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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Australia, Fiji, New Zealand and Samoa:
draft resolution

Assistance to Tonga

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3421 (XXX) of 8 December 1975 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, in which it urged the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system to extend assistance to the newly independent and emerging States,

Recalling its resolutions 31/156 of 21 December 1976 and 32/185 of 19 December 1977, in which it urged all Governments, in particular those of the developed countries, to lend their support, in the context of their assistance programmes, for the implementation of the specific action envisaged in favour of developing island countries, and in which it also called upon all organizations in the United Nations system to implement, within their respective spheres of competence, appropriate specific actions in favour of developing island countries,

Recalling also its resolution 32/94 of 13 December 1977, entitled "Assistance to Tonga",

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/58 of 3 August 1978,

Recalling further resolutions 111 (V) and 117 (V) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, concerning special action related to the particular needs and problems of island developing countries and concerning the economic situation of Tonga,

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Taking into account the fact that the Committee for Development Planning has recommended that the present list of the least developed countries should stand until the end of the Second United Nations Development Decade and that the International Development Strategy for the third United Nations development decade has not yet been agreed upon,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Committee for Development Planning at its fourteenth session, in response to the application of Tonga for inclusion in the list of the least developed countries, that Tonga should be assisted during the remainder of the current decade, and that the special difficulties and upheavals experienced by Tonga require special measures of assistance,

Concerned at the continued structural imbalances in the economy of the country, particularly its overwhelming dependence on imports,

Taking into account the disadvantageous demographic and geographical features of Tonga - the small area and population, and the physical remoteness of the country - which pose special development problems,

Noting that, without good transport and communications links, any development will be difficult,

1. Calls the attention of the international community to the special problems confronting Tonga as a developing island country with a small population;

2. Calls upon Member States, in the light of the recommendation of the Committee for Development Planning and in accordance with the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development noted above, to consider granting to Tonga for the remainder of the current Development Decade the special assistance and benefits accorded to least developed countries and to give special consideration to the early inclusion of Tonga in their programmes of development assistance;

3. Invites the Economic and Social Council to request the Committee for Development Planning to consider, in the light of up-to-date data, including Tonga in the new list of the least developed countries which is to be established for the third development decade;

4. Appeals to Member States, regional and interregional organizations and other intergovernmental bodies to provide financial, material and technical assistance to Tonga to enable it to establish the social and economic infrastructure that is essential for the well-being of its people;

5. Invites the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of Tonga and to report their decisions to the Secretary-General by 15 August 1980;

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6. Requests the appropriate organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to maintain and increase their current and future programmes of assistance to Tonga and to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General in organizing an effective international programme of assistance, and to report periodically to him on the steps they have taken and the resources they have made available;

7. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Tonga;

(b) To establish a special account under the United Nations Trust Fund for Special Economic Assistance Programmes for the purpose of facilitating the channelling of contributions to Tonga and urges Member States to contribute generously to this account.

(c) To ensure that adequate financial and budgetary arrangements are made to continue the organization of the international assistance programme for Tonga and the mobilization of assistance;

(d) To keep the situation in Tonga under constant review, to maintain close contact with Member States, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies and international financial institutions concerned, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1980, of the current status of the special economic assistance programme for Tonga;

(e) To arrange for a review of the economic situation of Tonga and the progress made in organizing and implementing an assistance programme for that country in time for the matter to be considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session.
