

English
Express

The Yearbook of the United Nations
Yearbook Express

Yearbook of the United Nations



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Volume 39



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Express

The Yearbook Express features Yearbook chapter introductions, along with the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, for each year in question.

YEARBOOK OF THE UNITED NATIONS 1985

Volume 39

Table of contents

Foreword.....	v
About the 1985 edition of the <i>Yearbook</i>	xv
Abbreviations commonly used in the <i>Yearbook</i>	xvi
Explanatory note on documents	xvii

Part One: United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization	3
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Political and security questions

I. Disarmament.....	13
COMPREHENSIVE APPROACHES TO DISARMAMENT, 13: Follow-up to the General Assembly's special sessions on disarmament, 15; General and complete disarmament, 25; Proposed world disarmament conference, 32; Proposed comprehensive programme of disarmament, 33. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, 35: Prevention of nuclear war, 35; Climatic effects of nuclear war, 39; Nuclear-arms limitation and disarmament, 40; Cessation of nuclear-weapon tests, 47; Proposed nuclear-weapon freeze, 53; Nuclear non-proliferation, 56; Strengthening the security of non-nuclear-weapon States, 67. PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION OF OTHER WEAPONS, 70: Chemical and biological weapons, 70; New weapons of mass destruction, including radiological weapons, 74; Conventional weapons, 76; Arms race in outer space, 78. OTHER DISARMAMENT ISSUES, 82: Reduction of military budgets, 82; Information on military matters, 85; Military research and development, 86; Disarmament and development, 87; Economic and social consequences of the arms race, 88; Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, 89. INFORMATION AND STUDIES, 91: World Disarmament Campaign, 92; Disarmament Week, 95; UN fellowship programme, 97; Disarmament research, 98; Parties and signatories to disarmament agreements, 100.	

II.	Peaceful uses of outer space	101
	SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND LAW, 101: Space science and technology, 101; Space law, 104. SPACECRAFT LAUNCHINGS, 108.	
III.	Law of the sea	109
	UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, 109; Preparatory Commission, 110; Functions of the Secretary-General, 112.	
IV.	International peace and security	116
	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1970 DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, 116. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECURITY PROVISIONS OF THE UN CHARTER, 119. SETTling DISPUTES THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS, 121. REVIEW OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS, 122. INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE (1986), 122: Right of peoples to peace, 125.	
V.	Africa	126
	SOUTH AFRICA AND APARTHEID, 126: General aspects, 127; Relations with South Africa, 135; Situation in South Africa, 152; Aid programmes and inter-agency co-operation, 169; Other aspects, 172. SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FRONT-LINE STATES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, 178: Angola-South Africa armed incidents and South African occupation of Angola, 180; Botswana-South Africa armed incidents, 189; Lesotho-South Africa dispute, 193; Mozambique-South Africa relations, 196. CHAD-LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA DISPUTE, 196. BURKINA FASO-MALI DISPUTE, 198. ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA DISPUTE, 198. COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE, 198. MALAGASY ISLANDS QUESTION, 200. UN EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA, 200. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN OAU AND THE UN SYSTEM, 201.	
VI.	Americas	205
	CENTRAL AMERICA SITUATION, 205: Nicaragua situation, 208.	
VII.	Asia and the Pacific	220
	EAST ASIA, 220: Korean question, 220. SOUTH-EAST ASIA, 221: Kampuchea situation, 221; International security in South-East Asia, 229; China-Viet Nam dispute, 231; Lao People's Democratic Republic-Thailand dispute, 231. WESTERN AND SOUTH-WESTERN ASIA, 232: Afghanistan situation and Afghanistan-Pakistan armed incidents, 232; Iran-Iraq armed conflict, 239.	
VIII.	Mediterranean	251
	CYPRUS QUESTION, 251: Peace-keeping and humanitarian assistance, 256. OTHER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION, 258: Questions concerning the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 258; Security in the Mediterranean, 259.	
IX.	Middle East	261
	MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, 263. PALESTINE QUESTION, 272: Jerusalem, 280; Assistance to Palestinians, 281; Related questions, 285. INCIDENTS AND DISPUTES	

BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL, 293: Iraq and Israel, 293; Lebanon situation, 295; Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic, 313. FINANCING OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCES, 316: UNDOF financing, 316; UNIFIL financing, 320; Review of reimbursement rates to troop contributors, 324. TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL, 326: Fourth Geneva Convention, 334; Palestinian detainees, 335; Israeli settlements policy, 338; Golan Heights, 340; Palestinian officials, 343; Living conditions of the Palestinians, 344; Israeli measures against educational institutions, 349; Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal project, 351. PALESTINE REFUGEES, 353: UN Agency for Palestine refugees, 353; Other aspects, 357.

X. Other political questions 369

INFORMATION, 369: Mass communication, 369; UN public information, 374; Departmental News Service, 387. RADIATION EFFECTS, 388. ANTARCTICA, 389. ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMANCIPATION OF SLAVES IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE, 391.

XI. Institutional machinery..... 392

UN MEMBERS, 392. SECURITY COUNCIL, 392. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 394. SECRETARY-GENERAL, 398. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, 398. OTHER INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS, 403.

Economic and social questions

I. Development policy and international economic cooperation..... 409

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, 410: Development and economic co-operation, 410; Economic rights and duties of States, 424; Economic co-operation among developing countries, 425. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRENDS AND POLICY, 427. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION, 430. RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 432. SPECIAL ECONOMIC AREAS, 433: Developing countries, 433.

II. Operational activities for development..... 456

GENERAL ASPECTS, 456: Financing of operational activities, 458; Inter-agency co-operation, 463. TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION THROUGH UNDP, 464: UNDP operational activities, 467; Programme planning and management, 473; Financing, 475; Staff-related matters, 483; Other administrative matters, 484. OTHER TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION, 485: UN programmes, 485; United Nations Volunteers, 486; Technical co-operation among developing countries, 488. UN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, 493.

III. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief 496

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, 497: Africa and the critical economic situation, 498; Countries in other regions, 527. DISASTERS, 534: Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, 534; Co-ordination in the UN system, 536; Disaster relief, 537; Disaster preparedness and prevention, 546. EMERGENCY RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE, 547.

IV	International trade, finance and transport	551
	INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN TRADE AND FINANCE, 552. INTERNATIONAL TRADE, 554: Trade policy, 554; Trade promotion and facilitation, 560; Commodities, 565; Consumer protection, 571. FINANCE, 575: Financial policy, 575; Trade-related finance, 579; Taxation, 580. PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNCTAD, 581; UNCTAD programme, 581; Organizational questions, 583.	
V.	Transport and tourism	585
	TRANSPORT, 585: Maritime transport, 585; Transport of dangerous goods, 588. TOURISM, 590.	
VI.	Industrial development	591
	CONVERSION OF UNIDO TO A SPECIALIZED AGENCY, 591: programme and finances of UNIDO, 597; Programme policy, 597; Financial questions, 599. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, 600: Technical co-operation, 600; Industrial co-operation, 603; Industrial development of LDCs, 605; Redeployment of industrial production to developing countries, 605; Industrial financing, 606; Industrial management, 606; Industrial planning, 607; Industrial studies, 608; Industrial technology, 608. DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES, 609: Agro-industries, 609; Chemical industries, 610; Engineering industries, 612; Metallurgical and mineral industries, 614; Other industrial categories, 615.	
VII.	Transnational corporations	616
	DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT, 616. STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING, 617. CENTRE ON TNCs, 618.	
VIII.	Regional economic and social activities	624
	REGIONAL CO-OPERATION, 624. AFRICA, 625: Economic and social trends, 625; Activities in 1985, 626; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 640. ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, 644: Economic and social trends, 645; Activities in 1985, 645; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 651. EUROPE, 653: Economic trends, 653; Activities in 1985, 654. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 660: Economic trends, 660; Activities in 1985, 661; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 664. WESTERN ASIA, 665: Economic and social trends, 665; Activities in 1985, 666.	
IX.	Natural resources and cartography	669
	GENERAL ASPECTS OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 669: Exploration, 669; Permanent sovereignty over natural resources, 672; Committee on Natural Resources, 673; Coordination of UN activities, 674; Other aspects, 674. MINERAL RESOURCES, 675: Technical co-operation, 675; Exploitation and processing, 675; Evaluation, 677. WATER AND MARINE RESOURCES, 677: Water resources development, 677; Marine resources, 681. CARTOGRAPHY, 683: Third UN Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas, 683.	

X.	Energy resources	684
	GENERAL ASPECTS, 684: Energy resources development, 685; Energy resources in industry, 690. NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES, 691: Implementation of the 1981 Nairobi Programme of Action, 691. NUCLEAR ENERGY, 693: IAEA report, 693; Preparations for the Conference on nuclear energy, 694.	
XI.	Food	697
	FOOD PROBLEMS, 697. FOOD AID, 701: World Food Programme, 701.	
XII.	Science and technology	707
	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION, 708: Mid-decade review, 708; Information systems for science and technology, 709. FINANCING, 711: UN Financing System, 711. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, 714: National focal points, 714; Intergovernmental Committee, 714; Advisory Committee, 715; Centre for science and technology, 716; Co-ordination in the UN system, 716. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, 717: Draft code of conduct, 718. BRAIN DRAIN, 719.	
XIII.	Social and cultural development	721
	SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE, 721: World social situation, 721; Social aspects of development, 725; Social welfare, 731; Institutional machinery, 736. CRIME PREVENTION, 738: Seventh UN Congress, 738; Questions related to criminal justice, 742; UN Trust Fund for Social Defence, 757. CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, 757.	
XIV.	Population	760
	FOLLOW-UP TO THE 1984 CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 760. UN FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 762. OTHER POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 769.	
XV.	Health and human resources	773
	HEALTH, 773: Human and environmental health, 773; Disabled persons, 775. HUMAN RESOURCES, 780: Human resources development, 780; UN Institute for Training and Research, 781; UN University, 785.	
XVI.	Environment	788
	PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNEP, 788: Programme policy, 789; Regional activities, 793; Co-ordination, 794; UNEP Fund, 796; Other administrative and organizational questions, 798. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES, 799: Environmental monitoring, 799; Protection against harmful products and pollutants, 801; Ecosystems, 804; Environmental aspects of political, economic and other issues, 817.	
XVII.	Human settlements	822
	PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNCHS, 822: Programme policy, 822; Financing, 824. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS ACTIVITIES, 825: UNCHS (Habitat), 825; International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (1987), 827; Political, economic and social issues, 830. ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS, 831: Co-ordination in the UN system, 831; Commission on Human Settlements, 833.	

XVIII. Human rights	835
<p>DISCRIMINATION, 835: Racial discrimination, 835; Other aspects of discrimination, 845. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, 852: Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol, 853; Self-determination of peoples, 854; Rights of detained persons, 862; Disappearance of persons, 869; Other aspects of civil and political rights, 871. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, 874: Covenant on Economic, social and Cultural Rights, 876; Right to development, 879; Right to food, 881; Popular participation and human rights, 881. ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, 882: UN machinery, 886; Public information activities, 887; Regional arrangements, 889; International human rights instruments, 889; Advisory services, 893; Technical assistance to strengthen legal institutions, 896; Responsibility to promote and protect human rights, 896; Proposed establishment of a new international humanitarian order, 896. HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, 898: Africa, 898; Asia and the Pacific, 905; Europe and the Mediterranean area, 912; Latin America, 912; Middle East, 925; Mass exoduses, 927; Genocide, 928. OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, 929: Rights of the child, 929; Youth and human rights, 930; Human rights of disabled persons, 931; Human rights of the individual and international law, 931; Human rights and science and technology, 932; Human rights and peace, 933; Non-interference in States' internal affairs, 935.</p>	
XIX. Women	936
<p>CONFERENCE ON THE DECADE FOR WOMEN, 937. WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT, 944: UN Development Fund for Women, 949. STATUS OF WOMEN, 952. CONVENTION ON DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN, 960.</p>	
XX. Children, youth and aging persons	962
<p>CHILDREN, 962: UN Children's Fund, 962; Draft declaration on adoption and foster placement, 976. YOUTH, 976: Activities of the UN system, 977; International Youth Year, 978; Strengthening communication between youth and the United Nations, 980; Integrating youth in development and society, 982. AGING PERSONS, 984: Implementation of the Plan of Action, 984.</p>	
XXI. Refugees and displaced persons	990
<p>PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNHCR, 991: Programme policy, 991; Financial and administrative questions, 992. ACTIVITIES FOR REFUGEES, 994: Assistance, 994; Refugee protection, 1009. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO AVERT NEW REFUGEE FLOWS, 1011.</p>	
XXII. Drugs of abuse	1012
<p>Drug abuse and international control, 1013; Supply and demand, 1019; Conventions, 1028; Organizational questions, 1029.</p>	
XXIII. Statistics	1031
XXIV. Institutional arrangements	1038
<p>CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 1038. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, 1045; Co-operation with other organizations, 1046; Other organizational</p>	

matters, 1055. OTHER INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, 1057: Work programme of the Second Committee, 1058.

Trusteeship and decolonization

- I. General questions relating to colonial countries 1059**
THE 1960 DECLARATION ON COLONIAL COUNTRIES, 1059. OTHER GENERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING NSGTs, 1082.
- II. International trusteeship system..... 1084**
TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, 1084. OTHER ASPECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM, 1088.
- III. Namibia 1090**
NAMIBIA QUESTION, 1091. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1122. INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE, 1127.
- IV. Other colonial territories..... 1132**
FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS), 1132. EAST TIMOR, 1136. WESTERN SAHARA, 1137. OTHER TERRITORIES, 1141.

Legal questions

- I. International Court of Justice..... 1155**
Judicial work of the Court, 1155; Organizational questions, 1157.
- II. Legal aspects of international political relations 1160**
Peaceful settlement of disputes between States, 1160; Good-neighbourliness between States, 1161; Non-use of force in international relations, 1162; Draft Code of Offences against peace and security, 1163; Draft convention against mercenaries, 1165; Prevention of terrorism, 1166; Draft articles on non-navigational uses of international water-courses, 1170.
- III. States and international law 1172**
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, 1172. STATE IMMUNITIES, LIABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY, 1175.
- IV. International organizations and international law 1177**
STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, 1177. HOST COUNTRY RELATIONS, 1180. DRAFT STANDARD RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR CONFERENCES, 1181.
- V. Treaties and agreements..... 1182**

VI. International economic law 1191

GENERAL ASPECTS, 1191: Report of UNCITRAL, 1191. INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW, 1192: Unification of trade law, 1192; Most-favoured-nation clauses, 1193; Training and assistance, 1194. LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, 1195.

VII. Other legal questions 1197

International Law Commission, 1197; UN Programme for the teaching and study of international law, 1198; Co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, 1200.

Administrative and budgetary questions

I. United Nations financing 1201

UN BUDGET, 1201: Budget for 1984-1985, 1201; Budget for 1986-1987, 1204. ASSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS, 1213: Scale of assessments, 1213; Budget contributions in 1985, 1217. FINANCIAL SITUATION, 1220: Financial emergency, 1220; Impact of inflation and monetary instability, 1222. ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING, 1222: Accounts for 1984, 1222.

II. United Nations programmes 1224

PROGRAMME PLANNING AND BUDGETING, 1224. PROGRAMME EVALUATION, 1227. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 1230.

III. United Nations officials 1233

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, 1233: Staff composition, 1234; Job classification, 1241; Staff representation, 1242; Field staff, 1243; Travel, 1243; Staff Rules, 1244; Privileges and immunities, 1244. STAFF COSTS, 1245: Salaries and allowances, 1245; Pensions, 1247. UN ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL, 1251: Appeals system for staff, 1251. OTHER UN OFFICIALS, 1252: Conditions of service and compensation, 1252; Experts and consultants, 1253.

IV. Other administrative and management questions 1254

REVIEW OF UN ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS, 1254. CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS, 1256. DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS, 1261. UN PREMISES, 1262. INFORMATION SYSTEMS, COMPUTERS AND TELECOMMUNICATION, 1263. UN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION, 1266.

Part Two: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

I. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) 1271

II. International Labour Organisation (ILO) 1278

III.	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	1287
IV.	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	1295
V.	World Health Organization (WHO)	1302
VI.	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (WORLD BANK) ..	1309
VII.	International Finance Corporation (IFC)	1317
VIII.	International Development Association (IDA).....	1323
IX.	International Monetary Fund (IMF)	1330
X.	International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)	1337
XI.	Universal Postal Union (UPU)	1342
XII.	International Telecommunication Union (ITU)	1345
XIII.	World Meteorological Organization (WMO).....	1350
XIV.	International Maritime Organization (IMO).....	1356
XV.	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	1359
XVI.	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	1365
XVII.	Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ICITO) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)	1370

Appendices

I.	Roster of the United Nations	1377
II.	Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice	1379
	Charter of the United Nations, 1379; Statute of the International Court of Justice, 1388.	
III.	Structure of the United Nations.....	1393
	General Assembly, 1393; Security Council, 1409; Economic and Social Council, 1410; Trusteeship Council, 1420; International Court of Justice, 1421; Other United Nations-related bodies. 1421: Principal members of the Secretariat. 1423.	
IV	Agenda of United Nations Principal Organs in 1986.....	1426
	General Assembly, 1426; Security Council, 1432; Economic and Social Council, 1432; Trusteeship Council, 1434.	
V.	United Nations Information Centres and Services	1435

Indexes

Using the subject index	1440
Subject index.....	1441
Index of names.....	1482
Index of resolutions and decisions.....	1491
How to obtain previous volumes of the <i>Yearbook</i>	1494

PART ONE: United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

Following is the text of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, submitted to the General Assembly and dated 4 September 1985. The Assembly took note of the report on 9 December 1985 when it adopted decision 40/417.

We face today a world of almost infinite promise which is also a world of potentially terminal danger. The choice between these alternatives is ours. The question is whether the Governments and peoples of the world are capable, without the spur of further disasters, of together making the right choice; for the choice and its implementation will, in many important ways, have to be collective. I believe that the United Nations and the way in which its Members decide to use it is—and will be—an essential element in this historic choice. The question I shall consider in my annual report on this fortieth anniversary of our Organization is, therefore, not so much the future of the United Nations as the future of humanity and of our planet and the role of the United Nations in that future.

The world which confronts us would certainly surprise the statesmen who produced the Charter of the United Nations 40 years ago. In those 40 years vast and fundamental changes have occurred in the map of our world and our scientific understanding of it, in international relations, in the nature of war and in the way we live. We are all, in one way or another, engaged in a search for new landmarks, better systems and effective adjustments.

We are living in a time of flux and uncertainty. This situation becomes particularly clear when the world is suddenly faced with a desperate problem, be it a new conflict, a great humanitarian disaster or the temporary paralysis caused by a premeditated act of violence.

There can be no question that, at the global level, between the poles of the massive and sophisticated nuclear weaponry of the major Powers and the desperation of the underprivileged or the dispossessed, there often lies a great vacuum of legitimacy and respected authority. Our most urgent challenge is to fill that vacuum through determined efforts to build a working international political system in which all participate—a system which will not only guarantee survival and order, but will make our planet run more evenly in the interests of all of its inhabitants.

It seems to me important to examine the concept of international authority, a concept which remains elusive in the present world. The only authority that existed in international affairs before the founding of the League of Nations and its successor, the United Nations, was the actual power of the strongest States or Empires. It was mainly the abuse of this power which led to two world wars in this century. It was to replace this state of affairs that the United Nations was founded. The founding of the United Nations, President Roosevelt stated after the Crimean Conference, “spells—and it ought to spell—the end of the system of unilateral action, exclusive

alliances, and spheres of influence, and balances of power, and all the other expedients which have been tried for centuries and have always failed”.

What has happened since falls far short of that vision. It is certainly true that the two world wars, and the immense changes of the past 40 years, have clearly shown that the world cannot return to its old ways and that the system set forth in the Charter is a logical answer to the question of the maintenance of international peace and security and the joint promotion of economic development and social progress in the actual circumstances of our time. But the fact is that we have so far failed to achieve the political conditions, and in particular the requisite relationships among the most powerful States, in which this noble concept can be made to function for the benefit of all.

An illustration of this issue is the current difficulty in addressing the problem of terrorism. Much of the public discussion of this problem seems to assume that there are no existing international conventions on the subject. I need only mention here the three conventions adopted under the auspices of the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly in 1979, as providing at least some legal framework for much more effective action in combating hijacking and hostage-taking. The difficulty that does arise is the incapacity, or the unwillingness, of Governments to implement these conventions in specific cases. Once again, the essential political conditions, the sense of solidarity and mutual confidence, that could make international instruments work is largely lacking.

The best place where those conditions could be cultivated and a sense of international solidarity developed is the United Nations. Indeed, that was one of the main original purposes of the Organization. Only when the minimum positive conditions exist in the relations between States will the concept of international authority begin to assume its rightful place in human affairs.

* * *

The United Nations cannot—and was not intended to—solve all the problems of the international community, but it is the best place to avoid the worst and to strive for improvement. And it has made a good start—far better, in fact, than is often recognized. Let me briefly substantiate this assertion.

After 40 years we have, for the first time in history, a virtually universal world Organization. We have, also for the first time in history, a world of independent sovereign States. Although there have been all too many conflicts since 1945, we have so far escaped a third world war and have perhaps learned more than we realize about techniques and expedients for avoiding such a terminal disaster. We have achieved unprecedented economic growth and social progress, in which developing countries have shared, although not yet in sufficient measure. We are making collective efforts to respond to the new generation of global problems which mostly stem from the need to protect the planet and its resources while providing for all of its people. There is a greater international responsiveness to humanitarian challenges wherever they occur. The protection of human rights, for all the violations that still persist, is becoming a world-wide concern. More international law affecting virtually all areas of human activity has been codified in the past 40 years than in all the previous years of recorded history. Much of it has been done under the auspices of the General Assembly.

The world is still, admittedly, a very imperfect, insecure, unjust, dangerous and, in all too many regions, impoverished place, but in the achievements, I have mentioned above—and in many others—we have a foundation to build on. It is mainly up to Governments to decide if they wish to co-operate in building on this foundation a useful, coherent, effective institution, or whether they choose the alternative that may sometimes seem easier in the short run, each taking its own short-sighted and self-interested course. In that case, the promising foundations, established with so much thought and hard work, will end up surmounted by a rambling, contentious slum, the breeding ground of endless new troubles and disasters. Surely the first alternative is the one which must be chosen.

* * *

There are two basic functions which make the United Nations an essential enterprise. The first is to provide an instrument through which a collective effort can be made to meet emergencies and deal with current problems. These vary from international conflicts, through disputes among States, to humanitarian emergencies and sudden economic and social crises affecting millions of people.

The second function is of a more long-term nature and is related to the complex phase of political and economic development in which our world now finds itself. Throughout history there has been a natural political progression from small groups to larger ones—from family to tribe, to town, to city, to province, to nation state. This progression has taken place more or less spontaneously at different times in different regions, as economic life has become more complex, specialized and interdependent. Thus, we have arrived at a world which is almost entirely composed of nation states. The sovereign independent State is the largest political entity and the main unit of the structure of the United Nations.

There are now, however, a number of problems and realities with which only a larger unity can effectively deal and where the requisite security or common interest can only be achieved through a collective effort of sovereign States. Many of these problems lend themselves best to subregional or regional co-operation in groups of nations with common interests, but many others already transcend the regional dimension. We have, whether we like it or not, created a world which is in many respects one world. On some major problems affecting all humanity we have reached a global stage where interdependence is a fact of life.

A basic role of the United Nations, therefore, is to serve as the foundation on which to build the international system of the future, a system fully recognizing national sovereignty but also recognizing that some of our present realities and concerns call urgently for something more.

Anyone who contemplates the prospects for the future of humanity must conclude that the two functions to which I have referred will become increasingly urgent, perhaps even indispensable to survival. In the 40 years since 1945 the population of the world has more than doubled. In the next 15 years it will increase by one third. Some of the strains and stresses in the world community will certainly stem from the pressure on institutions and resources resulting from this population explosion.

But we must also consider the many precarious balances of the claims and ambitions of nations: the unresolved disputes we carry with us into the future; the many smouldering conflicts of ideas,

beliefs and interests in this world; the dizzy pace of the technological revolution both in production and in weapons; the widening gulf between abundance and absolute poverty; the web of economic ties which locks all parts of the world together; and the steadily increasing danger of deep harm to the biosphere on which life depends. Such a list—and it could easily be made longer—makes it clear that international co-operation, however complex and difficult to organize, is not a choice for the nations of the world, but a necessity.

However, if the United Nations is fully to play the role I have indicated in the development of the international system, it has to become a more effective institution. I should like to discuss this problem in the context of the principal responsibilities laid down in the Charter.

* * *

In terms of its first basic function of meeting emergencies and dealing with current problems, the maintenance of international peace and security is the primary purpose of the United Nations. In the minds of the writers of the Charter it was closely linked with progress in arms limitation and disarmament. Indeed, Article 26 of the Charter gives the Security Council a leading role in the establishment of a system for the regulation of armaments.

Forty years ago, with the lessons of the disastrous period leading up to the Second World War still vividly in mind, it was concluded that the old idea of achieving national security through a competitive armaments race led only to increasing general insecurity. That concept was therefore to be replaced by a collective system of international peace and security, involving in particular the most powerful nations, which would play a key role in the United Nations Security Council. In carrying out its duties the Security Council would, if necessary, and with the support of its members, use the whole range of measures set out in Chapters VI and VII of the Charter. With such a system in place and respected, it was believed that arms limitation and disarmament would naturally follow.

This noble and logical concept has not been realized for many practical and political reasons, not least the lack of that unanimity of the permanent members which was to have been its main driving force. How has the United Nations reacted to the problems posed by the absence of the key prerequisite of its system of international peace and security?

Obviously where international peace is concerned, the ultimate priority is the avoidance of a global conflagration. That is, of course, a main concern of the nuclear Powers themselves, but great dangers remain for all. These include accident, misapprehension or an unexpected concatenation of events involving the nuclear Powers in a way which they cannot evade. This latter situation could most likely develop from the escalation of a regional conflict.

If this brief analysis is valid, insurance against nuclear war requires measures to slow down the onrush of events in such a way as to allow Governments not to take irrevocable decisions and to gain time by substituting deliberation for force. Such expedients also include formulas which allow Governments to change policies that are bound to lead to confrontation. They include stabilizing mechanisms and negotiating processes by which crucial conflicts, if they cannot be resolved, can at least be contained and prevented from escalating. In the case of regional conflicts, especially in sensitive areas, forms of conflict control are often desirable. And overall,

a central forum where opposing views can be freely expressed and third-party assistance is available is an important part of keeping the peace.

The Security Council has time and again slowed the onrush of events, gained time for vital changes in direction, produced face-saving mechanisms and substituted talk for violent action. It has striven for cease-fires and truces to prepare the way for negotiation. It has set important guidelines for the solution of complex problems and provided, with the co-operation of the Secretary-General, all manner of forms of conciliation, mediation, good offices, fact-finding, truce observation and quiet diplomacy. It has managed often to isolate regional conflicts from the area of confrontation of the nuclear Powers. It has provided a repository for the most dangerous of problems even though it could not solve them. It has frequently provided the framework for important combinations of bilateral and multilateral effort. It has acted as a safety net, a last resort to be used by Governments as the alternative to falling into the abyss of unconfined war. Finally, in the absence of the political conditions in which Chapter VII could be used, a system of conflict control has been pioneered, now known as peace-keeping, which has shown considerable promise and effectiveness in 13 separate operations.

Succeeding Secretaries-General have been intensively involved in all these efforts, and the role of the Secretary-General in peace and security matters has developed accordingly. I shall be dealing with this subject later on in relation to the future.

In a changeable and often unfavourable international climate, I believe the Council's record in its primary task stands up better and is a good deal more central and relevant than is sometimes recognized. Of course, it is in no way up to the expectations of a chastened but hopeful world 40 years ago, and it does not include a full and effective use of the range of actions suggested by the Charter. But in the unfavourable political conditions in which the Security Council has mostly had to operate, it represents a considerable effort to find alternative ways for the maintenance of peace.

There is no denying that in the present circumstances the peace and security system of the United Nations has many weaknesses and many shortcomings. It suffers from lack of unanimity and collegial spirit in the Security Council. It suffers from a lack of respect for, and failure to co-operate with, the Council's decisions. It often suffers from a reluctance to pre-empt, or even to foresee, dangerous situations and to use the powers of the Council at a stage when problems might be more susceptible of treatment. It suffers from the Council's incapacity to approach some problems at all. But I maintain that in the real conditions of international life these 40 years—as opposed to various rhetorical versions of the same events—the Security Council has played an essential and often central role in providing stability and limiting conflict.

The question is how to enhance that role and bring the Council closer to the position prescribed for it in the Charter. It would obviously be extremely desirable to see that change in relationships among the permanent members that above all might restore the Council to the position it was originally intended to occupy. But surely, in the meanwhile, there are ways in which the Council could improve its capacity along the lines on which it has been working for many years.

In my previous annual reports, and especially in the report for 1982, I have made a number of suggestions on this score. I shall not repeat such suggestions here, although I hope that Governments will see fit to act on some of them. On the occasion of the fortieth anniversary, however, I shall make a simpler set of suggestions.

First, I would suggest that a determined and conscious effort be made by members of the Security Council, and especially the permanent members, to use their membership to make the Council more the guardian of peace it was set up to be and less the battleground on which to fight out political and ideological differences which are not directly relevant to the issue under discussion—in other words, to give matters of international peace and security priority over bilateral differences.

Secondly, I suggest that the Security Council should, in the near future, make a deliberate and concerted effort to solve one or two of the major problems before it by making fuller use of the measures available to it under the Charter.

Thirdly, the membership as a whole might reaffirm Charter obligations, especially those relating to the non-use of force or the threat of force, the peaceful settlement of disputes, resort to the mechanism set out in the Charter for the settlement of disputes and respect for the decisions of the Security Council.

In the present circumstances these suggestions may to some seem simplistic. But in our nuclear age there is nothing more dangerous than failing to make the collective system of international peace and security work. The United Nations is in no way a super-State. It is an organization of sovereign independent States. The Organization has no sovereignty of its own. Sovereignty remains entirely vested in the individual Member States unless they decide otherwise. The Organization's function, and hence that of the Secretary-General, is therefore to harmonize, to encourage and to initiate. But the implementation, the drive, must come from the Members. When this drive does come, it can achieve remarkable results. I would like to see this drive, this collective will, directed to the key function of the United Nations, the maintenance of international peace and security. Next year, 1986, has been designated the International Year of Peace. Let us try to make this designation a call for serious reflection and action.

* * *

Without collective determination and the acknowledgement of a minimum common interest in survival, there can be no meaningful progress in disarmament. International insecurity and the arms race, with the fear of its possible extension to new areas, create a relentless vicious spiral. Where the arms race is concerned, it cannot be sufficiently emphasized that the quest for advantage is illusory. In the nuclear era it also places all people at risk and puts in doubt the lives of future generations.

Governments have to find the courage to take the first steps. We should recall the vision that led to such advances as the Partial Test-Ban Treaty some 20 years ago. Today, a clear and vital signal of humanity's willingness to confront the nuclear challenge would be through agreement on a comprehensive test-ban treaty. Impeding as it would the ceaseless technological refinement of nuclear weapons, its adoption would help to break the sequence that threatens our very existence. There are other areas deserving of urgent attention—nuclear-weapon-free zones, for example.

While the fear of nuclear weapons is pervasive because of their potentially global devastating effects, it is conventional weapons that every day claim countless lives. Those who engage in and fuel the arms trade bear a particularly heavy responsibility. The conventional arms race, moreover, squanders precious economic resources. We must push for practical measures for

multilateral disarmament, including regional plans, bearing in mind the link between disarmament and development.

Bilateral negotiations between the great Powers are clearly of crucial importance to the future of all peoples as well as their own. In this connection, I am sure that we all share the profound hope that the forthcoming meeting between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States will contribute to a reduction of tension and to progress on disarmament, as well as on other important matters.

At the same time, I wish to emphasize that the United Nations can and must contribute to progress in disarmament. The Conference on Disarmament Report of the Secretary-General affords a unique multilateral arena for discussions on arms limitation and disarmament. Indeed, the Organization has a comprehensive responsibility for restraining dangerous trends in this field—for example, in regard to chemical weapons.

I believe that the Organization's ability to assist in verification and compliance arrangements should also be actively explored. The International Atomic Energy Agency has unique experience in monitoring non-proliferation compliance and ensuring the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. This expertise could be built on and expanded to provide a monitoring capability for nuclear-arms agreements. Suggestions have also been made, and should be further considered, for the United Nations to verify compliance through seismic stations, through on-site inspection or through satellite observation.

* * *

Many of the greatest hopes of mankind focus on economic and social progress, which must remain a primary goal of the United Nations system. Much progress has been made in the past 40 years, but many worries and uncertainties now prevail about risks of stagnation or even regression in some parts of the world.

There is no denying that for some time now the world economy has been functioning in an uneven and unsatisfactory way. In industrial countries the wave of high technology promises great affluence but also causes overcapacity, obsolescence and unemployment. Many developing countries, apart from basic problems of development, are crippled by their debt burdens which have been compounded by the rise in international interest rates. But all these difficulties, which are these days often euphemistically described as adjustment problems, seem to be part of one great process of global adjustment which is made rather more difficult by the inclination of many countries to resort to protectionism or unilateral exchange rate policies to solve their own problems at the expense of other countries.

It was this kind of short-sighted economic nationalism that brought the world economy to a collapse in the 1930s. This was why, along with the foundation of the United Nations, a great effort was made to set up a system of specialized organizations in the areas of money, finance and trade.

The deliberations in the United Nations on world economic affairs are seldom conducted among those who are ultimately responsible for these issues within their own Governments. Finance ministries and central banks are represented in other international forums, such as the World

Bank and the International Monetary Fund, whose functions are exclusively the consideration of economic, financial and monetary issues.

And yet it has become increasingly clear in recent years that economic, financial, monetary and trade issues are so interrelated and are of such profound political and social importance that they can only be dealt with effectively as part of a wider political process. In the case of international development this was recognized in the creation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as well as the call for a new international economic order, but it is now true of an even broader range of issues. This development must be reflected in the approach of the United Nations and in the nature of governmental representation in it if the efforts on problems which affect virtually all humanity are to be relevant and well conceived.

The need for international co-operation in economic affairs more and more cuts across traditional sectoral boundaries as represented nationally by different ministries and internationally by different specialized agencies. What is required in many cases is a more effective and pragmatic use of the United Nations as a forum for integrating practical effort. This in no sense detracts from the importance of the work of the specialized agencies—on the contrary, it should enhance their effectiveness and relevance. A parallel co-ordinating effort is necessary at the national level. There is a need for governmental ministries to act in concert with each other towards agreed objectives, if the international system is to perform effectively.

The Economic and Social Council should have a useful function to serve in exploring new needs and opportunities for joint international action. An effort is being made by its members to make the Council more effective, and by the Secretariat to enhance the quality of support. While some progress has been made, much remains to be done if the Council is to fulfil the great task allotted to it in the Charter and to indicate with clarity the directions and the spirit in which we should all act together.

We are facing economic changes of such magnitude and complexity that no country can adjust to them in isolation. We see this, for example, in attempts to protect domestic jobs from import competition, which result in the exporting of unemployment. What is clearly required is a wider vision and more dynamic understanding of the global nature of the problems we are facing. Such a vision has to be based on the open recognition of interdependence and the practical necessity of a fair sharing of burdens and of the accommodation of others. The ultimate rewards of such a system, for example, fuller use of resources, less unemployment and greater economic efficiency and social justice, would be immense. Unfortunately, the difficulty of getting such an approach generally accepted is also immense.

The international debt situation is particularly alarming. Many of the debtor countries are now again facing very weak export markets. Commodity prices are lower in real terms than they have been since the 1930s and are still declining. But interest rates remain high, and there seems to be no tendency for new lending to resume; if anything, the opposite. To adjust to the drying-up of bank lending, many debtor countries are cutting their imports, their living standards and their development programmes to the point where social, and even political, consequences have become extremely serious. Furthermore, the loss of markets weakens the fragile recovery in the industrial countries.

There is a strong mutual interest in resolving the debt crisis. However, the debt problem illustrates the inconsistencies which short-circuit attempts to move in a positive direction. While efforts are

being made to reschedule debts over longer periods to alleviate the burdens, elsewhere protectionist measures are being taken which nullify those efforts. I see a strong need for a joint, comprehensive and speedy examination of all aspects of this situation, including the political ones.

The promotion of better understanding of world economic and social problems is an essential task of the United Nations and other international agencies. There are some encouraging experiences in this field. The series of conferences on global problems sponsored by the United Nations over the past 15 years has certainly been an innovation in raising knowledge and consciousness of problems and trying to develop a concerted approach to them. Current international efforts to come to grips with the problems of Africa also show a willingness to apply the skill and resources of the international community to a particular series of problems.

In the economic as in the political sphere, we are faced with the necessity of making our institutions relevant and effective in the realities of our time. We have to learn to manage our increasing economic interdependence. This is an enormous and daunting task. But the failure to face up to it can have results in terms of economic and social decline and chaos, which, in their own way and in the circumstances of our time, can be just as serious and debilitating as a failure to evolve a collective system of international peace and security in a nuclear age.

* * *

Today international co-operation is recognized as indispensable even in matters where not long ago it was thought to be Utopian. In social and economic development, the achievements of United Nations programmes and agencies are universally recognized. The force of necessity has made the United Nations system a global source of advice and assistance, co-operation and co-ordination in all areas where Governments, whatever their philosophical differences, have to act together.

It is ironic that, as we enter a phase in history in which the practical necessity of co-operative internationalism is so patent, there should, in some quarters at least, be a retreat from it. Questioning of international organizations striving to create greater order in the world polity and economy is widespread, and the United Nations is the subject of especially heavy criticism. We need to examine this phenomenon and try to understand it. Surely the fortieth anniversary is a good time to take a collective look at this problem and the role of Member States in addressing it.

There is no question that the difficulties of making the United Nations work to their satisfaction have an important bearing on the attitude of some Governments towards the Organization. Certainly, the new complexity of the expanded membership and new voting patterns, as well as instances where division and conflict have been highlighted at the expense of broad areas of agreement and common interest, have had an impact. In these circumstances there has been a tendency to make the United Nations a scapegoat for current problems and confusions and to see it as the symbol of a lack of international authority and responsibility, rather than as an instrument for co-operation in addressing the current problems of a newly global society.

It is the General Assembly, the main representative organ of the United Nations, which inevitably carries the weight of much of the criticism of the United Nations. Only in the General Assembly can the world be seen in its full variety, and it is there that differences and conflicts are highlighted in a particularly dramatic way. The General Assembly, when all is said and done, is

the first approximation of a town meeting of the world. Far less well known is the painstaking work carried on within the framework of the Assembly in codifying international law and standards of behaviour and in focusing and maintaining attention on vital issues.

Many efforts have been made over the years to reform the General Assembly and to streamline and rationalize its procedures. The truth is that the Assembly represents the universality of the membership and has a very broad and diverse agenda. It is therefore difficult to streamline it without losing its main point. There are certainly, however, ways in which the performance of the General Assembly could be progressively improved.

It seems to me that essential steps in improving the political process in the General Assembly should include a much greater degree of inter-Report of the Secretary-General governmental consultation before each session, and a determined attempt to hammer out consensus on important issues and to avoid divisive rhetoric. Otherwise the quality of the political process in the General Assembly will deteriorate.

* * *

The responsibilities and duties which are inherent in the functions of the Secretary-General or are delegated to him represent a high challenge. The functions of the Secretary-General and the Secretariat have evolved to a notable extent in the first 40 years of the Organization. Both are based on the concept of independent and objective international service.

I wish only to make one observation about the evolution of the Secretary-Generalship and its relation to the overall development of international institutions. While greatly appreciative of the co-operation and understanding extended to the Secretary-General and the trust bestowed on him, I am sometimes concerned that the delegation of responsibility to the Secretary-General may, in certain instances, have the effect of diminishing the effort that is expected of Member States under the Charter. This will not serve the effective development of the United Nations as a political institution.

That being said, I nevertheless believe that it would be in the interests of the Organization as a whole if the Secretary-General's capacity to serve as an objective third party were to be further developed. There is much, of course, to be said for quiet diplomacy, but sometimes more is required. I am thinking in particular of a wider and earlier use of fact-finding and observation. I am also thinking of the need to survey more regularly and systematically the world-wide state of international peace and security—a task in which the Security Council and the Secretary-General should be jointly involved. The best radar in the world is not reliable or effective unless it makes systematic surveys of the surrounding space. The same applies, it seems to me, to the task of maintaining international peace.

The basic elements of the international civil service—independence from national pressures, efficiency, competence and integrity—must remain the guiding tenets of the Secretariat. Their validity has been proven over the years, especially in critical and controversial situations. The Secretariat must continually strive to be the dependable arm required to implement the evolving needs of the Organization. I am, however, concerned with the question of what policies and methods can best achieve the standards of efficiency and integrity which are required for the international civil service. The development of such a service using personnel from well-over

100 Member States is no easy task. I am certainly not satisfied that we have in all cases found the right solutions, the right rules or the most effective organization for the Secretariat. I am in favour of pursuing our efforts to improve the existing administrative, personnel and budgetary practices of the United Nations. However, I believe that the best results can, and should, be achieved within the framework of the Secretary-General's authority under Chapter XV of the Charter. This is essential both for proper management and in the interests of the Organization as a whole.

I have repeatedly emphasized the need for the Secretariat to explore all avenues for utilizing the Organization's resources in the most efficient manner, and to provide an equitable role for women in the Secretariat. I have initiated a series of management-improving measures, and this is a process that will be pursued on a continuing basis. It is particularly essential, in times of change, constantly to evaluate and reassess programmes and structures and to institute such reforms as may be required.

In the preparation of my proposals for the current and forthcoming biennial programme budgets, I have endeavoured to reassure all Member States of my commitment to achieve the delivery of programmes entrusted to the Secretariat in the most cost-effective way possible. I am bound, however, to express my deep concern at the practice of certain Member States of selectively withholding their duly assessed contributions. This can only have a most detrimental effect on the future viability of our Organization.

* * *

In thinking of the future of the Organization, one is struck by the fact that the United Nations is almost unique among political institutions in having little direct contact with its basic constituency, "the peoples of the United Nations" who address us in the first words of the Charter. This is a delicate matter, since the independent national sovereignty of Member States is a primary prerequisite of the Charter.

Nevertheless, the United Nations deals with more and more issues which are important internationally and also have strong domestic implications. Only the support of national domestic constituencies in each Member State can assure the necessary follow-up which will lead to effective action on such issues. Here a far greater involvement with non-governmental organizations in the broadest sense of the term could go a long way towards a solution. We have had an indication of their enormous direct value and influence in a series of global conferences as well as in the remarkable world-wide efforts by voluntary agencies, entertainers and others in support of relief in Africa and elsewhere.

We also need to encourage the concept of practical international service in a manner broader and more systematic than has yet been the case. In particular more effort should be made to devise ways of engaging young people directly in matters of concern to the world community.

* * *

I have, in a series of other reports to the General Assembly and the Security Council, commented in detail on the major political issues with which the United Nations is concerned, in many of

which the Secretary-General has particular responsibilities. I shall not, therefore, repeat myself here nor deal with the specific situations covered by those reports.

I should like, however, to mention certain other great issues of our time which have an important bearing on the future. Perhaps the broadest and most complex of these issues is the question of human rights, which affects everyone.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted nearly 37 years ago, must be counted as one of the great achievements of the United Nations. The Declaration and the Covenants and conventions that grew out of it provided the world, for the first time, with an international code of human rights which establishes as norms of international law the way in which the State must treat individuals. Specific mechanisms have also been established by the United Nations to monitor compliance with these agreements, and we are increasingly providing advisory services and technical assistance to Governments in the field of human rights.

Yet we must recognize that, despite these advances, there is a continuing need to keep a close watch over the way the rights and freedoms of the individual are respected by States. Massive violations of human rights continue to take place, often of tragic proportions. Many States have not yet ratified the relevant international conventions, nor brought their laws or institutions into conformity with the international standards proclaimed by the United Nations. Persecution for political, religious or racial reasons continues. Minorities and indigenous populations are often inadequately protected. There are also instances in which the cooperation of Governments with the United Nations and its organs leaves much to be desired.

Let us in this fortieth anniversary year rededicate ourselves, jointly and individually, to the task of achieving the unimpeded application of the Universal Declaration and the International Covenants. To this end, I appeal to those States that have not yet ratified the Covenants to do so. I appeal to all States to support, strengthen and take part in the procedures which have been established to examine violations of human rights, and assure their protection.

A particularly important aspect of human rights is racial discrimination, which should have no place in any form in our society and which represents the most dangerous of social and political poisons. In one particular and extreme instance, the policy of apartheid in South Africa, the unwillingness to undertake timely, remedial measures has now produced an ominous and violent situation, on which the Security Council has recently pronounced itself. I need hardly reiterate my strongly held views on the abhorrent system of apartheid and the massive human tragedy which has resulted from it. I hope that, even at this very late hour, steps can be taken and contacts established which may avert the worst. I feel obliged to add here that the failure to bring Namibia to independence through the United Nations Plan is, together with apartheid, a fundamental reason for the tension and suffering in southern Africa.

An immense and widespread social evil is the burgeoning problem of narcotic drugs, which ruins the lives of uncounted millions of individuals, and even undermines the integrity and stability of Governments. In large areas of the world the plague of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, fuelled by the immense profits which they generate, has reached an emergency stage. As this problem increases in magnitude, despite the growing efforts of Governments to deal with it, even more attention must be given to improving the co-ordination of efforts so that an effective range of strategies may be developed to meet the new challenges posed. Clearly, the drug problem can no longer be regarded as a merely social, and largely domestic, concern.

It is against this background that I have proposed that the first global conference should be convened to deal with all aspects of drug abuse and illicit trafficking. I trust that such a conference would be action-oriented. It should serve to raise the level of world-wide awareness of the escalating problems of drug abuse, mobilize the full potential of the United Nations system, and result in a programme of action at the international, regional and national levels. The moment has arrived for the international community to expand its efforts in a global undertaking to meet this deadly peril.

Acts of terrorism have now spread to virtually all parts of the globe. They are exceptionally difficult to cope with since they involve desperate acts by desperate people willing to violate national and international law regardless of the risk to their own lives. The most tragic aspect of this problem is the increasing loss of innocent civilian lives, which I have repeatedly condemned. As indicated earlier, some of the necessary international legal instruments are in place, and it is time for concerted efforts to be made by Governments to implement them. In Report of the Secretary-General this context, Governments may wish to consider what further measures of international co-operation could be effectively devised.

I believe that in concerting an international response to great common problems we may also begin to develop the kind of social and political solidarity and mutual confidence which will eventually serve well in the more traditional field of political problems. Several encouraging examples of such responses do exist, and I want to recall some of them very briefly:

International efforts for the relief of refugees and their voluntary return or resettlement represent one of the most practical expressions of international solidarity;

The steps taken to create more adequate food security for all countries have brought us forward in the struggle to free the world from hunger;

The great endeavour to bring immunization to all children in the world by 1990 now seems capable of realization if there is a will to make the final effort. I urge the leaders of the world to give full support to this vital and universal enterprise with the potential for saving countless young lives.

In these fields and many others, the range of the possible has steadily widened as international cooperation has taken its place as a permanent element in the governance of the world.

In another important instance, the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, which was held at Nairobi to review the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, completed its work with greater success than some had anticipated and, to my satisfaction, adopted by consensus an important set of propositions for the future. Evidently, the enormous importance of the subject finally carried the day. It is hard as yet to judge the full significance and impact of this dynamic and widely representative gathering. One thing is certain: the full and equal participation of women in all aspects of human endeavour, which throughout history has been obscured and suppressed, has assumed an importance and a vitality which can give an irresistible momentum to the various practical efforts by which the Nairobi Conference must be followed up. I hope it will also add a healthy new dimension to political thinking and action world-wide.

* * *

I have previously mentioned international responsiveness to human disasters. Although the African continent today attracts our most urgent attention, the international community was slow to respond to the initial alarms signalling the drought-induced crises that were affecting several African nations. For many thousands of people, it responded too late.

But for the vast majority of the 30 million Africans who have suffered from the most widespread, devastating drought in memory, a unique partnership between the Governments of affected African countries and the international community has brought life and hope. This partnership has managed to arrest a disaster of unprecedented proportions that would otherwise have occurred and has almost certainly saved several million lives. The United Nations has played, and will in various ways continue to play, a central—indeed indispensable—role in this great example of international humanitarian co-operation.

Millions of Africans still face a difficult and uncertain future, a future which could be more hopeful if the partnership that has been forged in response to Africa's emergency needs is maintained through the critically important recovery period now at hand. We must be prepared to plan and carry through sustained development assistance programmes designed to prevent the recurrence of such tragedies and deal with their fundamental causes.

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In our journey of 40 years we have had many experiences, some encouraging, others frustrating, and many that have been deeply enlightening. We have taken on many activities and some excess baggage. In looking forward let us decide which activities are really useful and what baggage we can well do without.

Let us remember that we have created the means to destroy ourselves, and that a great effort of will and intelligence is going to be needed to build a system which will effectively preserve peace and which will work in the interests of all the peoples of this Earth. Let us look at the future as an opportunity, not as a potential disaster. Let us remember all the things we have in common as human beings, all the marvels that the human mind has created and all the splendid diversity of our world.

Let us above all, on this occasion, look at the United Nations as its founders looked at it, as the practical hope for the future and not merely as the unhappy bearer of the burdens of the past. We must be realistic about our difficulties and the dangers that we face. But let us also resolve to find the ways by which, together, we can surmount them.



Javier PÉREZ DE CUÉLLAR
Secretary-General

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 13-100)

Disarmament

COMPREHENSIVE APPROACHES TO DISARMAMENT, 13: Follow-up to the General Assembly's special sessions on disarmament, 15; General and complete disarmament, 25; Proposed world disarmament conference, 32; Proposed comprehensive programme of disarmament, 33. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, 35: Prevention of nuclear war, 35; Climatic effects of nuclear war, 39; Nuclear-arms limitation and disarmament, 40; Cessation of nuclear-weapon tests, 47; Proposed nuclear-weapon freeze, 53; Nuclear non-proliferation, 56; Strengthening the security of non-nuclear-weapon States, 67. PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION OF OTHER WEAPONS, 70: Chemical and biological weapons, 70; New weapons of mass destruction, including radiological weapons, 74; Conventional weapons, 76; Arms race in outer space, 78. OTHER DISARMAMENT ISSUES, 82: Reduction of military budgets, 82; Information on military matters, 85; Military research and development, 86; Disarmament and development, 87; Economic and social consequences of the arms race, 88; Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, 89. INFORMATION AND STUDIES, 91: World Disarmament Campaign, 92; Disarmament Week, 95; UN fellowship programme, 97; Disarmament research, 98; Parties and signatories to disarmament agreements, 100.

The General Assembly, at its 1985 regular session, adopted a record number of 66 resolutions on arms limitation and disarmament, reflecting, in most part, the persisting differences of approach to substantive issues. While preparatory work began earlier in the year for the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, scheduled for mid-1986, the Assembly decided that it would, in that year, set the date of its third special session on disarmament and establish a United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa. Further, it requested the Secretary-General to prepare two studies—one on climatic effects of nuclear war, including nuclear winter, and the other, an update on economic and social consequences of the arms race and of military expenditures.

The Conference on Disarmament—the 40-nation negotiating body at Geneva—continued working towards a future chemical-weapons convention, prevention of an arms race in outer space, nuclear-war prevention and related issues, and a ban on radiological weapons. The United Nations Disarmament Commission, a deliberative body composed of all United Nations Member States, considered three new substantive items—review of the role of the United Nations in disarmament, curbing the naval arms race, and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade.

Among other developments, the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons took place in August/September at Geneva. Outside the United Nations framework, the USSR and the United States began, at Geneva in March, bilateral negotiations on both strategic and intermediate-range space and nuclear arms; and the heads of the respective Governments, at a November summit meeting, agreed to accelerate the work. The South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty, prepared by the South Pacific Forum, was opened for signature.

Topics related to this chapter. Peaceful uses of outer space. Law of the sea. International peace and security: implementation of the 1970 Declaration. Arms race and the environment.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 101-108)

Peaceful uses of outer space

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND LAW, 101: Space science and technology, 101; Space law, 104. SPACECRAFT LAUNCHINGS, 108.

Issues concerning international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space continued to be discussed in 1985 by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (Committee on outer space), by its two sub-committees—the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee and the Legal Sub-Committee—and by the General Assembly.

The Committee on outer space held its twenty-eighth session in New York from 17 to 28 June 1985. Its recommendations were endorsed in December by the Assembly (resolution 40/162), which also urged States to prevent an arms race in outer space, and invited those not parties to international treaties governing the use of outer space to ratify them.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: arms race in outer space. Other administrative and management questions: communications satellite. International Telecommunication Union.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 109-115)

Law of the sea

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, 109; Preparatory Commission, 110; Functions of the Secretary-General, 112.

Ratifications to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea increased to 25 during

The Preparatory Commission, which had been mandated to set up the Convention's two major institutions—the International Sea-Bed Authority and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea—continued its work. It declared that the only régime for exploring and exploiting the international sea-bed “Area” (the sea-bed beyond national jurisdiction) was that established by the Convention and other resolutions adopted in 1982 by the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

In resolution 40/63, the General Assembly called on States to observe the Convention's provisions when enacting national legislation and called for early adoption of the rules for registration of pioneer investors.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: naval arms race. Transport: maritime transport. Natural resources: marine resources. Environment: marine ecosystems. International Court of Justice: continental shelf delimitation (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya/Tunisia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya/Malta).

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 116-125)

International peace and security

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1970 DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, 116. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECURITY PROVISIONS OF THE UN CHARTER, 119. SETTLING DISPUTES THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS, 121. REVIEW OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS, 122. INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE (1986), 122: Right of peoples to peace, 125.

Ways of maintaining international peace and security continued to be the primary objective of the United Nations during 1985.

Expressing concern over the increasing recourse to the use of force, the General Assembly took action to try to improve the situation. It urged all States, particularly the Security Council's permanent members, to prevent the further deterioration of the international situation (resolution 40/158) and, in a solemn appeal to conflicting States to settle disputes peacefully, it invited the Council to act promptly in such cases (40/9). As the Ad Hoc Committee on the Implementation of the Collective Security Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations had still not been formed, the Assembly urged that 54 States be appointed as members (40/159).

On United Nations Day, 24 October, the Assembly proclaimed 1986 as the International Year of Peace (40/3), subsequently adopted a programme for the Year and decided to convene a second pledging conference for contributions to it (40/10). The Assembly also called for the implementation of its 1984 Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace (40/11) and renewed the mandate of its Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations (40/163).

In his annual report to the Assembly (see p. 3), the Secretary-General recalled that 40 years previously it had been concluded that the old idea of achieving national security through a competitive armaments race led only to increasing general insecurity. Therefore, that concept was to be replaced by a collective system, involving particularly the most powerful nations, which would play a key role in the Security Council. Although that had not been realized for many reasons, the Council had time and again slowed the onrush of events, gained time for vital changes in direction, produced face-saving mechanisms and substituted talk for violent action. A system of conflict control, known as peace-keeping, had been pioneered, which had shown considerable effectiveness in 13 separate operations. Urging States to direct their will to the key function of maintaining international peace and security, the Secretary-General stressed that in the nuclear age, there was nothing more dangerous than failing to make the system work.

All aspects of the maintenance of international peace and security were also discussed by the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (see LEGAL QUESTIONS, Chapter IV).

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament. Human rights: human rights and peace. Legal aspects of international political relations: peaceful settlement of disputes between States; good-neighbourliness between States; non-use of force in international relations; draft Code of Offences against peace and security; draft convention against mercenaries; prevention of terrorism. International organizations and international law: strengthening the role of the United Nations.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter V (pp. 126-204)

Africa

SOUTH AFRICA AND APARTHEID, 126: General aspects, 127; Relations with South Africa, 135; Situation in South Africa, 152; Aid programmes and inter-agency co-operation, 169; Other aspects, 172. SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FRONT-LINE STATES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, 178: Angola-South Africa armed incidents and South African occupation of Angola, 180; Botswana-South Africa armed incidents, 189; Lesotho-South Africa dispute, 193; Mozambique-South Africa relations, 196. CHAD-LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA DISPUTE, 196. BURKINA FASO-MALI DISPUTE, 198. ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA DISPUTE, 198. COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE, 198. MALAGASY ISLANDS QUESTION, 200. UN EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA, 200. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN OAU AND THE UN SYSTEM, 201.

The United Nations considered in 1985 a number of political questions concerning Africa, and, as in previous years, focused on South Africa's apartheid policies and its aggression against neighbouring States.

In regard to apartheid, the General Assembly adopted nine resolutions and, as the situation in South Africa deteriorated rapidly, repeatedly condemned that Government's mass arrests and violence against defenceless people, as did the Security Council in two resolutions.

Of special note in 1985 was the Assembly's adopt of the International Convention against Apartheid in Sports, preparations for which had begun in 1976.

In addition to the Assembly and the Council, the Special Committee against Apartheid, the United Nations Council for Namibia, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Committee on colonial countries), the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Transnational Corporations were the main bodies concerned with apartheid and the related issue of South Africa's relations with its neighbours. On several occasions, those bodies condemned South Africa's aggression against the so-called front-line States.

Following repeated South African aggression against and continued occupation of Angola during 1985, the Security Council adopted four resolutions condemning that action-in June, September, October and December. The Council also sent an investigative commission to Angola to assess the damage resulting from South Africa's invasion. It adopted two resolutions concerning Botswana's complaint that South Africa had attacked the capital city of Gaborone. In June, it condemned the attack and decided to send a Secretariat mission to assess the damage and make proposals on assistance; it endorsed the mission's report in September.

After Lesotho complained of aggression by South Africa, the Council in December condemned the violence and requested the Secretary-General to establish a civilian presence in Maseru to report any further development affecting the territorial integrity of Lesotho. Mozambique also complained of aggression by South Africa.

In January, the Council met at the request of Chad, which said that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was attempting to overthrow its Government, a charge the Jamahiriya denied. In September, Somalia complained that Ethiopia was occupying part of its territory, but Ethiopia replied that Somalia's problems were due to an internal conflict.

The Assembly reaffirmed the sovereignty of the Comoros over the Indian Ocean island of Mayotte, appealed for contributions to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa which provided scholarships for students from the region, and called for continued co-operation with the Organization of African Unity.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: nuclear-weapon-free zones-Africa. Mediterranean: Egypt-Libyan Arab Jamahiriya relations; Libyan Arab Jamahiriya-United States relations. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: critical economic situation in Africa. Regional economic and social activities: Africa. Environment: environmental aspects of apartheid. Human rights: human rights violations in South Africa and Namibia. Women: women under apartheid. Refugees and displaced persons: Africa. Namibia. International Court of Justice: frontier dispute between Burkina Faso and Mali.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter VI (pp. 205-219) Americas

CENTRAL AMERICA SITUATION, 205: Nicaragua situation, 208.

The situation in Central America was considered by the Security Council and the General Assembly in 1985. Both bodies addressed specific disputes between countries.

The Council held two series of meetings at Nicaragua's request regarding allegations of aggression against it. In May, the Council adopted resolution 562(1985) calling on all States to refrain from supporting any actions against any State in the region which might impede the peace objectives of the Contadora Group (Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela). In December, the Council considered what Nicaragua called the escalation of acts of aggression against it, but took no action.

The General Assembly, in December, adopted resolution 40/188 calling for an end to a United States trade embargo against Nicaragua. In an October report to the Assembly, the Secretary-General expressed regret that, despite the efforts of the Contadora Group, whose political initiative for peace and co-operation in Central America had begun in 1983, the situation in Central America had steadily deteriorated during the year. He urged the countries with interests in the region to support with deeds the Contadora Group's efforts.

An agenda item on the observance of the quincentenary of the discovery of America was not considered at the Assembly's 1985 regular session, but was among the items deferred, by decision 40/470, to its resumed session in 1986.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: nuclear-weapon-free zones-Latin America. Regional economic and social activities: Latin America. Human rights: Latin America. Refugees and displaced persons: Americas. Other colonial Territories: Falkland Islands (Malvinas). International Court of Justice: military and parliamentary activities in and against Nicaragua.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter VII (pp. 220-250) Asia and the Pacific

EAST ASIA, 220: Korean question, 220. SOUTH-EAST ASIA, 221: Kampuchea situation, 221; International security in South-East Asia, 229; China-Viet Nam dispute, 231; Lao People's Democratic Republic-Thailand dispute, 231. WESTERN AND SOUTH-WESTERN ASIA, 232: Afghanistan situation and Afghanistan-Pakistan armed incidents, 232; Iran-Iraq armed conflict, 239.

Matters relating to Korea, the situation in Afghanistan and that in Kampuchea, as well as the Iran-Iraq conflict, were prominent concerns in Asia brought before the United Nations in 1985.

The United Nations Command continued to monitor the 1953 Armistice Agreement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea. A relief operation from North Korea to flood victims in South Korea was the first such co-operative effort since 1948.

In South-East Asia, the situation in Kampuchea and border incidents affecting that country, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam occupied the attention of the United Nations. The Secretary-General and his Special Representative visited the area in pursuit of a peaceful solution to the problems of the region. The Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea dispatched three missions to seven countries in pursuance of its mandate to assist in seeking a settlement of the situation. The General Assembly, in November (resolution 40/7), reiterated that a just and lasting solution required the withdrawal of all foreign forces, restoration and preservation of the country's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the exercise of the people's right to determine its destiny, and a commitment by all States to non-interference in Kampuchea's internal affairs.

Armed incidents affecting Afghanistan and Pakistan continued to be reported, while the Secretary-General's Personal Representative maintained his contacts with the parties involved in the situation in Afghanistan in a format of separate, high-level "proximity" talks regarding a political settlement. The Assembly, in November, called on all parties concerned to work for the achievement of a political solution and expressed its support for the Secretary-General's efforts to that end (resolution 40/12).

Missions to investigate the treatment of prisoners of war in both Iran and Iraq and a mission to European hospitals to examine Iranian patients suffering from the effects of chemical weapons allegedly used by Iraq were undertaken in connection with the continuing conflict between Iran and Iraq. The Security Council considered the question of chemical weapons use and, in a declaration, appealed to both countries to cease violations of a 1984 undertaking not to attack purely civilian populations.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter VIII (pp. 251-260) Mediterranean

CYPRUS QUESTION, 251: Peace-keeping and humanitarian assistance, 256. OTHER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION, 258: Questions concerning the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 258; Security in the Mediterranean, 259.

Political issues in the Mediterranean during 1985 continued to centre on Cyprus and the deteriorating relations between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and other States, principally Egypt and the United States. With regard to security and cooperation in the Mediterranean, the General Assembly expressed concern over the increasing tension there and urged all States to reduce it and promote peace in the area.

Concerning Cyprus, the Secretary-General continued his contacts at the highest level with the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, and after noting in February that the search for a solution had never been so narrow, at year's end he said he believed it possible to resolve the remaining issues provided both sides were willing to agree on a framework for an overall agreement.

Expressing its strong support for the Secretary-General's good offices mission, the Security Council twice extended the stationing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP).

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: Chad-Libyan Arab Jamahiriya dispute. International Court of Justice: continental shelf delimitation (Tunisia/Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya/Malta).

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter IX (pp. 261-368) Middle East

MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, 263. PALESTINE QUESTION, 272: Jerusalem, 280; Assistance to Palestinians, 281; Related questions, 285. INCIDENTS AND DISPUTES BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL, 293: Iraq and Israel, 293; Lebanon situation, 295; Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic, 313. FINANCING OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCES, 316: UNDOF financing, 316; UNIFIL financing, 320; Review of reimbursement rates to troop contributors, 324. TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL, 326: Fourth Geneva Convention, 334; Palestinian detainees, 335; Israeli settlements policy, 338; Golan Heights, 340; Palestinian officials, 343; Living conditions of the Palestinians, 344; Israeli measures against educational institutions, 349; Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal project, 351. PALESTINE REFUGEES, 353: UN Agency for Palestine refugees, 353; Other aspects, 357.

The search for a peaceful settlement to the conflict in the Middle East and its key issue, the Palestine problem, continued in 1985. The General Assembly, the Security Council and several other United Nations bodies considered various aspects of the situation, including the Palestine question—seen as the core of the conflict— incidents and disputes between individual Arab States and Israel, the situation in Lebanon and in the territories occupied by Israel, and Palestine refugees. The United Nations continued to maintain two major peace-keeping operations in the region, the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) in the Golan Heights and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

The Assembly again endorsed the call for an International Peace Conference on the Middle East, stressing the need to convene it without delay.

The question of Palestine continued in 1985 to be a concern of the Assembly and its Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (Committee on Palestinian rights). The Assembly adopted resolutions asking for the situation relating to the question to be kept under review, inviting co-operation with the Committee and the Secretariat's Division for Palestinian Rights, and requesting the Department of Public Information to continue its special information programme on the question.

The Assembly also again dealt with the status of Jerusalem.

The Middle East situation, with particular emphasis on the Palestine question, was also considered by the Security Council at four meetings in October.

In July, a meeting of various United Nations bodies and funds assessed progress towards a coordinated assistance programme for Palestinians. Both the Economic and Social Council and the Assembly requested that the United Nations system intensify its efforts, in co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), to provide economic and social assistance.

PLO was accused by some Members of being involved in several terrorist attacks that took place during the year. In what it said was a retaliatory action, Israel bombed PLO headquarters in Tunisia on 1 October, killing and wounding many persons. The act was condemned by the Security Council. Palestinians, said to be members of a PLO faction, on 7 October hijacked the

Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro, during which incident a passenger was killed and thrown overboard. Council members condemned the hijacking and all acts of terrorism.

Throughout the year, the Secretary-General continued consultations with the Lebanese Government and other parties involved in the ongoing conflict in Lebanon. Despite those efforts, the positions of the parties remained far apart. In January, Israel announced a three-phase plan for unilateral redeployment and withdrawal of its forces. During the third phase in May/June, Israel Defence Forces (IDF) withdrew progressively, handing their positions over to the “South Lebanon Army” (SLA), which was supported by IDF, in an area to be maintained as a “security zone”—a strip of land north of the international border.

During and after the withdrawal, both the number and intensity of attacks by Lebanese resistance groups against Israeli forces and Lebanese irregulars armed and controlled by them increased sharply. In part of its area of deployment, UNIFIL was confronted with many positions which overlapped those manned by IDF and/or local Lebanese forces, mainly SLA, in the security zone. Attacks by Lebanese groups gave rise to countermeasures by Israeli and associated forces and led to frequent and dangerous confrontations between those forces and UNIFIL.

The Security Council considered the situation in Lebanon in February/March and again in May. It called for an end to the violence against civilians and for measures to alleviate their suffering. During the year, the Council extended the mandate of UNIFIL twice, in April and October, each time for six months.

The 1981 bombing by Israeli aircraft of a nuclear research centre near Baghdad, Iraq, was again taken up in 1985. The Assembly requested the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to consider additional measures to ensure that Israel undertook not to attack or threaten to attack peaceful nuclear facilities, and reaffirmed that Iraq was entitled to compensation. The IAEA General Conference, in September, noted that Israel had committed itself not to attack peaceful nuclear facilities.

The Assembly, as well as the Commission on Human Rights, dealt with the situation in the Syrian Golan Heights since Israel’s December 1981 decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on that territory. The Assembly again declared that decision to be illegal and that the decision and Israel’s occupation constituted an act of aggression. UNDOF continued to supervise the observance of the cease-fire between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic in the Golan Heights area. The Security Council twice in 1985 extended UNDOF’s mandate for six months, in May and November.

The Assembly approved appropriations for UNDOF for operations from 1 June 1985 to 31 May 1986 totalling more than \$36 million, and appropriated some \$142 million for UNIFIL’s operations from 19 April 1985 to 18 April 1986. It also authorized suspension of certain provisions of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations that would otherwise have required surrender of some funds to States.

The Secretary-General reviewed the rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing States. The Assembly retained the current rates, last revised in 1980, but asked him to review them at least every two years.

The United Nations Truce Supervision Organization continued to assist the two peacekeeping forces in the Middle East—UNDOF and UNIFIL—in the performance of their tasks, and maintained two observation groups of its own in Beirut, Lebanon, and in Egypt.

The situation in the territories occupied by Israel as a result of previous armed conflicts was again considered by the Assembly and its Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (Committee on Israeli practices). The Committee observed that there was a continuing deterioration in the respect for the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the population of the territories.

The Assembly adopted seven resolutions dealing with specific aspects of the Committee's report. It condemned and demanded that Israel desist from a number of policies and practices, among them action that would change the legal status and composition of the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the Syrian Golan Heights, and demanded that Israel comply with the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, that it release Ziyad Abu Eain and other Palestinian prisoners, that it rescind the measures taken expelling Palestinians and that it ensure the freedom of educational institutions.

The Security Council considered the situation in the occupied territories during two meetings in September, but did not adopt any formal decisions.

In March, the Secretary-General organized a seminar on remedies for the deterioration of the economic and social conditions of the Palestinians in the territories. Affirming that Israeli occupation was contradictory to the basic requirements for their development, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to organize by April 1987 a seminar on development projects to improve their living conditions.

In June 1985, the Secretary-General submitted a study on Israeli economic practices in the territories and a progress report on lifting Israeli restrictions and on projects to facilitate the territories' economic development. The Assembly and the Economic and Social Council requested a report on Israeli financial and trade practices in the territories, and called for the lifting of Israeli restrictions and facilitation of the establishment of a seaport and citrus and cement plants.

The Secretary-General reported that in June Israel had ceased all work on a planned canal linking the Mediterranean Sea and the Dead Sea. The Assembly requested that he monitor any new development relating to the project.

Emergency operations in Lebanon dominated relief efforts in 1985 of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). In addition, UNRWA continued to assist Palestinian refugees in Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, providing education, health and relief services.

UNRWA activities and various aspects of the Palestine refugee problem were addressed by the Assembly, which adopted 11 resolutions on assistance to Palestine refugees, the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA, assistance to displaced persons, scholarships for higher education and training, Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, ration distribution, return of refugees displaced since 1967, revenues derived from refugee properties, refugee protection, refugees in the West Bank, and a proposed University of Jerusalem for Palestine refugees.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: Israeli nuclear armament. International peace and security: review of peace-keeping operations. Mediterranean: other related questions. Institutional machinery: other institutional questions-fortieth anniversary of the United Nations. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: emergency relief and assistance—Lebanon. Human rights: human rights violations—Middle East. Human settlements: political, economic and social issues—human settlements in the territories occupied by Israel. Women: status of women—Palestinian women. Legal aspects of international political relations—prevention of terrorism.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter X (pp. 369-391)

Other political questions

INFORMATION, 369: Mass communication, 369; UN public information, 374; Departmental News Service, 387. RADIATION EFFECTS, 388. ANTARCTICA, 389. ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMANCIPATION OF SLAVES IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE, 391.

In 1985, the General Assembly considered various aspects of information questions, adopting two resolutions-on public information activities and policies (resolution 40/164 A) and on mass communication development (40/164 B). Both called for promoting the establishment of a new world information and communication order.

The Assembly also reviewed work on two other questions: radiation from all sources, and Antarctica. Concerning the first, the Assembly called for the continued pursuit of knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of radiation (40/160). Regarding the second, it asked mainly for information on the management, exploration and use of Antarctica's resources (40/156 A-C).

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: public information. Africa: South Africa and apartheid-public information. Middle East: Palestine question-public information. Institutional machinery: other institutional questions-fortieth anniversary of the United Nations. General questions relating to colonial countries: the 1960 Declaration on colonial countries-information dissemination, Namibia: information dissemination. Other administrative and management questions: information systems, computers and telecommunication.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter XI (pp. 392-408) Institutional machinery

UN MEMBERS, 392. SECURITY COUNCIL, 392. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 394. SECRETARY-GENERAL, 398. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, 398. OTHER INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS, 403.

The year 1985 marked the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations. Its theme was “United Nations for a better world”.

The Security Council, apart from considering its agenda, held a commemorative session at ministerial level to review the international situation and, in the context of the anniversary’s theme, to continue examining possibilities for improving its effectiveness in discharging its principal role of maintaining international peace and security.

The General Assembly resumed and concluded its thirty-ninth session and held the major part of its fortieth session, considering 140 items of a 149-item agenda. A special significance attached to the Assembly in 1985, which also held a commemorative session, from 14 to 24 October, at which Member States reflected on the performance of the United Nations during its 40 years of existence, on its accomplishments and failures, and on how it could be improved. Not the least of those accomplishments was the achievement of near universality in its membership, which had risen from 51 Member States in 1945 to 159 in 1984, remaining at that number in 1985.

On the occasion of the anniversary, the Secretary-General considered humanity’s future and the United Nations role in it (see p. 3). The choice between a world of infinite promise and one of potentially terminal danger was ours to make, he said, and the United Nations and the use to which its Members put it was an essential element in that choice. The Secretary-General, who suggested further development of his capacity to serve as an objective third party, continued to exercise his good offices towards resolving the situations involving the questions of Afghanistan, Cyprus, the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Iran and Iraq, and Kampuchea.

Also during the year, the Assembly adopted six resolutions on co-operation between the United Nations and intergovernmental organizations.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: cooperation between OAU and the UN system. Regional economic and social activities: Africa-co-operation between the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference and the United Nations. Institutional arrangements: Economic and Social Council-co-operation with other organizations. International organizations and international law: draft standard rules of procedure for conferences. Other legal questions: co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee. Other administrative and management questions: calendar of meetings.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 409-455)

Development policy and international economic co-operation

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, 410: Development and economic co-operation, 410; Economic rights and duties of States, 424; Economic co-operation among developing countries, 425. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRENDS AND POLICY, 427. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION, 430. RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 432. SPECIAL ECONOMIC AREAS, 433: Developing countries, 433.

The need for the developing countries to advance at an acceptable pace against the background of the debt crisis was discussed in several United Nations bodies throughout 1985. During discussions on the world economic situation and in major economic reports, it was stressed that, despite the significant expansion of world output and international trade, the legacy of the global recession of the early 1980s was still affecting a large number of developing countries and the middle years of the decade would continue to be characterized by high unemployment and inadequate progress against world poverty. Particular attention was given to the seriousness of the plight of the least developed countries and of sub-Saharan Africa.

In his annual report on the work of the Organization (see p. 3), the Secretary-General also noted the uneven functioning of the world economy, stating that high technology in industrial countries promised great affluence but also caused overcapacity, obsolescence and unemployment, while many developing countries, in addition to basic development problems, were crippled by debt burdens. Since the need for international economic co-operation increasingly cut across traditional sectoral boundaries, what was required was more effective use of the United Nations as a forum for integrating practical effort which should also increase the effectiveness of the specialized agencies. There was a parallel need for governmental ministries to act in concert with each other towards agreed objectives if the international system was to perform effectively.

The mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (the 1980s) was completed in 1985 by the Committee established to carry out that process. Although the Strategy's growth and assistance targets had not been met, the continuing validity of its goals and objectives were reaffirmed.

The mid-term global review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) was carried out in October by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Intergovernmental Group on LDCs. The General Assembly emphasized that they needed urgent and special attention from the international community and added Vanuatu to the list of officially designated LDCs, bringing the total number of countries so listed to 37. Country review meetings continued to be organized for individual LDCs by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which also administered the special fund for them.

After the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States was reviewed by an Ad Hoc Committee, the Assembly urged States to examine further the Charter's implementation, thereby contributing to the establishment of the new international economic order.

Following discussions in the Economic and Social Council on conducting constructive international economic negotiations, the Assembly urged Member States to continue negotiations initiated in the United Nations system on international economic issues and to bring them to a successful end.

Informal discussions continued throughout the year on the launching of global negotiations on international economic co-operation for development, originally scheduled to start in 1980; in suspending its 1985 session, the Assembly decided to consider the issue when it resumed the session in 1986. The Assembly also felt that a common endeavour to promote just and mutually beneficial international economic relations would contribute to the economic well-being of States and to the establishment of a new international economic order.

During the year, the question of economic cooperation among developing countries was considered in UNCTAD, while activities in the United Nations system regarding economic and technical co-operation among those countries were discussed in the Assembly, the Council, the Committee for Programme Co-ordination (CPC) and Joint Meetings of CPC and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC).

The World Economic Survey 1985, which analysed current trends and policies in the world economy, was the background document for the Council's annual discussion of international economic and social policy. UNCTAD produced its fifth annual report on trade and development issues, the Trade and Development Report, 1985, which, in addition to analysing the world economy, focused on the problem of debt and development. A further assessment of the world economic situation was carried out by the Committee for Development Planning (CDP) which stated that effective multilateral economic co-operation was particularly necessary in four areas—the trading system, the monetary and financial system, debt and development finance, and the crisis in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Assembly again considered the specific problems and geographical handicaps of landlocked developing countries and called for assistance to help them with their transport and transit infrastructures. The United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries was dissolved by the Assembly because of the low level of contributions.

The Assembly decided that the Secretary-General should continue reporting on the overall socio-economic perspective of the world economy to the year 2000 and it singled out areas for special attention in 1987. In other actions, the Assembly again deplored the application of coercive economic measures by developed countries, and requested Member States to submit additional comments on a proposed new international human order: moral aspects of development.

Broad areas of economic and social development were considered in several United Nations forums during the year. The improvement of various aspects of development planning, education and administration continued to be studied, while the work of the United Nations system in rural development continued to be reviewed.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: disarmament and development. Operational activities for development. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: Africa and the critical economic situation. International trade and finance. Regional economic and social activities: economic and social trends-Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Western Asia; development policy and regional economic co-operation-Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Western Asia. Social and cultural development: social aspects of development; crime prevention. Human rights: right to development. Women: women and development. Statistics: economic statistics. International economic law: legal aspects of the new international economic order.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 456-495)

Operational activities for development

GENERAL ASPECTS, 456: Financing of operational activities, 458; Inter-agency co-operation, 463. TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION THROUGH UNDP, 464: UNDP operational activities, 467; Programme planning and management, 473; Financing, 475; Staff-related matters, 483; Other administrative matters, 484. OTHER TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION, 485: UN programmes, 485; United Nations Volunteers, 486; Technical co-operation among developing countries, 488. UN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, 493.

Total official development assistance (ODA) transferred through the United Nations system to developing countries in 1985 amounted to \$5.1 billion. Total contributions for operational activities amounted to \$5.5 billion, an overall decrease due to the drop-in contributions to the World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

In its thirty-fifth anniversary year, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) received aggregate contributions of \$863.7 million, of which \$571.7 million was expended on field programme activities. In June, the UNDP Governing Council reached consensus on the target for annual resource growth for the Programme's fourth programming cycle (1987-1991), agreeing to average yearly increases in voluntary contributions of 8 per cent, on a basis of a target of \$700 million anticipated for 1986. In November, at the annual United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, recorded and estimated pledges for 1986 surpassed \$700 million and were expected to exceed \$745 million, the highest level in UNDP history.

The General Assembly in December, by resolution 40/211, called on States to make every effort to attain the planned funding levels for operational activities for development by the various organizations of the United Nations system.

The United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) delivered \$127.2 million in project expenditures, the largest programme since 1981. Special concerns addressed by DTCD during 1985 included the critical situation in Africa, pre-investment and investment follow-up, and women in development.

The United Nations Volunteers programme experienced sustained growth in 1985 with 1,128 volunteers in service as at 31 December. By resolution 40/212, the Assembly invited Governments to observe annually, on 5 December, an International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development.

In May/June, the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC) held its fourth session and adopted decisions on a range of TCDC issues. The Assembly, by resolution 40/196, endorsed the Committee's decisions and requested United Nations organizations to ensure their implementation.

The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) approved \$37.5 million for 22 new projects and grant increases in existing project budgets. It continued to direct a large proportion

of its resources to the least developed countries in Africa beset by critical economic and drought-related problems.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: South Africa and apartheid-aid programmes and inter-agency co-operation. Middle East: aid programmes for Palestinians. Development policy and international economic co-operation: economic co-operation among developing countries. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief. International trade and finance: UNCTAD technical co-operation; development finance. Regional economic and social activities-technical co-operation. Natural resources and cartography: United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration. Energy resources: energy resources development. Food: food aid. Science and technology: United Nations Financing System. Health and human resources: human resources. Women: women and development. Refugees: refugee assistance. Namibia: international assistance.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 496-550)

Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, 497: Africa and the critical economic situation, 498; Countries in other regions, 527. DISASTERS, 534: Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, 534; Co-ordination in the UN system, 536; Disaster relief, 537; Disaster preparedness and prevention, 546. EMERGENCY RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE, 547.

The United Nations system continued in 1985 to provide special assistance to countries facing severe economic and financial difficulties and/or requiring aid for reconstruction, rehabilitation and development. Those problems were frequently aggravated by natural or man-made disasters. Many of those countries were among the least developed in the world and some were also geographically handicapped—that is, land-locked or island countries. Of particular concern was the critical economic situation in Africa, compounded by a prolonged drought, accelerating desertification and other disasters. The Secretary-General added his concern for the vast majority of the 30 million Africans who had suffered from an unprecedented drought, and assured that the United Nations would continue to play a central role in international humanitarian co-operation (see p. 11).

To deal more effectively with the situation, the Secretary-General established a United Nations Office for Emergency Operations in Africa (OEOA)—effective 1 January 1985—to co-ordinate and provide assistance to help ensure a broad yet concentrated international response to the continuing drought-related crisis in sub-Saharan Africa. In March, he convened, at Geneva, an International Conference on the Emergency Situation in Africa, followed by consultations in order to direct the general commitments made at the Conference to specific needs of individual countries.

Addressing the economic crisis in sub-Saharan Africa, the Committee for Development Planning (CDP), which met in New York in April 1985 (see p. 410), called on the international community to supplement the policy reform efforts of African Governments in order to rehabilitate seriously affected African countries and resume their economic growth. The Committee stressed that international assistance was crucial and urgent in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Economic and Social Council, in a July resolution on the critical economic situation in Africa, appealed to the international community for assistance (1985/80), and the General Assembly in December called for more effective special programmes of economic assistance (resolution 40/236), and dealt with the African crisis (40/40) and special economic assistance to Benin (40/222), Cape Verde (40/226), the Central African Republic (40/217), Chad (40/218), the Comoros (40/223), Djibouti (40/227), Equatorial Guinea (40/216), the Gambia (40/224), Guinea (40/235), Guinea-Bissau (40/225), Mauritania (40/219), Mozambique (40/232) and Sierra Leone (40/220).

Economic assistance also continued for several countries in other regions. The Assembly adopted a decision on special assistance to Bolivia (40/452), and, by resolution 40/215, it requested the Secretary-General to continue mobilizing assistance to Democratic Yemen to help it overcome

the damage caused by floods in 1981 and 1982. By resolution 40/234, it urged continued contributions to the reconstruction and development of Nicaragua. Following a conclusion by CDP, the Assembly, by resolution 40/233, included Vanuatu in the list of least developed countries (LDCs). To assess economic assistance needs, the Secretary-General arranged during the year for review missions to Haiti, Kiribati and Tuvalu.

The United Nations system, particularly the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO), continued to respond to emergency situations arising from natural disasters. UNDRO also promoted the study, prevention, control and prediction of natural disasters and provided Governments with assistance in pre-disaster planning. The Assembly called for assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda (resolution 40/221), as well as to Ethiopia alone (40/228) following a request by the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1985/1) that the Secretary-General continue efforts to mobilize resources for the drought victims there.

In the wake of cyclones in Bangladesh, the Assembly, in resolution 40/231, requested assistance to the country. Continuation of efforts to mitigate the damage caused previously by cyclones and floods in Madagascar was requested by Assembly resolution 40/230. Two earthquakes in September 1985 caused considerable destruction in Mexico, and the Assembly, by resolution 40/1, called for generous international relief. Assistance to Colombia, which suffered severe damage from a volcanic eruption in November, was called for by resolution 40/13.

Emergency humanitarian assistance and assistance for reconstruction and development continued to be provided to Lebanon, despite the lack of security which hampered United Nations Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief efforts. Both the Council and the Assembly (resolutions 1985/56 and 40/229, respectively) called for continued assistance.

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy and international economic co-operation: special economic areas-developing countries. Regional economic and social activities: Africa-economic and social trends; Asia and the Pacific-typhoons. Food: food aid. Environment: Africa-environmental monitoring; desertification and drought control. Children-emergency relief. Refugees and displaced persons.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 551-584)

International trade and finance

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN TRADE AND FINANCE, 552. INTERNATIONAL TRADE, 554: Trade policy, 554; Trade promotion and facilitation, 560; Commodities, 565; Consumer protection, 571. FINANCE, 575: Financial policy, 575; Trade-related finance, 579; Taxation, 580. PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNCTAD, 581; UNCTAD programme, 581; Organizational questions, 583.

In 1985, several United Nations bodies focused on the interdependence of the world economy and the need to address international trade and finance issues in an interrelated manner, particularly in view of the serious debt servicing difficulties of many developing countries and the low-price levels of their commodities. A significant part of the debate at both regular sessions in 1985 of the Trade and Development Board (TDB) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) dealt with the interdependence of problems of trade, development finance and the international monetary system, as did the general discussion at the second regular session of the Economic and Social Council in July. In December, the General Assembly decided to reconvene the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee for one week in early 1986 in order to consider ways in which international co-operation in the fields of money, finance, debt, resource flows, trade and development could be promoted (decision 40/445).

In his annual report on the work of the Organization (see p. 3), the Secretary-General stated that economic, financial, monetary and trade issues were so interrelated and were of such importance that they could be dealt with effectively only as part of a wider political process. The international debt situation was particularly alarming, with many debtor countries facing very weak export markets and commodity prices lower in real terms than they had been since the 1930s. Interest rates, however, remained high and there seemed to be no tendency for new lending to resume. Although there was a strong mutual interest in resolving the debt crisis and efforts were being made to reschedule debts over long periods, elsewhere protectionist measures were nullifying those efforts. The Secretary-General saw a strong need for a joint, comprehensive and speedy examination of all aspects of the situation, including the political ones.

Following its fourth annual review of protectionism and structural adjustment, TDB recommended that further efforts should be taken to liberalize the international trading system and outlined documentation to be prepared for the 1986 review.

The United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices was held in November. Following consideration of the Conference's report, the General Assembly in December invited the UNCTAD Secretary-General and the Conference President to consult with regional groups and Governments on reconvening the Conference (resolution 40/192). The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Restrictive Business Practices held its fourth session in April in preparation for the Conference.

During 1985, one additional State adhered to the 1980 Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities; by year's end it had not entered into force. With regard to individual commodities, the United Nations Cocoa Conference, 1984, and the United Nations Conference on Natural Rubber, 1985, held sessions in 1985. In both cases, progress was made towards preparing successor agreements to earlier agreements on those commodities and it was recommended that both Conferences be reconvened. Both the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983, and the International Sugar Agreement, 1984, entered into force in 1985. Meetings were held during the year to consider possible international measures on iron ore, nickel and tungsten.

In April 1985, at its resumed 1984 session, the Assembly adopted guidelines for consumer protection and asked the Secretary-General to disseminate them to Governments and other interested parties. All United Nations organizations were requested to distribute the guidelines to the appropriate bodies of individual States (resolution 39/248).

The serious debt problems of developing countries and development finance were taken up in a number of United Nations bodies, including the Committee for Development Planning (CDP), TDB, the Committee on Invisibles and Financing related to Trade, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. These issues were also addressed in the Organization's major economic reports. A special session of TDB (the fourteenth) centred on the need for a compensatory financing facility to assist developing countries with their export earnings shortfalls. The first part of the 1985 session of Committee on Invisibles and Financing was devoted to insurance questions.

The place, date and duration of the seventh (1987) session of UNCTAD was discussed by TDB in September. In December (resolution 40/189), the Assembly called on Governments and international organizations to commence intensive and thorough preparations for that session.

In November, the Assembly confirmed the appointment of Kenneth K. S. Dadzie as Secretary-General of UNCTAD for a term of three years beginning on 1 January 1986 (decision 40/308).

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy and international economic co-operation. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: Africa and the critical economic situation. Transport. Industrial development: manufactures. Regional economic and social activities: international trade and finance-Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Western Asia. Science and technology: technology transfer. International economic law: international trade law.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter V (pp. 585-590) Transport and tourism

TRANSPORT, 585: Maritime transport, 585; Transport of dangerous goods, 588. TOURISM, 590.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and its subsidiaries continued in 1985 to deal with problems of transport, particularly maritime transport. The UNCTAD secretariat provided training assistance, advisers and consultants.

The second and third parts of the United Nations Conference on Conditions for Registration of Ships (Geneva, 28 January-15 February and 8-19 July) considered an international agreement. The General Assembly in April (resolution 39/213 B) decided to convene the third part in July, and in December (resolution 40/187) it decided on a reconvening in 1986.

UNCTAD's Working Group on International Shipping Legislation (eleventh session, Geneva, 14-22 October) took up the lack of international uniformity in the area of maritime liens and mortgages and the inadequacy in the means of their enforcement. The Working Group recommended that the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board convene, jointly with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), an expert group on the subject.

The Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group to Consider Means of Combating All Aspects of Maritime Fraud, including Piracy, held its second session (Geneva, 23 October-1 November). The Director of the UNCTAD Shipping Division stressed the seriousness and persistence of maritime fraud.

During 1985, seven States became parties to the 1974 Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences, making a total of 66 States parties. The Code was aimed at opening international shipping trade, organized in a system of liner conferences, to more countries, particularly developing ones.

The Group of Rapporteurs and the Group of Experts on Explosives, two subsidiary bodies of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, met at Geneva from 5 to 16 August and from 16 to 20 September, respectively. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1985/9, recommended that, because of increasing concern about the transport of dangerous substances, especially hazardous wastes, the 1984 recommendations of the Committee should be taken into account. The new and amended recommendations served as a basis for the formulation of regulations by Member States and international organizations. Following consideration of a proposal by the Secretary-General to enlarge the Committee's membership, broadening also geographical representation in it, the Council requested the Secretary-General to propose ways of encouraging developing countries' participation in the Committee's work.

Taking note of a report on progress made in implementing the 1980 Manila Declaration on World Tourism and the 1982 Acapulco Document, the General Assembly, by resolution 40/172, invited States, when formulating their travel policies and strategies, to consider the

new approach suggested by the World Tourism Organization, in which tourism was seen in the wider context of travel, making a positive contribution to economic development.

Topics related to this chapter. Regional economic and social activities: Africa-Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; Africa-Europe link through the Strait of Gibraltar; Asia and the Pacific-transport and communications.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VI (pp. 591-615) **Industrial development**

CONVERSION OF UNIDO TO A SPECIALIZED AGENCY, 591: programme and finances of UNIDO, 597; Programme policy, 597; Financial questions, 599. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, 600: Technical co-operation, 600; Industrial co-operation, 603; Industrial development of LDCs, 605; Redeployment of industrial production to developing countries, 605; Industrial financing, 606; Industrial management, 606; Industrial planning, 607; Industrial studies, 608; Industrial technology, 608. DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES, 609: Agro-industries, 609; Chemical industries, 610; Engineering industries, 612; Metallurgical and mineral industries, 614; Other industrial categories, 615.

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), established by the General Assembly in 1966(1) to promote the industrialization of developing countries, was converted into a United Nations specialized agency in 1985, after its Constitution entered into force on 21 June.

In August, the UNIDO General Conference, meeting at Vienna, Austria, as the principal legislative organ of the new agency, approved a draft relationship agreement with the United Nations, as prepared by the Economic and Social Council, and named Domingo L. Siazon, Jr., as UNIDO Director-General.

In December, the Assembly adopted the relationship agreement (resolution 40/180) and endorsed various administrative and financial aspects of the agreement (decision 40/463); it also appropriated a \$24 million loan to the new agency to meet the expenses for 1986 (resolution 40/253 A).

As decided by the Assembly in 1979—that the status of UNIDO would change at the end of the year in which the General Conference met in a new capacity—UNIDO ceased to exist as an Assembly organ as at 31 December 1985, prepared to assume its functions fully as a specialized agency beginning on 1 January 1986.

The Industrial Development Board—the principal advisory body of UNIDO—met at Vienna in two different capacities during the year: first as an organ of the Assembly (nineteenth session, May) and later as that of a specialized agency (first session, August, November, December). In May, it adopted a conclusion on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (see Chapter VIII of this section) as well as 17 other conclusions dealing with, among other things, assistance to the Namibian people (see TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION, Chapter III) and the South African national liberation movements (see POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS, Chapter V), and integration of women in development (see Chapter XIX of this section).

In its new capacity, the Board adopted live decisions in August and 33 more in November and December dealing with organizational, financial, administrative and legal matters.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: aid programmes and inter-agency co-operation. Regional economic and social activities: implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Energy: energy resources in industry. Science and technology: technology transfer. Environment: environment and industry. Women: women in development.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VII (pp. 616-623) Transnational corporations

DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT, 616. STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING, 617. CENTRE ON TNCs, 618.

Transnational corporations (TNCs) continued to play a key role in the world economy, shaping international trade, foreign direct investment and international transfer of financial resources. Questions such as the regulation of their activities and their impact on the economies of host countries, especially developing ones, were ongoing considerations before the international community.

The Commission on Transnational Corporations held its eleventh session in New York from 10 to 19 April 1985 and decided, owing to a divergence of views, to postpone until 1986 its consideration of the question of meeting biennially instead of annually. As in previous years, a special session of the Commission was reconvened (New York, 17-21 June), and examined the outstanding issues in the draft code of conduct on TNCs. The Commission's Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts (third session, New York, 11-22 March) discussed international standards of accounting and reporting.

The United Nations Centre on TNCs conducted extensive research, continued to develop a comprehensive information system, and carried out technical co-operation projects focusing on low-income countries. It continued to monitor, and acted as the secretariat for public hearings on, the activities of TNCs in South Africa and Namibia (see p. 149).

In July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the Commission's report on its 1985 regular session (decision 1985/194) and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the 1986 session (decision 1985/192).

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: transnational corporations. Development policy and international economic co-operation: International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. International trade: trade policy; restrictive business practices. Human rights: human rights violations-Africa.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VIII (pp. 624-668)

Regional economic and social activities

REGIONAL CO-OPERATION, 624. AFRICA, 625: Economic and social trends, 625; Activities in 1985, 626; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 640. ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, 644: Economic and social trends, 645; Activities in 1985, 645; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 651. EUROPE, 653: Economic trends, 653; Activities in 1985, 654. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 660: Economic trends, 660; Activities in 1985, 661; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 664. WESTERN ASIA, 665: Economic and social trends, 665; Activities in 1985, 666.

The regional commissions of the United Nations continued to work to increase regional economic and social co-operation during 1985.

Four of the live commissions held their regular intergovernmental sessions: the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) at Bangkok, Thailand (19-29 March); the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) at Geneva (16-27 April); the Economic Commission for Western Asia (which changed its name in 1985 to the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)) at Baghdad, Iraq (20-25 April); and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (25-29 April). The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) did not meet in regular session.

Among issues of concern to the regional commissions considered by the General Assembly in 1985 were: a Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (resolution 40/186), the particular problems facing Zaire with regard to transport, transit and access to foreign markets (40/190), co-operation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) (40/195), and questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987 (sections V, VI and VIII of resolution 40/252).

The Assembly, in resolution 40/105, invited incorporation of the interests of women in the work programmes of the regional commissions (see ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS, Chapter III).

The Economic and Social Council, in July, took action in support of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (resolution 1985/61), the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (1985/62), the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the African LDCs during the second half of the decade (1985/63), the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (1985/65), women and development in Africa (1985/67) and the Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar (1985/70). The Council, in addition, decided to include Portuguese among the official working languages of ECA (resolution 1985/68), amended the terms of reference of ESCAP (1985/60) in the light of Brunei Darussalam and Tuvalu becoming members, and sought to strengthen the directorships of Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) (1985/66).

The Council took note of summaries of the annual surveys of current economic and social conditions in each region, prepared by commission secretariats, during its discussion of the world economic situation in July (decision 1985/182).

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy and international economic co-operation: economic and social trends and policy. Operational activities for development. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief. Food. Environment. United Nations officials: personnel management-status of women in the Secretariat.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter IX (pp. 669-683)

Natural resources and cartography

GENERAL ASPECTS OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 669: Exploration, 669; Permanent sovereignty over natural resources, 672; Committee on Natural Resources, 673; Coordination of UN activities, 674; Other aspects, 674. MINERAL RESOURCES, 675: Technical co-operation, 675; Exploitation and processing, 675; Evaluation, 677. WATER AND MARINE RESOURCES, 677: Water resources development, 677; Marine resources, 681. CARTOGRAPHY, 683: Third UN Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas, 683.

The United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), continued to assist developing countries during 1985. For the third consecutive year, however, the Fund's expenditures declined, and its financial situation was rapidly reaching a critical stage, according to the UNDP Administrator. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1985/51, recognized the urgent need for increased financial support.

The Committee on Natural Resources held its ninth session in New York from 8 to 17 April. Acting on the Committee's recommendations, the Council adopted resolutions on mineral resources (1985/48), small-scale mining (1985/47), electronic data processing in mineral exploration (1985/50), permanent sovereignty over natural resources (1985/52), co-ordinating United Nations natural resources programmes (1985/53), water resources development (1985/49 A and B) and rationalizing the Committee's work (1985/54). The Council also adopted resolutions on improving secretariat support for the Committee (1985/55) and on marine affairs (1985/75).

In December, the General Assembly adopted resolution 40/171 on drinking water supply and sanitation services.

The Third United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas was held in New York from 19 February to 1 March.

Topics related to this chapter. Law of the sea: sea-bed mining code. Middle East: occupied territories-permanent sovereignty over national resources. Development policy and international economic co-operation: special economic areas-least developed countries. Operational activities for development. Regional economic and social activities. Energy resources-general aspects. Environment: environmental activities-ecosystems.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter X (pp. 684-696)

Energy resources

GENERAL ASPECTS, 684: Energy resources development, 685; Energy resources in industry, 690. NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES, 691: Implementation of the 1981 Nairobi Programme of Action, 691. NUCLEAR ENERGY, 693: IAEA report, 693; Preparations for the Conference on nuclear energy, 694.

During 1985, a number of United Nations bodies continued to focus attention on the energy problems of developing countries, whose ability to carry out energy programmes was hampered by financial constraint as well as by the complexities of energy planning, by rapidly changing technology and by environmental factors.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank co-operated in energy development projects and an assessment of energy options. Since 1981, the UNDP Energy Account had allocated \$20.3 million to about 50 energy projects; \$1.9 million had been earmarked by the end of 1985 for new projects. The United Nations University (UNU) carried out research on specific energy problems and designed energy-related training programmes and curricula. Activities encouraging the transfer of energy technology to developing countries, the dissemination of technical know-how and the training of skilled manpower were continued by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Secretariat's Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (MCD). The General Assembly, in resolution 40/184, noted progress in negotiations for an international code of conduct on the transfer of technology, although there were still important problems outstanding (see Chapter XII of this section).

By resolution 40/208, the Assembly called on Member States, in co-operation with the United Nations system, to examine ways to support developing countries' efforts to develop their energy resources, and requested the Secretary-General to continue to undertake studies and analyses of trends in energy exploration and development.

After considering the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Assembly adopted resolution 40/8, affirming its confidence in IAEA's role in applying nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and urging States to co-operate in carrying out its work, which included the promotion of nuclear safety. The Assembly noted that the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy had decided that the Conference should be held at Geneva in March/April 1987, rather than in 1986 (resolution 40/95).

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: nuclear weapons. Peaceful uses of outer space. Regional economic and social activities: energy resources-Africa; Asia and the Pacific; Europe; Latin America; Western Asia. Statistics: energy statistics.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XI (pp. 697-706)

Food

FOOD PROBLEMS, 697. FOOD AID, 701: World Food Programme, 701.

The World Food Programme (WFP)—a joint undertaking of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), each of which celebrated its fortieth anniversary in 1985 (see also pp. 403 and 1287) continued during the year to provide food aid to developing countries in support of development projects and to meet emergency needs. It received from 90 donors pledges of cash and commodities worth \$1 billion for 1985-1986—the highest amount ever—while contributions to the International Emergency Food Reserve also reached a record level, of over 800,000 metric tons. During the year, WFP supervised 361 projects in 90 countries and delivered emergency food aid to about 11 million people. The Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, WFP's governing body, held two sessions and approved projects at a total cost of some \$526 million.

The World Food Council (WFC)—the highest-level international body dealing with food problems—meeting in Paris from 10 to 13 June, reviewed the global food and development situation and focused on Africa's food crisis.

In December, the General Assembly affirmed that food represented an essential element of the world's economic, social and political development process (resolution 40/181) and established a \$1.4 billion target for 1987-1988 voluntary contributions to WFP (40/176).

Topics related to this chapter. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief. Regional economic and social activities: Africa—food and agriculture. Health and human resources: health and nutrition. Human rights: right to food. Women: women in rural areas. Children: nutrition. Refugees and displaced persons: assistance.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XII (pp. 707-720)

Science and technology

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION, 708: Mid-decade review, 708; Information systems for science and technology, 709. FINANCING, 711: UN Financing System, 711. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, 714: National focal points, 714; Intergovernmental Committee, 714; Advisory Committee, 715; Centre for science and technology, 716; Co-ordination in the UN system, 716. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, 717: Draft code of conduct, 718. BRAIN DRAIN, 719.

Restructuring international scientific and technological relations continued to occupy an important place on the agenda of many United Nations bodies throughout 1985. Working in accordance with guidelines set by the 1979 Vienna Programme of Action, they directed their efforts at enhancing the scientific and technological capacities of developing countries by trying to mobilize financial resources, improve institutional arrangements and balance the international flows of technology.

As a halfway point of the decade, 1985 was a logical choice for carrying out a comprehensive analysis of progress made over the previous five years in implementing the Vienna Programme. The results of the mid-decade review prompted the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, the main directing and policy-making body, to express disappointment with the progress achieved and to urge the international community to provide additional resources and co-operation for implementing the Programme. The Intergovernmental Committee, which held its seventh session in May/June 1985, also focused on the issue of information systems for science and technology for development, concluding that setting up and strengthening national systems should form the major activity in developing a global information network. The Committee's resolutions and decisions were endorsed by the General Assembly (resolution 40/193).

Effective policy and planning advice to the Intergovernmental Committee on all the issues under consideration was provided by the Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development, which held its fifth session in February. Two of the Advisory Committee's panels of experts met in 1985 for an in-depth examination of questions relating to information systems and mobilizing financial resources for scientific and technological development in developing countries. Both the Intergovernmental and Advisory Committees continued to receive substantive secretariat support from the Centre for Science and Technology for Development which prepared studies on information systems, maintained regular contacts with national focal points and worked to develop further the Advance Technology Alert System. With regard to inter-agency co-ordination, it assisted the Task Force on Science and Technology for Development of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC). The Task Force held its sixth session in January focusing specifically on the financing aspects of joint activities and the criteria for building endogenous capacities in developing countries.

For the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSSTD), 1985 proved a difficult year, with the continued uncertainty of its long-term financing and institutional arrangements hindering mobilization of resources through normal

pledging procedures, which yielded less than \$150,000. After reviewing proposals by an open-ended intergovernmental working group, the Intergovernmental Committee reaffirmed in June the importance of such arrangements and appealed to all Member States to pledge the maximum resources to UNFSSTD. Proposals on improving the System's financial situation were made in October by the Secretary-General. The Assembly (resolution 40/194) requested him to report on the results of an April 1986 pledging conference, together with his views on the future of the System, including its orderly termination, should pledges fall short of the average level achieved by the System over the previous three years.

Promoting a more balanced flow of technology between developed and developing countries remained a high priority for several bodies, particularly the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). After the United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology made some progress at its sixth session in May/June, the Assembly invited the UNCTAD Secretary-General to report in 1986 on possible solutions to issues outstanding in the draft code of conduct (resolution 40/184). Regarding the reverse transfer of technology or brain drain, the Assembly called for further studies of the problem at various levels (resolution 40/191).

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: peaceful uses of science and technology. Development policy and international economic cooperation: scientific-technological co-operation. Operational activities for development: technical co-operation among developing countries. Industrial development: industrial technology. Regional economic and social activities: Africa-science and technology; Asia and the Pacific—science and technology; Europe-science and technology. Human rights: human rights and science and technology. Women: science and technology and women.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XIII (pp. 721-759)

Social and cultural development

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE, 721: World social situation, 721; Social aspects of development, 725; Social welfare, 731; Institutional machinery, 736. CRIME PREVENTION, 738: Seventh UN Congress, 738; Questions related to criminal justice, 742; UN Trust Fund for Social Defence, 757. CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, 757.

Poverty and underdevelopment remained major obstacles to social progress in 1985. Statistics of total output showed the grip of recession on different country groups and the uneven recovery towards mid-decade, which was strong in North America but hardly felt in much of Western Europe, parts of Asia, many countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and most of Africa.

In a context of persistent underdevelopment and growing insecurity, the world social situation continued to be marked by violence, economic and other imbalances and contradictions, the emergence of new problems due to shifting economic, social and national interests, and the increasing use of adjustment or austerity measures.

The Commission for Social Development held its twenty-ninth session at Vienna, Austria, from 18 to 27 February 1985. Following its recommendations, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolutions on the family (1985/29), an interregional consultation on developmental social welfare policies (1985/26), the co-operative movement (1985/22), welfare of migrant workers and their families (1985/24) and timely distribution of documents (1985/20). The Council also adopted resolutions on the social aspects of development (1985/31), implementation of the 1969 Declaration on Social Progress and Development (1985/34) and the progress of the Commission's work (1985/36).

Both the Council and the General Assembly dealt with the world social situation-in resolutions 1985/21 and 40/100, respectively-and with national experience in achieving social and economic changes—1985/32 and 40/23.

In addition, the Assembly adopted a resolution on improving the United Nations role in social development (40/98) and the Council dealt with social welfare policies for African migrant workers (resolution 1985/64).

The Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders was held at Milan, Italy, from 26 August to 6 September. It adopted the Milan Plan of Action on crime prevention and criminal justice and Guiding Principles for crime prevention in the context of development, as well as four other major international instruments and 26 resolutions.

The Assembly expressed its appreciation to Italy for hosting the Congress (40/37). It approved the Milan Plan and recommended the Guiding Principles for action (40/32). It adopted Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (40/33) and a Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (40/34). Also on the

recommendation of the Congress, it adopted two resolutions on the development of standards for the prevention of juvenile delinquency (40/35) and on domestic violence (40/36).

Efforts continued by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to promote the return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin. The Assembly, by resolution 40/19, welcomed the steady increase in the number of States parties to the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy and international economic co-operation-economic and social trends and policy; rural development; special economic areas. Health and human resources: disabled persons; the role of qualified national personnel in development. Human rights: popular participation; right to development; rights of migrant workers. Women: women and development. Children, youth and aging: child welfare.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XIV (pp. 760-772)

Population

FOLLOW-UP TO THE 1984 CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 760. UN FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 762. OTHER POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 769.

In 1985, the United Nations system continued its efforts to meet the needs of countries and the international community for population information, research, policy analysis and technical assistance. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)—the largest internationally funded source of assistance to population programmes in developing countries—was at the forefront of technical cooperation in this field, with the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) acting as the Fund's governing body. The major portion of UNFPA funds, which came mainly from voluntary governmental contributions, were allocated to family planning projects.

During the year, the Population Commission—the functional commission of the Economic and Social Council which advises it on population matters—reviewed recommendations adopted at the 1984 International Conference on Population and their implications for the activities of the United Nations system. It also examined its work programme for 1986-1987 and the progress of work on the 1984-1985 programme.

The Secretary-General, in his 1985 report on the work of the Organization (see p. 4), pointing out that in the last 40 years the population of the world had more than doubled and that in the next 15 years it was expected to increase by one third, said that some of the strains and stresses in the world community would certainly stem from the pressure on institutions and resources resulting from this population explosion.

Acting on the recommendation of its First (Economic) Committee, the Economic and Social Council, in May, adopted several resolutions proposed to it by the Population Commission, including one on the implications of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population (1985/4), and others on the United Nations work programme in the population field (1985/5), on population structure (1985/3) and on the status and role of women and population (1985/6) (see Chapter XIX of this section).

The General Assembly, in December, expressed its concern about the shortfall of resources of UNFPA and the impact on its ability to carry out its planned programmes, urging all countries to continue and increase their support to the Fund (resolution 40/211).

The third annual (1985) United Nations Population Award went to the International Planned Parenthood Federation, an international non-governmental organization (NGO), for its outstanding contribution to the awareness of population questions and to their solutions.

Topics related to this chapter. Regional economic and social activities: population-Africa; Asia and the Pacific; Latin America and the Caribbean; Western Asia. Statistics: population and housing censuses.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XV (pp. 773-787)

Health and human resources

HEALTH, 773: Human and environmental health, 773; Disabled persons, 775. HUMAN RESOURCES, 780: Human resources development, 780; UN Institute for Training and Research, 781; UN University, 785.

Health risks increased during 1985 as more chemicals were released, used or dumped into the environment. Demand grew for action to counter the threats to health by chemical, biological and physical environmental agents. The United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization, particularly in developing countries, identified potentially harmful agents and promoted the enactment of control measures.

The majority of the population in many developing countries continued to be afflicted by chronic dietary energy deficiency; the United Nations University (UNU) sponsored research into the nature of the problem. During the year, UNU had 78 ongoing projects and subprojects under nine programme areas: peace and conflict resolution; global economy; energy systems and policy; resource policy and management; food-energy nexus; food, nutrition, biotechnology and poverty; human and social development; regional perspectives; and science, technology and the information society.

Measures were undertaken by the United Nations system to implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons within the framework of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992). In May, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to support and monitor implementation of the Programme of Action, and to include the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Year of Disabled Persons among the programmes for which funds were pledged at the annual United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities (resolution 1985/35). The Fund was renamed by the General Assembly, in November, as the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons; the Assembly also invited States to give high priority to projects for the prevention of disabilities, rehabilitation and equal opportunities for disabled persons (resolution 40/31).

In December, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to take into account the need for an integrated, multidisciplinary approach to human resources development in developing countries, particularly the training of qualified national personnel (40/213), and decided to grant the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) an amount of \$600,000, corresponding to the unspent balance of a grant authorized in 1984 (decision 40/451). The need for a decision on UNITAR's long-term financing and future was stressed in another December resolution (40/214).

The Economic and Social Council requested the University for Peace in Costa Rica, which had held its first course in 1984, to report to the Secretary-General on its development, activities and future plans, including post-graduate programmes (1985/2).

Topics related to this chapter. Operational activities: technical co-operation through UNDP— staff-related matters. Food: food problems; food aid. Science and technology: brain drain. Environment: environmental activities. Human rights: human rights of disabled persons.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XVI (pp. 788-821)

Environment

PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNEP, 788: Programme policy, 789; Regional activities, 793; Co-ordination, 794; UNEP Fund, 796; Other administrative and organizational questions, 798. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES, 799: Environmental monitoring, 799; Protection against harmful products and pollutants, 801; Ecosystems, 804; Environmental aspects of political, economic and other issues, 817.

Signs of a global environmental crisis-desertification, acid rain, depletion of the ozone layer, destruction of tropical forests-formed the background to the 1985 work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which continued to co-ordinate efforts by the United Nations system to protect the Earth's environment.

The effects of that crisis were apparent in 1985. Desertification and drought in the Sudano-Sahelian region of Africa created critical food shortages in 21 countries and placed over 30 million people at risk. Destruction of forests continued unabated. The buildup of so-called greenhouse gases in the atmosphere pointed to major climatic changes. Risks of significant ozone layer depletion were confirmed and environmental conditions in many cities became worse.

But the year also brought positive signs. The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer was adopted in March and a protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution to reduce sulphur emissions by 30 per cent was concluded. The United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office continued to combat desertification, and allocated \$12 million for projects in the region. The first African Ministerial Conference on the Environment brought together African policy-makers to discuss common problems and the first Global Meeting on Environment and Development saw representatives of 109 non-governmental organizations examine sustainable development strategies.

The UNEP Governing Council approved further measures to combat desertification and urged intensified efforts in that regard. By resolution 40/198 A, the General Assembly called for increased assistance to affected countries in their desertification control programmes and urged those countries to accord priority to long-term strategies against the problem, and, by resolution 40/198 B, also underscored the urgency of implementing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region. By resolution 40/175, the Assembly recommended that the international community continue to assist drought-stricken countries and to provide all forms of support.

UNEP continued its action to protect the marine environment, to conserve wildlife and protected areas, to monitor various aspects of the environment (climate, global resources, transport of pollutants), and to promote the development of environmental law and the establishment of national conservation strategies. The Global Resource Information Data Base became fully operational and preparation of an Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond progressed. Other activities included management of tropical forests and soil resources,

protection against harmful products and pollutants, research on genetic resources, and linkages between environment and development, energy, industry, human settlements and education.

By resolution 40/200, the Assembly endorsed the UNEP Council's 1985 decisions and dealt with various international environmental co-operation questions. By resolution 40/197, it requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the countries responsible for planting mines and the affected developing countries to ensure the removal of material remnants of war.

Sixty-three new projects were approved by the Environment Fund in 1985; 62 were closed. The Fund disbursed \$23.53 million for programme activities; government contributions totalled \$28.26 million.

Comprehensive information covering all aspects of UNEP 1985 activities was given in the UNEP Executive Director's annual report.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: cooperation with the Organization of African Unity. Asia: Iran-Iraq armed conflict. Middle East: Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal project. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: drought-stricken areas of Africa. Regional economic and social activities: environment. Natural resources: water resources. Energy resources: nuclear energy. Health and human resources: health. Human settlements. Human rights: other human rights questions.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XVII (pp. 822-834)

Human settlements

PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNCHS, 822: Programme policy, 822; Financing, 824. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS ACTIVITIES, 825: UNCHS (Habitat), 825; International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (1987), 827; Political, economic and social issues, 830. ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS, 831: Co-ordination in the UN system, 831; Commission on Human Settlements, 833.

In a world where 1 billion people lacked adequate shelter, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS), known also as Habitat, continued in 1985 to assist developing countries in all aspects of their human settlements activities by providing technical co-operation, research and development (including training) and information dissemination.

As lead agency in the United Nations system for co-ordinating activities for the 1987 International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (IYSH), UNCHS continued to play a key role in its preparations. Those preparations were considered by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Settlements. The Assembly, in resolution 40/203, requested countries that had not done so to formulate national plans of action for IYSH and to designate IYSH projects for the improvement of human settlements, and appealed for financial contributions to the programme for the Year. The Commission, which held its eighth session at Kingston, Jamaica (29 April-10 May), approved various measures with regard to IYSH, adopted 24 resolutions and two decisions, and accepted Turkey's invitation to hold its 1986 session at Istanbul. Four resolutions requiring action by the Assembly pertained to IYSH, the Commission's biennial cycle of sessions, a housing programme for the Palestinian population in the occupied Palestinian territories (see p. 326), and the tenth anniversary of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.

By resolution 40/202 A, the General Assembly called on all Governments to accord priority in their development programmes to human settlements activities, urged the international community to consider more flexible strategies in lending for human settlements programmes, and decided to designate the first Monday of October of every year as World Habitat Day. It also welcomed the Commission's decision to adopt a biennial cycle for its sessions (resolution 40/202 B), and requested the Secretary-General to ensure UNCHS participation in the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its machinery (resolution 40/202 C).

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: territories occupied by Israel-living conditions of the Palestinians; settlements policy; Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal project. Development and international economic and social policy: International Development Strategy. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: disaster preparedness and prevention. Regional economic and social activities: Asia and the Pacific-human settlements; Africa-human settlements. Refugees.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XVIII (pp. 835-935)

Human rights

DISCRIMINATION, 835: Racial discrimination, 835; Other aspects of discrimination, 845. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, 852: Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol, 853; Self-determination of peoples, 854; Rights of detained persons, 862; Disappearance of persons, 869; Other aspects of civil and political rights, 871. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, 874: Covenant on Economic, social and Cultural Rights, 876; Right to development, 879; Right to food, 881; Popular participation and human rights, 881. ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, 882: UN machinery, 886; Public information activities, 887; Regional arrangements, 889; International human rights instruments, 889; Advisory services, 893; Technical assistance to strengthen legal institutions, 896; Responsibility to promote and protect human rights, 896; Proposed establishment of a new international humanitarian order, 896. HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, 898: Africa, 898; Asia and the Pacific, 905; Europe and the Mediterranean area, 912; Latin America, 912; Middle East, 925; Mass exoduses, 927; Genocide, 928. OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, 929: Rights of the child, 929; Youth and human rights, 930; Human rights of disabled persons, 931; Human rights of the individual and international law, 931; Human rights and science and technology, 932; Human rights and peace, 933; Non-interference in States' internal affairs, 935.

In 1985, the United Nations continued its efforts to foster human rights and fundamental freedoms world-wide. The drafting of an international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families continued, as did work on a draft Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention and Imprisonment. Elaboration of a convention on the rights of the child moved forward, as did work on a draft body of principles, guidelines and guarantees for the protection of persons detained on grounds of mental ill-health or suffering from mental disorder.

A United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations was established. The General Assembly also adopted a Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live.

Under the United Nations programme established for the purpose, experts provided advisory services to several countries in the implementation of international human rights instruments, adherence to which continued to be encouraged. The Secretary-General deplored that many States had not ratified important international conventions, nor brought their laws or institutions into conformity with the international standards proclaimed by the United Nations (see p. 10).

Protection of detained persons was again a substantive part of the United Nations work in the human rights field. The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted in 1984, was opened for signature in New York on 4 February 1985; by the end of the year, 41 States had signed it. The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances continued to investigate cases of disappearances in several countries.

Among economic, social and cultural rights, the rights to food and development received particular attention. The Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights-renamed the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights-was reorganized to make its work more effective.

Situations involving alleged violations of human rights on a large scale in several countries were again examined. The Secretary-General appealed to all States to support, strengthen and take part in the procedures established to examine such violations. Persecutions for political, religious or racial reasons continued, the Secretary-General stated, and minorities and indigenous populations were often inadequately protected; there were also instances in which, in his view, the co-operation of Governments with the United Nations and its organs left much to be desired.

Actions on these and other human rights issues taken by the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-first session, held at Geneva from 4 February to 15 March, were embodied in 54 resolutions and 14 decisions; those by its Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its thirty-eighth session, held also at Geneva, from 5 to 30 August, numbered 36 resolutions and 12 decisions.

Topics related to this chapter. Asia and the Pacific: Kampuchea situation; Afghanistan situation. Mediterranean: Cyprus question. Middle East: territories occupied by Israel. Social and cultural development: crime prevention. Women. Namibia. Other colonial Territories.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XIX (pp. 936-961)

Women

CONFERENCE ON THE DECADE FOR WOMEN, 937. WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT, 944: UN Development Fund for Women, 949. STATUS OF WOMEN, 952. CONVENTION ON DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN, 960.

In July 1985, the end of the United Nations Decade for Women (1976-1985) was marked by a World Conference at Nairobi, Kenya. Following a review of the activities of the previous 10 years in implementing the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Women's Decade, the deliberations of the Conference culminated in the adoption of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women—a set of measures to overcome the obstacles to the Decade's goals and objectives of equality, development and peace during the remainder of the century. In December, the General Assembly endorsed the Forward-looking Strategies and affirmed that their implementation should result in eliminating inequality between women and men and in integrating women into the development process (resolution 40/108). The Assembly also expressed its appreciation to the Government and people of Kenya for hosting the World Conference (40/107).

The Commission on the Status of Women held its third session as the preparatory body for the Conference (Vienna, 4-13 March), made recommendations on preparations and considered the rules of procedure and other organizational aspects of the Conference. Pursuant to a decision by the Assembly at its resumed session in April (decision 39/459), the Commission met again in New York from 19 April to 7 May to complete its work. In May, the Economic and Social Council authorized its Bureau to assist delegations to resolve outstanding issues relating to the Conference's rules of procedure (1985/158) and, on 20 June, transmitted to the Conference its recommendations on two outstanding rules (1985/164).

A major document before the Conference was the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, which gave an overview of the interrelations between key developmental issues concerning the role of women in relation to agriculture, industry, money and finance, science and technology, trade, energy, and self-reliance and the integration of women in development. Having taken note of the Survey, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to update it on a regular basis, with the first update to be submitted to the Assembly in 1989 (resolution 40/204). With regard to women in rural areas, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on their current status and perspectives for improving their situation and submit it to its 1989 session (40/106). A report by the Secretary-General reviewing the situation of women and development in the medium-term plans of United Nations organizations was submitted to the Economic and Social Council in May 1985. The Council requested the Secretary-General to formulate a system-wide medium-term plan on women and development, taking into account the recommendations of the Nairobi Conference, and requested the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) to undertake in 1989 a cross-organizational programme analysis (COPA) of activities and resources for the advancement of women (resolution 1985/46).

In 1985, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, formerly the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, became a separate entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). It continued to assist grass-roots initiatives, particularly those of women's and community groups at local levels and, by December 1985, had funded 473 projects valued at more than \$30 million. Governments were urged by the Assembly to increase their contributions to the Fund (resolution 40/104).

The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) continued to undertake research and establish training programmes for the integration and mobilization of women in development. Its Board of Trustees held its fifth session at Havana, Cuba, from 28 January to 1 February. In May, the Economic and Social Council appealed to Governments and other potential donors to contribute to the INSTRAW Trust Fund in view of the increasing importance of research and training for women's participation in the development process (resolution 1985/45). The General Assembly reiterated in November the call for contributions and requested INSTRAW to strengthen its research and training activities, especially those in statistics, indicators and data relevant to women, and to emphasize innovative methodological approaches related to women and development in its programmes (resolution 40/38). In April, the Assembly endorsed INSTRAW's statute, as approved by the Economic and Social Council in 1984 (resolution 39/249).

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), at its fourth session (Vienna, 21 January-1 February), considered initial reports of live States parties on their implementation of the Convention. The Economic and Social Council in May (resolution 1985/18) and the General Assembly in December (resolution 40/39) emphasized the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention and urged them to submit their initial reports in accordance with the Convention.

In May, the Economic and Social Council urged all Governments participating in the 1985 World Conference on Women to incorporate into the Forward-looking Strategies aspects of the 1984 Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development and those recommendations of the 1984 World Population Plan of Action relating to the status and role of women in the context of population (resolution 1985/6).

In other action in December, the General Assembly: appealed to Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to recognize the importance of the role of women in society-as mothers, as participants in economic development and in public life (resolution 40/101); pledged its determination to encourage participation of women in the economic, social, cultural, civil and political affairs of society and in the endeavour to promote international peace and co-operation (40/102); and invited the Economic and Social Council to consider the question of the suppression of traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others (40/103).

Topics related to this chapter. Operational activities for development: inter-agency co-operation. Regional economic and social activities: Africa-women in development in Africa. Food: food problems. Social and cultural development: domestic violence. Human settlements: women and human settlements. United Nations officials: status of women in the Secretariat; women's programme officers posts at regional commissions.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XX (pp. 962-989)

Children, youth and aging persons

CHILDREN, 962: UN Children's Fund, 962; Draft declaration on adoption and foster placement, 976. YOUTH, 976: Activities of the UN system, 977; International Youth Year, 978; Strengthening communication between youth and the United Nations, 980; Integrating youth in development and society, 982. AGING PERSONS, 984: Implementation of the Plan of Action, 984.

With 15 million children under the age of five dying each year, reducing infant and child mortality rates remained an imperative for the United Nations in 1985. Some 1.4 billion children, mainly in the developing countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Mediterranean area, were provided with life's basic necessities by the Organization during the year, primarily through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Through two UNICEF programmes alone (immunization and oral rehydration), more than a million children who would not otherwise have survived were alive at year's end. The General Assembly urged intensified efforts to attain the objectives relating to children in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (the 1980s). It also took action aimed at having the draft Declaration relating to the protection of children, especially regarding fostering, adopted in 1986.

The commemoration of International Youth Year (IYY) was the highlight of 1985 youth activities during which the United Nations World Conference for IYY—a series of Assembly meetings—adopted guidelines representing a global strategy for future work concerning youth.

The first review of the 1982 International Plan of Action on Aging took place in 1985. After the review had identified priorities for action, the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council urged that priority attention be given to the question of aging and that the United Nations Trust Fund for Aging be strengthened.

Topics related to this chapter. Human rights: rights of the child; youth and human rights; human rights of aging persons. Women: women and children under apartheid. Refugees. Social and cultural development: crime prevention.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXI (pp. 990-1011)

Refugees and displaced persons

PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNHCR, 991: Programme policy, 991; Financial and administrative questions, 992. ACTIVITIES FOR REFUGEES, 994: Assistance, 994; Refugee protection, 1009. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO AVERT NEW REFUGEE FLOWS, 1011.

In the thick of the major emergency in Africa and the persistence of difficult situations in many other parts of the world, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continued to seek long-term solutions and provide care and maintenance to refugees throughout 1985. Wherever feasible, relief efforts were complemented by self-sufficiency activities. Regarding international protection, some encouraging developments in respect of improved standards of treatment of refugees were offset by mounting concern over the movements of refugees across continents and over the grant of asylum. Violations of physical safety continued to cause grave concern. The need to identify new responses to problems posed by the exodus of asylum-seekers fleeing situations of generalized violence rather than individual persecution also became apparent. The Secretary-General stressed that international efforts for the relief of refugees and their voluntary return or resettlement represented one of the most practical expressions of international solidarity (see p. 11).

The African emergency, in which UNHCR confronted a situation of mass exodus in the midst of severe drought and famine, absorbed much of the Office's energies, particularly in the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan.

While the emergency represented a serious setback to hopes expressed at the Second (1984) International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA II), UNHCR continued to link the issues of refugee aid and development by encouraging programmes in Africa similar to a UNHCR-World Bank pilot project in Pakistan. With a growing number of Afghan refugees, Pakistan remained the country hosting the largest single refugee population, estimated at 2.7 million. Approximately 1.8 million Afghan refugees were also in Iran. In South-East Asia, resettlement in third countries remained the main durable solution for refugees in camps, though an increasing number of Indo-Chinese long-stayers awaiting resettlement caused concern. Under the Orderly Departure Programme, 100,000 Indo-Chinese had by year's end been reunited with family members abroad. UNHCR also continued helping some 112,000 refugees in Central America and Mexico. Voluntary repatriation programmes were carried out for Lao refugees from Thailand, Ugandan refugees from the Sudan and Zaire, and Argentine refugees from other countries in Latin America.

As before, assistance to Palestine refugees was provided by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (see p. 353).

The Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme held in 1985 its resumed thirty-fifth session (Geneva, 24 January), at which it considered a number of administrative and financial items deferred from 1984, and its thirty-sixth session (Geneva, 7-18 October). The Committee described international protection as a pillar of UNHCR work and urged Governments to co-

operate in providing protection to refugees, a subject again taken up by its Sub-Committee on international protection.

In December, the General Assembly called on States to promote durable solutions and to contribute generously to the High Commissioner's humanitarian programmes (resolution 40/118). It also urged the international community to maintain the momentum created by ICARA II (40/117), and called for emergency assistance to returnees and displaced persons in Chad (40/136), displaced persons in Ethiopia (40/133) and refugees in Somalia (40/132) and in the Sudan (40/0135). The Assembly also called for humanitarian assistance to refugees in Djibouti (40/134) as well as aid to student refugees in southern Africa (40/138).

The Assembly further requested the Group of Governmental Experts on International Cooperation to Avert New Flows of Refugees to conclude its review of the problem (resolution 40/166).

The 1985 Nansen Medal—named for Fridtjof Nansen, first League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees—went to Cardinal Paulo Evaristo Arns, Archbishop of São Paulo, Brazil, for his efforts to assist refugees and address the root causes of their problems.

Poul Hartling, High Commissioner for Refugees since 1978, relinquished that post at the end of 1985. Thanking him for his dedication (resolution 40/119), the Assembly elected Jean-Pierre Hocké (Switzerland) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1986 (decision 40/310).

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: Palestine refugees. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief. Human rights: human rights of non-citizens; mass exoduses. Women. Children.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXII (pp. 1012-1030)

Drugs of abuse

Drug abuse and international control, 1013; Supply and demand, 1019; Conventions, 1028; Organizational questions, 1029.

In 1985, the abuse of drugs in many parts of the world remained at a high level and in some countries was escalating. The steady deterioration in recent years had moved the international community to launch unprecedented and comprehensive counter-attacks against abuse, illicit cultivation, manufacture and trafficking.

The Secretary-General, in his 1985 report on the work of the Organization (see p. 10), stated that the plague of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, fuelled by the immense profits which they generated, had reached an emergency stage. He said that the first global conference on the subject, which he had proposed, should serve to raise the level of world-wide awareness of the escalating problems of drug abuse and result in a programme of action at the international, regional and national levels.

In December, the General Assembly approved the programme of action for 1986, the fifth year of the United Nations basic five-year programme of the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy (resolution 40/129). As recommended by the Secretary-General, it decided to convene at Vienna, Austria, in 1987, at the ministerial level, an International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (40/122). As the Economic and Social Council had done in February (decision 1985/104), the Assembly requested that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs prepare a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs (resolution 40/120), and recommended subjects for action at a 1986 interregional meeting at Vienna of heads of national law enforcement agencies, as part of the international campaign against traffic in drugs (40/121).

The Economic and Social Council, in May, recommended the promotion of preventive education and community participation against drug abuse (resolution 1985/14), and urged Governments to restrict production to meeting mainly their domestic requirements (1985/16). The Council called for measures against the diversion in international commerce of specific precursors, chemicals and solvents used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (1985/12), urged steps to reduce the risk of illicit traffic in commercial carriers (1985/13) and asked Governments to furnish information to the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) on the countries of origin of imports and the countries of destination of exports of psychotropic substances (1985/15). It requested the Secretary-General to convene regular meetings of the heads of the national drug control and law enforcement agencies in Africa to establish more effective mechanisms for co-operation (1985/11).

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which held its thirty-first session at Vienna from 11 to 20 February, considered matters pertaining to the aims and implementation of drug treaties and recommended seven draft resolutions and four decisions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council on the control of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The Commission also reviewed action on international drug control at the international level, i.e. the activities of

the specialized agencies and international organs and organizations, initiated preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, discussed implementation of the International Drug Control Strategy and its financing, and reviewed the situation and trends in drug abuse and illicit traffic.

In July, the Council decided that the Commission should hold a special session in 1986 to consider scheduling of substances under the provisions of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances and to review INCB's report (resolution 1985/79).

INCB met twice during the year at Vienna—13-24 May (thirty-seventh session) and 8-25 October (thirty-eighth session)—continuing its evaluation and overall supervision of governmental implementation of drug control treaties. It reviewed annual estimates of licit narcotic drug requirements submitted by Governments limiting the manufacture and trade in narcotic drugs to medical and scientific purposes, and monitored the licit movement of psychotropic substances.

The Narcotics Laboratory Section of the United Nations Secretariat's Division of Narcotic Drugs, whose functions included assistance to national narcotics laboratories in techniques for the identification and analysis of seized drugs, in 1985 trained 16 national scientists from 11 countries at Vienna.

The United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) continued to assist Governments, at their request, in the financing of projects aimed at reducing the illicit supply of and demand for drugs—for example, projects to replace illicit opium poppy cultivation, treat and rehabilitate drug addicts, strengthen control measures and organize information and education programmes. UNFDAC, which depended entirely on voluntary contributions, assisted 50 projects in 25 countries during the year.

On the initiative of the Secretary-General, the question of increasing the system-wide effort in drug abuse control was included in the agenda of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) at its second regular session on 28 and 29 October.

To enhance co-ordination and help provide a United Nations system-wide response to the drug abuse phenomenon, two in a series of ad hoc interagency meetings on co-ordination in matters of international drug abuse control were held in 1985: one at Vienna on 21 and 22 February; the other at Rome, Italy, from 11 to 13 September.

Topics related to this chapter. Social and cultural development: crime prevention.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXIII (pp. 1031-1037)

Statistics

In 1985, the United Nations Statistical Commission met to review developments in economic, social and demographic statistics that had taken place since its previous session in 1983. Among issues discussed were ways of improving the dissemination of international statistics and the integration of social, demographic and related statistics. The Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) met in June and discussed decisions and recommendations of the Statistical Commission that had implications for its work. In September, the Commission's Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination reviewed the provisional agenda for the Commission's 1987 session and suggested documentation and special topics to be considered by the Commission.

In May, the Economic and Social Council, acting on the Commission's recommendations, adopted resolution 1985/7 on international economic classifications, and resolution 1985/8 on the 1990 World Population and Housing Census Programme.

By resolution 40/179, adopted in December, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on patterns of consumption and related socio-economic indicators for consideration by the Statistical Commission in 1987.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXIV (pp. 1038-1058)

Institutional arrangements

CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 1038. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, 1045; Co-operation with other organizations, 1046; Other organizational matters, 1055. OTHER INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, 1057: Work programme of the Second Committee, 1058.

In 1985, the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) continued to seek greater harmonization of programmes within the United Nations system and a higher level of co-ordination and co-operation in their implementation. With the same end in view, the Economic and Social Council recommended measures for the effective functioning of the Joint Meetings of those two Committees, called for the improvement of programming and coordination instruments and, in this connection, endorsed CPC recommendations on cross-organizational programme analyses (COPAs). In December, the Assembly called for recommendations from the Secretary-General to enhance co-ordination.

A report by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on the subject of reporting to the Council, and the Secretary-General's comments on it, were examined by CPC, which called for implementation of measures suggested by the Secretary-General.

Co-operation between the United Nations and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation, an intergovernmental organization, was pursued, as was co-operation with non-governmental organizations (NGOS). Other organizational and institutional arrangements included adoption by the Council of its work programme for 1985-1986, and approval by the Assembly of the biennial programme of work for 1986-1987 of the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee.

In December, the Assembly approved an Agreement between the United Nations and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), whereby the United Nations would recognize UNIDO as a specialized agency within the United Nations system upon the Agreement's entry into force (see p. 591).

Topics related to this chapter. Industrial development: conversion of UNIDO to a specialized agency; co-ordination in the UN system. Regional economic and social activities: strengthening of regional commissions. United Nations programmes: programme planning; administrative and budgetary coordination.

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter I (pp. 1059-1083)

General questions relating to colonial countries

THE 1960 DECLARATION ON COLONIAL COUNTRIES, 1059. OTHER GENERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING NSGTs, 1082.

In 1985, the General Assembly's Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Committee on colonial countries) observed the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Assembly's adoption of the Declaration in 1960 by holding an extraordinary plenary session in Tunisia in May, preceded by two regional seminars. The Assembly itself held a special commemorative meeting in October.

In the year which also marked the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations—whose membership grew from 51 to 159 during that period—the Secretary-General stated in his annual report on the work of the Organization that the international community witnessed for the first time in history a world of independent sovereign States and a virtually universal world body. He told the Committee on colonial countries that the emergence, since the Declaration was adopted, of more than 80 million people from a dependent to a sovereign status was a historic achievement, in which the United Nations had played a central role.

In addition to the general question of decolonization, the Committee on colonial countries examined situations in the following individual Territories: Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (see next chapter); Namibia (see Chapter III of this section); American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, East Timor, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Gibraltar, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn Islands, St. Helena, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands, Western Sahara (see Chapter IV of this section).

In July, the Economic and Social Council reaffirmed the need for assistance by the United Nations system to the peoples of the colonial Territories and their national liberation movements (resolution 1985/59).

In December, the General Assembly, acting on recommendations by the Committee on colonial countries, again called on Member States to assist peoples under colonial rule in their struggle towards self-determination and independence (resolution 40/56), called on all States to terminate any investment in Namibia or loans to South Africa (40/52), requested the United Nations system to withhold from South Africa any form of co-operation and assistance (40/53) and condemned all military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration that were detrimental to the rights and interests of the colonial peoples concerned (decision 40/415). The Assembly also requested the Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration (40/57), and called for wider dissemination of information on decolonization (40/58). As regards Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs), the Assembly requested the administering Powers to transmit information as prescribed in the United Nations Charter as well as information on political and constitutional

developments in the Territories concerned (resolution 40/51). States were again invited to make offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories (40/55).

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: South Africa and apartheid. Namibia. Other colonial Territories.

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter II (pp. 1084-1089)

International Trusteeship System

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, 1084. OTHER ASPECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM, 1088.

On behalf of the Security Council, the Trusteeship Council continued during 1985 to supervise the one Trust Territory remaining under the International Trusteeship System—the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, a strategic territory administered by the United States.

The Trusteeship Council considered the Administering Authority's annual report, heard 15 petitioners, and examined five written petitions and three communications regarding the Territory.

The Council held its fifty-second session at United Nations Headquarters from 13 May to 11 July 1985; of its five members (China, France, USSR, United Kingdom, United States), China did not participate.

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter III (pp. 1090-1131)

Namibia

NAMIBIA QUESTION, 1091. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1122. INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE, 1127.

In 1985, the United Nations continued its efforts to bring about the independence of Namibia, the largest Territory remaining under colonial rule. The United Nations Council for Namibia, the legal Administering Authority for Namibia until independence, held extraordinary plenary meetings at Vienna in June, which culminated in the adoption of a Declaration stating that South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia constituted a threat to international peace and security, and of a Programme of Action urging the Security Council to act decisively to implement its resolutions on Namibia.

The Security Council considered the Namibian question at various times during the year. In May, after consultations, the Council President issued a statement on behalf of the members condemning a decision by South Africa to establish a so-called interim government in Namibia and declaring that any unilateral measures taken by the illegal administration there were null and void. In June, the Council adopted resolution 566(1985), condemning South Africa for its continued illegal occupation of Namibia, for its installation of an interim government in Windhoek which it declared to be illegal, null and void, and for its obstruction of the implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibian independence. It reiterated that Council resolution 435(1978) embodied the only internationally accepted basis for settling the Namibian problem and urged Member States to consider taking voluntary measures against South Africa, which could include the suspension of new investments, re-examination of maritime and aerial relations, prohibition of the sale of *krugerrands* and restrictions on sports and cultural relations.

In November, South Africa transmitted a request to the Secretary-General to select a system of proportional representation as a framework for elections leading to Namibian independence; the Secretary-General confirmed agreement on the proportional representation system. Later, a draft resolution, which would have provided for comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa, was not adopted because of the negative vote of two permanent members of the Council.

Six resolutions were adopted by the General Assembly on the problem of Namibia in December. By resolution 40/97 A, the Assembly decided that the Council for Namibia should proceed to establish its administration in Namibia in 1986; reaffirmed that the independence of Namibia could be achieved only with the direct participation of the South West Africa People's Organization; and condemned South Africa for the imposition of an interim government and for its military buildup in Namibia. It also demanded the release of all Namibian political prisoners, and urged the Security Council to adopt comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa.

The Assembly, in resolution 40/97 B, rejected manoeuvres to divert attention from the central issue, the decolonization of Namibia, and called on the Western permanent members of the Security Council to support enforcement measures against South Africa. In resolution 40/97 C,

the Assembly decided on the work programme of the Council for Namibia, and, in resolution 40/97 D, requested the Council to increase dissemination of information on Namibia.

Further, it decided, by resolution 40/97 E, to allocate \$1.5 million from the regular 1986 United Nations budget to the United Nations Fund for Namibia, and by resolution 40/97 F, to hold a special session on Namibia in 1986.

The Council for Namibia, which in 1974 had enacted a decree aimed at protecting Namibia's natural resources, decided in 1985 to undertake legal action in the domestic courts of States and other appropriate bodies against corporations or individuals exploiting, transporting, processing or purchasing those resources.

The Secretary-General submitted three reports on the question of Namibia during the year. He found that South Africa had not changed its position linking the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola to the implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibian independence. He declared that no progress had been made in the carrying out of resolution 435(1978), which had endorsed the plan.

Assistance to Namibians outside their country continued to be provided by the United Nations, primarily through the Fund for Namibia. In 1985, the Fund spent \$7 million; voluntary contributions by States to the Fund totalled \$4.5 million. Funding was also provided from the regular United Nations budget, the United Nations Development Programme and specialized agencies. The Fund operated three main programmes—the Nationhood Programme for Namibia, the United Nations Institute for Namibia, and educational, social and relief assistance. The Nationhood Programme and Institute functioned in relation to the future attainment of independence. The assistance programme dealt with the immediate needs of Namibians in connection with their struggle for independence.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: South Africa and apartheid, Angola-South Africa armed incidents and South African occupation of Angola. Human rights: human rights violations—South Africa and Namibia. Refugees and displaced persons: Africa. General questions relating to colonial countries.

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter IV (pp. 1090-1153) Other colonial Territories

FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS), 1132. EAST TIMOR, 1136. WESTERN SAHARA, 1137. OTHER TERRITORIES, 1141.

In 1985, the Special Committee on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Committee on colonial countries) continued to consider the situation in East Timor and Western Sahara, as well as the dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

In September, the General Assembly deferred consideration of the East Timor question until 1986 (decision 40/402). In November, it requested Argentina and the United Kingdom to initiate negotiations for resolving peacefully and definitively the pending problems between them, including all aspects on the future of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations (resolution 40/21); it also requested the Secretary-General to continue his good offices mission.

Reaffirming that the Western Sahara question was a decolonization issue, the Assembly, in December, again requested Morocco and the Frente Popular de Liberación de Saguía el Hamra y Río de Oro to hold direct negotiations for a cease-fire and a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations (resolution 40/50).

With regard to Gibraltar, the Assembly welcomed two events that took place on 5 February: the initiation between Spain and the United Kingdom of negotiations at Geneva; and the establishment of equality and reciprocity of rights for Spaniards in Gibraltar and Gibraltarians in Spain, together with the free movement of persons, vehicles and goods between Gibraltar and the neighbouring territory (decision 40/413).

In addition, the Assembly took action on the questions of: American Samoa (resolution 40/41), Guam (40/42) and the United States Virgin Islands (40/49), under United States administration; and Anguilla (40/48), Bermuda (40/43), the British Virgin Islands (40/44), the Cayman Islands (40/45), Montserrat (40/46), the Turks and Caicos Islands (40/47) and St. Helena (decision 40/414), under United Kingdom administration. The Assembly took note of the decision of the Committee on colonial countries to send a visiting mission to Tokelau in 1986, at the invitation of New Zealand, the administering Power, and of the people of the Territory (decision 40/411).

Topics related to this chapter. General questions relating to colonial countries.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 1155-1159) International Court of Justice

Judicial work of the Court, 1155; Organizational questions, 1157.

In 1985, the International Court of Justice considered four contentious cases and a request for an advisory opinion.

The General Assembly and the Security Council held elections in December to fill a vacancy created by the resignation in August of a judge whose term would have expired in February 1988 (see APPENDIX III).

In addition, the Assembly took action concerning emoluments, pension scheme and conditions of service for the members of the Court (resolutions 40/257 A-C).

Topics related to this chapter. Americas: Nicaragua situation. United Nations officials: other United Nations officials.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 1160-1171)

Legal aspects of international political relations

Peaceful settlement of disputes between States, 1160; Good-neighbourliness between States, 1161; Non-use of force in international relations, 1162; Draft Code of Offences against peace and security, 1163; Draft convention against mercenaries, 1165; Prevention of terrorism, 1166; Draft articles on non-navigational uses of international water-courses, 1170.

More international law affecting virtually all areas of human activity had been codified in the past 40 years than in all the previous ones of recorded history; much of it had been done under the auspices of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General stated in 1985 (see p. 4).

In keeping with that process aimed at promoting friendly relations among States, the Assembly decided in 1985 that work should continue on the legal codification of: non-use of force in international relations (resolution 40/70), offences against the peace and security of mankind (40/69), and an international convention against mercenary activities (40/74). In addition, it requested the Secretary-General to continue preparing a handbook on settling disputes between States peacefully (40/68), agreed to continue identifying and clarifying the elements of good-neighbourliness (decision 40/419), and recommended that work continue on draft articles on the non-navigational uses of international watercourses.

Deep concern over the world-wide escalation of terrorist acts was expressed by both the Security Council and the General Assembly. The Council condemned specific instances, including hijacking and hostage-taking (resolution 579(1985)), and was joined by the Assembly (40/61) in appealing to States that had not done so to become parties to existing international conventions on various aspects of the problem.

Topic related to this chapter. International peace and security.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 1172-1176) States and international law

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, 1172. STATE IMMUNITIES, LIABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY, 1175.

The United Nations remained concerned, throughout 1985, with protecting diplomats and consular missions, as it received reports of incidents threatening their security and safety. Urging States to ensure their security and condemning acts of violence, the General Assembly in December asked the Secretary-General to survey in 1986 the operation of the reporting procedures. (resolution 40/73).

The International Law Commission (see p. 1197) continued work with a view to elaborating legal instruments on the status of the diplomatic courier and the diplomatic bag not accompanied by courier, jurisdictional immunities of States and their property, international liability for injurious consequences arising from acts not prohibited by international law, and State responsibility for internationally wrongful acts.

Topics related to this chapter. International organizations and international law: host country relations. Other legal questions: International Law Commission.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 1177-1181)

International organizations and international law

STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, 1177. HOST COUNTRY RELATIONS, 1180. DRAFT STANDARD RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR CONFERENCES, 1181.

In its continuing efforts to strengthen the role of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security, the General Assembly, in 1985 as in previous years, requested the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization to accord priority to that question (resolution 40/78). The Assembly once more deferred consideration of an item on the implementation of United Nations resolutions until its resumed fortieth session in 1986, and of draft standard rules of procedure for United Nations conferences until its forty-first session later that year.

The Assembly, having considered the annual report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, urged that country, the United States, to continue ensuring effectively the security of the diplomatic missions accredited to the United Nations and their personnel (40/77).

Topics related to this chapter. International peace and security. Legal aspects of international political relations.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter V (pp. 1182-1190) Treaties and agreements

In 1985, the General Assembly made recommendations for action by the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations, to be held in 1986 (resolution 40/76).

As in previous years, several multilateral treaties, concluded under United Nations auspices, were deposited with the Secretary-General. Efforts continued to eliminate the backlog in publishing the United Nations Treaty Series.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VI (pp. 1191-1196) International economic law

GENERAL ASPECTS, 1191: Report of UNCITRAL, 1191. INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW, 1192: Unification of trade law, 1192; Most-favoured-nation clauses, 1193; Training and assistance, 1194. LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, 1195.

Legal aspects of international economic law continued to be examined in 1985 by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and by the General Assembly's Sixth (Legal) Committee.

In December, the Assembly noted with satisfaction UNCITRAL's adoption of the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration and recommended that all States give it due consideration (resolution 40/72). It also recommended that UNCITRAL continue work on the topics in its work programme (40/71), and decided to consider further, in 1986, legal aspects of the new international economic order (40/67), and, in 1988, action to be taken on a series of draft articles on most-favoured-nation clauses (40/65).

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy and international economic co-operation: proposed new international economic order. Industrial development: industrial co-operation contracts.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VII (pp. 1197-1200)

Other legal questions

International Law Commission, 1197; UN Programme for the teaching and study of international law, 1198; Co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, 1200.

In 1985, the International Law Commission (ILC), at its thirty-seventh session at Geneva from 6 May to 26 July, continued work on the progressive development and codification of international law; the General Assembly recommended in December that it continue work on all the topics in its current programme (resolution 40/75).

The twenty-first session of the International Law Seminar was held at Geneva. Other seminars and training courses were offered in 1985 as part of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. The Assembly urged all potential donors to make voluntary contributions to the Programme's financing (40/66).

By resolution 40/60, the Assembly welcomed the progress made in strengthening the co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 1201-1223) **United Nations financing**

UN BUDGET, 1201: Budget for 1984-1985, 1201; Budget for 1986-1987, 1204. ASSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS, 1213: Scale of assessments, 1213; Budget contributions in 1985, 1217. FINANCIAL SITUATION, 1220: Financial emergency, 1220; Impact of inflation and monetary instability, 1222. ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING, 1222: Accounts for 1984, 1222.

A United Nations programme budget for 1986-1987 containing appropriations of \$1,663,341,500 was adopted by the General Assembly in December 1985 (resolution 40/253 A). This was \$54,387,500 above the \$1,608,954,000 in final appropriations for 1984-1985, also approved by the Assembly in that same month (40/239 A). Excluding inflation and foreign exchange-rate movements, the real budgetary growth between the two bienniums was calculated at 0.4 per cent.

Most of the budget was to be financed by assessed contributions from Member States. Assembly-approved estimates of income from other sources totalled \$294,345,500 for 1984-1985 (resolution 40/239 B) and \$317,465,600 for 1986-1987 (40/253 B).

The Committee on Contributions proposed a new scale of assessments for contributions from Member States, which was approved by the Assembly (resolution 40/248). The new scale was for the years 1986, 1987 and 1988.

Following consideration of a report by the Secretary-General on the financial emergency of the Organization, which pointed out that the short-term deficit was expected to exceed \$390 million as at 31 December 1985, the Assembly again urged all Member States to meet their financial obligations (resolution 40/241 A).

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 1224-1232) United Nations programmes

PROGRAMME PLANNING AND BUDGETING, 1224. PROGRAMME EVALUATION, 1227. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 1230.

Efforts to improve United Nations programme planning, budgeting and evaluation were continued during 1985. The Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) devoted the main part of its 1985 session to an examination of the programme elements of the proposed United Nations programme budget for 1986/1987. CPC also continued its work of analysing, evaluating and reviewing programmes of the Organization. Its recommendations were endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1985/76 which, in turn, was endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 40/240.

The Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) presented 13 reports during 1985. The majority of these were thematic. The General Assembly, by resolution 40/259, asked United Nations organs, after considering the JIU reports, to submit to it the results of their review, and asked JIU to evaluate its own activities and to report in 1987.

The annual report on administrative and budgetary co-ordination in the United Nations system, prepared by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), provided comparative data on the specialized agencies and the United Nations. The data covered regular budgets, net contributions of Member States, established posts, regular budget contributions to technical cooperation activities, extrabudgetary funds, working capital funds, scales of assessment and collection of contributions. By resolution 40/250 the Assembly called for maximum standardization and comparability in the budgetary and administrative practices of all organizations concerned and a greater co-ordination of staff regulations.

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy and international economic co-operation: economic co-operation among developing countries—co-ordination in the United Nations system. Operational activities for development: inter-agency co-operation—programme evaluation; technical co-operation through UNDP— UNDP programme planning; other technical co-operation—Department of Technical Cooperation for Development. Institutional arrangements: co-ordination in the United Nations system. United Nations financing.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 1233-1253)

United Nations officials

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, 1233: Staff composition, 1234; Job classification, 1241; Staff representation, 1242; Field staff, 1243; Travel, 1243; Staff Rules, 1244; Privileges and immunities, 1244. STAFF COSTS, 1245: Salaries and allowances, 1245; Pensions, 1247. UN ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL, 1251: Appeals system for staff, 1251. OTHER UN OFFICIALS, 1252: Conditions of service and compensation, 1252; Experts and consultants, 1253.

The Secretary-General, in his 1985 annual report on the work of the Organization (see p. 3), stated that he had repeatedly emphasized the need to explore all avenues for utilizing resources in the most efficient manner and to provide an equitable role for women in the Secretariat. The management-improvement measures he had initiated were being pursued on a continuing basis.

The General Assembly in 1985 also took action on several personnel questions, such as the status of women in the Secretariat and in the regional commissions, job classification, recruitment, career development and other conditions of service.

Personnel questions were dealt with in several resolutions. The Assembly welcomed continuing efforts to improve the status of women staff members and noted the Secretary-General's decision to reappoint a Co-ordinator for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat (resolution 40/258 B). It asked the regional commissions to incorporate women's concerns in their work programmes (40/105). Continuing its efforts to balance the geographical representation of staff, the Assembly asked the Secretary-General to develop and apply a new recruitment plan for 1986/1987 with specific targets for unrepresented and underrepresented countries, as well as to take other recruitment measures to bring States within their desirable ranges of representation (40/258 A). With regard to job classification of the General Service category in New York, the Assembly deferred a decision on the plan being carried out by the Secretary-General but decided, by decision 40/466, that the effective date of the classification exercise would be 1 January 1985.

As in previous years, the General Assembly acted on issues affecting working conditions, salaries and benefits, based on recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), which in turn consulted the participating intergovernmental organizations in the United Nations system.

In December, the Assembly, by resolution 40/244, approved several recommendations of ICSC, including approval of the range for the margin between the net remuneration (net base salary and post adjustment) of the United Nations and that of the best-paid national civil service, and requested ICSC to develop further the methodology for calculating the margin and re-examine the scope of the education grant. It also asked ICSC to carry out, in co-operation with the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, a comparative study of the levels of pension benefits and the ratios of pensions to salaries under the United Nations pension scheme and that of the comparator country (40/245). The Assembly also dealt with some aspects of conditions of service of non-Secretariat officials (40/256).

The Economic and Social Council instructed the Secretary-General on the use of consultant services (resolution 1985/78), asking him to report on reasons why particular tasks could not be carried out by existing regular staff. The Assembly deferred until 1986 consideration of the Secretary-General's report on the use of experts, consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups, involving former staff members aged 55 or more (decision 40/456).

The Assembly approved the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on the need to streamline the appeals procedures (resolution 40/252, section XII); requested the Secretary-General to do so and to continue to study the feasibility of establishing an office of Ombudsman (40/258 A); and deferred again its consideration of the feasibility of establishing a single administrative tribunal for the common system (decision 40/465).

The Secretary-General was asked to provide, in future reports on use of air travel, information on all United Nations expenditures for first class air travel (decision 40/455). Some amendments were made to the Staff Rules (40/468) and Staff Regulations (40/467).

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 1254-1267)

Other administrative and managements questions

REVIEW OF UN ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS, 1254. CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS, 1256. DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS, 1261. UN PREMISES, 1262. INFORMATION SYSTEMS, COMPUTERS AND TELECOMMUNICATION, 1263. UN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION, 1266.

During 1985, in a major step to improve the administrative and financial efficiency of the United Nations, the General Assembly decided to establish a group of high-level intergovernmental experts to conduct a review with a view to identifying measures that might be taken to that end (resolution 40/237). That decision was in addition to a number of other Assembly actions resulting from the yearly review of administrative and management issues relating to conferences and meetings, documentation, premises, information systems, telecommunications and postal administration. Besides authorizing certain subsidiary organs to meet during its 1985 session (decision 40/403), the Assembly approved a draft calendar of meetings for 1986 and 1987, reaffirmed principles governing the scheduling of conferences and meetings, and called for more efficient use of conference-servicing resources and for a review of the question of providing summary records (resolution 40/243). It also urged that, in the interests of efficiency and economy, discussions on unified conference services at the Vienna International Centre be resumed (decision 40/405).

Efforts to co-ordinate and enhance United Nations information systems continued during the year, and implementation of recommendations to modernize library operations, as recommended by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU), was in progress. Meanwhile, JIU submitted to the Assembly recommendations for the effective management of computers and related new technologies increasingly used by the United Nations system. The Secretary-General reported on his decision against a United Nations-owned communications satellite in favour of leased communications facilities, and the Assembly approved his proposal for a new telephone system at Headquarters (resolution 40/252, section II). It also approved the 1986 budget estimates of the International Computing Centre (40/252, section X).

The Assembly took note of the new catering arrangements at Headquarters and the virtual completion of the construction of additional United Nations offices and conference facilities at Nairobi, Kenya (40/252, sections III and IV). It also decided on the disposition of revenues from the sale of a special postage stamp on the social and economic crisis in Africa (40/242).

Topics related to this chapter. Institutional machinery. Institutional arrangements.