


UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



✓   
Distr.  
GENERAL

A/3961  
29 October 1958

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirteenth session  
Agenda item 30

QUESTION OF ASSISTANCE TO LIBYA

Communication dated 17 September 1958  
from the Prime Minister of Libya  
addressed to the Secretary-General

Note by the Secretary-General: The Secretary-General has the honour to submit to the Members of the General Assembly, for information, copy of a communication dated 17 September 1958 from the Prime Minister of Libya transmitting a memorandum on the assistance received by the Government of Libya from the United Nations.

17 September 1958

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 924 (X) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 9 December 1955. This resolution requested, inter alia, that a special report on the question of United Nations assistance to Libya should be prepared so that this subject might be placed on the agenda of the thirteenth session of the General Assembly.

In connexion with a similar request for a report of this nature to be prepared for the tenth session of the General Assembly, my predecessor submitted to the Secretary-General on 1 September 1955 a memorandum describing the assistance we had received and the results that had been achieved.<sup>1/</sup> This document was circulated to delegations at the General Assembly and was, I believe,

<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Annexes,  
agenda item 26, document A/2969.

of some value to them in their deliberations. I now have the honour to submit a somewhat similar memorandum which gives a broad general outline of the economic and social development needs of Libya and the progress made in meeting them, together with a more detailed description of the assistance we have received from the United Nations.

The Government and people of Libya are profoundly grateful to the United Nations for the continued provision of assistance and they set a high value on the aid received. Indeed, it is because they value the United Nations aid so highly that they have been made anxious by the reduction to take effect in assistance to Libya next year. Although we are aware of the growing demands made upon the Expanded Technical Assistance Programme, we feel that Libya's special position deserves to be recognized and would urge that its exigent needs should be considered when next allocations of technical assistance funds are made.

The General Assembly will be aware that there has been no response to the invitation in paragraph 1 of resolution 924 (X). However, a number of individual Governments have for some years provided direct assistance to Libya and, with this support, we have been able to make significant progress in implementing our programmes for realizing the economic potential of our country and raising the standard of living of its people. In this we have had the invaluable assistance of experts assigned to Libya by the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme and by the United States International Co-operation Administration.

Although notable progress has been made in the economic and social development of the country, much yet remains to be done. My Government does not desire to overstate the problems which beset our country but they would wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to certain important factors which have handicapped our progress. The extensive damage caused in Libya during the Second World War has now largely been restored, but the work of reconstruction has absorbed resources which would otherwise have been available for development. Some further reconstruction is necessary and minefields still present a hazard to agriculture, travel and mineral exploration. The natural resources available to Libya are extremely limited, as are water supplies, cultivated land and trained personnel. Considerable efforts have been made to overcome these scarcities and the results achieved have been most encouraging, but substantial further effort

is required to develop more fully the economy of the country and to raise to a higher level the living standard of its people.

My Government is determined that, despite these handicaps and its lack of capital resources, it will continue to exert every effort and take all necessary measures to attain economic viability and improve the living standard of the Libyan people: it is in fact under an obligation to do so in response to the decision of the United Nations which created Libya as an independent State. If it is to be successful in attaining these objectives within a reasonable space of time, my Government must be assured of the continuing support for its own efforts by financial aid from other Governments and by technical assistance from the United Nations and under bilateral programmes. In this connexion we would urge the desirability of reaffirmation by the General Assembly of the recommendation embodied in resolution 924 (X).

In recognition of the special position of Libya, the United Nations has hitherto granted a waiver of the local costs involved in the provision of technical assistance: my Government earnestly requests an extension of this waiver. The growth in the Government's expenditures, more specially the recurrent costs of completed development projects, has not yet been overtaken by the growth in its income.

My Government has noted with interest and appreciation the plans for the creation of certain new United Nations agencies. The establishment of the International Administrative Service gives us grounds for hoping that our country will now be able to make significant progress in areas where progress has so far been hampered by lack of qualified personnel. We look to the Service for substantial assistance in overcoming the very serious shortage of trained Libyans, and in staffing vital senior posts in our governmental services which we could not otherwise hope to fill. The Libyan Government looks forward to making a useful contribution to the work of the Economic Commission for Africa, which we expect to provide important benefits to Libya and the other under-developed countries of the continent. We recognize the advantages to be derived from co-operation in the solution of economic problems common to the African countries and are ready to collaborate fully in the activities of the Commission. We welcome the opportunity which the establishment of the Commission affords for

...  
/...

Libya to be of assistance to its neighbours since our scanty resources prevent us from offering assistance in most other directions. The limited scale of most of our development projects makes it unlikely that Libya will seek more than minor assistance from the Special Project Fund: the country's great needs in the field of vocational and technical training, however, may well provide opportunity to apply the Fund's resources. We applaud the setting up of this Fund and recognize its great value to those under-developed countries where large development works are necessary: my Government may in due course ask for consideration to be given to requests under the terms of the Fund.

Libya's own efforts to further its economic and social development may appear small in comparison with the massive external aid now being received, but they represent a very substantial effort and sacrifice from a country which is still amongst the poorest and which is so scantily endowed with natural and human resources. These efforts will be continued and intensified wherever possible. My Government asks that it may continue to count on the interest and support of Member nations for the financial and technical aid necessary to ensure that our efforts are effective; we ask also that the United Nations Organization will continue to provide the technical assistance which has proved so valuable in enabling us to make optimum use of our own resources and external aid. The Libyan people will continue to express their gratitude by wholehearted collaboration with those who come to their assistance and by readily making the sacrifices necessary to secure the economic and social development of their country.

(Signed) Abdul Majid COOBAR  
Prime Minister

PREFACE

1. Since the United Kingdom of Libya came into being in accordance with the decision taken by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1949, the Assembly has maintained a continuing interest in the country's progress. From time to time the General Assembly has considered reports on the country's economic and social needs and development and on the activities undertaken under the Expanded Technical Assistance Programme and the regular programmes of the United Nations and specialized agencies in Libya. At the conclusion of its last debate on the subject in 1955 the Assembly requested (resolution 924 (X)) that the Secretary-General should prepare a special report on the question of United Nations assistance to Libya in time to be placed on the provisional agenda of the thirteenth session of the General Assembly.

2. This memorandum has accordingly been prepared in order that the General Assembly may have at its disposal during its consideration of that report some background material on United Nations technical assistance to Libya and the setting in which this assistance is rendered.

3. It is appropriate to record here the very great gratitude of the Government and people of Libya for the substantial and invaluable aid which the United Nations and its specialized agencies have given to this country. The work of the United Nations Mission in Libya is an integral and indispensable part of the country's economic and social development and upon the continuance of United Nations assistance depends in no small measure its future progress towards economic independence and an adequate standard of living.

4. The progressive increase in the demands on the Expanded Technical Assistance Programme is recognized by the Government of Libya, but the reduction in the aid given to Libya has been a cause of anxiety to the Government because of the high value it sets upon the aid coming from the United Nations. The Government of Libya therefore expresses the hope that the following statement of its position and most pressing needs for assistance will be taken into account when allocations of technical assistance funds are next made.

5. As this report is primarily concerned with the technical assistance provided by the United Nations and its specialized agencies specific mention has been

/...

made - especially in part II below - of the programmes for which those United Nations agencies are concerned. The Government of Libya would nevertheless wish to pay a very special tribute to the United States Government for the substantial and sustained assistance it has given. American aid, financial and technical, though not specifically identified at every point in this memorandum, has been most generously given and has made possible many of the major advances in agriculture, health, education and public works which are recorded below. The volume of this aid can be ascertained from the tables given below. It is also notable that the spirit in which this help has been given has conformed in every respect to the principles of the United Nations Charter and that its co-ordination with the efforts of the United Nations and its specialized agencies and of the Libyan Government has been effective.

PART I

6. It is now nearly seven years since, as the consequence of a decision of the United Nations General Assembly, the independent State of Libya was created at the end of 1951. Throughout this period, Libya has been the subject of United Nations interest and the recipient of substantial United Nations assistance. It has also received directly a considerable measure of financial and technical aid from member nations, more particularly from Britain and the United States of America.

7. The scale and continuity of the assistance which has been so generously given to Libya by the United Nations and by friendly Governments have made possible important progress in the economic and social development of Libya. This has been achieved in the face of the most unpromising economic situation which existed in the country in 1951. At that time Libya had very few known or available material resources, a relatively small cultivable land area and a population almost entirely unprepared for the tasks ahead: moreover, much of the basic equipment of the State had been destroyed or damaged during the war. It is a remarkable achievement, in which the United Nations and member nations as well as the Libyan people themselves have participated, that so much has been done in six years to overcome these handicaps and to further the economic and social development of the country.<sup>1/</sup> Much yet remains to be done, and although Libya is doing all that is possible to further its own development, it must continue for some time to come to depend upon the continued interest of the United Nations and the friendly Powers if further substantial progress is to be made towards economic independence and a more adequate standard of living.

8. The majority of the Libyan people, probably more than 80 per cent, are dependent, directly or indirectly, upon agriculture for their livelihood, and since the country is as yet without proven mineral resources of commercial value it is of the utmost importance that its agricultural resources should be developed and improved to the greatest possible extent. Substantial amounts

---

<sup>1/</sup> Details of capital development and technical assistance programmes in Libya will be found in two recent reports of the Development Council - "Development Activities in Libya" (1957) and "Financing of Development Programmes" (1958).

have been allocated from the funds available for development to agricultural purposes and a considerable part of the technical assistance received has also been for the benefit of agriculture and related activities. Whilst it is not yet practicable to measure the progress made, the benefits of such development expenditures and technical aid are now being felt throughout this sector of the economy and will, of course, continue to yield substantial gains for the population.

9. Although Libya is a large country, of a total land area of 1.8 million square kilometres, there are only some 3 million hectares at present suitable for settled cultivation, with a further 11 million hectares of generally poor grazing land. It is, therefore, essential to do everything possible to prevent further erosion of the soil and to win back land for cultivation: Libya has invested heavily in works of this type. To overcome the problem of erosion by the run-off from the hills after rain, and to increase the country's meagre water resources, extensive construction of diversion and check dams, water-spreading works and terracing has taken place. Over the large arid areas of Libya, erosion also occurs through the action of wind on the dry, light soil and, to combat this, windbreaks are being planted and farmers instructed in methods which lessen the exposure of the soil to erosion. Areas of sand dunes have also been fixed with special grasses and trees planted to check the movement of the sand to fertile land.

10. Closely allied to soil conservation works and, indeed, frequently part of the same project, is the effort to conserve water. Libya has no permanent rivers and the rainfall is slight, uncertain and confined to the narrow coastal belt and hill districts: droughts of disastrous severity and duration occur frequently. The country's agriculture is, therefore, dependent upon either the erratic rainfall or upon irrigation, utilizing the scarce water resources available, and it is necessary to ensure that as much of the rainfall as possible is used. The retention dams and water spreading works already mentioned are intended to serve this purpose also, as are the large number of cisterns which have been constructed or rehabilitated. The most important example of these works has been on the Wadi Megenin in Tripolitania, where flood control and water spreading have been undertaken, with a permanent improvement in the land under cultivation; the productivity of the area has been enhanced by increased water supplies, and soil erosion and flood damage much reduced. Further control works in the watershed area are now in hand.



11. Apart from the irrigation works which are integral with soil and water conservation projects, many other small irrigation projects have been completed or are proceeding. Libya is heavily dependent upon its limited underground water resources, particularly for the more profitable export crops, and this is especially true of the fertile coastal region of Tripolitania where, in consequence, most of these works have been located. Amongst these are the preparation and irrigation of some 400 hectares of land at Wadi Caam, where a new settlement for nearly 200 farmers is being created and a useful addition is being made to Libya's fertile land resources. The interior of the country is almost entirely unsuitable, except in the oases, for agricultural purposes. These small areas of oasis cultivation depend entirely upon irrigation, and here also work has been proceeding in the provision of artesian wells, windmills and channels.

12. Whilst so much money and effort is being devoted to preparing and conserving productive land, it is essential that this land should be used as fruitfully as possible. To this end, Libya is maintaining important programmes to train and advise the farming community and to discover the most suitable crops and cultivation methods: technical assistance plays a great part in both of these programmes. Technical instruction and training in agriculture is now available at the two vocational schools in Libya, and training is also given at agricultural centres and through overseas scholarships. Advice and instruction to farmers is provided through the agricultural extension service, to which increasing numbers of Libyans, trained in vocational schools, are being recruited. Research into crop varieties and production methods and practical work in plant protection and related problems are carried out at a number of agricultural stations throughout the country, with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

Supplementing these activities are schemes for the provision of tools and heavy machinery to farmers, for improvements in horticultural produce and for improving tree crops, especially olives and dates, and the marketing and storage of such produce.

13. Similar measures are being taken for the improvement of animal husbandry: better methods of range management and forage production are being introduced, breeding centres have been established to assist in improving breeds and upgrading herds and flocks, and efforts are being made to eliminate disease and parasites.

14. Together, these programmes should materially assist in raising the standards of agricultural techniques and production. But it is not sufficient to ensure increased yields of better products for, although part of the increase in agricultural production is required for the expanding home market, it should also make a significant contribution to Libya's export trade. Accordingly, a number of projects have been initiated for the better processing, grading and marketing of agricultural products. These include not only advice under technical assistance programmes but facilities such as a wool-washing plant, cold storage at the principal ports, disinfesting chambers, a date-packing factory, olive-oil presses and grain storage facilities. Additionally, experts in hides and skins production, marketing and other fields have assisted in providing better processed products for the domestic and export markets and in locating new markets overseas.
15. To serve the credit needs of the farmers, many of whom have only the scantiest financial resources, a National Agricultural Bank was set up in 1955. This institution provides short and medium-term loans for agriculture, and its activities are supplemented by the Libyan Finance Corporation which also provides medium-term finance, and also by a growing number of co-operatives which, with help from development funds and technical assistance programmes, are being established in certain agricultural centres. Thus, it may be claimed that significant progress is being made towards overcoming the lack of capital available to the farming community.
16. New forest areas are being planted and natural forests regenerated to meet the need for fuel wood and timber for industrial purposes, since Libya now has only a small remnant of its natural forest. Such forest areas as there are must be protected and conserved, and for this purpose forest guards are being trained and houses provided for them. Nurseries have been established to supply young trees for new forest plantings, for windbreaks and for planting where dune-fixation has been successful.
17. There has been relatively little progress in the development of Libyan fisheries, but this is a promising field and one to which the Government attaches importance: draft legislation is now in preparation and it is hoped to initiate further development in the near future on the basis of the recent report of an FAO expert.

...  
/... (

18. To meet the need for alternative occupations and to reduce the dependence of the economy upon agriculture, the Government has enacted legislation to assist the development of local industries and to facilitate the investment of foreign capital. The majority of the urban population are engaged in commerce, service industries or government: both the former activities are in large measure dependent upon the presence in Libya of an economically important foreign population, which creates a demand for many types of industrial products and services and offers a ready market for much of the more valuable agricultural produce. Some secondary industries have been established with technical assistance or by private enterprise, but services, construction, handicrafts and tourism still represent the only sources of industrial employment, and there remains a large need for further development. A major problem is the lack of basic raw materials other than agricultural products in Libya. The development of secondary industries should provide not only additional and alternative employment opportunities but also increased exports and a lessened demand for certain types of imports.

19. The development of private enterprise in fields which are beneficial to the economic and social progress of the country will continue to receive the maximum possible assistance from the Government and, with rising income levels, it should be possible for domestic capital to finance a more significant proportion of the development effort. So far as foreign private investment is concerned, much the most important present activity is the search for petroleum. The most hopeful potential source of income in Libya other than agriculture is clearly to be found in mineral deposits if those can be located; the Government is encouraging the search for an examination of possible sources. A number of oil companies have undertaken extensive geophysical work and other exploratory activities in Libya and, although results have not so far been conclusive, there is sufficient evidence to justify continued explorations. The search for other minerals is conducted by the Government and by technical assistance experts.

20. In a country such as Libya, with a small population and widely separated population centres, there is a disproportionate need for roads and telecommunications facilities. A substantial part of the country's development effort in the past six years has been devoted to meeting the most essential of

/...

these needs and to providing the necessary ports, harbours and airports to serve domestic and international trade, as well as the provision of public utilities of all types. Much of this social capital had, in fact, been provided before the war, but war-time damage and subsequent neglect, together with the newly-felt needs of the Libyan people, greatly reduced the effectiveness of the greater part of it. With the large expenditure made on public works in recent years, the country has moved from the restoration of damaged works to new projects which can now provide the basic structure for future development.

21. In the field of transport, a network of roads based on the main coast road which links Libya with Egypt and Tunis has been restored or built and is in process of extension, so that adequate surface communications will be available for at least the main population and agricultural centres and for international trade and travel. Tripoli port has been repaired and improved, and similar works have been carried out or are projected elsewhere. The two airports for Benghazi and Tripoli have been brought up to international standards, and now receive a heavy volume of traffic from a number of international airlines. To serve both domestic and international needs, a new telecommunications system is now being installed: when finished, it will not only link the Federal and Provincial capitals and the smaller towns but will, moreover, serve as an important channel for international communications.

22. In Benghazi, new electricity and water supplies have been installed to replace those destroyed during the war, whilst in Tripoli a large expansion programme for the electricity undertaking is in progress which will not only serve the expanding city but also meet the demands of the adjacent agricultural areas, where cheap electric power is essential for pumping underground water. There is a major programme under way for the provision of domestic water supplies, under which supplies have already been provided for a number of smaller towns and in rural areas; there is also a large programme for the installation of electricity supplies in such localities. A radio broadcasting service which will give nation-wide coverage is now in operation and should soon be completed.

23. The increase in development activities and the completion of development projects add to the urgent and growing need for more skilled and highly trained Libyans which is felt throughout the public service and in private enterprises

/...

of all types. The lack of trained and educated personnel is one of the more serious problems which Libya had to face in 1951 and which has been a grave handicap ever since. In pre-war years there was virtually no facility for education or vocational training available to the Libyan people and, although a beginning was made to remedy this under the British administration, the scale of the facilities so provided was necessarily small. To a limited extent, the problem has been met by the employment of expatriate officials in the public services and elsewhere and by utilizing the skills of foreigners and those of foreign origin resident in Libya, but the only permanent solution lies in educating and training Libyans as rapidly as possible.

24. A considerable investment has been made in the educational programme since independence, and much valuable help is given under bilateral as well as multilateral technical assistance programmes: the results are already apparent in the greatly increased numbers of young people with a formal education, though frequently not higher than elementary or preparatory, and of those who are now equipped to play a fuller part in the administration, development, commerce, agriculture or industry of the country. The aim of the educational programme is to provide ultimately primary education for all, secondary education for all who warrant it and higher education for all who qualify at secondary level; simultaneously vocational and technical training proceeds at all levels. Primary education is now available for children in all the more accessible parts of the country; at the higher levels the availability of places is not so high, but progress is being made and the proportion of Libyan children at school is higher now than it has ever been. Libya now has its own University, small as yet but with faculties of arts, law, commerce and science; higher education is also available at universities and other institutions overseas through fellowships and scholarships provided under development and technical assistance programmes.

25. The two agricultural training schools have already been mentioned; vocational training is also provided at the Centre in Tripoli for technical, clerical and secretarial training and at the trade school in Benghazi. More limited technical instruction is also given "on the job" to a number of Libyans in the course of their employment, particularly with foreign military establishments in Libya and the oil companies. In the government service, training is given in public

/...

administration both through a school of public administration and through in-service training; the latter is shortly to be extended. To meet the growing demand for Libyan teachers in an expanding educational system and to replace foreign teachers, teacher-training colleges for both men and women have been established in Tripoli and Benghazi; other teachers receive their training at the vocational centres, at the University or overseas. The health programme also includes extensive training facilities for nurses, sanitarians, medical assistants and midwives; there is a nursing school in Tripoli, a medical assistants' school in Benghazi and maternal and child health centres in both cities, whilst the public health programme embraces the training of Libyan personnel. In all these specialist and vocational fields, additional training facilities are provided through overseas fellowships and scholarships which are now making a significant contribution to the number of Libyans trained and equipped with the necessary skills. On a smaller scale, but of special importance in the more remote oasis settlements, are the services which have been provided for adult education, handicrafts instruction and fundamental education.

26. In providing for the development of Libya, the social conditions of the people have not been neglected. In the health programme, considerable sums have been allocated to the construction, repair and equipment of the principal hospitals and sanatoria, and many dispensaries in rural areas have been built or restored. Development funds have also been used to support technical assistance programmes for sanitation and the control of diseases such as trachoma and malaria and the assessment of the incidence of tuberculosis, whilst public health centres are being established in the larger towns to assist these activities and provide facilities for health education and for medical and nursing staff. Recently, legislation has been enacted to provide for social insurance and pensions, taking over the existing Italian-created institutions, and for the regulation of labour conditions; in each case, the advice of technical assistance experts has been given and has made possible the advance achieved. Some progress has already been made in making better housing available for the poorer people in urban areas; it is hoped that further progress will not be possible on lines indicated by the expert in this field.

27. Although as yet it is not possible to measure the extent to which development activities in Libya have increased the real income of its people, there can be no doubt that a progressive improvement has taken place over the last six years. Additionally, the expenditures of the foreign communities, especially the military forces and oil companies, have also enhanced incomes, so that there has been consequently a substantial rise in government revenues during this period. Concurrently, an increase has taken place in government expenditures on economic and social services as the development of the country has proceeded. The operation of completed development projects and the maintenance of development services also, particularly in agriculture, health and education, place a further burden of recurrent costs on the ordinary budget of the State.

28. Nevertheless, by careful husbanding of resources and by economical administration it has been possible for the Government to set aside budgetary funds for capital development purposes. In 1955, the Federal Government initiated an Exceptional Budget under which the sum of £11,175,000 was provided for agriculture, the development of water resources, tourism and the construction of new administrative buildings at El Beida. In subsequent years the amount provided under this budget has been increased to £12,675,000, and the whole of the additional amount has been set aside for the new administrative centre.

29. In addition to the Exceptional Budget, both the Federal and Provincial Budgets contain subsidiary allocations for economic and social development, particularly in the provision of technical services and the operation and maintenance of development projects in the fields of agriculture, health, social services and education.

30. However, the financing of a development programme designed to raise domestic production and the standard of living of the Libyan people has been and must remain for some time to come beyond the resources of the Libyan budget. The scale of expenditures under the development programme is shown in table 2; those expenditures have been financed mainly by contributions from friendly Governments which have shown a continuing interest in Libya's welfare and development. The size of these external contributions, their source and the marked increase in them in the last three years are shown in table 1; they have been provided principally by Britain and the United States of America, together with contributions from Egypt, France, Italy, Pakistan and Turkey.

31. The British contribution is determined in accordance with the Anglo-Libyan Financial Agreement of 1953, and until this year has taken two forms. In each case, the amounts are negotiated for five-year periods and there is thus an assured income during these periods. First, there has been a grant-in-aid of £2.75 million (sterling) for general support of the Libyan Budget. This grant was increased to £5.25 million for the last two years of the first five-year period of the agreement ending in 1958, and is being continued at this higher level for the second five-year period which begins this year. Secondly, the British Government has made an annual grant of £1 million during the first five years for the development of Libya. This grant has been passed by the Government to the Libyan Public Development and Stabilization Agency, which has utilized 75 per cent of the funds for development projects and set aside the remaining 25 per cent in a stabilization fund which assists in overcoming the effects of drought and locust plagues. The knowledge that it has a fixed income for the period has been of great value to the Agency in planning its programme of work. The grant for development purposes has been discontinued for the second five-year period, but for the present is being made good by utilizing some of the funds from the United States Government.

32. In the past six years Libya has benefitted increasingly from financial and technical assistance from the United States of America. The financial aid now being received from the United States represents almost the entire contribution to the direct financing of Libyan development projects, whilst the large number of American technicians employed by the United States Government for the benefit of Libya play a major part in the country's technical assistance programmes.

33. The American financial contribution to Libya is also in two forms. First, under the Libyan-American Agreements of 1954, Libya receives at present a fixed annual sum of £11.4 million which may be used without restriction by the Libyan Government. Until the current financial year, these funds have been entirely used for development financing by the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission; in 1958-1959, however, the greater part is being used for additional budgetary support, made necessary by the increasing costs of operating and maintaining development projects. Secondly, substantial further sums have recently been received from the United States in the form of additional economic aid. In

/...



1955-1956, the first Libyan fiscal year in which they were received, these funds amounted to £11.1 million, in the following year to £11.8 million and in 1957-1958 to £15.8 million. For the current fiscal year, it is expected that United States additional economic aid in various forms will total £15.4 million; most of this sum will be utilized for financing development works under the current programme of the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission, but £1 million is being set aside for the financing of the activities of the Libyan Public Development and Stabilization Agency. The Reconstruction Commission will also receive the balance of £429,000 from the fixed annual payment under the Agreement. Although the amount of part of the funds received under the Agreement is fixed and known in advance, this is not the case with the additional economic aid funds, which are subject to annual negotiation. The purposes for which this additional economic aid is to be used and the related programming are settled on an ad hoc basis and do not derive from a long-term development plan.

34. The provision of finance for capital works is of the utmost importance at the present stage of Libyan development, and has now reached large proportions, yet it is not of itself sufficient to ensure the growth of the Libyan economy and the improvement of the country's social conditions. Because of the shortage of professionally trained Libyans there is, and will continue to be for some time, a need for a very large measure of technical expertise to be supplied from external sources to strengthen administrative and development services and to provide expert advice of all kinds. The continued provision of technical assistance under both bilateral and multilateral programmes is vitally necessary for the continuation of Libya's development programme.

35. As a consequence of the growth of external assistance and the creation of new and independent agencies, the machinery for promoting the development of Libya is now rather complex. Although some simplification of this apparatus now appears desirable, it has been evolved in order to offset relative weaknesses in some important parts of the governmental machinery and to meet important requirements of Libya and the contributors of financial and technical assistance. The increase in development activities, and the creation of new agencies, has been accompanied by a gradual improvement in the co-ordination of these activities; this improvement will be accelerated by measures for the simplification of the development machinery now being planned.

36. There are at the present time two important development financing agencies. The Libyan Public Development and Stabilization Agency has hitherto derived its income primarily from the British contribution with smaller contributions from Egypt, France, Italy, Pakistan and Turkey, but for the current year the British grant is discontinued and replaced by funds from the United States Government. The second financing agency, the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission, receives its income solely from the United States Government. The Libyan vote is in the majority on the governing bodies of both agencies. The Development and Stabilization Agency itself executes some of its development projects, delegating others to contractors and government departments and, at times, executing projects for the Government or the Reconstruction Commission, whereas the Reconstruction Commission is essentially a financing and programming agency and entrusts the execution of the whole of its programme to other agencies of the Libyan Government. There are two other financial institutions, the National Agricultural Bank of Libya and the Libyan Finance Corporation, which supply credit directly to farmers and co-operatives, mainly for small agricultural improvements. In addition, development financing is provided to a small extent through the ordinary budget of the Federal and Provincial governments and through the Federal Exceptional Budget. The National Bank of Libya, although not a development agency, was created in 1956 to act as central bank and has therefore an important role as adviser to the Government on financial matters and as collaborator in the formulation of the country's economic policy.

37. Technical assistance is provided by both the United Nations and its agencies and by the United States Operations Mission in Libya. The United Nations specialized agencies provide some or all of advisory demonstration, training, research and experimental services. The over-all co-ordination of the several missions and projects is the responsibility of the Resident Representative of the Technical Assistance Board, who also maintains contact with the Libyan Government, though contact is maintained at the technical level directly with the appropriate government departments or agencies, in accordance with agreements with the Government. The Operations Mission in Libya has, under its Director, a programming, policy-making and administrative unit which guides and administers the team of American experts in Libya, and has the responsibility of establishing the policies to be followed in consultation with the Government. The activities

of these experts are also regulated by agreements between the Libyan and the United States Governments. In 1955, Libyan-American Joint Services in the fields of agriculture and natural resources, education and health were established on the model of the Latin American servicios. Each Joint Service is intended to be an integral part of the appropriate Libyan department and each is headed by Co-Directors, one of whom is a senior United States adviser and the other the head of the Libyan department concerned. The majority of the United States technicians now work with Joint Services and are supported by the provision of administrative services, equipment and, in some cases, funds for the support of technical assistance projects. The Joint Services are responsible for the execution of a large proportion of projects of the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission and the Commission provides funds for the support of many joint services technical assistance projects. Similarly, the Public Development and Stabilization Agency and the Federal and Provincial Budgets provide funds for a number of projects supported by United Nations technical assistance.

38. Responsibility within the Government for the negotiation and agreement of contracts and for financial arrangements in respect of financial and technical assistance rests with the Ministry of Finance, and the Ministry's Permanent Under-Secretary serves as chairman of both major financing agencies as well as of the Development Council. The growth after 1955 in the volume of funds and technical assistance received called for a more adequate co-ordinating body, with greater powers in respect of analysis, planning and programming than the former Economic Planning Committee, which was composed of representatives of the main agencies concerned with development. Accordingly, the Government created in 1956 a Development Council with wider terms of reference and charged with the over-all planning and co-ordination of development activities. The members of the Council are appointed in their personal capacities, but its advisers and observers are representative of all the departments and agencies immediately responsible for development in Libya. Inter-locking representation on the governing bodies of the several agencies, and frequent contact and consultation at all levels amongst the agencies and between the agencies and government departments, make the co-ordination of development activities and planning possible.

/...

39. The continued increase in development activities and the present complexity of Libya's development machinery point to the need for better planning and co-ordination and more effective control of financial and technical resources. As the Development Council has at present only an advisory function, the Government has initiated measures whereby the Council will be reorganized and given sole responsibility under the Council of Ministers for the financing, planning, programming and execution of development projects and for the management of technical assistance. The Development Council will also to a large extent absorb the other financing and executive agencies. It is believed that, when the reorganization is completed, the Libyan Government will be provided through this one agency with a greatly improved apparatus for the over-all planning of development activities and one which will ensure the most effective use of the resources available to the country for development purposes.

40. The Government is also appreciative of the need for a new long-term development programme. The original five-year capital development programme is now nearing completion and has in any case been overtaken by the volume of funds now available which is substantially greater than was envisaged by the compilers of the plan. Consequently, the larger part of the funds received is programmed on a year-to-year or ad hoc basis and not in conformity with any over-all long-term plan. In order that such a plan may be formulated, the Government has asked the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to undertake an economic survey of Libya; the Bank has agreed to do so, and this further contribution to the development of Libya by a United Nations agency will be supported in respect of local costs from an allocation made by the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission for the purpose. It is intended that the survey shall provide not only basic data concerning the resources, needs and priorities upon which a development programme may be based, but also the foundations for new statistical services which are at present lacking and a useful body of information which will serve as guides to all concerned in the economic and social development of Libya.

Table 1

## LIBYA: CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT FUNDS - 1952-1953 TO 1958-1959

## ALL AGENCIES

(In thousands of Libyan pounds)

Agency	1952-1953		1953-1954		1954-1955		1955-1956		1956-1957		1957-1958		1958-1959	
	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total
Libyan Public Development and Stabilization Agency <u>1/</u>	358	100	850	100	833	70	761	13	1,022	21	746	8	1,040	18
Exceptional Budget <u>2/</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,175	20	550	11	950	11	...	...
Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission <u>3/</u>	-	-	-	-	357	30	3,929	67	3,214	67	7,196	81	4,858	82
TOTAL	358	100	850	100	1,190	100	5,865	100	4,786	100	8,892	100	5,898	100

Notes: 1/ Funds provided principally by Britain with lesser contributions from Egypt, France, Italy, Pakistan and Turkey. In 1958-1959 the British contribution is replaced by utilizing £L 1 million from funds received from the United States Government, and the 25 per cent of contributions hitherto set aside for the stabilization fund (and not included in the table) is discontinued so that all contributions to the Agency are available for development purposes.

2/ Financed from domestic budgetary funds.

3/ Financed by United States funds.

Table 2

## LIBYA: ALLOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS 1952-1953 TO 1957-1958

ALL AGENCIES..

(In thousands of Libyan pounds)

Field of activity	1952-1953		1953-1954		1954-1955		1955-1956		1956-1957		1957-1958	
	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total	£L	Per cent of Total
Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	56	17	131	16	96	11	687	11	988	14	182	3
Water development	52	16	94	12	126	15	793	13	671	9	333	6
Public utilities	102	32	237	29	179	21	1,239	20	1,737	24	1,592	30
Transport	52	16	207	26	214	25	708	12	1,172	16	621	12
Communications	-	-	-	-	-	-	295	5	480	7	1,428	27
Education	38	12	72	9	107	12	294	5	403	6	614	12
Health	10	3	41	5	147	17	480	8	294	4	215	4
Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,200	20	500	7	-	-
Miscellaneous	13	4	22	3	-1	-	416	7	859	12	244	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>7,104</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5,229</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 3

ALLOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS 1952-1953 TO 1957-1958

AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES

(In thousands of Libyan pounds)

Project group	1952-1953 to 1955-1956	1956-1957	1957-1958	TOTALS
Animal husbandry	215	108	17	340
Grain storage	10	100	-	110
Tools and machinery	44	13	11	68
Industry and processing	150	124	2	276
Land settlement	110	74	7	191
Assistance to co-operatives	73	-5	3	71
Education and training	69	208	31	308
Buildings and research	103	138	76	317
Forestry and dune fixation	138	132	35	305
Horticulture and tree crops	53	96	-	149
Fisheries	5	-	-	5
Ground water investigations	56	47	35	138
Irrigation	305	202	38	545
Soil and water conservation	622	338	240	1,200
Stock wells and cisterns	71	64	-	135
Geological mapping, etc.	11	20	20	51
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,035</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>4,209</b>

Table 4

ALLOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS 1952-1953 TO 1957-1958

PUBLIC WORKS

(In thousands of Libyan pounds)

Project group	1952-1953 to 1955-1956	1956-1957	1957-1958	TOTALS
Domestic water supplies	465	288	269	1,022
Electricity supplies	1,292	1,426	1,323	4,041
Sewerage	-	23	-	23
Ports and harbours	414	99	159	672
Roads	520	895	376	1,791
Airports	247	178	86	511
Telecommunications	295	360	482	1,137
Broadcasting	-	120	946	1,066
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3,233</b>	<b>3,389</b>	<b>3,641</b>	<b>10,263</b>

Table 5

ALLOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS 1952-1953 TO 1957-1958

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

(In thousands of Libyan pounds)

Project group	1952-1953 to 1955-1956	1956-1957	1957-1958	TOTALS
School construction	162	255	35	452
University of Libya	160	-	-	160
Technical education	130	68	13	211
Teacher-training colleges	59	-	254	313
Fellowships	-	-	214	214
Educational aids	-	80	98	178
Public health	29	65	20	114
Trachoma control	25	111	60	196
Hospitals	508	52	112	672
Ambulatoria and dispensaries	46	38	23	107
Training	70	28	-	98
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>2,713</b>



Table 6

ALLOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS 1952-1953 TO 1957-1958

OTHER PROJECTS

(In thousands of Libyan pounds)

Project group	1952-1953 to 1955-1956	1956-1957	1957-1958	TOTALS
Government buildings and equipment	360	679	34	1,073
Housing and resettlement	61	131	-	192
Antiquities	4	14	3	21
Tourism	25	10	-	35
Economic survey	-	-	107	107
Special projects	-	25	100	125
National Bank of Libya	700	-	-	700
National Agricultural Bank	500	500	-	1,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>1,359</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>3,253</b>

PART II

41. In the first part of this report a broad description has been given of the efforts being made to promote the economic and social development of Libya, together with an outline of the circumstances of the country which have justified these activities. In this, the second part, a fuller account is given of the particular role played by the United Nations specialized agencies in the more recent economic and social development of Libya.

42. The technical assistance provided by the United Nations to Libya covers a very wide field and experts from the several United Nations agencies are giving invaluable aid in almost every aspect of the country's development. For the most part these experts serve in an advisory capacity, but in several cases they have also been required to assume executive responsibilities within the Libyan Government where this is made necessary by the non-availability of appropriately qualified Libyan personnel. A number of United Nations experts have also been assigned to Libya to carry out specialist investigations in some of the fields where basic information is most urgently required. Financial assistance for the country's development needs is not, of course, provided by the United Nations, although in a few instances the United Nations agencies do provide limited amounts of equipment and supplies; many United Nations technical assistance projects in Libya are therefore supported by funds provided by the Government and received under bilateral agreements for economic aid.

43. Because of Libya's lack of trained personnel the country's dependence upon external sources for expert knowledge and advice is very great. To educate and train Libyans for technical and professional posts will still take several years, and a further substantial period must elapse before they can acquire the experience necessary to take over from the technical assistance experts and expatriate officials whose positions they are eventually to occupy. For this reason, and because the process of development in a country so scantily provided with natural resources is of necessity slow, the majority of United Nations technical assistance projects in Libya have been long-term projects which have already been in operation for several years and which will require to be continued for some time to come. The continuation of Libya's economic growth

and social improvement depends in fact upon the continuation of United Nations and other external aid until Libya itself will be able to provide the necessary trained personnel.

44. Details of the technical assistance activities of the United Nations agencies in Libya are given in the paragraphs which follow. These activities have proved to be of the utmost value to Libya, and the fact that so many of the presently operating projects represent activities which have continued for a number of years is sufficient proof of their usefulness and the Libyan Government's desire for their continuation. The Government and people of Libya are well aware of the extent of the assistance which has been, and is being, rendered by the United Nations, and rely on the continuation of this support in their own efforts to accelerate the country's economic growth and improve living standards.

#### Public administration

45. In the field of public administration experts of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration (TAA) have made a survey of the work of the Federal Government and the three Provincial Administrations and have submitted recommendations for increasing administrative efficiency: these have been acted upon or are under consideration, and one of the TAA experts remains in Libya to assist in the implementation of recommendations approved by the Government. Libya now has a uniform Civil Service Law and Regulations for the four administrations and the co-operation of the Provinces is being sought in the adoption of standard financial regulations and accounting instructions which are already in use in the Federal Government: a uniform Pensions Law has also been passed. The suggested legislation which would govern the administrative responsibilities of the Federal Government has not yet been finally determined, but the general principle involved has been accepted by the Council of Ministers.

46. Through its projects for the training of young Libyans for the public service, the TAA is making a substantial contribution to the improvement of the Federal and Provincial Administrations. In January 1957, the accountancy and bookkeeping course for government employees, which had run successfully for three years, and from which seventy-nine officials had graduated, was merged into a newly created School of Public Administration. This School, now in its second year, provides

instruction at the intermediate level in public administration and related and subsidiary subjects for officials of the Federal and Provincial Administrations: it is hoped to add additional courses at a higher level in the future. The staff of the school is provided entirely by TAA. The recommendations of the experts to introduce an in-service training scheme within departments and to organize evening courses for officials in commercial subjects have been approved by the Government, but for several reasons it has not yet been possible to proceed with them. The Government is particularly anxious to establish evening instructional classes in technical and commercial subjects so that these efficiency courses may be available to Libyan employees in commerce and industry as well as to government officials. For the most part buildings and equipment are available, but assistance is being sought in providing an expert for planning and supervising the work as well as in financing the payment of instructors. An expert in organization and methods is shortly to be assigned to Libya by TAA and will train Libyans employed in the public service in this special work.

47. The Government has recently established a Supervisory Council for Training which will report on training matters to the Civil Service Committee. It has also decided that, in future, overseas scholarships and fellowships will be mainly restricted to senior officials and that all other training will be carried out in Libya as far as is practicable; the Government has asked all international organizations operating in Libya to assist in giving effect to this policy. The fellowships and scholarships abroad granted by TAA have been of great value to Libya in its efforts to build up an efficient administration; so far sixty-eight such scholarships have been granted in the field of public administration by TAA.

#### Economics and statistics

48. Shortly before Libya received its independence, the United Nations assigned an expert to conduct a preliminary survey of the country's economic situation. This survey was followed up by a team of United Nations experts, headed by a chief economist, who carried out more detailed surveys in several fields and submitted reports on their findings. The main substance of each expert's report was incorporated in an over-all report prepared by the chief economist, on the economic and social development of Libya. The reports of this team have been of material value to the Government and to all who have subsequently been engaged

Table 6

ALLOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS 1952-1953 TO 1957-1958

OTHER PROJECTS

(In thousands of Libyan pounds)

Project group	1952-1953 to 1955-1956	1956-1957	1957-1958	TOTALS
Government buildings and equipment	360	679	34	1,073
Housing and resettlement	61	131	-	192
Antiquities	4	14	3	21
Tourism	25	10	-	35
Economic survey	-	-	107	107
Special projects	-	25	100	125
National Bank of Libya	700	-	-	700
National Agricultural Bank	500	500	-	1,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>1,359</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>3,253</b>

PART II

41. In the first part of this report a broad description has been given of the efforts being made to promote the economic and social development of Libya, together with an outline of the circumstances of the country which have justified these activities. In this, the second part, a fuller account is given of the particular role played by the United Nations specialized agencies in the more recent economic and social development of Libya.

42. The technical assistance provided by the United Nations to Libya covers a very wide field and experts from the several United Nations agencies are giving invaluable aid in almost every aspect of the country's development. For the most part these experts serve in an advisory capacity, but in several cases they have also been required to assume executive responsibilities within the Libyan Government where this is made necessary by the non-availability of appropriately qualified Libyan personnel. A number of United Nations experts have also been assigned to Libya to carry out specialist investigations in some of the fields where basic information is most urgently required. Financial assistance for the country's development needs is not, of course, provided by the United Nations, although in a few instances the United Nations agencies do provide limited amounts of equipment and supplies; many United Nations technical assistance projects in Libya are therefore supported by funds provided by the Government and received under bilateral agreements for economic aid.

43. Because of Libya's lack of trained personnel the country's dependence upon external sources for expert knowledge and advice is very great. To educate and train Libyans for technical and professional posts will still take several years, and a further substantial period must elapse before they can acquire the experience necessary to take over from the technical assistance experts and expatriate officials whose positions they are eventually to occupy. For this reason, and because the process of development in a country so scantily provided with natural resources is of necessity slow, the majority of United Nations technical assistance projects in Libya have been long-term projects which have already been in operation for several years and which will require to be continued for some time to come. The continuation of Libya's economic growth

/... (

and social improvement depends in fact upon the continuation of United Nations and other external aid until Libya itself will be able to provide the necessary trained personnel.

44. Details of the technical assistance activities of the United Nations agencies in Libya are given in the paragraphs which follow. These activities have proved to be of the utmost value to Libya, and the fact that so many of the presently operating projects represent activities which have continued for a number of years is sufficient proof of their usefulness and the Libyan Government's desire for their continuation. The Government and people of Libya are well aware of the extent of the assistance which has been, and is being, rendered by the United Nations, and rely on the continuation of this support in their own efforts to accelerate the country's economic growth and improve living standards.

#### Public administration

45. In the field of public administration experts of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration (TAA) have made a survey of the work of the Federal Government and the three Provincial Administrations and have submitted recommendations for increasing administrative efficiency: these have been acted upon or are under consideration, and one of the TAA experts remains in Libya to assist in the implementation of recommendations approved by the Government. Libya now has a uniform Civil Service Law and Regulations for the four administrations and the co-operation of the Provinces is being sought in the adoption of standard financial regulations and accounting instructions which are already in use in the Federal Government: a uniform Pensions Law has also been passed. The suggested legislation which would govern the administrative responsibilities of the Federal Government has not yet been finally determined, but the general principle involved has been accepted by the Council of Ministers.

46. Through its projects for the training of young Libyans for the public service, the TAA is making a substantial contribution to the improvement of the Federal and Provincial Administrations. In January 1957, the accountancy and bookkeeping course for government employees, which had run successfully for three years, and from which seventy-nine officials had graduated, was merged into a newly created School of Public Administration. This School, now in its second year, provides

instruction at the intermediate level in public administration and related and subsidiary subjects for officials of the Federal and Provincial Administrations: it is hoped to add additional courses at a higher level in the future. The staff of the school is provided entirely by TAA. The recommendations of the experts to introduce an in-service training scheme within departments and to organize evening courses for officials in commercial subjects have been approved by the Government, but for several reasons it has not yet been possible to proceed with them. The Government is particularly anxious to establish evening instructional classes in technical and commercial subjects so that these efficiency courses may be available to Libyan employees in commerce and industry as well as to government officials. For the most part buildings and equipment are available, but assistance is being sought in providing an expert for planning and supervising the work as well as in financing the payment of instructors. An expert in organization and methods is shortly to be assigned to Libya by TAA and will train Libyans employed in the public service in this special work.

47. The Government has recently established a Supervisory Council for Training which will report on training matters to the Civil Service Committee. It has also decided that, in future, overseas scholarships and fellowships will be mainly restricted to senior officials and that all other training will be carried out in Libya as far as is practicable; the Government has asked all international organizations operating in Libya to assist in giving effect to this policy. The fellowships and scholarships abroad granted by TAA have been of great value to Libya in its efforts to build up an efficient administration; so far sixty-eight such scholarships have been granted in the field of public administration by TAA.

#### Economics and statistics

48. Shortly before Libya received its independence, the United Nations assigned an expert to conduct a preliminary survey of the country's economic situation. This survey was followed up by a team of United Nations experts, headed by a chief economist, who carried out more detailed surveys in several fields and submitted reports on their findings. The main substance of each expert's report was incorporated in an over-all report prepared by the chief economist, on the economic and social development of Libya. The reports of this team have been of material value to the Government and to all who have subsequently been engaged



in the development of Libya; the proposals for a development plan which were included in the report of the chief economist were utilized in the formulation of Libya's first five-year capital development programme.

49. Since the establishment of the United Nations technical assistance mission in Libya, the office of Deputy Resident Representative has been combined with that of Chief Economist and there has thus been continuity in the over-all economic review of the country and its development. In addition to his responsibilities in advising the Resident Representative on the preparation and co-ordination of the United Nations agencies programme of activities and acting as economic adviser to the Government and the Mission, the Chief Economist has, for the past two years, served as Director of the Development Council, an arrangement which has worked most satisfactorily. A TAA economist is at present in Libya on a short-term assignment as economic adviser to the National Bank: he is assisting in the setting-up of a research department for the Bank and in preparing for the visit of the Bank team which is to carry out an economic survey of Libya.

50. A study of Libyan requirements for statistical services was made by a TAA expert in 1952, and in 1953 a Statistics and Census Law was passed. From that time a statistician has been with the United Nations Mission and has served as Director of the Government's Central Statistics Office. In addition to its routine functions of preparing trade and balance of payments statistics and compiling other series for monthly publication, the Office is gradually extending the field of its operations so as to bring under review data essential to the study of Libya's economic problems: a census of employment in urban areas has recently been taken and preparations for an agricultural census in 1960 are being made in collaboration with the FAO agricultural statistician. The Central Statistics Office also provides training facilities for government officials, and its own staff is being trained in the operation of mechanical equipment recently supplied by the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission. A number of United Nations fellowships have been awarded and have been of value in helping to build up the statistical service.

51. The organization of vital statistics in Libya was also the subject of a report submitted by a TAA expert in 1951: this expert subsequently directed the taking of a population census in 1954. The compilation and analysis of the

census results is now finished and it is expected that the final report will be available later this year. The organization of other branches of vital statistics may be undertaken subsequently.

52. The study of public finance and taxation has been a continuing feature of United Nations technical assistance to Libya. An early report related to public finance in the period 1944-1951. Several studies of Libya's balance of payments covered the years 1947-1950 and 1951, 1952, 1953; this series has since been continued by the Central Statistics Office under the direction of the TAA expert serving as its Director. A further survey of land tax and land rights was made in 1953 to provide the factual basis for the future revision of both agricultural and income tax systems; the preparatory work was continued in 1954 and proposals submitted for revising the income tax and agricultural taxation legislation.

#### Industry and transport

53. Because Libya's industrial growth is as yet in the earliest stages, the Government has particularly appreciated the services of those United Nations experts who have investigated problems connected with the improvement or development of public utilities, transport, industry and minerals.

54. In 1952, a TAA expert made a study of electric power production and distribution and prepared a report on the role of electric power in the economic development of Libya. During the two subsequent years, a second expert reported on some of the questions involved in the modernization and improvement of the power production and transmission system in Tripolitania. As recorded above, the Government is now undertaking a very substantial programme for the expansion of the Tripoli plant and its associated distribution system, and a number of lesser power projects have been completed or are in progress.

55. Libya's central position in North Africa indicates that the country should be equipped with first class airports and auxiliary services to meet the needs of international, trans-African and internal airlines. This objective has largely been achieved and has materially benefited from United Nations assistance. In 1954, an expert from the International Civil Aviation Organization prepared a draft Civil Aviation Law and, in connexion with it, an Arabic-English Lexicon of civil aviation terminology which has been of considerable assistance to the

/...

in the development of Libya; the proposals for a development plan which were included in the report of the chief economist were utilized in the formulation of Libya's first five-year capital development programme.

49. Since the establishment of the United Nations technical assistance mission in Libya, the office of Deputy Resident Representative has been combined with that of Chief Economist and there has thus been continuity in the over-all economic review of the country and its development. In addition to his responsibilities in advising the Resident Representative on the preparation and co-ordination of the United Nations agencies programme of activities and acting as economic adviser to the Government and the Mission, the Chief Economist has, for the past two years, served as Director of the Development Council, an arrangement which has worked most satisfactorily. A TAA economist is at present in Libya on a short-term assignment as economic adviser to the National Bank: he is assisting in the setting-up of a research department for the Bank and in preparing for the visit of the Bank team which is to carry out an economic survey of Libya.

50. A study of Libyan requirements for statistical services was made by a TAA expert in 1952, and in 1953 a Statistics and Census Law was passed. From that time a statistician has been with the United Nations Mission and has served as Director of the Government's Central Statistics Office. In addition to its routine functions of preparing trade and balance of payments statistics and compiling other series for monthly publication, the Office is gradually extending the field of its operations so as to bring under review data essential to the study of Libya's economic problems: a census of employment in urban areas has recently been taken and preparations for an agricultural census in 1960 are being made in collaboration with the FAO agricultural statistician. The Central Statistics Office also provides training facilities for government officials, and its own staff is being trained in the operation of mechanical equipment recently supplied by the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission. A number of United Nations fellowships have been awarded and have been of value in helping to build up the statistical service.

51. The organization of vital statistics in Libya was also the subject of a report submitted by a TAA expert in 1951: this expert subsequently directed the taking of a population census in 1954. The compilation and analysis of the

census results is now finished and it is expected that the final report will be available later this year. The organization of other branches of vital statistics may be undertaken subsequently.

52. The study of public finance and taxation has been a continuing feature of United Nations technical assistance to Libya. An early report related to public finance in the period 1944-1951. Several studies of Libya's balance of payments covered the years 1947-1950 and 1951, 1952, 1953; this series has since been continued by the Central Statistics Office under the direction of the TAA expert serving as its Director. A further survey of land tax and land rights was made in 1953 to provide the factual basis for the future revision of both agricultural and income tax systems; the preparatory work was continued in 1954 and proposals submitted for revising the income tax and agricultural taxation legislation.

#### Industry and transport

53. Because Libya's industrial growth is as yet in the earliest stages, the Government has particularly appreciated the services of those United Nations experts who have investigated problems connected with the improvement or development of public utilities, transport, industry and minerals.

54. In 1952, a TAA expert made a study of electric power production and distribution and prepared a report on the role of electric power in the economic development of Libya. During the two subsequent years, a second expert reported on some of the questions involved in the modernization and improvement of the power production and transmission system in Tripolitania. As recorded above, the Government is now undertaking a very substantial programme for the expansion of the Tripoli plant and its associated distribution system, and a number of lesser power projects have been completed or are in progress.

55. Libya's central position in North Africa indicates that the country should be equipped with first class airports and auxiliary services to meet the needs of international, trans-African and internal airlines. This objective has largely been achieved and has materially benefited from United Nations assistance. In 1954, an expert from the International Civil Aviation Organization prepared a draft Civil Aviation Law and, in connexion with it, an Arabic-English Lexicon of civil aviation terminology which has been of considerable assistance to the

/...

government services concerned. To provide the meteorological services which are essential to the operation of air traffic through Libya, the Government has an agreement with the World Meteorological Organization under which that Organization makes available an expert who serves as Director of the Meteorological Service. Many difficulties have been encountered, but the Government is pleased indeed that it is able to provide a satisfactory meteorological service to meet the needs of international aviation operating through Libya and also the climatological needs of the Government, agriculture, industry and the general public. For some time, a WMO assistant was serving with the Director, and an instructor in meteorology is at present training overseas under a United Nations scholarship. With regard to ports and harbours, in 1955 a TAA expert prepared draft legislation for their administration.

56. The search for mineral deposits is of great importance to Libya, which at present has no known commercially exploitable mineral reserve. Most of the current exploration work is connected with the very considerable efforts now being made by private exploration companies to find petroleum deposits in the country. The Government's Petroleum Commission maintains supervision over the entire field of exploration and, to assist it, TAA has recently assigned an adviser on technical matters to the Commission. Earlier, TAA had provided an expert to conduct a general survey of Libya's geology and mineral potential and another to make a more detailed geological study of an area in Tripolitania. The possibility of mineral salts extraction in Libya, especially from the carnallite deposits occurring in Cyrenaica, was studied by another TAA expert.

#### Agriculture

57. During 1950 and 1951, a number of experts were assigned to Libya in connexion with the economic surveys of the country made at that time; their primary task was to study Libyan agriculture and to recommend appropriate measures which should be taken to further its development. As a result of the recommendations contained in the reports of this group, further experts were assigned to Libya to advise and assist the Government in developing its agricultural resources. Since 1952, a total of thirty-two FAO experts have served in Libya; in addition, six consultants have been to Libya for short periods to advise on specific subjects, and six assistant experts have been provided by the Netherlands and Swiss Governments under bilateral arrangements through FAO.

/...

58. Whilst at first there was some difficulty in finding technically qualified Libyan counterparts to work with the FAO experts, the position has been materially improved since 1952. First, Libyan agricultural officials have been trained locally and eighteen of these have been sent abroad on FAO fellowships for further training. Secondly, the Government has filled some agricultural posts by appointing Libyans who have graduated in agriculture at overseas universities. During the last two years the first ten of these graduates have returned to Libya; five of them are now in government services while the other five have been sent to the United States for post-graduate training under the United States technical assistance programme. The two agricultural vocational training schools have also helped in solving the problem of the shortage of junior Libyan personnel. The employment of a considerable number of assisting personnel has been financed from supporting funds provided by the Public Development and Stabilization Agency and in this way many young Libyans have received training from FAO experts.

59. FAO experts have often assumed of necessity more responsibility for the implementation of projects than is customary in technical assistance assignments. This acceptance of unusual responsibility by the experts was recognized as a temporary arrangement by both the Government and FAO, and it was understood that the Government would assume full responsibility as rapidly as possible.

60. There is close consultation and co-operation between FAO and the Libyan-American Agricultural and Natural Resources Joint Service so as to ensure a co-ordinated agricultural programme and to avoid duplication of efforts. The over-all responsibility, as far as FAO is concerned, for co-operation and co-ordination with the United States programme is one of the duties of the FAO Country Representative, whose other work consists in advising the Government on general agricultural matters, assisting the Government in shaping the FAO technical assistance programme in the best possible way, supervising and guiding the activities of the FAO experts and participating in the work of various committees in the field of agriculture. The FAO Country Representative also maintains close working relations with the Development Council which, on the Government side, is responsible for the co-ordination of the work of the Libyan and external development agencies.

/...

61. From the outset it had been appreciated that one of the first steps necessary for the development of Libyan agriculture was the rehabilitation of the experimental stations and gardens established throughout Libya, which had fallen into disrepair and disuse during the war years. This work has been carried out and an extensive agronomy and horticultural experimental programme put into operation. The main accomplishments of the FAO agronomists have been in improving the varieties of the major annual crops grown in Libya and multiplying and distributing to farmers those varieties which proved to be the best under a seed distribution scheme, plans for the expansion of which are under consideration. Successful experiments have also been carried out in cultivation methods best suited to different crops and in types and dosages of fertilizers.

62. Several species of fruit trees thrive very well under conditions prevailing in the Libyan coastal zones, provided that suitable varieties are chosen and suitable cultivation methods are practised. The two FAO horticulture experts assigned to Libya have assisted in the rehabilitation of the horticulture experimental stations and fruit tree nurseries. As practically all the records had been destroyed in the war, most of the earlier experimental work had to be repeated: fruit tree stock was imported for experimentation and for propagation in the nurseries. Since 1955 more than 350,000 improved fruit trees have been distributed throughout Libya in co-operation with the agricultural extension services. An extensive olive tree pruning demonstration and training campaign has been carried out and other improved fruit tree cultivation practices, particularly in the field of soil and water conservation have been successfully demonstrated to farmers.

63. The date palm is an important fruit tree in Libya, where dates form the staple diet of a large part of the population. A date specialist provided by FAO paid particular attention to the processing and marketing of dates during the first years of his assignment. In 1953, FAO presented the Libyan Government with an experimental dehydration plant for dates and, after two years of successful trials, the Government decided to establish a date processing and packing factory. About 600 tons of dates are now going into the Government's school feeding programme, and first experiments with the introduction of fancy-packed Libyan dates to the European market have been encouraging. Meanwhile, new uses are

/...

being sought for the low quality coastal dates: experiments with making date syrup have been very successful, and the Government is now considering the early establishment of a plant for its production. The date expert and his Dutch assistant are now able to give more time to production and internal marketing, particularly to the establishment of two date varietal test stations.

64. In Libya, as elsewhere, plant diseases and pests cause much damage to crops, and the plant protection expert has made a study of those most common in Libya. An extensive programme of experiments, demonstrations and assistance to farmers has been initiated and still continues. Spraying by the plant protection teams in Tripolitania, under the supervision of the FAO expert, has resulted in a marked increase in the quantity and the quality of the treated crops. Treatment tests have been carried out in storehouses for agricultural produce and in grain silos. The expert has prepared a draft Phytosanitary Law, which is now under consideration by the Government, and has also been instrumental in the creation of a plant protection co-operative society of fruit growers.

65. Sheep husbandry is one of the mainstays of Libya's rural economy and, upon the recommendation of the FAO sheep breeding expert, the Government has established two sheep breeding and experimental stations. At these stations a breeding policy was introduced aiming at the general upgrading of the sheep flocks, with particular emphasis on the quality of the wool. The results have been encouraging; the improved flocks show a general increase in body size and in weight, length and quality of the wool. More than 300 improved rams have now been distributed by the two centres to sheep farmers on a loan basis. Improved methods of sheep husbandry have been introduced at the stations and successfully demonstrated to farmers throughout Libya.

66. Because of the importance of animal husbandry in Cyrenaica, the Government asked FAO for an expert to assist in improving the veterinary services and to train local technicians in improved veterinary methods. The expert is now at work in Cyrenaica. Equipment for a central laboratory in Benghazi and for six mobile field units has already been purchased and suitable laboratory space has been provided; as soon as the central laboratory has been established the training of local technicians will start.



67. As with animal husbandry, the flaying and curing of hides and skins deserve close attention if farmers are to secure adequate returns. FAO has, at the Government's request, provided an expert to assist in the improvement of these techniques. Improved techniques have been demonstrated and introduced, and a committee of Government officials, curers and exporters has been established to review the various recommendations made by the experts and to advise on ways and means of putting them into effect. A law regulating flaying in slaughterhouse in Tripolitania has been introduced and an inspector has been appointed for the inspection of slaughterhouses, checking, grading and inspecting consignments of hides and skins for export from Tripoli. The distribution of cheap denatured salt for curing has been arranged for remote areas. All those improvements have led to a better quality of hides and skins, and thus to an increased export value. The expert is giving special attention to the tanning industry, and improved techniques are being demonstrated in local small tanneries. Plans have been prepared for the establishment of a medium-size modern tannery which could also serve as a training centre.

68. Realizing that improved modern farm machinery is an important means of increasing agricultural production, particularly by expanding the cultivated area, the Government set aside funds in the Exceptional Budget for the purchase, maintenance and operation of heavy farm machinery and small farm implements. This equipment is to be demonstrated, loaned or hired, and in appropriate cases sold, to farmers or farmers' associations. FAO and a private Swiss organization have provided experts for the selection of the right type of equipment and to advise and assist on the implementation of the project. A successful start has already been made with the demonstration and distribution of small farm implements: large numbers of different types of heavy farm machinery have recently arrived and will shortly be put into operation.

69. The Government is giving attention to promoting the establishment of agricultural co-operatives and has adopted a Co-operative Societies Law, co-operative regulations and model by-laws drafted by the two FAO experts who have assisted in this field. Co-operative control services have been established in Tripolitania and in Cyrenaica and it is expected that action in the Fezzan will follow shortly. Several agricultural co-operatives sponsored by the FAO

experts have already been set up and two Libyans have been sent abroad on short-term fellowships in co-operatives.

70. FAO has assisted Libya in locating additional overseas outlets for agricultural produce and in improving internal processing and marketing conditions by assigning a marketing expert to advise the Government. The expert was instrumental in the setting up of associations of farmers, traders and government officials concerned with the production and marketing of citrus fruits, groundnuts and other agricultural products. They have introduced modern grading machinery and packing techniques and have made compulsory well-defined export standards. These improvements have resulted in better export marketing conditions and in a marked increase in the value of the exports. The establishment of four modern olive oil plants, operated by co-operatives, in the Tripolitanian Gebel has been sponsored by the expert. On the basis of the expert's proposals, and with the advice of a FAO cold storage expert, the Government has decided to modernize the abattoirs in Tripoli and Benghazi and to instal a chilling annex to each; it also hopes to establish multi-purpose cold storage plants in both towns.

71. The availability of statistical data for crops and livestock is a prerequisite to sound agricultural planning. FAO experts have assisted in organizing agricultural statistical offices and a system of collecting data, which will in part overcome the lack of reliable statistics. One expert served from 1952 to 1954 in Tripolitania, where the nucleus of an agricultural statistical service was set up and initial training was given to staff. In 1956 another expert was assigned to Cyrenaica, where he has organized an Agricultural Statistical Service. Much attention has been given to a thorough training of Libyan personnel.

72. Libya is unfortunately very poor in forests and other natural vegetation and their improvement is not easy in a country with climatic and soil conditions such as Libya's. FAO forestry advisers have been assigned to Libya to advise the Government on the administration of forest services and on forest policy: their reports and recommendations are a guide to forest policy in Libya for the present and for some years to come. The experts have prepared draft forest laws for Tripolitania and Cyrenaica, the first of which has now been enacted. They have

also drafted a Federal Forest Law and a Soil and Water Conservation Law which are now under consideration by the Government. The experts have prepared a plan of management for the esparto areas, and a start has been made with putting it into operation. Esparto grass is one of the main export commodities of Libya. Improved techniques for sand dune fixation, experimental plantings in arid areas, and planting trials have been successfully introduced by the experts who have also spent some time on ecological studies. They have paid much attention to training of forestry personnel: eight FAO fellowships and one British Council scholarship have been awarded to Libyans since 1953.

73. Two nutrition experts have served in Libya: the first was concerned mainly with advising and assisting in the operation of the school feeding programme which is financed by the Government, the United Nations Children's Fund and CARE; the second, who recently ended his short assignment, carried out a nutrition survey amongst different population groups, including school children.

Investigations carried out by two FAO fisheries experts have indicated that there are good possibilities for developing Libya's sea fisheries industry, which is at present very limited in size and does not use modern methods. FAO experts have also worked in Libya on special assignments including dairy industry, fruit and vegetable cannery, settlement planning, farm management and range management. The work done by these experts and their reports and recommendations constitute a useful guide and basis for future government agricultural policy.

#### Education

74. The largest among the many educational projects which the United Nations assists in Libya is the Technical and Clerical Training Centre in Tripoli. The Centre was established in 1951 as a joint project of the Federal Government and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, but since 1953 the technical assistance has been provided by the International Labour Organisation: it is administered by the Tripolitanian Nazara of Education. The original primary purpose of the Centre was to help in meeting the deficiency of qualified technical and clerical personnel in the Libyan administrative and public services but, in addition to providing skilled workers and trained clerks for the government service, the Centre aims to provide similar workers for private

/...

enterprise as soon as the Government's needs have been satisfied. The Centre also trains vocational teachers for service in Libya generally and particularly to replace those at the Centre who have been brought from abroad.

75. In the technical section of the Centre three-year courses for primary school entrants are provided in engineering trades, carpentry, car maintenance and repairs and domestic electricity. For entrants with preparatory-secondary school certificates, there is also a four-year course for mechanical draughtsmen. In the clerical section, three-year courses in secretarial and clerical work, bookkeeping and typing are given to primary school entrants and there is a three-year course in advanced bookkeeping for preparatory-secondary school entrants. Both sections offer five year courses in vocational teacher training.

76. More than 300 students are at present at the Centre; since 1952 some 340 students have successfully completed their studies and have entered government service, banks and public and private companies. A further 100 students who failed to graduate have nevertheless been able to utilize the skills acquired in their two or three years at the Centre. There has been little or no difficulty in placing graduates and no clerical section graduate once placed has had to return to the Centre for assistance in finding another post.

77. When the Centre was first established, the expert and teaching staff were perforce almost wholly provided by the technical assistance agencies. Marked progress has been achieved in replacing the international staff with Libyan teachers and today sixteen out of the total of thirty-seven teachers are Libyans. However, the rewards obtainable elsewhere by those possessing the skills obtained at the Centre reduce the numbers of trained Libyan instructors available to the Centre.

78. The UNESCO Mission in Libya provides technical assistance for most aspects of the educational programme. Its most important activity is the educational training and textbook production project which, in addition to providing advice to the Government on general educational matters, has assisted in setting up the teacher training colleges for men and women in Tripoli and in selecting and training teachers for them. The experts assigned to the project provide lecture courses at the training colleges, assist in the redrafting of college and school syllabi and in the setting of examination papers for the colleges and

secondary and preparatory schools. They also assist in the production and provision of the necessary textbooks, educational materials and teaching aids. A related project provides two instructors who organize courses for teachers in handicrafts and arts and crafts. The activities of the UNESCO experts are not confined to term-time: vacation courses are held to raise the standards of teachers in many subjects, and attention is paid by all members of the mission to the training of Libyans to replace them when their assignments to Libya end.

79. In Cyrenaica, UNESCO has recently opened a Fundamental Education Centre which provides a means for overcoming illiteracy and where instruction is given in farm work and physical education. Visiting experts also give lectures on specialized subjects. The students are enrolled from villages, and are encouraged to depend upon themselves so that they may be able to accept responsibility in the villages where they will work. It is intended that the Centre should become a base for a number of smaller part-time establishments which it will provide with books and materials for adult education and combatting illiteracy. One such experimental centre established in a Benghazi suburb has proved very successful. The Centre also provides physical training courses for teachers and supervises physical education in a number of schools. To enable the project to expand throughout Libya, a number of Libyans are sent each year to the Arab States Fundamental Education Centre on UNESCO scholarship grants.

80. In the southern desert province of Fezzan, UNESCO operates a number of adult education and fundamental education centres, supplemented by a small mobile cinema unit. These centres are widely spread and continuous communication with them is difficult. Apart from adult education and literacy training, instruction is given in other subjects such as gardening, local crafts and recreation. The centres are provided with the necessary books, tools and equipment and with radio receivers. They provide instruction in hygiene and social guidance and serve as meeting places for the local population where instructional films are shown and social problems discussed. A number of Fezzanese have received training to act as instructors at these centres.

81. As a result of a survey conducted in 1956 by an ILO expert, a second ILO expert has been assigned to Libya to advise and assist the Government in the development of handicrafts in the Fezzan: he works in conjunction with the

/...

fundamental education centres and is supported by a mobile cinema and library. A woman specialist in fundamental education has been assigned by UNESCO to assist in the education of women in the Fezzan. A building has been provided in Sebha for the project and some forty-five women receive instruction there in hygiene, child care and sewing. The expert also undertakes visits to the villagers in their homes to give them guidance and instruction.

82. Throughout Tripolitania and Cyrenaica, a number of centres have been established for the training of Libyan women teachers to work in kindergartens. Instruction is given by UNESCO women experts in modern methods of child care and education and in the production of teaching aids; the instructors so trained can pass on their knowledge and methods to teachers in the kindergartens. As a part of this project, model centres have been opened for the improvement of educational standards in girls' elementary schools.

83. To further educational activities in Libya in general and to assist in the work of the mission, an audio-visual expert assigned by UNESCO is engaged in the production of films, filmstrips and school equipment. This work is carried on in close co-operation with the experts of the United States Operations Mission in Libya who are engaged in similar activities. The UNESCO expert also trains Libyan assistants in audio-visual work and has produced a number of films for the use of other United Nations experts.

84. Under its participation programme and at the request of the Government, UNESCO has supplied three experts to give advice on the establishment of a national broadcasting service. Both a senior adviser and a technical adviser have been made available for this project. In addition, UNESCO has made available experts in the restoration of sculptures and frescoes to conduct training courses so that due care can be given to Libya's many and valuable antiquities.

#### Health and welfare

85. One of the earliest projects of the World Health Organization in Libya was to make a survey of the state of public health in the country and submit a report and recommendations to the Government to assist it in planning its public health programme. Subsequently WHO, and later UNICEF, activities have been related to these findings; latterly, they have been directed in large part towards the training of Libyan men and women for work in the country's health services.

86. A joint project by WHO and UNICEF provided for a country-wide campaign against tuberculosis, in which BCG vaccine was used for immunization to reduce the incidence of the disease in children and young adults. The project included the training of Libyan staff in vaccination and testing and, on completion of the mass immunization campaign, the work was continued by the local staff under the leadership of WHO experts. WHO has recently sent a team to conduct a malaria survey in Libya and has assigned a tuberculosis expert to advise in the initial stages of a tuberculosis survey.

87. The training projects of WHO and UNICEF are centred on four establishments. The most recently introduced project is the Nursing School in Tripoli which was opened in August 1957. The school was built and equipped by Libyan Government development funds while the teaching staff and teaching equipment are provided by WHO with two Libyan nursing instructors to complete the staff. "Practice areas" have been allocated in the provincial hospital in Tripoli and have been supplied with technical equipment by UNICEF, whilst the wards in which they are located have been rehabilitated and improved. The school provides accommodation for sixty nursing and assistant nursing students and represents a major step towards meeting the shortage of trained staff to operate the medical service.

88. In Benghazi also, a medical training centre was opened last year: the Government, with assistance from WHO and UNICEF, established a Medical Assistants and Sanitarians Institute which will provide trained staff for ambulatoria and to assist in the development of environmental sanitation. Some fifty students were enrolled in the first year for either the three-year course for medical assistants or the one-year course for sanitarians. WHO is providing senior staff and some equipment for the institute.

89. Medical training is also given at the two Maternal and Child Health Centres which WHO and UNICEF have helped the Government to set up in Tripoli and Benghazi. Teaching staff and nurses for the Centres are provided by WHO, whilst UNICEF supplies special equipment for the practical work at the Centres and the Government supplies drugs and vaccines. The two Centres give training to Libyan district midwives now practising in the country and who are attached to health centres in the rural areas: they also provide refresher courses for nursing staff. Equally important is the instruction and assistance given to mothers at the Centres: modern methods in the care of mothers and children and the promotion of their health are demonstrated both at the Centres and in homes.

90. WHO has also conducted training courses for health educators and for home visitors and has provided over twenty-fellowships to enable young Libyans to study medicine, sanitation, health education and laboratory technique overseas.

91. A number of projects in the field of social security and welfare, have been initiated by the ILO and other agencies and have contributed to the improvement of social and labour conditions in Libya. Draft legislation for a social insurance scheme was prepared by an ILO expert in 1954, and in 1956 the expert returned to Libya for further consultations with the Government. The law came into effect early in the following year and the expert again returned to Libya to assist in its implementation and the organization of the social insurance institute which has been set up to administer the scheme. Additional experts have been, or are being, provided by the ILO to assist in various specialized aspects of the training of personnel to serve in the institute. The social insurance legislation will be a major contribution to the improvement of working conditions in Libya: it is complemented by the new labour code which has also been prepared with the help and advice of an ILO expert.

92. A preliminary survey of the need for new housing, particularly low-cost housing, was carried out by a TAA expert in 1956. The survey also covered the resources available to Libya to provide for these needs and was the basis for recommendations to the Government upon which a housing policy could be formulated. The survey was followed up in 1957 by the assignment of another TAA expert to make a more detailed study of housing problems, more especially the design and construction of low-cost houses, utilizing locally-available materials and inexpensive building methods. The preliminary reports of this expert indicate that it should be possible to build houses for the poorer people of better design and at lower cost than hitherto.

#### Co-ordination

93. The activities of the United Nations agencies in Libya are many and diverse: the responsibility for the over-all co-ordination of these programmes and projects is vested in the Resident Representative of the Technical Assistance Board, who acts as the channel of communication with the Government, particularly in policy matters and in the formulation of the country programme and the

/...



presentation of requests for United Nations assistance. In consultation with the Government and the representatives of the United Nations agencies in Libya, he co-ordinates and prepares the country programmes and plans the requests to TAB for technical assistance. He maintains an over-all surveillance of all United Nations projects in Libya, and is responsible to TAB for the progress of the country programme as a whole. The Resident Representative is also responsible for processing applications for United Nations scholarships and fellowships.

94. In addition to his duties connected solely with the United Nations Programme of Technical Assistance, the Resident Representative acts as co-ordinator between that Programme and that of the United States Operations Mission and the development activities of the Libyan Government agencies. He also serves as adviser to the Development Council and to other Libyan development agencies and committees.

95. A small staff provided by TAB assists the Resident Representative and provides the necessary translation, administrative and secretarial services to enable the experts assigned to Libya to carry out their tasks efficiently. The central organizations, headed by the Resident Representative, has ensured co-ordination of the large number of varied projects undertaken by the United Nations agencies and has provided also for continuity of policy and action by the many experts assigned to the country.

96. The valuable work of the experts in their own fields has been set out above; the presence in Libya of this large team under the Resident Representative has made available to the Government a fund of advice and assistance which has been invaluable in the formulation of development policies. Libya seeks to show its appreciation by collaborating wholeheartedly with these experts and by itself making the efforts and sacrifices necessary to further the economic and social development of the country.

-----