

Having considered the summary report of the Secretary-General,<sup>146</sup>

Noting with concern that the economy of Sierra Leone is being undermined by severe scarcities of imported raw materials and spare parts for industry, a drying-up of trade and commercial credits, large commercial payment arrears and unmitigated strains on government finances,

Noting that the Government of Sierra Leone, in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme, embarked upon preparations for a round table of partners in development of Sierra Leone, which was originally to be held early in 1985 but was deferred until early 1986,

Reiterating the need for effective mobilization of international assistance in order to implement fully the programme of development outlined in the report of the multi-agency mission,<sup>147</sup>

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the steps he has taken to mobilize assistance for Sierra Leone;

2. Urgently reiterates its appeal to the international community, including the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to contribute generously, through bilateral or multilateral channels, to the economic and social development of Sierra Leone;

3. Urges all States and relevant United Nations bodies — in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities — to provide all possible assistance to help the Government of Sierra Leone meet the critical humanitarian needs of the population and to provide, as appropriate, food, medicines and essential equipment for hospitals and schools;

4. Invites the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to bring to the attention of their governing bodies, for their consideration, the special needs of Sierra Leone and to report the decisions of those bodies to the Secretary-General by 15 July 1986;

5. Appeals to all States and international organizations to participate at a high level in the round table of partners in development of Sierra Leone to be held early in 1986, and to contribute generously to the programme of action that will be presented by the Government of Sierra Leone;

6. 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 Sierra Leone;

(b) To apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1986, of the assistance granted to Sierra Leone;

(c) To keep the situation regarding assistance to Sierra Leone under review and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution

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17 December 1985

#### 40/221. Assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 35/90 and 35/91 of 5 December 1980, 36/221 of 17 December 1981, 37/147 of 17 December 1982, 38/216 of 20 December 1983 and 39/205 of 17 December 1984 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/46 of 28 July 1983 on assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on assistance to the drought-stricken areas of those countries,<sup>148</sup>

Deeply concerned at the serious effects of the prolonged and persistent drought in the region, which precipitated food shortages and famine and hindered the development efforts of the countries members of the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development,

Stressing the need for practical regional arrangements for co-operation to promote the rehabilitation, recovery, and medium-term to long-term development of the countries of the region,

Bearing in mind the imperative need for the international community to render assistance to Member States in the event of natural disasters,

1. Reaffirms its resolutions 35/90, 35/91, 36/221, 37/147, 38/216 and 39/205 on assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda;

2. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on assistance to the drought-stricken areas of those countries;

3. Commends the Governments of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda for their decision to establish, in Djibouti, an Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development, as initially recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/90;

4. Notes with satisfaction the decision taken by the Governments of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda to meet in Djibouti at the level of Head of State to endorse the agreement on the establishment of the Intergovernmental Authority and to adopt a regional plan of action for the implementation of medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programmes of the States members of the Authority;

5. Notes with appreciation the assistance provided by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and by the United Nations Sudano-Saharan Office in the effort to establish the Intergovernmental Authority, in line with the recommendations of the Secretary-General and pursuant to the resolutions of the General Assembly mentioned above;

6. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/147, to make the necessary arrangements to render operational, as soon as possible, the unit within the United Nations Sudano-Saharan Office entrusted with the responsibility of assisting the countries members of the Intergovernmental Authority and to pay special attention to the unit so as to ensure that its responsibilities are discharged effectively;

7. Appeals to all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute generously in order to provide the resources necessary for funding the

<sup>146</sup> A/40/441, sect. XIII.

<sup>147</sup> A/38/211, annex.

<sup>148</sup> A/40/770.

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.

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#### 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,<sup>149</sup> 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,<sup>150</sup>

*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.

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#### 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

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

<sup>150</sup> A/40/441, sect. II