

Assistance to refugees

Activities of Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continued in 1973 to provide international protection and material assistance to refugees and to promote permanent solutions to their problems. In addition, special assistance was given to refugees returning to the southern region of Sudan and for the repatriation of groups of persons from Bangladesh and Pakistan.

Activities in 1973

International protection

As at 31 December 1973, the number of parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees was 64. The number of parties to the 1967 Protocol, which extended the coverage of the Convention to new groups of refugees, rose to 57,

with the accessions of Australia, Austria, Gabon, Mali and New Zealand.

The number of parties to the 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, drawn up by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), rose to 14 in 1973. The Convention was to supplement at the regional level the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol, when it entered into force.

The 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, ratified by a sixth State (Australia) on 13 December 1973, was to enter into force in 1975. This Convention, which provided that each contracting State should grant its nationality to persons born on its territory who would otherwise be stateless, was aimed at avoiding the perpetuation of refugee status beyond the first generation.

In June 1973, the Government of the Netherlands signed a Protocol extending the 1957 Agreement relating to Refugee Seamen to those refugees covered by the 1967 Protocol.

Consultations continued in 1973 between UNHCR and Governments regarding the desirability of establishing a convention on territorial asylum. The General Assembly's Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee requested the High Commissioner to pursue his consultations on the subject with Governments and report to the Assembly's twenty-ninth session in 1974, with a view to convening a conference of plenipotentiaries to consider a draft text of the Convention.

Close attention continued to be paid in 1973 to ensuring respect for the principle of non-refoulement and to the regularization of the residence status of refugees. The High Commissioner again found it necessary to intervene with Governments in cases of refoulement (expulsion of or refusal of entry to aliens) and of detention of refugees pending resettlement, with a view to defending the rights and interests of the refugees concerned.

The subject of human rights for refugees was discussed at the Sixth World Conference on World Peace through Law, held at Abidjan, Ivory Coast, from 26 to 31 August 1973. The Conference, attended by representatives of the legal profession from various parts of the world, adopted resolutions on asylum, family reunion, international co-operation in the field of refugee law, legal aid for refugees and treaties relating to refugees and their implementation.

Technical assistance was again provided by UNHCR in 1973 at the request of Governments to help ensure full implementation of the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol.

Measures to ensure the protection of refugees living in Chile were undertaken by UNHCR during the year in co-operation with the Government of

Chile, following the events of September 1973 in that country.

Material assistance programmes

In 1973, assistance was given by UNHCR to some 285,000 refugees, the majority of them in Africa.

As in the past, the assistance covered voluntary repatriation whenever feasible, and measures to facilitate resettlement in another country and to facilitate integration within the country of asylum.

Local settlement, particularly in Africa, was of major concern to UNHCR during the year, particularly with regard to the establishment and improvement of rural settlements aimed at helping refugees attain self-sufficiency.

Local integration measures in other parts of the world, and for refugees in urban African centres, covered mainly education, employment and housing.

Approximately \$7,582,700 was committed for assistance under UNHCR'S regular programme, and \$825,000 under the High Commissioner's Emergency Fund.

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN AFRICA

In 1973, the number of refugees of concern to UNHCR in Africa was approximately 1 million. During the year, some 100,000 Sudanese returned to their country from the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Uganda and Zaire, some 45,500 of whom received financial assistance from UNHCR. (For further details on Sudanese returnees, see pp. 497-99.)

Additional assistance was required in 1973 for the large number of new refugees from Burundi, their total number growing to 133,000 by the end of the year, including 90,000 in the United Republic of Tanzania, 35,000 in Zaire and 8,000 in Rwanda.

The influx of refugees from colonial territories continued in 1973. By the end of the year, refugees from Mozambique were estimated at more than 59,000 in the United Republic of Tanzania and at 10,000 in Zambia. In 1973, the number of Angolan refugees was estimated at 400,000 in Zaire and 22,000 in Zambia, while the number of Namibian refugees, mostly in Zambia, reached 3,500.

In collaboration with the World Food Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNHCR provided the new refugees with their immediate necessities, while longer-term plans for their integration in existing or new rural settlements were made in consultation with Governments concerned. In addition, refugees from South Africa and Namibia benefited from funds made available from the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa and from the United Nations Fund for Namibia.

In 1973, as in past years, the major component of UNHCR assistance programmes in Africa was for local settlement assistance to enable refugees to establish themselves in agriculture, mainly within organized rural settlements. Some 200,000 refugees benefited from this assistance in 1973. In some older settlements, refugees had achieved a degree of self-sufficiency so as to permit the total or partial transfer of responsibility for the settlements concerned to the Government of the country of asylum.

Of particular concern to UNHCR in 1973 were difficulties faced by individual refugees of non-agricultural backgrounds in urban areas of Africa. Subsistence allowances were given to meet immediate needs, and appropriate counselling services continued to be provided in several capital cities.

Education and training again were major concerns of UNHCR assistance activities in Africa in 1973. Needs at the post-primary level were met through grants from the Refugee Education Account, in collaboration with the OAU Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees.

A total of \$5,125,000 was committed in 1973 under UNHCR'S regular programme to assist refugees in Africa, of which \$4,220,000 was used to enable refugees to establish themselves in rural settlements.

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN ASIA

Commitments in Asia under the 1973 UNHCR Programme totalled \$304,000 in 1973. Activities in that region were characterized by a gradual phasing out of assistance by UNHCR to refugee communities whose members had reached a satisfactory level of self-sufficiency and where the Governments involved had taken the main responsibility for such settlements. In South-East Asia, assistance, mainly in the form of food supplies, was provided by UNHCR to refugees who had crossed into Laos from upper Burma.

Special arrangements to repatriate some 200,000 persons from Pakistan and Bangladesh by air were made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, following the Delhi agreement of 28 August 1973, at an estimated cost of \$14.3 million.

(See also pp. 149-51.)

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN EUROPE

The great majority of the approximately 580,000 refugees in Europe who fell within the competence

of UNHCR were practically integrated in 1973, their needs largely met by Governments of countries of residence and voluntary agencies. Assistance by UNHCR in 1973 was required to help more than 10,000 refugees to resettle in other countries through migration, of whom the majority, from the Caribbean, had been admitted to Spain. Aid was also supplied by UNHCR to the handicapped and to help integrate a small group of refugees through the provision of housing. Legal aid and counselling continued to play an important role in UNHCR activities in Europe in 1973. Commitments by UNHCR for these various forms of assistance totalled some \$604,000.

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN LATIN AMERICA

The number of refugees of concern to UNHCR in Latin America rose to 108,000 by the end of the year, mainly as a result of the events which took place in Chile in September 1973. Of the total, some 13,000 were of Latin American origin and approximately 95,000 of European origin, living mainly in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru and Venezuela.

Funds totalling \$340,000 were made available for Chilean refugees to meet their immediate needs and to facilitate their resettlement through migration to other countries.

Assistance by UNHCR to other refugees in Latin America was aimed primarily at promoting their local settlement, with special measures for the care of the handicapped, infirm and aged. Programme commitments for Latin American assistance totalled some \$335,000.

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Refugees of concern to UNHCR in the Middle East were mainly stateless Armenians and Assyrians, and refugees of European and African origin, living mostly in Lebanon, Egypt and the Persian Gulf area, with smaller groups in Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Rising costs of living, limited employment opportunities and diminished emigration possibilities made it necessary to provide increased assistance to these refugees in 1973, especially to the aged and handicapped, and to young refugees in need of education, training or employment opportunities. Efforts were also intensified to promote resettlement through migration where feasible.

Commitments in 1973 amounted to approximately \$250,000 for these various forms of aid.

Grants made from the Regular Education Account and other special trust funds totalled more than \$125,000.

ASSISTANCE TO UGANDA ASIANS OF UNDETERMINED NATIONALITY

During the year, intensive efforts were made by UNHCR to find permanent homes for some 4,500 Uganda Asians of undetermined nationality, housed in transit centres in Europe following their expulsion from Uganda in November 1972. As at 31 December 1973, resettlement opportunities had been found, mainly in Europe and North America, for nearly all these refugees, although permanent homes were still needed for approximately 100 persons, many of them handicapped. Care and maintenance costs for Uganda Asians while in transit, as well as travel costs to new homes, were mainly met from governmental contributions to UNHCR totalling \$3.4 million. In 1973, the High Commissioner appealed to Governments to permit reunions of 1,500 Asians from Uganda, scattered in various parts of the world, with their families living elsewhere.

Legislative action

On 8 August 1973, the Economic and Social Council, without adopting a formal resolution, decided to transmit the annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, covering the period 1 April 1972 to 31 March 1973, to the twenty-eighth session of the Assembly later in the year. The Council's decision was made without objection on the proposal of the President.

On 3 December 1973, on the recommendation of the Secretary-General, the General Assembly by acclamation extended the term of Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for a further period of five years, from 1 January 1974 to 31 December 1978.

In a further action, taken on 14 December 1973, the General Assembly expressed deep satisfaction at the efficient manner in which the High Commissioner for Refugees continued to accomplish his humanitarian task.

The Assembly asked the High Commissioner to continue to provide assistance and protection to the refugees within his mandate, and to those to whom he extended his good offices or was called upon to assist in accordance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

Also, the Assembly asked him to continue his

efforts, in co-operation with Governments, United Nations bodies and voluntary agencies, to promote permanent and speedy solutions through voluntary repatriation, assistance in rehabilitation where necessary, integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in other countries.

Finally, the Assembly urged Governments to continue their support of the High Commissioner's humanitarian actions by facilitating the accomplishment of his task in the field of international protection, by co-operating in promoting permanent solutions to refugee problems and by providing the financial means required.

These decisions were embodied in resolution 3143 (XXVIII) which was adopted, without objection, on the basis of a draft resolution unanimously approved on 23 November 1973 by the Assembly's Third Committee.

The draft text had been proposed by Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Burundi, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, the Gambia, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Rwanda, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zaire. It was amended by Saudi Arabia. (For text of resolution, see DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES **below**.)

In addition, the Third Committee noted the information communicated by the High Commissioner on his consultations with Governments on the proposed convention on territorial asylum. The Committee Chairman noted the progress made on this question and asked the High Commissioner to continue his consultations with Governments and to report again to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session in 1974.

Contributions pledged

Pledges towards the 1974 Programme of UNHCR were announced at a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, held on 30 November 1973.

Contributions paid or pledged, including those made subsequent to the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee, are shown in the table below.

GOVERNMENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS PAID OR PLEDGED
TO THE UNHCR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME FOR 1974

As at 1 March 1974; in U.S. dollars

| Country | Amount | Country | Amount | Country | Amount |
|------------------------------|---------|-------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Argentina | 20,000 | Iran | 8,000 | Pakistan | 2,505. |
| Australia | 297,486 | Iraq | 11,864 | Philippines | 1,250 |
| Austria | 39,796 | Israel | 10,000 | Republic of Viet-Nam | 1,000 |
| Belgium | 271,605 | Italy | 50,000 | Sudan | 8,61(i) |
| Canada | 567,010 | Ivory Coast | 3,498 | Sweden | 803,690 |
| Central African Republic | 5,000 | Kuwait | 3,000 | Switzerland | 393,939 |
| Chile | 10,000 | Liberia | 5,000 | Syrian Arab Republic | 677 |
| Cyprus | 676 | Luxembourg | 4,938 | Tunisia | 3,000 |
| Dahomey | 250 | Madagascar | 1,029 | Turkey | 5,357 |
| Denmark | 464,000 | Malaysia | 1,500 | Uganda | 4,923 |
| Finland | 142,857 | Malta | 1,160 | United Kingdom | 472,973 |
| Germany, Federal Republic of | 746,269 | Mexico | 10,000 | United Republic of Tanzania | 3,797 |
| Greece | 14,000 | Monaco | 202 | United States | 1,100,000 |
| Holy See | 2,500 | Morocco | 11,236 | Upper Volta | 2,058 |
| Iceland | 9,164 | Netherlands | 539,568 | Yugoslavia | 10,000 |
| India | 12,346 | New Zealand | 70,922 | | |
| Indonesia | 2,000 | Norway | 578,231 | Total | 6,728,892 |

Documentary references

Decision CI Economic and Social Council

Economic and Social Council—55th session
Plenary meeting 1877.

E/5306. Report of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (A/9012).

E/5400. Resolutions adopted by Economic and Social Council, 55th session. Decisions, p. 28.

Decision of General Assembly

General Assembly—28th session
Third Committee, meetings 2038-2040.
Plenary meeting 2201.

A/9001. Report of Secretary-General on work of the Organization, 16 June 1972-15 June 1973, Part Three, Chapter VIM A.

A/9003. Report of Economic and Social Council on work of its 54th and 55th sessions, Chapter XXIV C.

A/9012 and Corr.1 and Add.1,2. Report of UNHCR. (Add.1: Report of 24th session of Executive Committee of High Commissioner's Programme, Geneva, Switzerland, 8-16 October 1973; Add.2: Comments by Governments on draft convention on territorial asylum.)

A/C.3/L.2080. Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Burundi, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Japan, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Rwanda, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire: draft resolution, as amended by Saudi Arabia, A/C.3/L.2084, approved by acclamation by Third Committee on 27 November 1973, meeting 2040.

A/C.3/L.2084. Saudi Arabia: amendment to 42-power draft resolution, A/C.3/L.2080.

A/9378. Report of Third Committee.

Resolution 3143(XXVIII), as recommended by Third Committee, A/9378, adopted without objection by Assembly on 14 December 1973, meeting 2201.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees concerning the activities of his Office and having heard his statement,

Noting with appreciation the manner in which the High Commissioner has, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and the directives of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, carried out essential humanitarian actions,

Bearing in mind the importance of the increasingly useful co-operation between the High Commissioner and other members of the United Nations system, resulting in better co-ordination of action and greater efficiency in fields of common interest,

Recognizing the importance of voluntary repatriation as a permanent solution to the refugee problem and the useful role played by the High Commissioner in co-operation with other members of the United Nations system and non-governmental agencies in assisting them,

Noting with satisfaction the increasing number of Governments contributing to the High Commissioner's Programme and the generous attitude adopted by Governments in supporting various activities of the High Commissioner,

Commending accessions to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951, the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees of 1967 and other relevant instruments,

1. Expresses its deep satisfaction at the efficient manner in which the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his staff continue to accomplish their humanitarian task, and appeals to him to consider favourably his re-election in view of the unflagging dedication which he has manifested since he assumed the responsibilities of his present post;

2. Requests the High Commissioner to continue his assistance and protection activities in favour of refugees within his mandate as well as for those to whom he extends his good offices or is called upon to assist in accordance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

3. Requests the High Commissioner to continue his efforts, in co-operation with Governments, United Nations bodies and voluntary agencies, to promote perma-

ment and speedy solutions through voluntary repatriation, assistance in rehabilitation where necessary, integration in countries of asylum or resettlement in other countries;

4. Urges Governments to continue to lend their support to the High Commissioner's humanitarian action by:

(a) Facilitating the accomplishment of his task in the field of international protection;

(b) Co-operating in the promotion of permanent solutions to refugee problems;

(c) Providing the necessary means to attain the financial targets established with the approval of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme.

Election of High Commissioner

General Assembly—28th session
Plenary meeting 2187.

A/9346. Note by Secretary-General.

A/9030. Resolutions adopted by General Assembly during its 28th session, Vol. I, 18 September-18 December 1973. Other decisions, p. xvi.

Assistance to Sudanese

The United Nations programme for immediate relief and rehabilitation assistance in the southern region of Sudan was undertaken by the High Commissioner for Refugees in May 1972 at the request of the United Nations Secretary-General, following ratification of the Addis Ababa Agreement in March 1972, which brought peace to the Sudan after many years of civil strife.¹

The programme, in which other members of the United Nations system, in particular, the International Labour Organisation, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union, as well as non-governmental organizations, had actively participated, was concluded on 31 October 1973. At that time, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was to assume responsibility for development assistance to Sudan, including its function as a focal point for the long-term reconstruction phase in the southern region.

Decisions by Economic and Social Council

At its fifty-fourth session held in April-May 1973, the Economic and Social Council considered a progress report on the United Nations immediate relief programme in the southern region of the Sudan, submitted by the High Commissioner in accordance with a Council request of 27 July 1972.²

The High Commissioner reported that as at 1 March 1973, contributions in cash and in kind, mainly from Governments in response to appeals

Contributions pledged

General Assembly—28th session

Ad Hoc Committee of General Assembly for Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to Programme of UNHCR, meeting of 30 November 1973 (A/AC.162/SR.1).

Other documents

UNHCR (bi-monthly information tabloids), Nos. 1-6 and supplement.

Special information reports: How they did it (Resettlement of Asians from Uganda in Europe and North America), Geneva, May 1973; Nursing a Miracle (The role of UNHCR in the UN Emergency Relief Operation in the south Sudan), Geneva, September 1973; The ten or more plan (A special scheme for handicapped refugees), Geneva, October 1973.

The refugee problem isn't hopeless unless you think so. Published by UNHCR, Geneva, October, 1973.

A/AC.96/499. List of documents issued at 24th session of Executive Committee of High Commissioner's Programme.

made by the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner, totalled some \$17 million. These funds made it possible to provide to Sudan vital supplies and equipment, including food and shelter for those persons who had already returned, and to build or repair roads, hospitals and schools in preparation for the repatriation of some 180,000 Sudanese refugees from neighbouring countries and the return to their homes of some 500,000 displaced persons in Sudan.

On 4 May 1973, the Economic and Social Council noted with appreciation the continuing efforts of the Government of Sudan to achieve a peaceful and lasting settlement in the southern part of the country; commended the High Commissioner for the efficiency with which he had been co-ordinating the relief, resettlement and rehabilitation operations; and expressed appreciation to organizations within the United Nations system, to non-governmental organizations and to individual Governments which were contributing to this effort.

The Council urged the international community to continue rendering the maximum possible assistance to Sudan and asked the High Commissioner to report again on the programme to the Council's fifty-fifth session later in 1973.

The Council's decisions were set forth in resolution 1741(LIV), adopted, without objection, on the recommendation of its Co-ordination Committee. On 30 April, the Committee had unanimously approved the text of a draft resolution

¹See Y.U.N., 1972, pp. 411-14.

²*Ibid.*, p. 413, text of resolution 1705(LIII).

sponsored by Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Ghana, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, the Netherlands, Niger, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom, the United States, Yemen and Yugoslavia. (For text of resolution, see DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES below.)

In July 1973, the High Commissioner submitted to the Council a further progress report on assistance to southern Sudanese returnees and displaced persons. The report gave a brief account of main developments, including in particular the extension of the relief programme for an additional four months until 31 October 1973. It was explained that the extension was needed mainly to enable UNHCR to conclude repatriation operations prior to the assumption by UNDP of responsibility for longer-term development assistance to Sudan.

The report also stated that as at 30 May 1973, the Government of Sudan had reported that some 140,000 of the 180,000 Sudanese refugees living abroad had been repatriated and all 500,000 internally displaced Sudanese had returned to their homes.

On 30 July 1973, the Economic and Social Council noted with appreciation the efforts of the Government of Sudan which had resulted in the peaceful settlement of the problem in its southern

region. The Council also expressed appreciation for the co-operation extended by all Governments, in particular those of the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Uganda and Zaire for their co-operation towards the voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees, and by specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, for their participation in relief efforts and their response to appeals from the United Nations Secretary-General and the High Commissioner for Refugees. The Council also called upon them to continue to extend such assistance.

Further, the Council noted that the extension until 31 October 1973 of the relief programme would not affect the longer-term development assistance programme to be implemented by UNDP.

Finally, the Council asked the High Commissioner to submit a final report to the Council at its fifth-sixth session in 1974.

The Council's decisions were contained in resolution 1799 (LV), unanimously adopted on the basis of a proposal in its Co-ordination Committee by Brazil, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Pakistan, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The Committee, on 26 July 1973, had unanimously approved the text of the draft resolution, as revised by its sponsors. (For text of resolution, see DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES **below**.)

Documentary references

Economic and Social Council—54th session
Co-ordination Committee, meeting 470.
Plenary meeting 1854.

E/5261. Assistance to southern Sudanese returnees and displaced persons. Progress report of UNHCR.

E/AC.24/L.449. Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Ghana, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Netherlands, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States, Yemen, Yugoslavia: draft resolution, unanimously approved by Co-ordination Committee on 30 April 1973, meeting 470.

E/5302. Report of Co-ordination Committee.

Resolution 1741 (LIV), as recommended by Co-ordination Committee, E/5302, adopted without objection by Council on 4 May 1973, meeting 1854.

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1655(LII) of 1 June 1972 and General Assembly resolution 2958(XXVII) of 12 December 1972,

Having considered the progress report prepared by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees pursuant to Council resolution 1705(LIII) of 27 July 1972, and the statement made on behalf of the High Commissioner,

1. Notes with appreciation the continuing efforts of the Government of the Sudan to achieve a peaceful and

lasting settlement in the southern part of the country;

2. Commends the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the efficient manner in which he has been co-ordinating the relief, resettlement and rehabilitation operations in southern Sudan;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those organizations within the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations, and individual Governments which responded to the appeals of the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner for Refugees for providing assistance to southern Sudanese returnees and displaced persons in an effective and helpful manner;

4. Reaffirms its resolutions 1655(LII) and 1705(LIII) in which, *inter alia*, it urged the international community to render the maximum possible assistance to the Government of the Sudan in this endeavour;

5. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to report again on this relief, rehabilitation and resettlement effort to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-fifth session.

Economic and Social Council—55th session
Co-ordination Committee, meeting 502.
Plenary meeting 1874.

E/5365/Rev.1. Report of Governing Council of United Nations Development Programme on its 16th session, Geneva, Switzerland, 6-29 June 1973, para. 17.

E/5378 and Corr.1. Progress report of UNHCR.
E/AC.24/L.475. Brazil, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar,

Mali, Niger, Pakistan, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States: draft resolution, as orally amended by sponsors, approved unanimously by Co-ordination Committee on 26 July 1973, meeting 502.

E/5391. Report of Co-ordination Committee.

Resolution 1799(LV), as recommended by Co-ordination Committee, E/5391, approved unanimously by Council on 30 July 1973, meeting 1874.

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1655(LII) of 1 June 1972, 1705(LIII) of 27 July 1972 and 1741(LIV) of 4 May 1973, and General Assembly resolution 2958(XXVII) of 12 December 1972,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Government of the Sudan which resulted in the peaceful settlement of the problem of southern Sudan,

Realizing that the region, having suffered the consequences of a civil strife lasting seventeen years, requires a long-term programme for the full normalization of the situation,

Expressing appreciation for the full co-operation extended by the Governments of the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Uganda and Zaire towards the voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees,

Cognizant of the commendable efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the co-ordination of the relief operations, and in resettlement and rehabilitation in southern Sudan,

1. Renews the expression of its appreciation to all

Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations for their response to the appeals of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and for their participation in assistance to southern Sudanese returnees and displaced persons;

2. Notes the extension, until 31 October 1973, of the arrangements made by the Secretary-General at the request of the Government of the Sudan for the co-ordination of relief, resettlement and rehabilitation operations by the High Commissioner for Refugees and of the fact that this extension is not to affect the launching of the country programme for the Sudan adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its 373rd meeting in respect of longer-term assistance;

3. Calls upon Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations further to extend their assistance to the Government of the Sudan in its efforts towards the normalization of the situation in the region;

4. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to submit a final report on the situation to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-sixth session.

Other documents

Nursing a Miracle (The role of UNHCR in the UN Emergency Operation in the south Sudan), Geneva, September 1973.

A/9003. Report of Economic and Social Council on work of its 54th and 55th sessions, Chapter XXIV B.