

operational costs of the unit and for implementing the projects and programmes in the countries members of the Intergovernmental Authority, and requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to intensify his efforts in this regard;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1986 on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

*120th plenary meeting
17 December 1985*

40/222. Special economic assistance to Benin

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 35/88 of 5 December 1980, 36/208 of 17 December 1981, 37/151 of 17 December 1982, 38/210 of 20 December 1983 and 39/185 of 17 December 1984, in which it appealed to the international community to provide effective and continuous financial, material and technical assistance to Benin so as to help that country overcome its financial and economic difficulties,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 419 (1977) of 24 November 1977, in which the Council appealed to all States and all appropriate international organizations, including the United Nations and its specialized agencies, to assist Benin,

Having heard the statement made by the representative of Benin on 12 November 1985,¹⁴⁹ in which he described the serious economic and financial situation of his country and the action taken by his Government to tackle these difficulties,

Deeply concerned, nevertheless, by the fact that Benin continues to experience serious economic and financial difficulties, characterized by a marked balance-of-payments disequilibrium, heavy burdens of its external debt and a lack of the resources necessary for the implementation of its planned economic and social development programme,

Having considered the summary report of the Secretary-General,¹⁵⁰

Noting that the persisting unfavourable climatic conditions in the coastal and northern regions of Benin are still leading to losses in agriculture and livestock production, and threatening the lives of the population,

Considering that Benin is one of the least developed countries,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the steps he has taken to organize and mobilize support for the international programme of economic assistance to Benin;

2. *Takes note* of the summary report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance already provided or pledged to Benin by Member States, United Nations bodies and regional, interregional and intergovernmental organizations;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts undertaken by the Government of Benin to make structural adjustments in the economy of the country and to take other measures designed to help it to overcome its economic and financial difficulties;

5. *Notes with concern* that the assistance given to Benin has not been sufficient to cover all the country's pressing needs and that additional resources are still essen-

tial for the implementation of its recovery, reconstruction and development programme;

6. *Appeals* to Member States, international financial institutions, the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to respond generously and urgently to the needs of Benin;

7. *Urges* donor countries to provide financial assistance to help Benin to bear the counterpart costs of projects receiving external assistance, bearing in mind that it is one of the least developed countries;

8. *Appeals* to the international community to make contributions to the special account for Benin opened by the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters, for subsequent transfer to Benin;

9. *Invites* the programmes, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system — in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development:

(a) To maintain and expand their programmes of assistance to Benin;

(b) To co-operate closely with the Secretary-General in organizing and promoting the special programme of economic assistance to Benin;

(c) To bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their urgent consideration, the special needs of Benin;

(d) To report to the Secretary-General by 15 July 1986 on the measures they have taken and the resources they have made available, as well as the decisions of their governing bodies on assistance to Benin;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for implementing the projects of the special programme of economic assistance to Benin;

(b) To evaluate, in consultation with the Government, the economic situation in Benin, the most urgent needs of the country and the implementation of the special programme of economic assistance;

(c) To keep the situation in Benin under constant review, in close collaboration with the Government of Benin, the specialized agencies, regional and intergovernmental organizations and international financial institutions, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1986, of the status of assistance to Benin;

(d) To report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

*120th plenary meeting
17 December 1985*

40/223. Assistance to the Comoros

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/193 of 17 December 1984 and its previous resolutions on assistance to the Comoros, in which it appealed to the international community to provide effective and continuous financial, material and technical assistance to the Comoros in order to help that country overcome its financial and economic difficulties,

Taking note of the special problems confronting the Comoros as an island developing country and as one of the least developed countries

¹⁴⁹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Second Committee, 32nd meeting, paras. 21 and 22.

¹⁵⁰ A/40/441, sect. II

Noting that the Government of the Comoros has given priority to the questions of infrastructure, transport and telecommunications,

Noting also the economic difficulties arising from the country's scarcity of natural resources, compounded by the recent drought and cyclones,

Noting further the grave budgetary and balance-of-payments problems facing the Comoros,

Bearing in mind the holding at Moroni, from 2 to 4 July 1984, of the first International Solidarity Conference for the Development of the Comoros,

Having examined the summary report of the Secretary-General,¹⁵¹

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the steps he has taken to mobilize assistance for the Comoros;
2. Notes with satisfaction the response by various Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other organizations to its appeals and those of the Secretary-General for assistance to the Comoros;
3. Notes with concern, however, that the assistance thus far provided continues to fall short of the country's urgent requirements and that assistance is still urgently required in order to implement the projects described in the report of the Secretary-General;
4. Appeals to those States and organizations that participated in the first International Solidarity Conference for the Development of the Comoros to participate in the second Conference, to be held at Moroni towards the end of 1985, in order to put into effect as soon as possible their declarations of intent;
5. Renews its appeal to Member States, the appropriate organs, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system, regional and international organizations and other intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, as well as international financial institutions, to provide the Comoros with assistance to enable it to cope with its difficult economic situation and pursue its development goals;
6. Invites the appropriate programmes and organizations of the United Nations system to increase their current programmes of assistance to the Comoros, to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General in organizing an effective international programme of assistance and to report periodically to him on the steps they have taken and the resources they have made available to help that country;
7. Requests the Secretary-General:
 - (a) To continue his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to the Comoros;
 - (b) To keep the situation in the Comoros under constant review, to maintain close contact with Member States, the specialized agencies, the regional and other intergovernmental organizations and international financial institutions concerned, and to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1986, of the status of the special programme of economic assistance for the Comoros;
 - (c) To report on the evolution of the economic situation of the Comoros and the progress made in organizing and implementing the special programme of economic

assistance for that country in time for the matter to be considered by the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

120th plenary meeting
17 December 1985

40/224. Assistance to the Gambia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/203 of 17 December 1984, in which it, *inter alia*, noted that the Gambia is a least developed country with acute economic and social problems arising from its weak economic infrastructure and that it also suffers from many of the serious problems common to countries of the Sahelian region, notably drought and desertification,

Having considered the summary report of the Secretary-General,¹⁵² in which the recent economic situation in the Gambia is described,

Concerned that the Gambia continues to encounter serious balance-of-payments and budgetary problems and noting that the lack of domestic resources is the most important constraint on development, since the Government lacks the funds to meet the counterpart costs of donor-assisted projects,

Noting that external assistance is still required to enable the Government of the Gambia to implement the six projects recommended by the Secretary-General in his report submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session,¹⁵³

Aware that a round-table conference of donors was held in the Gambia in November 1984, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, to discuss the country's development needs and to consider ways and means of helping the Government in its efforts to meet those needs,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the steps he has taken to mobilize assistance for the Gambia;
3. Expresses its appreciation also to those States and organizations that have provided assistance to the Gambia;
4. Draws the attention of the international community to the need for assistance for the projects and programmes identified by the Secretary-General in his report;
5. Renews its urgent appeal to Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, regional and interregional organizations and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as international development and financial institutions, to give generous assistance to the Gambia, through bilateral or multilateral channels, and to provide financial, technical and material assistance for the implementation of the projects and programmes recommended by the Secretary-General in his report;
6. Urges donors, as appropriate, to provide financial assistance to the Gambia to help meet the local counterpart costs of externally assisted projects, bearing in mind that the Gambia is classified as a least developed drought-stricken country;
7. Urges Member States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and interregional bodies, financial and development institutions, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to respond generously to the needs of the Gambia

¹⁵¹ *Ibid.*, sect. V.

¹⁵² *Ibid.*, sect. VII.

¹⁵³ A/39/392, para. 226.