope of their resources and authority, on the additional services to be extended to Member States;
3. Requests the Managing Director of the Special Fund to consider sympathetically any qualified project which is presented by Iran in connexion with the work of rehabilitating the people and economy of the region;

4. Requests the Executive Director of the World Food Programme to give urgent and sympathetic attention to any requests from Iran to meet emergency food requirements resulting from the disaster;
5. Recommends that the Technical Assistance Committee, the Technical Assistance Board and the Executive Chairman of the Board take account of the special needs of Iran in 1962-1964, and do what is possible to meet them;
6. Draws the attention of Member States to the recommendations contained in the report (E/3617 and Add.1) on international co-operation in the field of seismological research concerning the improvement of seismological observations, the analysis of seismological data, seismic and seismo-tectonic mapping, codes and regulations for the design of earthquake-resistant structures, tsunami warning system and relief measures;
7. Requests the Secretary-General, and invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Meteorological Organization and other agencies concerned to continue to promote actively international co-operation in the study of the origin and mechanism of earthquakes of the type which devastated north-western Iran and in the improvement of the protective measures which can be taken against earthquakes as well as the remedial measures designed to repair damage caused by them.

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