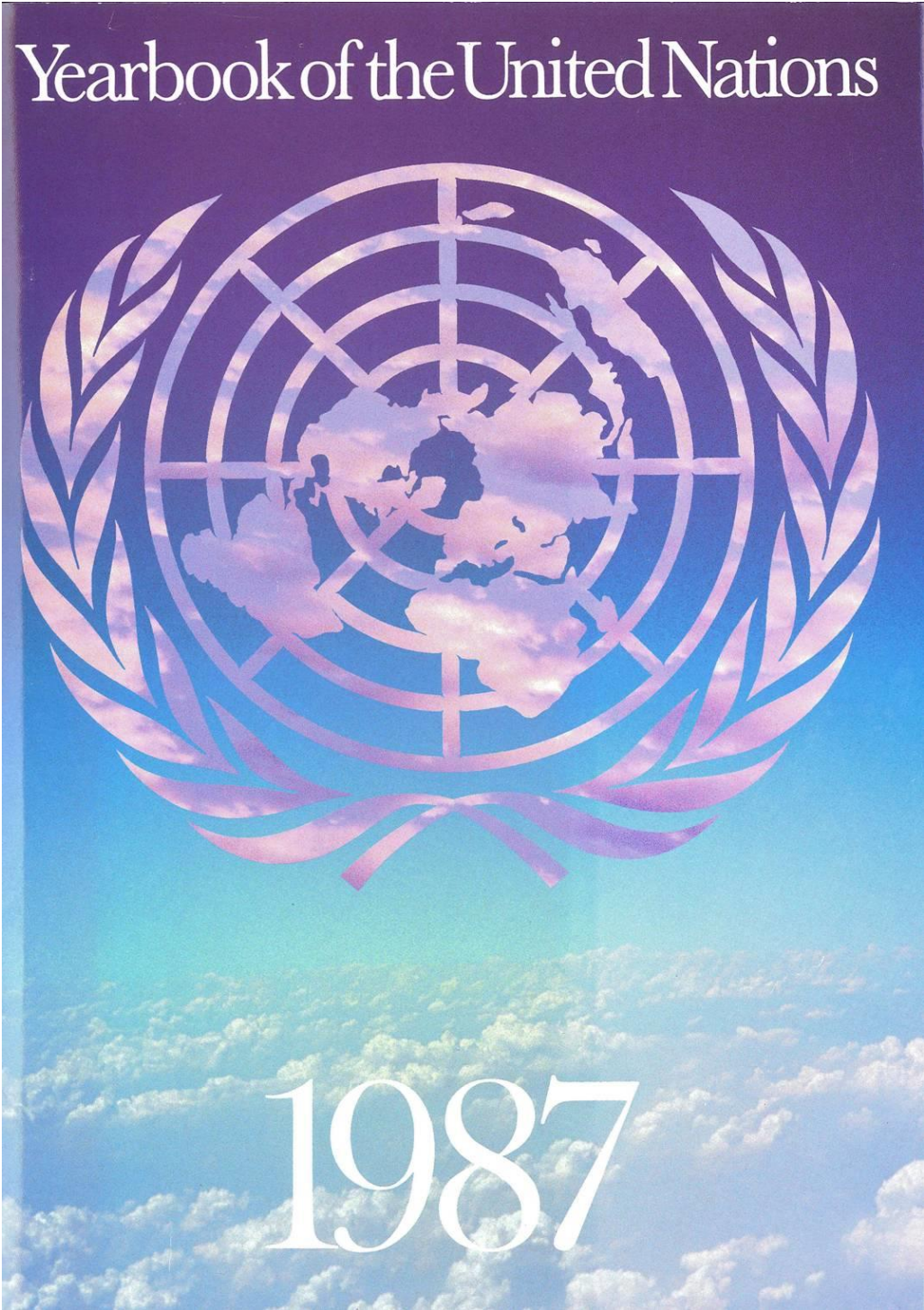


YEARBOOK OF THE UNITED NATIONS, 1987

Volume 41



YEARBOOK OF THE UNITED NATIONS 1987

Volume 41

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PART ONE: United Nations

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

Following is the Secretary-General's report on the work of the Organization, submitted to the General Assembly and dated 9 September 1987. The Assembly took note of it on 13 October (decision 42/404).

Over the past year, in the midst of continuing regional strife and economic and social hardship, there have been occasions in which a greater solidarity among nations was evident in addressing serious problems with global implications, within the multilateral framework of the United Nations. This development, while limited and fragmentary, could prove of broad significance, for I believe it has its origins in what I would call the growing commonality factor in international affairs. By this I mean a commonly accepted interest in meeting successfully certain vital global challenges, including achievement of the conditions for sustained economic development, the preservation of a hospitable global environment, the elimination of the most egregious infringements of human rights, the eradication of threats to the health of societies and of individuals that respect no national borders, and, by no means least, the avoidance of nuclear destruction. Countries of disparate political orientations and economic systems have begun to deal with problems of an interdependent world with a new pragmatism in awareness of the dangers of immobility. This can provide a promising basis for broadened multilateral cooperation and increased effectiveness of the United Nations. It is as if the sails of the small boat in which all the people of the earth are gathered had caught again, in the midst of a perilous sea, a light but favourable wind.

The United Nations has been an important catalyst for consensus on global problems and, at the same time is itself, I believe, the object of a greater commonality of view than when I last reported to the General Assembly. It remains prey to a financial crisis of very damaging dimensions. Yet, there has been a perceptible rallying to the Organization prompted, in part, by recognition that it was in serious jeopardy but, more decisively, I am convinced, by changes in the international political, economic and social situation which evidenced with persuasive clarity the need for, and the unique value of, the United Nations and other multilateral organizations.

These months sometimes seemed dominated by financial crisis and administrative reform. I believe that, in the circumstances, it is especially important to recognize the inherent strength shown by the United Nations in bringing nations together in pursuit of common objectives ranging from ending the war between Iran and Iraq to protection of the environment and combating illicit narcotics. From such recognition can come new champions and the greater support that the United Nations needs in extending the favourable trend perceptible on certain problems across a wider spectrum of issues related to the achievement of a world at peace.

In highlighting certain positive developments of recent months, I would not wish to underestimate the highly unsatisfactory state of world conditions or the magnitude of the tasks that lie ahead. Even if the favourable wind felt this year prevails, our global vessel will need

skilful piloting and the assistance of dedicated oarsmen to navigate the many shoals and reach safe landfall in the next century. What developments have suggested these past months is that it can be done—that in the face of great challenges nations can, as at times in the past, work together. The result, I believe, can be fuller realization of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and, ultimately, a new chance for peace.

I

The international security situation during the past year has been far from static. While major conflicts have persisted and neither the number nor the lethal quality of arms has yet been reduced, initiatives have been taken, negotiations have been carried forward, and the Security Council has acted in ways that in themselves constitute hopeful change. I sense a broadened appreciation that present regional conflicts, beyond the intrinsic suffering they cause, entail unacceptable risks for the larger international community and that the number of nuclear weapons at present deployed is, from every point of view, unwarranted.

The war between Iran and Iraq has lasted now for almost eight blood-stained years, endangering the entire region and threatening larger strife. Last year, these protracted hostilities showed signs of dangerous escalation and expansion, pointing to the urgent need for a new United Nations effort to end the bloodshed. In January, I called for the Security Council to consult, possibly at the level of foreign ministers, on action to halt the war, having already in 1985 suggested to the parties eight points that could serve as a basis for terminating hostilities and opening the way to peace. The Council acted decisively, adopting unanimously a resolution ordering immediate implementation of the cease-fire called for earlier and defining steps to be taken by the two countries in order to establish a basis for peace. The five permanent members have served as the motor force in the Council's action, exercising the responsibility from which their special status derives. The Security Council's resolution is an unmistakable manifestation of the deep desire of the international community to bring an end to this strife. It lays down a carefully crafted basis for addressing the legitimate concerns of both belligerents. The resolution assigns me a clear mandate which, at the time of this writing, I am attempting to implement in its many dimensions through intensive discussions with the two Governments. This will now take me to Iran and Iraq. Given the co-operation of the parties, we must hope for an early comprehensive settlement which will satisfy the demands of justice and honour.

At the beginning of this year, I undertook a special effort to pursue the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East. With the widespread support of the international community, I held numerous consultations with the parties and the members of the Security Council. These consultations focused on both the principle of a conference and questions of procedure. The views expressed to me differed in nuance and detail, but it was generally hoped that they could be sufficiently narrowed to make possible the convening of a conference at which the more difficult substantive issues could be tackled in a constructive spirit. Unfortunately, it has not yet proved possible to obtain the agreement of all the parties to the principle of an international conference and this has hindered my efforts to make progress on the procedural issues. Bilateral efforts to promote the peace process have also apparently run into difficulties. In spite of these set-backs the search must by all means be sustained for a comprehensive settlement through a negotiating process, under United Nations auspices, in which all parties would participate.

It has now been 20 years since the Security Council adopted unanimously resolution 242(1967), which at the time was viewed as a major first step towards a settlement of all aspects of the Arab-Israel conflict. During this period, the inhabitants of the region have been subjected to two major wars. A continuation of the status quo is contrary to the interests of all the parties concerned—it hampers economic development, social stability, and freedom of choice. In the search for a comprehensive settlement, the central priority should be the achievement of a just and lasting peace, which will meet the aspirations of all the people in the region. It would seem to me that the emphasis should be more on these objectives than on questions of procedure. The right road, obviously, is that which will lead to fruitful negotiations, based on resolutions 242(1967) and 338(1973), and take fully into account the rights of the Palestinians. From my extensive consultations, I am convinced that the composition and agenda of a conference do not need to present insurmountable obstacles. No solution can be found without negotiations. Delay can only prolong the violence and danger that have become daily companions to life in the Middle East.

In other parts of the world, too, new opportunities are evident to settle long-standing differences and move towards more positive and fruitful relationships. Two countries in Africa, Mali and Bur-kina Faso, have accepted a Judgment of the International Court of Justice to resolve a border dispute between them, and in Central America, El Salvador and Honduras have submitted a similar dispute of long standing to the Court for judgement. In doing so, these countries have taken the route prescribed in the Charter for the peaceful settlement of disputes—the route of reason and peace.

Despite recurrent tensions in the area and the persistence of the conflict in Kampuchea, I believe there are also opportunities for strengthening peace in South-East Asia. The countries of the region share a deep interest in economic development and reconstruction. It is evident that a resolution of the Kampuchean problem would open significant new opportunities—indeed, it is of crucial importance. I have continued to follow this problem closely and have put forward to the countries concerned some ideas in the hope of furthering a solution. I have recently detected some signs of movement that I hope will develop in the right direction. Meanwhile, United Nations humanitarian assistance continues to reach Kampucheans, especially in the border area with Thailand.

In the case of the Western Sahara, there is also, I believe, an opportunity to move ahead. As requested by the General Assembly, the Chairman of the Organization of African Unity and I have had a number of separate meetings with the parties aimed at a solution of the problem. During these meetings, our discussions have focused on modalities governing a cease-fire and a referendum. Since an examination of these issues involves certain factual information available only in the Territory, the Chairman of OAU and I consider that it can best be gathered by the dispatch of a technical survey team to the Territory. Once the information is obtained, we will be in a position to formulate a set of proposals with the objective of providing a fair and reasonable basis for a settlement of this problem. I am confident that with the necessary flexibility and determination, further progress towards a settlement can be made.

The long-standing confrontation between North and South Korea is a remnant, in a sense, of the Second World War, which left the Korean Peninsula divided. There have been this past year a series of proposals emanating from both the North and the South for the resumption of talks on overcoming the contentious issues between the two sides. In my continuing contacts with the parties, I have made clear my readiness to be of every appropriate assistance in facilitating steps

to reduce the causes of tension on the peninsula. Serious talks aimed at reducing the hardships imposed on Koreans because of separation would correspond with the pragmatic approach that increasingly influences relationships in East Asia. The agreement reached this year between China and Portugal on the return of Macao to Chinese sovereignty in 1999, like the earlier agreement between China and the United Kingdom on Hong Kong, is an example of the benefits for the international community that can come from this approach. In South Asia, yet a further example can be found in the newly formed South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation. The success that it achieves in promoting region-wide socio-economic co-operation can have a favourable impact on political relations as well.

Efforts to resolve the problem related to Afghanistan have reached an advanced stage. The lengthy, non-polemical negotiations, conducted through the good offices of the Secretary-General, are aimed at finding a realistic settlement. Significant progress has been made. For a settlement to be realized, however, the Afghans must achieve a national reconciliation that will open the way for the formation of a government where the voice of all the Afghans—those now living outside as well as inside Afghanistan—will be heard. It now remains for all concerned to reach the kind of decisions required to restore peace and to accord to the Afghan people the rights foreseen for all in the United Nations Charter. I am confident that the United Nations will, with the full support of Member States, be able to meet any tasks foreseen for it in a settlement. I need hardly emphasize again the great benefits that a neutral, independent and non-aligned Afghanistan would bring for the parties directly involved and, also, for broader international relationships on which progress on other issues heavily depends.

As conscious as I of the gravity of the tension and violence in Central America, the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States joined me late last year in making known to the countries of the region the facilities that the two organizations could provide—separately or together—to facilitate resolution of the region's problems. I have always been persuaded that such a resolution must be found by the countries of Central America themselves, but when I toured the region with the Foreign Ministers of the Contadora and Support Groups and the Secretary-General of OAS last January, I found little evidence of political will to solve the continuing conflicts. The peace plan to which they agreed last month in Guatemala on the basis of a proposal of the President of Costa Rica is all the more to be welcomed as an important breakthrough. I now feel encouraged to revise my earlier assessment. There appears to exist a genuine momentum for peace. The provisions of the peace plan show respect for the commitments made by these countries for the peaceful resolution of disputes under the Charter of the United Nations and that of the Organization of American States. For my part, I have agreed, in support of the peace process, to serve as a member of the International Committee for Verification and Follow-up, created by the Guatemala agreement of 7 August 1987, and I will extend any additional assistance in ways that are appropriate under the Charter. The support of the international community as a whole will be much needed in the further crucial negotiations that lie ahead. This opportunity for peace, created, I believe, by the leaders of the region in pragmatic response to the most basic needs of their peoples, must not pass.

Unfortunately, in southern Africa the road towards the peaceful settlement of the problems of the region continues to be difficult to traverse. To a great extent, this is a consequence of systematic racial discrimination represented by the policy of apartheid, and of the unjustified delay in the transition to independence of Namibia.

In South Africa, a human tragedy of overwhelming proportions appears imminent unless timely action is taken to prevent it. As has been particularly manifest over the past year, the policy of apartheid leads inevitably to resistance and oppression and poisons the quality of life for all the inhabitants of the country. An institutionalized system of racial discrimination that denies fundamental human rights to the great majority of the population is contrary to the most basic principles of the United Nations Charter to which all Member States have committed themselves. The destructive consequences of the imposition of this system extend beyond South Africa to encompass the region as a whole, which has been victimized by repeated acts of aggression, sabotage and destabilization. The effects have been particularly devastating in Angola and Mozambique. In the latter country, the situation became so acute that the Government requested my support in mobilizing international assistance to alleviate the hunger and suffering to which its people have been tragically subjected. The front-line States need increased support from the international community to counter economic strangulation and political destabilization.

The continued denial of independence to Namibia also breeds unending violence and suffering. I have, this past month, sent my Special Representative for Namibia to the region to explore ways of ending the impasse regarding the implementation of Security Council resolution 435(1978). His conversations have confirmed that, if the situation is re-examined with realism and sincere concern for the well-being of the inhabitants of the area, it should be possible to open the way for implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibia.

I would appeal to all Member States to use their influence on behalf of the development of social and economic progress in freedom throughout southern Africa. This can only take place in adequate measure if apartheid disappears; if the human rights of all South Africans, and of the inhabitants of the region as a whole, are respected; and if the people of Namibia are permitted to enjoy the freedom and independence that are their right. The concerted action of the international community is needed to achieve these goals.

The Cyprus problem should lend itself to fair settlement through serious, purposeful negotiations that will meet the basic interests of both sides. Encouraging developments have, on a number of occasions, brought the two Cypriot communities to the threshold of real progress. At present, however, the state of affairs in Cyprus gives increasing cause for concern and, as I have reported to the Security Council, a potentially dangerous military buildup is taking place on the island. The possibility of serious confrontations cannot be excluded in the months ahead if present trends continue. The troop-contributing Governments, without whose generosity the peace-keeping force could not be maintained on Cyprus, are increasingly dissatisfied with both the lack of progress towards a settlement and the growing financial burden they bear. It is particularly disturbing that, in these circumstances, efforts to reactivate productive negotiations are deadlocked. I intend to continue to explore possible measures that might encourage greater confidence and make it possible for useful negotiations to resume. What is at stake is the goal of a federal republic of Cyprus, non-aligned and enjoying sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity as defined in the High-level Agreements of 1977 and 1979.

The prolongation of a regional conflict endangers far more than the parties immediately concerned. In all the problems to which I have referred—those in which positive movement has occurred and those still mired in impasse—governmental decisions will be made which, depending on their nature, can positively or negatively affect the lives and futures of the populations of their region and beyond. I would call upon all leaders in areas of conflict to be

guided by this consideration when making decisions in which an added element of accommodation to the concerns of the other party can bring peace or break a sterile deadlock.

II

In the resolution of almost every regional conflict in which the United Nations is engaged, a need for United Nations peace-keeping operations can be foreseen. In the case of Namibia, the agreed United Nations plan entails both military forces and civilian staff carrying out crucial peacekeeping functions in the transition to independence. In other instances, new and innovative forms of peace-keeping may be called for. Various conflicts in recent years have extended to the sea, raising the possible need for a United Nations role in ensuring the safety of civilian ships and in maintaining peace at sea as an element in bringing a war to an end. Any peace maintenance operation in the ocean area would differ in key respects from peace-keeping on land, although the same broad principles would apply. At present it would be difficult to mount such operations as quickly on an ad hoc basis as has been the case with land-based operations. There is, therefore, need to plan and be prepared for such eventualities, a process for which the advice of experts in the international academic and defence communities could usefully be sought.

In referring to possible future peace-keeping undertakings, I cannot fail to commend those who, during the past year, have maintained this noble mission for peace. Sacrifices have been a part of their services, particularly in southern Lebanon where brave soldiers of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon have daily risked their lives and 21 have died in the line of duty since last August in protecting the well-being of others. The value of these operations has been repeatedly reaffirmed by the Security Council. The valour and dedication of those who serve are deeply appreciated by the entire international community.

As essential as the deployment of peace-keeping forces has been, and can be in the future, in maintaining a stable situation after the cessation of armed exchange, in the separation of forces, and in affording an opportunity for negotiations, it is not a substitute for the first function of the United Nations, which is to prevent war from breaking out. Indeed, the serious crises addressed this past year—many of which are of long standing—point to the need to take timely and effective multilateral action before problems reach crisis proportions. To continue in the future to fail to utilize fully all the preventive capacity of multilateral organizations would be foolhardy in the extreme. One of the greatest tragedies of recent years has been the outbreak of fratricidal conflict between developing countries that had at their disposal for the resolution of their differences the assistance of regional organizations, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and, of course, the United Nations itself.

I would suggest that the Security Council can in the future make fuller use of possibilities available within the meaning of the Charter, including peace-keeping forces, to head off violence and facilitate the resolution of disputes before armed conflict occurs. When a potentially dangerous situation is identified, a fact-finding mission can be quickly dispatched both to gain a detailed knowledge of the problem and to signal to the parties the concern of the United Nations as a whole. It is auspicious for this purpose that present peacekeeping operations now have the political support of all permanent members of the Council although the financial support from

Member States is far from adequate. I have sought through a restructuring of the political functions in the Secretariat to strengthen our early-warning capacity.

The need for international solidarity in preventive action is by no means limited to political crises. It is especially evident in the face of such a global threat as environmental degradation. In the case of the recent food crisis in Africa, the international community, through the United Nations and other international organizations, did a great deal to mitigate the disaster. But, the disaster need not have been of such proportions. The vulnerability of the fragile ecosystems and economies of many African countries has long been widely understood. Too little preventive action was undertaken to strengthen their resistance to disaster.

In the recent past, we have seen other natural calamities of terrible impact—the volcanic eruption in Colombia, the earthquake in Mexico City, the recurrent floods in Bangladesh being among the worst. Like the drought in Africa, such catastrophes could not have been prevented, nor can they be in the future. Their destructive effect can, however, be lessened. The ability to foresee the most likely location and, to a more limited extent, the possible timing of certain types of disasters such as severe earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, floods, typhoons and drought, has grown significantly. Moreover, a substantial knowledge exists of measures that can be taken in advance to mitigate the effect of natural disasters when they do occur. I believe there is much merit in proposals that have been made to stimulate international study, planning and preparations on this subject over the next decade under the auspices of the United Nations.

III

Disarmament, achieved through balanced arms reductions with adequate verification, is an essential element in the dynamic process of building peace. It has stood, rightly, in the forefront of diplomatic activity during the past year. New attitudes and revised policies have emerged, bringing new life to the long, sterile disarmament scene. For the first time, there appears a good and early prospect of a net reduction in nuclear weapons. While an agreement between the USSR and the United States to eliminate all of their intermediate-range nuclear missiles would still leave sufficient nuclear weapons in existence to destroy the world many times over, it would none the less have real significance. Such an agreement can encourage progress in other East-West negotiations, including those on strategic weapons, and, by demonstrating the present feasibility of agreement between the USSR and the United States, give impetus to other disarmament negotiations now in progress. Moreover, it can be seen as constituting a first step, at least, towards the goal of eliminating all nuclear weapons for which these two major nuclear Powers have in principle renewed their support. There have already been new positive moves in the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva to complete the treaty—long under negotiation—banning the production and use of chemical weapons under effective verification. Progress on other agreements is overdue and, I believe, will come if the benefits of the elimination of Soviet and United States intermediate-range nuclear missiles are felt. I would point in particular to the desirability of early agreement on a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty which for many years has been seen in the United Nations as having cardinal importance. Continuation and even intensification of testing, in so far as it is directed at developing new weapons or perfecting those now deployed, will tend to mitigate the value of eliminating one present type of missile and perpetuate a competition that has been a major cause of distrust.

Verification has been a difficult element on which to find agreement in most of the disarmament negotiations now under way. This is an area in which the United Nations can make a significant contribution. The forthcoming third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament can, with thorough preparation, provide a valuable opportunity to consider how the Organization's potential in this regard can be realized. Indeed, the session will permit a timely review of the entire work of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, an area of vital importance where rationalization and innovation could permit the resources of Member States to be effectively focused on the most productive activities.

The regional dimension of disarmament merits much attention since it is in regional conflicts that weapons are actually being used for purposes of war. The acquisition of large quantities of sophisticated arms by developing countries places a severe strain on badly needed resources while adding nothing to the strength of their economies. Furthermore, it adds to external debt and creates a secondary demand for imports that increases their dependence. Improved regional security arrangements could reduce the need felt by them for expensive arms and large armed forces. The negotiations currently in progress in Vienna on confidence-building measures and troop reductions in Europe offer a new prospect for that continent. The establishment by the United Nations of regional centres for the promotion of peace and disarmament is an initiative of much promise in this regard in the developing world that merits the support of all Member States.

I am deeply persuaded that the entire world has greatly benefited from the preservation of certain regions—one, outer space, being infinitely larger than the earth itself—from the deployment of nuclear weapons or, in the case of Antarctica, from any military use at all. This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, which was concluded under the auspices of the United Nations. As space technology advances and a growing number of countries become involved in space activities, the Treaty assumes ever greater relevance to the common human destiny. It is the shared responsibility of Member States to ensure compliance with the letter and spirit of the Treaty. I would call upon all countries that have a space technology capability to co-operate bilaterally and multilaterally in pursuing peaceful uses of outer space, including projects that will bring the benefits of space technology to developing countries. Let the United Nations not only help to preserve such achievements as Tlatelolco, the demilitarization of Antarctica, and the Treaty prohibiting nuclear deployment on the deep seabed, but, proceeding from their example, also seek to gain new regions exclusively for peaceful use.

IV

I have recently had occasion—in particular when addressing the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development—to express my concerns about the problem-filled state of the world economy. It is evident from the discussions at the seventh session of UNCTAD and the preceding session of the Council that many of these concerns are shared by Member States. The world economy is growing much slower in the 1980s than in the previous two decades; the world financial system remains in the shadow of crisis because of the debt problem and volatile exchange rates; world trade in this decade has been under the greatest threat of protectionism since the 1930s, notwithstanding the wide advocacy of a liberal trading

system; and international prices of primary commodities have dropped to their lowest level in real terms in the last 50 years. Economic growth, finance and trade are crucial elements for raising world standards of living; yet these elements have been faltering.

As a result, per capita incomes are lower today in the developing countries than they were at the beginning of the decade and unemployment in developed market economies in the 1980s has averaged twice the level of the 1970s. In 1986, 850 million people lived in countries that experienced no increase in per capita output.

The picture is not totally bleak. Inflation, once an almost universal scourge, has been brought under control or eliminated in a large number of countries. A few developing countries, both large and small, have been experiencing a sustained period of rapid economic growth. On the whole, however, the state of the global economy is highly unsatisfactory.

I find it important that in these circumstances a greater understanding has emerged of the interrelationship among economic and social problems. Because of this interrelationship, many of these problems cannot be successfully dealt with in isolation. The complex requirements of sustained development on which future conditions of life in both developing and developed countries so heavily depend have been the subject of intensive pragmatic examination. The report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, aptly titled "Our Common Future", prepared at the request of the General Assembly by experts of varied geographical and political backgrounds, defines with great clarity some of the interrelationships that must be taken into account in developing and implementing sound economic and social policies. There has also been movement towards greater integration of differing economic and trade systems, a distancing from rigidity in conforming with doctrine. I believe this trend is evident in a number of instances during the past months in which Member States approached problems in the economic area from a pragmatic perspective taking account of the capacities offered by the United Nations.

At the seventh session of UNCTAD, the participating countries agreed by consensus on a Final Act that constitutes a very comprehensive statement on the issues facing the world economy and on the policies and measures required to address them. The substantive results of the Conference could foreshadow a significant advance towards the revitalization of development, economic growth and international trade. A constructive outcome, I would note, was by no means a foregone conclusion. A common interest in success prevailed, strengthened by the force of reason in moving forward realistically in many ways, for example, in a growth-oriented debt strategy; in balancing the need for sustainable non-inflationary growth in the developed world and for an environment supportive of growth in the developing world; and in giving impetus to international co-operation in commodities. The purposefulness and flexibility shown by all participating groups in reaching consensus within the framework of a United Nations conference are promising signs for constructive, pragmatic multilateral co-operation in the economic field.

The results reached at the seventh session of UNCTAD can have a significant bearing not least on the critical economic situation in Africa. I must point out, in this connection, that implementation on the part of donors and creditors of the understanding reached at the thirteenth special session of the General Assembly, in 1986, on approaches to adjustment and external debt in Africa has been slow and uncertain. Many African countries have begun to make sharp and wide-ranging adjustment efforts in specific sectors, especially agriculture, and in overall economic management. But the international community has been less forthcoming with an intensified financial resource flow. Because the economic reforms were being undermined in

many countries, I established, after consultations with interested Governments and the managements of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, a group of high-level advisers from various regions and charged them with reporting to me before the end of this year on concrete ways to improve the financial situation of African countries. I believe that the recommendations of this Advisory Group on Financial Flows to Africa can encourage further efforts realistically conceived for specific situations.

Other recent steps towards improving the African situation are encouraging. In the Paris Club, debt to official creditors has begun to be rescheduled on considerably more generous terms for selected countries. Proposals to increase net resource flows through the International Monetary Fund and other multilateral agencies are also being discussed with a greater sense of urgency. What we must ensure is that a comprehensive approach to the financing problem results, one that will accelerate Africa's implementation of its priority programme for adjustment and place the region on a path to more rapid development.

A highly significant agreement has been reached among a number of Member States, both signatories and non-signatories to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, settling conflicts that had occurred in the claims they had put forward for deep sea-bed mine sites. This agreement, reflecting as it does a realistic assessment of shared interests in orderly exploitation of the resources of the deep sea-bed, should contribute to wider acceptance of the Convention's sea-bed regime. The United Nations, through the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, has now taken the historic step of registering for the first time a sea-bed claim—that of India—and reserved an equivalent area for international exploitation. The Convention, which is now poised somewhat precariously at mid-point with 34 of the required 60 ratifications, has, of course, far more than economic significance. The Convention's first purpose is to prevent conflicts over the space, the uses, and the resources of the seas and oceans. The ocean-related nature of recent tensions and hostilities in several areas serves as a constant reminder of the need for full acceptance of this major legal instrument. I would hope that the same realistic assessment of common interests that led to the agreement on mining sites and opened the way for the first site registration will bring the ratification of, or accession to, the Convention by those States that have not yet done so.

I believe that it is also symptomatic of a more pragmatic approach in the fields of trade and development that Member States have increasingly sought the assistance of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in developing national legislation to facilitate their integration into the growing transnational sector of the global economy. Through its advisory and information services, the Centre actively helps countries in dealing with the various ways in which the integration process can proceed. This process would be much facilitated by the increased predictability and stability that a code of conduct for transnational corporations could bring. A large measure of agreement on a draft has existed for some time. I would hope that before another year passes a final text will be approved.

V

It must be a continuing purpose of the United Nations to encourage universal respect for human rights and bring to this and to other major social problems the force of international co-operation. Respect for human rights is part—and an important part—of the dynamic process of building a

peaceful world. I seek, in my capacity as Secretary-General, continually to promote such respect and to ensure that the Secretariat carries out its important responsibilities in this area with full effectiveness. I believe that the activities of the United Nations, aimed at bringing the widest compliance with the Universal Declaration of Human-Rights and the other United Nations human rights instruments, have, despite financial constraints, gathered further momentum this past year. The growing international participation in dealing with human rights issues, especially the dedicated, energetic efforts of non-governmental organizations, are having a positive effect. Open debate about situations of concern now takes place regularly in various United Nations bodies meeting at different times of the year, and fact-finding into specific situations is done on an ongoing basis. I would urge that in those cases where full co-operation has been denied the Government concerned give renewed consideration to the matter. I believe the advisory services of the United Nations with growing emphasis on national human rights systems are of special importance in this respect. Technical assistance from the United Nations has proven useful in the development of means for concrete, practical action.

With the establishment of the United Nations, respect for human rights throughout the world was recognized for the first time as the legitimate concern of the international community. In these past four decades, violations of human rights have-not been eliminated, but very real progress has been achieved. The world now is alert to infringements of human rights as never before. Their occurrence in any systematic form does not go unnoticed. The United Nations is an important factor in ensuring this is the case. I believe we are seeing evidence now of the Organization's importance, also as a forum for concerted action aimed at encouraging rectification of unsatisfactory human rights situations wherever they may be. This is the direction in which we must move with a unified sense of purpose. We now are approaching the fortieth-anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. I would urge that, in order to increase yet further the benefits brought by that seminal Declaration, the complementary instruments agreed in the United Nations, further defining the rights to which all are entitled and providing procedures to encourage respect for them, be universally ratified and rigorously observed.

In the area of social concerns, I would point to two noteworthy instances in which Member States in past months have joined in constructive efforts to meet serious global threats. In June of this year, 138 nations of every political orientation and every stage of economic development gathered together at Vienna in a Conference convened by the United Nations at my suggestion to combat drug abuse throughout the world. In 10 days of harmonious, purposeful discussions, the delegates drew up a 35 point plan for a comprehensive, international attack on this scourge. The Conference was both a negotiation and a market-place of ideas and technology. It afforded a glimpse of a workable future in which nations set aside fundamental differences and polemics to face squarely a common threat. There needs now to be a sustained and well coordinated follow-up, nationally, internationally, and in the United Nations system, imbued with this same dedication and realism. The United Nations is already playing a major role in countering drug abuse, being particularly effective in providing technical assistance to developing countries. The recent substantial growth in the resources of the Fund for Drug Abuse Control has permitted the geographical expansion of its programmes. It now receives support from all political and regional groupings—further evidence of jointly accepted responsibility to fight together against a common threat.

Drug abuse can and does undermine the fabric of societies and ruin the lives of uncounted individuals. Degradation of the environment can prejudice life itself and the means of livelihood

for all. In facing this threat, too, nations are working together in common purpose within the framework of the United Nations. Spurred by the alarming discovery that there is a hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica, Member States, acting under the provisions of the Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, adopted at Vienna on 22 March 1985, this year registered willingness gradually to phase out chlorofluorocarbons even though for some this will involve painful short-term adjustments. The benefits of this action will be felt by all the world's inhabitants for succeeding generations.

The Secretariat needs to be structured in such a way as to support with maximum effectiveness the work of the United Nations in promoting respect for human rights and encouraging broad understanding of the social dimensions of global problems. The organization of the Secretariat should reflect the importance of these issues. Having this in mind, I have, as part of the broad reform measures now under way in the Secretariat, consolidated activities on social policy and social development in the United Nations Office at Vienna and on human rights in the United Nations Office at Geneva. This should permit the United Nations to serve Member States better and speak with a clearer and more coherent voice on these issues.

I am very happy to note the recognition expressed by many Member States of the skilful assistance rendered by the Secretariat in the instances of progress that I have mentioned in both the economic and social fields, for all of which the United Nations provided the necessary framework and often the catalyst as well.

VI

The more one reflects upon many of the economic and social issues of the day, the more apparent their multi-dimensional character becomes, involving close interaction between economic, social and, sometimes, political variables. The symbiosis of development, environment and population is beginning to be appreciated. We know that the remedy for drug abuse must be composed of many elements, economic, social and legal. Arms limitation efforts are hampered in some areas by social and economic factors that frequently invite violence and instability, as well as by political tensions. The interrelationship between disarmament, development and security is being usefully highlighted by the current United Nations Conference on the subject. In playing its essential part in dealing with this web of global problems, the United Nations system will need to be more fully integrated, and better able to follow priorities established for the system as a whole. It will be of ever greater importance that tasks be rationally distributed among the organizations of the system and that their capacities be used in complementary ways in order to gain maximum benefit from available resources to meet the growing needs of an ever more demanding world.

Today, there is no representative intergovernmental body in the United Nations that is able to provide authoritative guidance to Member States and to the organizations of the United Nations system with regard to priorities of global programmes, the allocation of responsibilities, and the utilization of assistance resources. Most of the specialized agencies and some of the organizations of the United Nations itself have governing bodies that meet at the ministerial level. Yet, the Economic and Social Council, which is charged in the Charter with co-ordination and policy formulation for the economic and social activities of the system, is not constituted by representatives of such authoritative rank. I believe this should be corrected. For optimum

effectiveness, the Council might become, in practice, a Council of Ministers for Economic and Social Affairs which would have the authority to review the medium-term plans or equivalent documents of all the organizations of the United Nations system, thus contributing to rational utilization of resources in the light of global priorities as defined by the Council and giving greater strength and coherence to the system as a whole. The Council, with an enhanced participation of the specialized agencies, could keep world economic and social developments under review and suggest modifications of programmes to meet changing circumstances and new exigencies. The cabinet-rank Council members, who might vary, or be augmented, according to the economic or social issue under consideration, would be able to speak with much greater authority than is the case. Given the orientation of such a Council, the present deliberative function of the Economic and Social Council might, in part or in whole, be assumed by the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly. This would require careful analysis.

This concept, if followed, would obviously lead to a radical change in the functioning of the Economic and Social Council, but I believe it might be more consonant with the original intent of the Charter than the way in which the Council has functioned until now. I put it forward in this report because I believe events of the past year have further shown the need for greater integration of United Nations activities to correspond with the need for more integrated approaches to problems in the economic and social fields. I hope that, along with other suggestions that have been made on this subject, it will stimulate early and serious consideration by Member States of the direction in which we should move. I feel compelled to state that in recent years the effectiveness of the Council in providing intellectual leadership and the needed co-ordination of United-Nations economic and social activities has been inadequate. I would add also that the incremental reforms undertaken over the years to improve the functioning of the Economic and Social Council have not had the desired effect. We need to focus on what the Council should do rather than on how it can better perform what it has been doing. It is now particularly important that the United Nations be so organized as to bring maximum benefit from what I believe is a nascent consensus among Member States in meeting global problems.

To encourage an integrated approach to problems and take advantage of the human resources of the system, I believe a small policy planning staff for development, which would include representatives of relevant specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, could also be of great value. Such a staff could consider integrated approaches to development-related problems and objectives that would take account of the capacities of the system as a whole.

VII

I am aware that the readiness of Governments to utilize the United Nations as the forum for dealing with many of the problems that I have outlined in the preceding sections of this report will depend in part upon their appreciation of its efficiency and effectiveness. Thus, I welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly, at its forty-first session, of resolution 41/213 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations—a step that could signify a major turning-point for the United Nations at this critical time. As I mentioned in my progress report to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination earlier this year, the objectives put forward by the Assembly in that resolution can only be achieved if Member States and the Secretariat face together our responsibilities. My views on the direct

relationship between any changes in the intergovernmental machinery and modification in the size, composition and work of the Secretariat staff are a matter of record.

The proposed programme budget for the forthcoming biennium that I have submitted to the General Assembly is 1.8 per cent less than the revised appropriation for the present biennium and reflects a number of the austerity measures that I have already taken. A rigorous programme-by-programme review has been launched in order to identify the specific functions where post reductions can best be accommodated. Secretariat structures in the political areas have been streamlined and more effectively organized, and a review of the economic and social sectors is under way. A restructuring of the Department of Administration and Management has been effected and substantial changes in the Department of Public Information are now being initiated. I am convinced that these measures will enhance the ability of the United Nations to discharge its responsibilities.

I must make clear that the necessary prolongation of austerity measures, including the freeze on staff recruitment and restrictions on meetings, has an adverse effect on programme implementation and on the Secretariat staff, although I have sought to minimize both. The mechanisms for staff-management consultations that have proven fruitful in the past have become especially important. In fact, the staff have been active partners in the search for the best means of implementing the reform measures mandated by the General Assembly. More effective communication between staff and management at the department level and at the Secretariat-wide level is still needed, however, to reinforce the co-operation shown in the face of the present critical situation.

With the staff reductions, significant financial savings to the regular budget will be realized. At the same time, these reductions can, in themselves, require special allocations of funds, and some additional resources will also be needed to strengthen the Secretariat through the provision of enhanced training, the improvement of career development prospects and the use of computer processing and office automation. We must also continue to design incentives to attract and retain highly talented staff in the service of the Organization with the equitable geographic distribution foreseen in the Charter and in the resolutions of the General Assembly. While the recruitment freeze will inevitably set back the rate of achievement of our earlier goals, special measures are being taken to ensure that competent women in the Secretariat attain senior-level positions through the promotion process. Our experience this past year has shown that much can be achieved in this manner. I have during this period appointed three women to posts at the rank of Under-Secretary-General.

The financial crisis which made necessary the austerity measures and encouraged the reforms that are now being implemented stemmed from more profound causes than dissatisfaction with the administrative efficiency of the United Nations. Deep-seated political differences gave rise to a turning away in some quarters from multilateralism and to the rejection by some Member States of adopted programmes. This led to the withholding of assessed contributions which, in combination with the late payment of assessments, brought about the present crisis. As I have described in the preceding sections of this report, there have been indications of a renewed recognition of the importance of the United Nations in facing global problems. The major contributor has reaffirmed the binding nature of budgetary assessments decided by the General Assembly. Many Member States have demonstrated their faith in the value of the United Nations

by providing financial assistance, some beyond their assessed contributions, in response to the acute need of the Organization.

In the light of these developments and the reforms that are in progress, I look forward to the early restoration of the financial soundness of the Organization. I must emphasize, however, that this has not yet occurred. There is as yet no assurance that payment of assessed contributions will meet the minimum austerity operating expenses. Orderly administrative management is seriously handicapped when there is uncertainty as to receipt of a significant portion of the regular programme budget. The reforms that are being implemented will do much to bring about the efficient organization in which Member States can have confidence. The financial viability and the operational effectiveness of the United Nations will depend primarily, however, on compliance by all Member States with the financial requirements of membership.

* * *

The pragmatic approach of Member States in seeking together solutions to economic and social problems and the unity displayed by the Security Council in recent weeks are developments which restore a vision of what can be accomplished through the United Nations in bringing a safer, more equitable, and more prosperous world. It is a vision that Member States need to reclaim. It may seem contradictory to speak at the same time of pragmatism and vision. I believe, however, that a vision without the definition of realistic means of approaching it can lead to disillusionment and cynicism. That, to a certain extent, is what has happened in the years since the United Nations was founded with a vision of peace.

The Charter of the United Nations defines the principles to be followed in gaining peace in the fullest meaning of what true peace entails. These principles have lost none of their relevance or validity. What has too often been lacking is the readiness of Member States to put aside national differences and national ambitions and work together within the United Nations in accordance with these principles towards common goals. It is my belief that the commonality factor, to which I referred as I began this report and which derives from a realistic assessment by Member States of national interests in the face of global challenges, can do much to bring this about. It is factually evident that these challenges, many of which I have mentioned, including, most important, the prevention of nuclear war, affect the security and wellbeing of all countries. It is a matter of their individual national interest to work together with others within a multilateral framework since the challenges cannot otherwise be successfully met. For the most part, they are by their nature susceptible primarily to pragmatic measures. In an ideologically divided world, this can provide a basis of unity in action, as I believe it has in some cases begun to do. In my expectation, countries that have the experience of putting aside national differences in dealing realistically with global threats to economic and social well-being will more easily do the same in seeking resolutions to political problems that can equally, and even more immediately, affect conditions of life on earth. In these circumstances, the relevance and potential of the United Nations increases as the existing and natural universal instrument for international cooperation on global problems.

The United Nations in its agenda has until now kept pace with global change. Indeed, on occasion, it has set the pace for such change. In the process, it has, perhaps, expanded at times beyond the limits of its managerial capacity and the availability of resources. The budgetary and

administrative reforms that are now under way should do much to correct those weaknesses that exist. There will remain, however, a need for the Organization to be ever attentive to the changing needs of a planet in flux and to be sensitive to the wisest ideas and counsel that the intellectual community of the world has to offer. For this, I am convinced that the United Nations must develop a greater capacity to associate with its global mission statesmen and scientists of the highest calibre from around the world. Such a partnership will, I believe, like the non-governmental organizations on which the effectiveness of the United Nations heavily depends, strengthen the United Nations as a vehicle through which the intellectual resources and the practical experience of the international community can be integrated in confronting the demands of the coming years. I shall do all that I can in the years ahead to develop and nurture such a n association.

The peaceful resolution of problems depends more than anything else on a convergence of interests. The past year has, I believe, been a time of clarification in this respect. I have no doubt that such convergence now exists on important issues confronting the world. The beginning, evident in the past year, of the translation of this convergence into practical agreements needs to be, and can be, pursued. in sustained dialogue and negotiations, and, I would urge, expanded in undertakings that bring together the capacities of nations for the common benefit of humanity. We must see this as a major element in the dynamic process of achieving peace—a process defined in the Charter and in which the United Nations has an indispensable role.



Javier PÉREZ DE CUÉLLAR
Secretary-General

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 15-93)

Disarmament

GENERAL ASPECTS, 15. COMPREHENSIVE APPROACHES TO DISARMAMENT, 19: UN disarmament bodies and their activities in 1987, 19; Follow-up to the General Assembly's special sessions on disarmament, 27; General and complete disarmament, 35; Comprehensive programme of disarmament, 38; Proposed world disarmament conference, 39. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, 40: Prevention of nuclear war, 41; Nuclear arms limitation and disarmament, 44; Cessation of nuclear-weapon tests, 50; Nuclear-weapon freeze, 55; Strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States, 56; Nuclear non-proliferation, 59. PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION OF OTHER WEAPONS, 68: Chemical and biological weapons, 68; New weapons of mass destruction, including radiological weapons, 72; Conventional weapons, 75; Prevention of an arms race in outer space, 78. OTHER DISARMAMENT ISSUES, 81: Reduction of military budgets, 81; Conference on the relationship between disarmament and development, 82; Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, 84. INFORMATION AND STUDIES, 85: World Disarmament Campaign, 85; Disarmament Week, 89; Disarmament studies and research, 90; Parties and signatories to disarmament agreements, 92.

The international community welcomed the signing, on 8 December 1987, of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles—the second arms regulation agreement since the Second World War involving the actual elimination of existing weapons, the other being the 1971 convention banning biological weapons.

The International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development (New York, 24 August-11 September) adopted by consensus a 35-paragraph Final Document, in which the 150 participating States asserted that global military expenditures were in dramatic contrast to economic and social underdevelopment and to the misery and poverty afflicting more than two thirds of humanity, and called for fostering an interrelated perspective on disarmament, development and security.

At its 1987 session, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee, adopted 62 resolutions and two decisions on a wide range of arms limitation and disarmament matters.

The 40-nation Conference on Disarmament, the multilateral negotiating body in Geneva, continued to experience differences in positions and approaches on such long-standing agenda items as a nuclear-weapon-test ban, to the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament, and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. It was also unable to reach agreement on its items on radiological weapons and a comprehensive programme of disarmament. Some progress, however, was reported in its ongoing negotiations for an agreement banning chemical weapons. The Disarmament Commission, a deliberative body composed of all United Nations Member States, took on in 1987 two new agenda items—issues related to conventional disarmament and the question of verification in all aspects.

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

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 94-105)

Peaceful uses of outer space

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND LAW, 94: Space science and technology, 94; Space law, 100.
SPACECRAFT LAUNCHINGS, 105

During 1987, international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space continued to be considered by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (Committee on outer space), by its Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee and Legal Sub-Committee, and by the General Assembly.

The Committee on outer space held its thirtieth session in New York from 1 to 11 June and, in December, the Assembly endorsed its recommendations in resolution 42/68. The Assembly again urged all States, particularly those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space, as an essential condition for promoting international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

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. 106-113)

Law of the sea

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, 106; Preparatory Commission, 108; Functions of the Secretary-General, 111.

In 1987, agreement was reached settling conflicts that had arisen in overlapping claims by a number of Member States to deep sea-bed mining sites. The agreement was followed by the registration of India as the first pioneer investor in the international sea-bed "Area" (the sea-bed beyond national jurisdiction) under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and later by the registration of France, Japan and the USSR as pioneer investors.

The Secretary-General, terming the agreement highly significant (see p. 9), stated that it reflected a realistic assessment of shared interests in orderly exploitation of deep sea-bed resources and should contribute to wider acceptance of the Convention's sea-bed regime. However, the Convention had far more than economic significance, he said. Its first purpose was to prevent conflicts over the space, the uses and the resources of the seas and oceans; the ocean-related nature of recent tensions and hostilities in several areas served as a constant reminder of the need for its full acceptance. During the year, ratifications of the Convention increased from 32 to 35.

In November, the General Assembly, by resolution 42/20, also expressed satisfaction at the successful resolution of conflicts of overlaps in the claims of applicants and potential ones for registration as pioneer investors and at the historic decision to register the first such investor.

In March, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea was renamed the Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, with the responsibility of combining its activities in marine affairs with most of those previously carried out by other Secretariat bodies.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: naval arms race. Transport: maritime transport. Natural resources: marine resources. Environment: marine ecosystems. International Court of Justice: land, island and maritime frontier dispute between El Salvador and Honduras. Other legal questions: UN Programme for the teaching and study of international law. International Maritime Organization.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 114-124)

International peace and security

STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, 114: Implementation of the 1970 Declaration, 114; Implementation of the 1978 Declaration on societies and peace, 116; Comprehensive system of international peace and security, 117. REVIEW OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, 120. INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE (1986), 122.

The international security situation during the past year had been far from static, the Secretary-General noted in September 1987 (see p. 3). While major conflicts had persisted and neither the number nor the lethal quality of arms had been reduced, initiatives had been taken, negotiations had been carried forward and the Security Council had acted in ways that in themselves constituted hopeful change. Within the meaning of the Charter of the United Nations, the Council could in future make fuller use of possibilities, including peace-keeping forces, to head off violence and facilitate the resolution of disputes before armed conflict occurred, he stated.

The General Assembly's continuing concern with regard to the international situation was reflected in five 1987 resolutions. The Assembly urged States to prevent the further deterioration of the international situation, stressing that the effectiveness of the Security Council in maintaining international peace and security should be enhanced (resolution 42/92). It urged States to focus their efforts on ensuring integral universal security through peaceful political means, reaffirmed that they should adhere strictly to the fundamental principles of international law and called on them to strengthen the United Nations as an instrument for maintaining international peace (42/93).

The Assembly requested the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations to resume work in 1988 on a comprehensive review of peacekeeping operations (42/161). It urged States to continue their efforts to implement the 1978 Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace (42/91), and urged Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to persevere in developing initiatives related to the objectives of the International Year of Peace, which had been observed in 1986 (42/13).

The maintenance of international peace and security was also considered 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. International organizations and international law: strengthening the role of the United Nations.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter V (pp. 125-184)

Africa

SOUTH AFRICA AND APARTHEID, 125: General aspects, 126; Other international action to eliminate apartheid, 130; Relations with South Africa, 132; Situation in South Africa, 153; Apartheid in sports, 159; Aid programmes and inter-agency co-operation, 159; Other aspects, 161. SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FRONT-LINE AND OTHER STATES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, 163: Angola-South Africa relations and South African occupation of Angola, 167; Botswana-South Africa relations, 174; Mozambique-South Africa relations, 175; South Africa-Zambia armed incidents, 176. CHAD-LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA DISPUTE, 176. BURKINA FASO-MALI DISPUTE, 179. ETHIOPIA-SUDAN DISPUTE, 179. COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE, 179. MALAGASY ISLANDS QUESTION, 181. UN EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA, 181. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN OAU AND THE UN SYSTEM, 182.

In 1987, the United Nations continued to consider and act on a number of political issues in Africa, in particular on South Africa's apartheid policy and its aggression against neighbouring States. It was also kept informed about other conflicts among African States.

The question of apartheid was debated in particular by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Special Committee against Apartheid, but also by a number of other bodies. The Assembly adopted eight resolutions dealing with South Africa's apartheid policies, which, being similar in content to those of previous years, showed the continuing agreement among the majority of Member States on apartheid and on the Organization's role in the struggle for its abolition. The Council took up the situation in South Africa in February and, in April, expressed its concern about a South African decree restricting political protests.

After repeated Angolan charges of South African aggression against its territory, the Security Council in November condemned South Africa for its aggression and called for the immediate withdrawal of its troops from Angola. It reiterated that position in December, when it also condemned South Africa for delaying its withdrawal. The Council was further informed by other southern African States-Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia-about alleged aggressive acts of South Africa against them.

The territorial dispute between Chad and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya continued in 1987 with each alleging aggression by the other. Ethiopia and the Sudan also exchanged charges of interference in their internal affairs.

The General 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. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: critical economic situation in Africa. Regional economic and social activities: Africa. Social and cultural development: critical social situation in Africa. Environment. Human rights: human rights violations in South Africa and Namibia. Refugees and displaced persons: Africa. Namibia. International Court of Justice: frontier dispute between Burkina Faso and Mali.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter VI (pp. 185-197)

Americas

CENTRAL AMERICA SITUATION, 185: Nicaragua situation, 190. OTHER QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE AMERICAS, 194.

A genuine momentum for peace, created by the region's leaders in pragmatic response to the basic needs of their peoples, appeared to exist in Central America, observed the Secretary-General in 1987. He was referring to an agreement reached in August by the Presidents of five Central American countries (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua) on the procedure to be followed for establishing peace in the region.

The General Assembly, in October, expressed support for the agreement, called on the Presidents to continue their peace efforts, welcomed the Secretary-General's acceptance of an invitation to participate in the International Verification and Follow-up Commission set up under the agreement and requested him to afford full support to the Central American Governments (resolution 42/1). Also in October, it invited the Secretary-General to expand co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS) and urged the United Nations system to collaborate with him in that regard (resolution 42/11).

In November and December, the Assembly adopted two resolutions relating to Nicaragua: in one it called for United States compliance with the 1986 Judgment of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in respect of military and paramilitary activities against Nicaragua (42/18); in the other it deplored the continuation of the United States trade embargo against that country (42/176).

Twenty-five Member States informed the Secretary-General that, although a previously inscribed item on the observance of the quincentenary of the discovery of America was not on the Assembly's 1987 agenda, they felt the United Nations could not remain uninvolved in the observance of the anniversary in 1992.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: nuclear-weapon-free zone—Latin America. Regional economic and social activities: Latin America. Human rights violations: Latin America. Refugees and displaced persons: Latin America and the Caribbean. Other colonial Territories: Falkland Islands (Malvinas). International Court of Justice: military and paramilitary activities in and against Nicaragua; border and trans-border armed actions (Nicaragua v. Costa Rica), (Nicaragua v. Honduras); frontier dispute between El Salvador and Honduras.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter VII (pp. 198-237) Asia and the Pacific

EAST ASIA, 198: Korean question, 198. SOUTH-EAST ASIA, 200: Kampuchea situation, 200; International security in South-East Asia, 207; China-Viet Nam dispute, 208; Lao People's Democratic Republic-Thailand dispute, 208; Thailand-Viet Nam dispute, 209. WESTERN AND SOUTH-WESTERN ASIA, 210: Afghanistan situation, 210; Iran-Iraq armed conflict, 217.

In Asia and the Pacific, the Iran-Iraq conflict and the situations in Afghanistan and Kampuchea remained the major concerns of the United Nations during 1987.

Meantime, the United Nations Command continued to monitor the 1953 Armistice Agreement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea. The Secretary-General reported that in the past year a series of proposals had emanated from both sides for resuming talks on contentious issues (see p. 5).

Efforts to resolve the Afghanistan situation had reached an advanced stage, according to the Secretary-General, with lengthy negotiations aimed at finding a settlement. The Secretary-General's personal representative held two rounds of talks with the Foreign Ministers of Afghanistan and Pakistan. In November, the General Assembly adopted resolution 42/15, reaffirming the Afghan people's right to determine their own future and calling for the immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan. Throughout the year, Afghanistan and Pakistan each reported armed attacks by the other.

Some signs of movement were detected by the Secretary-General towards a settlement of the Kampuchean problem. Missions of consultation were sent to the region by the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea, while Democratic Kampuchea underscored its 1986 peace proposal and Viet Nam stated that it was ready to meet with the different Kampuchean factions. In October, the Assembly, by resolution 42/3, reiterated what it saw as the principal components of a just and lasting solution of the question. Border incidents in South-East Asia, involving Kampuchea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam, continued to be reported.

As for the Iran-Iraq conflict, the Secretary-General stressed that he was endeavouring to implement the Security Council's 1986 mandate calling for an immediate cease-fire. Large-scale military operations continued, as the Council addressed various aspects of the conflict four times during the year. In January, the Council's members appealed to the parties to comply with the cease-fire call. In May, following a specialists' report on the repeated use of chemical weapons, the Council demanded a halt to their use and condemned the prolongation of the conflict. In July, by resolution 598(1987), the Council again demanded a cease-fire and the withdrawal of all forces to internationally recognized boundaries to be supervised by United Nations observers. In December, the Council's members expressed their concern over the lack of progress in consultations with Iran and Iraq.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: zones of peace—Indian Ocean region and South-East Asia. Regional economic and social activities: Asia and the Pacific. Human rights: human rights violations—Asia and the Pacific. Refugees and humanitarian assistance: East Asia; South Asia; Oceania; South-West Asia.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter VIII (pp. 238-252) Mediterranean

CYPRUS QUESTION, 238: Peace-keeping and humanitarian assistance, 246. OTHER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION, 248.

In 1987, political issues in the Mediterranean continued to centre on Cyprus and the tensions surrounding relations between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the United States. Concerning security and co-operation in the Mediterranean, the General Assembly expressed concern over the persistent tension there and urged all States to reduce it and promote peace in the area.

Regarding Cyprus, the Secretary-General noted that a deadlock existed in his efforts to restart effective negotiations between the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots; distrust between the leaderships of the two communities remained deep; tension had risen over the question of Varosha; a potentially dangerous military buildup was taking place on the island; and the Governments contributing troops to the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) were increasingly dissatisfied at the growing financial burden they had to bear and at the lack of progress on the political front. The Secretary-General continued to explore with both parties certain measures that would create confidence between them, in the hope that that would make it possible to resume the negotiating process. However, at year's end both sides remained divided on how to move forward. The Secretary-General believed that at stake was the goal of a federal republic of Cyprus, non-aligned and enjoying sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity (see p. 6).

Expressing its strong support for the Secretary-General's good offices mission, the Security Council twice extended the stationing of UNFICYP.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: Chad-Libyan Arab Jamahiriya dispute. Human rights: Cyprus.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter IX (pp. 253-342)

Middle East

MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, 254: Proposed peace conference, 258; United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, 262; Credentials of Israel, 262. PALESTINE QUESTION, 263: Public information activities, 267; Jerusalem, 268; Assistance to Palestinians, 270. INCIDENTS AND DISPUTES BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL, 273: Iraq and Israel, 273; Lebanon, 274; Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic, 288. FINANCING OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCES, 290: UNDOF financing, 290; UNIFIL financing, 292; Review of reimbursement rates to troop contributors, 295. TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL, 296: Fourth Geneva Convention, 308; Palestinian detainees, 309; Israeli settlements, 311; Expulsion and deportation of Palestinians, 313; Israeli measures against educational institutions, 315; Golan Heights, 317; Living conditions of Palestinians, 321. PALESTINE REFUGEES, 325: UN Agency for Palestine refugees, 325; Other aspects, 330.

Throughout 1987, the search for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict was vigorously pursued by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other bodies of the United Nations. Despite repeated calls for an international peace conference under United Nations auspices, again endorsed by the Assembly, and a special effort towards convening it on the part of the Secretary-General at the beginning of the year, no agreement on either the principle or the procedures of such a conference had been reached by year's end.

Meanwhile, the main aspects of the Middle East situation continued to be considered, including the Palestine question, incidents and disputes involving individual Arab States and Israel, the situation of the Palestinians in the territories occupied by Israel, the United Nations peace-keeping forces that remained in place in the Golan Heights and in Lebanon, and the Palestine refugees.

The Palestine question was kept under review by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (Committee on Palestinian rights), which gave priority to the convening of the proposed conference as a means to secure United Nations objectives on the question. The Assembly endorsed the Committee's call for urgent Security Council action on its original (1976) recommendations and for constructive efforts to bring about the conference. In addition, the Assembly again determined that Israel's decision to impose its laws and administration on Jerusalem was null and void.

During the year, the Security Council twice extended the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), each time for a six-month period. The Council also reiterated its support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries. UNIFIL remained unable to fulfil its mandate-to confirm the withdrawal of Israel from Lebanon, restore international peace and security and assist the Lebanese Government to ensure the return of its effective authority in the area. In his report on UNIFIL operations, the Secretary-General stated that the main problem lay in Israel's refusal to withdraw completely from Lebanon and its insistence on maintaining its "security zone" in that country's territory for protection against attacks launched from Lebanon.

The Council similarly twice extended the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), which continued to supervise the observance of the cease-fire between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic in the Golan Heights and to ensure that there were no military forces in the area of separation between the two countries. The Assembly again declared null and void Israel's 1981 decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration in the Golan Heights.

The Secretary-General drew attention to the chronic shortfall in contributions to the two peacekeeping forces, emphasizing the increasingly heavy burden which that situation placed on the troop-contributing States. Besides retaining the current standard rates of reimbursement to them, the Assembly in December approved appropriations for UNDOF operations up to 31 May 1988 and for UNIFIL operations up to 31 January 1988.

The territories occupied by Israel—the West Bank of the Jordan River, including East Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights—were the subject of Assembly resolutions demanding that Israel desist from certain policies and practices, comply with the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, desist from changing the territories' legal status and demographic composition, and rescind its expulsion of Palestinian leaders as well as its measures against Palestinian detainees and educational institutions. Israeli practices violating human rights in the territories were also the subject of action by the Commission on Human Rights.

A deteriorating situation of the Palestinian inhabitants of the territories was reported by the Committee on Palestinian rights and by the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (Committee on Israeli practices). The Security Council convened urgently in December to consider what was described in the debate as the ongoing wave of violence or uprising in the territories; it called on Israel to desist from its policies and practices, in particular the opening of fire by its army, killing and wounding defenceless Palestinians.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) continued its programme of assistance to Palestine refugees, who in 1987 numbered over 2.2 million and were living in Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, Jordan, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The emergency conditions under which UNRWA had to operate in Lebanon owing to continual outbreaks of violence and fighting posed severe challenges. The Council issued an appeal in February for a cease-fire and another in March to all parties concerned to facilitate delivery of emergency relief to the besieged refugee camps. UNRWA operations in the occupied territories, particularly in the West Bank and Gaza, were seriously affected by developments there in December.

Also, during the year, a draft programme of assistance for Palestinians was prepared, which the Economic and Social Council and the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to implement in co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: nuclear-weapon-free zones—Middle East. International peace and security: review of peacekeeping operations. Human settlements and political, economic and social issues: homeless Palestinians—in the Israeli-occupied territories, in Lebanon. Human rights: human rights violations—Middle East. Refugees and displaced persons: refugee assistance and protection—Middle East, North Africa and South-West Asia. Legal aspects of international political relations: non-use of force in international relations; prevention of terrorism.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter X (pp. 343-360)

Other political questions

INFORMATION, 343: Mass communication, 343; UN public information, 346. ZONE OF PEACE, 354. RADIATION EFFECTS, 356. ANTARCTICA, 357.

Other political questions considered by the General Assembly during 1987 included issues relating to information, the South Atlantic, Antarctica and atomic radiation.

The Assembly requested that the 1987 recommendations of the Committee on Information be implemented within existing resources (resolution 42/162 A) and called on Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other groups to contribute to the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (42/162 B).

The Assembly called on all States to co-operate in the promotion of the South Atlantic as a zone of peace (42/16). It appealed to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to exclude South Africa from their meetings (42/46 A) and called on them to impose a moratorium on the negotiations to establish a minerals regime on Antarctica until such time as all members of the international community could participate fully in such negotiations (42/46 B). It requested the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation to continue its work to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation (42/67).

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: public information. Africa: South Africa and apartheid—public information. Middle East: Palestine question—public information. General questions relating to colonial countries: the 1960 Declaration on colonial countries—information dissemination. Namibia: information dissemination. Other administrative and management questions: information systems and computers.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter XI (pp. 361-371)

Institutional machinery

SECURITY COUNCIL, 361. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 363. SECRETARY-GENERAL, 367. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, 368. OTHER INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS, 371.

During 1987, the Security Council held a total of 49 meetings, 26 of which were devoted to the situation in South Africa and related questions, 11 to the Middle East and related questions, five to the election of members to the International Court of Justice, two to the application of Nauru to become a party to the Court's Statute, two to extending the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, two to the situation between Iran and Iraq, and one (private) to consideration of the Council's draft report to the General Assembly.

The Assembly resumed and concluded its forty-first session in 1987 and held the major part of its forty-second session, with 144 items on its agenda. On 21 December, the Assembly suspended that session, retaining six items on the agenda (decision 42/460).

The Secretary-General stated (see p. 13) that it was a matter of Member States' individual national interest to work together within a multilateral framework since global challenges could not otherwise be successfully met. Countries that had the experience of putting aside national differences in dealing with global threats to economic and social well-being would more easily do the same in seeking resolutions to political problems.

During the year, the Secretary-General continued to exercise his good offices towards resolving the situations involving Afghanistan, Cyprus, the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Iran and Iraq, and Kampuchea. In November, he was asked by the Assembly to make available his good offices with regard to the question of the Comorian island of Mayotte.

The Assembly, in October, requested continued co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (resolution 42/4) and the League of Arab States (42/5). Also in October, it invited the African Development Bank to participate in its work in the capacity of observer (42/10).

As there were no new admissions to the United Nations during 1987, its membership remained at 159. On the decision of its Government, the formal and official designation of Saint Christopher and Nevis was changed to Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: Comorian island of Mayotte; co-operation between OAU and the UN system. Americas: cooperation with OAS. Asia and the Pacific: Iran-Iraq armed conflict. Mediterranean: Cyprus question. Middle East: credentials of Israel. Regional economic and social activities: Africa-cooperation between the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference and the United Nations; Latin America and the Caribbean-cooperation between the Latin American Economic System and the United Nations. Institutional arrangements: Economic and Social Council-cooperation with other organizations. Other colonial Territories: Falkland Islands (Malvinas). International organizations and international law: strengthening the role of the United Nations. Other administrative and management questions: calendar of meetings.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 373-397)

Development policy and international economic co-operation

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, 374: Development and economic co-operation, 374; Economic co-operation among developing countries, 382. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRENDS AND POLICY, 383. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, ADMINISTRATION, EDUCATION AND INFORMATION, 385. RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 388. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, 389.

The slow growth path in which the world economy appeared to be set and the likelihood of its delaying the great adjustment required at the national and international levels was the subject of discussion in several United Nations bodies during 1987. In major economic reports, the international debt situation and high unemployment rates were identified as serious problems which had been exacerbated by the economic slow-down.

The Secretary-General said that economic growth, finance and trade were crucial elements for raising world standards of living, yet those elements had been faltering (see p. 8). On the whole, although inflation had been brought under control or eliminated in a large number of countries and a few developing countries had experienced a sustained period of rapid economic growth, the state of the global economy was highly unsatisfactory. Under the circumstances, he said, it was important that a greater understanding had emerged of the interrelationship among economic and social problems, many of which could not be dealt with in isolation.

The seventh (July/August) session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VII) (see p. 465) undertook an assessment of economic trends and of global structural change and, in its Final Act, agreed that multilateral economic co-operation should be a continuing endeavour from which important benefits could be expected for the development process and for the world economy as a whole.

With the end of the decade in sight, the General Assembly decided that in 1988 it would consider action to assess the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (the 1980s) and begin preparations for a strategy for the fourth decade (the 1990s). Following consideration of the Secretary-General's report on international economic security, the Assembly asked him to continue his efforts to enhance the United Nations capacity to focus on problems in the world economy to assist Governments to take concerted measures, particularly to solve development problems of developing countries. The Assembly also considered his report on economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries and called on the international community to take action to eliminate the use of such measures, which had increased and taken new forms.

Although the question of launching global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development, originally scheduled to start in 1980, remained on the Assembly's agenda, no progress was made. It was therefore decided to consider the matter again in 1988. The proposed new international economic order, including its legal aspects, continued to be discussed.

The World Economic Survey 1987, which analysed current trends and policies in the world economy, was the background document for the annual discussion in the Economic and Social Council of international economic and social policy. The Trade and Development Report, 1987 also addressed developments in the world economy and devoted considerable attention to the issue of technology, growth and trade. At its annual meeting, the Committee for Development Planning (CDP) was concerned with the constraints imposed by and opportunities available in a changing global economy.

In May, the Economic and Social Council emphasized the catalytic role of the United Nations programme in public administration and finance and invited the United Nations Development Programme and donor countries to provide funds to implement the Action Programme in Public Administration for Sub-Saharan Africa. It also asked the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on a draft declaration on local self-government. In July, the Council invited United Nations organizations to provide opportunities to exchange experience and information on the role of the public sector in the economic and social development of developing countries.

The problems of the least developed countries (LDCs) were a major focus of UNCTAD VII. Based on recommendations by UNCTAD VII and the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board, the Assembly decided to convene a second United Nations conference on LDCs in 1990. In December, on the recommendation of CDP and the Economic and Social Council, the Assembly added Burma to the United Nations list of LDCs, bringing the total to 41. The problems of land-locked developing countries were also considered by the Assembly, which urged international development bodies to expand their support, including technical assistance programmes in the transport and communications sectors of those countries.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: disarmament and development. Operational activities for development. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: critical economic situation in Africa. 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. Health and human resources: human resources development. Human rights: right to development. Women: women and development. Statistics: economic statistics. International economic law: legal aspects of the new international economic order.

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Chapter II (pp. 398-435)

Operational activities for development

GENERAL ASPECTS, 398: Financing of operational activities, 404; Inter-agency co-operation, 406. TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION THROUGH UNDP, 406: UNDP Governing Council, 408; UNDP operational activities, 410; Programme planning and management, 415; Financing, 416; Staff-related matters, 422. OTHER TECHNICAL COOPERATION, 423: UN programmes, 423; United Nations Volunteers, 426; Technical co-operation among developing countries, 428. UN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, 434.

In 1987, a total of \$6.3 billion in net transfers of concessional assistance for development, in the form of concessional loans and grants to developing countries, was channelled through the United Nations system. Such assistance focused on the poorest countries, with 40 per cent being provided to countries classified as least developed.

Case-studies were carried out on the functioning of the system's operational activities. Having reviewed the studies, the General Assembly requested the United Nations Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation to ensure effective leadership of the system in that area and to exercise overall coordination to provide a multidisciplinary approach to development problems (resolution 42/196).

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) -the central funding and co-ordinating body in the system in matters of technical cooperation -saw another record year in 1987 with contributions and pledges estimated at \$1.1 billion. Complementing that surge in income, the number of project approvals rose by 29 per cent and their value rose by 54 per cent. Expenditures from UNDP central resources totalled \$934.4 million, of which \$702.1 million was spent on field programme activities. The year was the first of the fourth programming cycle (1987-1991) and, against a background of global economic uncertainty and heavy indebtedness, most programmes featured more efficient economic management and promotion of greater agricultural and industrial production.

The United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development delivered some \$136 million in project expenditures, a drop of 7 per cent compared with 1986, a record year. Significant progress was made during the year in support of human resources development. Also noteworthy were the increasing efforts to coordinate research and development in energy programmes and to stimulate investment follow-up, as well as to promote contacts with nongovernmental organizations and interaction between operational activities and research analysis.

The United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) expanded in 1987 with 1,269 volunteers in service. The thrust of UNV assistance was aimed at such sectors as agriculture, education and health, and priority continued to be accorded to the least developed countries.

In May, the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC) held its fifth session and adopted decisions on a range of issues. In July, the

Economic and Social Council endorsed the Committee's decisions and urged United Nations organizations to implement the 1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing TCDC and to inform UNDP of their activities in that regard (resolution 1987/88). In December, the Assembly endorsed the Council's action and asked that regional, interregional and global intergovernmental programming exercises for TCDC continue to be held and evaluated (resolution 42/179). The Assembly further requested United Nations organizations to ensure implementation of the High-level Committee's decisions (42/180).

In 1987, actual project expenditures by the United Nations Capital Development Fund totalled \$41.1 million, with an additional \$59.1 million approved in new commitments.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: aid programmes and inter-agency co-operation. Middle East: aid programmes for Palestinians. Development policy and international economic cooperation: economic co-operation among developing countries; special economic areas. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief. International trade and finance: UNCTAD technical cooperation and development finance. Regional economic and social activities: technical co-operation. Natural resources: United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration. Energy: energy resources development. Food: food aid. Science and technology: financing science and technology. Health and human resources: AIDS prevention and control; human resources development. Environment: terrestrial ecosystems. Women: women and development. Namibia: international assistance.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 436-463)

Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, 437: Critical economic situation in Africa, 437; Countries and areas in other regions, 447. DISASTERS, 451: Office of the UN Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, 452; Disaster relief efforts, 453; Disaster preparedness and prevention, 458. EMERGENCY RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE, 460.

In 1987, countries facing severe economic difficulties and those requiring aid for reconstruction, rehabilitation and development continued to receive special assistance from the United Nations system. Many of them were the least developed in the world, and assistance was often needed in the aftermath of natural or man-made disasters.

The General Assembly, by a December resolution on assistance to Benin, the Central African Republic, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, the Gambia, Madagascar, Nicaragua and Vanuatu (resolution 42/205) urgently appealed to all international organizations to continue and increase assistance in response to the reconstruction, economic recovery and development needs of those countries. The Assembly also requested continued assistance for Chad (resolution 42/200), and asked the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to organize a round-table meeting to formulate an emergency assistance programme to reconstruct and rehabilitate Chad's northern region and resettle persons displaced by war. The international community was also urged to increase assistance to the Central American countries (resolution 42/204) as a way of bolstering their efforts to achieve peace and development.

During the year, action by the international community was reviewed in response to the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990. In December, the Assembly called for necessary resource flows to African countries to implement the Programme of Action and established an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole to review and appraise it in 1988 (resolution 42/163). In his annual report on the work of the Organization (see p. 3), the Secretary-General said there should be a comprehensive approach to the problem of financial flows to Africa, one that would accelerate Africa's implementation of its priority programme for adjustment and place the region on a path to more rapid development.

The United Nations system, particularly the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator, continued to assist countries stricken by disasters. Recognizing the importance of reducing the impact of natural disasters, the Assembly designated the 1990s as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (resolution 42/169), the objective of which would be to reduce, through concerted international action, loss of life, property damage and social and economic disruption caused by natural disasters. The Secretary-General was asked by the Assembly (decision 42/433) to implement his recommendations concerning arrangements within the United Nations system for disaster and emergency assistance and co-ordination; his initiative in establishing a focal point in the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation to ensure effective response in disaster and other emergency situations was welcomed.

In other action, the Assembly asked the Secretary-General to mobilize international support and assistance to Maldives for disaster relief and the strengthening of its coastal defences in the aftermath of tidal waves (resolution 42/202).

In May, the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1987/14) urged Governments, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to support the implementation of a plan of action adopted by Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda to combat the effects of the prolonged drought and other related natural disasters in their countries. Member States, NGOs and the United Nations system were again asked to participate in alleviating the adverse effects of the drought in Somalia in a July Council resolution (1987/73). In May, the Council also called for assistance to Vanuatu following a February cyclone (resolution 1987/15) and to Ecuador following a devastating March earthquake (resolution 1987/17).

Both the Council and the Assembly (resolutions 1987/74 and 42/199, respectively) called for continued assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon. The Council asked Governments and concerned organs and organizations to provide contributions to alleviate the consequences of the 1986 earthquake in El Salvador (resolution 1987/16), a request which was echoed by the Assembly in December (resolution 42/203).

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: South Africa and the front-line and other States of southern Africa. Development and international economic co-operation: developing countries. Operational activities for development: technical co-operation through UNDP. Regional economic and social activities: Africa; Asia and the Pacific-environment. Environment: terrestrial ecosystems—desertification and drought control. Children, youth and aging persons: children—UNICEF programmes by region. Refugees and displaced persons.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 464-499)

International trade and finance

SEVENTH SESSION OF UNCTAD, 465. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN TRADE AND FINANCE, 468. INTERNATIONAL TRADE, 471: Trade policy, 471; Trade promotion and facilitation, 475; Commodities, 478. FINANCE, 484: Financial policy, 484; Trade-related finance, 494; Taxation, 496. PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNCTAD, 497: UNCTAD programme, 497; Organizational questions, 498.

Revitalization of development, growth and trade was the theme of the seventh (July/August) session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VII)—the major United Nations event in 1987 in the area of international trade and finance for development. Following wide-ranging discussions on all aspects of the difficult global economic situation in general, the Conference culminated in the adoption by consensus of a Final Act, which recommended policy approaches to deal with debt problems, resources for development and related monetary issues, commodities, international trade and the problems of the least developed countries.

In his annual report on the work of the Organization (see p. 9), the Secretary-General said the Final Act constituted a comprehensive statement on issues facing the world economy and measures needed to address them. The Conference's results could foreshadow a significant advance towards the revitalization of development, economic growth and international trade and, not least, could have a bearing on the critical economic situation in Africa.

In December, the General Assembly welcomed the Final Act as a step forward in co-operation, negotiation and the international dialogue on development and urged Governments to give full and prompt effect to the policies agreed to in it (resolution 42/175).

Having considered a major report by the Secretary-General on the net transfer of resources from developing to developed countries, the Economic and Social Council expressed alarm that in 1986 such transfers were of the order of \$118 billion in financial transfers and terms-of-trade losses, and emphasized the urgent need to reverse that transfer (resolution 1987/93). The Council asked the Secretary-General to report further on the issue in 1988 and, in December, the Assembly asked him, when preparing the report, to include a section on linkages between the net transfer from developing to developed countries and the attainment of the growth target for developing countries set in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (the 1980s) (decision 42/429).

UNCTAD VII carried out extensive discussions on international trade issues and agreed on action to be taken in the areas of protectionism and structural adjustment, preferences, trade liberalization, restrictive business practices, and trade relations between countries having different economic and social systems. Those issues were also taken up in other UNCTAD bodies: in March/April, the Trade and Development Board carried out its annual review of protectionism and structural adjustment; in the area of preferences, the Working Group on Rules of Origin under the generalized system of preferences met in November, while under the Global

System of Trade Preferences participating countries began to submit their request lists for concessions; an Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Trade and Economic Co-operation between Countries having Different Economic and Social Systems met in January and highlighted the fact that lack of information about the trade system and opportunities for trading with the socialist countries of Eastern Europe hampered the expansion of East-South trade; and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Restrictive Business Practices met in November/December and called on States to apply the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices.

UNCTAD VII urged countries to sign and/or accede to the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities. During 1987, seven additional States adhered to it, bringing the total to 99, nine above the requirement for the Agreement's entry into force; the third and final requirement to be met concerned directly contributed capital. With regard to individual commodities, the International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1987, was established by the United Nations Conference on Natural Rubber, and the International Sugar Agreement, 1987, was established by the International Sugar Conference. Meetings were also held on copper and tungsten. The Committee on Commodities met in February.

In the area of finance, a series of measures to deal with the external debt problems of developing countries were set out in UNCTAD VII's Final Act and endorsed in December (resolution 42/198) by the Assembly, which also stressed that increased flexibility should be applied in developing innovative approaches to, reduce developing countries' debt burden. The Assembly also expressed concern about the fluctuations which took place in late 1987 in the international financial and stock markets and their implications for the development of the developing countries (resolution 42/195).

The question of development finance was another main point of discussion at UNCTAD VII, whose Final Act stated that developed countries should renew their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance.

Other UNCTAD bodies which dealt with financial issues during 1987 were the Committee on Invisibles and Financing related to Trade, which devoted its March session to insurance questions, and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Compensatory Financing of Export Earnings Shortfalls, which met in September. The United Nations Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Co-operation in Tax Matters met in November/December.

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy and international economic co-operation. Transport. 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. 500-506) Transport and tourism

TRANSPORT, 500: Maritime transport, 500; Transport of dangerous goods, 502; Multimodal transport and technological developments, 503; Technical assistance and training, 504. TOURISM, 504.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) continued to deal with international transport issues, particularly maritime transport. In addition to reviewing the world situation and UNCTAD activities concerning maritime transport, UNCTAD subsidiary bodies and its secretariat focused on preparing draft articles for a convention on maritime liens and mortgages, monitoring progress made in establishing a Maritime Fraud Prevention Exchange, harmonizing regulations on the transport of dangerous goods and providing training assistance. For the first time, measures were considered to assist developing countries to achieve equitable participation in world shipping and increase trade relations among themselves.

In May, the Economic and Social Council considered a report on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and the new and amended recommendations approved by the Committee in 1986, especially those regarding the transport of environmentally hazardous substances. The Council requested the Secretary-General to incorporate the Committee's 1986 recommendations into existing ones and to publish and circulate them. It also invited Governments, the specialized agencies and other international organizations concerned to transmit to the Secretary-General their views on the Committee's work (resolution 1987/54).

Activities in 1987 to promote tourism included support missions, technical co-operation projects, workshops and seminars, aimed at implementing the 1980 Manila Declaration on World Tourism which provided guidelines for developing tourism, especially in developing countries. Other activities centred on fostering freedom of movement and of travel, as called for in the 1982 Acapulco Document on World Tourism. The General Assembly took note of a report by the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization on progress made in implementing the Manila and Acapulco instruments (resolution 42/167).

Topics related to this chapter. Regional economic and social activities: Africa—Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; Asia and the Pacific—transport and communications.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VI (pp. 507-513)

Transnational corporations

DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT, 507. STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING, 508. COMMISSION ON TNCs, 509. CENTRE ON TNCs, 510.

Transnational corporations (TNCs) continued to have a major impact on global investment flows in 1987. The world economy remained in a precarious state and most developing countries had not recovered from the recession of the early 1980s. External debt, falling primary commodity prices, protectionist measures and harsh domestic policies limited whatever growth prospects might have existed. The flow of investment therefore continued to be directed towards developed economies, rather than developing ones.

In his annual report on the work of the Organization (see p. 3), the Secretary-General said it was symptomatic of a more pragmatic approach in the fields of trade and development that Member States had increasingly sought the assistance of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in developing national legislation to facilitate their integration into the growing transnational sector of the global economy. The integration process would be facilitated by the increased predictability and stability that a code of conduct on transnational corporations could bring and he hoped that a final text would be approved before another year passed.

The Commission on Transnational Corporations (thirteenth session, New York, 7-16 April) considered recent developments in TNC activities as they related to international economic relations, activities of the Centre on TNCs, the code of conduct on TNCs, strengthening the negotiating capacity of developing countries in their dealings with TNCs, the role of transnational banks and technical co-operation. International harmonization of accounting and reporting was discussed by the Commission's Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts (fifth session, New York, 2-13 March).

In May, the Economic and Social Council asked member States of the Commission on TNCs to put forward concrete formulations to resolve the outstanding issues in the code of conduct (resolution 1987/57). In February, it deferred action on the cycle of meetings of the Commission (decision 1987/110).

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: transnational corporations. Development policy and international economic co-operation: international development strategy. International trade and finance: trade policy; restrictive business practices. Human rights: human rights violations-Africa.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VII (pp. 514-563)

Regional economic and social activities

REGIONAL CO-OPERATION, 514. AFRICA, 515: Economic and social trends, 515; Activities in 1987, 516; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 529; Co-operation between SADCC and the United Nations, 531. ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, 532: Economic and social trends, 533; Activities in 1987, 534; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 544. EUROPE, 546: Economic trends, 546; Activities in 1987, 547; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 550. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 551: Economic trends, 551; Activities in 1987, 553; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 558. WESTERN ASIA, 559: Economic and social trends, 559; Activities in 1987, 560; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 562.

At a time of continuing economic crisis in some regions, and economic uncertainty in others, accompanied by increasing social pressures and fast-paced technological and scientific advances, the five regional commissions of the United Nations continued in 1987 to promote economic and social development and co-operation.

Four of the five commissions held a regular intergovernmental session during the year: the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), its forty-second session at Geneva (31 March-10 April); the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), its forty-third session at Bangkok, Thailand (21-30 April); the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the thirteenth meeting of its Conference of Ministers and the twenty-second session of the Commission, at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (23-27 April); and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), its fourteenth session at Baghdad, Iraq (4 and 5 April). The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) held a special conference at Mexico City (19-23 January).

Among the resolutions and decisions adopted in 1987 by the Economic and Social Council involving issues of concern to the regional commissions were: a proposed international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources to increase food and agricultural production in Africa (resolution 1987/67), a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar (1987/69), the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1987/70), human and financial resources of ESCWA (1987/68) and Israel's proposed membership in ECE (decision 1987/164).

The Council, by decision 1987/188 of 9 July, took note of a number of documents, including the summaries of the economic and social surveys in 1986 of Africa,¹ Asia and the Pacific,² Europe,³ Latin America and the Caribbean,⁴ and Western Asia.⁵

¹ YUN 1986, p. 532

² Ibid., p. 546

³ Ibid., p. 555

⁴ Ibid., p. 561

⁵ Ibid., p. 568

The General Assembly adopted resolutions on co-operation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (42/181) and between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System (42/12).

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.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VIII (pp. 564-576)

Natural resources and cartography

NATURAL RESOURCES, 564: Exploration, 564; Committee on Natural Resources, 567; Co-ordination of UN activities, 568; Mineral resources, 569; Water resources, 570; Marine resources, 573. CARTOGRAPHY, 575: Standardization of geographical names, 575; UN Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, 576.

As the world non-fuel mineral industry faced difficult circumstances in 1987, the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration continued to assist developing countries. Despite decreasing expenditures, it financed its highest number of projects in solid mineral and geothermal energy exploration. The Economic and Social Council recognized the urgent need for increased financial support for the Fund and welcomed its efforts to seek co-financing (resolution 1987/11).

The Committee on Natural Resources held its tenth session in New York in April. Acting on the Committee's recommendations, the Council adopted resolutions on water resources and progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan (1987/7), trends and salient issues in mineral resources (1987/8), new techniques, including remote sensing, for identifying, exploring for and assessing natural resources (1987/9), application of microcomputer technology in the assessment and development of natural resources and energy (1987/10), permanent sovereignty over natural resources (1987/12) and co-ordination of programmes within the United Nations in the field of natural resources (1987/13). As to the economic and technical aspects of marine affairs, the Council asked the Secretary-General to continue to study global, regional and national developments in the context of international co-operation (1987/84).

The Eleventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific was held in Thailand in January. The Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names was held in Canada in August.

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: territories occupied by Israel—permanent sovereignty over national resources. Development policy and international economic co-operation: special economic areas—least developed countries. Operational activities for development. Environment.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter IX (pp. 577-582)

Energy

ENERGY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, 577. NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES, 579. NUCLEAR ENERGY, 579: IAEA report, 579; Conference on nuclear energy, 581.

In the area of energy, 1987 witnessed a decrease in investment and general hesitance in the nuclear domain in the wake of the 1986 Chernobyl accident.

On 1 January, the activities of the Energy Account of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) were merged with those of the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development. During 1987, the UNDP Energy Office was implementing some 17 projects, representing a total of \$15.5 million. The Account was the main channel for funding the UNDP/World Bank Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme. The United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development provided some \$26.3 million in technical assistance to developing countries in the energy sector during the year.

The United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy was held in March/April. The Conference recognized that nuclear energy could contribute to economic and social development but was unable to reach agreement on principles universally acceptable for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and ways for promoting such cooperation. In November, the General Assembly urged all States to co-operate in support of efforts to foster international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy (resolution 42/24). In October, following consideration of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for 1986, the Assembly urged States to strive for effective and harmonious international cooperation in carrying out IAEA'S work (resolution 42/6). The Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency entered into force in February.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: nuclear weapons. Peaceful uses of outer space. Regional economic and social activities: energy resources. Natural resources. Science and technology. Environment. Statistics: economic statistics.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter X (pp. 583-591)

Food

FOOD PROBLEMS, 583. FOOD AID, 588: World Food Programme, 588.

During 1987, the World Food Programme (WFP)—a joint undertaking of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)—shipped a record amount of food, mainly due to shipments for ongoing and newly approved development projects. It received pledges of cash and commodities from 100 countries worth \$1,118 million for 1987-1988, the highest amount ever. Contributions to the International Emergency Food Reserve amounted to 696,000 tons of food, of which 636,800 tons were in cereals, for a total value of \$187.4 million. WFP committed more money for emergency relief than ever before—\$271.3 million to provide 838,855 tons of food to 79 operations in 32 countries for needs stemming from armed conflict, poor rains and insect infestation. The value of WFP emergency assistance rose nearly 50 per cent over 1986, while the total quantity of food provided exceeded that of 1986 by 288,000 tons. The Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, WFP's governing body, held two sessions in 1987 and approved 33 new projects at a cost of \$522 million.

The World Food Council—the highest international body dealing with food problems—meeting in Beijing in June, issued the Beijing Declaration which proclaimed that access to food constituted a human right, called for priority to be given to integrated rural development and urged the developed countries and major financing bodies to consider the difficulties of developing countries in repaying their debts.

In July, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the Beijing Declaration called on Governments and international assistance agencies to redouble their efforts to eliminate hunger and urged all States to contribute to WFP (resolution 1987/90). The Council also urged United Nations Member States and FAO members and associate members to prepare for the next WFP pledging conference in 1988 (resolution 1987/91).

The General Assembly, in December, established a \$1.4 billion target for 1989-1990 voluntary contributions to WFP (resolution 42/164).

Topics related to this chapter. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief. Regional economic and social activities: Africa-food and agriculture. Health and human resources: nutrition. Environment: environmental perspective; desertification and drought control. Human rights: right to food. Women: women in rural areas. Children: nutrition. Refugees and displaced persons: assistance.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XI (pp. 592-605)

Science and technology

DEVELOPMENT ASPECTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, 592: Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, 593. FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, 598: Resource mobilization, 598; UN Fund for Science and Technology for Development, 599. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, 601: Intergovernmental Committee, 601; Advisory Committee, 601; Centre for science and technology, 601. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, 602: Draft code of conduct, 603. BRAIN DRAIN, 604.

Throughout 1987, many United Nations bodies continued to direct their efforts, within the guidelines set by the 1979 Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, towards strengthening the scientific and technological capacities of developing countries, by mobilizing financial resources, upgrading institutional arrangements, improving the balance of the international flow of technology and restructuring the existing pattern of international scientific and technological relations. On 1 January, the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSTD) was established as a trust fund within the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). UNFSTD functioned as the multilateral funding mechanism for science and technology activities and as a provider of technical advisory services to UNDP in science, technology and energy matters. The United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development continued to make policy recommendations for national and international action.

Consultations on an international code of conduct on the transfer of technology continued. The General Assembly invited the President of the United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to resolve the outstanding issues in the code (resolution 42/172). Transfer of technology continued to be a focus of operational activities of UNCTAD and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

The Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, the main directing and policy-making body, held its ninth session in July/August 1987, focusing on the application of science and technology to combat drought and desertification and the impact of new and emerging areas of science and technology on developing countries. It also discussed guidelines for the harmonization of policies of organizations of the United Nations system and UNFSTD activities. The Economic and Social Council, in a July resolution on a cross-organizational review of the medium-term plans of the organizations of the United Nations system and programme analysis in science and technology for development, requested the Committee and other United Nations organizations and bodies to focus on the need to develop practical forms of co-operation in specific areas of science and technology, giving special attention to strengthening the scientific and technological capabilities of developing countries (resolution 1987/79). In December, the Assembly endorsed the Council's resolution and the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee (resolution 42/192).

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 seventh session in February.

The Economic and Social Council, in May, called on States to ensure scientific and technological progress for the welfare of their peoples and to contribute towards eliminating economic backwardness and grave social problems in the world (resolution 1987/36).

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. Economic assistance: resources to increase food and agricultural production in Africa. Regional economic and social activities. Environment: desertification and drought. Human rights: human rights and science and technology.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XII (pp. 606-630)

Social and cultural development

SOCIAL ASPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT, 606: World social situation, 606; Social progress and development, 610; Social welfare, 615; Institutional machinery, 621. CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, 623. CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, 628.

A greater understanding had emerged of the interrelationship among economic and social problems. the Secretary-General stated in his 1987 report 'on the work of the Organization (see p. 3). Because of that interrelationship, many of those problems could not be successfully dealt with in isolation. The complex requirements of sustained development, on which future conditions of life in both developing and developed countries so heavily depended, had been the subject of intensive pragmatic examination.

In a report on the world social situation in 1987, the Secretary-General discussed recent developments and current issues, with a special focus on Africa. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1987/52, called on Member States to promote economic development and social progress by interrelated policy measures, and, in resolution 1987/39, appealed to the international community to increase assistance to improve the infrastructure necessary for sustained social development in Africa.

The Commission for Social Development held its thirtieth session at Vienna from 23 February to 4 March 1987. On its recommendation, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolutions on social aspects of rural development (1987/40), national policies for families (1987/46) and national experience in promoting the co-operative movement (1987/47).

In addition, the Council adopted resolutions on United Nations work in crime prevention and criminal justice (1987/53), preparations for the eighth United Nations congress on crime (1987/49) and improvement of the work of the Commission for Social Development (1987/50).

Both the Council and the General Assembly adopted resolutions on the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (1987/38 and 42/48, respectively), national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes (1987/35 and 42/50), protection of and assistance for the family (1987/42 and 42/134), and an Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes (1987/48 and 42/125).

The Assembly also adopted resolutions on the achievement of social justice (42/49), the improvement of social life (42/145) and crime prevention and criminal justice (42/59).

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization continued to promote the return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin, as mandated by the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. The General Assembly requested States parties to the Convention to supply information on its implementation (42/7).

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 national personnel in development. Human rights: popular participation; right to development; rights of migrant workers. Women: women-and development. Statistics: social and demographic statistics.

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Chapter XIII (pp. 631-640)

Population

FOLLOW-UP TO THE 1984 CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 631. UN FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 632. OTHER POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 637.

World population reached more than 5 billion in 1987. Increasing by about 220,000 a day, it was expected to rise to 6 billion by the end of the century. On the “Day of the Five Billion”—11 July—the Secretary-General said there was cause for concern about the likely future of the 120 million children who would be born during the year. Nine out of 10 children were born in developing countries, those least able to provide adequate food, shelter, education and health care. Slowing population growth was a challenge which had to be met for the sake of the 5 billionth citizen and for the future of the planet.

The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) assisted 2,756 technical cooperation projects—2,082 country and 674 regional and intercountry projects. It approved 376 new projects, amounting to \$32.6 million, while completing 610 projects. Priority areas included family planning; information, education and communication; basic data collection; and the use of data for policy formulation and development planning. In April, Dr. Nafis I. Sadik was appointed as UNFPA Executive Director. Dr. Sadik became the first woman in the 41-year history of the United Nations to head one of its major voluntarily funded programmes. In December, the General Assembly approved changing the name of the Fund to the United Nations Population Fund, while retaining the abbreviation UNFPA.

In July, the Economic and Social Council asked the Secretary-General to enhance the coherence and harmonization of United Nations population activities (resolution 1987/72). It also asked him (1987/71) to strengthen interdisciplinary technical co-operation activities in the area of population, to continue monitoring world population trends and policies, and to formulate the medium-term plan on population activities for 1990-1995.

The fifth annual United Nations Population Award was presented to the President of Bangladesh and the National Family and Population Office of Tunisia.

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.

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Chapter XIV (pp. 641-659)

Health and human resources

HEALTH, 641: Human and environmental health, 641; Disabled persons, 647. HUMAN RESOURCES, 651: Human resources development, 651; Education and literacy, 653; UN research and training institutes, 654.

United Nations bodies and agencies continued in 1987 to promote health issues and human resources development.

Health issues included effects of pollution, diseases and undernutrition; an estimated 1 billion people were exposed to high air pollution levels, while the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)-continuing its dramatic spread-was projected to strike 3 million people by 1992. Following the adoption of a global strategy on AIDS by the World Health Assembly in May, the Economic and Social Council, in July, called on States to take active measures to prevent and control AIDS in line with the strategy (resolution 1987/75). The General Assembly, in October, confirmed that the World Health Organization (WHO) should continue to direct and co-ordinate the urgent global battle against AIDS (resolution 42/8). In December, the Assembly decided to observe the fortieth anniversary of WHO in 1988 in a manner befitting its achievements and future role in international health (42/168).

Efforts continued to implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons. In May, the Council urged the Secretary-General to enable a global meeting of experts to evaluate progress at the mid-point of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992) (1987/43). The meeting, which took place in August, made a number of recommendations for action during the remainder of the Decade. The Assembly, in November, requested Member States and relevant United Nations organs and bodies to submit their comments on those recommendations; it reaffirmed the validity of the Programme of Action and urged Member States to rededicate themselves to its implementation (42/58).

The Council, in July, reaffirmed the need for an integrated and multidisciplinary approach to all aspects of the development of human resources in the United Nations programme of work (1987/81). The Council also took note of a proposal by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to observe an international literacy year (1987/80). In December, the Assembly proclaimed 1990 as International Literacy Year (42/104).

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) remained in a difficult financial situation in 1987. In December, the Assembly, stressing that every effort should be made to continue UNITAR'S activities, requested the Secretary-General to restructure the Institute to make training the main focus of its activities, with the core training programme to concentrate on international co-operation and multilateral diplomacy (42/197). In the light of the restructured programme, the Institute's management, staff and administrative and financial arrangements were to be reorganized.

At the United Nations University (UNU), a new Rector took office in September. UNU continued its research and training activities under nine programme areas covering a wide spectrum of subjects.

Topics related to this chapter. Regional economic and social activities: Africa-human resources development. Environment: environment and health; protection against harmful products. Human rights: human rights of disabled persons. Women: women and development.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XV (pp. 660-713) Environment

GENERAL ASPECTS, 660: Long-term environmental strategies, 660; International cooperation, 681; International conventions and protocols, 686. PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNEP, 686: Future orientation of UNEP programme, 686; UNEP clearinghouse mechanism, 687; Environmental education and training, 688; Public information, 688; Integrated approach to environment and development, 689; Environmental management of industrial activities, 689; UNEP Fund, 689; UNEP Council, 691; United Nations co-ordination, 692. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES, 694: Environmental monitoring and assessment, 694; State-of-the-environment reports, 694; Environmental impact assessment, 695; Environment information networks, 696; Protection against harmful products and wastes, 697; Ecosystems, 700. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND OTHER ISSUES, 712: International ecological security, 712; Arms race and the environment, 712; Material remnants of war, 712; Environment and resources in Africa, 712; Environment and human settlements, 713.

There was rapid and world-wide recognition in 1987 that environmental problems, among them the depletion of the ozone layer, global warming and desertification, called for urgent action by the international community. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) continued its efforts to protect the Earth's environment.

In September, 24 countries and the European Economic Community signed the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, a co-operative achievement of Governments, the international community and UNEP to protect the human race from adverse environmental effects caused by man. UNEP searched for means to delay or reduce climate change and explored ways of diminishing the effects of such change. The United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office continued to combat desertification and allocated \$55.97 million for projects in the region.

In June, the UNEP Governing Council approved the Cairo Guidelines and Principles for the Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes and the London Guidelines for the Exchange of Information on Chemicals in International Trade.

UNEP continued its action to protect the marine environment, conserve wildlife and protected areas, as well as tropical forests, monitor various aspects of the environment (climate, global resources, transport of pollutants), conduct research on genetic resources and promote the development of environmental law.

The General Assembly, by resolution 42/186, adopted an Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond as a broad framework to guide national action and international co-operation. A report of the World Commission on Environment and Development focusing on sustainable development was submitted to the Assembly, which welcomed and took action on it in resolution 42/187.

The Assembly considered international cooperation in the area of the environment (42/184), and called on Governments to sign the Montreal Protocol (42/182) as well as to co-operate in the control of illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes (42/183).

Taking up the question of desertification, the Assembly appealed to Governments to increase their support for the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office and to support the development efforts of countries stricken by desertification and drought (42/188). It further urged Governments, United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental bodies to intensify their efforts to combat desertification (42/189 A), drew the attention of the international community to the pressing need to implement the Plan of Action in the Sudano-Sahelian region (42/189 B), urged Governments to mobilize the funds required (42/189 C) and requested the Secretary-General to report to the 1988 Assembly on the implementation of those resolutions (42/189 D).

The Assembly also decided that no regular session of the UNEP Governing Council would be held in 1988, and that beginning in 1989 its regular sessions would be held only in odd-numbered years (42/185).

Comprehensive information covering all aspects of UNEP's 1987 activities was given in the Executive Director's annual report.

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: drought-stricken areas of Africa. Regional economic and social activities: environment. Natural resources: water and marine resources. Energy resources: nuclear energy. Science and technology: science and technology to combat drought and desertification. Health and human resources: health. Human settlements. Statistics: energy, environment and industry statistics.

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Chapter XVI (pp. 714-726)

Human settlements

COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, 714. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS ACTIVITIES, 715: International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, 715; Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, 717; National strategies, 719; Housing problems and natural disasters, 720; Human settlements and political, economic and social issues, 720; UN global and regional programmes, 721; Financing, 725.

The year 1987 was observed as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (IYSH), and the General Assembly, concerned about the alarming situation in which more than a billion people were completely without shelter or living in homes unfit for human habitation, decided that a global strategy was needed to facilitate adequate shelter for all by the year 2000 (resolution 42/191). The Economic and Social Council, in May, called on Governments and institutions concerned to adopt decisive measures to achieve the objectives of IYSH and requested the Secretary-General, when assessing the IYSH results, to pay attention to the social and human aspects of housing for the poor and disadvantaged (1987/137).

The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS), also known as Habitat, performed the role of lead agency in the United Nations system for co-ordinating IYSH activities. It also continued in 1987 to assist developing countries through technical co-operation, research and development (including training) and information dissemination. The Commission on Human Settlements, at its tenth session at Nairobi, Kenya, commemorating the tenth anniversary of the establishment of UNCHS, adopted on 16 April 22 resolutions and five decisions dealing with human settlements activities and UNCHS co-operation.

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: territories occupied by Israel—living conditions of Palestinians; settlements policy. Development policy and international economic co-operation: international development strategy. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: disaster preparedness and prevention. Regional economic and social activities. Refugees. Human rights: right to housing.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XVII (pp. 727-828)

Human rights

DISCRIMINATION, 727: Racial discrimination, 727; Other aspects of discrimination, 735. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, 740: Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol, 740; Self-determination of peoples, 741; Rights of detained persons, 751; Disappearance of persons, 763; Other aspects of civil and political rights, 764. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, 767: Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 768; Interdependence of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, 770; Right to development, 772; Right to food, 773; Right to own property, 774; Right to adequate housing, 776; Popular participation and human rights, 777. ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, 778: National institutions for human rights protection, 780; UN machinery, 781; Public information activities, 782; Regional arrangements, 784; International human rights instruments, 784; Advisory services, 789; Technical assistance to strengthen legal institutions, 791; Responsibility to promote and protect human rights, 791; Respect for the rights of peoples, 792; Proposed establishment of a new international humanitarian order, 792. HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, 793: Africa, 794; Asia and the Pacific, 800; Europe and the Mediterranean area, 807; Latin America and the Caribbean, 808; Middle East, 818; Other alleged human rights violations, 820; Mass exoduses, 820; Genocide, 821. OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, 822: Additional Protocols I and II to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, 822; Rights of the child, 822; Youth and human rights, 824; Women, 825; Sexual minorities, 825; Human rights and science and technology, 825; Human rights and peace, 826; International co-operation in human rights, 828.

In 1987, United Nations activities aimed at bringing the widest compliance with the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and other United Nations human rights instruments, had gathered further momentum the Secretary-General said in his report on the work of the Organization (see p. 10).

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 or Imprisonment. Elaboration of a convention on the rights of the child moved forward, as did work on a draft declaration on the rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. The Working Group on Indigenous Populations continued to review developments pertaining to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous populations. Work also progressed on the drafting of a declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms.

During the year, the Secretary-General established a Voluntary Fund for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights to provide additional financial support for activities focused on implementing international conventions and other human rights instruments promulgated by the United Nations, its specialized agencies or regional organizations. He also submitted a plan of activities for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination during 1990-1993, the remaining years of the Decade.

Protection of detained persons was again a substantive part of the United Nations work in human rights. The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment entered into force on 26 June 1987, as did the optional provisions of its articles 21 and 22. The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances continued to investigate cases, and a sessional working group examined further the draft body of guidelines, principles, guarantees of the rights of persons detained on the grounds of mental ill-health or suffering from mental disorder.

Situations involving alleged violations of human rights on a large scale in several countries were again examined. The Secretary-General urged that, in order to increase the benefits brought by the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the complementary instruments agreed on, further defining the rights to which all are entitled and providing procedures to encourage respect for them, be universally ratified and rigorously observed.

The Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development held its tenth session, and the rights to adequate housing, ownership of property and education were considered among other economic, social and cultural rights.

Action on these and other human rights issues taken by the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-third session, held at Geneva from 2 February to 13 March 1987, was embodied in 61 resolutions and 12 decisions; those by its Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its thirty-ninth session, held also at Geneva from 10 August to 4 September, numbered 33 resolutions and 13 decisions.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: South Africa and apartheid; Asia and the Pacific: Kampuchea situation; Afghanistan situation; Iran-Iraq armed conflict. Mediterranean: Cyprus question. Middle East: territories occupied by Israel; Palestinian detainees. Social and cultural development: crime prevention and criminal justice. Women. Children, youth and aging persons: youth. Refugees. Namibia. Other colonial territories. Legal aspects of international political relations: draft convention against mercenaries.

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Chapter XVIII (pp. 829-851)

Women

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN, 829: Implementation of the Nairobi Strategies, 829. WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT, 836: UN Development Fund for Women, 841. STATUS OF WOMEN, 843. ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN, 848: Convention on discrimination against women, 848.

During 1987, the United Nations continued to take steps to implement the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, strengthening focal points, which served as both channels and advocates for the advancement of women, improving procedures for monitoring the implementation of the Strategies and endeavouring to establish five-year targets to increase the percentage of women in professional and decision-making positions within the United Nations system. Resolutions on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies were adopted by both the General Assembly (42/62) and the Economic and Social Council (1987/18).

In addition, the Assembly and Council each adopted resolutions on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (42/60 and 1987/3, respectively), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (42/63 and 1987/26) and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (42/65 and 1987/25).

Other action by the Assembly dealt with the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation (42/61), the role of women in society (42/64) and the mobilization and integration of women in development (42/178).

The Commission on the Status of Women, at its 1987 session (New York, 12-16 January), recommended eight resolutions and two decisions to the Economic and Social Council. Acting on those recommendations, the Council adopted resolutions on the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and system-wide coordination of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies (1987/86); the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations (1987/19) (see ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS, Chapter III); future world conferences on women (1987/20); improving the Commission's ability to carry out its mandate (1987/21); measures to strengthen the Commission's role and functions (1987/22); the enlargement of the Commission (1987/123); and the Commission's long-term work programme (1987/24).

The Council also adopted resolutions on strengthening the work of the United Nations in integrating women in economic development programmes and activities (1987/65); the coordination of intergovernmental activities to integrate women in economic development (1987/182); and the programme budget proposals for the 1988-1989 biennium concerned with monitoring and review and appraisal of the Forward-looking Strategies (1987/120).

The United Nations Development Fund for Women observed its tenth anniversary in 1987, supporting 27 projects valued at \$40,000 or more; new activities valued at \$5.1 million were approved.

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, at its sixth session, considered the initial reports of eight States parties to the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on their implementation of the Convention. Three States became parties to the Convention in 1987, bringing the total number to 94.

Topics related to this chapter. Regional economic and social activities: Africa—women and development in Africa. Food: food problems. Human settlements: women and human settlements. United Nations officials: status of women in the Secretariat; recruitment of women.

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Chapter XIX (pp. 852-875)

Children, youth and aging persons

CHILDREN, 852: UN Children's Fund, 852. YOUTH, 864: Follow-up to International Youth Year (1985), 864. AGING PERSONS, 871: Implementation of the Plan of Action, 872.

Each week of 1987, more than a quarter of a million young children died in the developing countries from frequent infection and prolonged undernutrition. One of every three deaths in the world was that of a child under the age of five. The United Nations Children's Fund tried to reduce infant and child mortality through accelerated immunization programmes and the use of low-cost oral therapies for diarrhoeal and other similar diseases. Breast-feeding and improved weaning practices were also among the crucial strategies, as were health education, maternal health interventions, pregnancy monitoring and child spacing support. Efforts to keep the needs of children on nations' political agendas were stressed, and the significance of safe water supplies and improved sanitation, improvements in the status of women and protection of the female child were reaffirmed as priorities.

Youth unemployment was another area of concern. The Economic and Social Council requested United Nations bodies and national co-ordinating committees to give priority to the enjoyment by youth of human rights, particularly the right to life, education and work (resolution 1987/44). In other action, it proposed adequate follow-up to the International Youth Year observed in 1985 (1987/45), and stressed the importance of youth's participation in implementing the guidelines for follow-up, affirming at the same time the importance of freedom of association, expression, movement and religion, as well as of economic, social and cultural rights, for the development of young people in all aspects of society (1987/51).

Measures to secure youth's right to education and work (resolution 42/52) and employment opportunities for young people (42/53) were called for by the General Assembly. The Assembly also called for a strengthening of youth programmes (42/54) and for the establishment of communication channels between the United Nations and youth organizations (42/55).

Member States also sought to adjust to the increasing number of elderly people, aged 60 years and over. In the United Nations, work continued on this issue, as did efforts to implement the 1982 International Plan of Action on Aging. In May, the Council confirmed the need to implement a recommendation calling for centres to train personnel in the field of aging (1987/41) and, in November, the Assembly welcomed the establishment of an International Institute on Aging at Malta and noted a proposal for the creation of a world foundation on aging (42/51).

Topics related to this chapter. Human rights: rights of the child, youth and human rights.

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Chapter XX (pp. 876-899)

Refugees and displaced persons

UNHCR PROGRAMME AND FINANCES, 876: Programme policy, 876; Continuation of UNHCR, 879; Financial and administrative questions, 879. REFUGEE ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION, 882: Assistance, 882; Refugee protection, 897.

The year 1987 marked a series of successes in finding solutions to the plight of refugees, the advent of new and serious refugee situations and, in a number of instances, a deterioration in the treatment of refugees. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continued to co-operate actively with concerned Governments and the international community in efforts to meet the humanitarian needs of refugees throughout the world and sought to provide international protection to refugees to compensate for their lack or the denial of national protection.

The promotion of durable solutions, such as voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement, remained the primary and long-term objective of UNHCR's assistance programme. UNHCR responded to requests for emergency assistance for many new arrivals and continued to pursue care and maintenance programmes for refugees for whom no immediate solution could be found. More than a quarter of a million-people shed their status as refugees in 1987 and started new lives through voluntary repatriation and resettlement in third countries.

The Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme condemned military and armed attacks on refugee camps and settlements and considered, among other things, international protection, the situation of refugee children, refugee aid and development and durable solutions.

In December, the General Assembly called on the Secretary-General to give all possible assistance to preparations for an international conference on the plight of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in southern Africa (resolution 42/106), as well as to the follow-up to the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (42/107). It also called for assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons of Central America (42/110), emergency assistance to Chad (42/128), humanitarian assistance to Djibouti (42/126), and assistance to Ethiopia (42/139), Malawi (42/132), Somalia (42/127), the Sudan (42/129) and student refugees in southern Africa (42/138).

The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1987/89 and decision 1987/158, requested the enlargement of the Executive Committee, as did the General Assembly by resolution 42/130. In addition, the Assembly urged States to support the High Commissioner in his efforts to achieve durable solutions to the problem of refugees and displaced persons and called on them to contribute to UNHCR's programmes with the aim of ensuring that the needs of refugees were met (42/109). It decided to continue UNHCR for a further period of five years from 1 January 1989 (42/108).

The Nansen Medal for 1987—awarded since 1954 in honour of Fridtjof Nansen, the first League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees— went to King Juan Carlos I for developments in Spain, which spanned a decade and had had a profound impact on the world's refugee problem.

Topics related to this chapter. Asia and the Pacific: South-East Asia; Kampuchea situation; Western and south-western Asia; Afghanistan situation; Iran-Iraq armed conflict. Middle East: Palestine refugees. Human rights: Human rights violations.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXI (pp. 900-919)

Drugs of abuse

International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, 900; Drug abuse and international control, 903; Supply and demand, 908; Conventions, 916; Organizational questions, 917.

The abuse of drugs, both natural and synthetic, had increased so rapidly over the past decades that it imperilled all countries and all segments of society, the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) stated in 1987. Drug abuse was not limited to urban areas, to the educated or the uneducated, or to the rich or poor; it was prevalent everywhere—in schools, at work, in the entertainment field and in sports arenas.

The United Nations convened the first global conference to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking (Vienna, 17-26 June). The International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, attended by 138 nations at every stage of political development, adopted a declaration, agreeing to intensify efforts against drug abuse and illicit trafficking, and an outline of future activities in drug abuse control.

The Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to give priority, in allocating United Nations resources, to the follow-up activities of the Conference and stressed the importance of co-ordination between the drug control units of the United Nations (resolution 1987/29). The General Assembly affirmed its commitment to the Conference's declaration, urged Governments and organizations to take account of its outline of future activities and decided to observe 26 June each year as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (42/112).

The Assembly underlined the Conference's appeal, calling for the urgent preparation of a draft convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and requested the Secretary-General to prepare for the convening of a plenipotentiary conference in 1988 for the signing of the convention (42/111). The Economic and Social Council had established an open-ended intergovernmental expert group on the articles of the draft (1987/27), and decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should hold a special session in 1988 to expedite the preparation of the new convention (1987/33).

Acting as the preparatory body for the Conference, the Commission, in February, adopted one decision and four recommendations for action by the Council. At its thirty-second session, also in February, the Commission considered the preparation of a new convention, the implementation of international treaties on the control of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, trends in drug abuse and illicit traffic, action related to international drug control, and future work and priorities; it recommended for adoption by the Council seven resolutions and four decisions.

INCB continued its evaluation and overall supervision of the implementation of drug control treaties. The Council requested INCB to accord priority to monitoring its earlier call for restraint in the production of opiate raw materials for export (1987/31). The Council further requested Governments to improve mechanisms for control of certain psychotropic substances (1987/30).

During 1987, the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) revised its total budget upward from \$31.6 million to \$39.8 million and expanded its programme: 35 countries were assisted through 85 multisectoral projects for rural development, preventive education and public information, treatment and rehabilitation of drug-dependent persons and law enforcement. In the area of public information, the Council urged Governments to ensure that preventive information did not evoke curiosity or the desire to experiment with narcotic drugs and did not contain details that might facilitate access to illicit drugs (1987/28).

The Council encouraged UNFDAC to continue building its capacity to respond to needs with regard to drug abuse control, assisting comprehensive and mandatory sanctions and regions in their fight against drug abuse, furthering the implementation of policy recommendations and acting as a catalytic agent for the United Nations system (1987/32). The Assembly, in a resolution on an international campaign against drug abuse and illicit trafficking (42/113), commended UNFDAC for its work and called for increased support of the Fund.

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

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Chapter XXII (pp. 920-926) Statistics

In 1987, the United Nations Statistical Commission reviewed developments in economic, social and demographic statistics that had taken place since it last met in 1985. Discussing such issues as communications between national and international agencies and the development of data bases and special problems in the statistically least developed countries, the Commission examined its terms of reference and effectiveness and concluded that no radical changes in its mode of work were warranted.

Meeting in June, the Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) discussed policy issues and follow-up matters raised by the Statistical Commission. In October, the Commission's Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination reviewed the provisional agenda for the Commission's 1989 session.

The Statistical Office of the United Nations continued to collect and publish a wide range of statistical data on energy, the environment, industry, sea-borne trade, national accounts and balances, price statistics, and demographic and social statistics. Continuing its work on the development of standards and methods for improving international economic classifications, the Office promoted the co-ordination of international statistical activities among international organizations and provided statistical services to the United Nations Secretariat and intergovernmental expert bodies. Updated information on the work of the Office was outlined in a January 1987 report of the Secretary-General. In co-operation with the Office, technical co-operation was provided by the United Nations Department of Technical Cooperation for Development (DTCD) and the regional commissions.

In May, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1987/6 on patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development. Emphasizing the significance of development indicators and the progress achieved in that field, the Council recommended that extrabudgetary resources be allocated for compiling data on development indicators and patterns of consumption. Interested donor countries and international and other organizations that wished to participate in the research should provide voluntary contributions to the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

Topics related to this chapter. Regional economic and social activities: Africa-statistics. Asia and the Pacific-statistics. Europe-statistics, Latin America and the Caribbean-statistics. Western Asia-statistics.

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Chapter XXIII (pp. 927-953)

Institutional arrangements

CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 928. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, 936: Co-operation with other organizations, 936; Other organizational matters, 945. OTHER INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, 947: Institutional machinery, 947; Restructuring of economic and social sectors, 952; Work programme of the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly, 952; International decades, 953.

In 1987, the institutional arrangements put into operation over the years by the United Nations began undergoing a reform process designed to give them greater cohesion, enhance their efficiency and facilitate co-ordination of the programme activities they administered. The reform process was begun in response to a 1986 General Assembly resolution approving the recommendations of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations (Group of 18).

Early in the year, the Economic and Social Council set in motion the study called for in the resolution by creating the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental Structure and Functions in the Economic and Social Fields (decision 1987/112). The Assembly affirmed that its 1986 resolution in that respect should be implemented in a timely, orderly and well co-ordinated manner (resolution 42/170) and reiterated the Council's request that Assembly and Council subsidiary bodies should submit to the Special Commission their views and proposals on achieving the objectives envisaged by the Group of 18 (decision 42/431). In conjunction with that study, the Council also authorized its own study of its structure and functioning (decision 1987/189).

Implementation of the 1986 resolution gathered pace as the Secretary-General proceeded to institute those changes recommended to be made without delay. In response to an earlier Assembly request, he reported comprehensively to the Assembly and the Council, through the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC), on the question of coordination in the United Nations and the United Nations system, making a number of practical suggestions for improvement. With CPC'S comments, the report was forwarded by the Council to the Special Commission (resolution 1987/83), which was requested to review the roles of the Assembly, the Council and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation with a view to enhancing coordination of the system's activities (decision 1987/180). The Secretary-General also gave his assessment of the various analytical tools for coordination.

During 1987, the Secretary-General further advanced the suggestion that, for optimum effectiveness, the Council might become a Council of Ministers for Economic and Social Affairs—a proposal he hoped would receive early and serious consideration.

Meanwhile, CPC, in co-operation with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and in the yearly Joint Meetings with it, continued efforts to harmonize system-wide work programmes and activities. Its conclusions and recommendations at its 1987 session were endorsed by the Council (resolution 1987/83) and by the Assembly (resolution 42/215, section VI). In December,

in order to broaden geographic representation in CPC, its membership was increased from 21 to 34 by recommendation of the Council (resolution 1987/94), as approved by the Assembly (decision 42/450).

In keeping with the established practice of promoting complementarity between the work of the Council and the Assembly's Second (Economic and Financial) and Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committees, the Assembly approved the Second Committee's biennial work programme for 1988-1989 (decision 42/435), but deferred consideration of the Third Committee's proposed work programme (decision 42/423).

Co-operation with non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations continued to broaden during the year, with the Council granting five intergovernmental organizations participation in its deliberations without the right to vote (decision 1987/161). Following the February biennial session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the Council's granting of consultative status to 53 new applicants in May (decision 1987/113), the number of NGOS in consultative status with the Council rose to 827.

Also in 1987, the Assembly invited the Council to consider in 1988 guidelines for the designation of future international decades (resolution 42/171).

Topics related to this chapter. United Nations programmes: programme planning and budgeting; medium-term plan; programme evaluation; administrative and budgetary coordination in the UN system.

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter I (pp. 955-975)

General questions relating to colonial countries

THE 1960 DECLARATION ON COLONIAL COUNTRIES, 955. OTHER GENERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING NSGTs, 973.

Decolonization, based on the General Assembly's 1960 Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, remained a concern of the United Nations throughout 1987. The main body dealing with the issue was the 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). It continued to consider general decolonization questions, among them the implementation of the Declaration by international organizations as well as action impeding implementation by foreign economic and military interests.

In addition, the Committee examined and made recommendations on the situations in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (see next chapter); Namibia (see Chapter III of this section); and other Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs), among them East Timor, the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), New Caledonia, Western Sahara and a number of small Territories, mainly islands under United Kingdom or United States administration (see Chapter IV of this section). The question of Puerto Rico was also considered.

In July, the Economic and Social Council reaffirmed the need for United Nations assistance to the peoples of colonial Territories and their national liberation movements and deplored the collaboration of the International Monetary Fund with South Africa (resolution 1987/78).

As recommended by the Committee on colonial countries, the General Assembly in December acted on a number of issues. It requested the Committee to continue seeking means to implement the 1960 Declaration and called on States to follow the Committee's recommendations (resolution 42/71), and reaffirmed that the United Nations system should contribute to the implementation of the Declaration (42/75). The Assembly also called for wider dissemination of information on decolonization (42/72).

Administering Powers were requested to continue transmitting information on their Territories to the Secretary-General (42/73). Those Powers were also urged to safeguard the right of colonial peoples to the natural resources of their Territories (42/74).

The Assembly condemned military activities in colonial Territories as detrimental to the interests of the peoples and called for their termination (decision 42/417). States were again invited to make offers of study and training facilities to inhabitants of NSGTs (42/77).

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

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter II (pp. 976-981)

International Trusteeship System

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, 976. OTHER ASPECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM, 979.

On behalf of the Security Council, the Trusteeship Council continued during 1987 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 held its fifty-fourth regular session in New York from 11 to 28 May and from 14 to 16 December 1987; it held its eighteenth special session, also in New York, on 13 August.

On two occasions in 1987, at the invitation of the United States, the Council dispatched a visiting mission to observe a plebiscite in Palau, having taken decisions to that effect (resolutions 2185(LIV) and 2187(S-XVIII)).

Of the Council's five members (China, France, USSR, United Kingdom, United States), China did not participate in the Council's sessions.

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter III (pp. 982-1025)

Namibia

NAMIBIA QUESTION, 983. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1017. INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE, 1021.

The United Nations continued in 1987 to work for the independence of Namibia, the largest Territory remaining under colonial rule. As the Territory's legal Administering Authority, the United Nations Council for Namibia monitored the situation there and participated in formulating United Nations policy on Namibia. The Council's activities were aimed at generating maximum support from the international community for the Namibian people and at ending South Africa's illegal occupation. In addition to representing Namibian interests in international forums and disseminating information on the Territory, the Council held extraordinary plenary meetings at Luanda, Angola, where it adopted a Declaration and Programme of Action, outlining its current and future policies.

Meanwhile, diplomatic efforts towards Namibian independence continued. In February and March, the Secretary-General consulted with representatives of the front-line States (Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe), Nigeria, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and South Africa, reporting that South Africa's insistence on making the independence of Namibia conditional on the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola—the so-called linkage pre-condition—had prevented any progress. Meeting in April, the Security Council considered, but did not adopt because of the negative votes of two permanent members, a draft resolution to have the Council call for comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa to force it to co-operate with the United Nations in leading Namibia to independence. Following the Council's meetings, the Secretary-General sent a further mission to the region, which visited South Africa, the front-line States, Nigeria and SWAPO; South Africa maintained its linkage precondition. In October, after a ministerial meeting of the Council for Namibia had suggested setting a firm and early deadline for South Africa to co-operate with the United Nations and backing up this call with the threat of sanctions in the case of non-compliance, the Security Council authorized the Secretary-General, in its resolution 601(1987), to proceed to arrange a cease-fire between South Africa and SWAPO.

Five resolutions on Namibia were adopted by the General Assembly in November. In resolutions 42/14 A and B, the Assembly, with wording similar to that of previous years, outlined the United Nations position: South Africa's occupation of the Territory was illegal, the United Nations Council for Namibia was the legal Administering Authority, SWAPO was the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people, and Security Council resolution 435(1978) was the only internationally accepted basis for a peaceful settlement. The Assembly strongly rejected the linkage pre-condition and urged the Security Council to impose comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa.

The work programme of the Council for Namibia was approved with the adoption of resolution 42/14 C and, in resolution 42/14 D, the Assembly requested the Council to increase the

dissemination of information on Namibia and the liberation struggle. In resolution 42/14 E, the Assembly appealed for increased contributions to the United Nations Fund for Namibia and urged United Nations organizations to cooperate closely in strengthening its programme of activities. It also allocated \$1.5 million from the regular United Nations budget to the Fund.

Assistance to Namibians outside their country continued through various United Nations programmes, financed primarily by voluntary contributions administered by the United Nations Fund for Namibia. In 1987, the Fund spent more than \$8.5 million for assistance to Namibia, with States contributing more than \$7 million. Additional funding was provided from the regular budget, the United Nations Development Programme and specialized agencies. The Fund operated the Nationhood Programme, financing training programmes and surveys of the economic and social sectors in preparation for independence, and the United Nations Institute for Namibia, involving research, training and planning activities. In addition, the Fund had a programme for educational, social and relief assistance which dealt with the immediate needs of Namibians.

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. 1026-1046) Other colonial Territories

FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS), 1026. EAST TIMOR, 1028. NEW CALEDONIA, 1029. WESTERN SAHARA, 1032. OTHER TERRITORIES, 1034.

The peaceful settlement of the dispute over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), the questions of East Timor and New Caledonia, the conflict in Western Sahara and the situation in a number of other small colonial Territories continued to be considered in 1987 by 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 dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) remained unsettled, with the Secretary-General reporting that the parties had not initiated negotiations on the future of the islands as proposed by the General Assembly. In November, the Assembly reiterated its request that they undertake talks and that the Secretary-General continue his good offices mission to assist them (resolution 42/19).

France reported that its September referendum in New Caledonia had resulted in an overwhelming majority in favour of staying within the French Republic. In December, the Assembly called on France to resume dialogue with all sections of the population to facilitate rapid progress towards an act of self-determination in which all sections of the community participated (42/79).

In December, the Assembly again requested that Morocco and the Frente Popular de Liberación de Saguía el Hamra y Río de Oro negotiate a cease-fire to create the necessary conditions for a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara (42/78).

In addition, the Assembly adopted resolutions on American Samoa (42/88), Guam (42/87) and the United States Virgin Islands (42/89), under United States administration; Anguilla (42/80), Bermuda (42/86), the British Virgin Islands (42/82), the Cayman Islands (42/85), Montserrat (42/81) and the Turks and Caicos Islands (42/83), administered by the United Kingdom; and Tokelau (42/84), under the administration of New Zealand.

Decisions were adopted by the Assembly in relation to Gibraltar (42/418), Pitcairn (42/419) and St. Helena (42/420), administered by the United Kingdom.

The Committee on colonial countries again took up the question of East Timor, consideration of which was deferred by the Assembly until 1988.

The United Nations Secretariat prepared background papers for the Committee on developments in most of the Territories.

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

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 1047-1050)

International Court of Justice

Judicial work of the Court, 1047; Organizational questions, 1049.

In 1987, the International Court of Justice continued to deal with five contentious cases; a sixth such dispute was referred to it in February. In May, the Court delivered an advisory opinion.

The General Assembly and the Security Council held elections in September to fill a vacancy in the Court created by the death on 10 March 1987 of a Judge. They held elections in November to fill vacancies caused by the expiration of terms of office of five other Judges. (See p. 1050.) Also in November, the Assembly determined the conditions on which the Republic of Nauru might become a party to the Statute of the Court (resolution 42/21) -an action recommended by the Security Council (resolution 600(1987)).

Topic related to this chapter. Americas: Nicaragua situation.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 1051-1066)

Legal aspects of international political relations

Peaceful settlement of disputes between States, 1051; Good-neighbourliness between States, 1053; Non-use of force in international relations, 1054; Draft code of offences against peace and security, 1058; Draft convention against mercenaries, 1060; Prevention of terrorism, 1061; Draft articles on non-navigational uses of international watercourses, 1065.

In its continuing efforts to develop legal measures for promoting friendly relations among States, the General Assembly, in November 1987, approved the Declaration on the Enhancement of the Effectiveness of the Principle of Refraining from the Threat or Use of Force in International Relations, as drafted by the Special Committee on the topic (resolution 42/22).

In December, the Assembly again stressed the importance of settling international disputes peacefully (42/150), and decided that its Sixth (Legal) Committee should complete, in 1988, the identification of the elements of good - neighbourliness and begin elaborating an international document on strengthening that concept (42/158). In addition, the Assembly invited the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries to submit such a draft convention to it in 1988 (42/155).

The Assembly invited the International Law Commission to continue elaborating the draft Code of Crimes against the Peace and Security of Mankind, agreeing with the Commission's recommendation to amend the title of the topic in English from "offences" to "crimes" (42/151). The Commission also continued drafting articles on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses

Concern over various aspects of terrorism was raised by both the Assembly and the Security Council. In January, the Council's members again condemned all acts of hostage-taking and abduction. In December, the Assembly condemned all terrorist acts and requested the Secretary-General to seek Member States' views on international terrorism and on ways of combating it, including the convening of an international conference (42/159).

Topic related to this chapter. International peace and security.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 1067-1070) States and international law

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, 1067. STATE LIABILITY, 1070.

With acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives continuing in various parts of the world, the General Assembly, in December 1987, again urged States to ensure their security and suggested that they take into account the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General in reporting on those incidents (resolution 42/154).

The International Law Commission (see p. 1085) continued to elaborate a legal instrument on State liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law. However, it did not consider, in 1987, jurisdictional immunities of States and their property or the status of the diplomatic courier and the diplomatic bag not accompanied by diplomatic courier, pending receipt from Governments in 1988 of their comments on the draft articles on the respective topics, which had been provisionally adopted on first reading in 1986. Further, although it did not consider the item on State responsibility, it appointed, on 17 June 1987, Gaetano Arangio-Ruiz (Italy) Special Rapporteur for the subject. On the same day, the Commission appointed Motoo Ogiso (Japan) Special Rapporteur for the topic on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property; he succeeded Sompong Sucharitkul (Thailand) whose term of office had expired on 31 December 1986.

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

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 1071-1076)

International organizations and international law

STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, 1071. HOST COUNTRY RELATIONS, 1073.

In 1987, the United Nations continued to emphasize the underlying need to strengthen its role in the maintenance of international peace and security, with the General Assembly calling on 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 in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations, in particular the Security Council (resolution 42/157).

The Assembly, having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, urged that country, the United States, to take all necessary measures to continue to prevent criminal acts, including harassment and violations of the security of missions and the safety of their personnel or infringements of the inviolability of their property (resolution 42/210 A).

The Assembly reiterated that the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations in New York was covered by the provisions of the 1947 Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, and requested the host country to abide by its treaty obligations under the Agreement and, in that connection, to refrain from taking any action that would prevent the Observer Mission from discharging its official functions (resolution 42/210 B).

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

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter V (pp. 1077-1078)

Treaties and agreements

In 1987, the Secretariat continued its depositary functions for bilateral and multilateral agreements deposited with the Secretary-General. Also during the year, 13 States and 10 international organizations signed or ratified the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations, while the International Law Commission continued its discussion of relations between States and international organizations.

Treaties involving international organizations The 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations⁽¹⁾ was signed by an additional 13 States and 10 international organizations and ratified by Austria and Senegal during 1987.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VI (pp. 1079-1084) International economic law

GENERAL ASPECTS, 1079: Report of UNCITRAL, 1079. INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW, 1080: Unification of trade law, 1081; Training and assistance, 1082. LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, 1082.

Legal aspects of international economic relations continued to be considered in 1987 by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and by the General Assembly's Sixth (Legal) Committee.

After more than 15 years of work, UNCITRAL submitted to the General Assembly, in 1987, the draft Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes. In December, the Assembly requested States to submit their observations on the draft Convention for consideration by a Sixth Committee working group in 1988 (resolution 42/153). In addition, the Assembly took note of the completion by UNCITRAL of the Legal Guide on Drawing Up International Contracts for the Construction of Industrial Works (42/152), and recommended that an appropriate forum in the Sixth Committee should complete the elaboration of the process of codification and progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order (42/149).

Topic related to this chapter. Development policy and international economic co-operation: proposed new international economic order.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VII (pp. 1085-1089)

Other legal questions

International Law Commission, 1085; UN Programme for the teaching and study of international law, 1087.

Work on the progressive development and codification of international law continued in the International Law Commission (ILC), which held its thirty-ninth session at Geneva from 4 May to 17 July 1987; its 34 members commenced a new five-year term of office on 1 January. In December, the General Assembly recommended that the Commission carry on working on all the topics in its current programme (resolution 42/156).

The twenty-third session of the International Law Seminar was also held at Geneva. Other seminars and training courses were offered 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 towards the financing of the Programme (42/148).

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 1091-1116) United Nations financing

FINANCIAL SITUATION, 1091: Financial crisis, 1092. UN BUDGET, 1100: Budget for 1986-1987, 1100; Budget for 1988-1989, 1104. ASSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS, 1112: Budget contributions in 1987, 1114. ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING, 1114.

The General Assembly adopted a number of resolutions in 1987 relating to the financing of the United Nations. Chief among them was the approval of the final budget appropriations in the amount of \$1,711,801,200 for the 1986-1987 biennium, together with the final income estimates of \$304,745,100 (42/213 A and B); the initial 1988-1989 programme budget containing appropriations of \$1,769,586,300 and income estimates of \$337,330,200 (42/226 A and B); and the specifications for the financing of the appropriations for 1988 (42/226 C).

The continuing financial crisis of the Organization and the economy measures undertaken to alleviate it were the subject of reports by the Secretary-General. Responding to his appeal for the restoration of the Organization's financial soundness and to measures he had recommended in anticipation of a possible funding shortfall in 1988, the Assembly called on all Member States, in fulfilment of their obligation under the Charter of the United Nations, to pay all their assessed contributions in full and on time (42/212); it established the Working Capital Fund for 1988-1989 at the \$100 million level (42/228); and authorized the Secretary-General to meet, under specified limitations, unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising during or subsequent to the biennium (42/227).

The status of the reform measures recommended by the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations (Group of 18), as endorsed by the Assembly in 1986, was also reported on by the Secretary-General. Reiterating that the reform process must not have an adverse effect on mandated activities and programmes, the Assembly stressed the imperative of dispelling the current financial uncertainties for the reform process to be successful (42/211).

In addition, the Assembly considered the inclusion of a contingency fund in the programme budget, in accordance with the new budget process approved in 1986; it approved the guidelines for such a fund (42/211) and decided to consider in 1988 the question of the fund in the context of the second year of the 1988-1989 biennium (42/225, section VIII).

The Committee on Contributions continued work on the methodology for drawing up the scale of assessments for 1989/1991. The Assembly requested the Committee to recommend to it in 1988 a scale for those years based on the current methodology, but to continue working on an improved methodology for future scales (42/208).

Of \$1,014,139,938 in contributions to the United Nations regular budget payable as at 1 January, \$660,709,117 were collected from Member States by 31 December 1987, leaving \$353.4 million outstanding. Assessments for 1987 totalled \$756.3 million, while \$257.8 million related to previous years.

The accounts and financial statements for either the year or the biennium ending 31 December 1986 of six United Nations development and humanitarian assistance programmes were accepted by the Assembly, along with the audit opinions by the United Nations Board of Auditors (42/206).

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 1117-1128) United Nations programmes

PROGRAMME PLANNING AND BUDGETING, 1117: Programme budgeting, 1120; Medium-term plan, 1121. PROGRAMME EVALUATION, 1124: Joint Inspection Unit, 1124. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 1127.

Efforts continued in 1987 to improve United Nations programme planning, budgeting and evaluation, and to follow up the 1986 recommendations by the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations (Group of 18).

The particular objectives and programmes established by the United Nations must further the Charter's interest, stated the Secretary-General, and progress towards their realization was in the interest of all Member States. Given the breadth of the United Nations agenda in the 1990s, priorities in selecting and implementing programmes would have to be determined and more rigorously observed than in the past. The three criteria established for determining priorities in programme planning—the importance of an objective to Member States, the Organization's capacity to achieve it, and the real effectiveness and usefulness of the results—would retain their validity. The elaboration of the medium-term plan for 1990-1995 should provide Member States with a unique opportunity to reflect and agree on a new and dynamic agenda for the 1990s; to that end, the Secretary-General would submit a plan which would embody the vision of the Organization's long-term goals and objectives and aim at strengthening its relevance to the global issues of peace, security and sound development. By the time the 1990s were under way, the United Nations would have completed far-reaching reforms intended to improve its administrative and financial functioning.

The Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) devoted the main part of its 1987 session to examining the programme elements of the proposed United Nations programme budget for 1988-1989. It also continued analysing and reviewing programmes of the Organization.

By resolution 42/215, the General Assembly dealt with a number of issues related to programme planning. It reiterated the importance of the medium-term plan as the principal policy directive; endorsed amendments to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, as recommended by CPC; and stressed the necessity of further integrating evaluation into the programme planning, budgeting and monitoring cycle. Other provisions related to cross-organizational programme analyses (see pp. 596 and 833) and Joint Meetings of CPC and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) (see p. 934).

United Nations programmes were inspected, reviewed or evaluated by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU). Its 1987 work programme covered broad areas of sectoral interest to the United Nations system, such as programming, budgeting, personnel, management and co-ordination, evaluation

and development co-operation. In its nineteenth annual report, JIU described how its work programme was drawn up and explained its two new features: one, the identification of evaluation studies, and the other, giving advance notice of a number of future studies. Those features were introduced to comply with the 1986 recommendations of the Group of 18. The Assembly, by resolution 42/218, invited JIU to introduce the improvements the Unit had recommended in its annual report for increasing the quality and effectiveness of its studies; it put forward a number of measures to encourage a more systematic follow-up on JIU recommendations and constructive dialogue between the Unit and the various United Nations organizations.

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, covering regular budgets, net contributions of Member States, established posts, regular budget contributions to technical co-operation activities, extrabudgetary funds, working capital funds, scales of assessment and collection of contributions.

Topics related to this chapter. Institutional arrangements: co-ordination in the UN system. United Nations financing.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 1129-1167)

United Nations officials

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, 1130: Staff composition, 1130; Recruitment policy and vacancy management, 1137; Career development, 1139; Post reductions, 1141; Staff mobility, 1142; Staff rules and regulations, 1143; Enhancement of the common system, 1144; Staff-management relations, 1148; Privileges and immunities, 1148. STAFF COSTS, 1150: Salaries and allowances, 1150; Pensions, 1157. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, 1161: UN Administrative Tribunal, 1163; Feasibility of establishing a single administrative tribunal, 1164. TRAVEL, 1164: Official travel, 1164; Standards of accommodation for air travel, 1165; Travel expenses and subsistence payments, 1165. OTHER UN OFFICIALS, 1166: Experts and consultants, 1166.

In April 1987, the Secretary-General outlined measures he had taken or planned for implementing the 1986 recommendations of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations (Group of 18). Those recommendations had far-reaching implications for the Organization's personnel, he said; reform and renewal of the United Nations would exact the highest quality of service from the Secretariat, with the same—indeed better—results being expected from a significantly reduced staff. Rather than lowering morale, the financial crisis of the Organization (see Chapter I of this section) should provide an opportunity to reorient personnel policies and practices, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations.

In accordance with a Group of 18 recommendations to reduce staff, particularly in the higher echelons, action was being taken towards a 25 per cent reduction in the number of regular budget posts at the levels of Under-Secretary-General (USG) and Assistant Secretary-General (ASG). The continuing shortfall in financial resources also made it necessary to extend the recruitment freeze imposed in 1986.

As at 30 June 1987, United Nations Secretariat staff members appointed for a year or more totalled 14,081; of those, 10,235 occupied regular budget posts, while 3,846 were paid from extra-budgetary sources.

The General Assembly, by resolution 42/220 A, established new desirable ranges for the geographical distribution of Professional staff, and, by resolution 42/220 C, requested the Secretary-General to consider introducing additional measures in order to achieve by 1990 the target of 30 per cent for the representation of women in Professional posts subject to geographical distribution. The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1987/19, reiterated its request to Member States to continue supporting United Nations efforts to increase the proportion of women by nominating more women candidates, and requested United Nations organs to improve the mechanisms of vacancy announcements.

The International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), which made recommendations and in certain instances decisions affecting United Nations personnel, held two sessions in 1987, both in New York. The Assembly, by resolution 42/221 on the report of ICSC, approved revised rates of staff assessment for staff in the Professional and higher categories and requested ICSC to

continue examining the methodology for calculating the net remuneration margin of the United Nations and the best-paid national civil service. On the basis of other findings and recommendations of the Commission, the Assembly decided that the conditions of service of Professional staff should be reviewed. As an interim measure, it approved for 1988 and 1989 modifications to the post adjustment system at selected duty stations. It also approved modifications of the education grant for staff at locations where educational facilities were not available or inadequate. Following the Commission's adoption of 11 principles and guidelines for performance appraisal and recognition of merit of staff, the Assembly requested it to report in 1992 on measures taken in response to its recommendations. Expressing concern over actions by some organizations which had led to disparities in the United Nations system, the Assembly urged the organizations concerned to revise their rules and regulations so that they conformed with ICSC decisions.

The Assembly considered a report by the Secretary-General on United Nations staff detained or reported missing and, by resolution 42/219, called for scrupulous respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations system.

Based on recommendations of the Pension Board, the Assembly, by resolution 42/222, approved changes in the pension adjustment system for the years 1988 to 1990. It also approved an increase in the number of members of the Pension Board from 21 to 33.

Steps were being taken to establish a revised and simplified system of administration of justice within the Secretariat. The Assembly, by resolution 42/220 B, requested the Secretary-General to continue improving procedures for resolving disputes and appeals, and to continue reviewing the feasibility of establishing an independent office of Ombudsman. By resolution 42/217, it asked him to arrange for consultations among Member States to examine the feasibility of establishing a single administrative tribunal by combining the United Nations Administrative Tribunal and the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

By decision 42/453, the Assembly concurred with the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on arrangements for official travel, co-operation agreements with airlines and interagency co-operation with regard to organization and methods of official travel. With regard to standards of accommodation for air travel, the Assembly, by resolution 42/214, decided that all individuals, with the exception of the Secretary-General and the heads of delegations of the least developed countries to Assembly sessions, would be required to travel at the class immediately below first class.

Topics related to this chapter. Regional economic and social activities: Western Asia— vacancies in the ESCWA secretariat. United Nations financing.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 1168-1183)

Other administrative and management questions

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS, 1168. DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS, 1175. UN PREMISES, 1177. INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND COMPUTERS, 1180. UN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION, 1182.

In 1987, the Committee on Conferences continued efforts towards organizing a more evenly distributed calendar of United Nations conferences and meetings, ensuring the best use of conference-servicing resources and limiting documentation. Bolstering those efforts were the related measures taken, as reported by the Secretary-General, in implementation of the 1986 General Assembly resolution approving the recommendations of the High-level Intergovernmental Group of Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations (Group of 18).

The Committee began revising its terms of reference in response to an Assembly request and a Group of 18 recommendation that it be reconstituted into a permanent intergovernmental body. To allow for the formulation of a final recommendation, the Assembly renewed the Committee's mandate for a further year, through 1988 (resolution 42/207 A).

The Assembly authorized meetings of a number of subsidiary organs during its 1987 session (decision 42/403), approved the 1988-1989 calendar of conferences and meetings (resolution 42/207 B), and requested the Secretary-General to ensure conference services with adequate personnel and equal treatment of all United Nations official languages (resolution 42/207 C). The Assembly concurred with the Secretary-General's decision to continue the joint conference services at the Vienna International Centre, but to keep under review the possibility of unifying those services (resolution 42/225, section VII). It approved the 1988 budget estimates for the International Computing Centre (ICC) (resolution 42/225, section I).

In addition, the Assembly took note of two 1986 reports by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU), together with the relevant comments of the Secretary-General and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC): on the storage problem in the United Nations system (resolution 42/225, section III) and on the management of the system's interpretation services (decision 42/455). Noting that the project on the issue of special postage stamps on the social and economic crisis in Africa was almost completed, the Assembly asked the Secretary-General for a final financial report on the project (resolution 42/216 B).

Also in 1987, three reports were submitted to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) at its request: a progress report by ACC on the status of a register of United Nations development activities, taken note of by the Economic and Social Council (decision 1987/183); and a report on Secretariat mailing lists and an evaluation of the programme on electronic data processing and information systems services, both by the Secretary-General.

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