

Chapter XXI

Refugees and displaced persons

During 1984, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) faced the challenge of attaining durable solutions to refugee problems in the midst of seriously deteriorating situations in some parts of the world and the onset of a major emergency in Africa. In November, the High Commissioner issued a special appeal in response to a refugee crisis in four drought-stricken countries—the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan.

The Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA II) (Geneva, 9-11 July) examined some 128 projects valued at \$362 million designed to help African host countries. The Conference emphasized the complementarity between refugee aid and development assistance, urging that refugee projects be integrated into the development process. The first such conference had been held in 1981.

Major assistance programmes were maintained, notably in Pakistan, which had the largest refugee population in the world, and in South-East Asia, where Indo-Chinese refugees continued to arrive. Resettlement in third countries remained the primary solution for the latter, some 68,500 of whom were resettled in 1984. In Somalia and the Sudan, care and maintenance programmes were accompanied by local integration activities until late 1984, when attention had to be diverted to emergency relief. Local integration activities were also carried out in Central America, Mexico, Uganda and Zaire,

Assistance to Palestine refugees continued as in past years under the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) (see p. 335).

At the thirty-fifth session of the Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme (Geneva, 8-18 October), the High Commissioner reported that 42 per cent of the 1985 UNHCR budget would be devoted to durable solutions through voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement, adding that UNHCR would like that percentage to be much higher.

Violations of the physical safety of refugees continued. The ninth meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Whole on International Protection (Geneva, 3, 4, 11 and 15 October) discussed military and armed attacks on refugee camps.

In December, the General Assembly urged States to ensure the safety of refugees and asylum-seekers and to support the High Commissioner in pursuing durable solutions to the refugee problem (resolution

39/140); emphasized the vital importance of the complementarity of refugee aid and development assistance (39/139); and called for emergency assistance to returnees and displaced persons in Chad (39/106) and Ethiopia (39/105), as well as refugees in Djibouti (39/107), Somalia (39/104) and the Sudan (39/108) and student refugees in southern Africa (39/109).

The Assembly called on the Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees to work expeditiously to complete its review of the problem (39/100). It expressed the hope that the 1985 Assembly would adopt a declaration on the human rights of individuals who were not citizens of the country in which they lived (39/103).

The International Conference on Population (Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984) invited States that had not done so to accede to the international instruments concerning refugees and urged Governments and international agencies to find durable solutions to refugee problems and work towards their elimination (see p. 716).

The 1984 Nansen Medal-awarded in honour of Fridtjof Nansen, the first League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees—went to Captain Lewis M. Hiller of the United States merchant ship *Rose City* and two of his crew members, Jeff Kass and Gregg Turay, for their rescue of 85 Indo-Chinese refugees adrift in a storm in the South China Sea.

In November 1984, the United Nations Postal Administration issued commemorative stamps on the theme "A Future for Refugees" (see ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS, Chapter IV).

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: Palestine refugees. Human rights: human rights of non-citizens.

Programme and finances of UNHCR

Programme policy

Executive Committee action. At its October 1984 session, the Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme(1) considered various aspects of the refugee problem, among them international protection and the role of UNHCR in promoting durable solutions, assistance to refugees and their development. The Committee expressed satisfaction at the

absence of new large-scale outflows of refugees but noted the continuing severity of refugee problems in various parts of the world, particularly in Africa, Asia and Central America, and urged the international community to intensify its efforts to address the root causes of those problems in appropriate international forums. It also urged the High Commissioner to continue pursuing durable solutions, notably voluntary repatriation, while calling on the international community to ensure that the needs of refugees were met.

The Committee welcomed the continued strengthening of the legal framework for international protection; nevertheless, it expressed concern at a deterioration in the protection situation and serious violations of the physical safety of refugees, including armed attacks, piracy and failure to rescue asylum-seekers in distress at sea.

Noting that in different parts of the world the principle of non-refoulement—under which asylum-seekers were not forcibly returned to countries where they faced persecution or death—had been violated, the Committee regretted the adoption of less liberal asylum practices and falling standards in the treatment of asylum-seekers. It recommended that States ensure that refugees were provided with documents establishing their identity and refugee status, and that asylum applicants whose applications could not be decided without delay be provided with provisional documentation to ensure their protection against expulsion or refoulement.

The Committee recommended that Governments co-operate with UNHCR in establishing appropriate processing mechanisms for the resettlement of refugees, and welcomed continuing co-operation between Governments and UNHCR in operation of the Orderly Departure Programme from Viet Nam (see p. 952); it also welcomed UNHCR initiatives to arrange meetings and discussion forums on resettlement planning.

It stressed the importance of providing development-oriented assistance to refugees and returnees in developing countries, as the best means of helping them to support themselves. UNHCR, in implementing such assistance, continued to co-operate with other United Nations organizations (see p. 941).

UNHCR also continued its co-operation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Organization of American States, the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, liberation movements, and some 300 non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The Executive Committee urged further strengthening of that co-operation.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

Following consideration of the 1984 report of the High Commissioner,(2) the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third (Social, Hu-

manitarian and Cultural) Committee, adopted on 14 December resolution 39/140 without vote.

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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 the work of its thirty-fifth session, and having heard the statement made by the High Commissioner on 12 November 1984,

Recalling its resolution 38/121 of 16 December 1983,

Reaffirming the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner,

Deeply concerned that refugees and displaced persons of concern to the High Commissioner continue to face distressingly serious problems in all parts of the world,

Stressing the fundamental importance of the High Commissioner's international protection function and the need for States to co-operate with the High Commissioner in the exercise of this essential function, particularly in view of the continued and persistent violations of the basic rights of persons of concern to his Office,

Welcoming the additional accessions by States to the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees,

Particularly concerned that in various regions the safety and welfare of refugees and asylum-seekers continue to be seriously jeopardized on account of military or armed attacks, acts of piracy and other forms of brutality,

Emphasizing that voluntary repatriation or return remains the most desirable solution to problems of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the High Commissioner,

Emphasizing also the importance for the international community to continue to provide assistance and resettlement opportunities for those refugees for whom no other durable solution may be in sight, particularly in regions where countries of first refuge continue generously to receive refugees arriving by land or by sea,

Noting with deep appreciation the valuable support extended by many Governments to the High Commissioner in carrying out his humanitarian task,

Noting with satisfaction the positive results achieved by the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, held at Geneva from 9 to 11 July 1984, as part of a continuing process of increasing international interest in the situation of refugees in Africa and support for those refugees,

Welcoming the progress made by the High Commissioner in improving the management of his Office and urging him to pursue his efforts in this direction in line with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and decisions of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner,

Taking note of the decision of the Executive Committee on the inclusion of Arabic, Chinese and Spanish among the official languages of the Executive Committee,

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

2. Strongly reaffirms the fundamental nature of the High Commissioner's function to provide international pro-

tection and the need for Governments to continue to co-operate fully with his Office in order to facilitate the effective exercise of this function, in particular by acceding to and fully implementing the relevant international and regional refugee instruments and by scrupulously observing the principles of asylum and non-refoulement;

3. Condemns all violations of the rights and safety of refugees and asylum-seekers, in particular those perpetrated through military or armed attacks against refugee camps and settlements and other forms of brutality and by the failure to rescue asylum-seekers in distress at sea;

4. Urges all States, in co-operation with the Office of the High Commissioner and other competent international bodies, to take all measures necessary to ensure the safety of refugees and asylum-seekers;

5. Also urges all States to support the High Commissioner in discharging his responsibility to pursue durable solutions to the problem of refugees and displaced persons of concern to his Office, primarily through voluntary repatriation or return, including assistance to returnees, as appropriate, or, wherever appropriate, through integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in third countries;

6. Expresses deep appreciation for the valuable material and humanitarian response of many receiving countries, in particular those developing countries that, despite serious economic crises and limited resources, continue to admit, on a permanent or temporary basis, large numbers of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, and, reaffirming the principle of international solidarity and burden-sharing, urges the international community to assist receiving countries in order to enable them to cope with the additional burden created by their presence;

7. Notes with satisfaction the initiatives taken by the High Commissioner in developing the concept of development-oriented assistance to refugees and returnees, wherever appropriate, and urges him to pursue those efforts in co-operation with interested Governments, as well as with the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and other developmental organizations, including non-governmental organizations;

8. Commends all States that facilitate the attainment of durable solutions and contribute generously to the High Commissioner's programmes;

9. Notes with appreciation the support consistently given to the High Commissioner by agencies of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in carrying out his humanitarian task and requests the High Commissioner to continue to co-ordinate his efforts with those agencies and organizations;

10. Calls upon all States to promote durable solutions and to contribute generously to the High Commissioner's humanitarian programmes in order to assist persons of concern to the High Commissioner in a spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing.

General Assembly resolution 39/140

14 December 1984 Meeting 101 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/39/709) without vote, 28 November (meeting 53); 43-nation draft (A/C.3/39/L.37); agenda item 100 (a).

Sponsors: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Canada, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Den-

mark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Madagascar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, United States, Venezuela, Zaire. Financial implications. 5th Committee, A/39/804; S-G, A/C.3/39/L.52, A/C.5/39/63. Meeting numbers. GA 39th session: 3rd Committee 36, 38-41, 47, 50, 53; 5th Committee 41; plenary 101.

Financial and administrative questions

In 1984, total UNHCR expenditure amounted to \$444.8 million. Of that total, voluntary funds expenditure represented. \$444.1 million, including \$346 million under General Programmes and \$98.1 million under Special Programmes. Voluntary funds expenditure had increased by approximately 10 per cent over 1983, reflecting additional refugee assistance requirements, particularly in Africa and the Americas.

Total income for 1984 was \$388.9 million.

Contributions

In 1984, contributions from government sources totalled some \$292 million, while inter-governmental organizations provided an additional \$26.7 million, mostly in food, and NGOs assisted in cash and kind valued at \$5.5 million.

Appeals by the Commissioner for contributions to Special Programmes continued in response to specific needs,⁽³⁾ those related, for example, to returnees to Ethiopia, Kampuchea and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Orderly Departure Programme from Viet Nam, the Refugee Education Account and the South-East Asia Anti-Piracy Programme.

The UNHCR Executive Committee⁽¹⁾ approved in October a target of \$374,288,500 (not including the \$10 million Emergency Fund) for 1985 General Programmes. Having noted a possible reduction in funding for those Programmes, the Committee asked that governmental and non-governmental agencies implement assistance projects in the most efficient way possible. It also took note of the considerable increase in resources devoted to durable solutions in Africa, commending the High Commissioner's efforts to promote voluntary repatriation.

The Committee reaffirmed the universal character of the refugee problem and the need for more widespread financial support for UNHCR programmes. It urged Governments to make increased contributions to the 1985 General Programmes and to make them as early as possible.

At a meeting on 16 November 1984 of the Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the 1985 Programme of UNHCR,⁽⁴⁾ pledges totalling \$126,653,763 were made.

CONTRIBUTIONS PAID OR PLEDGED TO UNHCR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES, 1984

(as at 31 December 1984: in US dollar equivalent)

State	1984 payment or pledge	State	1984 payment or pledge	State	1984 payment or pledge
Algeria	50,000	Jamaica	550	Thailand	20,000
Australia	10,381,036	Japan	43,842,680	Togo	1,064
Austria	108,907	Jordan	3,000	Tunisia	4,459
Bahamas	4,500	Kenya	576	Turkey	22,322
Bahrain	41,257	Kuwait	566,316	United Kingdom	18,764,696
Bangladesh	1,000	Lao People's Democratic Republic	6,000	United Republic of Tanzania	3,200
Barbados	500	Lebanon	10,000	United States	111,703,299
Belgium	1,552,691	Liechtenstein	20,972	Venezuela	40,000
Botswana	1,351	Luxembourg	44,037	Viet Nam	834
Brazil	25,000	Madagascar	4,348	Yugoslavia	60,000
Burma	10,000	Malawi	3,969	Zaire	1,500
Burundi	1,269	Malaysia	30,000	Zambia	5,032
Cameroon	6,383	Mexico	55,037	Zimbabwe	38,337
Canada	12,559,172	Monaco	1,047		
Chile	20,000	Morocco	10,000	Subtotal	291,934,611
China	700,000	Netherlands	7,367,581		
Colombia	18,000	New Zealand	430,392		
Costa Rica	3,264	Norway	13,359,827		
Cyprus	6,613	Oman	716,000	Intergovernmental organizations	
Democratic Kampuchea	500	Pakistan	3,751	European Economic Community	26,307,437
Denmark	9,935,304	Panama	500	United Nations Trust Fund for Southern Africans	200,000
Djibouti	2,000	Philippines	6,000	United Nations Decade for Women	13,323
Egypt	7,302	Portugal	100,000	United Nations Trust Fund for Population Activities	46,526
Finland	2,073,985	Republic of Korea	30,000	United Nations Trust Fund for Humanitarian Assistance to Displaced Persons in Pakistan	165,362
France	2,225,923	Rwanda	4,826	UNICEF	4,965
Germany, Federal Republic of	30,722,140	San Marino	3,000	Subtotal	26,737,613
Ghana	12,987	Saudi Arabia	4,220,526	Private sources	5,497,291
Greece	82,543	Senegal	3,000	Total	324,169,515
Guyana	6,666	Singapore	5,000		
Holy See	2,500	Spain	256,000		
Iceland	30,200	Sri Lanka	2,009		
India	18,780	Sudan	2,404		
Indonesia	4,000	Swaziland	1,633		
Ireland	456,129	Sweden	11,068,359		
Israel	20,000	Switzerland	5,831,363		
Italy	2,155,263	Syrian Arab Republic	12,000		

SOURCE: A/40/5/Add.5.

Accounts of voluntary funds for 1983

The audited financial statements on the voluntary funds administered by UNHCR for the year ended 31 December 1983 showed a total expenditure of \$398 million and total income of \$377.8 million.

After examining the financial statements, the Board of Auditors, in its report(5) transmitted to the General Assembly in June 1984, recommended that efforts be intensified to collect long-outstanding pledges and that cash balances in the field offices be kept to the minimum possible level. Noting that in certain cases procurement was uneconomical, the Board recommended that contracts be awarded to the lowest acceptable bidders in accordance with United Nations practice. For proper monitoring of project activities, it recommended that periodic reports be obtained in time for review; financial closure of completed projects be expedited; and efforts be made to enforce the stipulations of agreements with executing agencies and operating partners and to ensure timely completion of project activities and evaluation reports.

Commenting on the Board's audit in a September report,(6) the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) urged that closer attention be paid to all aspects of the procurement process, both to ensure full compliance with the applicable rules and to achieve optimum use of resources.

In October,(1) the Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme took note of the accounts and the reports of the Board of Auditors and ACABQ, and further noted with appreciation efforts to improve financial planning and control.

The General Assembly by resolution 39/66 accepted the financial report and the audit opinions of the Board, concurred with ACABQ's observations, and requested that the High Commissioner take remedial action as might be required by the Board.

REFERENCES

- (1)A/39/12/Add.1. (2)A/39/12 (E/1984/61). (3)A/AC.96/641 & Corr.1. (4)A/AC.224/SR.1. (5)A/39/5/Add.5 & Add.5/Corr.1. (6)A/39/510.

Activities for refugees

Assistance

In 1984, UNHCR's primary objective remained the promotion of durable solutions for refugees, while continuing to respond to requests for emergency assistance and to pursue care and maintenance programmes (food, shelter, water, health services, education) for refugees for whom no immediate solution could be devised.⁽¹⁾ The High Commissioner could allocate up to \$10 million annually from his Emergency Fund, providing that the amount made available for a single emergency did not exceed \$4 million.

A total of \$9,760,787 was obligated from the Emergency Fund during the year, with a significant part of those funds used in Africa. Some \$2.4 million was used to finance assistance to Ethiopians arriving in eastern Sudan, and \$3.1 million was allocated for refugees from Chad in the Central African Republic. Allocations also were made to Mozambican refugees in Swaziland (\$100,000) and Zimbabwe (\$954,103) and to Angolan refugees in Zaire (\$1,334,310) and Zambia (\$137,442). Elsewhere, \$940,000 was allocated for refugees from Irian Jaya (Indonesia) in Papua New Guinea, with smaller amounts being utilized to assist displaced Lebanese in Cyprus (\$64,957), Spain (\$100,000) and the Syrian Arab Republic (\$150,000) and within Lebanon itself (\$500,000).

To facilitate planning and rapid action, UNHCR launched a series of profiles containing basic data on countries receiving large numbers of refugees. The UNHCR Handbook for Emergencies, published in English in 1982 and in French in 1983, was issued in Spanish. Demand for the English and French language editions remained high. A total of 119 UNHCR/WHO health kits, 30 field kits and 26 office kits were distributed, and a nutrition kit was added to the specialized emergency equipment for staff members and operational partners.

Care and maintenance programmes in 1984 amounted to approximately 59 per cent of total General Programmes expenditures, down from 65.3 per cent in 1983. The largest single programme of that type continued to be for Afghan refugees in Pakistan, for which \$59.2 million was obligated. Some \$48.3 million was obligated for Indo-Chinese refugees in East and South-East Asia, of which \$24.3 million was for refugees in Thailand, pending a more durable solution, which in most cases was resettlement outside the region. A total of \$22.7 million was allocated for Ethiopian refugees in Somalia and \$20 million for activities in Central America, although significant progress towards more durable local settlement programmes was made in Costa Rica, Mexico and Nicaragua.

More than \$103.4 million, or some 30 per cent of General Programmes funds, was used for voluntary repatriation, local integration in the country of first asylum or resettlement. In South-East Asia, following voluntary repatriation of 148 persons from Thailand to the Lao People's Democratic Republic early in 1984, the programme was temporarily suspended. Movements resumed in December and by the end of the year 204 persons had been repatriated, bringing to 2,603 the number voluntarily repatriated since the start of the programme in 1980. A special programme of assistance to Ethiopian returnees was almost fully implemented by the end of 1984, except for one agricultural project in Hararghe Province which, due to severe drought, was in need of support for another planting season. The project had provided some \$17.1 million in food and other aid to 120,000 returnees. The voluntary repatriation of Ethiopian refugees from Djibouti continued throughout 1984, except for the period between January and April when damage to the Djibouti-Dire Dawa railway caused a suspension. In Latin America repatriations to Argentina and Chile continued.

Expenditure on local settlement activities in 1984 amounted to some \$87 million, 25 per cent of General Programmes expenditures. Local settlement projects were carried out in the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Mexico, Somalia, Uganda and Zaire.

Some \$11.8 million was spent on resettling refugees during 1984. Approximately 68,500 Indo-Chinese refugees were resettled; of those, 33,000 were Vietnamese, 26,000 Kampuchean and 9,500 Lao. An additional 29,000 Vietnamese were reunited with family members abroad under the Orderly Departure Programme from Viet Nam. Many countries admitted Indo-Chinese rescued on the high seas by vessels flying their flags. A new scheme, Rescue at Sea Resettlement Offers, was elaborated in 1984 to share more equitably the burden of resettling persons rescued at sea; it was to become operational in 1985. Meanwhile, the Disembarkation Resettlement Offers scheme, which had been in operation for a number of years, continued to ensure the resettlement of persons rescued by vessels flying flags of convenience or of countries not able to accept refugees.

At its October 1984 session,⁽²⁾ the UNHCR Executive Committee stressed the importance of development-oriented assistance to refugees and returnees in developing countries and of their integration into the development process; commended the High Commissioner and concerned Governments for action taken in that direction with UNDP, the World Bank and other organizations; recommended that Governments co-operate with UNHCR in establishing mechanisms for refugee resettlement, with full regard for international protection and material assistance; and called on States to facilitate admission, especially of disabled refugees and of those in emergency situations.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN 1984 BY COUNTRY OR AREA*

(in thousands of US dollars)

country or area	Local settlement	Resettlement	voluntary repatriation	Relief and other assistance	Total
AFRICA					
Algeria	3,534.5	-	4.2	5.0	3,543.7
Angola	5,693.1	-	12.0	345.1	6,050.2
Boswara	1,105.8	31.9	5.4	89.5	1,232.6
Burundi	858.9	0.5	15.0	100.0	974.4
Cameroon	741.9	4.1	1.9	-	747.9
Djibouti	2,651.9	7.8	472.7	175.5	3,307.9
Egypt	2,054.9	190.7	-	83.5	2,329.1
Ethiopia	7,568.0	99.6	5,380.4	376.1	13,424.1
Kenya	2,572.8	27.5	10.0	709.0	3,319.3
Lesotho	584.3	30.0	-	68.1	682.4
Nigeria	891.6	-	0.5	100.0	992.1
Rwanda	4,202.6	4.2	1.7	41.4	4,249.9
Senegal	705.9	187.9	2.6	103.1	999.5
Somalia	27,211.6	2.7	-	15,245.0	42,459.3
Sudan	35,823.6	293.8	350.0	10,823.4	47,290.8
Swaziland	1,093.4	11.4	-	180.0	1,284.8
Uganda	2,307.4	5.4	1,981.1	1,127.0	5,420.9
United Republic of Tanzania	5,215.4	-	80.0	80.7	5,376.1
Zaire	6,928.2	35.0	782.9	1,293.1	9,039.2
Zambia	2,112.8	8.1	153.6	980.7	3,255.2
Zimbabwe	177.7	-	-	2,897.6	3,075.3
Other	3,715.1	11.2	1,198.8	5,215.8	10,140.9
Follow-up on recommendations of Pan-African Conference on Refugees	-	-	-	224.2	224.2
Subtotal	117,751.4	951.8	10,452.8	40,263.8	169,419.8
AMERICAS					
Argentina	2,665.6	47.4	359.9	876.0	3,948.9
Costa Rica	1,920.0	13.0	72.7	5,566.2	7,571.9
Honduras	4,343.2	-	100.0	7,598.8	12,042.0
Mexico	656.7	40.6	575.2	8,475.4	9,747.9
Nicaragua	1,248.3	10.1	66.5	418.5	1,743.4
Peru	425.0	8.0	0.3	62.0	495.3
Other northern Latin America	3,407.5	76.1	52.9	337.2	3,873.7
Other north-western South America	602.9	289.0	44.5	499.1	1,435.5
Other southern Latin America	428.3	2.8	75.0	211.7	717.8
North America	11.7	19.6	89.7	187.9	308.9
Subtotal	15,709.2	506.6	1,436.7	24,232.8	41,885.3
EAST AND SOUTH ASIA AND OCEANIA					
Australia	-	-	5.9	-	5.9
China	4,126.0	59.2	-	11.9	4,197.1
Hang Kong	-	721.1	-	3,983.9	4,705.0
Indonesia	-	903.9	-	3,268.2	4,172.1
Lao People's Democratic Republic	129.5	0.2	630.0	-	759.7
Malaysia	1,395.2	640.0	-	5,106.8	7,142.0
Philippines	-	393.6	3.8	8,671.0	9,068.4
Thailand	-	3,042.7	35.3	28,357.3	31,435.3
Viet Nam	905.5	2,320.0	-	9.0	3,234.5
other	575.3	537.3	1.1	11,348.9	12,462.6
Subtotal	7,131.5	8,618	676.1	60,757	77,182.6
EUROPE					
Austria	251.4	336.4	24.2	72.7	684.7
Belgium	51.9	5.3	72.7	63.1	193.0
France	346.4	61.5	236.2	31.9	676.0
Germany, Federal Republic of	223.6	2.6	54.9	565.0	846.1
Greece	615.7	234.5	-	333.3	1,183.5
Italy	418.2	1,279.6	105.2	997.5	2,800.5
Portugal	376.9	1.0	2.6	74.6	455.1
Spain	156.6	2.7	732.8	150.0	1,042.1
Turkey	59.4	709.9	-	23.6	792.9
United Kingdom	88.9	0.7	10.7	167.6	267.9
Yugoslavia	14.0	220.1	4.2	1,516.9	1,755.2
Other	187.0	75.9	128.4	352.5	743.8
Subtotal	2,790.0	2,930.2	1,371.9	4,348.7	11,440.8

Country or area	Local settlement	Resettlement	Voluntary repatriation	Relief and other assistance	Total
MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH-WEST ASIA					
Cyprus	7,006.5	5.6	-	421.8	7,433.9
Iran	7,502.0	23.5	-	149.5	7,675.0
Lebanon	119.4	7.9	-	515.0	642.3
Pakistan	1,337.8	197.6	-	84,312.6	85,848.0
Western Asia	329.8	233.1	-	231.1	794.0
Subtotal	16,295.5	467.7	-	85,630.0	102,393.2
GLOBAL AND REGIONAL					
	885.7	379.0	143.6	1,020.0	2,428.3
Total	160,563.3	13,853.3	14,081.1	216,252.3	404,750.0

*Not including expenditure for programme support and administration. Including donations in kind, such as food.
SOURCE: A/40/12.

To meet the needs of refugees, UNHCR continued to co-operate with other United Nations organizations. For example, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) promoted small-scale enterprise development and income-generating activities in refugee settlements. In Zaire, under a joint ILO/UNHCR project, 40 self-sustaining refugee co-operatives were set up in the Bas-Fleuve region. Activities included fishing, pisciculture, baking, tailoring, carpentry, shoemaking, soap-making, handicrafts, blacksmithing and marketing of agricultural produce.

The United Nations Children's Fund provided support to programmes related to emergency rehabilitation, water supply and sanitation, health care and education for refugee children. Collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was strengthened by establishing joint guidelines for co-operation in situations requiring longer-term assistance to refugees.

A joint mission was organized by UNHCR and the World Bank in November 1984 to examine an income-generating project for refugee areas in Pakistan. The World Health Organization (WHO) continued to supply medicines to refugees in Africa; joint appointments of UNHCR-WHO health co-ordinators were made for refugee programmes in Pakistan and Somalia. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities co-operated with UNHCR in family planning programmes for Indo-Chinese families in Hong Kong.

The World Food Programme (WFP) continued to meet most of the basic food needs of refugees in many areas of the world.

Africa

There were about 4 million African refugees and returnees in several geographical areas. The largest concentration was in the Horn of Africa and the eastern and central parts of the Sudan, while other concentrations were to be found in

central Africa (Rwanda, the southern part of the Sudan, Uganda and Zaire); in a region involving Burundi, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire; and in southern Africa. The refugee and returnee problem in West Africa most often concerned individual cases of asylum and voluntary repatriation.

An overwhelming majority of refugees were from rural areas, though the proportion of those coming from or arriving in urban and semi-urban areas was increasing. Demographically, the two main groups within the African refugee population were women and children and young adult single males.

Direct international assistance to rural refugees was usually provided in organized settlements or camps in rural areas on land made available by host Governments. Through such programmes, the essential needs for shelter, health and sanitation services, water and transport were covered. In addition, several hundred thousand refugees had spontaneously settled in rural areas of host countries.

All of the African countries that hosted refugees and returnees were at a stage of development where they had great difficulty meeting the basic needs, including infrastructural services, of their nationals. Several were classified as least developed countries. Nevertheless, as a matter of both official government policy and traditional African hospitality, refugees and returnees were most often readily accepted. Local resources, however meagre, were shared with them, and usually UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies were called in to provide additional assistance.

In 1984, UNHCR voluntary fund expenditures in Africa amounted to some \$178.2 million, of which \$131.6 million was obligated under General Programmes and \$46.6 million under Special Programmes.

Continuing drought, particularly in the Horn of Africa and the Sudan, affected UNHCR's efforts to achieve durable solutions for refugees. In late 1984, the High Commissioner launched a special appeal for emergency relief programmes to ensure the survival of refugees in the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan. More than \$100 million was required.

The refugee situation in the Sudan changed dramatically during the latter part of 1984. In eastern Sudan, the harvest failed in the 20 Ethiopian refugee settlements where food self-sufficiency had been expected to be attained. With WFP, UNHCR had to revert to full food aid for the 130,000 refugees in the settlements. That was coupled at the end of the year with the arrival from Ethiopia of up to 3,000 persons a day in search of food, medical care and water as well as a haven from civil disorder. In western Sudan, there was an influx of 60,000 persons from Chad to whom emergency assistance was given.

Governments, WFP and UNHCR renewed their efforts to provide a regular food-supply flow into Somalia, which continued to host a large refugee population; emergency measures, including additional food, were provided to 50,000 new refugees in the north-west and Gedo regions. In the central, south-western and western regions of Uganda, a large number of Rwandese refugees were displaced by unrest and moved into settlements such as Nakivale, Oruchinga and Kyaka. A new settlement—Kyaka II—was established for some 17,000 refugees and 22,000 head of cattle.

South African refugees continued to be assisted by UNHCR (see TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION, Chapter I). More than 27,500 of them continued to reside in Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, which, with Malawi, made up the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC). Assistance included subsistence allowances, scholarships and the promotion of self-sufficiency, either in rural settlements or through individual income-generating activities. The southern African liberation movements recognized by OAU received further support through provision of agricultural equipment for their farms in Angola and the United Republic of Tanzania. Some 70,000 Namibian refugees in Angola, Zambia and other countries also received UNHCR assistance.

A resolution on refugees in Africa was adopted by the OAU Council of Ministers (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 27 February-5 March).⁽³⁾ Reaffirming the need for the OAU Commission of Fifteen on Refugees to undertake missions to OAU member States overburdened by the refugee problem, and to mobilize international assistance to refugees and the host countries, the Council appealed to OAU members to enact amnesty laws ensuring the safety of those returning from exile, and decided to include an item on

the root causes of refugees in Africa in the agenda of its next session. The Council called on SADCC to organize an international conference on the refugee problem in southern Africa.

At its October 1984 session,⁽²⁾ the Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme took note of the considerable increase in resources devoted by the High Commissioner to durable solutions in Africa, and in particular commended his efforts to promote voluntary repatriation.

The General Assembly, in resolution 39/8 on co-operation between the United Nations and OAU, urged Member States and regional and international organizations to continue supporting African refugee programmes and to assist host countries. The Assembly also adopted resolutions on ICARA II; refugees in Djibouti, Somalia and the Sudan; displaced persons in Chad and Ethiopia; and South African student refugees (see below).

Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa

Conference preparations. In the six months prior to ICARA II, preparations focused on completing the required documentation and mobilizing support for its objectives. Two principal documents—one providing a summary of needs,⁽⁴⁾ the other giving background information on each affected country, a detailed description of needs and project outlines⁽⁵⁾—were prepared.

Responsible for the overall direction of the preparatory work was a Steering Committee composed of representatives of the Secretary-General, OAU, UNHCR and UNDP. The inclusion of UNDP underscored the special emphasis on the role of development in support of ongoing refugee programmes and in the search for longer-term solutions. The Committee was assisted by a technical team—personnel from OAU, the United Nations Secretariat, UNDP, UNHCR and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations—which visited host countries to consult with them on the nature and extent of assistance required to strengthen their capacity to cope with the refugee situation.

To mobilize support for ICARA II, the Steering Committee held several meetings with the regional groups, representatives of the United Nations system and NGOs. Committee members also visited traditional and potential donor countries.

Fourteen countries (Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia) indicated that they wished to present their needs to the Conference. The technical team identified 128 projects designed to strengthen and expand infrastructure to benefit refugees, returnees and the local population in the areas concerned.

More specifically, they would aim at developing human resources through basic education, skills training and provision of health and sanitation facilities; strengthening the agricultural base and increasing productivity; and improving transport. Their implementation would require \$362.3 million over a three- to five-year period. Also submitted were proposals for additional assistance in the amount of \$10.9 million to supplement the UNHCR regular programme for 1984; these proposals were made in response to the General Assembly's 1982 call for additional assistance for relief, rehabilitation and resettlement programmes.(6)

The Secretary-General, also in response to that 1982 resolution,(6) submitted in March 1984(5) a report containing a detailed description of needs, project outlines and background information on the refugee situation in Africa. Annexed was a comprehensive report by the Steering Committee, describing the refugee and returnee burden on host countries and the need for continuing and additional assistance to enable Governments to carry out relief, rehabilitation and resettlement programmes, as well as assistance required to strengthen the social and economic infrastructure of host countries. The Secretary-General observed that special emphasis was placed on the need to intensify efforts to achieve lasting solutions to existing refugee situations. Assistance programmes needed to be complemented by increased political and developmental efforts to achieve such solutions, he added. A report on the situation in each of the 14 countries seeking assistance was provided.

Six additional countries-Benin, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti and Guinea-had signified their need for assistance; the last five were visited in September/October by the technical team which reported its findings in November.(7)

The OAU Council of Ministers, at its February/March session,(3) reaffirmed the urgent need for a concerted effort to pursue lasting solutions to the refugee problems in Africa, and urged all invited Governments to participate in ICARA II at the highest level. The Council stressed that, in order to facilitate lasting solutions, assistance for refugees must be development-oriented. It stressed the need for assistance to countries of asylum as well as to those of origin, and appealed for additional resources. It also appealed to UNDP and development agencies to incorporate assistance to refugees and returnees in their development programmes.

The UNDP Governing Council, in a decision of 29 June,(8) requested the UNDP Administrator to support the Conference and the follow-up to it (see p. 468). The Administrator established in 1984 two UNDP trust funds to assist refugees and to combat poverty and hunger in Africa.

Conference action. ICARA II was held at Geneva from 9 to 11 July,(9) attended by 107 participat-

ing States, as well as live States and some 145 governmental and non-governmental organizations in the capacity of observer (for participants and officers, see APPENDIX III). Several Governments announced support in cash, in kind or in principle towards the projects presented to the Conference. Contributions amounting to \$18,531,828 were pledged to help cover the High Commissioner's programme for Africa, including relief, rehabilitation and resettlement programmes in response to the Assembly's 1982 call.(6) In addition, some \$6,241,000 was committed without specification as to its allocation.

The Conference adopted a Declaration and Programme of Action by acclamation. In the Declaration, it recognized that caring for refugees was a global responsibility. It stated that, in dealing with the African refugee situation, special account must be taken of regionally relevant legal instruments, such as the Charter and resolutions of OAU and the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa.(10) The Conference stated that the recommendations of the 1979 Arusha Conference on the Situation of Refugees in Africa,(11) remained important for protecting and assisting African refugees and that the 92 recommendations adopted in March 1983 at a meeting between OAU and voluntary agencies constituted a realistic approach to the refugee problem in Africa. In the Conference's view, the entry into force of the 1981 OAU Charter of Human and People's Rights(12) would contribute to reducing the number of refugees. Everything possible must be done to prevent the causes of refugee flows and resolve the problem of African refugees, the Conference stated. International co-operation to that effect must be strengthened, and States must refrain from measures aggravating refugee problems. Essential conditions for repatriation, the best means of promoting permanent solutions, should be established, either through amnesty laws or respect for the principle of non-refoulement. Where voluntary return was not feasible, conditions should be created for temporary settlement or integration of refugees within the country of asylum. For solutions to last, assistance to refugees must aim at their participation, productivity and durable self-reliance; should be development-oriented; and in least developed countries should take into account the needs of local people as well.

The Programme of Action covered voluntary repatriation, local settlement, infrastructural assistance, the process and structures for providing assistance, and Conference follow-up. It pointed out that further fact-finding missions, accurate data collection and feasibility studies might be necessary. The Secretary-General, in co-operation with OAU, was requested to monitor follow-up, and Governments were requested to keep him informed of any action taken relating to Conference projects.

Reporting to the General Assembly on ICARA II results and follow-up in November/December 1984,(13) as requested in the Programme of Action, the Secretary-General stated that pledges or contributions in cash or kind had been received from 27 countries-Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Yugoslavia.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 December, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted without vote resolution 39/139.

Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/197 of 18 December 1982 and 38/120 of 16 December 1983,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, held at Geneva from 9 to 11 July 1984,

Welcoming the results obtained by the Conference, in particular the adoption of the Declaration and Programme of Action, which provide the international community with a collective strategy to achieve lasting solutions,

Gravely concerned at the persistent and serious problem of large numbers of refugees on the African continent,

Aware of the economic and social burden borne by African countries of asylum on account of the presence of these refugees and its consequences for their national development and of the heavy sacrifices made by them, despite their limited resources,

Recognizing the universal collective responsibility of sharing the urgent and overwhelming burden of the problem of African refugees through effective mobilization of resources to meet the urgent and long-term needs of the refugees and to strengthen the capacity of countries of asylum to provide adequately for the refugees while they remain in those countries, as well as to assist the countries of origin in the rehabilitation of voluntary returnees,

Emphasizing the vital importance of the complementarity between refugee aid and development assistance, Noting with satisfaction the wide participation of Member States, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and the commitments and pledges made at the Conference,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme for their commendable effort in organizing the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa;

2. Endorses the Declaration and Programme of Action of the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa;

3. Expresses its deep appreciation to African host countries, which are the biggest donors, for their generous contribution and continuous efforts to alleviate the plight of refugees in spite of their critical economic situation;

4. Expresses once again its appreciation to the international community and, in particular, to all donor countries, specialized agencies, regional organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their support and initial response to the projects submitted to the Conference;

5. Urges the international community to maintain the momentum created by the Conference and to translate into reality the projects submitted as well as the principles in the Declaration and Programme of Action agreed upon by the Conference;

6. Emphasizes the vital importance of the complementarity of refugee aid and development assistance and of achieving durable solutions to the problems of refugees in Africa through the voluntary repatriation or local integration of refugees and the necessity of providing assistance for the strengthening of the social and economic infrastructures of African countries receiving refugees and returnees;

7. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to keep the situation of refugees in Africa under constant review with a view to providing adequate humanitarian assistance for relief and expanded durable solutions;

8. Calls upon all pertinent organizations of the United Nations system, as well as relevant regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to lend their support, within their respective spheres of competence, to the realization of the goals of the Conference;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with the Declaration and Programme of Action, to monitor, in consultation and close co-operation with the Organization of African Unity and, in particular, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Development Programme, the follow-up to the Conference;

10. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution.

General Assembly resolution 39/139

14 December 1984 Meeting 101 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/39/709) without vote, 26 November (meeting 50); draft by Cameroon, for African Group (A/C.3/39/L.38); agenda item 100 (b). Meeting numbers. GA 39th session: 3rd Committee 36, 38-41, 47, 50; plenary 101.

The United States and Israel declared that, while they had joined in the consensus on the text, they did not accept every provision contained in the various documents and instruments referred to in the Declaration endorsed by it. In particular, they disagreed with the 1981 OAU Charter of Human and People's Rights, which they felt was gravely flawed by its call for the elimination of Zionism.

In a related action, the Assembly, in resolution 39/8 on co-operation between the United Nations and OAU, expressed appreciation to the United Nations Secretary-General, the OAU Secretary-General, the High Commissioner and the UNDP Administrator for organizing ICARA II, and invited Governments and organizations to implement the Declaration and Programme of Action.

Chad

On 9 October 1984, Chad reiterated before the General Assembly its appeal for international emergency aid to help it cope with the consequences of the exodus of population and livestock from the north, east and centre to other parts of the country, caused by civil strife and drought and deterioration of the environment.

Appeals for aid to Chad were also made by the Secretary-General, the latest on 1 November (see p. 467).

As follow-up to ICARA II (see p. 943), a technical team visited the country to help formulate infrastructural assistance programmes to cope with the refugee situation.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 December, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted without vote resolution 39/106.

Emergency assistance to returnees and displaced persons in Chad

The General Assembly,

Gravely concerned by the unprecedented drought which is wreaking havoc in Chad at the present time, compounding the already precarious food and health situation in that country,

Conscious that the large number of voluntary returnees and displaced persons as a result of the war and the drought in Chad poses a serious problem of integrating them into society,

Considering that, in addition to being a land-locked country and one of the least developed countries, Chad is placed in a particularly difficult situation by reason of the war and the drought,

Bearing in mind the many appeals made by the Government of Chad, in particular that made on 9 October 1984 to the General Assembly, and by humanitarian organizations regarding the gravity of the food and health situation in Chad,

Recalling the urgent appeal of the Secretary-General dated 1 November 1984 for international emergency assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad afflicted by natural disasters,

1. Endorses the appeals made by the Government of Chad and the Secretary-General concerning emergency assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

2. Invites all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support by generous contributions the efforts being made by the Government of Chad to assist and resettle the voluntary returnees and displaced persons;

3. Takes note with approval of the action undertaken by the various bodies of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies with a view to mobilizing emergency humanitarian assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

4. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to mobilize, in accordance with their respec-

tive mandates, emergency humanitarian assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

General Assembly resolution 39/106

14 December 1984 Meeting 101 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/39/700) without vote, 6 December (meeting 63); 37-nation draft (A/C.3/39/L.41/Rev.1); agenda item 12.

Sponsors: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Democratic Kampuchea, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, United States, Vanuatu, Zaire. Meeting numbers. GA 39th session: 3rd Committee 63: plenary 27, 101.

In resolution 39/195, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to monitor, in close collaboration with the agencies concerned, the humanitarian needs, particularly in the area of food and health, of the people of Chad displaced by war and drought. It further requested him to mobilize special humanitarian assistance for persons who had suffered as a result of the war and drought and for the resettlement of displaced persons.

Djibouti

The High Commissioner, in a September 1984(14) report submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with its December 1983 request,(15) stated that in Djibouti the limited water supply, further diminished by the current drought, had hindered the local integration of rural refugees from Ethiopia and that voluntary repatriation had remained the most viable of the standard durable solutions. By the end of June, some 14,000 of an estimated 35,000 refugees had left Djibouti and returned to Ethiopia where they were registered in UNHCR reception centres. Meanwhile, efforts continued to improve conditions for refugees in camps in the Djibouti districts of Ali Sabieh and Dikhil. Assistance measures consisted of food distribution! construction of communal facilities, improvements in supply and storage of potable water and upgrading of sanitary conditions.

The Government, through its Office national d'assistance aux réfugiés et sinistrés (ONARS), continued to act as UNHCR's main implementing partner. Most basic food items were donated through WFP and the Catholic Relief Services. A number of voluntary agencies assisted UNHCR and ONARS with specific aspects of the assistance programme, including primary education, vocational training, language classes, adult education, building work, agricultural activities and medical care. In view of conditions in the country and the voluntary repatriation programme, it was not deemed feasible to present projects relating to local integration of refugees to ICARA II, the High Commissioner stated.

However, as follow-up to ICARA II (see p. 943) a technical team sent by the Secretary-General visited the country to help develop projects relating to the strengthening of infrastructure in areas with refugees.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 December, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted without vote resolution 39/107.

Humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti
The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 35/182 of 15 December 1980, 36/156 of 16 December 1981, 37/176 of 17 December 1982 and 38/89 of 16 December 1983 on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti,

Having heard the statement made on 12 November 1984 by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Having considered with satisfaction reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti,

Appreciating the determined and sustained efforts made by the Government of Djibouti, despite its modest economic resources and limited means, to cope with the pressing needs of the refugees,

Aware of the social and economic burden placed on the Government and people of Djibouti as a result of the presence of refugees and of the consequent impact on the development and infrastructure of the country,

Deeply concerned about the continuing plight of the refugees and displaced persons in the country, which has been aggravated by the devastating effects of the prolonged drought,

Noting with appreciation the steps taken by the Government of Djibouti, in close co-operation with the High Commissioner, to implement adequate, appropriate and lasting solutions in respect of the refugees in Djibouti,

Also noting with appreciation the concern and unremitting efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the voluntary agencies which have worked closely with the Government of Djibouti in the relief and rehabilitation programme for the refugees in that country,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti and appreciates his efforts to keep their situation under constant review;

2. Welcomes the steps taken by the Government of Djibouti, in close co-operation with the High Commissioner, to implement adequate, appropriate and lasting solutions in respect of the refugees in Djibouti;

3. Requests the High Commissioner to mobilize the necessary resources to implement lasting solutions in respect of the refugees in Djibouti;

4. Urges the High Commissioner to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure that adequate, appropriate and lasting solutions are implemented to assist the refugees in Djibouti, in co-operation with Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the voluntary agencies concerned, with a view to mobilizing the necessary assistance to enable the Government of Djibouti to cope effectively with the refugee problem, which has

been particularly aggravated by the debilitating effects of the prolonged drought;

5. Appreciates the assistance provided thus far by Member States, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and voluntary agencies to the relief and rehabilitation programmes for the refugees and displaced persons in Djibouti;

6. Calls upon all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and voluntary agencies to continue to support the efforts constantly being made by the Government of Djibouti to cope with the current needs of the refugees and the other victims of drought in that country;

7. Requests the High Commissioner, in close co-operation with the Secretary-General, to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

General Assembly resolution 39/107

14 December 1984 Meeting 101 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/39/700) without vote, 6 December (meeting 63): 76-nation draft (A/C.3/39/L.42/Rev.1); agenda item 12.

Sponsors: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Meeting numbers. GA 39th session: 3rd Committee 36, 63; plenary 101.

By resolution 39/200, the Assembly appealed for financial, technical and material assistance for Djibouti.

Ethiopia

In response to a December 1983 General Assembly resolution,(16) the Secretary-General submitted a report in September 1984(17) on assistance to displaced persons in Ethiopia. He reported that the first voluntary repatriation of Ethiopian refugees in Djibouti, under the 1983 tripartite agreement between Djibouti, Ethiopia and UNHCR(18) had occurred between September 1983 and September 1984. There had been some 14,340 registered repatriations, 6,497 persons having returned spontaneously and 7,846 under the organized repatriation programme. All registered repatriates were eligible to receive reintegration and rehabilitation assistance for one year from their date of arrival in Ethiopia. A total of \$8.2 million had been budgeted for that special assistance programme, including \$2.2 million for basic food provided through WFP. Fourteen focal points had been designated along the Dire Dawa-Dewele railway and at the time of their registration the returnees were able to choose their destination. A 1980 amnesty proclamation by Ethiopia had been extended until the end of 1984.

Since March 1983, a sizeable influx of people into the Ogaden had been reported, comprising a mix of returnees and refugees. Following a UNHCR fact-

finding mission, the League of Red Cross Societies was completing their registration, and an emergency assistance programme had been developed. Since May 1983, there had been an influx into the Gambela/Itang area, estimated at 47,000 refugees. A \$1.1-million emergency assistance programme was initiated there in November 1983 and renewed with an additional \$2.8 million for the period from April to December 1984. The number of UNHCR staff in Ethiopia was increased from 15 to 38 between 1981 and 1984.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 December 1984, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted without vote resolution 39/105.

Assistance to displaced persons in Ethiopia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 35/91 of 5 December 1980, 36/161 of 16 December 1981, 37/175 of 17 December 1982 and 38/91 of 16 December 1983 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/54 of 24 July 1980 and 1982/2 of 27 April 1982,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General, prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/8 of 28 April 1980,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to displaced persons in Ethiopia,

Having heard the statement made on 12 November 1984 by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Recognizing the increasing number of voluntary returnees and refugees in Ethiopia,

Deeply concerned at the plight of displaced persons and voluntary returnees in the country, which has been aggravated by the devastating effect of the prolonged drought,

Aware of the heavy burden placed on the Government of Ethiopia in caring for displaced persons and victims of natural disasters, as well as for returnees and refugees,

1. Commends the efforts made so far by various organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in mobilizing humanitarian assistance to assist the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia;

2. Appeals to Member States and to international organizations and voluntary agencies to render maximum material, financial and technical assistance to the Government of Ethiopia in its efforts to provide relief and rehabilitation to displaced persons, voluntary returnees and refugees in Ethiopia;

3. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to intensify his efforts in mobilizing humanitarian assistance for the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of voluntary returnees, refugees and displaced persons in Ethiopia;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the High Commissioner, to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1985, of the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fortieth session,

General Assembly resolution 39/105

14 December 1984 Meeting 101 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/39/700) without vote, 6 December (meeting 63); 67-nation draft (A/C.3/39/L.34), orally revised; agenda item 12.

Sponsors: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Meeting numbers. GA 39th session: 3rd Committee 36, 63; plenary 101.

According to amendments proposed by Somalia, later withdrawn,(19) the Assembly would have spoken of "genuine and voluntary returnees" and deleted references to "refugees".

In resolution 39/201, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue mobilizing assistance for the victims of drought in Ethiopia who wished to resettle.

Somalia

In pursuance of a December 1983 Assembly resolution,(20) the High Commissioner prepared a review of the needs of refugees in Somalia. In his report, submitted to the Assembly in September 1984,(21) he stated that Somalia was attempting to cope with an estimated 700,000 refugees while facing critical economic and social problems arising from weak economic infrastructure, limited natural resources and a difficult international economic environment. The refugees were located in 36 widely scattered camps in four regions—Hiran, Gedo, the north-west and lower Shebelle. Approximately 60 per cent of the refugees were children under 15 years of age, 30 per cent women and 10 per cent men.

The search for durable solutions remained a top priority. Somalia had reaffirmed its position that voluntary repatriation remained the most appropriate long-term solution, but that in the mean time a programme of local settlement would be formulated through which the refugees would be able to attain a degree of self-sufficiency impossible in the camps. To implement the local settlement programme, a new organizational structure had been established comprising a steering committee, a technical unit and executing agencies. The steering committee was chaired by a representative of the Somali National Refugee Commission and composed of representatives of the Somali Ministry of Planning, UNDP and UNHCR. It would be supported by the technical unit consisting of a rural settlements specialist, an agronomist, a water development expert and a physical planner. The steering committee had met twice and examined two projects submitted by the Government: salt production in Tokoshi village, in the north-west, for 1,000 families, and agricultural land settlement in Furjano in the lower Shebelle region for 3,000 families. An estimated \$128.3 million would be required for assistance in 1985, an increase of some \$2.6 million over 1984.

In preparing for ICARA II (see p. 942), a technical team visited Somalia, as well as 13 other African countries, to help it identify projects for strengthening infrastructure in areas with refugees.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 December 1984, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted without vote resolution 39/104.

Assistance to refugees in Somalia The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 35/180 of 15 December 1980, 36/53 of 16 December 1981, 37/174 of 17 December 1982 and 38/88 of 16 December 1983 on the question of assistance to refugees in Somalia,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on assistance to refugees in Somalia, in particular section IV of that report,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, held at Geneva from 9 to 11 July 1984,

Deeply concerned that the refugee problem in Somalia has not yet been resolved,

Aware of the additional burden imposed by the new influx of refugees and the consequent urgent need for further international assistance,

Aware of serious shortfalls in the provision of food assistance, which have resulted in critical ration restrictions and extreme hardship in refugee camps in Somalia,

Recognizing from the recommendations contained in the report of the High Commissioner that there remains an urgent need for increased assistance in the provision of food, water and medicine, the strengthening of health and educational facilities in the refugee camps and the expansion of the number of self-help schemes and small-scale farming and settlement projects necessary for the promotion of self-reliance among the refugees,

Aware of the continued consequences of the social and economic burden placed on the Government and people of Somalia as a result of the continued presence of refugees and the consequent impact on national development and the infrastructure of the country,

1. Takes note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner for their continued efforts to mobilize international assistance on behalf of the refugees in Somalia;

3. Takes note with satisfaction of the assistance rendered to refugees in Somalia by various Member States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and other concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

4. Appeals to Member States, international organizations and voluntary agencies to render maximum material, financial and technical assistance to the Government of Somalia in its efforts to provide all necessary assistance to the refugees, and to fulfil the pledges undertaken at or after the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa to support the developmental and other essential projects which were submitted by the Government of Somalia, as a matter of urgency;

5. Requests the High Commissioner, in consultation

with the Secretary-General, to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1985, of the refugee situation in Somalia;

6. Also requests the High Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to submit to the General Assembly at its fortieth session a report on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

General Assembly resolution 39/104

14 December 1984 Meeting 101 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/39/700) without vote, 6 December (meeting 63); 60-nation draft (A/C.3/39/L.32); agenda item 12.

Sponsors: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Botswana, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Democratic Kampuchea, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Guatemala, Guyana, Indonesia, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia.

By resolution 39/205, the Assembly called for assistance to Somalia, as one of the countries in East Africa stricken by drought.

Sudan

The High Commissioner, in response to a December 1983 General Assembly resolution, (22) reported in September 1984 (23) that refugees were continuing to seek asylum in the Sudan, and by the end of March had reached an estimated 699,700. Approximately 498,700 were from Ethiopia, 195,000 from Uganda, 5,000 from Zaire and 1,000 from Chad. The influx into eastern Sudan was continuing at the rate of 200 to 300 persons per day, and two new transit centres had been established for their reception and sustenance. Throughout the Sudan, more than 30 voluntary agencies were assisting refugees and in many cases complementing UNHCR resources.

The assistance programme continued to emphasize the creation of settlements in which agriculture was the main economic activity. There were 26 such settlements in eastern and 47 in southern Sudan. Progress was being made towards providing sufficient land and water for the settlements, particularly in the south. Plans were being completed by UNHCR together with ILO to implement a package of income-generating activities designed to reduce the dependence of refugees on agricultural production and the vagaries of related employment. Some 15 projects would benefit about 11,000 households and maximize the participation of female household heads. The Sudan was host to UNHCR'S largest education programme for refugees; some 6,000 students were being assisted in academic, vocational and technical fields at the post-primary level. Assistance was being given to construct, upgrade or maintain eight new intermediate schools, and two refugee teacher-training programmes had been set up in the eastern region, one in English and one in Arabic.

In southern Sudan, UNHCR/UNDP co-operation aimed at integrated development for the benefit of both refugees and local inhabitants.

In addition to these assistance programmes, the Sudan presented 30 projects totalling \$92.6 million to ICARA II.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

Acting on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly on 14 December adopted without vote resolution 39/108.

Situation of refugees in the Sudan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 35/181 of 15 December 1980, 36/158 of 16 December 1981, 37/173 of 17 December 1982 and 38/90 of 16 December 1983 on the situation of refugees in the Sudan,

Having considered the reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the situation of refugees in the Sudan,

Taking note of the ever-increasing number of refugees arriving in the Sudan,

Appreciating the measures which the Government of the Sudan is taking in order to provide shelter, food, education, and health and other humanitarian services to the growing number of refugees in the Sudan,

Recognizing the heavy burden placed on the Government of the Sudan and the sacrifices it is making in caring for the refugees and the need for more international assistance to enable it to continue its efforts to provide assistance to the refugees,

Expressing its appreciation for the assistance rendered to the Sudan by Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in support of the refugee programme,

1. Takes note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the inter-agency technical follow-up missions, as well as in the implementation of resolution 38/90;

2. Commends the measures that the Government of the Sudan is taking to provide shelter, food, education, and health and other humanitarian services to the refugees, in spite of the drought and the serious economic situation it faces;

3. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner, donor countries and voluntary agencies for their efforts to assist the refugees in the Sudan;

4. Recognizes the need for development-oriented projects that would generate work opportunities and long-term livelihood for refugees and local people in affected areas, and, in this context, commends the efforts of the High Commissioner and the International Labour Office to create income-generating activities for refugees in the Sudan;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to mobilize the necessary financial and material assistance for the full implementation of the recommendations of the various inter-agency missions and of the projects submitted by the Government of the Sudan to the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, held at Geneva from 9 to 11 July 1984;

6. Appeals to Member States, the appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international financial institutions to provide the Government of the Sudan with the necessary

resources for the implementation of development assistance projects in regions affected by the presence of refugees, as envisaged in the reports of the various inter-agency missions, and to strengthen its social and economic infrastructure so that essential services and facilities for refugees can be strengthened and expanded;

7. Requests the High Commissioner to continue co-ordination with the appropriate specialized agencies in order to consolidate and ensure the continuation of essential services to the refugees in their settlements;

8. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation and co-ordination with the High Commissioner and the United Nations Development Programme, to submit to the General Assembly at its fortieth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive report on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the inter-agency technical follow-up missions and of the projects submitted by the Government of the Sudan to the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, as well as on the implementation of the present resolution.

General Assembly resolution 39/108

14 December 1984 Meeting 101 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/39/700) without vote, 6 December (meeting 63): 78-nation draft (A/C.3/39/L.45); agenda item 12.

Sponsors: Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gambia, Germany, Federal Republic of Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

In resolution 39/205, the Assembly urged for an assistance programme to help meet the needs of the people of the Sudan, as one of the six countries in East Africa affected by drought.

Southern African student refugees

Pursuant to a December 1983 General Assembly request,⁽²⁴⁾ the High Commissioner submitted in September 1984 a report⁽²⁵⁾ on assistance to student refugees in southern Africa between 1 July 1983 and 30 June 1984—in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

An average of 20 refugee students were arriving monthly in Botswana from South Africa and Namibia; 25 South African and seven Namibian students were enrolled in institutions of higher education in Botswana, and 15 South African and 17 Namibian students were enrolled in secondary schools. Some 11,500 refugees, mainly South Africans, of school age were in Lesotho, about 1,300 of whom were registered with UNHCR, and received assistance. Among the 7,000 refugees in Swaziland, 210 South African students were attending educational institutions. In Zambia, 5,008 Namibians and 272 South Africans received educational assistance from UNHCR. Zimbabwe recorded the arrival of 152 South African student refugees (see TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION, Chapter I).

The High Commissioner noted that all of the projects to alleviate the burden imposed on asylum countries by the presence of student refugees had been successfully completed. Projects being financed by UNHCR or in co-operation with UNHCR in the period under review totalled \$4.2 million.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 December 1984, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted without vote resolution 39/109.

Assistance to student refugees in southern Africa The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 38/95 of 16 December 1983, in which it, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to continue to organize and implement an effective programme of educational and other appropriate assistance for student refugees from Namibia and South Africa who have been granted asylum in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia,

Having considered the report of the High Commissioner on the assistance programme to student refugees from South Africa and Namibia,

Noting with appreciation that some of the projects recommended in the report on assistance to student refugees in southern Africa have been successfully completed,

Noting with concern the continued influx into Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia of student refugees from South Africa, as well as from Namibia,

Convinced that the discriminatory policies and repressive measures being applied in South Africa and Namibia have led and continue to lead to a further exodus of student refugees from those countries,

Conscious of the burden placed on the limited financial, material and administrative resources of the host countries by the increasing number of student refugees,

Appreciating the efforts of the host countries to deal with their student refugee populations, with the assistance of the international community,

1. Endorses the assessments and recommendations contained in the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and commends him for his efforts to mobilize resources and organize the programme of assistance for student refugees in the host countries of southern Africa;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia for granting asylum and making educational and other facilities available to the student refugees, in spite of the pressure which the continuing influx of those refugees exerts on facilities in their countries;

3. Also expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia for the co-operation which they have extended to the High Commissioner on matters concerning the welfare of these refugees;

4. Notes with appreciation the financial and material support provided for the student refugees by Member States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, other bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

5. Requests the High Commissioner, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, to continue to organize and implement an effective programme of educational and other appropriate assistance for student refugees from Namibia and South Africa who have been granted asylum in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia;

6. Urges all Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue contributing generously to the assistance programme for student refugees, through financial support of the regular programmes of the High Commissioner and of the projects and programmes, including unfunded projects, which were submitted to the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, held at Geneva from 9 to 11 July 1984;

7. Also urges all Member States and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to assist the countries of asylum materially and otherwise to enable them to continue to discharge their humanitarian obligations towards refugees;

8. Appeals to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as other international and non-governmental organizations, to continue providing humanitarian and development assistance to expedite the settlement of student refugees from South Africa who have been granted asylum in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia;

9. Calls upon agencies and programmes of the United Nations system to continue co-operating with the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner in the implementation of humanitarian programmes of assistance for the student refugees in southern Africa;

10. Requests the High Commissioner, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, to continue to keep the matter under review, to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1985, of the current status of the programmes and to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

General Assembly resolution 39/109

14 December 1984 Meeting 101 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/39/700) without vote, 6 December (meeting 64); 42-nation draft (A/C.3/39/L.54); agenda item 12.

Sponsors: Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Togo, Trinidad, and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Meeting numbers. GA 39th session: 3rd Committee 61, 64; plenary 101.

The Americas and Europe

UNHCR obligations in the Americas and Europe totalled \$57.4 million in 1984, of which \$54.9 million was under General Programmes and \$2.5 million under Special Programmes.(1)

The Americas

During 1984, voluntary repatriation movements to Argentina and Chile continued.

The number of refugees in Central America and Mexico increased only slightly, from some 330,000

to 338,000, about 103,200 of whom were assisted by UNHCR. Efforts to integrate refugees in rural areas were pursued in Belize, Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama. Measures aimed at urban integration were undertaken in Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Panama.

In Honduras, some 19,500 Salvadorian and 500 Guatemalan refugees continued to receive assistance in camps near the western border, notably in Colomoncagua, Mesa Grande and El Tesoro. Honduras reversed a decision to transfer those refugees from the border area to the northern part of the country, requiring that UNHCR care and maintenance assistance continue. Approximately 15,500 Nicaraguan refugees of Indian origin continued to receive local integration assistance. Some 3,700 other Nicaraguan refugees were benefiting from UNHCR care and maintenance assistance in two small villages in the area of Danli. It was expected that most of the refugees would become self-sufficient in regard to food requirements in 1985.

In Mexico, nearly 26,500 Guatemalan refugees continued to receive care and maintenance despite a difficult logistical situation. During the latter part of 1984, Mexico and UNHCR began to establish local settlements for some 16,500 Guatemalan refugees.

At its October 1984 session,(2) the Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme noted the emergence of new prospects for durable solutions in Central America and Mexico through local settlement and voluntary repatriation and requested the High Commissioner and States concerned to continue exploring and promoting such solutions.

Europe

The flow of asylum-seekers into Western Europe continued to increase in 1984, particularly from developing countries and certain countries in Eastern Europe. The number of asylum-seekers totalled some 103,500, compared to about 100,000 the previous year. The countries receiving the most asylum-seekers continued to be the Federal Republic of Germany and France; the influx into the former almost doubled to 35,300 and that into the latter increased marginally to 15,900. Sweden was third, taking some 14,000 persons. In relation to its population, Switzerland again received the highest percentage of refugees in Europe.

An increasing reluctance on the part of many European Governments to accept refugees and persons in refugee-like situations was noted. Sometimes, restrictive measures were taken to curb the flow. To discourage economic migrants from utilizing the asylum procedure, Governments applied such deterrents as prohibition from working and reduction of social benefits while applications were being examined. Preoccupied with domestic economic difficulties and the increasing burden of asylum-

seekers, certain Governments were unwilling to maintain their traditionally generous admission criteria. That trend coincided with a decrease in admission of refugees by the traditional resettlement countries. As a result, refugees awaiting resettlement became more apparent in first-asylum countries—Austria, Greece, Italy, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

A contact group of government, UNHCR and NGO representatives, established following the September 1983 seminar on the integration of refugees in Europe,(26) met twice in 1984 to follow up on the seminar's recommendations. The group made proposals for a legal and institutional framework for refugee integration, including mobilizing public opinion and promoting the employment and self-employment of refugees. It suggested that UNHCR prepare a note on significant developments in refugee integration in each country.

At its October 1984 session,(2) the Executive Committee noted with deep regret that restrictive practices were being followed with respect to the granting of asylum, the determination of refugee status and the treatment of asylum-seekers and refugees. It expressed satisfaction that despite those trends States were continuing to grant asylum to large numbers of refugees and to ensure that they were treated in accordance with international humanitarian standards.

East and South Asia and Oceania

By the end of 1984, the number of Indo-Chinese refugees in camps and centres in asylum countries in East and South Asia and Oceania stood at 160,217, of whom 36,117 were boat people. That represented the lowest number of registered refugees in the region since 1977. The largest refugee population was in Thailand, which hosted 82,094 Lao, 41,619 Kampucheans and 4,726 Vietnamese. Other countries and territories providing temporary asylum to significant numbers of refugees included Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore. In addition, two refugee processing centres, at Bataan in the Philippines and Galang in Indonesia, were providing temporary accommodation to nearly 16,000 Indo-Chinese who had been accepted for resettlement and were in transit. There were also some 276,000 Indo-Chinese refugees in China and an estimated 21,000 receiving UNHCR assistance in Viet Nam.

In China, the planned phasing-out of assistance to the 276,000 Indo-Chinese refugees settled on State farms in various provinces continued; at the end of 1984, only some 56,000 refugees were still receiving assistance. Some 1,200 Kampucheans, who were considered to be self-sufficient, chose to remain in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, following repatriation of the majority of Kampuchean refugees; some 21,000 UNHCR - assisted Kampuchean refugees in Viet Nam had not reached self-sufficiency

Assistance to refugees in the East Malaysian State of Sabah aimed at socio-economic integration through the improvement of housing, construction of schools and further development of counselling services to deal with refugee needs. Following the arrival in Papua New Guinea of some 10,000 refugees from the province of Irian Jaya, Indonesia, UNHCR launched an emergency programme in camps along the border, providing food, water, shelter, medicines and domestic supplies.

During the year, \$71.6 million was obligated for assistance to refugees in East and South Asia and Oceania under General Programmes and \$10.2 million under Special Programmes. Of that, some \$53.2 million was used for Indo-Chinese refugees.

In October,(2) the High Commissioner told the Executive Committee that there had been little progress in voluntary repatriation in South-East Asia. He had reached agreement with Thailand on the basic conditions for repatriation, but obstacles still existed to any major organized repatriation to Kampuchea and, although repatriation to the Lao People's Democratic Republic had been going on for some time, it had recently encountered obstacles. Viet Nam had informed him that its situation would not currently permit the return of significant numbers of refugees, but that individual applications would be considered on a case-by-case basis. He was encouraged by the success of the Orderly Departure Programme from Viet Nam and by the conclusion of a new arrangement with Thailand to extend the Anti-Piracy Programme for another year. He hoped that UNHCR appeals, made jointly with the International Maritime Organization to shipowners and masters not to turn a blind eye when they came across a refugee boat in distress, would continue to be heard.

The Executive Committee(2) welcomed the continuing co-operation between Governments and UNHCR concerning the operation of the Orderly Departure Programme.

In an October report on the situation in Kampuchea,(27) the Secretary-General said that during the past five years assistance programmes had channelled a substantial amount of aid to the Kampuchean people. The Kampucheans who had sought refuge along the Thai-Kampuchean border and those in the Khao-I-Dang UNHCR holding centre remained dependent on assistance. The year had again been one of much difficulty for the United Nations Border Relief Operation, mainly as a result of armed border incidents.

During the year, the Secretary-General received a number of communications related to incidents on the common borders of Democratic Kampuchea, Thailand and Viet Nam, which also dealt with the Indo-Chinese refugee problem (see p. 214).

Middle East and South-West Asia

In 1984, total voluntary funds expenditure in the Middle East and South-West Asia was \$104.3 million, of which \$68.7 million was obligated under General Programmes and \$35.5 million under Special Programmes.

An estimated 2.3 million Afghans in Pakistan represented the largest concentration of refugees in the world. UNHCR shifted its emphasis in 1984 from care and maintenance assistance towards self-help and self-reliance, including projects to provide training and employment. Training projects were being funded by UNHCR and implemented by ILO and the Federal Republic of Germany in Baluchistan and the North-West Frontier province. A UNHCR-World Bank project to provide employment and income for refugees as well as the local population was also being implemented in those areas. Relocation by Pakistan of part of the refugee population from the North-West Frontier to the Punjab progressed slowly; by the end of 1984, approximately 90,000 refugees were registered at Kot Chandana in Mianwali district. A new site was developed in nearby Darratang, which was to accommodate an additional 15,000 refugees.

The number of Afghan refugees in Iran was estimated at 1.8 million, of whom more than 50 per cent were living in Khorasan and Sistan-Blaluchistan provinces. In October, a UNHCR office was established at Teheran. During 1984, \$7.5 million was obligated in support of programmes implemented by the Council for Afghan Refugees in the areas of health, nutrition, water and sanitation, infrastructure, household and personal equipment, transport, agriculture, training and self-help activities.

UNHCR continued to provide emergency assistance to some 100,000 families uprooted in Lebanon. During the first part of 1984, \$500,000 was allocated for the purchase and transport of basic relief supplies. Despite precarious circumstances, the UNHCR regional office in Beirut continued to provide assistance to some 2,900 refugees.

In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNHCR provided relief items for Lebanese and Palestinians not registered with UNRWA who had taken refuge in that country and were residing in the Sitti Zeinab camp.

In Cyprus, UNHCR continued to co-ordinate aid to persons displaced as a result of the 1974 event(28) (see p. 251). It also assisted some 1,750 Ethiopian refugees of Eritrean origin residing in the Al Khaukha camp on the Red Sea coast of Yemen.

Refugee protection

During 1984, the exercise of the High Commissioner's international protection functions encountered serious difficulties in different areas of the world due to the absence of readily available and adequate durable solutions. Violations of the physical safety of refugees continued; refugees suffered injury and

death through military or armed attacks on refugee camps, abduction and pirate attacks at sea.

Acts of piracy continued against asylum-seekers in the South China Sea, although there was an encouraging decline in the percentage of boats attacked. Of the boats arriving in Thailand and Malaysia, 34 per cent were attacked in 1984 compared with 43 per cent in 1983. However, the level of violence in such attacks remained high; during 1984, 130 abductions were reported, 110 women were known to have been sexually assaulted, and there were 59 known deaths. Under the Anti-Piracy Programme established by UNHCR and Thailand,(29) which was extended for a third year through the co-operation of a number of Governments, countermeasures included sea and air patrols, follow-up investigation and prosecution of suspects, and nation-wide registration of fishing boats.

A disquieting development was a tendency on the part of several States to refuse or withdraw asylum for some refugees in order to maintain good relations with their countries of origin which were seeking to have them returned or expelled. That occurred, for example, when refugees had to leave their countries of asylum, where some had lawfully resided for a number of years, due to the conclusion of security agreements between their country of origin and neighbouring countries. When expulsion measures were adopted in such cases, UNHCR was usually given a very short period within which to secure admission for those affected to another country.

Another emerging problem was the steady buildup in the number of persons in holding centres in several countries for whom no durable solution had been found. Some had been waiting in camps for several years. Unless appropriate solutions were found, there might be adverse consequences for asylum, not to mention the suffering of the persons concerned. Some countries had adopted or maintained a blanket detention policy under which all "illegal" or "excludable" entrants were automatically detained even if their identity and the bona fide character of their asylum claim had been established. A few countries kept asylum-seekers in detention to deter further arrivals. A major problem encountered by UNHCR in a number of countries was lack of access to asylum-seekers in detention, who in the main were not informed of UNHCR availability to help them.

At its October 1984 session,(2) the Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme noted that the High Commissioner's protection function had become increasingly complex and difficult, that special problems had arisen due to the changing nature of refugee movements, that the principle of non-refoulement had been violated in various parts of the world, and that restrictive practices were being followed in regard to asylum, refugee status and refugee treatment. The Committee expressed satisfaction that despite those trends States continued to grant

asylum to large numbers of refugees, and stressed the importance of UNHCR being granted access to asylum applicants and refugees. The Committee also took note of the discussions at the ninth meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Whole on International Protection (Geneva, 3, 4, 11 and 15 October)(30) concerning military and armed attacks on refugee camps, and requested the Chairman to continue consultations on prohibiting such attacks. The Sub-Committee considered draft conclusions on military attacks against refugee camps in southern Africa and elsewhere, but was not able to reach agreement on the text.

On the basis of conclusions of the Sub-Committee, the Executive Committee strongly recommended that the Rescue at Sea Resettlement Offers scheme proposed by the High Commissioner, in consultation with interested Governments, be implemented on a trial basis and that additional resettlement places be urgently provided, and recognized the need for continued support for the Disembarkation Resettlement Offers scheme, under which resettlement places were made available for asylum-seekers rescued by ships of open registry or of States which were unable to accept refugees for resettlement.

Also based on the Sub-Committee's conclusions, the Executive Committee recommended that asylum applicants whose applications could not be decided without delay be provided with provisional documentation sufficient to protect them against expulsion or refoulement until a decision was made; it also recommended that States which had not done so undertake registration and documentation programmes.

In resolution 39/140, the General Assembly strongly reaffirmed the fundamental nature of the High Commissioner's function to protect refugees and the need for Governments to continue to cooperate with his Office, in particular by scrupulously observing the principles of asylum and non-refoulement.

International instruments

As at 31 December 1984, the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees(31) and the 1967 Protocol(32) had been ratified or acceded to by 95 and 94 States, respectively, as a result of the 1984 accession to them by Haiti.(33)

The General Assembly, in resolution 39/140, reaffirmed the need for Governments to accede to and implement fully international and regional refugee instruments.

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International co-operation to avert new refugee flows

The Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees, established by the General Assembly in 1981(1) to review the problem and develop recommendations, held its third and fourth sessions in 1984 (New York, 26 March-6 April and 11-22 June).(2) The Group considered the background and dimension of the problem and an analysis of its mandate, including questions relating to terms, and began examining the circumstances causing new massive flows of refugees. The Group requested a renewal of its mandate, adding that it would require two Z-week sessions in 1985. It reiterated the necessity of having all experts present at its future sessions.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 14 December 1984, on the recommendation of the Special Political Committee, the General Assembly adopted without vote resolution 39/100.

International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees

The General Assembly,
Reaffirming its resolutions 36/148 of 16 December 1981, 37/121 of 16 December 1982 and 38/84 of 15 December 1983 on international co-operation to avert new flows of refugees,

Having examined the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees,

Considering the urgency, magnitude and complexity of the task before the Group of Governmental Experts,

Welcoming the fact that experts coming from least developed countries were enabled to participate in the 1984 sessions of the Group,

Recognizing the necessity of having all the experts participate in the future sessions of the Group,

1. Welcomes the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees, including its recommendations, as a further constructive step in the fulfilment of its mandate;

2. Reaffirms and extends the mandate of the Group of Governmental Experts as defined in General Assembly resolutions 36/148 and 37/121;

3. Calls upon the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the rule contained in resolution 36/148, to continue to assist, as far as possible and by way of exception, the experts coming from least developed countries, appointed by the Secretary-General, to participate fully in the work of the Group of Governmental Experts, in order to fulfil its mandate;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a compilation of the comments and suggestions he may receive from Member States on this item;

5. Calls upon the Group of Governmental Experts to work expeditiously on the fulfilment of its mandate in two sessions of two weeks' duration each during 1985 and to make every effort to conclude its comprehensive review of the problem in all its aspects;

6. Requests the Group of Governmental Experts to submit a report on its work in time for consideration by the General Assembly at its fortieth session;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees".

General Assembly resolution 39/100

14 December 1984 Meeting 100 Adopted without vote

Approved by SPC (A/39/621) without vote, 23 October (meeting 1); 38-nation draft (A/SPC/39/L.4), orally revised: agenda item 76.

Sponsors: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Comoros Costa Rica, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Germany, Federal Republic of, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Thailand, Togo.

financial implications, 5th Committee, A/39/664; S-G, A/C.5/39/31, A/SPC/39/L.6. Meeting numbers. GA 39th session: SPC 8.11: 5th Committee 26; plenary 100.

The United States hoped that the Group would be able to formulate practical proposals to help avoid in future the suffering currently experienced by millions of refugees; it stated that, because of the urgency of the refugee problem, it had not opposed an increase in the assessed portion of the United Nations budget for that purpose.

In resolution 39/18 on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, the Assembly deplored the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons who had been uprooted by military intervention and acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, and reaffirmed their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour. In resolution 39/117 on human rights and mass exoduses, the Assembly invited Governments to intensify their co-operation in world-wide efforts to address the problem of mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons.

REFERENCES

- (1)YUN 1981, p. 1053, GA res. 36/48, 16 Dec. 1981.
(2)A/39/327 & Corr.1.