

view of some, do not completely fulfil the provisions of General Assembly resolution 38/9 of 10 November 1983 which specifically demanded that Israel withdraw forthwith its threat to attack and destroy nuclear facilities in Iraq and in other countries;

3. *Further considers* that any threat to attack and destroy nuclear facilities in Iraq and in other countries constitutes a violation of the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Demands* that Israel undertake forthwith not to carry out, in disregard of the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency, any attack on nuclear facilities in Iraq, or on similar facilities in other countries, devoted to peaceful purposes;

5. *Requests* the Security Council to consider the necessary measures to ensure Israel's compliance with Security Council resolution 487 (1981) and to deter Israel from repeating its attack on nuclear facilities;

6. *Reaffirms its call* for the continuation of the consideration, at the international level, of legal measures to prohibit armed attacks against nuclear facilities, as a contribution to promoting and ensuring the safe development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session on the question of the implementation of Security Council resolution 487 (1981) and on the consequences of Israel's non-compliance with that resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security".

*65th plenary meeting
16 November 1984*

39/29. Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa

The General Assembly,

Alarmed by the critical economic situation currently prevailing in Africa,

Commending the efforts of the Secretary-General in sensitizing the international community to the plight of Africa,

Noting the increased concern of the international community for the worsening plight of African countries affected by the crisis,

Having considered the critical economic situation in Africa, the note by the Secretary-General³⁹ and his report on the subject,⁴⁰

Taking note of the Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa and the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its twentieth ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 12 to 15 November 1984,⁴¹

Taking note also of the statement of the Committee for Development Planning, at the conclusion of its twenty-first session, held at Geneva from 19 to 21 November 1984, on the critical economic situation in Africa,⁴²

Convinced of the need for concerted action by the international community to assist the efforts of the African Governments by providing immediate emergency relief, and medium-term and long-term development aid,

1. *Adopts* the Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa set forth in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate measures for the full and speedy implementation of the objectives contained in the Declaration;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the Declaration to the attention of all States, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the situation, to assess the needs and the responses thereto, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fortieth session through the Economic and Social Council.

*83rd plenary meeting
3 December 1984*

ANNEX

Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa

1. We the States Members of the United Nations express our deep concern at the profound economic and social crisis that Africa is experiencing. Over the last few years the situation has assumed alarming proportions, seriously jeopardizing not only the development process but, more ominously, the very survival of millions of people.

2. We are alarmed by the spectre of widespread famine hanging over many African countries. Over one hundred and fifty million people are facing hunger and malnutrition. Prolonged unprecedented drought, accelerating desertification and other natural disasters have compounded an already serious situation, dislocating normal life all over the continent. Alarming shortages in food and water supplies and the depletion of livestock have led to the displacement of millions of people within and across borders.

3. All these factors are further straining fragile economies crippled by deep-rooted structural deficiencies, that is to say, weak physical and social infrastructures, lack of trained human resources and dependence on the export of a few primary commodities.

4. Africa, despite its enormous potential, remains the least developed of all continents, lagging far behind by every economic indicator. Economic performance of many African countries is characterized by declining per capita incomes and stagnant or negative rates of growth. Furthermore, food production has not kept pace with population growth. According to all projections, prospects for recovery, growth and development remain very dim unless the efforts currently under way in African countries are fully supported by the international community.

5. Furthermore, the international economic environment continues to affect developing countries adversely and, particularly, it had a devastating impact on the already fragile African economies. This is manifested in deteriorating terms of trade, sharp declines in export earnings, the heavy burden of external debt and stagnating resource flows to African countries.

6. We are aware that African countries recognize they have the primary responsibility for their development and for addressing the present crisis. They have therefore undertaken and continue to undertake painful adjustment measures at very high social and political costs. While recognizing the determined efforts of African countries and the support provided by the international community, much more needs to be done as the situation remains very grave.

7. We recognize that, in dealing with the present crisis, African regional and subregional efforts towards economic co-operation and integration as well as enhanced economic and technical co-operation among developing countries play an important role in the achievement of national and collective self-reliance and sustained development in Africa.

8. We are aware that the maintenance of peace and security and the strengthening of international co-operation are important for meeting the challenge of development.

³⁹ A/39/627.

⁴⁰ A/39/594.

⁴¹ See A/40/87, annex.

⁴² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1985, Supplement No. 9 (E/1985/29)*.

9. We fully recognize that emergency relief aid on a massive scale is urgently needed in the following areas: additional food aid and other emergency supplies, together with the technical and financial assistance necessary for their transportation, storage and distribution to the affected populations; improvement of water supplies; improvement of health and nutrition, particularly for vulnerable groups, including refugees and displaced persons; safeguarding national nuclei of herds of livestock; establishment of income-generating projects and promotion of new and renewable energy projects, particularly in rural areas. In addition to the assistance already provided by the international community, further urgent assistance from bilateral and multilateral donors and non-governmental organizations is required to meet the above and other identified emergency needs in a comprehensive manner, as well as to strengthen the emergency prevention and preparedness capacities of African countries.

10. Of particular importance is the need to undertake urgent action to speed up and support the recovery and rehabilitation process in African countries, especially of the agricultural and industrial sectors as well as for physical and social infrastructures. Assistance for increasing the import capacity for vital imports, through adequate balance-of-payments support and other relevant measures, would help to establish a sound basis for the resumption and acceleration of sustained economic and social development in Africa.

11. We agree that in confronting the challenge of development, national policies and measures, such as those outlined in the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity⁴³ and the Special Memorandum on Africa's Economic and Social Crisis adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa,⁴⁴ provide a framework for national and subregional action and international support.

12. We recognize that, in view of the high priority attached by African countries to food and agriculture, the first urgent task is the early attainment of national and collective self-reliance in food production. In this connection, as highlighted in the Harare Declaration on the food crisis in Africa adopted on 25 July 1984 by the thirteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa, national food strategies and integrated rural development plans play an important role, especially in the achievement of food security. Moreover, we recognize the important role of women in rural development, particularly in food production, a role for which greater support is needed. Also important are the provision of appropriate incentives, credit, improvement of storage and transport, reduction of food losses, in particular post-harvest losses, achievement of a better balance between agricultural export commodities and food production, diversification of agricultural production and utilization of irrigation potential, particularly in the drought-prone areas.

13. Urgent action is needed at the international level to support national and regional efforts to implement the Regional Plan of Action to Combat the Effects of Drought in Africa⁴⁵ and the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification.⁴⁶

14. Increased resources for rapid implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa are required. Furthermore, efforts at national, subregional and regional levels to develop the necessary and much needed skilled manpower, and to build technological capacities, require increased international support.

15. We fully acknowledge that, in the light of the worsening economic situation in Africa, the interrelationship between the debt problem, concessional flows and export earnings and their direct impact on recovery, growth and development assume even greater significance. It is vital, therefore, to take urgent and mutually-reinforcing measures in those areas, taking into account the Special Memorandum on Africa's Economic and Social Crisis,⁴⁴ the Addis Ababa Declaration on Africa's External Indebtedness adopted by the African Ministers of Finance⁴⁷ and the World Bank Special Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa, in order to complement and support domestic adjustment efforts in African countries.

16. Africa is experiencing a very serious debt problem, repayment and servicing of which is taking a very high percentage of already reduced export earnings. The problem is further exacerbated by factors such as deteriorating terms of trade, decline in concessional flows in real terms and increased use of short-term commercial credit. Without an increase in net

capital inflows and urgent debt relief measures, prospects for recovery and development in Africa will be undermined.

17. Bilateral and multilateral creditors should take concerted measures to ease the debt burden of African countries. For official and officially-guaranteed debt, total or partial conversion of official development assistance debts into grants, longer maturities and grace periods, lower or concessional interest rates and extended multi-year rescheduling are among the measures to be dealt with urgently within the framework of close consultation with each of the debtor countries concerned, as well as any other measures to be agreed upon. It is essential to ensure the full and urgent implementation of Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX) of 11 March 1978.⁴⁸ Multilateral financial institutions should expedite resource disbursement. Reduction in international interest rates would further alleviate the debt burden. Moreover, the full co-operation of commercial banks is indispensable. The capacity of African countries to manage their debt should be improved through the provision of technical assistance, particularly by international agencies.

18. We recognize that African countries, in view of their heavy dependence on concessional financial flows and their limited access to alternative sources of external finance, require a substantial and sustained increase in the volume of these flows through bilateral donors and multilateral channels for development finance and technical co-operation. The international community, in particular the developed countries and the multilateral financial institutions, should endeavour to provide the additional financial resources to maintain and increase a net transfer of resources to African countries. The World Bank is strongly urged to explore with donors possible approaches, including a special facility, in mobilizing the resources required to implement the Bank's Special Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa.

19. The full and speedy implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries,⁴⁹ particularly with regard to the official development assistance level, would greatly augment resource flows to many African countries. Supplementary funding for the International Development Association and the early completion of the replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development would ensure at least the maintenance of the real value of resources channelled to Africa.

20. The heavy dependence of African countries on the export of a few primary commodities renders them particularly vulnerable to the sharp price fluctuations that result in drastic shortfalls in export earnings. Urgent action is therefore needed to stabilize commodity prices on long-term trends and to improve and increase the use of compensatory financing arrangements for export earnings shortfalls, such as the Compensatory Financing Facility of the International Monetary Fund. Improved market access for African primary and processed products, efforts of African countries to diversify production, and the early and effective operation of the Common Fund for Commodities require intensified international action.

21. The modalities and quality of official development assistance flows in terms of a greater grant element, untied resources and simplified procedures for aid delivery should be improved through, *inter alia*, speedier disbursements and greater reliance on more flexible forms of assistance, such as non-project programme and sector aid, including local and recurrent costs.

22. We acknowledge that there is room for further improvement in the co-ordination of assistance and the efficient and effective use of resources. Co-ordination of multilateral as well as bilateral assistance is primarily the responsibility of recipient Governments and, in this connection, effective national co-ordinating mechanisms can play an important role. The United Nations system should extend technical assistance in this field to Governments, upon request, and should pursue its own efforts to enhance co-ordination at the programme and operational levels, in conformity with relevant General Assembly resolutions.

23. We are convinced that in addressing the critical needs of African countries there are many areas where the United Nations could play an important role both in mobilizing the necessary resources and in carrying out specific activities. In this respect, existing resources allocated for programmes in Africa should, in consultation with African Governments, be refocused to address identified priority areas. There is need for further improvement in the efficiency and programme delivery of United Nations activities in Africa. Furthermore, additional voluntary contributions

⁴³ A/S-11/14, annex I.

⁴⁴ E/1984/110, annex.

⁴⁵ See E/1984/109, annex.

⁴⁶ Report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, Nairobi, 29 August-9 September 1977 (A/CONF.74/36), chap. I.

⁴⁷ E/1984/110/Add.1.

⁴⁸ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/33/15 and Corr.1), vol. I, part two, annex I.

⁴⁹ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.1.8), part one, sect. A.

should be mobilized to ensure the implementation of projects and programmes in priority areas.

24. We urge all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to give greater attention to Africa and to continue to mobilize resources for assisting African countries in dealing with the current crisis and its longer-term ramifications.

25. We further urge bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as non-governmental organizations, to take all necessary measures to support the efforts of the African countries aimed at alleviating the critical economic situation in Africa.

26. We request the Secretary-General to continue his commendable efforts in alerting and sensitizing the international community to the plight of African countries, in mobilizing additional assistance to Africa, as well as in co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations system in Africa and in monitoring the situation, and to present periodic reports thereon.

27. We are convinced that unless urgent action is taken the rapidly deteriorating situation in Africa may well lead to disaster. We are therefore fully committed to supporting the efforts of African countries to meet the dual challenge of survival and development by taking concerted and urgent measures commensurate with the needs outlined in the present Declaration.

39/47. Co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/38 of 18 November 1981, 37/8 of 29 October 1982 and 38/37 of 5 December 1983,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee,⁵⁰

Having heard the statement of the Secretary-General of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee⁵¹ on the continuing close and effective co-operation between the two organizations,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress achieved towards strengthening the existing co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee;

3. *Commends* the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee for orienting its programme to strengthen its supportive role to the work of the United Nations in wider areas, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/38;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take steps to promote co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee in the field of progressive development and codification of international law and other areas of common interest;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fortieth session a report on co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee".

93rd plenary meeting
10 December 1984

⁵⁰ A/39/565.

⁵¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Plenary Meetings, 93rd meeting, paras. 88-103.*

39/48. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, containing the programme of action for the full implementation of the Declaration,

Recalling also its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 3161 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3291 (XXIX) of 13 December 1974, 31/4 of 21 October 1976, 32/7 of 1 November 1977, 34/69 of 6 December 1979, 35/43 of 28 November 1980, 36/105 of 10 December 1981, 37/65 of 3 December 1982 and 38/13 of 21 November 1983, in which it, *inter alia*, affirmed the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros,

Recalling, in particular, its resolution 3385 (XXX) of 12 November 1975 on the admission of the Comoros to membership in the United Nations, in which it reaffirmed the necessity of respecting the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoro Archipelago, composed of the islands of Anjouan, Grande-Comore, Mayotte, and Mohéli,

Recalling further that, in accordance with the agreements between the Comoros and France, signed on 15 June 1973, concerning the accession of the Comoros to independence, the results of the referendum of 22 December 1974 were to be considered on a global basis and not island by island,

Convinced that a just and lasting solution to the question of Mayotte is to be found in respect for the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoro Archipelago,

Convinced further that a speedy solution of the problem is essential for the preservation of the peace and security which prevail in the region,

Bearing in mind the wish expressed by the President of the French Republic to seek actively a just solution to that problem,

Taking note of the repeated wish of the Government of the Comoros to initiate as soon as possible a frank and serious dialogue with the French Government with a view to accelerating the return of the Comorian island of Mayotte to the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,⁵²

Bearing in mind the decisions of the Organization of African Unity, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Organization of the Islamic Conference concerning this question,

1. *Reaffirms* the sovereignty of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros over the island of Mayotte;

2. *Invites* the Government of France to honour the commitments entered into prior to the referendum on the self-determination of the Comoro Archipelago of 22 December 1974 concerning respect for the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros;

3. *Calls* for the translation into practice of the wish expressed by the President of the French Republic to seek actively a just solution to the question of Mayotte;

4. *Urges* the Government of France to open the negotiations with the Government of the Comoros with a view to ensuring the effective and prompt return of the island of Mayotte to the Comoros;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to follow developments concerning this question, in conjunction with the Secretary-General of the Organiza-

⁵² A/39/518.