

Chapter XXII

Assistance to refugees

Activities of the Office of the
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Increased tensions in various areas in 1979 continued to place further demands on the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). With the number of refugees rising, particularly in Africa and South-East Asia, UNHCR was called upon to provide international protection and material assistance both to asylum-seekers traditionally falling within the High Commissioner's mandate and to groups of displaced persons within their country of origin.

On 29 November 1979, the General Assembly adopted resolutions 34/60, 34/61 and 34/62 concerned, respectively, with: the report of the High Commissioner for the period April 1978 through March 1979; the situation of African refugees, considered at a pan-African conference on the problem held in May 1979 at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, partly under UNHCR sponsorship; and the report of the Secretary-General on a Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia, convened at Geneva in July. By resolution 34/62, the Assembly also took note of a Pledging Conference for Emergency Humanitarian Relief to the People of Kampuchea, convened at United Nations Headquarters, New York, on 5 November 1979.

Activities in 1979

International protection

In 1979, activities of UNHCR in the field of international protection of refugees chiefly concerned questions of asylum, rescue at sea and violations of the generally accepted principle of non-refoulement, under which no person was to be returned to a territory where he had reason to fear persecution.

While the majority of States continued to grant either temporary or durable asylum in 1979, large-scale refusals of even temporary asylum to refugees arriving by land or sea in South-East Asia led to serious consequences, including, in many cases, loss of life.

The Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, in decisions and conclusions taken at its thirtieth session, held at

Geneva from 8 to 16 October 1979, stressed the importance of international protection of refugees and called upon all States to respect their rights, especially in regard to the fundamental principles of asylum and non-refoulement. It also stressed the need for assistance to States of first asylum in cases involving the large-scale influx of refugees, in accordance with the principle of equitable international burden-sharing, and expressed appreciation for the practical results—including pledges, resettlement opportunities and plans for establishing refugee processing centres—arising from the Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia, convened by the Secretary-General at Geneva on 20 and 21 July 1979 (see subsection below). The Executive Committee severely condemned recent attacks on refugee camps in southern Africa and expressed the hope that steps would be taken to protect refugees and assist victims. It also decided to establish a working group to study proposals by the High Commissioner for creation of a UNHCR fund for durable solutions and invited the High Commissioner to convene the Committee, at the latest by 31 January 1980, to consider the group's report.

The special problems of South-East Asian refugees departing by sea were considered by a Meeting of Experts on Rescue Operations for Refugees and Displaced Persons in Distress in the South China Sea, convoked by the High Commissioner at Geneva on 14 August 1979. The meeting, attended by representatives of 10 Governments and by experts from the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, recommended, *inter alia*, that the international community provide guarantees of resettlement opportunities to receiving States where the flag States of the rescuing vessels were not prepared to make such provisions.

Other aspects of international protection involving UNHCR in 1979 included the processing of complaints of expulsion, detention and violations of the personal safety of refugees, and establishment of refugees' economic and social rights, including rights to education, employment, natu-

ralization, and the provision of identity and travel documents.

Notable progress was made in 1979 in family reunification of Vietnamese; a programme for reuniting separated families was the subject of a Memorandum of Understanding concluded on 30 May between Viet Nam and UNHCR. The Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, at its October session, urged further efforts by Governments towards the resettlement of refugees and displaced persons from Indo-China, including liberalized admission criteria and the earmarking of resettlement opportunities for those rescued at sea. The Committee also encouraged Governments to participate in the programme of orderly departures from Viet Nam called for in the Memorandum of Understanding, and cautioned against prematurely placing unaccompanied refugee minors for adoption.

Significant progress was also made in the area of voluntary repatriation of refugees, considered the most desirable of durable solutions. Large numbers returned to Burma, Nicaragua and Zaire in 1979, and UNHCR was appointed to co-ordinate the eventual return of more than 200,000 refugees to Zimbabwe following the signing of the Lancaster House agreements in December 1979. (For further information, see p. 1108.)

In accordance with his mandate, the High Commissioner continued to encourage accessions to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and to its 1967 Protocol. In 1979, the number of parties to the Convention rose from 76 to 77 and the number of parties to the Protocol—which extended the personal scope of the Convention and its application to new groups of refugees—rose from 71 to 72.

The High Commissioner also continued to encourage accession to regional agreements and adoption of appropriate national legislation affecting the status of refugees. In 1979, the number of States parties to the 1969 Organization of African Unity (OAU) Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa rose to 19.

A pan-African Conference on the Situation of Refugees in Africa was held from 7 to 17 May 1979 at Arusha, under the auspices of UNHCR, OAU and the Economic Commission for Africa. Recommendations concerning the international protection of refugees and asylum-seekers were approved by the Conference, including the right of asylum, non-refoulement, rights and obligations of refugees in countries of asylum, the determination of refugee status, illegal entry and expulsion, the rights and safety of refugees, conditions of rural and urban refugees, questions of training,

counselling and employment, the establishment of appropriate national machinery for dealing with refugee problems, and the need to formulate assistance programmes and secure for them maximum support.

The recommendations of the Arusha Conference were endorsed by the OAU Council of Ministers at a July 1979 session held at Monrovia, Liberia, and its conclusions and achievements were welcomed by the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme at its October session. The Committee invited African States to facilitate the resettlement in Africa of African refugees of urban background, in line with recommendations of the Conference.

Material assistance to refugees

In 1979, approximately \$270 million was spent on relief and other assistance to refugees and displaced persons, doubling the figure for 1978. Of this amount, some \$162.3 million went to finance UNHCR'S general programmes of assistance and \$107.7 million to special programmes. Assistance continued to be aimed at finding durable solutions, whether through voluntary repatriation, local integration or resettlement, though immediate relief measures were extended in emergency situations.

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN AFRICA

In numerical terms, Africa continued to be the region of greatest concern to UNHCR. The population of refugees and displaced persons in the Horn of Africa and the Sudan continued to grow, exceeding 1.5 million by the end of 1979, prompting special assistance measures and the appointment of a Special Co-ordinator for the area. The High Commissioner appealed for humanitarian assistance in the region to fund, among other projects, a proposed \$2.2 million programme for Djibouti. A total of \$16.9 million was spent by UNHCR for aid to refugees in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan.

In Somalia, where the camp population, composed mainly of women and children, was increasing by some 1,500 a day by year's end, UNHCR concentrated its assistance on immediate relief requirements, including transportation, water-supply systems, education and small-scale agricultural projects. In the Sudan, the number of refugees from Chad, Ethiopia, Uganda and Zaire grew to 42,000 by the end of 1979, and UNHCR opened suboffices in Port Sudan and Juba to administer emergency relief and resettlement programmes.

Refugees from Angola, Burundi, Namibia,

Rwanda, South Africa and Zaire were among the other groups receiving UNHCR aid in Africa. With the assistance of UNHCR, numerous refugees returned in 1979 to Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Uganda and Zaire, where conditions were favourable for voluntary repatriation.

The bulk of the \$72 million spent for assistance in Africa was devoted to local, rural resettlement programmes, though refugees in urban areas also received benefits, such as salary subsidies, vocational training and counselling.

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN THE AMERICAS

The total refugee population in South America at the end of 1979 was estimated to consist of 65,000 elderly refugees of European origin and some 45,000 Latin Americans. Early in the year, some 100,000 Nicaraguans—many of whom later returned voluntarily to their country—were receiving UNHCR assistance. New refugees benefited from UNHCR emergency material assistance as well as from programmes aimed at local integration or resettlement. Total expenditures for the Latin American countries amounted to \$8.6 million.

In Canada and the United States, UNHCR was primarily concerned with promoting the resettlement of refugees from other regions. The United States accepted 110,452 Indo-Chinese refugees in 1979 and Canada admitted 24,729. Both countries also continued to accept refugees from Latin America and elsewhere.

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN ASIA AND WESTERN ASIA

In 1979, total UNHCR expenditures in Asia and Western Asia amounted to \$162.5 million as compared with \$48.5 million in 1978, an increase of over 300 per cent. This reflected the growing seriousness of the area's refugee problems, particularly in South-East Asia.

In addition, an influx of Afghan refugees into Pakistan provided new cause for concern. By the end of the year, more than 400,000 such refugees had been registered. Responding to a request for assistance by the Pakistan Government in April, UNHCR made available \$190,000 from the Emergency Fund to meet immediate needs. An assistance programme of \$4.1 million was approved in October to provide food, clothing, shelter, domestic utensils and other supplies for the remainder of 1979.

In South-East Asia, the number of 1979 arrivals in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand amounted to 270,000 persons (nearly 204,600 of whom were so-called Vietnamese "boat people" arriving by sea). Resettlement efforts by UNHCR in co-

operation with individual Governments were intensified, allowing the relocation of 192,500 Indo-Chinese refugees to third countries. At the same time material assistance, including emergency food and medical supplies, continued to be provided for refugees in their countries of first asylum.

By the end of 1979, approximately 250,000 refugees had crossed the Vietnamese border into China, and assistance provided by UNHCR included funds for local integration and durable shelter. Total assistance amounted to \$6.2 million.

A Memorandum of Understanding, concluded in May 1979 between UNHCR and Viet Nam, established procedures for orderly and legal departure of emigrants, under which some 2,000 Vietnamese were resettled abroad by year's end.

A total of \$139.8 million was spent in Hong Kong, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam to assist refugees. Almost \$133,000 was committed by UNHCR for activities in Australia and New Zealand, which admitted, respectively, 14,347 and 1,047 refugees from South-East Asia.

The repatriation programme from Bangladesh to Burma was completed successfully by the end of 1979, expenditures under the programme amounting to more than \$2.5 million, while in Burma, obligations to resettle the returnees totalled \$3.1 million.

In Western Asia, UNHCR expended \$268,800 to assist refugees in Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The refugee population in Lebanon for which UNHCR had responsibility in 1979 increased to an estimated 2,900, due largely to the arrival of Ethiopians. As in previous years, resettlement and integration efforts there were impeded by local conflict.

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN EUROPE

In spite of a sizable number of naturalizations and departures, the number of refugees in Europe increased in 1979, for the second consecutive year, to some 555,000, due to a large influx of asylum-seekers from other regions. Responsibilities for the well-being of these refugees continued to be shared by UNHCR, individual Governments and non-governmental and semi-public bodies, and employment, health care and social and legal counselling for refugees awaiting resettlement or naturalization continued to be major components of the UNHCR programme.

The High Commissioner also continued to coordinate United Nations humanitarian assis-

tance for Cyprus, disbursing nearly \$6 million in aid in 1979. In co-operation with the World Health Organization and the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus, UNHCR provided medical supplies and continued efforts to reactivate agriculture and other forms of traditional employment aimed at re-establishing the self-sufficiency of the local population. (See also p. 433.)

Consideration by the General Assembly

Situation of African refugees

On 29 November 1979, the General Assembly adopted without vote resolution 34/61, on the situation of African refugees, by which it fully endorsed the recommendations of the May 1979 Arusha Conference on the Situation of Refugees in Africa, appealed to Governments and international and non-governmental organizations to intensify their assistance activities in support of African refugees, and stressed the urgent necessity of securing a constant flow of resources to UNHCR for implementing long-term programmes in this area. It requested the High Commissioner to report to its 1980 regular session on UNHCR contributions towards implementing the recommendations of the Arusha Conference and on his efforts to mobilize additional resources for African refugees. The Secretary-General and specialized agencies were called on to help him disseminate information as widely as possible on the plight of those refugees.

The resolution was approved by consensus in the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee on 15 November. The text had been submitted by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on behalf of the African group of Member States at the United Nations, of which it was current Chairman; these sponsors were joined by Jordan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. The United Kingdom, while joining in the consensus, expressed a reservation on the wording of the paragraph containing the Assembly's full endorsement of the recommendations of the Arusha Conference, which it felt should have been more moderate.

Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia

In November 1979, the Secretary-General reported to the Assembly on the 20 to 21 July Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia. The Secretary-General said his concern over the growing humanitarian problem of refugees in South-East Asia had led to his designating, on 11 June, liter Turkmen

(Turkey) as his Special Representative for Humanitarian Affairs in South-East Asia to report regularly on the problem in all its aspects. Following intensive consultation with a large number of interested Governments, the Secretary-General had informed Governments of his intention to convene a meeting of States in a position to make a contribution to a solution of the problem, preferably at the ministerial level, concentrating on the humanitarian aspects and aimed at producing additional support for UNHCR.

The Meeting—in which 65 Governments participated, in addition to observers from several other Governments and representatives of interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations—agreed on a framework for an international plan of action, to include: greater and speedier efforts at resettlement of refugees; implementation of the May Memorandum of Understanding concluded between Viet Nam and UNHCR, but not at the expense of refugees in camps in South-East Asia; establishment of processing centres, sites for which had been made available in Indonesia and the Philippines, to reduce the burden placed by the influx of refugees on countries of first asylum; and international co-operative efforts to ensure the rescue of refugees in distress at sea. In addition, the Meeting endorsed the principles of asylum and non-refoulement, and stressed the need to reduce the disorderly exodus of persons from their homelands without due regard for safety.

The Secretary-General's report also outlined initiatives taken subsequent to the Meeting to implement the plan of action. These included the convening in New York on 5 November of a Pledging Conference for Emergency Humanitarian Relief to the People of Kampuchea and the creation by UNHCR of a standing co-ordinating mechanism, grouping together United Nations organizations, the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the League of Red Cross Societies and other non-governmental agencies. The first meeting of this liaison group took place on 29 August and established a broad framework for co-ordination of assistance, services and exchange of information. The report annexed a background note prepared for the Meeting by the High Commissioner, his suggested plan of action, and proposals that had resulted from a Consultative Meeting with Interested Governments on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia, convened by him at Geneva on 11 and 12 December 1978.

On 29 November 1979, the General Assembly adopted without vote resolution 34/62, dealing with the Secretary-General's report on the July

Meeting. It commended him for convening and chairing both the Meeting and the Pledging Conference, commended UNHCR, and commended Governments and international relief organizations for their assistance and pledges. The Assembly also urged concerned Governments to continue their co-operation with the Secretary-General, UNHCR and other United Nations agencies in humanitarian activities designed to serve the needs of displaced persons and civilian refugees and no other purpose, while avoiding actions that might cause human suffering and ensuring safe and orderly departures. Countries were urged to expand and accelerate their intake of refugees from Indo-China, with priority for those already in camps in South-East Asia and adjacent territories. Specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies were asked to participate on a priority basis, without prejudice to refugee programmes in other regions, in alleviating the problem and to co-operate with Governments in seeking durable solutions. Finally the Assembly requested the High Commissioner to report to it in 1980 and asked the Secretary-General to follow the situation closely and report if the situation so required.

The resolution had been approved by consensus in the Third Committee on 15 November, where it was sponsored by Argentina, Indonesia, Jordan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Yugoslavia. Viet Nam expressed serious reservations on a clause indicating that due priority in resettlement was to be given to those already in camps in adjacent territories as well as in South-East Asia. Though it approved the resolution, France said it felt the text lacked balance in failing to make reference to countries of first asylum as well as countries of origin and of resettlement; it regretted that a provision it had proposed to rectify this omission had not been included.

Other decisions

A number of other decisions taken by the General Assembly in 1979 related to refugees in various parts of the world and to the work of UNHCR.

By resolution 34/122 of 14 December, it endorsed appeals for humanitarian assistance to Uganda, called upon Member States and international organizations to respond generously and requested the High Commissioner to continue his humanitarian assistance programmes in the country.

By resolutions 34/124, 34/128 and 34/129 adopted on the same date, the Assembly asked the High Commissioner to maintain and increase

his assistance programmes on behalf of refugees in Djibouti, Zambia and Mozambique, respectively, and urged the international community to provide him speedily with the means to carry them out.

On 17 December, the Assembly, by resolution 34/161 on women refugees, requested UNHCR to review, for final report to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women to be held at Copenhagen, Denmark, in July 1980, the situation of women refugees throughout the world and to make recommendations concerning measures to assist them which could be undertaken by Member States, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations.

By resolution 34/174 of the same date, the Assembly endorsed the assessment and recommendations contained in a report of the Secretary-General on assistance to South African student refugees. It commended him and the High Commissioner for their efforts to mobilize resources and organize a programme of assistance to those refugees, requested him and the High Commissioner to organize a programme of educational and other assistance for student refugees from southern Africa in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia, and called upon all United Nations agencies and programmes to co-operate with them to implement these programmes. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the High Commissioner and relevant agencies and organizations, to mobilize assistance to facilitate the resettlement of refugee families from the border areas of South Africa, and to provide for the well-being of their children.

(For page references to texts of the above-mentioned resolutions, refer to INDEX OF RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS.)

Pledging Conference for Emergency Relief to the People of Kampuchea

The Pledging Conference for Emergency Humanitarian Relief to the People of Kampuchea, convened by the Secretary-General at the United Nations Headquarters on 5 November 1979, was attended by 76 States and a representative of the European Economic Community. A total of \$210 million was pledged in cash and kind, including \$47,268,838 specifically earmarked for UNHCR. Also included in the total was some \$20 million earmarked for the World Food Programme, \$59 million for the United Nations Children's Fund and ICRC, and \$84 million in funds not specifically earmarked. This last figure did not include \$1,807,229 contributed by Switzerland on 11 November.

Report of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Refugees

By decision 1979/85 of 3 August, adopted, without vote, on an oral proposal by its President, the Economic and Social Council transmitted without debate to the 1979 regular session of the General Assembly the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the period 1 April 1978 to 31 March 1979.

On 29 November, the Assembly adopted without vote resolution 34/60, by which it commended the High Commissioner and his staff for the efficient discharge of their responsibilities and requested him, in close co-operation with Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to continue to promote durable and speedy solutions to refugee problems. The Assembly urged Governments to intensify their support for his humanitarian activities by, among other things: granting asylum to refugee-seekers and scrupulously observing the principle of non-refoulement; considering accession to relevant international instruments, including the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the status of refugees; and facilitating the High Commissioner's efforts to promote durable solutions through voluntary repatriation and rehabilitation of refugees, integration in countries of asylum or settlement in other countries. The Assembly urged Governments to strengthen their support for the High Commissioner's efforts and to provide increased opportunities for durable solutions to refugee problems, particularly in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and called upon them to continue to contribute generously towards financing his humanitarian activities.

The resolution had been submitted in the Third Committee by Denmark, on behalf of 40 States (see DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES below), and was approved by consensus on 15 November.

Afghanistan expressed serious reservations regarding paragraphs that it believed would encourage aid by UNHCR, in contravention of its statute and the 1951 Convention, to fugitive insurgent elements in Pakistan launching attacks against Afghan territory.

Communications

A number of communications relating to refugee situations of concern to UNHCR were received during 1979.

In a statement of 19 December 1978, transmitted by a note verbale of 30 December, Democratic Kampuchea rejected claims, by what it termed a delegation of the Le Duan—Pham Van Dong clique recently sent to Geneva, of the pres-

ence of Kampuchean refugees in Viet Nam. Such claims, the statement charged, were intended to secure aid from countries and international organizations to be used to carry out acts of aggression against and annexation of Democratic Kampuchea.

In a statement of 28 October 1979, transmitted to the Secretary-General by a letter of the following day, Democratic Kampuchea welcomed the proposal for an international Pledging Conference for Emergency Humanitarian Relief to the People of Kampuchea and suggested the appointment of a sufficiently large United Nations force to ensure the direct distribution of this aid.

On 30 October, Viet Nam transmitted the texts of the May 1979 Memorandum of Understanding concluded between its Government and UNHCR, of a statement by its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dated 20 June, on the question of Vietnamese fleeing abroad, and of a speech by the Vietnamese representative at the Geneva Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia in July.

On 5 November, Viet Nam transmitted a statement by the "Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea" in which it said that the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea had been receiving foreign humanitarian aid and was prepared to receive assistance and co-operation on a bilateral or multilateral basis, without political conditions.

A letter of 24 July from Lebanon transmitted an appeal of 23 July by its High Relief Committee for aid for southern Lebanon in the form of food, emergency supplies, shelters and funds for reconstruction.

In a note verbale of 24 October, Israel brought to the attention of the Secretary-General steps it had taken to aid refugees from South-East Asia.

A letter of 7 December from South Africa called attention to the presence of nearly 250 recent refugees from Lesotho in South Africa and asked the Secretary-General to request the High Commissioner to provide the necessary assistance.

Contribution pledges

The Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees met on 16 November 1979 at United Nations Headquarters. Contributions paid or pledged to the UNHCR assistance programmes for 1980 are listed in the following table.

CONTRIBUTIONS PAID OR PLEDGED TO UNHCR
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES FOR 1980

(As at 31 December 1979; in US dollars)

Government	General programmes	Special programmes	Total	Government	General programmes	Special programmes	Total
Algeria	24,200	—	24,200	Niger	1,136	—	1,136
Argentina	27,500	—	27,500	Norway	4,846,388	1,764,166	6,610,554
Australia	2,700,408	2,416,808	5,117,216	Oman	6,000	—	6,000
Austria	130,188	—	130,188	Pakistan	2,505	10,101	12,606
Bahamas	3,456	—	3,456	Panama	500	—	500
Belgium	371,622	746,537 ^a	1,118,159	Papua New Guinea	—	300,000	300,000
Brazil	50,000	—	50,000	Philippines	12,250	5,250	17,500
Burundi	1,675	—	1,675	Portugal	6,000	—	6,000
Canada ^b	2,782,242	389,925	3,172,167	Qatar	30,000	10,000	40,000
Chile	40,000	—	40,000	Republic of Korea	5,000	5,010,000	5,015,000
China	973,141	—	973,141	Samoa	641	—	641
Cyprus	3,881	1,500	5,381	San Marino	500	18,405	18,905
Denmark	6,048,037	2,284,138	8,332,175	Saudi Arabia	1,008,000	500,000	1,508,000
Egypt	4,286	—	4,286	Senegal	3,000	—	3,000
Ethiopia	5,000	—	5,000	Singapore	—	5,000	5,000
Finland	1,219,137	50,422	1,269,559	Somalia	1,124	—	1,124
France	650,159	93,023	743,182	South Africa	50,301	—	50,301
Germany, Federal				Spain	50,000	—	50,000
Republic of	9,714,164	17,588,411	27,302,575	Sudan	6,042	1,007	7,049
Ghana	20,000	—	20,000	Sweden	8,854,749	7,296,030	16,150,775
Greece	45,000	18,000	63,000	Switzerland	3,614,780	979,052	4,593,832
Haiti	—	5,000	5,000	Thailand	10,000	—	10,000
Holy See	12,500	—	12,500	Trinidad and Tobago	2,073	—	2,073
Iceland	15,000	44,000	59,000	Tunisia	11,300	—	11,300
India	12,346	9,700	22,046	Turkey	10,000	—	10,000
Iran	131,564	—	131,564	Uganda	9,550	231,783	241,335
Iraq	111,819	97,768	209,587	United Kingdom	12,972,168	3,132,151	16,104,319
Ireland	554,390	19,881	574,271	United Republic of			
Israel	15,000	55,000	70,000	Tanzania	4,819	—	4,819
Italy	2,408,126	120,482	2,528,608	United States	35,370,000	55,440,000	90,810,000
Japan	31,600,000	36,552,330	68,152,330	Venezuela	5,000	—	5,000
Kenya	963	—	963	Viet Nam	2,015	—	2,015
Kuwait	40,000	—	40,000	Yugoslavia	20,000	—	20,000
Lao People's				Zambia	5,128	—	5,128
Democratic Republic	2,000	—	2,000				
Lebanon	2,000	4,644	6,644	Other contributors			
Liberia	5,000	2,000	7,000	Sovereign Order of			
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	40,000	50,000	90,000	Malta	10,000	—	10,000
Liechtenstein	12,048	6,024	18,072	European Economic			
Luxembourg	10,642	60,000	70,642	Community	28,124,860	15,435,789	43,560,649
Madagascar	1,202	—	1,202	European Parliament	1,368,430	—	1,368,430
Malaysia	1,500	5,000	6,500	Non-governmental			
Malta	1,157	—	1,157	organizations and			
Mexico	20,000	—	20,000	others	9,581,278	6,734,691	16,315,969
Monaco	694	—	694				
Morocco	10,000	—	10,000	Total	177,456,822	160,250,743	337,707,565
Netherlands	11,341,958	—	11,341,958				
New Zealand	287,280	53,922	341,202				

^a Belgium pledged an additional \$3,637,232 for the resettlement in Belgium of Indo-Chinese refugees.

^b Pledges were also made by the Provincial Governments of Alberta (\$854,701) and Quebec (\$87,719).

Documentary references and texts of resolutions

Activities in 1979

A/34/12. Report of UNHCR, Chapters I-VI.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES

A/34/12/Add.1. Addendum to report of UNHCR (report of Executive Committee of Programme of UNHCR on work of its 30th session, Geneva, 8-16 October 1979), Chapter IV. (Para. 125 B: Decision of Executive Committee.)

Consideration by the General Assembly

General Assembly—34th session
Third Committee, meetings 42-48.
Plenary meeting 82.

SITUATION OF AFRICAN REFUGEES

A/34/12. Report of UNHCR.

A/34/12/Add.1. Addendum to report of UNHCR (report of Executive Committee of Programme of UNHCR on work of its 30th session, Geneva, 8-16 October 1979).

A/34/389 and Corr.1. Letter of 27 July from Morocco (transmitting final communique and resolutions of 10th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, Fez, 8-12 May 1979).

A/34/552. Letter of 8 October from Lesotho (circulating resolutions of 33rd ordinary session of Council of Ministers 6-20 July 1979; and declarations, resolutions and decisions of 16th ordinary session of Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, 17-20 July 1979, Monrovia Liberia), Annex I (resolution CM/Res.727(XXXIII)).

A/C.3/34/L.36. Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (on behalf

of African group of Member States at United Nations), Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand: draft resolution, approved by consensus by Third Committee on 15 November 1979, meeting 47.

A/34/724. Report of Third Committee, draft resolution II.

Resolution 34/61, as recommended by Third Committee, A/34/724, adopted without vote by Assembly on 29 November 1979, meeting 82.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office,

Taking note with satisfaction of the conclusions of the Conference on the Situation of Refugees in Africa, held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 7 to 17 May 1979,

Taking note of the resolution on the situation of refugees in Africa and on prospective solutions to their problems in the 1980s adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-third ordinary session, held at Monrovia from 6 to 20 July 1979, and endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its sixteenth ordinary session, held at Monrovia from 17 to 20 July 1979,

Deeply concerned about the constantly deteriorating living conditions and the ever-increasing number of African refugees,

Expressing its appreciation of the hospitality and assistance provided to the large number of refugees on the continent of Africa,

Noting with deep regret the inadequacy of the assistance provided to the growing number of African refugees,

Stressing the evident necessity to allocate assistance proportional to their number and needs,

Emphasizing the need for increased financial support from the international community to provide adequate care for the large number of refugees in Africa,

1. Fully endorses the recommendations adopted by the Arusha Conference on the Situation of Refugees in Africa;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his staff for the work they have done in the care of African refugees;

3. Calls attention to the urgent need for increased resources to care for the ever-growing number of African refugees which to date is about four million;

4. Appeals to all Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to intensify their activities and programmes in support of African refugees;

5. Stresses the urgent necessity for consideration by the international community of ways and means by which a constant flow of resources to the Office of the High Commissioner can be secured for the implementation of long-term programmes;

6. Calls upon the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies to assist the High Commissioner in giving the widest possible dissemination of information on the plight of the African refugees;

7. Requests the High Commissioner to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session on the contributions made by his Office towards the implementation of the recommendations of the Arusha Conference on the Situation of Refugees in Africa;

8. Further requests the High Commissioner to make every effort to mobilize additional resources for African refugees in collaboration with the specialized agencies concerned and non-governmental organizations and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session.

MEETING ON REFUGEES AND
DISPLACED PERSONS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

A/34/627 and Corr.1. Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia, convened at Geneva on 20 and 21 July 1979, and subsequent developments. Report of Secretary-General.

A/C.3/34/L.37. Argentina, Indonesia, Jordan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Yugoslavia: draft resolution, as orally amended by sponsors, approved by consensus by Third Committee on 15 November 1979, meeting 47.

A/34/724. Report of Third Committee, draft resolution III.

Resolution 34/62, as recommended by Third Committee, A/34/724, and as orally amended by Third Committee Rapporteur, adopted without vote by Assembly on 29 November 1979, meeting 82.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia, held at Geneva on 20 and 21 July 1979 under his chairmanship, and having heard his statement,

Taking note of the progress mentioned in the Secretary-General's report, indicating a decrease in the number of boat cases arriving in other South-East Asian countries since August 1979,

Expressing its deep concern with the serious plight of the refugees and displaced persons in South-East Asia and the severe burden that the problem causes for many countries and territories, particularly the developing countries of South-East Asia,

Noting that further action is required to deal adequately with the land cases,

Gravely concerned about the large number of refugees recently arrived in the region and their urgent need of prompt and effective international assistance,

Noting the results of the Pledging Conference for Emergency Humanitarian Relief to the People of Kampuchea, held at United Nations Headquarters on 5 November 1979 under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General,

1. Commends the Secretary-General for his initiative in convening and for his chairmanship of the Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia and the Pledging Conference for Emergency Humanitarian Relief to the People of Kampuchea;

2. Also commends the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office as the competent organ in the United Nations system for their active role;

3. Further commends Governments and international relief organizations for their assistance and pledges to increase such assistance, in cash and kind, for the immediate relief of the refugees in South-East Asia;

4. Urges all Governments concerned to continue to co-operate with the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other United Nations agencies in humanitarian activities to deal with this problem, while avoiding any action that may cause human suffering and while ensuring safe and orderly departures; such humanitarian activities should serve the needs of civilian refugees and displaced persons and not any other purpose;

5. Further urges the resettlement countries and other countries in a position to do so to increase the number and speed of their intake of refugees and displaced persons from Indo-China, with due priority given to those already in camps in South-East Asia and adjacent territories, for resettlement in their countries;

6. Requests specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies concerned to give priority, without prejudice to assistance provided to refugees and country programmes in other regions, to their participation in rendering assistance to alleviate the problem, and to co-operate closely with Governments to find durable solutions to the problem;

7. Also requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session;

8. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue to follow the situation closely and to submit a report to the Member States if the situation so requires.

Pledging Conference for Emergency Relief to the People of Kampuchea

Pledging Conference for Emergency Humanitarian Relief to People of Kampuchea, meetings 1, 2 (SG/CONF.1/SR.1,2) of 5 November 1979.

SG/CONF.1/1 and Corr.1 and Add.1. Background information in connexion with Pledging Conference for Emergency Humanitarian Relief to People of Kampuchea. (Add.1: WFP.)

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Economic and Social Council— 2nd regular session, 1979 Plenary meeting 40.

E/1979/95. Report of UNHCR and Addendum (A/34/1 2 and Add.1).

Decision 1979/85, by which the Council decided to transmit without debate the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session, as orally proposed by Council President, adopted without vote by Council on 3 August 1979, meeting 40.

General Assembly— 34th session Third Committee, meetings 42-48. Plenary meeting 82.

A/34/3/Rev.1. Report of Economic and Social Council for year 1979, Chapter XX.

A/34/12. Report of UNHCR.

A/34/12/Add.1. Addendum to report of UNHCR (report of Executive Committee of Programme of UNHCR on work of its 30th session, Geneva, 8-16 October 1979).

A/C.3/34/L.35. Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Botswana, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Iceland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, Senegal, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zaire, Zambia: draft resolution, as orally amended by sponsors, approved by consensus by Third Committee on 15 November 1979, meeting 47.

A/34/724. Report of Third Committee, draft resolution I.

Resolution 34/60, as recommended by Third Committee, A/34/724, adopted without vote by Assembly on 29 November 1979, meeting 82.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office, as well as the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner on its thirtieth session, and having heard the High Commissioner's statement,

Recalling its resolution 33/26 of 29 November 1978,

Reaffirming the eminently humanitarian character of the activities of the High Commissioner for the benefit of an increasing number of refugees and displaced persons of concern to his Office,

Noting with deep concern the continued gravity of the problems of refugees and displaced persons in various parts of the world,

Commending Governments for their humanitarian approach to refugee problems, for the spirit in which they have received refugees and for their generous support of the work of the High Commissioner,

Emphasizing the continuing need to ensure the basic human rights, protection and safety of refugees, inter alia, through the accession to and more effective implementation of relevant international instruments,

Noting that increased financial and other support from Governments is urgently needed to assist the High Commissioner in his efforts to provide vital humanitarian assistance, especially through voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement,

Welcoming the conclusions and achievements of the Conference on the Situation of Refugees in Africa, held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 7 to 17 May 1979, and further welcoming the request to translate the principle of "burden sharing" into action,

Noting with satisfaction the practical results in terms of additional resettlement places and financial contributions thus far achieved as a consequence of the Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia, convened by the Secretary-General and held at Geneva on 20 and 21 July 1979,

1. Commends the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his staff for the efficient manner in which they continue to discharge their many responsibilities in assisting refugees and displaced persons;

2. Requests the High Commissioner to continue to promote, in close co-operation with Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, durable and speedy solutions to problems of refugees and displaced persons wherever they occur;

3. Urges Governments to intensify their support for the humanitarian activities of the High Commissioner by, among other things:

(a) Facilitating the accomplishment of his tasks in the field of international protection, in particular by granting asylum to those seeking refuge and by scrupulously observing the principle of non-refoulement,

(b) Considering accession to relevant international instruments, notably the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees;

(c) Facilitating his efforts to promote durable solutions through voluntary repatriation or return and assistance in the rehabilitation of persons returning to their countries, integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in other countries;

4. Further urges Governments:

(a) To strengthen their support for the High Commissioner's efforts on behalf of refugees and displaced persons;

(b) To provide increased opportunities for durable solutions to the problems of refugees and displaced persons, in particular those who are in Africa, Asia and Latin America;

5. Calls upon Governments to continue to contribute generously towards the financing of the High Commissioner's activities in order to attain the objectives of his humanitarian programmes.

Communications

A/34/58. Note verbale of 30 December 1978 from Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea (transmitting statement of 19 December 1978).

A/34/385. Letter of 24 July from Lebanon (enclosing appeal of 23 July 1979 by High Relief Committee of Lebanon).

A/34/629 (S/13592). Letter of 29 October from Democratic Kampuchea (transmitting statement of 28 October 1979).

A/34/652. Letter of 5 November from Viet Nam (transmitting statement of 4 November 1979 by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of Kampuchea).

A/34/826 (S/13687). Letter of 7 December from South Africa.

A/C.3/34/7. Letter of 30 October from Viet Nam (transmitting Memorandum of Understanding between Viet Nam and UNHCR; statement of 20 June 1979 by Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and speech by head of delegation of Viet Nam at Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South-East Asia).

A/C.3/34/8. Note verbale of 24 October from Israel.

Contribution pledges

Ad Hoc Committee of General Assembly for Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to Programme of UNHCR, meeting 1 (A/AC.200/SR.1) of 16 November 1979.

Other documents

UNHCR (information tabloid): No. 1 (February-April 1979), 2 (May-June), 3 (July-August), 4 (October-November), 5/6 (December 1979-January 1980).

A/34/5/Add.5. Voluntary funds administered by UNHCR. Accounts for year ended 31 December 1978 and report of Board of Auditors.