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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO BURUNDI AND RWANDA

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

	Paragraph	Page
I. INTRODUCTION	1 - 2	2
II. IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS STARTED IN 1962	3 - 19	2
(a) Common services	6 - 9	3
(b) Development and training of security forces	10 - 13	4
(c) Experts in public administration	14	5
(d) Road repair	15 - 17	5
(e) Construction of public and residential buildings	18 - 19	6
III. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PROJECTS SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION	20 - 22	6
IV. OTHER ASSISTANCE	23 - 29	7
(a) United Nations, the specialized agencies and the Technical Assistance Board	23 - 26	7
(b) World Food Programme	27	8
(c) Bilateral assistance	28	8
(d) Multilateral assistance	29	8
V. CONCLUSION	30 - 31	8
Expert posts established in the 1963 programme of technical assistance for Burundi and Rwanda	Annex	

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 1836 (XVII) of 18 December 1962 entitled "Technical Assistance to Burundi and Rwanda", which requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly, at its eighteenth session, on its implementation.
2. It will be recalled that the General Assembly adopted resolution 1836 (XVII) after considering the report of the Secretary-General on the need for technical and economic assistance to Burundi and Rwanda.^{1/} The present report records actual assistance being given during 1963 under the regular budget of the United Nations, including the Operational and Executive Personnel Programme (OPEX), the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance of the United Nations (EPTA) and the United Nations Special Fund. The distinction made in the resolution between projects started in 1962 and new projects is observed in the present progress report.

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS STARTED IN 1962

3. Under operative paragraph 1 of the resolution, the Secretary-General was authorized to continue the projects started in 1962. These projects, mentioned in the report to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session,^{2/} are:
 - (a) Common services: eight experts, eight fellowships and some equipment;
 - (b) Development and training of security forces;
 - (c) Two experts in public administration;
 - (d) Road repair;
 - (e) Construction of public and residential buildings.
4. The General Assembly, in authorizing the Secretary-General to proceed with the implementation of the above-mentioned projects, gave two directives pertaining to the methods of financing. In the first instance the Secretary-General was requested, in consultation with the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) and the specialized agencies concerned, where necessary, to seek means, under all

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda items 12, 40, 41 and 78, document A/5283.

2/ Ibid., paras. 74 and 75.

appropriate existing technical programmes, to obtain allocations of funds sufficient to execute projects for which funds had not yet been allocated.

5. Secondly, the Secretary-General was authorized, in the light of the preceding, and as an exceptional procedure, to incur, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, expenses necessary to ensure the execution of these projects, to the extent that other resources were not available, up to an amount of \$200,000. This authority was granted having in mind specifically the requirements for 1963 of the project for the development and training of security forces, which does not lend itself to being financed, under existing policies, either from EPTA or regular technical assistance funds. Moreover, the Secretary-General, in requesting the funds, certified that no other resources from a national Government or other origin were available, and that those conditions were not likely to alter in the foreseeable future.

(a) Common services

6. The Agreement on Economic Union concluded by the Governments of Burundi and Rwanda^{3/} calls for the establishment of common services for which eight experts, eight fellowships and some equipment were requested by Burundi and Rwanda.

7. Subsequently the two Governments agreed, at the first meeting of the Council of the Economic Union, held in April 1963, on the maintenance of the monetary union and the Bank of Issue, the customs services and the Coffee Board (OCIRU). There is at present no common service to administer the taxes; the Governments agreed that subsequent agreements were required in order to avoid double taxation.

8. At the same time, however, the dissolution of common services in the fields of aviation, meteorology, water and electric power supply, telecommunications, import and export licences, and statistics, was decided upon.

9. Up to now it has been found warranted to make five experts available for the common services. Four of them, namely an economic adviser and advisers on customs administration, on meteorology and on civil aviation, are being financed under EPTA from the Contingency Funds (WCRF) of the Executive Chairman of TAB. The other is an

^{3/} This Agreement was concluded at the Conference held at Addis Ababa under the auspices of the United Nations Commission on Ruanda-Urundi, established under General Assembly resolution 1743 (XVI) of 23 February 1962.

OPEX post provided from the funds of the United Nations regular technical assistance programme, for the President of the Bank of Issue under General Assembly resolution 1256 (XIII). In addition, the Executive Chairman of TAB has authorized under the Contingency Funds eight scholarships in air traffic control and six fellowships in meteorology, as well as the sum of \$8,500 for meteorological equipment.

(b) Development and training of security forces

10. In pursuance of operative paragraph 6 of the resolution, which set a ceiling of \$200,000 for this project for 1963, the Secretary-General sought and obtained the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to enter into commitments not exceeding \$122,300 to meet the expenses for the project on the development and training of security forces during that year, as no other resources materialized.

11. Accordingly, ten experts are at present being provided: one adviser on police matters for Rwanda; two police experts and seven experts on internal security force questions for Burundi. Furthermore, the Secretary-General informed the Advisory Committee of a request from Burundi to award six short-term fellowships to Burundi officers to take advantage of a two-week training visit to Nairobi, Kenya, on the invitation of the Government of Kenya. The funds requested for 1963 include these six fellowships estimated at \$2,300.

12. The Government of Burundi also submitted two requests for equipment and supplies valued at \$11,000 to be used in connexion with the development and training of security forces. After careful examination of the request it was decided by the Secretary-General that only some film equipment and supplies estimated at \$1,000 would be provided.

13. As provided for under operative paragraph 4 of the resolution and in the light of the Fifth Committee's report,^{4/} the Secretary-General has proposed in the budget estimates for the financial year 1964 (Section 12, Special expenses, chapter VI Technical Assistance to Burundi and Rwanda) provision for the continuance of this project in 1964 in the amount of \$100,000.

^{4/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda items 12, 40, 41 and 78, document A/5374.

(c) Experts in public administration

14. The programme authorized by the General Assembly provided for two experts in training in public administration, one for each country. It has not been found possible to provide these two experts, which were requested in addition to the two public administration posts already established under the regular technical assistance programme of the United Nations. Submission of a project to the Special Fund is at present under consideration; if approved, this project would reassemble the present efforts undertaken in public administration training and make provision for the two posts to be established.

(d) Road repair

15. Emergency repair measures in Burundi on the road between the capitals of the two countries, Usumbura and Kigali, were initiated in 1962 upon the request of the Government of Burundi. Resources for such emergency measures were provided under the terms of operative paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 1746 (XVI). Subsequently the General Assembly approved \$400,000 for this project in the understanding that the portion unspent in 1962 would remain available for the purpose throughout 1963 in a trust account.^{5/}

16. The regular technical assistance programme of the United Nations provided three experts to assist in the planning and execution of this project. Since 1 June 1963 only one expert remains in the field.

17. This project, which is further described in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session,^{6/} called for repairs, which, because of the limited funds available, can only be considered as provisional. By the end of the current month of September the funds made available for the project will most likely have been spent and United Nations financial assistance will, of necessity, end.

^{5/} See General Assembly resolution 1860 (XVII), paragraph 2.

^{6/} A/5283, paras. 50-54.

(e) Construction of public and residential buildings

18. Under the same authority and following the same procedure as that which obtained for the road repairs project described above, the Secretary-General initiated, at the request of the Government of Rwanda, the construction on an emergency basis of public and residential buildings. The General Assembly also approved an allocation of \$400,000 for this project with the same proviso that this allocation would remain available throughout 1963 in a trust fund account.^{7/}

19. The regular technical assistance programme of the United Nations provides one expert for this project to act as supervisor of the construction. The plans call for the construction of twenty-six houses and a postal administration building. Six houses were completed on 25 July and ten more will soon be finished. It is, however, not anticipated that the whole project can be completed by the end of 1963; the Secretary-General would intend, therefore, to use the funds allocated for this project beyond 31 December 1963.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PROJECTS SUBMITTED TO THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION

20. Under operative paragraph 2 of the resolution, the General Assembly invites Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies willing and in a position to do so to provide financial assistance to Burundi and Rwanda through the appropriate machinery available within the United Nations for receiving voluntary contributions, in order to assist in the financing of the following projects:

- (a) Teacher-training institutions;
- (b) Twenty-six teachers;
- (c) Agricultural education;
- (d) Community development;
- (e) Public health.

21. The Secretary-General, in a note verbale dated 18 April 1963, drew the attention of the Governments to the General Assembly's appeal for voluntary contributions. To date one pledge was made by the Government of Tunisia in the amount of \$2,000. No contributions have been received.

^{7/} See General Assembly resolution 1860 (XVII), paragraph 2.

22. The Special Fund received a request from the Government of Burundi for \$1,032,700 for assistance over a period of five years in a project on development of agricultural education. This request is receiving favourable consideration for possible inclusion in the Special Fund programme for 1964. It is the only one of the new projects submitted to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session which is at present being considered for possible implementation in the near future.

IV. OTHER ASSISTANCE

(a) United Nations, the specialized agencies and the
Technical Assistance Board

23. A total of ninety-one expert posts has been made available under the various programmes. Twenty hereof are for the implementation of specific programmes authorized by the General Assembly. A listing of all ninety-one expert posts is contained in the annex showing the field of activity for which each post was established.

24. Special mention should be made of ad hoc assistance given by the United Nations to the Government of Burundi to meet an emergency. On 23 March 1963 the Government of Burundi, through the TAB resident representative in Usumbura, drew attention to the exceptionally and dangerously high water level of Lake Tanganyika and recommended that, in view of the possibility that the water level might rise even higher, an international meeting comprising all countries surrounding Lake Tanganyika, namely Tanganyika, Rhodesia, the Republic of the Congo (Leopoldville) and Burundi, be held as soon as possible. A United Nations Adviser on Water Resources Development was immediately put at the disposal of the Government of Burundi.

25. The area was surveyed in the course of the month of April in co-operation with experts from the United Nations Civilian Operation in the Congo (ONUC) and the Governments of the Republic of the Congo and Burundi. It was concluded that the only thing that could be done immediately to lower the level of the lake would be to increase the discharge of the lake into the Lukuga River in the Republic of the Congo. It was estimated that the operation would take a year and would cost about \$500,000. This work has been started by the Government of the Republic of the Congo with the assistance of ONUC, but no effect will be felt before 1965.

26. The long-term solution which will involve joint action by the countries concerned will be dealt with in due course.

(b) World Food Programme

27. Burundi has submitted a request for assistance in the improvement and multiplication of corn for sowing purposes. Two requests have been made by Rwanda - one to assist secondary schools and the other to help in the relocation of peasants in view of improved land utilization.

(c) Bilateral assistance

28. Bilateral assistance is being given by Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, China and France, whilst Switzerland and the United States are considering granting aid. At present aid given by the United States and the USSR takes the form of fellowship grants.

(d) Multilateral assistance

29. An important assistance programme from the European Economic Community is under way, involving a combined total of some \$10 million. This assistance comprises projects in the following fields:

- (a) Surveys and research;
- (b) Agriculture;
- (c) Road construction;
- (d) Hospital and maternity clinic construction;
- (e) Upgrading of the Technical School in Usumbura (Burundi) and the Butare Agricultural College (Rwanda).

V. CONCLUSION

30. The Secretary-General is satisfied that the General Assembly's appeal for special consideration to the needs of Burundi and Rwanda had a significant impact on the level of assistance which it has been found possible to extend under EPTA and the regular technical assistance programmes of the United Nations. It need

hardly be pointed out that the number of expert posts assigned to these countries exceeds by far the normal quota allocated to other countries of comparable size. These gratifying results should, however, not obscure the obvious need for additional help.

31. While the level of assistance in 1964 provided for under the regular technical assistance programme of the United Nations and EPTA remains the same, the Secretary-General hopes that ways and means may be found to increase assistance from other sources.

ANNEX

Expert posts established in the 1963 programme of
technical assistance for Burundi and Rwanda

COMMON SERVICES (BURUNDI AND RWANDA)

Contingency authorizations by the Executive Chairman of TAB

UNTA

Economic adviser

Adviser in customs administration

WMO

Meteorology adviser

ICAO

Civil aviation adviser

Regular United Nations technical assistance programme

President of the Bank of Issue (OPEX)

Total, Common services

5 expert posts

BURUNDI

Section 12

United Nations regular budget

Adviser on internal security

Assistant to adviser on internal security

Training team leader

Junior officer

Junior officer

Junior officer

Junior officer

Police expert

Police expert

Section 18

Highway expert - road repair

Highway expert - road repair

Highway expert - road repair

Section 16

Public administration
Finance
Community development

UNESCO regular programme

Five secondary schoolteachers (OPEX)

WHO regular programme

National and child health adviser
National and child health nurse
Three general practitioners (OPEX)

Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

UNTA

Economic adviser
Geologist
Water resources development
Public finance accounting

ILO

Labour administration

FAO

Fisheries adviser
Rural engineer
Agricultural extension
Veterinarian
Chief of mission and agricultural extension also for Rwanda

UNESCO

Administration of private schools
Primary and secondary education

WHO

Public health adviser
Public health nurse
Sanitary engineer
Sanitary engineer
Technical assistant

Contingency authorizations by the Executive Chairman of TAB

UNESCO

Educator

Economist

Statistician

ILO

Employment information

Legislation

Total, Burundi

47 expert posts

RWANDA

United Nations regular budget

Section 12

Police expert

Section 16

Public administration

Finance

Section 18

Housing - construction of public and residential buildings

WHO regular programme

National and child health adviser

National and child health nurse

UNESCO regular programme (OPEX)

Five UNESCO secondary schoolteachers

Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

UNTA

Economic planning
Mining
Geologist
Electricity and transportation
Leather industry
Methane exploitation
Small scale industries
Tourism
Town planning
Municipal budgets

ILO

Labour administration

FAO

Veterinarian

UNESCO

Pedagogical research
Primary education
Vocational guidance
Educational administration
Mass media, rural population

WHO

Public health adviser
Sanitary Engineer
Public health nurse
Medical officer
TB control nurse
X-ray technician

ITU

Telecommunications adviser

Contingency authorizations by the Executive Chairman of TAB

UNESCO

Educator

Agricultural education

Economist

FAO

Soil survey

Total, Rwanda

39 expert posts

91 expert posts
