

44/152. Assistance to refugees in Somalia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 35/180 of 15 December 1980, 36/153 of 16 December 1981, 37/174 of 17 December 1982, 38/88 of 16 December 1983, 39/104 of 14 November 1984, 40/132 of 13 December 1985, 41/138 of 4 December 1986, 42/127 of 7 December 1987 and 43/147 of 8 December 1988 on assistance to refugees in Somalia,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁷⁸

Deeply concerned about the heavy burden that has been placed on the fragile economy of Somalia by the continuing presence of large numbers of refugees,

Noting the circumstances that have made it necessary for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme to suspend temporarily their food and other humanitarian assistance programmes for refugees in the north-west districts of Somalia,

Gravely concerned about the resultant serious food shortages that have occurred in the refugee settlements in the north-west districts of Somalia,

Conscious of the fact that Somalia, as a least developed country, does not possess the economic or financial capacity to fill the gap created by the temporary suspension of humanitarian assistance programmes for refugees in the north-west districts of Somalia,

Aware of the fact that Somalia does not have the capacity to provide humanitarian assistance from its limited resources,

Noting with concern the deleterious effect of the presence of refugees on the environment, which has resulted in widespread deforestation, soil erosion and the threat of destruction to an already fragile ecological balance,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. Commends the measures that the Government of Somalia is taking to provide material and humanitarian assistance to refugees, in spite of its own limited resources and fragile economy;
3. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, donor countries and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their efforts to assist the refugees in Somalia;
4. Calls upon the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme to resume their assistance programmes for the refugees in the north-west districts of Somalia as soon as possible;
5. Requests the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, the World Food Programme and the donor community, to launch an interim assistance programme that would ensure that essential food and other humanitarian supplies continue to reach the refugee settlements in the north-west districts of Somalia until such time as a more permanent arrangement can be made;
6. Appeals to Member States, international organizations and voluntary agencies to give full support to the Secretary-General in the launching of the proposed interim assistance programme;

7. Also appeals to Member States, international organizations and voluntary agencies to render maximum and timely material, financial and technical assistance to enable the Government of Somalia to implement the projects and activities identified in the report of the 1987 inter-agency mission annexed to the report submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its forty-second session¹⁷⁹ as the basis for a comprehensive programme of action relating to both the humanitarian and the developmental needs of refugees;

8. Requests the pertinent organizations of the United Nations system, namely the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Food Programme, to prepare, in consultation with the Government of Somalia, detailed project documentation for the implementation of those projects and activities identified in the report of the Secretary-General¹⁸⁰ as priority endeavours for a comprehensive programme of action.

9. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue and expand their activities in Somalia, in cooperation with the Government of Somalia, and to protect and rehabilitate its damaged environment;

10. Recognizes the important role that non-governmental organizations are playing with regard to programmes for the care, maintenance and rehabilitation of refugees, particularly in activities related to small-scale development projects, and in the fields of health and agriculture;

11. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to apprise the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1990 of the progress made in their respective fields of responsibility with regard to those provisions of the present resolution which concern them;

12. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the High Commissioner and the United Nations Development Programme, to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session a report on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

82nd plenary meeting
15 December 1989

44/153. Assistance to voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/143 of 8 December 1988 on emergency assistance to voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad, as well as all its previous resolutions on this question,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁸¹

¹⁷⁹ A/42/645.

¹⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, paras. 55-66.

¹⁸¹ A/44/657.

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the harmful effects of the natural calamities that are compounding the already precarious food and health situation in Chad,

Considering that the large number of voluntary returnees poses serious social and economic problems for the Government of Chad,

Considering also that the return of displaced persons in the northern region poses serious resettlement problems for the Government of Chad,

Bearing in mind the many appeals made by the Government of Chad for international assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad,

1. *Endorses* the appeals made by the Government of Chad for humanitarian assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

2. *Reiterates its appeal* to 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. *Notes with satisfaction* the action taken by the various organizations of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies with a view to mobilizing humanitarian assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

4. *Again requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to mobilize humanitarian assistance to the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

5. *Calls upon*:

(a) The Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize special humanitarian assistance for the resettlement of displaced persons in the northern region of Chad;

(b) The international community to support the efforts made by the Government of Chad to implement the programmes for repatriating and resettling the voluntary returnees and displaced persons in Chad;

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

82nd plenary meeting
15 December 1989

44/154. Assistance to refugees and returnees in Ethiopia

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its resolutions, in particular resolution 43/144 of 8 December 1988, as well as all those of the Economic and Social Council, on assistance to displaced persons in Ethiopia,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁸²

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,¹³⁰

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

Deeply concerned about the massive flow of refugees and voluntary returnees into the country and the enormous

burden this has placed on the country's infrastructure and meagre resources,

Deeply concerned also about the grave consequences this has entailed for the country's capability to grapple with the effects of the prolonged drought,

Aware of the heavy burden placed on the Government of Ethiopia and of the need for adequate assistance to refugees, voluntary returnees and victims of natural disasters,

1. *Commends* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and intergovernmental organizations and voluntary agencies for their assistance in mitigating the plight of the large number of refugees and voluntary returnees in Ethiopia;

2. *Appeals* to Member States and to international organizations and voluntary agencies to provide adequate material, financial and technical assistance for relief and rehabilitation programmes for the large number of refugees and voluntary returnees in Ethiopia;

3. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue his efforts to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of voluntary returnees and the large number of refugees 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 1990, of the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

82nd plenary meeting
15 December 1989

44/155. Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming once more the permanent validity of the principles and standards set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁴ the International Covenants on Human Rights,⁵ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination¹¹ and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,¹⁸³

Bearing in mind the principles and standards established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the importance of the task carried out in connection with migrant workers and their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

Reiterating that in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles and standards, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and their families,

Recalling its resolution 34/172 of 17 December 1979, in which it decided to establish a working group open to all Member States to elaborate an international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families,

¹⁸² A/44/482.

⁸³ Resolution 34/180, annex.