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TWENTY-FIFTH REGULAR SESSION

Opening 15 September 1970

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## INTRODUCTION

This year, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, the General Assembly is to open its session at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 15 September, at United Nations Headquarters.

A commemorative session is scheduled to be held from 14 to 24 October, culminating on United Nations Day, which this year marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the coming into force of the United Nations Charter.

Last year, the Assembly expressed the hope that as many Heads of State or Government as possible would participate in the commemorative part of the session. For further details, see annotation on item 25 in this press release.

Up to 5 September, the Assembly has been asked to consider 108 items. The provisional agenda of the twenty-fifth session A/8000 and Corr.1 (Russian only), Corr.2, and Corr.3 (English and Russian only) lists 100 items. A supplementary list (A/8050) contains eight more items proposed for inclusion in the agenda.

In 1969, the agenda as approved by the Assembly contained 107 items, and in 1968 the figure stood at 98.

Rule 12 of the Assembly's rules of procedure requires the provisional agenda to be communicated to Members at least 60 days before the opening of the session.

Under rule 14, any Member, principal organ of the United Nations or the Secretary-General may request, at least 30 days before the opening of the regular session, the inclusion of supplementary items in the agenda.

Rule 15 permits the inclusion of additional items "of an important and urgent character" proposed less than 30 days before a regular session, or during a session, provided the Assembly so decides by a majority of Members present and voting. Up to 5 September, no such requests had been received this year.

This press release contains background information, as of 5 September, on all items thus far proposed for discussion. The items are numbered as they appear on the provisional agenda. However, this does not necessarily indicate the order in which they will appear on the final agenda once it is adopted.

ITEMS ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of Session

At the opening of each session of the General Assembly, the Chairman of the delegation from which the President of the previous session was elected occupies the Chair until the Assembly elects a President for the session. Miss Angie E. Brooks of Liberia was President of the twenty-fourth session.

2. Minute of Silent Prayer or Meditation

At the opening of the first plenary meeting and at the end of the final meeting, the President invites representatives to rise for a minute of silent prayer or meditation.

3. Credentials

The Assembly appoints, on the proposal of the President, a nine-member Committee to examine the credentials of representatives. The Committee's report is submitted for approval towards the end of the session.

4. Election of President

The President is elected by secret ballot and by a simple majority. There are no nominations. Past Assembly Presidents were:

|                         |                        |         |                                   |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| First regular session   | London and<br>New York | 1946    | Paul-Henri Spaak<br>(Belgium)     |
| First special session   | New York               | 1947    | Oswaldo Aranha<br>(Brazil)        |
| Second regular session  |                        |         |                                   |
| Second special session  | New York               | 1948    | José Arce<br>(Argentina)          |
| Third regular session   | Paris and<br>New York  | 1948-49 | Herbert V. Evatt<br>(Australia)   |
| Fourth regular session  | New York               | 1949    | Carlos P. Romulo<br>(Philippines) |
| Fifth regular session   | New York               | 1950-51 | Nasrollah Entezam<br>(Iran)       |
| Sixth regular session   | Paris                  | 1951-52 | Luis Padilla Nervo<br>(Mexico)    |
| Seventh regular session | New York               | 1952-53 | Lester B. Pearson<br>(Canada)     |

|  |          |         |  |
|--|----------|---------|--|
| Eighth regular session                         | New York | 1953-54 | Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit<br>(India)  |
| Ninth regular session                          | New York | 1954    | Eelco N. van Kleffens<br>(Netherlands) |
| Tenth regular session                          | New York | 1955    | José Maza<br>(Chile)                   |
| First and second emergency<br>special sessions | New York | 1956    | Rudecindo Ortega<br>(Chile)            |
| Eleventh regular session                       | New York | 1956-57 | Prince Wan Waithayakon<br>(Thailand)   |
| Twelfth regular session                        | New York | 1957    | Sir Leslie Munro<br>(New Zealand)      |
| Third emergency special session                |          | 1958    |  |
| Thirteenth regular session                     | New York | 1958-59 | Charles Malik<br>(Lebanon)             |
| Fourteenth regular session                     | New York | 1959    | Victor Andrés Belaúnde<br>(Peru)       |
| Fourth emergency special session               |          | 1960    |  |
| Fifteenth regular session                      | New York | 1960-61 | Frederick H. Boland<br>(Ireland)       |
| Third special session                          |          | 1961    |  |
| Sixteenth regular session                      | New York | 1961-62 | Mongi Slim<br>(Tunisia)                |
| Seventeenth regular session                    | New York | 1962    | Muhammad Zafrulla Khan<br>(Pakistan)   |
| Fourth special session                         |          | 1963    |  |
| Eighteenth regular session                     | New York | 1963    | Carlos Sosa Rodríguez<br>(Venezuela)   |
| Nineteenth regular session                     | New York | 1964-65 | Alex Quaison-Sackey<br>(Ghana)         |
| Twentieth regular session                      | New York | 1965    | Amintore Fanfani<br>(Italy)            |
| Twenty-first regular session                   | New York | 1966    | Abdul Rahman Pazhwak<br>(Afghanistan)  |
| Fifth special session                          |          | 1967    |  |
| Fifth emergency special session                |          | 1967    |  |
| Twenty-second regular session                  | New York | 1967-68 | Corneliu Manescu<br>(Romania)          |
| Twenty-third regular session                   | New York | 1968    | Emilio Arenales<br>(Guatemala)         |
| Twenty-fourth regular session                  | New York | 1969    | Miss Angie E. Brooks<br>(Liberia)      |

5. Main Committees, Election of Officers

The General Assembly has seven Main Committees, on which all Member States are represented. They are: First Committee (Political and Security); Special Political Committee; Second Committee (Economic and Financial); Third

(Social, Humanitarian and Cultural); Fourth (Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories); Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary); and Sixth Committee (Legal).

Each Main Committee elects its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur by secret ballot or by acclamation.

According to a pattern fixed by the Assembly in 1963 (resolution 1990 (XVIII) of 17 December), the seven Chairmen are elected as follows:

- (a) Three representatives from African and Asian States;
- (b) One from an Eastern European State;
- (c) One from a Latin American State;
- (d) One from a Western European or other State;
- (e) The seventh chairmanship to rotate in alternate years between representatives of States referred to in (c) and (d) this year it is the turn of a Western European or other State.

The Main Committees examine and make recommendations on matters referred to them by the Assembly.

#### 6. Election of Vice-Presidents

For the 17 vice-presidencies, the General Assembly elects Member States, not individuals, and the heads of the delegations of the elected States serve in these posts. Elections are by secret ballot and by simple majority.

The Assembly decided in 1963 (resolution 1990 (XVIII)) that the Vice-Presidents shall be elected according to the following pattern:

1. (a) Seven representatives from African and Asian States;  
(b) One from an Eastern European State;  
(c) Three from Latin American States;  
(d) Two from Western European and other States;  
(e) Five from the permanent members of the Security Council.
2. The election of the President of the Assembly will, however, have the effect of reducing by one the number of vice-presidencies allocated to the region from which the President is elected.

#### 7. Notification by Secretary-General under Article 12 (2) of the Charter

Article 12, paragraph 1, of the United Nations Charter provides:

"While the Security Council is exercising in respect of any dispute or situation the functions assigned to it in the present Charter, the General Assembly shall not make any recommendation with regard to that dispute or situation unless the Security Council so requests."

As required by paragraph 2 of that Article, the Secretary-General, with the consent of the Council, submits at each Assembly session a list of matters relative to the maintenance of peace and security which are being dealt with

by the Council and also of matters with which the Council has ceased to deal. The notification is issued on the opening day of the session.

The Assembly normally takes note of the communication without debate.

#### 8. Adoption of Agenda

The provisional agenda (A/8000) and any requests for inclusion of further items are considered first by the Assembly's General Committee, a steering committee concerned with the agenda and organizational matters.

The Committee, composed of the President, the 17 Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the seven Main Committees, makes recommendations as to whether the proposed items should be included in the agenda, and on their allocation to the Main Committees and plenary meetings. Approval of these recommendations by the Assembly requires a majority of Members present and voting.

The rules of procedure do not permit the General Committee to discuss the substance of an item except in so far as this bears on the question of its inclusion and on what priority should be accorded to an item recommended for inclusion.

#### 9. General Debate

For several weeks at the beginning of each General Assembly session, heads of delegations express the views of their Governments on current political, economic, social and other matters.

#### 10. Report of Secretary-General

Article 98 of the Charter requires the Secretary-General to report each year to the General Assembly on the work of the Organization. His report (A/8001) presents an account of United Nations activities during the period 16 June 1969 to 15 June 1970. The introduction to the report (A/8001/Add.1), containing the Secretary-General's observations on a number of current international issues, will be issued separately before the opening of the session. The Assembly normally takes note of the report without discussion.

#### 11. Report of Security Council

Article 24 of the Charter requires the Security Council to submit annual reports to the Assembly. This year's report (A/8002) will cover the period 16 July 1969 to 15 July 1970.

The Assembly normally takes note of the Council's report without debate.

12. Report of Economic and Social Council

This year's annual report of the Economic and Social Council (A/8003) covers the Council's activities from 9 August 1969 to 31 July 1970.

This year, the Council held the first part of its forty-eighth session at United Nations Headquarters on 12 to 14 January; 18 February; and 23 March to 3 April. It resumed the session from 11 to 28 May.

It held its forty-ninth session in Geneva from 6 to 31 July and will resume the session in New York for a few days in October and November. The Council will submit a supplementary report (A/3003/Add.1) on this resumed session.

13. Report of Trusteeship Council

The annual report of the Trusteeship Council (A/8004) contains recommendations and conclusions on New Guinea, adopted during its thirty-seventh session (held from 26 May to 19 June at Headquarters).

New Guinea, administered by Australia, is one of the two remaining Trust Territories. The Pacific Islands, the other Trust Territory, which is administered by the United States, is a strategic area on which the Trusteeship Council reports to the Security Council.

Originally, 11 Trust Territories came under the International Trusteeship System, but nine have attained independence or self-government.

The Trusteeship Council is now composed of six members: Australia and the United States, Administering Authorities; China, France, USSR and United Kingdom, which serve in their capacity as permanent members of the Security Council.

The Trust Territory of New Guinea is administered jointly with Papua where the capital, Port Moresby, is located. A 94-member House of Assembly and the Administrator's Executive Council exercise legislative and a measure of executive responsibility.

For the first time, the Trusteeship Council decided this year, after consultations with the Special Committee on decolonization, to include non-members of the Council in its periodic visiting mission to New Guinea. This had been requested by the General Assembly (resolution 2590 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969). The mission, to be dispatched in 1971, will comprise France; Iraq and Sierra Leone (non-members); and United Kingdom.



The General Assembly, in its resolution 2590, also called on Australia to take steps to transfer full executive and legislative powers to the elected representatives of the people, and to intensify and accelerate the education and technical and administrative training of the indigenous peoples of the Territories.

In its conclusions on New Guinea, the Council said it was encouraged that the House of Assembly continued to take an active interest in developing a sense of nationhood and that it had approved the creation of a Select Committee on Constitutional Development, one of whose tasks was to study the adoption of a common name, flag and national anthem for Papua and New Guinea.

The Council noted the statement of the Administering Authority that indigenous participation in all institutions of government had been broadened, and that the Administrator's Executive Council was consulted on all significant issues.

Concerning political education, the Council expressed interest in the programme aimed at increasing the people's understanding of problems encountered in moving towards self-determination.

It also noted the successful operation of a system of ministerial members and the fact that the Select Committee had undertaken a study of further steps in the evolution towards self-determination. However, the Council said it sought to ensure that the people achieved this as swiftly as possible.

Therefore, it welcomed a recent declaration by the Administering Authority that, while an arbitrary date should not be set for independence, it was committed to self-government and eventual independence for the Territory.

#### 14. Report of International Court of Justice

Since 1968, the International Court of Justice has submitted annual reports to the General Assembly. The President of the Court had informed the Secretary-General that it felt such reports would contribute to a better understanding of its functions and activities within the United Nations framework.

At the past two sessions, the Assembly took note of the reports. The third annual report, covering the period 1 August 1969 to 31 July 1970, will be before the Assembly this year (A/8005).

On 29 July, the Secretary-General transmitted Security Council resolution 284 (1970) on Namibia to the Court. In that resolution, the Security Council requested an advisory opinion of the Court on the "legal consequences for States of the continued presence of South Africa in Namibia, notwithstanding Security Council resolution 276 (1970)". (See notes under item 64 on question of Namibia.)

This is the first time that the Security Council has asked for an advisory opinion of the Court.

#### 15. Report of International Atomic Energy Agency

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), an autonomous inter-governmental organization under the aegis of the United Nations, reports each year to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

The first part of the IAEA report (attached to A/8034) consists of the annual report of the Board of Governors to the IAEA General Conference and covers the period 1 July 1969 to 30 June 1970. A supplement dealing with later developments, including action taken by the fourteenth General Conference which will meet in Vienna from 22 to 29 September, will be issued during the Assembly session (A/8034/Add.1).

Developments cited in the Board's report include the following:

-- The most important event for IAEA was the entry into force on 5 March 1970 of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which will increase the safeguards responsibilities of the Agency. A committee established to advise it on these matters began its work on 12 June.

-- By 30 June, the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (the Tlatelolco Treaty) was in force between 16 States. The question of safeguards agreements under this instrument was being considered in connexion with agreements relating to the NPT.

-- The International Nuclear Information System (INIS), a computer-based system launched this year to make scientific literature available to scientists and engineers, reported out data on 533 items of literature in May and June. Up to 30 June, 35 countries and four international organizations had agreed to participate, thus assuring coverage of at least 90 per cent of the sources of the world's nuclear publications.

-- The Agency is continuing to encourage progress towards cheaper small or medium-sized nuclear power plants for developing countries, and a co-ordinated research programme on this subject has been launched with participation of Belgium, Federal Republic of Germany, Sweden and USSR.

-- The World Health Organization (WHO) had agreed to co-sponsor a number of IAEA standards for nuclear safety, relating to radiation protection, safe handling of radio-isotopes and management of radio-active wastes. This was particularly welcome when public concern about pollution was manifest in many parts of the world.

#### 16. Election of Five Non-Permanent Members of Security Council

The Security Council consists of five permanent members (China, France, USSR, United Kingdom and United States) and 10 non-permanent members elected by the General Assembly for a two-year term.

The terms of Colombia, Finland, Nepal, Spain, Zambia expire at the end of 1970. The five other non-permanent members of the Council, elected to serve through 1971, are Burundi, Nicaragua, Poland, Sierra Leone and Syria.

The Council, which originally had 11 members, became a 15-member body on 1 January 1966, in accordance with amendments to Article 23 of the United Nations Charter which came into effect on 31 August 1965.

In the resolution by which it adopted the Charter amendments (1991 A (XVIII) of 17 December 1963), the Assembly decided that the 10 (formerly six) non-permanent members would be elected according to the following pattern: five from African and Asian States, one from Eastern European States, two from Latin American States, and two from Western European and other States.

Election is by two-thirds majority on a secret ballot. In elections, the Charter calls for "due regard" to be "specially paid, in the first instance, to the contribution of Members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization and also to equitable geographical distribution". Retiring members are not eligible for

The following States have served so far as non-permanent members of the Council:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Algeria (1968-69)                                       | Liberia (1961)                          |
| Argentina (1948-49, 1959-60<br>1966-67)                 | Malaysia (1965)                         |
| Australia (1946-47, 1956-57)                            | Mali (1966-67)                          |
| Belgium (1947-48, 1955-56)                              | Mexico (1946)                           |
| Bolivia (1964-65)                                       | Morocco (1963-64)                       |
| Brazil (1946-47, 1951-52, 1954-55,<br>1963-64, 1967-68) | Nepal (1969-70)                         |
| Bulgaria (1966-67)                                      | Netherlands (1946, 1951-52,<br>1965-66) |
| Burundi (1970-71)                                       | New Zealand (1954-55, 1966)             |
| Canada (1948-49, 1958-59,<br>1967-68)                   | Nicaragua (1970-71)                     |
| Ceylon (1960-61)  | Nigeria (1966-67)                       |
| Chile (1952-53, 1961-62)                                | Norway (1949-50, 1963-64)               |
| Colombia (1947-48, 1953-54,<br>1957-58, 1969-70)        | Pakistan (1952-53, 1968-69)             |
| Cuba (1949-50, 1956-57)                                 | Panama (1958-59)                        |
| Czechoslovakia (1964)                                   | Paraguay (1968-69)                      |
| Denmark (1953-54, 1967-68)                              | Peru (1955-56)                          |
| Ecuador (1950-51, 1960-61)                              | Philippines (1957, 1963)                |
| Ethiopia (1967-68)                                      | Poland (1946-47, 1960, 1970-71)         |
| Finland (1969-70)                                       | Romania (1962)                          |
| Ghana (1962-63)   | Senegal (1968-69)                       |
| Greece (1952-53)  | Sierra Leone (1970-71)                  |
| Hungary (1968-69)                                       | Spain (1969-70)                         |
| India (1950-51, 1967-68)                                | Sweden (1957-58)                        |
| Iran (1955-56)  | Syria (1947-48, 1970-71)                |
| Iraq (1957-58)  | Tunisia (1959-60)                       |
| Ireland (1962)  | Turkey (1951-52, 1954-55, 1961)         |
| Italy (1959-60)   | Uganda (1966)                           |
| Ivory Coast (1964-65)                                   | Ukraine (1948-49)                       |
| Japan (1958-59, 1966-67)                                | United Arab Republic* (1961-62)         |
| Jordan (1965-66)  | Uruguay (1965-66)                       |
| Lebanon (1953-54)                                       | Venezuela (1962-63)                     |
|   | Yugoslavia (1950-51, 1956)              |
|   | Zambia (1969-70)                        |

#### 17. Election of Nine members of Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council consists of 27 members, elected by the General Assembly for a three-year term. One-third of the membership is elected each year.

This year, the Assembly is to elect members to fill seats now held by Argentina, Bulgaria, Chad, India, Ireland, Japan, People's Republic of the Congo, United States and Upper Volta, whose terms expire on 31 December 1970.

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\* Egypt served on the Council in 1946 and 1949-50.

The other members of the Council are Indonesia, Jamaica, Norway, Pakistan, Sudan, USSR, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Yugoslavia, whose terms expire at the end of 1971; and Brazil, Ceylon, France, Ghana, Greece, Italy, Kenya, Peru and Tunisia, whose terms expire at the end of 1972.

Election is by two-thirds majority, on a secret ballot. Retiring members are eligible for immediate re-election.

The Council, which originally had 18 members, was enlarged to its present size on 1 January 1966 in accordance with an amendment to Article 61 of the Charter. The amendment came into force on 31 August 1965, following its adoption by the Assembly on 17 December 1963 (resolution 1991 B (XVIII)).

In that resolution, the Assembly established a pattern of geographical distribution of the nine additional seats on the Council. Consequently, the 27 members are elected according to the following pattern: 12 from African and Asian States, three from Eastern Europe, five from Latin America and seven from Western European and other States.

#### 18. Election of 15 Members of Industrial Development Board

The Industrial Development Board, the principal organ of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), is composed of 45 members, elected by the General Assembly for a three-year term. One third of the membership is elected each year.

At the end of 1970, the terms of 15 members are to expire: Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Guinea, Indonesia, Italy, Nigeria, Peru, Rwanda, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, USSR and United Republic of Tanzania.

Other members of the Board are: Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Denmark, France, India, Iraq, Japan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Poland, Sudan, Thailand, United States and Upper Volta, whose terms will expire at the end of 1971; and the Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Iran, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Venezuela, whose terms expire on 31 December 1972.

Members of the Board are elected from among States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

In resolution 2152 (XXI) by which UNIDO was established, the Assembly decided that the 45 members of the Board would be elected in the following pattern: 18 from the developing countries of Africa and Asia (Group A); 15 from the developed countries of Western Europe, the Pacific region and North America (Group B); seven from Central and South America and the Caribbean (Group C); and five from the socialist countries of Eastern Europe (Group D). (The States in each group are listed in the annex to resolution 2152 (XXI) of 17 November 1966.)

Election is by simple majority, on a secret ballot. Retiring members are eligible for immediate re-election.

19. Election of 14 Members of United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law by resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966.

This resolution states that the Commission's 29 members are elected for a six-year term, but that the terms of 14 of those elected at the first election shall expire at the end of three years.

Thus, the Assembly this year is to elect members to succeed Chile, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, France, Ghana, Italy, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, Thailand, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United Republic of Tanzania, whose terms expire on 31 December.

The other members of the Commission, whose terms will expire on 31 December 1973, are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Hungary, India, Iran, Kenya, Mexico, Romania, Spain, Syria, Tunisia and United States.

In its resolution establishing the Commission, the Assembly set the following pattern for election of members: seven from Africa, five from Asia, four from Eastern Europe, five from Latin America and eight from Western European and other States.

20. Fourth International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has issued invitations to members of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to participate in the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 6 to 16 September 1971.

The Conference will continue the series of earlier international meetings on this subject -- held in 1955, 1958 and 1964 -- at which emphasis was placed on the scientific and technical aspects of atomic energy.

For the fourth Conference, however, the General Assembly has called for broader expert participation. In resolution 2309 (XXII) of 13 December 1967, it stated that, "because of the growth in the practical applications of atomic energy and the importance of ensuring that such applications are made widely known, a conference whose agenda would concern public officials, economists and planners, as well as technologists, would be desirable".

Accordingly, in his letter of invitation, the Secretary-General asked participating States to include among their representatives not only individual experts competent in the field of atomic energy, but also "public officials, economists and planners interested in the practical applications of atomic energy".

In its 1967 resolution on this matter, the Assembly noted that a conference "more limited in size, costs and duration than those held in 1955, 1958 and 1964 would be adequate". The Secretary-General has advised Member States that these changes have been taken into account in the proposed agenda for the Conference, in the rules of procedure and in the instructions for authors submitting papers.

Last year, in resolution 2575 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, "with the continuing assistance of the United Nations Scientific Advisory Committee, in close co-operation with the International Atomic Energy Agency and in close consultation with appropriate specialized agencies, to continue preparations" for the Conference.

The provisional agenda, as thus prepared, includes the following main items: nuclear power and special applications; nuclear fuels, cycles and materials; health, safety and legal aspects of nuclear energy; applications of isotopes and radiation; international and administrative aspects of nuclear energy; and aspects of nuclear technology of particular interest for developing countries.

The Secretary-General's report on this matter will be issued later.

21. Installation of Mechanical Means of Voting

A report on the design, construction and installation of mechanical voting equipment in one of the conference rooms used for Main Committees of the General Assembly is to be submitted by the Secretary-General.

The report has not yet been issued. However, the Secretary-General's report on the budget estimates for 1971 (A/8006) states that the demonstration model of this equipment was completed (early this year) and the technical accuracy of the design has been confirmed. In his report on this item, the Secretary-General will recommend installation of this equipment in Conference Room 3 at United Nations Headquarters, according to the budget report.

The Assembly, which in 1966 approved the permanent use of a mechanical voting system installed in the Assembly Hall in 1964, authorized the Secretary-General last year to proceed with the design and construction of such a system for one committee room (resolution 2519 (XXIV) of 4 December 1969). The decision that the United Nations itself should design the system was taken on recommendation of the Secretary-General, who stated in a report last year (A/7737) that this course would be better and more economical than if the Organization were to buy or rent a system not specifically designed for United Nations use.

The existing equipment in the Assembly Hall enables delegates to vote by pressing buttons at their tables. The votes are tabulated mechanically and the results can be displayed on illuminated boards at the front of the hall. When roll-call or recorded votes are taken, the results are distributed to delegations in writing. This system is rented at a cost of \$10,000 a year.

In his 1969 report, the Secretary-General estimated that the cost of designing, building and installing a voting system in one committee room would be \$80,000. The equipment, he added, could be installed for use by the 1971 session of the Assembly.



22. Situation in the Middle East

This item has been on the agenda since the Assembly opened its fifth emergency special session on 17 June 1967 to consider the hostilities of 5 to 10 June 1967 between Israel and neighbouring Arab States.

At that session, which was convened on the initiative of the Soviet Union, the Assembly adopted three resolutions on the matter.

In the first one (resolution 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967), the Assembly endorsed the efforts of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to provide humanitarian assistance, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to displaced persons in need of immediate aid as a result of the hostilities. (See also notes on item 36 on UNRWA.)

The other two resolutions related to Jerusalem. In one (resolution 2253 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967), the Assembly said it considered as invalid measures taken by Israel to change the status of the city. It called on Israel to rescind all measures already taken and to desist forthwith from taking any action which would alter the status of Jerusalem. The Secretary-General was requested to report within one week on implementation of the resolution.

After receiving the report, the Assembly adopted another resolution (2254 (ES-V) of 14 July 1967), deploring Israel's failure to implement the previous one and reiterating its call to Israel to rescind the measures taken and to desist from taking action to alter the status of Jerusalem.

Since these resolutions were adopted, the Assembly has not formally discussed the situation in the Middle East, although the subject has been referred to in general debate statements and in discussions on other agenda items. At the end of the regular sessions in 1967, 1968 and 1969, the Assembly decided to place the item on the provisional agenda of the following session.

Since the beginning of the hostilities of June 1967, the Security Council up to 6 September 1970 has adopted 21 resolutions concerning the situation in the Middle East.

The Council's calls for a cease-fire were accepted in June 1967 by Israel, Jordan, the United Arab Republic, Syria and later by Lebanon. Subsequently, the Council dealt with various complaints of violations of the cease-fire and other acts of violence.

On 22 November 1967, the Council unanimously adopted a resolution (242 (1967)) setting forth principles for a just and lasting peace. These principles were: (a) "Withdrawal of Israel armed forces from territories occupied in the recent conflict", and (b) "Termination of all claims or states of belligerency and respect for and acknowledgement of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every State in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force".

At the same time, the Council affirmed the necessity for guaranteeing freedom of navigation through international waterways in the area, for achieving a just settlement of the refugee problem, and for guaranteeing the territorial inviolability and political independence of every State in the area.

In this resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to designate a Special Representative "to proceed to the Middle East to establish and maintain contacts with the States concerned in order to promote agreement and assist efforts to achieve a peaceful and accepted settlement in accordance with the provisions and principles in this resolution". The Secretary-General was asked to report on the progress of these efforts as soon as possible.

Gunnar V. Jarring of Sweden was appointed on 23 November 1967 as the Secretary-General's Special Representative to the Middle East. Shortly afterwards, he began his mission with a series of visits to the Governments concerned. Later, he met with their representatives in New York as well as in the Middle East. In April 1969, Mr. Jarring resumed, for the time being, his duties in Moscow as Swedish Ambassador, but remained in touch with the parties and with the Secretary-General.

On 7 August 1970, the Secretary-General reported to the Security Council (S. 9902) that the United States had informed him that a peace proposal initiated by that Government had been accepted by Israel, Jordan and the United Arab Republic. Confirmation of these acceptances had been received by Mr. Jarring, whose mission "is now reactivated".

Reactivation of the mission marked "an important step forward in the search for peace in the Middle East", the Secretary-General stated, but it was already clear that "the road ahead is long, arduous and uncertain".

In his report to the Council, the Secretary-General also said Mr. Jarring had advised him by letter that, "to facilitate my task of promoting agreement as set forth in resolution 242", the parties would strictly observe, effective 7 August and at least until 5 November, the cease-fire resolutions of the Security Council.

Mr. Jarring's letter stated that the three parties, having accepted and indicated their willingness to carry out resolution 242 in all its parts, would "designate representatives to discussions to be held under my auspices". The purpose of the discussions was "to reach agreement on the establishment of a just and lasting peace" between the three parties based on (1) mutual acknowledgement by them of each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence, and (2) Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied in the 1967 conflict, "both in accordance with resolution 242".

On 24 August, Mr. Jarring told correspondents that the parties would be represented during the initial stage by their permanent representatives to the United Nations, but he expressed the hope that at a later stage the discussion could be held at the Foreign Ministers' level. He would see the three representatives "one by one".

The talks began under Mr. Jarring's auspices on 25 August at United Nations Headquarters.

In other United Nations actions relating to the Middle East, the Assembly decided in 1968 to establish a three-member Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968). The resolution was adopted on recommendation of the Third Committee.

As the result of delay in the appointment of the three members of the Special Committee (Ceylon, Somalia, Yugoslavia), it did not carry out its investigations until this year. It heard witnesses in London, Beirut, Damascus, Amman, Cairo and Geneva between 1 April and 2 May and a witness in New York on 12 June. The Group's report, which has not yet been issued, will be circulated as an Assembly document without reference to a particular agenda item.

In 1969, the Commission on Human Rights set up a six-member Special Working Group of Experts to investigate allegations concerning violations of human rights in territories occupied by Israel. The Group heard witnesses in

New York, Beirut, Damascus, Amman and Cairo in July and August 1969 and submitted a report to the Commission in February 1970.

At the Commission's request, this report (E/CN.4/1016 and Add. 1-5) is being brought to the attention of the Assembly in connexion with item 12 (Report of the Economic and Social Council). A note by the Secretary-General to this effect has been issued (A/7929).

23. Implementation of Declaration on Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

It proclaims the need to bring colonialism to a speedy and unconditional end, and states that: the subjection of peoples to alien domination constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights and is contrary to the United Nations Charter; all peoples have the right to self-determination; inadequacy of political, economic, social or educational preparedness should never serve as a pretext for delaying independence; and immediate steps shall be taken to transfer, without conditions or reservations, all powers to the peoples of territories not yet independent.

In 1961, the Assembly established a 17-member Special Committee to examine the application of the Declaration and to make recommendations on its implementation. In 1962, the membership of the Committee was enlarged to 24; it has since been known as the Special Committee of 24 on decolonization. (Australia withdrew from the Committee in January 1969 and has not been replaced.)

The present members are Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Honduras, India, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Norway, Poland, Sierra Leone, Syria, Tunisia, USSR, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

Since the adoption of the Declaration, some 30 dependent Territories have attained independence, and most are now Members of the United Nations. Forty-five other Territories, with a combined population of more than 25 million, remain within the Special Committee's scope. They range from Pitcairn Island (92 inhabitants) to Mozambique (more than 7 million).

This year, another Territory -- Fiji, administered by the United Kingdom -- is scheduled to achieve independence on 10 October. (See notes on item 67.)

The 1970 series of meetings of the Special Committee of 24, which began on 6 March, are still continuing at Headquarters.

During the year, the Committee sent an eight-member ad hoc group to Africa to establish direct contact with representatives of national liberation movements so as to take their views into account in preparing an analytical study of decolonization. The study was called for by the Assembly in connexion with the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on decolonization (for details, see item 24). During the two-week trip, the ad hoc group visited Algeria, Ethiopia, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

Also this year, the Special Committee sent a five-man delegation of observers to the International Conference in Support of the Peoples of Portuguese Colonies, held in Rome from 27 to 29 June. The Committee was invited by the Conference President to send representatives.

Some of the topics considered by the Special Committee this year appear as separate items on the provisional agenda. These include: special programme of activities in connexion with the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on decolonization (item 24); Namibia (64); Portuguese-administered Territories (65); Southern Rhodesia (66); Fiji (67); Oman (68); activities of foreign interests impeding decolonization (69); and implementation of the Declaration on decolonization by specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations (item 70).

In addition to these topics, the Committee has considered and made recommendations on a number of other Territories. At the specific request of the Assembly, it is also considering the compliance of Member States with the Declaration and with other relevant resolutions on decolonization. The three Sub-Committees have made recommendations concerning a number of the small Territories.

(The Committee's annual report for 1970 to the Assembly will appear in A/8023 and addenda.)

After considering last year's report of the Special Committee, the Assembly took a number of decisions relating to particular Territories. It also expressed views on the question of decolonization in general, in resolution 2548 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969.

In this resolution, the Assembly reiterated that colonial rule threatened international peace and security; reaffirmed its recognition of the legitimacy of the struggle of colonial peoples; urged all States to give moral, political and material support to colonial peoples in the struggle to achieve freedom and independence; requested all States, specialized agencies and international institutions to withhold assistance of any kind from Portugal, South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, and deplored the attitude of States co-operating with them; called on States to enact legislation declaring the recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries to be a punishable offence; requested the colonial Powers to dismantle their military bases in colonial Territories; and condemned the policies of certain colonial Powers of imposing non-representative régimes, strengthening the position of foreign interests, misleading world public opinion and encouraging the influx of foreign immigrants while deporting indigenous inhabitants to other areas.

The Assembly requested the Special Committee to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures with regard to colonial developments likely to threaten international peace; and requested the Committee to continue to examine the compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions, particularly those relating to the Portuguese-administered Territories, Southern Rhodesia and Namibia. The Committee also was invited to pay particular attention to the small Territories and to recommend appropriate methods to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise self-determination. Administering Powers were urged to co-operate with the Committee by permitting United Nations missions to visit the Territories.

Further, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to give widespread and continuous publicity to colonial matters. It also requested Member States, particularly the administering Powers, to co-operate in large-scale dissemination of information on United Nations work in this field.

In addition to the colonial matters dealt with as separate agenda items, the following have been among subjects considered by the Assembly at its last session or by the Special Committee in 1970:

Gibraltar: Under British control since 1704, Gibraltar was formally ceded to the United Kingdom by Spain under the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. Spain has maintained that Gibraltar is an integral part of its territory. The United Kingdom has rejected Spain's claims of sovereignty.

The Special Committee in 1964 asked both Governments to begin talks to reach a negotiated solution, in keeping with the Declaration on decolonization. The Assembly endorsed this proposal in 1965. Negotiations between the United Kingdom and Spain were held from May to October 1966, but no conclusions were reached.

On 20 December 1966, the Assembly called on both parties to continue the negotiations, taking into account the interests of the people. A referendum was held in September 1967 to determine whether the people wished to retain their association with the United Kingdom or accept Spanish sovereignty; it resulted in approval (12,138 votes to 44) of continued association with the United Kingdom.

The Assembly on 19 December 1967 said the referendum contravened previous United Nations resolutions calling for a negotiated solution. It invited Spain and the United Kingdom to resume negotiations with a view to ending the colonial situation in Gibraltar.

Officials of the two countries met again in March 1968, but talks broke down after two meetings. In May 1968, restrictions on travel to Gibraltar were imposed by Spanish authorities. British officials said they were designed to harm Gibraltar's economy and weaken the resolve of the Gibraltarians; the United Kingdom, they stated, would not surrender sovereignty against the wishes of the people.

On 18 December 1968, the Assembly requested the United Kingdom to "terminate the colonial situation in Gibraltar no later than 1 October 1969", and called again for resumption of negotiations.

With regard to the Assembly's proposal for negotiations, the United Kingdom, in a note to the Secretary-General on 23 January 1969, referred to "the importance of the creation of the right atmosphere for proposals towards a settlement". Spain, in a letter to the Secretary-General dated 9 April 1969, said it was for the United Kingdom to propose the opening of talks, and that it would respond favourably to any British proposals aimed at implementing the resolution.

On 30 May 1969, the United Kingdom introduced a new Constitution in Gibraltar, under which general elections were held on 30 July. Its preamble states that "Her Majesty's Government will never enter into arrangements under which the people of Gibraltar would pass under the sovereignty of another State against their freely and democratically expressed wishes". Spain declared that enactment of the Constitution violated the Treaty of Utrecht, disregarded Assembly resolutions calling for an ending to the colonial situation, and set up an artificial obstacle to implementation of those resolutions.

The United Kingdom replied that the Constitution entailed no change in the international status of Gibraltar, which remained a Non-Self-Governing Territory, and that Spain's criticism was designed to obscure Spain's attempt to impose a form of economic siege on the Territory.

Last year, for lack of time, the Committee decided to refer the question of Gibraltar, along with the questions of French Somaliland (French Territory of the Afars and the Issas), British Honduras, Hong Kong, Spanish Sahara and the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), directly to the General Assembly.

On 16 December 1969, the Assembly decided to postpone its consideration of the questions of Gibraltar and of French Somaliland until its session this year.

Spanish Sahara: Spanish Sahara, on the Atlantic coast of Africa, is bordered on the north by Morocco and on the east and south by Mauritania. The Territory, administered by Spain, is claimed by both Morocco and Mauritania.

From 1963 until 1969, Spanish Sahara was discussed together with the Territory of Ifni by the Special Committee and the Assembly. Both bodies, in a number of resolutions, had urged Spain to end its rule in the two Territories.



Ifni, which is located on the south-western coast of Morocco, was transferred by Spain to Morocco on 30 June 1969. On 25 September 1969, the Special Committee concluded its consideration of Ifni by taking note of the retrocession of that Territory to Morocco under the terms of a treaty entered into by Spain and Morocco on 4 January 1969.

On recommendation of the Fourth Committee, the Assembly also decided, on 16 December 1969, to take note of the retrocession of Ifni to Morocco.

Concerning Spanish Sahara, the Assembly invited Spain in 1966 to determine -- in consultation with Morocco, Mauritania and any other interested party -- the procedures for holding a referendum under United Nations auspices, enabling the population to exercise its right of self-determination. The Secretary-General was requested to appoint a special mission to determine the extent of United Nations participation in the referendum. These provisions were repeated in 1967, 1968 and again last year in resolution 2591 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969.

Spain has said that the principle of self-determination should be applied in Spanish Sahara; that the people of the Territory would have complete freedom to carry out that principle at the proper time; and that it was for the indigenous inhabitants alone to decide their future. In reply to letters from the Secretary-General concerning appointment of the mission proposed by the Assembly, Spain has maintained that it favoured a United Nations mission but that the mission's purpose should be to study impartially the situation in the Territory.

Falkland Islands (Malvinas): These islands lie about 480 miles north-east of Cape Horn in the South Atlantic; the 1965 estimated population was 2,079, most of whom were of British origin. In 1964, the Committee noted the existence of a dispute between the administering Power, the United Kingdom, and Argentina concerning sovereignty over the Territory, and invited both Governments to negotiate to find a peaceful solution.

The United Kingdom has stated that it had no doubts as to its sovereignty, and that the wishes of the inhabitants concerning their status constituted the important issue; Argentina has declared that the islands are a part of its territory, and had been under its dominion from 1810 until 1833, when they were occupied by the United Kingdom.

The Special Committee and the Assembly have repeatedly invited the two Governments to negotiate their dispute. The talks, which are still continuing, began in 1966.

Last year, the Assembly, in a consensus adopted without objection on 16 December, noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in the negotiations and urged the parties to continue the negotiations "on this colonial situation" and reach a "definitive solution" as soon as possible.

Other Territories: At the request of the Assembly, the Special Committee has continued to give particular attention to the smaller Territories -- including 24 islands or island groups in the Caribbean and the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans. Although since 1965 the Assembly has adopted resolutions covering these Territories as a group, the Special Committee and its three Sub-Committees consider conditions in each and make specific observations and recommendations.

In its most recent decision on the smaller Territories (resolution 2592 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969) the Assembly reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these Territories to self-determination and independence, and approved chapters of the Special Committee's report containing recommendations on the various Territories.

It called on administering Powers to implement without delay relevant resolutions of the Assembly; urged them to allow the entry of United Nations visiting missions; and declared that the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts to decide freely on their future status. The questions of size, geographical isolation and limited resources should in no way delay the implementation of the Declaration on decolonization, the Assembly stated.

It also reiterated that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of colonial Territories and the establishment of military bases and installations in these Territories, were incompatible with the Charter and the Declaration on the ending of colonialism. It expressed deep concern at the maintenance of military bases by administering Powers in some Territories, and recognized the "special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of these Territories".

The Territories concerned are:

American Samoa, Antigua, Bahamas, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Dominica, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Grenada, Guam, Montserrat, New Hebrides, Niue, Pitcairn, St. Helena, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Tokelau Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands.

In another resolution last year the Assembly called the Committee's special attention to the debate in the Fourth Committee on the Territories of Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent (resolution 2593 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969).

So far in 1970, the Special Committee has made recommendations on the following Territories:

Seychelles and St. Helena: On 18 August, the Committee called on the United Kingdom, as administering Power, to take concrete measures to enable the peoples of these Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and asked it "to return immediately" to the Seychelles the islands detached from it in 1965 to create the British Indian Ocean Territory.

It further called on the United Kingdom to prevent infiltration by foreign economic interests and the introduction of foreign settlers, especially from South Africa, into the Territories.

The Committee, terming the changes in the constitutional arrangements in the two Territories inadequate, called on the administering Power to take a number of steps to remedy the situation. In addition, it asked the United Kingdom to intensify its efforts to strengthen the economies of the Territories, and to co-operate with the Committee in making arrangements for sending a visiting mission to the Territories.

The Special Committee has not completed its consideration of other smaller Territories.

The importance of United Nations visiting missions to the various Territories has been repeatedly stated by the Special Committee, which on 1 September of this year reiterated its appeal to administering Powers to reconsider their position on the question and to permit access to the Territories under their administration. The Committee also requested its Chairman to hold consultations with the administering Powers on the implementation of this resolution.

24. Special Programme of Activities in Connexion with Tenth Anniversary of Declaration on Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the Assembly's adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

The Declaration, contained in resolution 1514 (XV), was adopted on 14 December 1960. It has been the framework for United Nations efforts in the colonial field since that time. (Provisions of the Declaration are summarized in the notes on item 23.)

The decision to commemorate the anniversary of the Declaration was made by the Assembly in 1968. In its resolution at that time, the Assembly established a Preparatory Committee for the Tenth Anniversary of the Declaration. The Committee was asked to prepare a special programme of activities in connexion with the tenth anniversary, with a view to finding further ways of expediting the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration.

The Committee comprised the members of the Special Committee of 24 on decolonization (see notes on item 23) and six other States: Algeria, Canada, Ghana, Indonesia, Mongolia, and Trinidad and Tobago.

In its report to the Assembly last year (A/7684), the Preparatory Committee recommended the following activities: a special commemorative meeting at United Nations Headquarters in October 1970, to which Member States, specialized agencies, regional organizations and interested non-governmental organizations, as well as representatives of dependent peoples and national liberation movements, would be invited; adoption at that time of a declaration and/or a programme of action aimed at dealing effectively with the remaining colonial problems; special studies and seminars; the drawing up of concrete programmes of assistance to refugees from colonial territories and to national liberation movements; preparation of an analytical study of the various aspects of the problem of decolonization and United Nations work in this field; intensified publicity regarding colonialism; adoption of a motto to mark the event, such as "Freedom and progress"; and invitations to Governments to plan commemorative activities at the national level.

Last year, the Assembly endorsed the recommendations contained in the report of the Preparatory Committee. It also asked the Special Committee of 24 to carry out the tasks assigned to it in the report (resolution 2521 (XXIV) of 4 December 1969).

In response to the Assembly's resolution, the Special Committee on 1 April entrusted to a working group the tasks of preparing a draft programme of action and an analytical study on decolonization. These matters will be covered in the Committee's report to the Assembly, which has not yet been issued.

25. Celebration of Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of United Nations

The General Assembly, which stated in 1968 that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should be observed in an appropriate manner, decided last year that a commemorative session should be held during a short period this year, culminating on 24 October -- United Nations Day -- with the adoption and/or signing of a final document or documents.

That date marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the coming into force of the United Nations Charter. The commemorative session is scheduled to be held from 14 to 24 October, during the regular Assembly session, and the Assembly has expressed hope that as many Heads of State or Government as possible will participate.

The Assembly, in the resolution adopted last year, decided that the theme of the anniversary should be "Peace, justice and progress", and expressed the desire that the year 1970 would mark the beginning of an era of peace (resolution 2499 (XXIV) of 31 October 1969).

It established a 25-nation Committee for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the United Nations to: draw up and co-ordinate plans for the anniversary; organize suitable activities to be undertaken by the United Nations, in the light of the report made by the Preparatory Committee which had met in the preceding year (A/7690); and consider proposals and suggestions, in relation to the anniversary, for increasing the effectiveness of the United Nations.

The Committee will make its final report to the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly.

Members of the Committee are Austria, Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Canada, China, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, India, Iran, Italy, Lebanon, Mauritania, Peru, Philippines, Somalia, Sweden, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, USSR, United Kingdom and United States.

At the invitation of the City of San Francisco, United Nations delegates and other dignitaries took part in ceremonies in that city on 26 June, marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter in 1945 in San Francisco. The original copy of the Charter signed at that time was placed on display in San Francisco for the ceremonies, and will be placed on display in New York during the commemorative session of the Assembly in October.

The Charter was also displayed in San Francisco during the ceremonies marking the tenth and twentieth anniversaries of the United Nations.

A special ceremony to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations was held on 6 July at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

As part of the observance of the anniversary, a World Youth Assembly was held in New York from 9 to 17 July, under United Nations sponsorship, with some 650 young people from all over the world taking part.

The Youth Assembly was convened by the United Nations, on recommendation of the Preparatory Committee, for the purpose of drawing the attention of youth to the principal problems before the United Nations, providing opportunities for youth to give expression to their views on the problems concerning peace and progress, and inviting the young to indicate the ways in which they would wish to support the United Nations.

The Youth Assembly established four Commissions -- on world peace, development, education, and man and environment -- which made reports. The final act of the Youth Assembly was the adoption of a message to the General Assembly.

26. Reservation of Sea-Bed and Ocean Floor for Peaceful Purposes

In 1968, the General Assembly declared that exploitation of the sea-bed and ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction "should be carried out for the benefit of mankind as a whole, irrespective of the geographical location of States, taking into account the special interests and needs of the developing countries".

Discussions in United Nations bodies have shown that States are generally agreed to regard this area of the sea-bed as the "common heritage of mankind". However, the increasing ability of modern technology to exploit underwater resources at greater depths has raised difficult problems of how to distribute among nations the benefits that will one day flow from this exploitation.

The problems are complex and interlocking. They involve such matters as the extent of national jurisdiction over waters off the coast and the sea-bed beneath them, the possible functions and powers of international machinery which might be given authority over the area beyond national jurisdiction, and the rules which should govern exploitation of the resources of the sea-bed.

These have been among the issues studied by the Assembly's Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction. The 42-member Committee, successor to an Ad Hoc Committee which met in 1968, has reported to the Assembly twice, in 1969 (A/7622 and Corr.1 and Add.1) and 1970 (A/8021, not yet issued).

The subject is a relatively new one for the United Nations, having been considered for the first time in 1967, on the initiative of Malta.

When it established the Committee (resolution 2467 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968), the Assembly instructed it to: study legal principles that would promote international co-operation in the exploration and use of the sea-bed and ocean floor; study ways and means of promoting the exploitation and use of its resources; stimulate the exchange of scientific knowledge; examine measures to prevent marine pollution; and study the reservation of the sea-bed for peaceful purposes, taking disarmament negotiations into account.

The Committee, like the Ad Hoc Committee before it, operates through two subsidiary bodies of the whole, a Legal Sub-Committee and an Economic and Technical Sub-Committee.

After reviewing the Committee's first report, the Assembly, in resolution 2574 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969, assigned three specific tasks to that body:

-- To expedite the preparation of a comprehensive and balanced statement of principles to promote international co-operation in the exploration and use of the sea-bed and ocean floor and ensure the exploitation of their resources for the benefit of mankind, and to submit a draft declaration to the Assembly in 1970;

-- To report to the Assembly in 1970 on the question of international machinery that would have jurisdiction over this environment;

-- To formulate recommendations regarding the economic and technical conditions and the rules for exploitation of sea-bed resources, in the context of the international régime to be set up in the area.

With regard to international machinery, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare for the Sea-Bed Committee a study on the status, structure, functions and powers of such machinery, including the power to regulate, co-ordinate, supervise and control all activities relating to the exploitation of underwater resources in the area. The study (A/AC.138/23), which was submitted to the Committee at its August session, describes the possible functions and powers of such machinery but makes no recommendations.

Besides calling for studies, the Assembly last year adopted a resolution declaring that, pending the establishment of an international régime, "States and persons, physical or juridical, are bound to refrain from all activities of exploitation of the resources of the area". It added: "No claim to any part of that area or its resources shall be recognized."

This resolution (2574 D (XXIV)) was adopted by 62 votes in favour to 28 against, with 28 abstentions. Arguments raised against the proposal were that it sought to retard the exploitation of sea-bed resources, that it would encourage States to extend claims over large areas and that it prejudged questions relating to the creation of international machinery.

During 1970, the Sea-Bed Committee held two substantive sessions: from 2 to 26 March in New York and from 3 to 28 August in Geneva. At both sessions, it continued its work on the main subjects it had begun considering in previous



years: legal principles governing the use of the international sea-bed area which are to form the basis of an international régime, and future machinery to regulate the exploitation of sea-bed resources.

The report adopted at the end of the August session contains the reports of the two sub-committees, through which the Committee conducted the major part of its work during the two sessions.

The Legal Sub-Committee notes in its report that informal consultations had been held throughout the year on a draft declaration of principles, which the Committee had been requested to complete for the forthcoming session of the Assembly. However, the Sub-Committee states that it was unable to complete that task. The report refers to the view expressed by some delegations that, although the task of drafting a declaration had not been achieved, there was a certain area of agreement, even if tentative.

The Sub-Committee, the report states, did not act on a proposal that informal consultations continue during the 1970 session of the Assembly and that a formal meeting of the Committee be held during that period.

The Economic and Technical Sub-Committee discussed economic and technical conditions and rules for activities of exploration and exploitation of sea-bed resources, especially the applicability of existing national rules for a future international régime. Its report states that, in view of the complexity of the problems, it was not in a position to advance concrete proposals at this stage. None of the existing national systems are directly applicable, the report adds, and more alternatives have to be studied in order to specify which economic and technical conditions should be set out in an international agreement establishing a régime for the sea-bed, and which require international machinery.

The Sub-Committee, however, declares that it has made "an encouraging start". It asks that the Committee be instructed to study the issues further and that the Secretary-General prepare, in 1971, a more comprehensive study on the sharing by the international community of benefits derived from the exploitation of sea-bed resources.

The report of the main Committee states that members have become increasingly aware of the complexity and range of all the issues involved in the sea-bed question. A "significant proportion of preparatory work" had been accomplished, the Committee adds, and the extent of agreement "may be judged to have increased over the past two years". However, the report says, progress had

been slower than the Committee had hoped, and many differences remain. The resolution of these differences "will inevitably consume more time and effort".

During the August session the Committee had before it a statement by the President of the United States outlining plans for an international régime. In addition, working papers on international machinery were submitted by the United States, the United Kingdom and France, respectively. No decisions were taken on these documents.

In 1969, the Sea-Bed Committee discussed the prohibition of military uses of the sea-bed, a question which was dealt with this year in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva. Agreement was reached in the Disarmament Committee on a draft treaty on the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction in the sea-bed (see notes on item 28 below).

Members of the Sea-Bed Committee are Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Czechoslovakia, El Salvador, France, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States and Yugoslavia.

In addition to the report of the Sea-Bed Committee, the Assembly will have before it the comments of Governments (A/7925 and addenda) in response to a 1969 assembly resolution asking their views on the desirability of convening at an early date a conference on the law of the sea, "particularly in order to arrive at a clear, precise and internationally accepted definition of the area of the sea-bed and ocean floor which lies beyond the limits of national jurisdiction" (resolution 2574 A (XXIV)).

The majority of the 62 Governments responding so far favoured the convening of a conference on the law of the sea.

On the other hand, Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, Japan, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukraine and the USSR stated that they saw no need for such a conference at present. Others, including El Salvador, Italy, Mauritius, Peru, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Uruguay, suggested that such a conference be convened only after thorough preparation. The United Kingdom stated that the outstanding issues of the law of the sea should be settled

separately. The United States expressed the view that some outstanding questions might be solved at a future conference but suggested that the Committee continue its consideration of a régime for the sea-bed.

A third report before the Assembly under this item concerns marine pollution. In resolution 2467 B (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, the Assembly asked the Secretary-General to submit a study on protection of the living and other resources of the sea-bed area against the harmful effects of exploration and exploitation.

The report (A/7924) outlines the various causes of marine pollution, stating that gas and oil exploitation "is potentially the most likely cause of serious pollution". Legal regulation of the problem, it says, would have to deal with such issues as a definition of pollution, measures to prevent it, and possibly a system to redress the financial losses of pollution victims.

#### 27. International Co-operation in Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

United Nations interest in the peaceful uses of outer space was first expressed in 1957, soon after the launching of the first man-made satellite, and has grown steadily since then as space technology advanced to its latest feat, the first manned landings on the moon.

It was in resolution 1148 (XII) of 14 November 1957 that the General Assembly urged the study of an inspection system "designed to ensure that the sending of objects through outer space shall be exclusively for peaceful and scientific purposes". An ad hoc committee was established by the Assembly in 1958, and the permanent Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was set up in 1959; its membership, originally 24, was expanded to 28 in 1961.

Discussions in the Committee led to the formulation of two instruments dealing with outer space, which have since come into force:

The Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, under which States Parties recognized the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, agreed that outer space and celestial bodies are "not subject to national appropriation", and undertook not to place weapons of mass destruction in orbit.

The Treaty was commended to States by the Assembly on 19 December 1966, and entered into force on 10 October 1967.

The Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, under which Contracting Parties agreed to procedures for assistance to spacecraft personnel in the event of accident or emergency landing, and for the return of space objects. The Agreement was commended to States by the Assembly on 19 December 1967 and came into force on 3 December 1968.

In a two-part resolution adopted last year, the Assembly invited countries not yet parties to the Outer Space Treaty and the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts to ratify or accede to these instruments (resolution 2601 A and B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969).

The Assembly, in part A of this resolution, also reaffirmed a 1961 resolution stating that communications by means of satellites should be available to nations, as soon as practicable, on a global and non-discriminatory basis.

It welcomed the efforts of Member States to share with others their space ventures and the benefits derived from space programmes; and recommended that they use the facilities of the United Nations-sponsored station at Mar del Plata, Argentina, and the Equatorial Rocket Launching Station at Thumba, India, for appropriate space research activities.

Further, the Assembly asked the Outer Space Committee to continue to study questions relating to the definition and utilization of outer space; and welcomed the Committee's decision to promote more energetically the application of space technology.

In part B of this resolution, the Assembly expressed "deep dissatisfaction" that the Outer Space Committee had not yet completed the drafting of an agreement on liability for damage caused by objects launched into outer space. It noted that a certain rapprochement had been achieved in the negotiations on this draft convention in 1969, and urged the Committee to complete it for the twenty-fifth Assembly session.

Last year, the Assembly adopted another resolution relating to the application of space technology (resolution 2600 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969).

In this action, the Assembly invited Member States with experience in remote earth resources surveying (by satellite) to make such experience available to others, and to join in exploring the various aspects involved in the analysis and application of data obtained through such techniques so as to maximize the benefits, taking into account the interests and needs of developing countries.

The Assembly also requested the Outer Space Committee to continue its studies of the subject "so as to assure that, as the practical benefits of this new technology are achieved, they are made available to both developed and developing countries".

This year, the Outer Space Committee held the first part of its thirteenth session from 20 to 23 January, and resumed the session on 1 September at Headquarters. At the current two-week session, the Committee is to consider the reports of its two Sub-Committees of the whole -- dealing with scientific and technical matters, and legal questions -- and to draft its report to the Assembly. The report (A/8020) will be available later.

The Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, which held its seventh session from 14 to 24 April in New York, made recommendations for a series of technical panels to study the space application programmes of individual States; a programme of fellowships, and studies in the field of earth resources satellites.

The Sub-Committee also welcomed the appointment to the United Nations Secretariat of a specialist on the application of space technology. Other recommendations referred to transfer of space technology, publication of documentation by the Secretariat, continued United Nations sponsorship of the facilities at Thumba and Mar del Plata, and the means for identification of objects launched into space (A/AC.105/82).

The Legal Sub-Committee, which held its ninth session from 8 June to 3 July in Geneva, continued its consideration of the liability convention, following consultations among its members in April.

On 1 July, the Sub-Committee approved the title of the "Draft convention on international liability for damage caused by space objects"; the preamble; and the texts of articles dealing with definitions, absolute liability,

liability by fault, liability to a third State, joint liability in case of a joint launching, exoneration from absolute liability, form of compensation, presentation of claims and pursuit of remedies available in the launching State, and relations of the convention with other international agreements in force. However, the Sub-Committee was not able to complete the drafting.

It discussed but did not reach agreement on proposals concerning settlement of claims for damage caused by space objects and the applicable law. It did not have time to consider the questions of utilization and definition of outer space.

The Working Group on Direct Broadcast Satellites, which held its third session from 11 to 21 May in New York, stated that it had completed the work it could usefully do at present. It suggested that the Outer Space Committee reconvene the Group when more substantive material was available.

The Group concluded that: there were no known programmes for broadcasting satellites for individual reception, but such broadcasts for community receivers would be feasible in the near future; satellite broadcast programmes for purely domestic purposes posed fewer problems than those to foreign territories; improvements in space technology would lessen the concern of countries receiving such broadcasts because more precise antenna pointing and shaping of beams could prevent interference and spill-over of transmissions into countries not wanting to receive them.

It also called for assistance to developing countries so that they could benefit from satellite broadcasts. In addition, the Group said it would soon be possible to broadcast from a satellite to a relatively limited geographic area; broadcasting into existing unaugmented home receivers could not be foreseen before 1985; and special political, legal, social and cultural problems would arise when broadcasts from one State were received in another State having a different political, social or cultural system (A/AC.105/85).

Members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space are:  
Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sweden, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United States.

28. Question of General and Complete Disarmament

The question of disarmament was the subject of the first resolution adopted by the General Assembly, in 1946, establishing the Atomic Energy Commission. The work of that body and of the Commission for Conventional Armaments, which had been set up in 1947, was taken over in 1952 by the Disarmament Commission. It was enlarged in 1959 to include all Members of the United Nations. The Disarmament Commission last met in June 1965.

Although the Assembly had called on a number of occasions for agreement on measures to end the armaments race, it used the term "general and complete disarmament" for the first time in 1959. In that year, agreement was reached outside the United Nations on setting up a Ten-Nation Disarmament Committee, composed of five members each of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Warsaw Pact.

In 1961, the Assembly endorsed the agreement reached between the Soviet Union and the United States on the composition of a new negotiating body -- the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, consisting of the 10 members of the former Committee and eight other States.

Last year, following agreement between the Co-Chairmen of the Conference (Soviet Union, United States), the name of the 18-nation negotiating body was changed to the "Conference of the Committee on Disarmament" and its membership was raised to 26. The present members are: Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, France, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Sweden, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States and Yugoslavia. (France has not attended any of the meetings.)

The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, like its predecessors, meets each year in Geneva and reports to the General Assembly.

It was on the basis of extended negotiations in the Disarmament Committee that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was drawn up. It was commended by the General Assembly in 1968. The Treaty came into force on 5 March 1970, after three nuclear Powers (Soviet Union, United Kingdom, United States) and 40 non-nuclear-weapon States had ratified or acceded to it. So far, the Treaty has been ratified by 51 countries.

Last year, the Assembly's First Committee held a more extensive discussion on general and complete disarmament than at other recent sessions.

Subsequently, on recommendation of the Committee, the Assembly adopted a six-part resolution dealing with various aspects of the disarmament question (resolution 2602 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969).

In this resolution, it expressed satisfaction that the Soviet Union and the United States had initiated, on 17 November 1969 at Helsinki, bilateral talks on strategic arms limitation (SALT).\* (The Assembly in 1968 had adopted a resolution urging the two Governments to hold such discussions.)

The Assembly also appealed to those two Governments to agree, as an urgent preliminary measure, on a moratorium on further testing and deployment of new offensive and defensive strategic nuclear-weapon systems (resolution 2602 A (XXIV)).

In other parts of the resolution, the Assembly endorsed the new title and composition of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament; invited it to consider effective control measures against radiological warfare, and to report on this matter to the Assembly's twenty-fifth session; and also asked the Committee to consider the implications of the possible military applications of laser technology (resolution 2602 B, C and D (XXIV)).

The Assembly further declared the 1970s to be a Disarmament Decade (as proposed by the Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report last year); called on Governments to take measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament; urged the Disarmament Committee to work out a comprehensive programme for general and complete disarmament; and recommended that substantial resources freed by disarmament be channelled into the economic development of developing countries (resolution 2602 E (XXIV)).

In addition, the Assembly welcomed the submission (by the Soviet Union and United States in the Disarmament Committee) of the draft Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Sub-soil Thereof; and called on the Disarmament Committee to continue its work on the subject, taking into account the proposals made during the Assembly's discussion (resolution 2602 F (XXIV)).

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\* Subsequent talks on strategic arms limitation were held this year in Vienna; they are scheduled to be resumed in Helsinki later in the year.



The Disarmament Committee met in Geneva this year from 17 February to 30 April and again from 16 June to 3 September.

The Committee decided to submit to the Assembly the text of a draft treaty to prohibit the emplacement of weapons of mass destruction on the sea-bed. All but one of the Committee's members supported the text and expressed hope that the Assembly would approve it. Mexico made reservations with regard to the drafting of one clause. The draft, originally submitted last year by the Soviet Union and the United States, was since revised three times in response to proposals made by other members of the Committee.

Another matter considered by the Disarmament Committee this year was the Disarmament Decade and a comprehensive programme for general and complete disarmament. Mexico, Sweden and Yugoslavia, on 27 August, submitted a "draft comprehensive programme of disarmament" that will be annexed to the Committee's report.

Also before the Committee were subjects covered under other items on the Assembly's provisional agenda: chemical and biological weapons (item 29) and a comprehensive nuclear test ban (item 30).

The report of the Disarmament Committee will be issued shortly (A/8059).

#### 29. Chemical and Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons

Chemical and biological methods of warfare, the General Assembly stated last year, "have always been viewed with horror and been justly condemned by the international community". They "are inherently reprehensible because their effects are often uncontrollable and unpredictable and may be injurious without distinction to combatants and non-combatants, and because any use of such methods would entail a serious risk of escalation" (resolution 2603 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969).

The Assembly has taken three approaches to this question: it has called for adherence to an existing convention prohibiting the use of these weapons in war, it has sought to promote wider public understanding of the possible effects of their use, and it has tried to encourage negotiations on an agreement to eliminate these forms of armament.

The existing convention on this subject is the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva under League of Nations auspices on 17 June 1925. In 1966, the Assembly called for strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives of that Protocol, and last year it invited all States to become parties to the Protocol in 1970 (resolution 2603 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969). The 1969 resolution was adopted by 120 votes in favour to none against, with 1 abstention.

A second resolution adopted last year (2603 A (XXIV) of 16 December 1969) gave the Assembly's understanding of what is prohibited under international law, as embodied in the Protocol. The Assembly declared as contrary to international law "the use in international armed conflicts of:

"(a) Any chemical agents of warfare -- chemical substances, whether gaseous, liquid or solid -- which might be employed because of their direct toxic effects on man, animals or plants;

"(b) Any biological agents of warfare -- living organisms, whatever their nature, or infective material derived from them -- which are intended to cause disease or death in man, animals or plants, and which depend for their effects on their ability to multiply in the person, animal or plant attacked".

This resolution, which had been proposed by the 12 non-aligned members of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, was adopted by 80 votes in favour to 3 against (Australia, Portugal, United States), with 36 abstentions. The representatives of Australia and the United States questioned whether the Assembly should interpret the Protocol and whether such agents as tear gas and defoliants were covered by that instrument.

As regards the effects of the possible use of chemical and bacteriological weapons, a group of 14 experts was appointed last year by the Secretary-General to study and report on this aspect of the question. The study, suggested in 1968 by the Geneva Disarmament Committee, was called for by the Assembly later that year.

In their report (A/7575), the experts stated: "Were these weapons ever to be used on a large scale in war, no one could predict how enduring the effects would be, and how they would affect the structure of society and the environment in which we live. This overriding danger would apply as much to the country which initiated the use of these weapons as to the one which had been attacked, regardless of what protective measures it might have taken."

The Assembly welcomed this report last December and recommended its wide distribution so as to acquaint public opinion with its contents.

The question of bacterial weapons was on the work plan adopted by the Disarmament Commission in 1952, but that body made no recommendations on the subject. In 1969, the matter again became an active one when the United Kingdom presented to the Geneva Disarmament Committee a draft Convention for the Prohibition of Biological Methods of Warfare.

Later that year, nine Eastern European and socialist States submitted to the Assembly the draft of a Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Chemical and Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and on the Destruction of Such Weapons. They also proposed an agenda item on this subject.

The Assembly decided at its last session to take up the question of chemical and bacteriological weapons as a separate item -- the first time it had been considered in this way. The question of a convention was made a sub-item.

In resolution 2603 B (XXIV), the Assembly requested the Geneva Disarmament Committee to give urgent consideration to reaching agreement on this subject and requested it to report in 1970 on all aspects of the problem of eliminating these weapons.

In this year's discussions in the Disarmament Committee (as summarized in the annual report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, A/8001), differences continued to exist between the approach of socialist and most non-aligned members and the position of the Western members. The former favoured a convention to ban the development of all chemical and bacteriological weapons jointly. The Western countries believed it was more practical to ban biological weapons first because of the complexities of a ban on chemical weapons.

With regard to verification of a ban on chemical weapons, the socialist countries favoured safeguards arrangements providing for recourse to the Security Council in the case of suspected violations rather than a system of control posts and on-site inspections. The United Kingdom and the United States indicated that such assurances were inadequate to remove their opposition to a ban on chemical weapons.

The Netherlands suggested supplementing the 1925 Protocol by agreements that would ban the use of herbicides and defoliants in warfare. The United Kingdom and the United States felt that irritant gases were excluded from the scope of the Protocol and that the Conference would do better to concentrate on lethal chemical weapons.

(The report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, which ended its session on 3 September, is contained in A/8059.)

### 30. Urgent Need for Suspension of Nuclear and Thermonuclear Tests

The General Assembly first urged in 1957 the immediate suspension of testing of nuclear weapons as part of a disarmament agreement accompanied by effective international control.

On 5 August 1963, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States signed in Moscow a treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water. This treaty was subsequently signed by more than 100 other States, and entered into force on 10 October 1963. However, it does not ban underground tests, and two nuclear Powers -- France and the People's Republic of China -- are not signatories.

Noting the treaty with approval, the Assembly, on 27 November 1963, called on all States to become parties to it and requested the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to continue negotiations on the subject. After inconclusive negotiations in 1964 and 1965, the Assembly repeated its call for suspension of tests and for continued work by the Disarmament Committee on a comprehensive test-ban treaty.

The basic issue in negotiations on a comprehensive test ban involves the question of verification of compliance. The socialist countries maintain that a comprehensive ban can go into effect relying solely on national verification, while the Western Powers contend that a more adequate means of verification, including on-site inspection, is required.

After the Disarmament Committee was again unable to reach agreement in 1967, the Assembly in December 1967 urged all States which had not yet done so to adhere to the 1963 test-ban treaty, and called on all nuclear-weapon States to suspend nuclear weapon tests in all environments. These appeals were repeated in 1968 and 1969.

In December 1968, a new element was added to Assembly resolutions -- an expression of hope that all States would contribute to an effective international exchange of seismic data so as to create a better scientific basis for national evaluation of seismic events. The Assembly recognized the importance of seismology (the study of earthquakes and other earth-moving events) in verifying the observance of a treaty banning underground nuclear weapon tests.

In the 1969 negotiations at Geneva, Canada proposed that Governments be asked to send a list of the seismographic stations from which they would be ready to supply records within the framework of a world-wide exchange of data, as well as certain information about those stations.

The Assembly, in resolution 2604 A (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, agreed to this idea by requesting the Secretary-General to transmit to all Members of the United Nations or members of any specialized agency a request for data on their seismographic stations. The Secretary-General's report (A/7967 and Add.1-4 and corrigenda) contains the substantive parts of replies from 69 Governments received by 15 July.

The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, which was requested by the Assembly last year to continue its deliberations on a test ban, discussed this topic at its 1970 meetings in Geneva. The annual report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (A/8001) states: "The main parties have given no indications at recent meetings of the Committee of a change in the basic positions in their approach to a comprehensive test ban treaty, and particularly to the verification problem."

(The Committee's report to the Assembly is contained in A/8059.)

31. Implementation of Results of Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States

The Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, convened by the General Assembly, met in Geneva from 29 August to 28 September 1968 and adopted 14 resolutions and a declaration. Five of the resolutions dealt mainly with various aspects of disarmament and security: nuclear-weapon-free zones, limitation of strategic nuclear weapon systems and partial measures of nuclear disarmament. Eight resolutions concerned various aspects of the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

In 1968, after considering the recommendations of the Conference, the Assembly adopted four resolutions. Three of these relate to other items on the provisional agenda of the 1970 session --- the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (item 98), the establishment of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes (item 32) and the strategic arms limitation talks between the Soviet Union and the United States (an aspect of item 28, on disarmament).

In resolution 2456 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, the Assembly invited the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other international bodies to report on the action they had taken in connexion with the recommendations of the Conference. This report was submitted in September 1969 (A/7677 and Corr.1 and Add. 1-2).

After considering the report last year, the Assembly, in resolution 2605 A (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, invited these international organizations to take further appropriate action on the recommendations of the Conference and to submit additional information this year. A progress report by the Secretary-General, based on this information, will again be submitted to the Assembly in 1970.

A brief summary of some of the action taken in connexion with Conference recommendations follows:

Finance for nuclear energy activities: The Conference recommended that IAEA study ways of securing finances for a Special Nuclear Fund that would give loans or grants for nuclear projects. In addition, an expert group appointed last year by the Secretary-General expressed the hope that international sources

of finance would review their positions on prospects and conditions for financing major nuclear installations, bearing in mind both immediate and long-term benefits (A/7568). The group was appointed at the suggestion of the Conference, endorsed by the Assembly.

According to the Agency's 1969 report, it was the consensus in the Board of Governors that there was now no prospect that the potential major contributors would agree to the establishment of a Special Nuclear Fund. However, under its regular technical assistance programme, IAEA could aid major projects in their initial stage, thus providing "seed money".

A study of the likely capital requirements for nuclear energy projects in developing countries during the next decade was begun by IAEA this year. One initial conclusion from this study was that foreign exchange resources of \$3,000-4,000 million would be required during the 1970s.

The Conference also recommended that IAEA study further ways of increasing funds for technical assistance. The Agency reported this year that for the first time in many years there had been a sizable increase in funds for technical assistance, estimated to reach \$1,672,933 by the end of 1970.

Safeguards: The Conference recommended the establishment under IAEA of machinery, in which both nuclear and non-nuclear States would take part, to guard against the diversion of nuclear materials to military use.

In its 1970 report, IAEA states that further progress has been made in improving and simplifying the Agency's safeguards procedures. In particular, a Safeguards Committee appointed by the Board of Governors began work in June to advise on the contents of agreements to be negotiated between the Agency and non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which came into force on 5 March. In July, the Board endorsed the first report of the Safeguards Committee, which recommended a series of principles and provisions for inclusion in the agreements.

Special fissionable materials: The Conference recommended that the IAEA consider the establishment of a fund of special fissionable materials for the benefit of non-nuclear-weapon States. The Agency reported last year on the status of its existing fund of such materials, and said that additional supplies can be expected to be available to IAEA members, through the Agency, on the same terms and conditions as they are available bilaterally.

Nuclear information: The Conference recommended that IAEA continue its efforts to disseminate information on the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The Agency reported this year that its computer-based International Nuclear Information System began operation in April-May 1970.

Composition of Board of Governors: The Conference recommended that representation on the IAEA Board be broadened to reflect equitable geographical distribution and the views of a broad spectrum of developing countries. The Board, which has been studying the matter for the past two years, decided on 3 July to report to the IAEA General Conference that it had been unable to reach a "general consensus" on any of the five proposals submitted to it.

Disarmament Commission: In 1968, while acting on the recommendations of the Conference, the Assembly decided to consider in 1969 the possible convening early in 1970 of the Disarmament Commission, which is composed of all United Nations Members. Last year, the First Committee decided in effect that the question of convening the Disarmament Commission early in 1971 would be covered by the item on implementation of the results of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States.

## 32. Establishment of International Service for Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes

The question of the establishment, within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes appears for the first time as a separate item on the Assembly's agenda.

The request for inclusion of this item was made by the Assembly last year in a resolution concerning the work of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States (resolution 2605 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969).

The Conference, held in Geneva from 29 August to 28 September 1968, had adopted a series of resolutions (A/7277) in which, among other things, it called on the IAEA to undertake various studies, including a study of the Agency's possible role with regard to nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.



It also urged nuclear-weapon States to facilitate the availability of fissionable materials for peaceful nuclear programmes of non-nuclear States which accepted the application of safeguards envisaged in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.\*

(This resolution was adopted after some non-nuclear States had expressed the fear at the Conference that the Treaty might hamper the development of their nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.)

In 1968, the General Assembly asked the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the establishment, within the framework of IAEA, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, under appropriate international control (resolution 2456 C (XXIII) of 20 December 1968).

In 1969, the Assembly considered the Secretary-General's report (A/7678 and Add. 1-4) which summarized the comments of Governments on the question and reproduced a report of the IAEA Board of Governors. In the latter document, the Board concluded that activities relating to peaceful nuclear explosions would fall within its statutory objectives and functions.

The Assembly then adopted resolution 2605 B (XXIV) in which it said that the Agency's prospective responsibilities would have to be defined "on an evolutionary basis, taking into account the experimental state of the technology".

It also urged all Member States to communicate their views on the question to the IAEA, and invited the nuclear Powers to make available to the IAEA full information on the technology of applying nuclear explosions to peaceful uses.

It further invited IAEA to keep the development of this technology under review, to assure the widest exchange of information on it, and to submit to the Secretary-General, not later than 1 October 1970, a special report on its studies and activities in this field.

In addition, the Assembly noted that "the nature and contents of the special international agreement or agreements to be concluded pursuant to the provisions of article V of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons will remain open for appropriate consideration and will be the subject of further consultations".

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\* The Treaty came into force on 5 March 1970.

Article V of the non-proliferation Treaty reads:

"Each Party to the Treaty undertakes to take appropriate measures to ensure that, in accordance with this Treaty, under appropriate international observation and through appropriate international procedures, potential benefits from any peaceful applications of nuclear explosions will be made available to non-nuclear-weapon States Party to the Treaty on a non-discriminatory basis and that the charge to such Parties for the explosive devices used will be as low as possible and exclude any charge for research and development. Non-Nuclear-Weapon States Party to the Treaty shall be able to obtain such benefits, pursuant to a special international agreement or agreements, through an appropriate international body with adequate representation of non-nuclear-weapon States. Negotiations on this subject shall commence as soon as possible after the Treaty enters into force. Non-nuclear-weapon States Party to the Treaty so desiring may also obtain such benefits pursuant to bilateral agreements."

The report of the Secretary-General, which will include the IAEA report requested by the Assembly will not be available before 1 October.

### 33. Measures for Strengthening International Security

This item was included in the agenda of the 1969 session of the General Assembly at the request of the Soviet Union.

To the letter requesting inclusion of the item (A/7654) the Soviet Union attached a draft "Appeal to all States of the world". Among other things, this text would have had the Assembly declare that international security required the withdrawal of troops from territories occupied as a result of armed conflict and the cessation of all measures to suppress liberation movements, that all States must be guided in their relations by the principles of peaceful coexistence, and that regional systems can promote peace and security. The Assembly was also asked to recommend the convening of periodic Security Council meetings attended by Government members, and to reaffirm the importance of formulating a definition of aggression.

The Soviet proposal was discussed in the First Committee but not acted upon. Instead, the Assembly adopted resolution 2606 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it:

-- Expressed the belief that, on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary, the United Nations should consider appropriate recommendations on the strengthening of international security;

-- Invited Member States to study the proposals and statements made on this subject during the 1969 session;

-- Requested Member States to inform the Secretary-General by 1 May 1970 of their views and proposals on the subject, "and also of any measures they take for the purpose of strengthening international peace and security";

-- Decided to include the item in the provisional agenda of the 1970 session;

-- Requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly in 1970 on the communications he has received from Governments.

The Assembly will have before it the Secretary-General's report (A/7922 and addenda) containing communications he has received so far from 46 Governments.

In the introduction to his report the Secretary-General states that, as is recognized in these replies, the question is a broad one that covers such matters as the observance of Charter principles, disarmament, the strengthening of peace-keeping and peace-making machinery, regional arrangements, and economic and social development. He notes that Member States, in their replies, have put forward several proposals for discussion and action at the next Assembly session.

Summarizing his own views, U Thant states his belief that the greatest obstacle to the strengthening of international security arises "from the growing tendency of States to revert to a reliance on force as a means of resolving their international differences". He goes on to say that maintenance of peace and security is essential for the very existence of mankind, and calls for the strict observance by all States of the principles of non-use of force, non-interference, equal rights and the right of each nation independently to decide its own way of life and its foreign policy.

The Secretary-General declares that the main prerequisite for strengthening security is for all States to live up to the principles of the Charter. In this anniversary year, he says, it would be particularly timely for States to

rededicate themselves to these principles. The unbridged gap between developing and developed countries is another constant source of insecurity, he adds.

Noting that a number of conflicts in the past 25 years have been solved through United Nations efforts, he states that the Organization should be regarded not as something static but rather "as an evolutionary and open-ended organization".

The Secretary-General then says that the drift back to reliance on force can best be checked by strengthening the peace-keeping and peace-making functions of the United Nations. He recalls past comments about the need for wider recourse to various means for the pacific settlement of disputes, the availability of the International Court of Justice and the desirability of strengthening the Security Council.

Periodic Council meetings at a high level, he says, could provide an outstanding opportunity for a general review of matters relating to international peace and security and "for seeking a consensus approach to such matters".

The full potential of the United Nations, the Secretary-General states, can be realized only when the principle of universality is more fully applied.

#### 34. Effects of Atomic Radiation

The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation was established by the Assembly in 1955, and was requested to assemble, study and disseminate information on observed levels of ionizing radiation and radioactivity in the environment, and on the effects of such radiation upon man and his environment. This information is furnished by Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies (resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955).

The Committee has reported annually to the Assembly since 1956. In 1958 and 1962, it submitted comprehensive reports on radiation levels and effects, and in 1964, 1966 and 1969, it submitted special reports on individual aspects of the subject. Last year, the Assembly unanimously requested the Committee to continue its work (resolution 2496 (XXIV) of 28 October 1969).

This year, the Committee will hold its twentieth session in Geneva from 21 to 25 September and will continue its assessment of radiation levels and risks, including radio-active contamination of the environment, occupational and medical exposure of the population to radiation, the genetic effects of radiation, the effects on the immune response, and the induction of malignancy by radiation. It will then make a progress report to the Assembly.

The Committee is composed of scientists from 15 nations: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United States.

#### 35. Policies of Apartheid of South Africa

The racial policies of the Government of South Africa have been under discussion in the United Nations, in one form or another, since the first session of the General Assembly in 1946 when India complained that South Africa had enacted legislation against South Africans of Indian origin.

The wider question of apartheid (racial separation) was placed on the agenda of the Assembly in 1952 under the title "Question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Union of South Africa". The two related questions continued to be discussed as separate agenda items until 1962 when they were combined under the title "The policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa".

In 1952, the Assembly established an investigating commission and called on all Member States to bring their policies into conformity with their obligation to promote human rights. In subsequent resolutions, the Assembly has repeatedly called on South Africa to revise its racial policies. South Africa, on the other hand, has maintained that its racial policies are essentially within its domestic jurisdiction and, since 1955, has refused to participate in the Assembly's discussion of this question.

In 1962, the Assembly requested Member States to impose diplomatic and economic sanctions against South Africa to bring about the abandonment of the policies of apartheid.

They were asked to take the following measures, individually or collectively: breaking off diplomatic relations with South Africa or refraining from establishing such relations; closing their ports to all vessels flying the South African flag; enacting legislation prohibiting their ships from entering South African ports; boycotting all South African goods and refraining from exporting goods, including all arms and ammunition, to South Africa; and refusing landing and passage facilities to all aircraft belonging to the Government of South Africa and companies registered under the laws of South Africa.

By the same resolution, the Assembly established the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa to keep the situation under review. The Special Committee, which reports both to the Assembly and the Security Council, has 11 members: Algeria, Costa Rica, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Malaysia, Nepal, Nigeria, the Philippines and Somalia.

Meanwhile, the Security Council had also taken up this matter after the Sharpeville incident in 1960, calling on South Africa to abandon its policies of apartheid and racial discrimination (resolution 134).

In 1963, the Council called on all States to cease the sale and shipment of arms, ammunition of all types and military vehicles to South Africa and, later, equipment and materials for the manufacture and maintenance of arms and ammunition there (resolutions 181 and 182).

In further action in 1964, the Council urged South Africa to renounce the execution of persons sentenced to death for acts resulting from their opposition to the policies of apartheid, and to end a trial then in progress (resolution 191). South Africa subsequently rejected the resolution as interference in its internal affairs.

In July 1970, at the request of 40 States, mainly from Africa and Asia, the Security Council resumed consideration of "the question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid, with a view to examining in particular the situation arising from violations of the arms embargo".

On 23 July, the Council voted to condemn all violations of the arms embargo and called on all States to strengthen the embargo by:

- Implementing it fully, unconditionally and without reservations whatsoever;
- Withholding the supply of all vehicles and equipment for use of the armed forces and paramilitary organizations of South Africa;
- Ceasing supply of spare parts for all vehicles and military equipment used by the armed forces and paramilitary organizations of South Africa;
- Revoking all licences and military patents granted to the South African Government or to South African companies for the manufacture of arms and ammunition, aircraft and naval craft or other military vehicles and by refraining from further granting such licences and patents;
- Prohibiting investment in or technical assistance for the manufacture of arms and ammunition, aircraft, naval craft, or other military vehicles; and
- Ceasing provision of military training for members of the South African armed forces and all other forms of military co-operation with South Africa (resolution 282 (1970)).

The General Assembly adopted two resolutions last year on apartheid.

In one dealing with the problem in general (2506 B (XXIV) of 21 November 1969), the Assembly drew the attention of the Security Council to "the grave situation in South Africa, and in southern Africa as a whole". It recommended that the Council resume urgently the consideration of the matter with a view to adopting effective measures, including those under Chapter VII of the Charter, "to eliminate the threat to international peace and security posed by the situation".

The Assembly urged all States and organizations to "provide increased assistance to the national movement of the oppressed people of South Africa against the policies of apartheid".

Among other things, the Assembly also invited all States to "desist from collaborating with the South African Government" by taking steps to prohibit financial and economic interests under their national jurisdiction from cooperating with the South African Government or South African companies; by prohibiting airlines and shipping lines registered in their countries from providing services to and from South Africa and to deny facilities to flights and shipping services to and from South Africa; by refraining from extending loans, investments and technical assistance to the South African Government and South African companies; and by taking steps to "dissuade" the main trading partners of South Africa and economic and financial interests from collaborating with the South African Government and South African companies.

In the other resolution (2506 A (XXIV)), the Assembly urged all States and organizations "to exert every appropriate effort to secure the unconditional release of all political prisoners and persons subjected to restrictions for opposing apartheid".

The report of the Special Committee on Apartheid for this year (A/8022) is not yet available.

The United Nations has established two programmes financed by voluntary contributions to give assistance to the victims of the policies of apartheid: the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, and an educational and training programme for South Africans, which is now part of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (see notes under item 71).

Another United Nations body, the Commission on Human Rights, set up an Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts in 1967 to investigate the treatment of political prisoners in South Africa. The Working Group, with an enlarged mandate to cover violations of human rights in southern Africa, heard further witnesses this year.



36. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

United Nations assistance for Palestine refugees first began in November 1948, when the General Assembly authorized the advance of \$5 million for relief, urged all countries to contribute to a special fund, and appealed to the specialized agencies to extend their full co-operation in this field.

The United Nations Relief for Palestine Refugees (UNRPR) was established on 1 December 1948 with voluntary contributions of \$35 million from 33 Governments.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) began work in May 1950, in accordance with an Assembly resolution of 8 December 1949. The assets and liabilities of the UNRPR were transferred to UNRWA.

The present Commissioner-General of UNRWA, Laurence Michelmore, is assisted by an Advisory Committee, whose members are Belgium, France, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United States. His report to the Assembly for the year ended 30 June 1970 (A/8013) is to be issued.

The UNRWA, which is financed by voluntary contributions, provides relief, education, training and other services to Arab refugees from Palestine who are now living in Jordan, the Gaza Strip, Lebanon and Syria.

As of June 1970, there were 1,425,219 refugees registered with UNRWA, as compared with 1,395,074 a year earlier -- an increase of 2.2 per cent.

The mandate of UNRWA, as expressed in successive Assembly resolutions, is to provide essential services to these refugees and, since 1967, "to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to other persons in the area who are at present displaced and are in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 hostilities".

The Commissioner-General stated, in his 1968 report to the Assembly, that, in the year following those hostilities, some 175,000 persons had become refugees for a second time, and that they, along with most of the 350,000 or more other persons who were newly displaced from the occupied areas of southern Syria, the West Bank of Jordan, Gaza and Sinai, were "in need of the very essentials of physical survival".

Last year, the Assembly adopted three resolutions on the Palestine refugee question.

In the first of these, the Assembly drew attention to UNRWA's "continuing critical financial situation" and called upon all Governments, as a matter of urgency, to make the most generous efforts possible to meet UNRWA's anticipated needs (resolution 2535 A (XXIV) of 10 December 1969).

The Assembly also directed the Commissioner-General to continue efforts to ensure the most equitable distribution of relief based on need; and requested the Conciliation Commission for Palestine to continue its efforts to find ways of making progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III), which relates to repatriation or compensation of the refugees.

In the second resolution, the Assembly reaffirmed "the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine" and drew the attention of the Security Council to "the grave situation resulting from Israeli policies and practices in the occupied territories and its refusal to implement" relevant resolutions of the Council and of the Assembly (resolution 2535 B (XXIV)).

The Council was asked to "take effective measures in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter to ensure the implementation of these resolutions".

In the third resolution, the Assembly endorsed the efforts of UNRWA to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, "as far as practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure" to the persons displaced and in need of assistance as a result of the June 1967 hostilities (resolution 2535 C (XXIV)).

The Assembly "strongly" appealed to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously for this purpose to UNRWA and to the other governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned.

In August 1970, the Secretary-General transmitted to States Members of the United Nations and the specialized agencies (A/8040) a further statement by the Commissioner-General on UNRWA's financial plight.

In the statement, the Commissioner-General asserted that the financial situation of UNRWA had continued to deteriorate during the first half of 1970, and the threat of a breakdown in the Agency's services to the refugees had become "more imminent".

Appeals for additional funds, both within and outside the United Nations, and special efforts by the Secretary-General had brought a helpful response from a few contributors, he stated, but the total result had been inadequate.

Expenditures had been curtailed, he said, by discontinuing certain subsidy payments to Governments, especially for health and education services, and by reductions in other parts of the Agency's programme. The possibility of proceeding with other reductions mentioned in the 1969 reports to the Assembly had also been explored, he said. However, "in view of the disturbed conditions in the area and the unsettling effect of further reductions", he had, in consultation with the Secretary-General and on the "strong advice" of the host Governments, deferred their implementation until the Assembly could once again examine the problem.

The Agency would not be able to meet its cash obligations beyond the first months of 1971, he said, even if there were no adverse developments and if contribution payments were received as and when anticipated. "Unless the General Assembly acts at the twenty-fifth session, the likelihood is that the structure of the Agency will have disintegrated before the next session, either for lack of cash or, in the alternative, under the stresses caused by the dismantling of a major part of the structure in order to reduce expenditure".

The Secretary-General, in his accompanying note to Governments, said he earnestly hoped that Governments would give urgent attention to this vital matter so that the Assembly could act at the twenty-fifth session in a way that would enable the essential work of UNRWA to be maintained in the coming year.

### 37. Review of Peace-keeping Operations

The 33-nation Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations was established by the General Assembly at its nineteenth session, on 18 February 1965, and was instructed to undertake, as soon as possible, a comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects, including ways of overcoming the present financial difficulties of the United Nations.

In a resolution adopted last year on this question (resolution 2576 (XXIV)), the Assembly asked the Committee of 33 to continue its work and to submit to the Assembly's twenty-fifth session a comprehensive report on the United Nations military observers established or authorized by the Security Council for observation purposes pursuant to Council resolutions, as well as a progress

report on such work as the Committee might be able to undertake on any other models of peace-keeping operations.

The Committee, reporting to the Assembly in November 1969 (A/7742), said its eight-nation Working Group had agreed on an eight-chapter schema or outline for Model I, the study of observer missions, and had completed five of the eight chapters.

These five chapters were: (I) authorization of missions; (V) organization, development and functioning of the military observer mission; (VI) operating procedures; (VII) equipment, facilities and services; and (VIII) administrative matters.

The Working Group said it had not yet been able to complete texts for the other three chapters: (II) establishment (formulation, strength, composition and command), direction and control; (III) legal arrangements; and (IV) financial arrangements.

The Working Group -- established in April 1968 -- is composed of the representatives of Canada, Czechoslovakia, Mexico and United Arab Republic, who are the officers of the Committee, and the representatives of France, USSR, United Kingdom and United States.

It was established to prepare working papers for a study requested by the Assembly in 1967 on "matters related to facilities, services and personnel which Member States might provide, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, for United Nations peace-keeping operations". It approved the study of observer missions as a first model in its programme of work.

The Committee of 33, at a meeting held last March, asked the Working Group to complete work as soon as possible on Model I. It was also asked to study and submit a draft for a convention between the United Nations and host countries for military observers, and to prepare a definition, and the contents as well, for a Model II which would deal with peace-keeping operations on a larger scale.

The Working Group resumed its meetings -- which are closed -- in May. It has not yet reported to the Committee on its work this year.

Members of the Committee of 33 are Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Hungary, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Mauritania, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, Spain, Thailand, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

38. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was established as a permanent organ of the General Assembly in December 1964 on the basis of recommendations made by the first Conference on Trade and Development, held in Geneva in 1964.

The main role of UNCTAD is to promote international trade with a view to accelerating economic development; to formulate principles and policies to this end; to negotiate multilateral trade agreements and, generally, to act as a centre for harmonizing government policies and actions in the field of trade and related problems of development.

The permanent organ of the Conference is the 55-member Trade and Development Board, which has four main committees -- on commodities, manufactures, shipping, and invisibles and financing related to trade.

A declaration on trade expansion, economic co-operation and regional integration among developing countries was adopted at the second session of the Conference, held in New Delhi in 1968. A key decision of the 1968 session was the recommendation that each advanced country should provide to developing countries financial resources amounting to 1 per cent of its gross national product.

The Conference also approved new approaches to trade relations between countries with different economic and social systems; adopted a programme of international action on commodities; and recognized unanimously the need for a system of non-discriminatory preferences to be granted by developed countries to increase the flow of exports from developing countries. A Special Committee on Preferences was set up to seek agreed arrangements for such a system.

At its twenty-fourth (1969) session, the Assembly:

-- Expressed concern that most issues referred to UNCTAD's continuing machinery still were outstanding; requested the Trade and Development Board to attempt to resolve those issues, and asked it to accelerate in particular its work relating to preparations for the Second United Nations Development Decade (resolution 2570 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969).

-- Urged States members of UNCTAD to engage in constructive consultations in the Special Committee on Preferences, bearing in mind the hope expressed by many countries that the arrangements should come into effect early in 1970, and said early implementation of the system of preferences would be a concrete example of effective international action for trade expansion and development (resolution 2503 (XXIV) of 14 November 1969).

-- Referred to the need for urgent action by UNCTAD and the Assembly to alleviate the problems of the least developed among the developing countries (resolution 2564 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969).

-- Welcomed the agreement reached within the Board whereby specific measures in favour of land-locked developing countries would be elaborated within the context of UNCTAD's contribution to the international development strategy, and requested the Board to consider adoption of practical measures related to land-locked countries. (An eight-member expert group, formed at the Board's request, met in May 1969 and again in May and June 1970 and submitted various recommendations.) The Assembly also urged action by Members to bring into effect the 1965 Convention on Transit Trade of Land-Locked States (resolution 2569 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969).

-- Expressed deep concern that little progress had been made by the Board in finalizing UNCTAD's contribution to the strategy for the Second Development Decade, and endorsed the Board's decision to complete this work at its February 1970 session (resolution 2571 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969).

Meeting in Geneva from 2 to 16 February 1970, the Board adopted by consensus a text on UNCTAD's contribution to the preparatory work for the Second Development Decade (TD/B/299). The document outlined policy measures to be taken by Governments during the 1970s in many fields related to trade.

Priority objectives listed by the Board included increasing the net foreign exchange export earnings of developing countries, supplementing the resources available to those countries through financial and technical assistance from the developed countries, and increasing the flow of modern technology to meet development needs. The Board also included in its contribution to the Decade provisions regarding mobilization of world opinion in support of international development efforts.

The Board was unable to reach agreement on some important issues -- including target dates for carrying out measures such as in regard to elimination of tariff barriers, conclusion of commodity agreements, and the transfer of financial resources from developed to developing countries.

(Developing countries maintained that the 1 per cent target for transfer of resources should be achieved by 1972, and that developed countries should provide a minimum of 0.75 per cent of their gross national product by way of net official financial resource transfers, while developed countries held differing views.)

The Board agreed that continued efforts would be made to seek agreements before the launching of the Decade. It decided that UNCTAD's contribution to the Decade should be seen in a dynamic context, and would require continuing review within the machinery of UNCTAD.

At the meeting of the Special Committee on Preferences from 31 March to 17 April 1970, developing countries expressed appreciation for the political will and for the efforts leading to the submission of provisional offers by the prospective preference-giving countries according to an agreed time schedule. They welcomed the submissions as a major step towards implementation of the generalized scheme of preferences and called for assurances that countries at different levels of development would benefit from the scheme. The Special Committee on Preferences is scheduled to meet again beginning on 21 September.

As a step towards reconvening the United Nations Cocoa Conference, as urged in Assembly resolution 2570 (XXIV), representatives of 41 countries, including the major cocoa producers and consumers, met in Geneva from 1 to 11 June to consider outstanding issues in the preparation of a draft international cocoa agreement. They were not able to complete their task and therefore recognized the need for further consultations at a later stage.

The Tin Conference, held in Geneva from 14 April to 15 May under UNCTAD auspices, successfully negotiated a fourth International Tin Agreement to replace the existing agreement which will expire on 30 June 1971.

The Trade and Development Board's tenth session began in Geneva on 26 August and is scheduled to end on 18 September. The Board has provisionally decided that the third session of the Conference should be held in Geneva, possibly early in 1972.

(Also see agenda item 43 on Second Development Decade.)

39. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

(a) Report of Industrial Development Board

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) was established in 1966 as an organ of the General Assembly to promote industrial development and, in particular, to help accelerate the industrialization of the developing countries. The 45-member Industrial Development Board was set up to serve as the principal organ of UNIDO. In addition to formulating principles and policies for UNIDO and approving UNIDO activities, the Board was asked by the Assembly in 1967 to provide guidance and direction for the use of resources appropriated for technical assistance under the regular programme in the industrial development field.

Technical co-operation activities of UNIDO are financed from a number of established programmes available to the United Nations system of organizations, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the regular programme of technical assistance and certain other financing arrangements such as funds-in-trust. Part of the funds for UNIDO operational activities come from voluntary contributions announced by Governments at annual pledging conferences, the first of which was held in 1968; and from special contributions announced at UNDP pledging conferences to finance the Special Industrial Services (SIS) programme.

Highlights of UNIDO activities in 1969 and 1970 included further expansion of operational activities financed by UNDP and other sources; arrangements for continuation of the Special Industrial Services (SIS) programme, financed under the UNDP Revolving Fund; expansion of the programme of industrial development field advisers; development of promotion activities and strengthening of training programmes; preparatory work for the Second Development Decade, and participation in the Second Asian Industrialization Conference (Tokyo, 8 to 21 September 1970).

At its twenty-fourth session, the General Assembly:

-- Decided to maintain the separate section in Part V (Technical Programmes) of the United Nations budget for technical assistance in industrial development (resolution 2511 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969).

-- Requested UNIDO, in co-operation with other organizations of the United Nations system, to intensify efforts in the training of national technical personnel for the accelerated industrialization of the developing countries (resolution 2528 (XXIV) of 5 December 1969).



-- Invited the Industrial Development Board to consider including in its annual reports a summary of progress achieved in implementing Board recommendations and resolutions and those of the International Symposium on Industrial Development, which met at Athens in 1967 (resolution 2577 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969).

-- Suggested that there be a special international conference of UNIDO to consider its long-range orientation, and requested the Board to propose the site, date and duration of the conference and formulate a provisional agenda (resolution 2578 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969). At its third session earlier in 1969, the Board had asked the Executive Director of UNIDO to consult Member Governments on the possibility of such a conference.

The Industrial Development Board held its fourth session in Vienna from 20 to 30 April 1970 (ID/B/78).

Regarding the proposed special international conference of the UNIDO, the Board proposed that the conference be held at the highest level of representation and that the Assembly convene it in Vienna in 1971, either in May/June or in November/December. It recommended that the provisional agenda include the following items: long-range strategy and orientation of UNIDO's activities, including the organization's role in the Second Development Decade and the transfer and adaptation of technology for the industrial development of the developing countries; the organizational structure of UNIDO; and the question of UNIDO's financing.

The Economic and Social Council, at its forty-ninth session, held in Geneva in July 1970, welcomed the Board's proposal for the conference and invited the attention of Governments to the importance of the items to be discussed.

Also at its April 1970 session, the Board invited Member States to transmit any information which they might deem relevant on measures initiated by their respective Governments, both as regards policy and implementation in pursuance of the proposals agreed upon at the International Symposium on Industrial Development.

Regarding the role of UNIDO in the co-ordination of industrial development activities, the Board urged that UNDP, UNIDO field advisers intensify their activities in collaboration with the UNDP Resident Representatives and with

Governments of developing countries so as to ensure the best utilization of resources. It also recommended that the Executive Director develop further co-operative arrangements with other bodies within and outside the United Nations system.

The Board said there was need to broaden the instruments of technical co-operation to suit the requirements of industry, through additional forms of assistance such as technological consultations and the transfer of technology.

It said more UNDP-financed projects would be needed to meet the increasing requests of developing countries in the industrial field, and urged the UNDP Governing Council to provide the necessary financing for a larger number of industrial field advisers. In order to ensure the best possible linkage between pre-investment and investment, the Board said, UNIDO should maintain and develop close contacts with potential sources of finance and should assist the developing countries in obtaining the most favourable terms.

(b) Confirmation of Appointment of Executive Director

The General Assembly stated in its resolution establishing UNIDO that the Executive Director of UNIDO would be appointed by the Secretary-General, and his appointment confirmed by the Assembly. His term would be for four years, and he would be eligible for reappointment (resolution 2152 (XXI) of 17 November 1966).

In a note dated 1 December 1966, the Secretary-General proposed the appointment of Ibrahim Helmi Abdel-Rahman as the UNIDO Executive Director for a four-year term beginning 1 January 1967. The Assembly confirmed this appointment on 6 December 1966. Mr. Abdel-Rahman's term expires at the end of 1970.

40. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), which was established in 1965 at the request of the General Assembly, is an autonomous institution within the framework of the United Nations.

At its twenty-fourth session, the Assembly said it recognized the importance of the Institute's training and research activities in enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations (resolution 2509 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969). The Assembly also supported the appeal of the Executive Director of UNITAR for fresh financial support for the Institute, which began its second five-year pledging period in January 1970.

This year, the Assembly will have before it the report of the Executive Director, covering the period 1 July 1969 to 30 June 1970 (A/8014), which deals with such matters as the UNITAR Board of Trustees; the staff, finance and budget; co-operation with other bodies; training and related activities; and research.

An annex to the report shows that as of 30 June, a total of \$6,560,941 had been contributed. Of this amount, \$5,424,129 was paid by Governments and \$774,612 by non-governmental sources, with \$362,200 constituting special-purpose grants.

The report states that, in its training programme, the Institute continues to concern itself with diplomacy, technical co-operation and international law, areas which are directly related to the effectiveness of the United Nations system.

Among the new training activities undertaken in 1970, the report lists the holding of UNITAR week-ends for diplomats and scholars and a study concerning the feasibility of a United Nations Staff College. In the field of research, it states that UNITAR has completed studies on questions relating to the use by mass media of public information on the United Nations; the comparative effectiveness of measures against racial discrimination; the "brain drain"; the verification of international treaties -- IAEA safeguards machinery; relations between the United Nations and intergovernmental organizations; and problems of the human environment.

Studies are in progress on questions concerning the peaceful settlement of disputes, and a research project is being organized on the question of youth and international society.

#### 41. Operational Activities for Development

##### (a) Activities of United Nations Development Programme

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was established by the General Assembly in 1965 to consolidate in one programme the activities of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and the Special Fund.

The EPTA had been set up in 1949 to combine the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in development work, mainly by providing experts to aid developing countries. The Special Fund had been established in 1958 to supplement EPTA by providing pre-investment assistance to relatively large development projects.

Financial resources of the UNDP come from voluntary contributions by Governments, announced at a pledging conference each year. A 37-member Governing Council guides the activities of the Programme.

From 1959 to the close of the First Development Decade (the 1960s), the UNDP and its predecessor organizations provided close to \$1,200 million in technical co-operation assistance to developing countries. The thousands of projects involved contributions by recipient Governments of approximately the same amount. During the decade, some 60,000 expert assignments to the developing countries were made. Some 45,000 nationals of developing countries were trained on fellowships abroad, and thousands of others were trained on the job; even more benefited from technical education and training provided by institutes or universities established or strengthened by UNDP-assisted projects. Approximately \$3,400 million in funds are estimated to have been committed for investment as a direct or indirect result of findings and recommendations of UNDP-aided projects.

In 1969, assistance rendered by the UNDP exceeded \$200 million for the first time, with some 3,000 pre-investment and technical assistance projects under way in 130 countries and territories. Contributions pledged by 126 Governments for 1970 amounted to \$225 million -- more than four times as much as the total (\$55 million) pledged in 1959.

This year, the UNDP Governing Council approved assistance amounting to \$139 million for 161 new major pre-investment projects and supplementary financing for 25 others, affecting nearly 100 developing countries and territories. Over-all cost of the projects will be about \$360 million, of which recipient Governments undertook to contribute \$222 million. The reports of the Governing Council are contained in E/4782 (ninth session, 19-30 January 1970, New York) and E/4884 (tenth session, 9-30 June, Geneva).

At both the ninth and tenth sessions, as well as at a special session held in New York from 16 to 26 March 1970, the Governing Council devoted special attention to the question of the capacity of the United Nations development system. A study on this subject, commissioned by the Governing Council, had been

submitted in December 1969 by a panel of experts headed by Sir Robert Jackson of Australia. The 600-page report — A Study of the Capacity of the United Nations Development System (DP/5) — proposed a number of steps to overhaul the system and suggested the restructuring of UNDP as a strong central co-ordinating organization, having a primary role in relation to field operations of the specialized agencies carrying out UNDP-aided projects. A "country programming" approach was central to the changes proposed.

In addition to the proposals in the "Jackson report", the Governing Council considered proposals by the UNDP Administrator, Paul G. Hoffman, and comments of a special panel of consultants and of the specialized agencies, among others. The Council's discussions led to the adoption in June of a consensus containing principles and guidelines for strengthening the United Nations development system.

The consensus centres on the introduction of "country programming" of United Nations development co-operation, linking United Nations activity more closely with the development objectives of each developing country. Greater co-ordination of United Nations development efforts in regard to each country, increased responsibilities for the UNDP resident representatives throughout the world, and improved project procedures to avoid "pipeline" delays are among the changes sought through the new guidelines.

Under the terms of the consensus, the following arrangements are to come into effect in January 1971 if approved by the Assembly:

The present system, in which projects generally are proposed and acted upon individually, would be replaced by the country programming method. In co-operation with United Nations representatives led by the UNDP resident director (as the resident representative would be renamed), each country would formulate the UNDP country programme for a period of years, based on its national development plans, priorities or objectives. The country programme would include an outline of projects for the period concerned. Each country programme would be submitted to the Governing Council for approval and for later periodic review. Authority to approve individual projects worked out within the country programme would be delegated (for three years) to the UNDP Administrator, who in turn would delegate authority as far as possible to the resident director.

Distinctions between Special Fund and Technical Assistance components of UNDP would be eliminated. Indicative planning figures would be provided so that each country can give each country an indication of its expected share of UNDP resources over a period of years. The resident director would have full over-all responsibility for the UNDP programme in the country concerned, and in relation to representatives of other United Nations organizations he would be "the leader of the team" and "the principal channel of communication" between the UNDP and the Government.

Among other changes, regional bureaux would be established within the UNDP organization to provide a direct link between the Administrator and resident directors.

The proposed changes were endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1530 (XLIX) of 22 July, subject to the reservations and observations expressed by members. The Council recommended that the Assembly adopt a draft resolution under which it would approve the UNDP consensus and declare the new arrangements in effect as of January 1971. The Assembly under this draft, would also request the Governing Council to prepare a draft omnibus statute for the UNDP for consideration by the Assembly in 1971.

As proposed by the Governing Council, the Economic and Social Council also recommended in a separate decision that all agencies executing UNDP projects review their organizational structures with a view to higher efficiency and speedier implementation of projects.

A special session of the Governing Council has been scheduled in New York on 8 September 1970 regarding proposed UNDP sharing of the cost of a new building at United Nations Headquarters.

In resolutions relating to UNDP adopted last year, the Assembly took note of the Governing Council's reports on sessions in 1969 (resolution 2512 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969), approved revised programming procedures for regional and interregional projects in the technical assistance component (resolution 2513 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969), and invited the UNDP to give sympathetic consideration to requests for assistance in the field of public administration (resolution 2561 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969).

(b) Activities by Secretary-General

A total of \$47.9 million in assistance was provided by the United Nations in 1969 under the Organization's programmes of technical co-operation. The United Nations activities include assistance financed under the regular United Nations budget, UNDP-aided projects executed by the United Nations, and activities under special trust funds.

The 1969 United Nations technical co-operation total was \$1.3 million above the 1968 amount and \$2.1 million over the figure for 1967. The increases were mainly due to the larger number of Special Fund projects for which the United Nations served as executing agency. At the end of March 1970, it was serving in this capacity for 212 approved projects, with UNDP Governing Council earmarkings totalling \$211.8 million. This amount was the second highest among participating agencies, according to a report of the Secretary-General (DP/RP/9).

The number of experts under all programmes totalled 2,134. Increases occurred in the fields of economic planning, population, housing, statistics and transport. A total of 2,186 fellowships were awarded.

Last year, the Assembly approved revised programming and budgeting procedures recommended by the Economic and Social Council for the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation (resolution 2514 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969).

A new service of the United Nations to assist developing countries -- multinational interdisciplinary advisory teams -- has been initiated by the Secretary-General. The advisory teams are to assist small groups of requesting Governments, on a continuous basis, in development planning and programming and in plan implementation, with particular attention being given to the strengthening of governmental machinery. The teams are to operate under the auspices of the United Nations and its regional economic commissions, and in collaboration with the UNDP and other members of the United Nations family, as appropriate.

Initially, the United Nations plans call for establishment of two development advisory teams, each of which will include up to eight experts in various fields. One team is to assist Governments in the Caribbean Free Trade Area, and the other is to be sent to the Central West African sub-region.

In July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the experimental nature of the scheme, and said careful preparation of this form of technical assistance was needed. It called for closest consultation with the regional commissions and other United Nations bodies to avoid duplication with other advisory services. The Council asked the Secretary-General to report on the activities of the two "experimental" teams, and to pursue his consultations on possible UNDP participation in the preparation and financing of such projects (Council resolution 1552 (XLIX) of 30 July).

In response to a Council request, the Secretary-General submitted a report on the feasibility of an international corps of volunteers for development (L/4790). The report recommended the establishment of a new programme to be known as United Nations Volunteers, which would enable universally recruited volunteers to serve at the request of Governments in projects assisted by the United Nations system. The report suggested a pattern for the organization and administration of United Nations Volunteers within the framework of the UNDP, and proposed a flexible financial scheme for meeting the costs.

After discussing the report, the Economic and Social Council recommended that the Assembly: decide to establish the United Nations Volunteers with effect from 1 January 1971, request the Secretary-General to designate the UNDP Administrator as administrator of the United Nations Volunteers, and invite contributions to a special voluntary fund for support of the volunteer activities (Council resolution 1539 (XLIII) of 28 July).

#### 42. United Nations Capital Development Fund

The Capital Development Fund was established by the General Assembly in 1966, as an autonomous organization within the United Nations, to provide low-interest loans or grants of investment capital for developing countries. Its resources were to be provided through voluntary contributions.

The Assembly also decided to establish a 24-member Executive Board and the post of Managing Director, who would exercise over-all responsibility for the operations, subject to directives of the Board.

However, in 1967, the Assembly postponed the election of an Executive Board and the appointment of a Managing Director. As a provisional measure, it authorized the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme



(UNDP) to perform the Board's functions, and invited the UNDP Administrator to administer the Fund by performing the functions of the Managing Director.

The Assembly decided in 1968 to continue these provisional arrangements.

In July 1969, the UNDP Governing Council approved plans for limited operations of the Fund. Under these plans, countries contributing to the Fund would fulfil their pledges in kind by making equipment of their own manufacture available as supplementary assistance or as follow-up investment on UNDP-assisted projects in other developing countries.

At its twenty-fourth session, the Assembly requested the Governing Council to undertake, within the context of the objectives of the Fund, an exploratory study aimed at broadening the functions of the Fund so as to normalize, stimulate and develop its activities and make it operational and effective, in order to enable all Member States to support it.

In the meantime, the Assembly decided to "preserve the original functions" of the Fund until 31 December 1970, in accordance with the provisional arrangements established in 1967 (resolution 2525 (XXIV) of 5 December 1969).

In a report to the ninth session of the Governing Council, which met from 19 to 27 January, the Administrator said he continued to explore ways of making the Fund operational. However, the broadening of its functions and operations, as requested by the Assembly, would depend on its resources.

These resources remained extremely limited, the report stated. Total resources amounted to the equivalent of \$3.4 million pledged, most of it in non-convertible currencies. Of this amount, only the equivalent of \$707,045 had been paid in.

The Administrator stated that he was seeking to activate the Fund within the narrow scope of its pledged resources and was carrying on active negotiations with the Governments of both supplying and beneficiary countries concerning the acquisition of equipment and materials through the Fund for certain projects.

He defined certain guidelines and terms for loans required for instituting such negotiations. The Governing Council approved the guidelines and requested the Administrator to consummate transactions by executing loan agreements.

At its tenth session, held in Geneva from 9 to 26 June, the Governing Council took note of a progress report by the Administrator (DP/L.139) on the initial transactions of the Fund in accordance with the guidelines approved earlier, and on several other transactions which were in process of exploration and negotiation.

The report states that one of the transactions concerns a credit agreement under which the Nippon-Santos Fishing Co-operative of Brazil, with the guarantee of the Government of Brazil, will acquire four fishing boats to be constructed in Yugoslavia.

It notes that these transactions involved making equipment manufactured in contributing countries available to the Fund as supplementary equipment or follow-up investment in connexion with UNDP-assisted projects in other developing countries.

#### 43. Second United Nations Development Decade

Plans for the launching of the Second United Nations Development Decade (1971-1980) with the adoption by the General Assembly of an international development strategy for the 1970s have been made by the Preparatory Committee for the Decade in reports submitted to the Assembly.

"The main objective for the Second United Nations Development Decade", in the words of a 1969 Assembly resolution, "should be to promote sustained economic growth, especially in developing countries, to ensure a higher standard of living consistent with human dignity, to bring about sustained improvements in the well-being of the individual and to facilitate the process of narrowing the gap between the developed and developing countries".

The First Development Decade was launched by the Assembly in 1961 and ends this December. Among its goals was a 5 per cent annual growth rate in the total domestic product of developing countries.

On the average, according to figures compiled by the United Nations Statistical Office, developing countries achieved during 1960-1967 an annual rate of increase of about 4.6 per cent in their total gross domestic product but, in view of population growth, only about 2 per cent in their per capita gross product. However, as the Committee for Development Planning stated in its 1970 report, while some countries made rapid progress, in others the rate has been very moderate.

Thus, "in spite of the efforts made during the First United Nations Development Decade, the levels of living of millions of people in the developing parts of the world are still pitifully low", as the Assembly stated last year in its resolution on an international development strategy (2571 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969).

In 1966, the Assembly concluded that "one of the reasons for the slow progress in achieving the modest targets set for the United Nations Development Decade has been the absence of a framework of international development strategy". It therefore set in motion the task of drafting a strategy that would outline a set of goals and objectives and describe the measures, national and international, needed to achieve them.

This task, entrusted initially to the Secretary-General, was later given by the Assembly to a 54-member Preparatory Committee, composed of the 27 members of the Economic and Social Council and 27 members appointed by the President of the Assembly. The members are:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Cameroon, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, People's Republic of the Congo, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

Since the Committee was established by the Assembly in December 1968, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries of Eastern Europe have refused to participate in its work because they objected to the fact that the Federal Republic of Germany had been designated as a member while other non-members of the United Nations, including the German Democratic Republic, had been barred.

Reviewing progress made in drafting the strategy after the Preparatory Committee's first year of work, the Assembly, in its 1969 resolution, noted with concern the "lack of progress" in reaching agreement on policy measures for the Decade. It urged Governments "to take political decisions for the adoption of specific and concrete policy measures". It also stated that the new Development Decade should be proclaimed in such a manner "as to ensure the maximum possible impact on world public opinion in support of all development efforts".

In another resolution, on mobilization of public opinion in support of the Decade (resolution 2567 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969), the Assembly recommended consultations with non-governmental organizations about the help they could give in supporting the economic and social goals of the Decade. Governments were urged to consider establishing or strengthening national bodies for the mobilization of public opinion.

At two further sessions in 1970, the Committee hammered out the draft of an international development strategy. This is contained in the report of the Committee's sixth session, held at Geneva from 11 to 28 May (A/7982). (The report of the fifth session, held in New York from 24 February to 13 March, is in A/7962 and Corr.1.)

The draft strategy consists of a preamble and sections on goals and objectives, policy measures, review and appraisal of objectives and policies, and mobilization of public opinion. On some portions of the draft, the Committee noted, it had not been able to reach agreement.

It declares that the developing countries bear primary responsibility for their development but adds that their efforts would be insufficient unless assisted by "increased financial resources and more favourable economic and commercial policies on the part of the developed countries".

A target of "at least 6 per cent" is suggested for the average annual rate of growth in the gross product of the developing countries as a whole during the Second Development Decade. The "possibility of attaining a higher rate in the second half of the Decade" is mentioned. The average annual rate of growth of gross product per person in the developing countries as a whole during the Decade should be at least 3.5 per cent, the Preparatory Committee suggests. These increases, it states, imply an average annual expansion of 4 per cent in agricultural output and 8 per cent in manufacturing output.

The draft places emphasis on achieving enrolment of all children of primary school age, formulation of health programmes for prevention and treatment of disease, institution of nutrition policies and improvement of housing facilities. Developed countries would be urged to reduce or eliminate duties and other barriers to imports of primary products of export interest to developing countries.

"Each economically advanced country", the draft states, should endeavour "to provide annually to developing countries financial resource transfers of a minimum of 1 per cent of its gross national product at market prices in terms of actual disbursements". A target date of 1972 for achieving this objective was agreed to by the developing countries and a number of the developed countries taking part in the Committee's work, but some developed nations said they could not accept that date.

The Economic and Social Council examined the draft international strategy in July, prior to passing it on to the Assembly. In resolution 1556 (XLIX) of 31 July, the Council noted that the draft "has not yet been completed" and that "there are still certain difficulties in the choice of an agreed basis to ensure the participation of all Member Governments in the preparation of such a strategy".

The Council also:

-- Expressed concern that it had not so far been possible to reach agreement on a number of substantive issues;

-- Affirmed that completion of a draft strategy for the Decade would require a solution to the following issues, among others:

- (a) Proposals regarding target dates for the transfer of resources from developed to developing countries and proposals regarding the target for official component of such transfers;
- (b) Proposals regarding target dates concerning terms and conditions of assistance;
- (c) Proposals regarding the question of a link between allocation of new reserve assets under the scheme of Special Drawing Rights and the provision of additional development finance to developing countries;
- (d) Shipping;
- (e) Proposals regarding target dates in the field of international trade;
- (f) Adjustment assistance measures;
- (g) Restrictive business practices;
- (h) Proposals regarding assistance by developed countries to developing countries in the field of science and technology;
- (i) Proposals relating specifically to the contribution of centrally planned economies of eastern Europe to the Second Development Decade;

-- Stressed that an international development strategy would gain considerably in significance if the implementation of the policy measures was "to the greatest extent possible given specific time dimensions";

-- Urged Governments to "give consideration at the appropriate political level" to the issues mentioned and requested the Trade and Development Board to seek agreement on unresolved issues within its competence;

-- Recommended that the Second Committee should begin its work in the first week of the forthcoming Assembly session and take up the draft strategy "as the only priority item";

-- Urged Governments "to consider representation at a high political level" during the final phase of the Assembly's work on a draft strategy, with a view to adopting the strategy and launching the Second Development Decade on 24 October;

-- Expressed readiness to assume responsibility for assisting the General Assembly in the task of over-all review and appraisal of the progress in the implementation of the strategy on the basis of reviews and appraisals at national, regional and sectoral levels.

In addition to the work done in the Council and the Preparatory Committee, the Council's Committee for Development Planning, an 18-member body of experts, has suggested a number of guidelines and proposals for the Second Development Decade. They are contained in the report on its sixth session, held at Headquarters from 5 to 15 January (E/4776 and corrigendum).

The Trade and Development Board has also drafted a statement on the contribution which the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) can make to the Development Decade. See notes on item 38, concerning UNCTAD.<sup>7</sup>

#### 44. United Nations Conference on Human Environment

The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment is to be held in Stockholm, Sweden, in June 1972.

The decision to hold the Conference was taken by the General Assembly in December 1968, following a suggestion made by Sweden in the Economic and Social Council earlier that year.

In its resolution on the Conference (2398 (XXIII) of 3 December 1968), the Assembly pointed to the increasing impairment of the environment through air and water pollution, erosion and other forms of soil deterioration, waste, noise and secondary effects of biocides. These problems, it said, were accentuated by rapidly increasing population and accelerating urbanization.

In response to an Assembly request, the Secretary-General submitted a report in May 1969 (E/4667) outlining the main problems of the human environment. He said the Conference should provide a focus for world-wide action to avoid a possible crisis endangering the well-being of mankind. The report, prepared in consultation with the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, contained various proposals relating to the Conference.

Last year, the Assembly endorsed the Secretary-General's proposals on the nature and scope of the Conference and arrangements for holding it. In resolution 2581 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969, the Assembly:

- Affirmed that the Conference's main aim should be to encourage and provide guidelines for action by nations and international organizations to protect and improve the human environment;
- Entrusted the Secretary-General with responsibility for organizing and preparing for the Conference and requested him to submit a brief progress report this year;
- Established a 27-nation Preparatory Committee to advise the Secretary-General;
- Requested the Secretary-General to set up a small conference secretariat immediately and, among other preparations, to bring human environmental problems to public attention;
- Accepted Sweden's invitation to hold the two-week conference in Stockholm in June 1972.

The Preparatory Committee held its first session at United Nations Headquarters from 10 to 20 March. In its report (A/CONF.48/PC/6), it recommended that discussion topics be grouped in three main categories: environmental aspects of human settlements, such as accelerated urbanization; rational management of natural resources such as soil and water; and environmental degradation from pollution and nuisances.

The Committee also proposed that the Secretary-General include in his report to its second session suggestions as to the content of a proposed draft declaration on the human environment and suggestions for concrete steps to facilitate the active participation of developing countries.

Regarding national reports, the Committee recommended that they should serve as background material for Conference preparations and should be submitted to the Secretariat not later than 31 March 1971. At the Committee's suggestion the Secretariat has sent a formal request to Governments for these national reports.

In a progress report to the Economic and Social Council at its July session (E/4828), the Secretary-General reported that a Conference Secretariat had been set up at United Nations Headquarters and that a unit especially concerned with preparing substantive conference documents would be located in Geneva. An Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Working Group had been formed to harness the talent already at work on environmental problems in United Nations specialized agencies and regional economic commissions. This Group met from 30 June to 3 July in Geneva and prepared a detailed tentative programme outline for the Conference, based on the Preparatory Committee's proposals.

As a result of last year's Assembly debate, the Secretary-General revised the estimated Conference budget downward from \$1,918,000 to \$1,564,000. However, he noted in his progress report that a number of significant developments, resulting primarily from mounting public concern about environmental problems, now necessitated an addition of \$444,600 to the budgetary estimates.

In resolution 1536 (XLIX) of 27 July, the Economic and Social Council, after reviewing the progress report, asked that account be taken of the environmental problems of particular concern to developing countries. It also suggested that the agenda of the Conference be selective, the organizational structure simple and the documentation limited. It recommended that a draft declaration on the human environment be presented to the Conference, based on the Preparatory Committee's suggestions.

As to other steps, the Council recommended that the Secretary-General arrange for an informal meeting with members of the Preparatory Committee in New York before the end of 1970, and that the second session of the Committee be held in Geneva in 1971.



45. Question of Establishment of International University

The idea for an international university was put forward by the Secretary-General in September 1969 in the introduction to his annual report on the work of the Organization (A/7601/Add.1).

In the report, U Thant had suggested that serious thought be given to the establishment of a "United Nations university, truly international in character and devoted to the Charter objectives of peace and progress", with the primary objective of promoting international understanding at both the political and cultural levels.

He said he hoped that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) might develop the idea and bring it to fruition.

Last year, the question was discussed by the General Assembly's Second Committee in connexion with International Education Year (1970).

On the recommendation of the Committee, the Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution in which it welcomed the initiative of the Secretary-General. It invited him to undertake a feasibility study which would include a clear definition of the objectives of an international university and recommendations as to how it might be organized and financed (resolution 2573 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969).

As requested by the Assembly, the Secretary-General's report was prepared in co-operation with UNESCO and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and was submitted first to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its July session in Geneva.

The 95-page report (E/4878) deals with such matters as possible curricula, selection of sites and recruitment of faculty for the "United Nations International University for Higher Studies", as it might be called. It suggests that campuses of the university be spread over the various regions of the world.

The university, the report says, could be supported through contributions from Member States, foundations, international business concerns and other organizations with international interests. The initial target of such a fund would be \$100 million.

According to the report, the university would provide "international-oriented scholarships operating in an international setting, continuing international scholarly co-operation for a fuller consideration of global issues; greater access by the developing world to science and technology; and permanent scholarly resources of high quality relevant to the programmes and issues of the United Nations family".

After preliminary consideration of the report, the Economic and Social Council adopted a resolution on 30 July in which it stated that an examination of all aspects of the matter "could advantageously be taken forward only on the basis of further studies".

It invited the General Conference of UNESCO to make available to the General Assembly, at its forthcoming session, its views on the objectives, as well as on optional models, of an international university and, at the appropriate time, to put forward proposals as to how UNESCO might participate.

It also invited UNESCO, UNITAR and other interested agencies of the United Nations to provide the Council with detailed recommendations as to how such a university might be organized and financed.

#### 46. Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources

In 1952, the General Assembly recommended that all Member States, in the exercise of their right freely to exploit their natural resources, should pay due regard, consistent with their sovereignty, to the need for maintaining the flow of capital.

In 1962, after considering the report of a commission set up in 1958 to survey the status of permanent sovereignty over natural resources, the Assembly declared that "the right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources must be exercised in the interest of their national development and of the well-being of the people of the State concerned".

A subsequent report submitted to the Economic and Social Council in 1964 provided information on the extent of foreign participation in the exploration of certain resources and in exploitation arrangements, and on concession arrangements with foreign companies.

The report was also presented to the Assembly in 1965, which decided to defer consideration of the question until its 1966 session.

In 1966, the Assembly called upon the developed countries to make available to the developing countries, at their request, assistance for the exploitation and marketing of their natural resources in order to accelerate their economic development. The Assembly recognized the right of all countries, and in particular of the developing countries, to secure and increase their share of the administration of enterprises which are fully or partly operated by foreign capital and to have a greater share in the advantages and profits. It also considered that when the natural resources of the developing countries are exploited by foreign investors, the latter should undertake proper and accelerated training of national personnel at all levels.

The Secretary-General was asked to co-ordinate the activities of the Secretariat in the field of natural resources with those of other United Nations organs, to take steps to facilitate the inclusion of exploitation of the natural resources of developing countries in programmes for their accelerated economic growth, and to submit a progress report to the 1968 Assembly session on this matter (resolution 2158 (XXI) of 25 November 1966).

Reporting to the 1968 session (A/7268), the Secretary-General stated that, in view of the growing technological gap, the United Nations may have a continuing role to play in bringing the fruits of a new technology to the developing countries. The report added that the initiation of the Survey Programme for the Development of Natural Resources had given a needed impetus to a systematic and co-ordinated approach to assessing the mineral, water and energy resources of the countries participating in the programme in co-operation with national Governments and regional economic commissions.

The Secretary-General stated that considerable progress had been achieved in implementing the intention of resolution 2158 (XXI), as well as other resolutions and programmes for the development of natural resources and related activities.

In resolution 2386 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the twenty-fifth session a report which would include a comprehensive account of the implementation of the principles and recommendations set forth in resolution 2158 (XXI).

In his report to the twenty-fifth session of the Assembly (A/8058) the Secretary-General deals with the problem and its setting; the legal framework for foreign participation in the exploitation of natural resources; the control of natural resources enterprises; profit-sharing between host countries and natural resources enterprises; the training of national personnel by natural resources enterprises; and the placement on the world market of non-commercial reserves of primary commodities.

The report also deals with contractual arrangements between a number of developing countries and foreign investors and provides information on the assistance provided -- by the United Nations, the regional economic commissions, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the African, Asian, Inter-American and East African Development Banks -- to developing countries for the exploitation of natural resources.

Referring to a questionnaire sent to all Member States by the Secretary-General on 5 March 1970, the report states that as of 12 June 1970, only 19 replies had been received.

47. Post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Costa Rica proposed in 1965 the creation of a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to supplement action under the International Covenants on Human Rights and to "make it possible for violations of human rights to be considered at a higher level of the United Nations". The Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to consider the proposal and report in 1966.

At its 1966 session, the Commission set up a nine-member Working Group to study the question. The Working Group submitted in February 1967 a set of guiding principles for the office of a High Commissioner (E/CN.4/934). The Commission, and later the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1237 (XLII) of 6 June 1967), approved a draft resolution by which the Assembly would establish a United Nations High Commissioner's Office, with "the degree of independence and prestige required".

The Commissioner's functions would be to assist in promoting and encouraging universal and effective respect for human rights. At the request of a member State, the Commission could provide assistance and services in this field.

The High Commissioner would be appointed by the Assembly, on the recommendation of the Secretary-General, for a term of five years. An expert panel of not more than seven members would advise and assist him. The Office would be financed from the regular United Nations budget.

The Assembly did not have time to consider the item in 1967 or in 1968.

Last year, the General Assembly decided, in resolution 2595 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, to give the matter the "highest priority" at its twenty-fifth session, and requested the Secretary-General to provide an analytical study relating to the Council resolutions on the subject (A/8035).

48. Respect for Human Rights in Armed Conflicts

The International Conference on Human Rights, held in Teheran in April-May 1968, adopted a resolution calling for measures to ensure better protection of civilians, prisoners and combatants in all armed conflicts.

Acting on the basis of that resolution, the Assembly in 1968 affirmed three principles for observance by authorities responsible for action in armed conflicts: that the right of the parties to a conflict to adopt means of

injuring the enemy is not unlimited; that it is prohibited to launch attacks against the civilian populations as such; and that distinction must be made between persons taking part in the hostilities and civilians, so that the latter would be spared as much as possible.

In its resolution (2444 (XXIII)), the Assembly invited the Secretary-General to study steps which could be taken to secure the better application of existing humanitarian international conventions and rules in armed conflicts. He was also asked to study the need for additional humanitarian conventions or other legal instruments to ensure better protection of civilians, prisoners and combatants and the prohibition and limitation of the use of certain methods and means of warfare. The Assembly called for further ratifications of four existing conventions on this subject.

Last year, the Assembly received a preliminary report by the Secretary-General (A/7720) stating that there were areas where useful studies might be undertaken and mentioning a number of such areas.

The Assembly, in resolution 2597 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, recognized that the Secretary-General's study should be continued in order to facilitate the presentation of concrete recommendations. The Secretary-General, in continuing the study, was requested to give special attention to liberation struggles.

This year, the Secretary-General's preliminary report was considered by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council. The Council requested the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the observations of both the Commission and the Council on the report.

At its resumed forty-eighth session, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to give particular attention in his study to the question of protection of women and children in emergency or war time (resolution 1515 (XLVIII) of 28 May 1970). In addition, the Council requested the Secretary-General to consider further measures of promoting throughout the world a wider knowledge of the plight of women and children victims of armed conflicts, and requested the Assembly to consider the possibility of drafting a declaration on the protection of women and children in emergency or war time.

This year, the Assembly has before it a further report by the Secretary-General on this question.

The report (A/8052) suggests that the Assembly consider calling on all authorities involved in armed conflicts to do their utmost to ensure that civilians are removed from or kept out of areas where conditions would be likely to place them in jeopardy. It outlines "minimum elements" which might be taken into consideration in formulating standard minimum rules for the protection of civilians.

A chapter of the report deals in detail with the establishment of refugees or sanctuaries for the protection of civilians, and says the possibility exists for a thorough study of that question by a group or committee of experts convened by the Assembly or the Secretary-General. The tentative proposals by the group might provide a working basis for the drafting of an international instrument, the report states.

Another chapter deals with the prohibition and limitation of certain methods of warfare, and refers to the usefulness of studying, as a first step, the "precise" effects of the use of napalm on human beings and the living environment.

On the question of the rights of people involved in liberation struggles, the report suggests that the Assembly consider adopting a resolution relating specifically to such combatants which would indicate minimum standards of protection.

#### 49. Housing, Building and Planning

A series of wide-ranging recommendations for national and international action to reverse the deteriorating housing situation throughout the world will be presented to the General Assembly in a special report prepared by the Secretary-General.

The document (A/8037) was prepared in response to Assembly resolution 2598 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, which asked for a report on "the problems and priorities confronting Member States in the field of housing, building and planning".

The report states that to house the world's growing population, about 1,400 million new dwellings must be constructed by the year 2000, an average of 47 million each year.

However, it says, the housing shortage continued to grow worse during the first United Nations Development Decade. Although the goal for the decade called for the annual construction of 10 dwelling units per 1,000 persons, the majority of countries of Africa, Asia and the Far East, and Latin America built no more than two or three nationally acceptable units per thousand yearly.

The Second Development Decade has now begun with an increased flow of population to urban areas, the report adds, but most Governments of developing countries still find themselves grossly unprepared for the growing tide of urbanization.

The report states that "to date, human settlements have not been recognized as having a role in accelerating development or as being a major method for integrating development". It observes that "if world society is to overcome the urban crises, prevent environmental degradation and fulfil housing goals, it is necessary to develop a level of determination that matches the present will to increase the output of goods and services".

In recommendations for international action, the Secretary-General suggests that the international organization structure be strengthened to:

- Establish an operational programme to plan a strategy for the development of human settlements within the context of national development;
- Establish a strong central research programme and a system of internationally supported regional research centres;
- Establish close international co-operation to exchange information and co-ordinate research and experimentation among national and international organizations and with national planning offices, housing agencies and research centres;
- Carry out a wide-ranging campaign to arouse public awareness of the seriously deteriorated conditions of human settlements;
- Greatly expand technical co-operation in the field of human settlements;
- Establish an international programme to promote and support national housing banks and other savings and credit institutions and to increase the volume and effectiveness of investments in housing and related facilities.

Proposals for national action include suggestions that:

- National policies on human settlement should recognize the environmental consequences of economic and social policies, and national urbanization policies should assist in modernization of rural areas.
- Physical and regional planning should be utilized as a major element in comprehensive development and an increased percentage of national income should be allocated to housing and urban development.



-- Urban development and housing departments should be established with sufficient power to purchase land, develop housing facilities and carry out research. The building industry should receive major national support.

-- A complete range of financial institutions should be devoted to promote savings and investments in housing and related facilities.

-- National campaigns to arouse general awareness of the crisis of human settlements should be undertaken in co-operation with the international campaign.

Last year, in resolution 2598 (XXIV), the Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to prepare "as soon as possible, and certainly by 1975, a comprehensive housing survey, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2036 (XX), which will place equal emphasis on the rural and urban sectors of housing, especially considering the needs and problems of the developing countries".

It further urged that, in the preparation of the strategy for the Second Development Decade, due attention be given to the problems in this field, in view of the increasingly adverse impact that inadequate housing and community facilities are having on social and economic development in rural and urban settlements.

The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1507 (XLVIII) of 22 June 1970, recognized the urgent need, within the framework of the Second Decade, to accord higher priority to housing, building and planning programmes at the national as well as the international level; to allocate increased financial resources to these programmes; and to promote the role of this sector in economic and social development.

#### 50. Measures to be Taken against Nazism and Racial Intolerance

In 1967, the General Assembly unanimously condemned "any ideology, including nazism, which is based on racial intolerance and terror", and called on all States to take immediate and effective measures against such manifestations of nazism and racial intolerance. It noted that "concern has been expressed regarding recent manifestations of racial intolerance, including the revival of certain groups and organizations professing totalitarian ideologies such as nazism".

Again in 1968, the Assembly condemned "racism, nazism, apartheid and all similar ideologies and practices which are based on racial intolerance and terror". It urgently called on all States to outlaw groups and organizations which disseminated propaganda for those ideologies, and to prosecute them in the courts. These measures, it added, should be taken with due regard to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Assembly called on all States, peoples and organizations to strive for the eradication as soon as possible of ideologies based on racial intolerance and terror.

The Secretary-General was requested to submit a survey of information on international instruments, legislation and other measures taken or envisaged, with a view to halting racist, nazi and similar activities, such as apartheid.

Also in 1968, the Commission on Human Rights asked its Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to submit recommendations on measures to halt nazi activities wherever they occur.

Last year, the Assembly called on the States concerned to take immediate and effective measures for the complete prohibition of nazi and racist organizations and groups and for their prosecution in the courts.

In this resolution (2545 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969), the Assembly also called on all States and national and international organizations to observe a day each year in memory of the victims of the struggle against nazism and similar ideologies; requested members of the United Nations or the specialized agencies to submit to the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Assembly at its twenty-fifth session, information on the measures adopted under this resolution; and decided to retain the item on its agenda "as a matter of priority".

In action this year, the Human Rights Commission requested the Sub-Commission to continue its study of the question, placing special emphasis on measures to be taken to detect and prevent contemporary activities that might be inspired by nazism or similar ideologies. It also called on the relevant specialized agencies to consider the question of measures to be taken against nazism and racial intolerance and to inform the Secretary-General of decisions and actions taken by them (resolution 4 (XXVI) of 4 March 1970).

Later this year, the Sub-Commission received the report of its Special Rapporteur, Hernan Santa Cruz, entitled "Special study of racial discrimination in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres".

The report (E/CN.4/Sub.2/307 and Add. 1-6 and corrigenda) had been in preparation since 1966; it is the first comprehensive study of racial discrimination on a world-wide basis prepared for the United Nations.

In response to a request made by the Sub-Commission at its 1969 session, Mr. Santa Cruz included a special chapter dealing with the danger of a revival of nazism and racial intolerance. In this chapter, the study says that "there is a clear danger of a revival" of nazism or a development of new forms of it.

On the basis of the study and Mr. Santa Cruz's recommendations, the Sub-Commission adopted unanimously, on 26 August 1970, a four-part resolution dealing with the broad question of racial discrimination.

Part D of this resolution, proposed for eventual adoption by the Assembly following submission next year to the Commission and the Economic and Social Council, contains further measures for the eradication of nazism and racial intolerance.

51. Punishment of War Criminals and Persons who have Committed Crimes against Humanity

On 13 February 1946, while the Nürnberg trial of Nazi war criminals was in progress, the General Assembly recommended that United Nations Members take measures to cause the arrest of war criminals and their return to the countries where their crimes had been committed, for judgement and punishment (resolution 3 (I)). This resolution was reaffirmed in 1947.

After the Nürnberg International Military Tribunal handed down its judgements, the Assembly on 11 December 1946 affirmed the principles of international law recognized by the Tribunal. These principles, including definitions of crimes against peace, war crimes and crimes against humanity, were formulated by the International Law Commission in 1950.

In 1948, the Assembly adopted the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, which defines genocide as a crime under international law.

In 1965, on a motion by Poland, the Commission on Human Rights placed on its agenda the item "Question of the punishment of war criminals and of persons who have committed crimes against humanity".

On the basis of a resolution of the Commission, the Economic and Social Council, on 28 July 1965, urged all States to continue their efforts to ensure that criminals responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity were traced, apprehended and equitably punished by the competent courts. It also invited States to accede to the Genocide Convention.

A study by the Secretary-General of the question of the non-applicability of statutory limitation to war crimes and crimes against humanity, made in response to a request by the Commission, was issued in February 1966 (E/CN.4/906). The study concluded that it appeared "natural and in conformity with legal principles that such crimes should not be subject to any period of limitation unless and until international law, which determines what charges can be brought, decides otherwise". The report suggested that it might be desirable to proclaim the principle of the inapplicability of a period of limitation for such crimes by means of an international convention or an Assembly resolution.

Later in 1966, the Council, on the basis of a resolution approved by the Commission, urged all States to prevent the application of statutory limitation to war crimes and crimes against humanity, and to continue their efforts to ensure the arrest, extradition and punishment of persons responsible for such crimes. The Council also invited the Commission to prepare in 1967 "a draft convention to the effect that no statutory limitation shall apply to war crimes and crimes against humanity, irrespective of the date of their commission".

Accordingly, the Secretary-General in 1967 submitted a preliminary draft convention to the Commission, which began the task of reaching agreement on a text. This task was taken up later that year by the Assembly's Third Committee, which completed the text the following year.

The Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity was adopted by the Assembly in resolution 2391 (XXIII) of 26 November 1968.

The Convention is intended to ensure that persons responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity will not escape prosecution merely because no legal case is brought against them within a specified period (the "period of statutory limitation") after the commission of the crime. The parties to the Convention undertake to adopt domestic measures for the extradition of persons responsible for these crimes.

Much of the opposition to the Convention, at the time of its adoption, was based on its definition of "crimes against humanity", which some States held to be too imprecise.

The following 10 States have ratified the Convention: Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Ukraine, USSR and Yugoslavia. In addition, Mexico has signed but not ratified the Convention.

The Convention will come into force on 11 November 1970.

Last year, the Assembly called on the States concerned to take measures to investigate war crimes and crimes against humanity, as defined in the Convention, and for the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of such crimes (resolution 2583 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969).

The Assembly, in this resolution, also invited States concerned to sign or ratify the Convention, and expressed the hope that States which were unable to vote for its adoption "will refrain from action running counter to its main purposes".

Further, the Assembly requested members of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to submit information on the measures taken by them in implementation of this resolution; requested the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on its implementation to the twenty-fifth session; and decided to give priority at this session to the question of further measures to ensure extradition and punishment.

In action on the question this year, the Economic and Social Council adopted on 27 May a resolution based on its consideration of a draft submitted by the Commission on Human Rights.

The resolution (1500 (XLVIII)) would have the Assembly express "deep concern" at the fact that "war crimes and crimes against humanity are being committed in various parts of the world".

The Assembly would draw attention "to the fact that many war criminals and persons who have committed crimes against humanity are continuing to take refuge in the territories of certain States and are enjoying protection", and call on members of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to take measures for their arrest and extradition.

Under this resolution, the Assembly would also request the Secretary-General to continue the study of the question and of the criteria for determining compensation to the victims of such crimes and to submit a report to the twenty-sixth session.

## 52. Freedom of Information

The General Assembly declared in 1964 that "freedom of information is a fundamental human right and is the touchstone of all the freedoms to which the United Nations is consecrated".

Efforts to formulate a precise definition of that right, however, have not yet been successful, and discussion of the item had been postponed each year from 1962 through 1967.

In 1968, the Assembly expressed the belief that the time had come for the international community to take a renewed interest in promoting freedom of information. It recommended to all States and international organizations concerned that freedom of information should be promoted particularly in the case of dissemination of information on the evils of apartheid, racism, nazism, colonialism and racial discrimination.

The Assembly also appealed to information media everywhere to co-operate in strengthening democratic institutions, promoting economic and social progress and friendly relations among nations, and combating propaganda for war or for national, racial or religious hatred.

In 1969, the Assembly was again unable to consider this item. On recommendation of the Third Committee, it decided to give priority to consideration of freedom of information at its twenty-fifth session (resolution 2596 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969). It also asked the Secretary-General to provide, for this session, all relevant information available concerning a draft Declaration and the draft Convention on Freedom of Information.

A note by the Secretary-General (A/8036) will be before the Assembly.

(a) Draft Declaration

In 1960, the Economic and Social Council approved the text of a draft Declaration on freedom of information, and transmitted it to the Assembly. The Assembly has not yet considered the draft, which has been on its agenda since 1960.

The five articles of the draft Declaration deal with the right to seek, receive and impart information; the responsibility of Governments to pursue policies under which the free flow of information would be protected; the employment of information media in the service of the people; the obligation of information media to report accurately and respect rights; and the permissible limitations to the rights and freedoms proclaimed in the Declaration.

(b) Draft Convention

The draft Convention was originally prepared in 1948 by the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information, and revised in 1951 by an ad hoc Committee of the Assembly. Between 1959 and 1961, the Assembly's Third Committee approved a preamble and four articles. The approved articles deal with the freedom to gather, receive and impart information and opinions; the extent of permissible restrictions to that freedom; the relationship of the Convention to existing freedoms; and the right of reply.

The 15 articles not yet considered contain provisions dealing with measures to encourage the observance of high standards of professional conduct, as well as the right of contracting States to develop and protect national news enterprises, to prevent restrictive and monopolistic practices, and to control international broadcasting originating in their territory.

53. Question of the Elderly and Aged

Malta, in proposing this item for the agenda last year (A/7644), said that questions relating to the elderly and the aged had not yet attracted much attention at the international level.

Accordingly, Malta suggested that, as a first step, the Secretary-General be asked to undertake a survey of the situation in selected countries and of past and present activities of the United Nations family in this field.

The Secretary-General, Malta stated, might also be asked to appoint a panel of consultants to report to the Assembly at its twenty-fifth session on: medical advances which retard the process of aging and the implications for social policy; ways of using the knowledge, skills and experience of larger numbers of elderly persons in the context of social systems; and forms of international co-operation with a view to developing guidelines for government policies and establishing minimum standards of assistance.

Last year, the Assembly was unable to examine the question. On recommendation of its Third Committee, it decided to give priority to the matter at the twenty-fifth session.

A preliminary note, prepared by the Secretariat (A/7939) to assist the Assembly's discussion, states that there are about 200 million persons 65 years and over in the world today. By 1985, it says, the total may rise to some 270 million.

Technological aspects, socio-economic factors, and specific areas of primary concern are also discussed in the document. In conclusion, it states:

"The world is faced today with a paradoxical situation in which society is doing everything possible to increase the absolute and relative numbers of old people (through efforts to reduce death rates and birth rates, respectively), but at the same time society is neglecting to utilize their vast potentials and very often creating socio-economic conditions which place a handicap to their physical and psycho-social adjustment."

The note suggests that:

-- Inter-regional studies be undertaken on "the economic and technological factors affecting employment of older workers, their pre-retirement and post-retirement programmes, the income security of the aged in the context of industrial and non-industrial economies, the social problems related to mental health, the use of leisure time and the participation and integration of the aged in community life".

-- A survey be undertaken in selected countries of national policies and programmes relating to the aged and the role of the United Nations family in them.



-- Concerted international action be initiated by the United Nations, in co-operation with other international organizations (such as the International Labour Organisation, World Health Organization and Food and Agriculture Organization) to devise a common strategy for formulating guidelines for government policies in this field and assisting Governments in implementing these policies.

54. Town Twinning as a Means of International Co-operation

Town twinning links one town with another in a different country and aims at bringing citizens of both places into close contact through various forms of co-operation. In Europe, the concept developed after World War II as a means of alleviating distress caused by war or disaster. In recent years, it has taken the form of citizens of a town in a developed country assisting projects in a town in a developing country. Local authorities often take the initiative in establishing such a link, and some international organizations have also sponsored town twinning.

In 1964, the Economic and Social Council expressed support for town twinning as a means of co-operation. The General Assembly in 1965 asked the Council to prepare a programme of measures through which the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) might encourage the achievement of the largest possible number of twinned towns. The Assembly also asked the Secretary-General to take suitable measures to encourage this form of co-operation (resolution 2058 (XX)).

In 1967, the Council suggested that Governments seek the participation of non-governmental organizations in the formulation and implementation of projects of the United Nations Development Programme in which town twinning or other forms of intermunicipal co-operation might play an important role.

The Assembly, at its last three regular sessions, postponed consideration of this item. Last year, however, it decided to give priority to the question at the twenty-fifth session.

55. Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

(a) International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Last year, the Assembly designated 1971 as International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (resolution 2544 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969).

The Assembly, in its resolution, stated that the year "should be observed in the name of the ever-growing struggle against racial discrimination in all its forms and manifestations and in the name of international solidarity with those struggling against racism". The Assembly also approved a programme for observance of the International Year drawn up by the Secretary-General.

The idea for observance originated at the International Conference on Human Rights, held in Teheran in 1968. The Conference had urged that the Assembly consider the possibility of declaring such a Year, and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a programme of measures for the observance. Later that year, the Assembly endorsed this request.

The Secretary-General's programme (A/7649) calls for special messages by United Nations and national officials, a special meeting of the Assembly, the initiation of new programmes to eradicate racial discrimination, a world-wide seminar on national measures to wipe out racial discrimination and promote harmonious race relations, and a campaign to promote public awareness of the evils of racial discrimination. The Secretary-General also suggests measures to be taken by Governments, specialized agencies, and national and international organizations.

At its 1970 session, the Commission on Human Rights called on all States, in connexion with the International Year, to proclaim their abhorrence and condemnation of apartheid and racial discrimination, intensify efforts to establish programmes aimed at preventing or eliminating racial discrimination, and sign or ratify international treaties or conventions on this subject. The Commission also invited the specialized agencies concerned to consider launching a world-wide campaign to publicize the evils of apartheid, colonialism and racial discrimination (resolution 3 B (XXVI) of 26 February).

Also this year, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities proposed that a meeting be held in Africa in 1971 in celebration of the International Year.

In a resolution adopted unanimously on 26 August, the Sub-Commission suggested that the meeting include the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Council for Namibia, and the Chairmen of the Commission on Human Rights, the Special Committee on Apartheid and the Special Committee of 24 on decolonization. The meeting would be held in an African capital "not far from South Africa, such as that of Namibia, a Territory under the direct responsibility of the United Nations".

The Assembly at this session will consider a progress report by the Secretary-General on preparations for the celebration. The report contains information received from States, United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations.

(b) Measures for Combating Racial Discrimination and Policies of Apartheid and Segregation in Southern Africa

Racial discrimination and the policies of apartheid and segregation in southern Africa have been considered by the General Assembly since 1966 as the most pressing example of violation of human rights in the world.

In 1966, the Assembly referred to such practices in South Africa, South West Africa (now Namibia), Southern Rhodesia and the Territories under Portuguese administration as crimes against humanity. It urged effective measures to suppress the policies of apartheid and segregation and to eliminate racial discrimination everywhere, especially in colonial and other dependent countries and Territories.

Study of this question, begun by the Commission on Human Rights in 1966, has led to recommendations by the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, calling on the régimes concerned to alter their policies and proposing measures which Member States might take to bring pressure against them to this end. Action by the United Nations has included investigations into several aspects of human rights violations in southern Africa and efforts to publicize the findings of those investigations.

In 1967, the Commission established an Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts to investigate charges of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners, detainees or persons in police custody in South Africa and to recommend action.

In 1968, the five-member group reported to the Commission, and, on the basis of its recommendations, the Assembly condemned the "torture, inhuman and degrading treatment of detainees and prisoners in South African prisons and in South African police custody" (resolution 2440 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968).

The Assembly, in this resolution, also called on South Africa to investigate reported violations of human rights for the purpose of punishing those responsible, and to afford victims the opportunity of indemnification. It called for the abolition of laws under which "opponents of the policy of apartheid are detained without charge or trial", and for the release of all political prisoners and persons held for their opposition to apartheid.

In 1967, the Human Rights Commission appointed a Special Rapporteur, Manouchehr Ganji of Iran, to study the legislation and practices instituted to maintain apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa and to make recommendations on measures which the Assembly might take.

The Assembly endorsed the Special Rapporteur's recommendation, made in 1968 in his first report, that South Africa repeal, amend or replace certain discriminatory legislation. It urged States to encourage information media to publicize the evils of apartheid and racial discrimination and United Nations efforts to eliminate them. It condemned the actions of Governments which maintained relations with South Africa and Southern Rhodesia and called on them to break off such relations. It requested the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations information centre in South Africa.

Also in 1968, after considering recommendations of the Teheran International Conference on Human Rights, the Assembly adopted a resolution condemning South Africa and Portugal "for their persistent defiant stand towards the United Nations and world opinion in respect of their policies of apartheid and colonialism, respectively". Further, it condemned Southern Rhodesia's policy of racial discrimination and deplored the refusal of the United Kingdom to take effective measures to suppress the illegal régime there and ensure human rights

to the Zimbabwe people. It censured South Africa and Portugal for assisting and collaborating with the Rhodesian régime.

The Assembly confirmed the view of the Teheran Conference in recognizing the legitimacy of the struggle of the peoples and liberation movements in southern Africa and in colonial territories; appealed to all States and organizations to continue to aid peoples struggling against racial discrimination and colonialism; and requested other United Nations organs and the specialized agencies to give appropriate assistance to those movements. It called on all States to sever all relations with the southern African régimes and to refrain from giving them military or economic assistance.

Last year, the Assembly adopted two resolutions on this question.

In resolution 2547 A (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, it condemned South Africa and Portugal for their "inhuman and degrading treatment and torture" of political prisoners and captured freedom fighters; called on them to observe the terms of the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War; and condemned South Africa for refusing to permit an impartial inquiry into the deaths of political prisoners and detainees.

Under other provisions, the Assembly called on the United Kingdom to reconsider "its deplorable refusal to intervene in Southern Rhodesia by force", strongly censured South Africa for its illegal occupation of Namibia, and urged immediate action by the Council for Namibia to bring about the application of the 1949 Geneva Conventions relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and the Treatment of Prisoners of War, as well as the application of the 1955 Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

Finally, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to establish a register of persons imprisoned or victimized for their opposition to apartheid and racial discrimination and of captured freedom fighters held in southern Africa, and to study the question of enlarging the scope of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa to cover all persons persecuted under repressive and discriminatory legislation in southern Africa.

In the second resolution (2547 B (XXIV) of 15 December 1969), the Assembly acted on the recommendations contained in the final report of the Special Rapporteur (E/CN.4/979 and Add. 1-8 and Add.1/Corr.1) submitted to the Human Rights Commission in 1969.

The Assembly, in this resolution, called on South Africa to repeal various discriminatory laws cited by the Special Rapporteur and to assist in restoring human rights in Namibia by ending its illegal occupation of that Territory; condemned South Africa's further intensification of apartheid in South Africa and Namibia; and deplored the United Kingdom's refusal to suppress the minority régime in Southern Rhodesia.

The Secretary-General was asked to set up a unit of United Nations Radio in Africa to broadcast to the peoples of southern Africa, to seek and circulate the views of Member States on the establishment of a judicial committee for Namibia, and to bring this proposal to the notice of competent United Nations organs.

The proposal for a judicial committee for Namibia was contained in the final report of the Special Rapporteur. Mr. Ganji envisages a "Judicial Committee for Namibia for the Investigation of International Crimes", composed of eminent jurists, which would "take measures for the detection, exposure and repression of crimes committed against inhabitants of the Territory and for fastening responsibility on the perpetrators of these crimes". Under his proposal, the Committee "would serve as a necessary preliminary to the eventual trial of those responsible under international law for crimes against the inhabitants of Namibia".

The Assembly will have before it at this session a report by the Secretary-General containing the views of 16 Governments on the proposal for a judicial committee for Namibia. The majority of the respondents supported establishment of the committee, but several expressed reservations on the proposal's lack of specificity and the difficulties posed under international law.

The Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts set up by the Human Rights Commission in 1967 has had its mandate enlarged four times since it submitted its first report.

In 1968, the Commission authorized it to investigate allegations of ill-treatment of prisoners, detainees and persons in police custody in Namibia, Southern Rhodesia and Territories under Portuguese administration in Africa; the consequences of "illegal arrest and arraignment" of Namibians by South African authorities; and evidence that "may establish the existence of the crime of genocide in South Africa".

In 1969, the Group was authorized to inquire into capital punishment in South Africa, the treatment of political prisoners and captured freedom fighters in southern Africa, the conditions of Africans in transit camps and "native reserves" in southern Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia, and "grave manifestations of colonialism and racial discrimination" in southern Africa.

At this year's session, the Commission received the Group's third report (E/CN.4/1020 and Add. 1-3). Acting on this report, the Commission asked the Group "to study, from the point of view of international penal law, the question of apartheid, which has been declared a crime against humanity" (resolution 8 (XXVI) of 18 March).

Later this year, the Economic and Social Council prolonged the mandate of the Group and, in addition, authorized it to investigate, in the Portuguese colonies of Africa, the conditions of African producers of primary products, the sectors of unorganized labour, such as farm labour, and workers from Mozambique and Angola who have sought employment in South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia (resolution 1509 (XLVIII) of 27 May).

At the same session, the Council took up the second report of the Group (E/CN.4/984 and Add. 1-19), which it had been unable to consider last year for lack of time. The Group, in this report, recommended action by United Nations organs with a view to rectifying conditions in prisons and detention camps in southern Africa and alleviating the plight of persons kept there.

On the basis of these recommendations, the Economic and Social Council proposed a wide-ranging resolution for adoption by the Assembly at its twenty-fifth session (resolution 1501 (XLVIII) of 27 May).

It would have the Assembly call on South Africa immediately to disband the Bureau of State Security (BOSS); discontinue the practice by which political detainees are compelled to testify against their former colleagues; immediately and unconditionally release the 22 Africans rearrested on 16 February 1970 under the Terrorism Act; and grant full access to independent outside observers at all trials of political opponents of the régime.

The Assembly would ask the United Kingdom to liberate Africans from reserves in Southern Rhodesia where they were concentrated in conditions of near captivity and bondage, and to repeal the so-called Constitution of

Rhodesia of 1969; and call on Portugal to eradicate the practice of forced labour in its African colonies and to introduce a system of free market conditions for the products of African farmers.

Finally, the Assembly is asked to condemn "any and every" practice of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners, detainees and captured freedom fighters in Namibia, Southern Rhodesia and the Portuguese African colonies.

The Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts has conducted many of its investigations abroad. In the most recent of these trips, from June to September this year, the Group visited 10 cities in Europe and Africa and heard a total of 82 witnesses regarding violations of human rights in southern Africa.

Members of the Group, which was enlarged from five to six in 1968, are: Ibrahima Boye, Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations, Chairman; Felix Ermacora (Austria); Branimir Jankovic (Yugoslavia); N.N. Jha (India); Luis Marchand-Stens (Peru); and Waldo E. Waldron-Ramsey (United Republic of Tanzania). They serve in their personal capacity.

In other action this year, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities received the report of its Special Rapporteur, Hernán Santa Cruz of Chile, concerning the special study of racial discrimination in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres (E/CN.4/Sub.2/307 and Add. 1-6), which had been under preparation since 1966.

The report deals, in part, with the racial policies of South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and the Territories under Portuguese administration. "In spite of substantial progress", it concludes, racial discrimination "persists, either in law or in fact". This was so even though such discrimination "harms those who practise it as well as those who are its objects". The report contains a number of proposals for action by United Nations bodies aimed at the speedy elimination of racial discrimination throughout the world.

Acting on this report, the Sub-Commission, at its twenty-third session in August, adopted a four-part resolution which is recommended for adoption by the Economic and Social Council, following submission to the Human Rights Commission.

(See also the notes on item 35, concerning apartheid.)



(c) Report of Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination

This 18-member committee of experts is the first body established to oversee the implementation of obligations accepted by States parties to an international human rights agreement concluded under United Nations auspices.

It was set up under the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which entered into force on 4 January 1969 (see sub-item (d) below).

The main task of the Committee, as set out in the Convention, is the consideration of reports to be submitted regularly by States parties on the legislative, judicial or other measures they are taking to give effect to the provisions of the Convention. The States are to submit their first report within one year of becoming parties to the Convention, and then once every two years.

The Committee is also empowered to deal with matters brought to its attention by any State party which considers that another party is not giving effect to the provisions of the Convention. It may take up such matters only after it has determined that all available domestic remedies have been exhausted, unless the application of these remedies is "unreasonably prolonged". In such cases, it is authorized to appoint a five-member conciliation commission.

Further, the Committee may receive and consider communications from individuals or groups claiming to be victims of a violation by a State party of any right set forth in the Convention. In such cases, however, the State concerned must have previously declared that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to consider such communications. This provision will come into force only when 10 States parties have made declarations accepting it. So far, no States have done this.

Another task of the Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to United Nations bodies dealing with Non-Self-Governing Territories. For this purpose, it receives copies of petitions and reports which are before those bodies and which relate to matters covered by the Convention. The Committee may express its opinions and make recommendations to the bodies concerned.

At its first session, held in New York from 19 to 30 January 1970, the Committee drew up a list of suggestions which Governments might follow in drafting their reports concerning implementation of the Convention.

The Committee is holding its second session in New York from 31 August to 18 September. It has prepared provisional rules of procedure and is considering reports received from States parties. The Committee is also to prepare its report for the Assembly at this session.

The members of the Committee are:

Rajeshwar Dayal of India, Chairman; Alvin R. Cornelius of Pakistan; Mikhail Z. Getmanets of the Ukraine; A.A. Haastrup of Nigeria, Vice-Chairman; José D. Ingles of the Philippines; Sir Herbert S. Marchant of the United Kingdom; Aboul Nasr of the United Arab Republic; Gonzalo Ortiz Martín of Costa Rica, Vice-Chairman; Mrs. Doris Owusu-Addo of Ghana; Karl Joseph Partsch of the Federal Republic of Germany; Aleksandar Peles of Yugoslavia; Zbigniew Resich of Poland, Vice-Chairman; Zenon Rossides of Cyprus; Fayez A. Sayegh of Kuwait, Rapporteur; S.T. Msindazwe Sukati of Swaziland; Nikolai K. Tarassov of the Soviet Union; Jean Tomko of Czechoslovakia; and Luis Valencia Rodriguez of Ecuador.

(d) Status of Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination

The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which came into force on 4 January 1969 was adopted by the General Assembly on 21 December 1965 (resolution 2106 (XX)).

States which become Parties to it undertake "to pursue by appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating racial discrimination in all its forms and promoting understanding among races". In particular, they undertake to guarantee equality before the law in the enjoyment of human rights, notably the right of everyone to equal treatment before the tribunals and all other organs administering justice; the right to security of persons and protection by the State against violence or bodily harm; and the political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights of every person.

Racial discrimination, as defined by the Convention, consists of "any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life".

The Convention is open to all States Members of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies.

The Convention was opened for signature on 7 March 1966 and has been signed by 72 States. As of 5 September, the following 41 States were parties to the Convention: Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Madagascar, Mongolia, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Sierra Leone, Spain, Swaziland, Syria, Tunisia, Ukraine, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

At the Assembly's request, the Secretary-General submits each year a report showing the status of the Convention, including the dates of all ratifications, accessions and signatures.

#### 56. Elimination of All Forms of Religious Intolerance

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which the Assembly adopted in 1948, proclaims the principle of non-discrimination and the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief.

To bring into effect the principle of equality of all persons with respect to religion, the Assembly in 1962 requested that the Commission on Human Rights draft both a declaration and a convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance.

##### (a) Draft Declaration

A preliminary draft declaration was prepared in 1964 by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, but a working group set up by the Commission on Human Rights to study this draft had time only to revise six articles.

In 1965, the Assembly asked that the Commission make every effort to complete the draft declaration and the draft convention in 1966. The Commission dealt with the draft convention in 1966 and 1967; however, it has not taken up the draft convention since 1964.

(b) Draft Convention

The Sub-Commission in 1965 submitted to the Commission on Human Rights a preliminary draft convention.

At its sessions in 1965, 1966 and 1967, the Commission adopted a preamble and 12 articles but, for lack of time, was unable to adopt implementation measures. The Economic and Social Council, in 1967, transmitted the Commission's text to the Assembly, along with draft articles of implementation prepared by the Sub-Commission, and expressed the hope that the Assembly would decide on suitable measures of implementation and final clauses.

In 1967, the Assembly amended the title of the draft to "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination based on Religion or Belief". However, it had time only to adopt the preamble and article 1, and to decide not to mention any specific examples of religious intolerance in the text.

In 1968 and 1969 the Assembly postponed consideration of the entire item.

Under the draft before the Assembly, States Parties to the Convention would undertake to: condemn all forms of religious intolerance and discrimination on the ground of religion or belief; ensure to everyone within their jurisdiction the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, and freedom to worship, teach and practise religion; respect the right of parents or legal guardians to bring up children in the religion or belief of their choice; ensure the freedom to enjoy and exercise political, civic, economic, social and cultural rights without such discrimination; adopt measures, particularly in the fields of teaching, education, culture and information, to combat prejudices leading to intolerance and discrimination, and to promote understanding and friendship among nations, groups and individuals; enact or abrogate legislation in order to prohibit such discrimination by any person, group or organization; ensure equality before the law; ensure equal protection of the law against promotion of or incitement to religious intolerance or discrimination; and ensure effective protection, through tribunals and other State institutions, against discrimination. (For texts, see A/7930).

57. Youth, Its Education in Respect for Human Rights, Its Problems and Needs, and Participation in National Development

In 1965, the Assembly stated that the energies of youth should be devoted to the material and spiritual advancement of all peoples. To promote this aim, it adopted the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples, containing six principles on this subject which it asked Governments, non-governmental organizations and youth movements to observe.

Later, in 1968, the Economic and Social Council adopted two resolutions dealing with the need to educate youth in the respect for human rights, with participation of youth in development, and with youth problems. In the first (resolution 1353 (XLV)), the Council called the attention of Governments to the desirability of giving due consideration to the ways in which the participation of youth in the protection and promotion of human rights could be further enhanced. In the second (resolution 1354 (XLV)), the Council requested that all possible measures be taken to strengthen programmes of international action for dealing with youth problems in society, in both developing and developed countries.

Taking up the theme later in 1968, the Assembly requested that the Commission on Human Rights, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), study the question of the education of youth with a view to the development of its personality and the strengthening of its respect for the rights of man and fundamental freedoms (resolution 2447 (XXIII)).

Last year, the Assembly expressed its desire to devise "new methods" through which the enthusiasm and energy of youth might be more effectively directed towards the spiritual and material advancement of all peoples.

In resolution 2497 (XXIV) of 28 October, it appealed to youth to affirm its faith in international law and the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter, and recommended to the Secretary-General that regional seminars on youth be organized as soon as possible.

The Assembly also affirmed the importance of taking measures to promote the education of youth in countries and Territories still under colonial and

foreign occupation with a view to expediting decolonization, liberation and self-determination, and to ensure that such education was undertaken in complete respect for the national, religious and language traditions.

Further, the Assembly recommended that Governments give an opportunity to youth, especially during the Second Development Decade, to participate in preparing and implementing national development plans and programmes of international co-operation.

Also last year, in a resolution concerning celebration during 1970 of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, the Assembly decided to convene a world youth assembly (resolution 2499 A (XXIV) of 31 October). It also invited Member States to consider inclusion of youth representatives in their delegations to the twenty-fifth session of the Assembly.

The World Youth Assembly, which took place in New York from 9 to 17 July 1970, adopted a message to the General Assembly stating its views on a number of world problems and on the role that youth can play in today's world. It also adopted the reports of its four commissions, which dealt with the subjects of world peace, development, education, and man and the environment.

At its session in February and March 1970, the Human Rights Commission had before it a report by UNESCO (E/CN.4/1027) concerning education of youth in the respect for human rights, as well as a report by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/1032) containing information from Governments on action taken to ensure that youth was educated in a spirit of respect for human rights everywhere. Both reports were prepared in response to Commission resolution 20 (XXV) of 19 March 1969.

The Commission, however, did not act on the reports and decided to resume consideration of the item "as a matter of priority" at its session next year.

#### 58. Human Rights and Scientific and Technological Developments

The 1968 International Conference on Human Rights warned that while recent scientific discoveries and technological advances had opened vast prospects for progress, they "may nevertheless endanger the rights and freedoms of individuals". They "will require continuing attention", the Conference stated in its Teheran Proclamation.

The Assembly, in resolution 2450 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, shared the concern of the Conference and endorsed the idea that these problems required "thorough and continuous interdisciplinary studies" which might serve as a basis for drawing up appropriate standards to protect human rights.

Accordingly, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to undertake a study of these problems from the following standpoints:

-- Respect for the privacy of individuals and the integrity and sovereignty of nations in the light of advances in recording and other techniques;

-- Protection of the human personality and its physical and intellectual integrity in the light of advances in biology, medicine and biochemistry;

-- Uses of electronics which might affect a person's rights and the limits which should be placed on such uses; and

-- The balance which should be established between scientific and technological progress and the intellectual, spiritual, cultural and moral advancement of humanity.

The Secretary-General was invited to undertake this study with the assistance of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development and in co-operation with the heads of the competent specialized agencies.

The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for its twenty-fifth session, a preliminary report consisting of a summary account of studies made so far on the four subjects outlined for study and of a draft programme of work which might be undertaken in future.

In accordance with the Assembly's resolution, the Secretary-General submitted his preliminary report (E/CN.4/1028 and Add. 1-4) to this year's session of the Commission on Human Rights. However, it did not have time to consider fully the report and decided to examine it next year, in the light of the Assembly's decisions.

The Secretary-General's report to the Assembly on this item (A/8055) will be issued shortly.

59. Report of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The High Commissioner for Refugees, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, states in his annual report (A/8012) that his office has had to intensify and broaden its efforts because of a steady increase in the number of refugees on whose behalf Governments have appealed for assistance.

"Far from making it possible to take things more easily", the report says, new projects had to be embarked upon, and those already completed or under way had to be expanded or remodelled. The bulk of the refugee problems are now in Africa, where settlement in a rural environment is still the main solution.

About 275,000 refugees were assisted in 1969 with a view to their repatriation, resettlement or local settlement, compared with 235,000 in 1968, according to the report. Direct assistance to meet basic needs ("supplementary aid") was provided in some 75,000 cases.

The report states that the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme has approved a target of \$5,769,400 for 1970. As of 31 March 1970, \$3,521,087 had been paid or pledged towards the 1970 target by 54 Governments.

60. Technical Assistance in Field of Narcotics

In 1968, the Assembly declared that drug addiction, where widespread, "constitutes an obstacle to the economic and social development of the countries concerned and requires urgent and concerted efforts for its solution" (resolution 2434 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968).

Accordingly, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to develop plans for putting an end to illegal or uncontrolled production of narcotic raw materials and to submit these plans to its twenty-fifth session. He was asked to prepare these plans in co-operation with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board, in consultation with interested Governments.

The Assembly, in this resolution, also recommended that the Governments concerned seek assistance from organizations in the United Nations system and from bilateral sources in their efforts to develop alternative economic programmes and activities as a means of ending illegal or uncontrolled cultivation of narcotic raw materials. It cited crop substitution as one such activity.



The Assembly recalled its resolution 1395 (XIV) of 20 November 1959 which established a continuing programme of United Nations technical assistance for narcotics control. This programme, financed from the regular budget of the United Nations, includes the granting of fellowships in various aspects of narcotics control and such regional activities as training missions and seminars on narcotics control for enforcement officers.

Earlier this year, in accordance with the Assembly's 1968 resolution, the Secretary-General submitted an interim report to the Council at its forty-eighth session. The Council took note of the report and transmitted it to the Assembly for consideration at this session.

The report (E/4789) states that the Secretary-General has brought the Assembly's 1968 resolution to the attention of the Governments of 13 countries -- Afghanistan, Bolivia, Burma, Colombia, Ecuador, Laos, Lebanon, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Thailand and Turkey. He asked them to give urgent consideration to drafting plans for ending illicit and uncontrolled production. The resolution has also been brought to the attention of the Government of Iran as that country has a serious problem of heroin addiction, the report states.

The report also states that a number of conclusions and recommendations were agreed to at a meeting in Geneva in June 1969 of representatives of the United Nations, specialized agencies concerned and the International Narcotics Control Board. It was suggested at the meeting that a Special Fund for Narcotics should be set up for the purpose of curtailing the supply and demand for narcotic drugs. It was agreed that the Secretariat should formulate proposals on this matter, the report states.

Dealing with the broader question of narcotics control, the Economic and Social Council decided in July this year to convene a special session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs "to consider short- and long-term policy recommendations for integrated international action against drug abuse". The special one-week session is to be held in Geneva, beginning on 28 September.

In its resolution (1532 (XLIX)), the Council stated that the Commission should deal particularly with the need for more effective measures to suppress drug traffic, to put an end to illegal and uncontrolled production of narcotic raw materials, and to reduce the illicit demand for drugs through educational and social programmes and treatment and rehabilitation.

The Commission's recommendations, the Council stated in its resolution, were essential to permit the Assembly to deal effectively with the issue at its twenty-fifth session.

61. Status of Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and Protocol

The two International Covenants on Human Rights were unanimously adopted by the Assembly in 1966. The texts are contained in resolution 2200 A (XXI). The Covenants put into binding legal form, and in many cases amplify, the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the Assembly in 1948.

The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights deals with self-determination, conditions of work, trade unions, social security, protection and assistance for the family, standards of living and health, education and cultural life. It provides that rights in these categories are to be realized progressively and without discrimination.

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights deals with such matters as self-determination, liberty of movement, equality before the law, presumption of innocence, freedom of conscience and religion, freedom of opinion and expression, peaceful assembly, freedom of association, participation in public affairs and elections, and minority rights.

It prohibits arbitrary deprivation of life, torture, cruel or degrading treatment or punishment, slavery, forced labour, arbitrary arrest or detention, arbitrary interference with privacy, war propaganda, and advocacy of racial or religious hatred that constitutes an incitement to discrimination or violence.

The Covenant provides for a Human Rights Committee to consider measures taken to implement its provisions, and a conciliation procedure to deal with allegations that parties have failed to live up to the Covenant.

The Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights provides for consideration of communications from individuals who claim to be victims of violations of any right set forth in the Covenant. Only claims against parties to the Protocol can be considered.

When it adopted the three instruments in 1966, the Assembly expressed the hope that they would come into force at an early date. It reiterated this appeal in 1967.

Each Covenant will enter into force after 35 States have ratified or acceded. The Protocol requires 10 ratifications or accessions by States which have ratified or acceded to the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

As of 31 August, 46 States had signed the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and 45 States had signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Eight States have ratified or acceded to the two covenants: Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, Libya, Syria, Tunisia and Uruguay. The Optional Protocol has been signed by 17 States and ratified or acceded to by four States: Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Uruguay.

## 62. Importance of Self-Determination for Observance of Human Rights

One of the resolutions adopted by the International Conference on Human Rights, held at Teheran in 1968, concerned the question of "The importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights" (Conference resolution VIII, A/CONF.32/41).

The General Assembly, after considering the question of implementation of the recommendations of the Conference, adopted last year a resolution put forward by its Third Committee (2588 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969).

In that resolution, it expressed concern at the continued violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries and the human rights and fundamental freedoms of their peoples.

The Assembly decided to review at its twenty-fifth session the progress in implementing resolution VIII of the International Conference and relevant Assembly resolutions on the subject.

The Assembly also confirmed the principles contained in resolution VIII, which "supports the liberation movements in southern Africa and elsewhere in their legitimate struggle for freedom and independence"; called on all Governments concerned to abide by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations relating to decolonization, territorial integrity and the right to self-determination; and appealed to all States and organizations to provide appropriate assistance to peoples struggling for their freedom and independence.

### 63. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

Under Article 73 e of the Charter, Member States administering Non-Self-Governing Territories accept the obligation to transmit to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the territories for which they are responsible.

The information is examined by the Special Committee of 24 on decolonization.

Last year, in resolution 2558 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, the General Assembly expressed regret that some Member States still had not seen fit to transmit information on Territories under their administration, had transmitted insufficient information or had transmitted it too late.

It deplored the United Kingdom's "persistent refusal" to transmit information on Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla and St. Lucia; and considered that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself on the attainment by St. Vincent of a full measure of self-government, the United Kingdom should continue to transmit information in regard to that Territory.

The Assembly also condemned Portugal for refusing to transmit information on Territories under its administration; and again urged the administering Powers to transmit information, including the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments.

### 64. Question of Namibia

Namibia (formerly South West Africa) was a German colony from 1884 until 1915, when it was surrendered to South Africa during World War I. It was made a Mandated Territory by the League of Nations in 1920, with South Africa as Mandatory Power.

The question of South West Africa (as it was called until June 1968, when the General Assembly decided that it would henceforth be known by the African name of Namibia) has been discussed in the United Nations since the first session of the Assembly in 1946. The Assembly repeatedly sought South Africa's co-operation to ensure that it fulfilled the obligations it had assumed under the Mandate,

and recommended that the Territory be placed under the Trusteeship System. South Africa maintained that its international commitments in regard to the Territory had lapsed with the demise of the League of Nations.

In 1960, Ethiopia and Liberia -- acting in their capacity as former League of Nations members -- initiated proceedings in the International Court of Justice, in which they asked the Court to declare that the Territory remained under the Mandate and that South Africa was required to carry out its Mandate obligations. However, the Court decided in 1966 that no legal right or interest in the conduct of a Mandate had been vested in League members individually, and that Ethiopia and Liberia therefore were not entitled to a Court pronouncement. Consequently, the Court did not rule on the basic question of whether the Mandate was still in force.

In resolution 2145 (XXI) of 27 October 1966, the Assembly declared that South Africa had failed to fulfil its obligations under the Mandate; that the Mandate was terminated; and that henceforth the Territory would come under the direct responsibility of the United Nations.

At a special session in 1967, the Assembly established an 11-member United Nations Council for South West Africa to administer the Territory until it achieved independence. The Assembly requested the Council, which "shall be based in South West Africa", to contact the South African authorities to lay down procedures for transfer of the administration of the Territory. The Council, responsible to the Assembly, was to entrust executive and administrative tasks to a United Nations Commissioner for South West Africa, appointed by the Assembly.

The members of the Council, which is now the United Nations Council for Namibia, are Chile, Colombia, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Turkey, the United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

Because of South Africa's refusal to co-operate in the implementation of Assembly resolutions, the Council has been unable to enter Namibia and discharge all the functions entrusted to it.

Since 1967, the question has been considered repeatedly by the Assembly, the Council for Namibia and the Special Committee of 24 on decolonization. Human rights aspects have been taken up by the Economic and Social Council and its Commission on Human Rights.

The Assembly has repeatedly called on South Africa to withdraw from the Territory, condemned its refusal to do so, appealed to States to take economic measures to force South Africa to comply, and requested the Security Council to take effective measures to allow the Council for Namibia to discharge its functions.

The repeal of discriminatory laws and practices by South Africa in that Territory was recommended, along with the ending of inhuman practices against the non-white population there. South Africa's intensification of apartheid in the Territory was condemned, the support given South Africa by its trading partners was deplored, and States were asked to pursue all their relations in regard to the Territory with the Council for Namibia and to consider any actions taken by South Africa in this area as illegal.

The Council for Namibia has continued to draw the attention of the relevant United Nations bodies to what it has described as the deteriorating situation resulting from measures by South Africa to destroy the territorial integrity of Namibia. These measures included the removal of Africans from certain areas in the Territory, the establishment of "homelands" and the arrest of Namibians.

The call for immediate withdrawal of the South African administration from Namibia was joined by the Security Council on 20 March 1969. In resolution 264 (1969), the Council invited all States to exert influence to obtain South Africa's compliance and decided that if its call was not complied with, it would meet to determine what further steps to take.

Taking up the question at its last session, the Assembly adopted three resolutions dealing with the situation.

In the first (resolution 2498 (XXIV) of 31 October 1969) the Assembly again condemned South Africa's persistent refusal to withdraw from Namibia and drew the attention of the Security Council to the deteriorating situation resulting from this refusal.

The Assembly, in resolution 2517 (XXIV) of 1 December 1969, again reaffirmed the inalienable rights of the people of Namibia to self-determination and independence and the legitimacy of their struggle against foreign occupation; expressed its solidarity with the people of that Territory; asked all States "to provide increased moral and material assistance to them"; again condemned

South Africa for its "persistent refusal" to withdraw from the Territory and for its policies and actions "designed to destroy the national unity and territorial integrity of Namibia"; drew the Security Council's attention to the need for appropriate measures to resolve the grave situation; and requested the Council for Namibia to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it.

The third resolution (2518 (XXIV) of 1 December 1969) dealt with petitions concerning Namibia. In it, the Assembly drew the petitioners' attention to action taken by the United Nations.

Also on 1 December 1969, the Assembly decided to appoint the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information, Agha Abdul Hamid, as Acting United Nations Commissioner for Namibia, replacing Constantin A. Stavropoulos, Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs and Legal Counsel, who had held the post since its inception. The question of the appointment of a Commissioner will again be before the Assembly this year.

On 30 January 1970, the Security Council established an ad hoc sub-committee on Namibia to study ways by which the relevant resolutions of the Council could "be effectively implemented in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Charter, in the light of the flagrant refusal of South Africa to withdraw from Namibia" (resolution 276 (1970)). The vote on this was 13 in favour to none against, with two abstentions (France, United Kingdom).

On 25 July, after considering the Sub-Committee's report (S/9863), the Council adopted two more resolutions on the question. In the first (resolution 283 (1970)), it requested all States to refrain from any relations with South Africa implying recognition of its authority over Namibia. It called on all States to declare that South Africa's presence is illegal and to remove any diplomatic or consular relations from Namibia.

In addition, the Council called for the cessation of commercial relations in respect of Namibia by States and their nationals and a cessation of further investment in the Territory, as well as discouragement of tourism in the Territory. It decided to re-establish its Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Namibia. It requested the Assembly to set up a United Nations Fund for Namibia which would aid persecuted Namibians and finance an education and training programme (see notes on item S.1).

In the second resolution adopted that day (resolution 284 (1970)), the Council requested the International Court of Justice to give an advisory opinion on the question: "What are the legal consequences for States of the continued presence of South Africa in Namibia, notwithstanding Security Council resolution 276 (1970)?"

The Council for Namibia sent a mission to Africa from 8 to 25 July to consult with several Governments on the question of issuing travel and identification documents to Namibians residing abroad. The plan is for the Council, or an office established by it, to issue documents that States would accept as valid "passports" for entry into and travel in their territory.

This year's mission, the second on the subject, reported that it had made arrangements for the establishment of a regional office of the Council in Lusaka in September to deal with questions arising in the issuance of such papers. It also said it had concluded agreements with the Governments of Zambia and Uganda which would enable the Council to issue travel documents, and that negotiations had advanced with the Governments of Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The Council for Namibia will submit a report to the Assembly on this and other activities (A/8024).

The Special Committee of 24 on decolonization, taking up the question of Namibia in August, was unable to reach a consensus. Instead, on 11 August, it approved a statement by its Chairman, which it decided to transmit to the Security Council. Hope was expressed in the statement that the Council would take "effective steps" to ensure South Africa's withdrawal from Namibia and to ensure the enjoyment by the Namibian people of their fundamental rights. The statement condemned the political and military repression and economic exploitation of Namibia as well as the support given by South Africa's allies in regard to its repressive policies.

The Special Committee's actions with regard to Namibia will be dealt with in a chapter of the Committee's general report to the Assembly (A/8023 and addenda).

The Economic and Social Council, acting on recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights, proposed on 27 May that the Assembly adopt a resolution concerning violations of human rights in southern Africa, including Namibia. (See notes on item 55 (b) above.)



65. Territories under Portuguese Administration

The Territories under Portuguese administration have been the subject of numerous resolutions by the General Assembly, the Special Committee of 24 and the Security Council. These have repeatedly affirmed the right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination and independence, and have called for various actions -- including an arms embargo against Portugal and severance of economic and other ties with that country -- in order to end its colonial rule over more than 13 million persons.

The Portuguese Territories on the African continent -- Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea, called Portuguese Guinea or Guinea (Bissau) -- have a combined population of 12.8 million (1966 estimate), about three million more than the population of Portugal itself. National liberation movements of these Territories have been engaged in armed conflict with Portuguese forces in recent years. (The other Territories under Portuguese administration are Cape Verde Archipelago, Sao Tome and Principe; Macau and dependencies; and Timor and dependencies.)

The Security Council was first seized with the question of Angola in 1961, following disturbances there. The question of the Portuguese Territories in general was first dealt with by the Assembly in 1961, and by the Security Council in 1963.

Portugal has taken the position that the Territories are its overseas provinces, and are not Non-Self-Governing Territories as stated by the Assembly. It has maintained that its aim is to create a multiracial society and to further the participation of the population in all phases of activity in the Territories.

Since 1965 the Committee of 24 on decolonization, the Security Council and the Assembly have repeatedly asked all States, particularly Portugal's allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), to prevent the sale and supply of arms and military equipment and the giving of any aid to Portugal which might be used in the repression of the people of the Territories.

They have also appealed to the specialized agencies and related international organizations, including the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, to refrain from granting any aid to Portugal. States and agencies were asked to give moral and material support for the peoples of the Territories. The Assembly and the Special Committee of 24 have recommended that the Security Council make mandatory the provisions of relevant United Nations resolutions.

Since 1968, the United Nations has condemned Portugal's collaboration with South Africa and the illegal regime in Southern Rhodesia designed to perpetuate colonialism and oppression in southern Africa, deplored the activities of financial interests operating in the Territories which obstruct the struggle for self-determination and aid Portugal's military effort, recommended that the World Bank withdraw its loans and credits granted to Portugal and South Africa, and called on all States to sever all relations with Portugal and South Africa and to refrain from giving them any military or economic aid.

The Assembly, taking up the item again last year (resolution 2507 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969), condemned Portugal for:

- Its persistent refusal to implement the Declaration on decolonization as well as all other relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions;
- Its policy of using the Territories for violations of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of independent African States;
- Its colonial war waged against the peoples of the Territories under its domination;
- Its collaboration with South Africa and the "illegal racist minority regime in Southern Rhodesia" to perpetuate colonialism and oppression in southern Africa.

It also condemned South Africa's intervention against the people of these Territories.

The Assembly called upon Portugal to adopt immediate measures to implement the Declaration on decolonization; recommended that the Security Council take effective steps in conformity with the Charter with a view to the implementation of the Declaration; called upon all States, specialized agencies and international organizations concerned to increase, in co-operation with the Organization of African Unity, their moral and material assistance to the peoples of these Territories; and urged all States, particularly members of NATO, to withhold military and other assistance to Portugal which enables it to continue its colonial war.

The Assembly also deplored the activities of the financial interests which obstructed the struggle for freedom and independence of the peoples of these Territories; deplored Portugal's policy of arbitrary eviction of the African population and the settlement of immigrants in the Territories, and called upon Portugal to cease these practices immediately; and invited the Secretary-General to develop and expand training programmes for the indigenous inhabitants of the Territories.

A number of complaints concerning the use of the Portuguese Territories by mercenaries interfering in neighbouring independent African States and attacks by Portuguese forces on the territories of those States, have been submitted to the Security Council since 1966. These complaints concerned the Democratic Republic of the Congo (1966 and 1967), Zambia (1969), and most recently Senegal and Guinea (December 1969). In response to the complaints by Senegal and Guinea, the Security Council on 9 December "strongly" condemned Portugal for the shelling of Samine, Senegal, on 25 November and 7 December, in which six people were killed and nine seriously wounded. It called on Portugal to desist from violating Senegalese sovereignty and territorial integrity, declaring that if Portugal failed to comply, the Council would consider other measures.

On 22 December, the Council called on Portugal to desist from violating the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guinea. It deeply deplored the loss of life and heavy damage to several Guinean villages inflicted by the Portuguese military operating from Guinea (Bissau). Furthermore, it called on Portugal to release captured Guinean civil aircraft and a motor barge, warning that country that if such acts were repeated the Council would consider further steps to give effect to its decision.

Taking up the question of the Portuguese Territories again this year, the Special Committee of 24 on 18 August condemned Portugal's "persistent refusal" to implement the relevant United Nations resolutions and South Africa's intervention against the peoples of the Territories, and called upon Portugal to apply without further delay the principles of self-determination and independence to the peoples of the Territories.

In addition, the Committee called on Portugal to cease forthwith all repressive and military activities against the peoples of the Territories; proclaim an unconditional military amnesty, restore democratic political rights and transfer powers to freely elected representative institutions; and in light of the armed conflict in the Territories, to apply the 1949 Geneva Conventions on Treatment of Prisoners of War.

The Committee also urged all States to render necessary financial and material assistance to the peoples of the Territories, and to take co-ordinated measures in co-operation with the OAU to expand assistance to the national liberation movements.

It also called on all States, particularly Portugal's NATO allies, to desist from giving that country military assistance. It called on States to discourage nationals and companies from entering into any activities or arrangements which strengthened Portugal's domination over those Territories, particularly the Cabora Bassa dam and hydroelectric project in Mozambique and the Cunene River basin project in Angola. The Committee also reiterated its appeal to the specialized agencies and international institutions, in particular the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to refrain from granting Portugal any assistance until it implemented the Declaration on decolonization.

Once again the Committee drew the attention of the Security Council to the "grave situation" and to the urgent need for adopting measures to make mandatory the provisions of Council and Assembly resolutions on the question.

The human rights situation in the Territories under Portuguese administration was also considered by the Economic and Social Council again this year. In resolution 1501 (XLVIII) of 27 May, on violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in southern Africa, the Council proposed, among other things, that the Assembly call upon Portugal to eradicate the practice of forced labour in its African colonies and introduce a system in which products of African farmers could be freely bought and sold in normal market conditions. The resolution would also have the Assembly condemn all practices of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners, detainees and captured freedom fighters in Namibia, Southern Rhodesia and the African Territories under Portuguese domination. [For further information see notes on item 55 (b) above.]<sup>7</sup>

In a series of letters this year to the Secretary-General (A/7923), Portugal lodged "its most emphatic protest" against what it considered "the biased treatment" of this question by the United Nations Office of Public Information (OPI). It stated that OPI publications did not adequately present Portugal's position and included anti-Portuguese propaganda. Commenting on an explanation by OPI that its publications were prepared in response to resolutions of the Special Committee and the Assembly, Portugal stated that "it is not known that any resolution of the General Assembly can be interpreted as enabling the Office of Public Information to publish partisan accounts of

debates in the United Nations, emphasize unproved allegations against a Member State without presenting the latter's reply, and omit or garble important facts".

#### 66. Southern Rhodesia

Since 1962, the United Nations has sought to bring about a régime in Southern Rhodesia which would adequately represent black Africans, who outnumber the white population by almost 20 to 1. Numerous appeals to this end have been addressed by the General Assembly and the Special Committee of 24 on decolonization to the administering Power, the United Kingdom.

On 11 November 1965, the minority régime in power unilaterally proclaimed its independence. This proclamation was promptly condemned as illegal by the United Kingdom, the Assembly and the Security Council.

The response of the Security Council to this situation has been to impose successively tighter sanctions against the régime: in November 1965, it called on all States to desist from supplying arms, and to do their utmost to break off economic relations with Southern Rhodesia, including an embargo on oil and petroleum products; in December 1966, it imposed selective mandatory sanctions against certain exports and imports (the first time sanctions had been imposed under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter); and in May 1968, it decided unanimously (for the first time on this question) to extend the sanctions to all exports and imports except for certain humanitarian and related goods.

In its 1968 decision, the Council also stated that Member States should not make financial or economic resources available to the Territory. As in the case of its 1966 sanctions resolution, the Council reminded Member States that failure to comply with these decisions would be a violation of Article 25 of the Charter. Without naming them, it censured those States which persisted in aiding and trading with the Rhodesian régime.

Under the resolution of May 1968, the Security Council also established a committee to examine reports by Member States on their implementation of the sanctions. This committee is composed of Algeria, France, Pakistan, Paraguay, Soviet Union, United Kingdom and United States.

The sanctions Committee reported in 1968 that the trade of Southern Rhodesia remained quite substantial. Its second report, dated 12 June 1969, stated that while the majority of States had reported taking measures to comply

with Council decisions, certain States were not complying, or not complying fully, with the measures imposed. South Africa and Portugal, it said, continued to maintain close economic, trade and other relations with the illegal régime and permitted the free flow of goods to and from Southern Rhodesia through their territories.

In 1969, the question of Southern Rhodesia was discussed in the United Nations against the background of plans by the Ian Smith régime to introduce a new constitution providing for racially separated electoral rolls, allowing only a small minority of African legislative representatives and ensuring that Africans could never gain a legislative majority. The constitutional proposals, as well as a plan to establish a republic ending all ties to the United Kingdom, were approved by the European voters in a referendum on 20 June 1969.

On 1 March 1970, the régime in Salisbury proclaimed a republic in Southern Rhodesia. In a letter to the Security Council dated 3 March, the United Kingdom stated that this act, like the 1965 declaration of independence, was illegal.

Meeting at the request of the United Kingdom, the Security Council adopted, on 18 March, a resolution condemning the "illegal proclamation of republican status of the Territory by the illegal régime" (277 (1970)).

In other provisions of this resolution, the Council, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter: decided that all States should refrain from recognizing or giving any assistance to the régime; condemned South Africa and Portugal for continuing to maintain relations with it; demanded the immediate withdrawal of South African police and armed personnel from Southern Rhodesia; called on Member States to take more stringent measures to prevent their nationals, companies and other institutions from circumventing the sanctions previously imposed; and urged increased moral and material assistance to the people of Southern Rhodesia in their struggle for freedom and independence.

Two other draft resolutions on the question were presented to the Council this year but were not adopted. One, sponsored by the United Kingdom, asked the Council to condemn "the illegal acts of the racist minority régime in Southern Rhodesia, including the purported assumption of a republican status", and to decide that member States should refrain from recognizing the régime or rendering it any assistance. This resolution failed to get a majority of affirmative votes.

The second draft, sponsored by five African and Asian States, would have had the Council condemn the proclamation and decide that Member States should sever all diplomatic, economic, military and other relations with the régime, including means of transportation and communication. The Council would also have condemned the United Kingdom's refusal to use force to end the rebellion, and urged all States to render moral and material assistance to the national liberation movements. This resolution failed because of the negative votes of two permanent members of the Council, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The Assembly last year, in resolution 2508 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969, again reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Zimbabwe to freedom and independence, and the legitimacy of their struggle to that end. It called on the United Kingdom to take effective measures, including the use of force, to put an end to the régime in Salisbury, prevent further assassination and imprisonment of African nationalists, and ensure the immediate release of those already in detention. In view of the armed conflict in the Territory, the United Kingdom was asked to ensure the application of the Geneva Conventions on the Treatment of Prisoners of War and the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.

In its resolution, the Assembly, reaffirmed its conviction that the sanctions imposed would not end the régime unless they were "comprehensive, mandatory, effectively supervised, enforced and complied with, particularly by South Africa and Portugal". It called on the Security Council to widen the scope of its sanctions against Southern Rhodesia to include all measures laid down in Article 41 of the United Nations Charter, and to impose sanctions against South Africa and Portugal.

(Article 41 speaks of "complete or partial interruption of economic relations and of rail, sea, air, postal, telegraphic, radio, and other means of communication, and the severance of diplomatic relations".)

The Assembly also condemned the United Kingdom's "failure and refusal" to bring down the régime, South Africa's armed intervention in the Territory, and the policies of South Africa, Portugal and other Governments in maintaining relations with Salisbury.

The Special Committee of 24 this year condemned "the purported assumption of republican status by the illegal racist minority régime" in Southern Rhodesia and called on the administering Power to take effective measures, "including the use of force", to put an end to that régime and transfer all powers to the people of Zimbabwe. It took this action on 9 March in a consensus and again on 25 August in a resolution.

The Committee also reaffirmed its condemnation of the policies of Governments which maintain political, economic, military and other relations with the illegal régime, and called upon all States, specialized agencies and other international institutions associated with the United Nations to extend, with the co-operation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), moral and material assistance to the national liberation movement of Zimbabwe.

The Commission on Human Rights adopted a consensus of the question of Southern Rhodesia on 3 March, in which it called upon the United Kingdom "to intervene immediately with a view to establishing constitutionality". It requested all States to refrain from extending recognition to the illegal régime, since such an act, it said, would substantially contribute to further entrenching the illegal régime and intensifying its acts of repression.

In a resolution concerning violation of human rights in southern Africa, the Economic and Social Council, on 27 May, proposed that the Assembly, among other things, ask the United Kingdom to liberate Africans from reserves in Southern Rhodesia and repeal the constitution proclaimed by the Salisbury régime in 1969. (See notes on item 55 (b) above.)

#### 67. Question of Fiji

Fiji, a Territory in the south-west Pacific, is scheduled to become independent on 10 October 1970.

The Territory, administered by the United Kingdom, consists of two main islands and hundreds of small islands comprising a land area of more than 7,000 square miles. At the end of 1968, the population was estimated at 512,062. Fifty per cent were of Indian origin, about 41 per cent were indigenous Fijians, and the remainder were European or part European, Chinese and others.



A principal issue in past United Nations debates has been the question of representation of the ethnic communities in the Legislative Council. A number of delegations expressed opposition to constitutional changes introduced in 1966, under which members of the Legislative Council were elected from separate communal voting roles. The United Kingdom stated at the time that the system marked a step towards racial harmony, and that immediate adoption of a common electoral roll would exacerbate communal divisions.

In 1966, the General Assembly called for general elections on the basis of "one man, one vote"; the setting of an early date for independence; and the abolition of all discriminatory measures, so as to foster communal harmony and national unity. The Assembly endorsed a recommendation of the Special Committee of 24 that a sub-committee be appointed to visit the Territories to study the situation at first hand.

In 1967 the Special Committee appointed a five-member sub-committee.

The United Kingdom took the position that no useful purpose would be served by a United Nations visit to the Territory. It stated that the elected representatives of the people were opposed to such a visit.

In 1967, the Assembly adopted a resolution regretting the refusal of the United Kingdom to receive a mission to Fiji, and urgently appealing to it to reconsider its decision.

In 1968 and 1969, the Assembly decided to postpone consideration of the question until the following session. The Special Committee took no substantive action during this period.

Informed on 12 May 1970 by the Chief Minister of Fiji of the Territory's impending independence, the Special Committee decided to keep the situation under consideration, especially the question of sending a visiting mission to the Territory.

#### 68. Question of Oman

Each year since 1965, the General Assembly has reaffirmed the right of the people of Oman to self-determination and independence, and has called for the withdrawal of British troops and the cessation of "repressive action" against the people. The United Kingdom has contended that the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman is an independent State whose affairs the United Nations has no right to discuss.

The Sultanate of Muscat and Oman lies at the extreme south-east of the Arabian peninsula. The Trucial Sheikhdoms, comprising seven separate political entities, lie west of the Sultanate along the Persian Gulf; sponsors of Assembly resolutions on Oman have stated that the Territory includes these Sheikhdoms.

Although the first United Nations resolution on Oman was adopted in 1963, the matter was first brought to the attention of the Organization in 1957, when the Security Council declined for lack of a majority vote to place on its agenda an item proposed by 11 Arab States concerning alleged aggression by the United Kingdom against the Imamate of Oman. (The Sultanate is the régime which the United Kingdom recognizes as the legitimate government; the Imamate is a régime that formerly controlled the interior of the country but later operated in exile from Saudi Arabia and has appointed representatives to several Arab States.)

After a Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Herbert de Ribbing of Sweden, visited the Sultanate in May and June 1963 to obtain information, the Assembly, on the recommendation of its Fourth Committee, appointed a five-member Ad Hoc Committee on Oman. The Committee, which was not permitted by the Sultan to visit the Territory, reported in January 1965 that the Sultanate, although not formally a colony, was to a great extent under British influence. The problem, in the Committee's view, derived from "imperialistic policies and foreign intervention". It proposed negotiations assisted by a United Nations good offices committee.

In 1965 the Assembly, in addition to calling for the withdrawal of British troops and the cessation of "repressive actions", called on the United Kingdom to effect the release of political prisoners and detainees, the return of political exiles and the elimination of "British domination in any form". It stated that the "colonial presence" of the United Kingdom prevented the people from exercising their rights to self-determination and independence.

In 1966, the Assembly repeated its call for these measures, and deplored the United Kingdom's refusal to implement its earlier resolutions and what it described as the British Government's policies "in installing and supporting

any unrepresentative régime". It declared that the natural resources of the Territory belong to the people of Oman; that concessions to foreign monopolies without the people's consent violate their rights; and that the maintenance of military bases and troops in Oman constituted a major hindrance to the exercise of self-determination and independence and was prejudicial to peace and security. It appealed to all Members to assist the people in their struggle for freedom and independence.

These provisions were reiterated by the Assembly in 1967 and 1968.

Last year the Assembly, in resolution 2559 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, reaffirmed its previous resolutions on the question and again called on the United Kingdom to carry them out. It recommended also that the specialized agencies and international institutions concerned should study the possibilities of extending educational, technical and health assistance to the people of the Territory, and asked the Secretary-General to intensify the dissemination of information about conditions there.

In April 1968, the Special Committee established a Sub-Committee on Oman. Although the Sub-Committee (Iran, Iraq, Mali, United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela) has been continued in existence by the Special Committee, it has not yet met.

69. Activities of Foreign Interests Impeding Implementation of Declaration on Ending of Colonialism

The question of the influence of foreign economic and financial interests in colonial Territories, although discussed by the General Assembly in past years in connexion with specific territories, appeared for the first time in 1967 as a separate item on the Assembly's agenda.

In 1966, the Assembly had already condemned the activities of those financial and economic interests in colonial Territories which supported colonial régimes and thus constituted a serious obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the ending of colonialism; it called upon Governments concerned "to take the necessary measures to put an end to those activities".

Since 1964 Sub-Committee I of the Special Committee of 24 on decolonization has studied separately the activities of foreign economic and other interests in South West Africa (now known as Namibia) and in the Territories under

Portuguese administration. It has dealt with such activities in Southern Rhodesia since 1966, deciding later the same year that the activities of economic and other interests in all these Territories should be considered as one problem.

In 1967 the Assembly reaffirmed the right of the peoples of these and all other colonial Territories to dispose of the natural resources of their Territories in their best interests; declared that colonial Powers which deprived them of such rights were violating Charter obligations and impeding decolonization; deplored the policies of the colonial Powers which permitted the exploitation of the natural resources of the Territories under their administration, contrary to the interests of the indigenous population; called upon all States to ensure that concessions, investments and enterprises of their nationals in colonial Territories did not run counter to the interests of the indigenous inhabitants; and called upon colonial Powers to prohibit the exploitation of human and natural resources contrary to the interests of the indigenous inhabitants.

In similar resolutions adopted in 1968 and 1969, the Assembly approved the reports of the Special Committee on this subject. It condemned the exploitation of the Territories and the methods used by foreign economic, financial and other interests which were designed to perpetuate colonial rule, and it deplored the refusal of the States concerned to carry out provisions of earlier resolutions.

In the resolution adopted last year (resolution 2554 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969), the Assembly also requested that all States take effective measures to stop the supply of funds and other forms of technical and economic assistance to the colonial Powers which used such assistance to repress the national liberation movements.

In its 1969 report on the subject (A/7623/Rev.1/Add.1), the Special Committee affirmed that foreign economic and other interests constituted a major obstacle standing in the way of political independence as well as of social and economic justice. Foreign monopolies, it said, continued to follow policies detrimental to the Territories' genuine interests. The colonial Powers and other States involved had failed to take any meaningful action to restrain the monopolies, which, with the encouragement of the administering Powers, had further consolidated and expanded the process of economic exploitation.

The Committee stated that, to a large extent, the failure of the sanctions against Southern Rhodesia was due to the support and collaboration which the illegal régime enjoyed from foreign monopolies operating in southern Africa.

The Committee concluded with deep regret that the colonial Powers had not yet implemented, even in a preliminary way, earlier Assembly resolutions on the question.

This year, the Special Committee has again assigned to its Sub-Committee I the task of preparing a report on the activities of foreign interests.

70. Implementation of Declaration on Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by Specialized Agencies and International Institutions Associated with United Nations

Although the General Assembly had dealt with the specialized agencies' implementation of the Declaration on the ending of colonialism in a number of past resolutions, it was only in 1967 that it considered the question as a separate item on the agenda.

The Assembly recommended then that the specialized agencies and international institutions take urgent and effective measures to assist the peoples struggling for their liberation from colonial rule and, in particular, to extend "all necessary aid to the oppressed peoples" of Southern Rhodesia and the Portuguese-administered Territories. It also recommended that the agencies and institutions not grant any assistance to South Africa and Portugal until they renounced racial discrimination and colonial domination, and expressed appreciation to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and to the specialized agencies which had co-operated in seeking to implement Assembly resolutions.

In the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee of 24, appropriate measures for co-ordinating policies and activities of specialized agencies in implementing the relevant resolutions. It asked the Secretary-General to assist the agencies and institutions concerned in working out measures to that end.

In resolutions 2426 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968 and 2555 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, reflecting recommendations of the Special Committee, the Assembly reiterated its appeal to the specialized agencies and the international

institutions associated with the United Nations to extend full co-operation to the Organization in achieving the objectives of the Declaration on the ending of colonialism. It recommended that the agencies and institutions concerned should assist the peoples struggling for liberation from colonial rule and, in particular, should work out concrete programmes of assistance to the oppressed peoples of Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and the Territories under Portuguese administration.

The Assembly appealed to the agencies and institutions -- and in particular to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund -- to withhold from South Africa and Portugal financial, economic, technical and other assistance until they renounced their policies of racial discrimination and colonial domination.

In its resolution last year, the Assembly also recommended that the specialized agencies and other institutions concerned, individually and in collaboration with each other, increase their assistance to refugees from the colonial Territories, including assistance to Governments concerned in projects beneficial to those refugees; recommended that in granting assistance to refugees and to peoples struggling for liberation, all organizations concerned should establish relationships with the Organization of African Unity (OAU); and recommended that the agencies and institutions, especially the International Civil Aviation Organization, International Telecommunication Union, Universal Postal Union and Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, work out measures to discontinue any collaboration with South Africa, Portugal and the minority régime in Southern Rhodesia.

In its 1968 resolution, the Assembly had also recommended that the World Bank withdraw loans and credits which it had granted to South Africa and Portugal and which were being used to suppress national liberation movements.

The World Bank, in a letter reproduced in a report of the Secretary-General to the Special Committee in 1969, said that its loans to South Africa and Portugal -- the most recent of which had been made in 1966 -- were provided under formal loan or guarantee agreements, and there were no contractual or other legal grounds permitting the Bank to withdraw them.

Taking up the question again this year, the Special Committee established an ad hoc group to examine the activities of the specialized agencies and other international institutions in the implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions on decolonization.

The Committee, in a resolution adopted on 27 August, urged these bodies to give moral and material assistance to the freedom fighters and, with the co-operation of the OAU and the national liberation movements, to work out concrete programmes for assisting the peoples of southern Africa, especially those in the liberated areas.

It also urged these bodies, especially the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank, to increase their assistance to refugees and, especially the Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to withhold all assistance from Portugal and South Africa until they renounced their policies of racial discrimination and colonial domination.

The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly:

-- Urge the agencies and other institutions to discontinue all collaboration with Portugal, South Africa and the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia.

-- Invite these bodies to consider ways of implementing the Security Council resolutions on southern Africa, especially those dealing with the interruption of economic relations and communications and the severance of diplomatic ties.

-- Invite the organizations to consider, in consultation with the OAU, inviting the leaders of the liberation movements in colonial Africa to conferences, seminars and other regional meetings.

-- Request all Governments to take steps within the agencies and other institutions to which they belong to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions.

-- Request the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report describing the actions hitherto undertaken by the agencies and other organizations in implementing the Declaration.

The Committee expressed its appreciation to the agencies "which have co-operated in varying degrees with the United Nations" in implementing the various resolutions, and expressed its deep regret that several agencies had not taken the steps required for the full implementation of these resolutions.

A chapter on this subject will be included in the general report of the Special Committee of 24 to the Assembly (A/8023).

Both the Committee and the Economic and Social Council, which examined the question in July, endorsed the conclusions and recommendations in a report on consultations held on 14 July between the Council President and the Committee Chairman (E/4892 and Corr.1; A/AC.109/357).

One proposal in the report called for preparation of a "clear and comprehensive report" which would describe the activities carried out by United Nations organizations in implementation of the Declaration on decolonization. This would replace various separate reports submitted to different bodies.

The report also suggests:

-- That there should be "the greatest possible measure of flexibility" in procedures followed by agencies for providing assistance to refugees from African territories;

-- That there was "considerable scope for larger participation" by the World Bank and the UNDP in the formulation and execution of projects beneficial to refugees;

--- That a solution should be found regarding the legal difficulties making refugees from Southern Rhodesia ineligible to receive assistance from the UNHCR;

--- That the organizations of the United Nations system should take the initiative, in consultation with the OAU, in establishing assistance programmes which would benefit national liberation movements in the colonial territories of Africa, especially in the fields of education, training, health and nutrition.

#### 71. United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa

The General Assembly decided in 1967 to merge three programmes for the education and training of persons from southern Africa.

These were: the special educational and training programmes for South West Africa (now Namibia), set up by the Assembly in 1961; the special training programme for Territories under Portuguese administration, established by the Assembly in 1962; and the educational and training programme for South Africans, initiated by the Security Council in 1964.



When it merged the three programmes, the Assembly decided to extend assistance to Southern Rhodesians.

The present consolidated programme -- called the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa -- is financed from a trust fund made up of voluntary contributions. In accordance with the Assembly's 1967 resolution, the Secretary-General appealed to States to achieve a target of \$3 million for the period 1968-1970.

In 1968, however, the Secretary-General reported to the Assembly that hundreds of applications for training under the Programme had been rejected for lack of funds. The Assembly, on the basis of this report, stated in a resolution that it shared the Secretary-General's concern over the future of the Programme. It appealed to all States, organizations and individuals to make generous contributions to the Programme.

Again in 1969, at the Secretary-General's suggestion, the Assembly appealed for contributions and provided \$100,000 from the 1970 regular budget to ensure continuity of the Programme (resolution 2557 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969).

In a report covering the period 1 January to 30 September 1969 (A/7735), the Secretary-General stated that contributions had amounted to \$387,390, as compared with \$360,997 in 1968. While the total was far short of the \$3 million target envisaged by the Assembly, it had been possible to award 182 new scholarships and 272 extensions so that a total of 454 scholarship holders were studying under the Programme as compared with 390 the previous year.

As of 1 July 1970, 467 scholarship holders were studying under the Programme in universities and secondary schools in 25 countries. A total of 179 were from South Africa, 50 from Namibia, 70 from Southern Rhodesia and 168 from the Territories under Portuguese administration.

In the period 1 January - 31 August 1970, \$416,273 in cash contributions were received from 16 countries: Cambodia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Kenya, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia. In addition, Burma, Canada, Greece, India and Japan have pledged contributions.

The report of the Secretary-General on this question has not yet been issued.

The Advisory Committee for the Programme, established by the Secretary-General in accordance with a 1968 Assembly resolution, held its first meeting on 1 April 1970. Its members are Canada, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, India, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Zambia.

The Security Council, on 29 July, requested the Assembly to set up a United Nations Fund for Namibia that would provide assistance to Namibians who have suffered from persecution and finance a comprehensive education and training programme for Namibians (see notes on item S.1 below).

## 72. Study Facilities for Inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

In 1954, the Assembly invited Member States to offer facilities to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories for technical and vocational training of immediate practical value and for training at the post-primary and university levels. A similar invitation has been repeated by the Assembly almost every year since then.

The role of the Secretariat in regard to these facilities is to disseminate information about the scholarships offered by Member States, and to transmit applications to the offering States and administering Powers.

In his 1969 report on this subject (A/7744), the Secretary-General informed the Assembly that up to 31 October 1969, 27 Member States had made scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the Assembly resolutions. These States were: Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Ceylon, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, USSR, United Arab Republic, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

A further report will be submitted by the Secretary-General this year.

In resolution 2556 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, the Assembly expressed its appreciation to States which had offered scholarships, and invited the administering Powers to provide all necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of these offers.

73. Financial Reports and Accounts for 1969, Reports of Board of Auditors

Each year, the Board of Auditors transmits to the General Assembly the financial statements of the United Nations and of various extra-budgetary accounts in the custody of the Secretary-General, covering the previous financial year (which corresponds to the calendar year). After external audit, the Board certifies that the statements are correct and submits reports on the accounts to the Assembly. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) also makes observations on these reports.

After discussion in the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary), the Assembly normally accepts the accounts and takes note of the comments of the ACABQ.

The accounts cover expenditures, commitments or allocations to various organizations in 1969 of approximately \$615 million, including \$156.8 million under the United Nations regular budget, \$32.3 million under 41 trust funds administered by the Secretary-General, \$300,000 from the accounts of the defunct peace-keeping operations in the Middle East and the Congo, and the remainder by other organs listed below.

(a) United Nations

Under its regular budget, the United Nations spent or obligated \$156,780,541 for 1969, 69.22 per cent of it for staff costs, according to financial reports by the Secretary-General to be issued shortly (A/8007). Miscellaneous income totalled \$9,559,328, and \$81,107,545 was collected in cash for 1969 in assessed contributions from Member States. Most of the difference between income and expenditures was financed by borrowing from other United Nations funds.

Contributions collected during the year amounted to 61.94 per cent of assessed contributions receivable, leaving an unpaid balance of \$49,831,281 as of 31 December 1969. By comparison, at the end of 1968, 70.14 per cent of that year's contributions had been collected.

Observing that "the Organization's cash position continues to rest on borrowings", the Secretary-General states in his financial report that \$61.3 million had been borrowed from working capital and from United Nations trust funds to finance expenditures voted by the General Assembly under the regular budget. This was \$5.3 million less than was borrowed for the same purpose a year earlier.

Under the regular budget as well as the accounts of the former Congo and Middle East peace-keeping forces, net liquid assets decreased by \$17.9 million over the course of 1969, excluding \$5.5 million carried forward from 1968. Therefore, a deficit of \$12.4 million resulted as of 31 December 1969, representing the excess of current accounts payable over liquid assets.

The Board of Auditors, in its report on the United Nations accounts, notes that budget receipts through 1969 have fallen short by a cumulative amount of some \$26.7 million because some Member States have withheld contributions for activities they regard as illegally included in the budget. This shortfall is continuing in the amount of more than \$3 million a year, according to a Secretariat estimate cited by the Board.

The following amounts were paid out or committed in 1969 by the main trust funds: United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus, \$3,899,324 in obligations incurred and recorded (along with \$6,755,340 for additional prior years' obligations); programmes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, \$3,677,073; Fund for the Development of West Irian, \$7,923,962; Fund for Population Activities, \$1,759,133, and Fund for Development Planning and Projections, \$909,437.

(b) United Nations Development Programme

Allocations by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) during 1969 totalled \$319,306,644, according to the financial report to be issued shortly (A/8007/Add.1). Of this total, \$166,595,652 was allocated for Special Fund projects, \$122,994,812 for technical assistance operations and \$20,086,600 in respect of the administrative budget of the UNDP secretariat.

Contributions from 113 Governments, totalling \$208,575,056, were received in 1969 by UNDP. (In 1969, for the first time, these contributions were placed in a single UNDP account rather than in separate accounts maintained previously for the Special Fund and Technical Assistance components.)

(c) United Nations Children's Fund

Expenditures by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) totalled \$50,739,752 in 1969, according to the financial report and accounts to be issued soon (A/8007/Add.2). Income was \$47,029,671.

Expenditures included \$9,719,823 for Africa, \$11,880,928 for East Asia and Pakistan, \$6,981,909 for South Central Asia, \$4,257,556 for the Eastern Mediterranean, \$367,813 for Europe, \$6,184,809 for the Americas and \$3,654,236 for administrative costs.

In 1969, a total of 128 Governments voluntarily paid or pledged \$33,362,915 to UNICEF. Contributions from non-governmental sources amounted to \$7,716,342. Greeting card and related operations supplied an additional \$3,949,309.

(d) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) spent or committed \$46,161,048 in 1969, according to the accounts (A/8007/Add.3). With income of \$42,300,749, there was a deficit of \$3,860,299, met from working capital.

The financial statements show that for relief services (basic rations, supplementary feeding, shelter and special hardship assistance) the Agency spent or committed \$21,134,007 in 1969. For health services, the figure was \$5,716,486, and for education services \$19,310,555.

For 1969, 57 Governments made or pledged contributions in cash or supplies totalling \$39,792,749, while \$1,786,421 was received from non-governmental sources.

(e) United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Obligations of \$1,202,615 were incurred by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) during 1969, according to the financial report (A/8007/Add.4). Income last year came to \$1,411,576, including \$1,303,448 contributed by Governments.

Obligations incurred during 1969 consisted of \$211,474 for management, \$744,552 for programme activities and \$246,589 for general expenses.

(f) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Expenditures by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) from voluntary funds administered by him totalled \$8,685,437 in 1969, according to the financial accounts (A/8007/Add.5). Contributions and other income amounted to \$8,209,545.

The UNHCR programmes include \$3,089,000 for Africa, \$531,000 for Asia, \$803,000 for Europe and \$303,000 for Latin America.

Seventy-three countries contributed or pledged \$4,986,580 in 1969, while private donations totalled \$759,537. The administrative expenditure of UNHCR, paid for out of the United Nations regular budget, was \$3,922,797.

74. Supplementary Estimates for 1970

Each year, the Secretary-General proposes to the General Assembly any revisions he considers necessary in the appropriation and income estimates for the current year, as approved at the previous session. A report by the Secretary-General on supplementary estimates for 1970 is expected in October, to be followed by a report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ).

The gross appropriation for 1970 was \$168,420,000, and estimates of income, other than assessments on Member States, totalled \$29,124,125 (resolution 2613 (XXIV) of 17 December 1969).

The Secretary-General has informed the ACABQ that, according to a tentative estimate, gross expenditures in 1970 may exceed the approved appropriations by about \$1.5 million, and that additional revenue of about \$435,700 would reduce the net increase to approximately \$1 million.

This forecast increase, cited in the Advisory Committee's report on the 1970 budget estimates (A/8008), is ascribed in part to the fact that the number of vacant posts this year has been lower than anticipated. Other factors mentioned were increased hiring of temporary staff, rate increases for services concerned with the maintenance and operation of buildings, additional requirements for the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine (UNTSO), assistance in regard to natural disasters, and the investigations of two bodies, concerned respectively with Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the population of occupied territories and with various aspects of human rights in southern Africa.

75. Budget Estimates for 1971

The Secretary-General has presented initial estimates (A/8006) for a regular United Nations budget of \$183,974,800 in 1971. He has informed the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) that additional requests might raise the figure to \$189.5 million, not including the cost of proposals for a salary increase for professional staff.

The Advisory Committee, whose budget recommendations are generally adopted by the General Assembly, has recommended (A/8008) a reduction of \$3,430,100 in the initial estimates, leaving a total of \$180,544,700. Of the proposed cut, a decision on appropriations totalling \$1,557,700 has been "put in suspense" pending the submission later this year of revised estimates based on the Secretary-General's review of findings of the current management and manpower survey.

The Secretary-General's budget proposals include income estimates totalling \$29,779,900, leaving a net budget of \$154,194,900 -- roughly the amount to be paid by Member States. The ACABQ estimates income at \$29,425,900, which would give a net budget of \$151,118,800.

Funds for an additional 222 posts are included in the Secretary-General's request. Of these, 94 would be "established" (permanent) posts and 128 provisional -- that is, to carry out additional tasks pending completion of the manpower survey. "Substantial additions" to the request for new posts, mostly for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, are anticipated by the Secretary-General after an assessment later this year of the recommendations of the management survey.

The ACABQ agrees to the addition of 75 established posts. It recommends that \$500,000 be cut, and another \$1,557,700 excluded for the time being, from the \$4,022,000 requested for provisional posts.

Explaining why the budget request for 1971 is 9.2 per cent higher than the 1970 appropriation, the Secretary-General states that the Secretariat has not escaped the effects of inflation. He observes also that the single most important factor determining the size of the budget is the cumulative effect of the programmes and activities decided upon by United Nations bodies.

Revised estimates covering certain parts of the budget will be submitted in the course of the forthcoming session. Besides the manpower needs for Secretariat departments surveyed in 1970, these new estimates will deal with such matters as the cost of salary increase proposals and recommendations made by the Economic and Social Council in July.

A number of other documents (none of them yet available) will be submitted by the Secretary-General and the ACABQ. They include reports on:

-- Financial and other developments with regard to planned new construction at Headquarters. In resolution 2618 (XXIV) of 17 December 1969, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to proceed with execution of a scheme (A/C.5/1246) to erect an eight-storey office building just south of the Headquarters site and to expand existing buildings. The Assembly decided that the United Nations appropriation should not exceed \$25 million, spread over 10 years beginning in 1971. Other potential participants in the scheme, estimated to cost \$80 million, are the United Nations Children's Fund, which has authorized a \$5 million contribution; the United Nations Development Programme, which has scheduled a special session of its Governing Council early in September to act on a proposal that it contribute \$10 million; the United States Government, which has requested Congress to authorize a \$20 million grant, and the City of New York, which has approved a \$20 million contribution in addition to donating the land for the new buildings.

-- Space needs at United Nations offices overseas. Last year, the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to prepare plans, specifications and cost estimates for the construction of a new building in Santiago to provide additional office space for the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning. Also, in resolution 2616 (XXIV) of 17 December 1969, it authorized architectural and engineering surveys leading to possible construction of additional premises for the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East in Bangkok, and the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa. In the foreword to the 1971 budget estimates, the Secretary-General tentatively estimates that the construction in Santiago, if authorized, might require 1971 expenditures of \$800,000 as a first instalment, and that the preparation of detailed plans for the other two locations might cost \$200,000. Concerning the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Secretary-General says he might propose revisions and additions that would



raise by \$1,536,000 the current \$4,856,047 programme for major maintenance and improvement of the Palais des Nations.

-- Relations with the United States as host country for Headquarters.

Last year, on recommendation of the Fifth Committee, the Assembly included in its resolution authorizing the new construction a provision urging the host country to examine "those conditions which adversely affect the delegations and staff of the United Nations in New York and to consider taking all the necessary measures to alleviate the effect of such conditions". It asked the Secretary-General to reconstitute the Informal Joint Committee on Host Country Relations, to permit "a continuous interchange of views and exploration of problems between the diplomatic community, the Secretariat and the Government of the host country". It also asked the Secretary-General to report annually on the results of these measures.

-- Salaries of international civil servants. In the foreword to his budget estimates, the Secretary-General states that, "in view of continuing inflationary trends throughout the world and in the real value of the income of staff", the heads of organizations in the United Nations system have agreed that there is a valid case for an increase in the salary scales of professionals, from the beginning of 1971. The Secretary-General will present these proposals to the Assembly, along with the views of the International Civil Service Advisory Board. The amount of the proposed increase has not yet been announced.

-- Real growth of the budget. An "economic and financial analysis of the nature of the increase in the activities, staff and budget of the United Nations" was requested by the General Assembly in resolution 2617 (XXIV) of 17 December 1969. It asked that the study take into account the reduction of purchasing power caused by inflation, the correlation between the rise in contributions to international organizations and the rise in the level of national budgets, the growth of United Nations activities for economic and social development, and the extent of budget rises resulting from the enlarged membership, the increased number of working languages and the higher personnel qualifications now required.

-- Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. In 1968, at the Assembly's request, the ACABQ submitted proposals to revise the procedures under which the Secretary-General is authorized in the course of the year to make expenditures not foreseen when the budget is approved each December. At that time and again last year, the Fifth Committee postponed action on the proposals to await further information.

-- Budget performance in 1969. Each year the Secretary-General submits a report analysing United Nations expenditures for the previous year under each section of the budget. This year's report (A/7937) shows that \$303,741 was transferred between sections of the \$156.8 million budget in order to meet unforeseen needs.

A note by the Secretary-General (A/8032) states that information on United Nations programmes in the economic, social and human rights fields, previously included in the budget estimates, is now available in a document prepared for the Economic and Social Council (E/4793 and Corr.1-4).

#### 76. Planning Estimate for 1972

In a move towards long-term planning of the United Nations budget, the General Assembly for the first time is to approve a "planning estimate" for the regular budget two years in advance.

The process involved in formulating the estimate is as follows: The Secretary-General will suggest a planning estimate for 1972, after taking account of all the actions of programme-formulating bodies such as the Economic and Social Council. This estimate will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, which will report to the Assembly, with its comments and recommendations, no later than 1 December 1970. On the basis of these two papers, the Assembly will approve a planning estimate for the "forecast period" 1972.

The Assembly has asked the Secretary-General, when he draws up the actual budget estimates a year hence, to be guided by the planning estimate approved by the Assembly. All United Nations bodies financed under the regular budget have also been requested by the Assembly to be guided by the planning estimate.

This procedure was decided upon by the Assembly in resolution 2370 (XXII) of 19 December 1967. It was adopted -- without a dissenting vote -- on the initiative of France, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States, which stated that it was intended to improve the budgetary practices, in line with recommendations of the 1967 Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies. It contained changes suggested by the African-Asian Group, whose representatives said they did not want to see any arbitrary limits placed on the budget.

The new procedure was to have gone into effect last year. However, on recommendation of the Fifth Committee, the Assembly decided on 5 December 1969 to defer implementation for one year.

## 77. Pattern of Conferences

Efforts by the General Assembly to rationalize the growing number of United Nations meetings date back to 1952, when the Assembly established a four-year regular pattern of conferences, laying down principles to govern the places and dates of meetings. A further pattern of conferences was established for subsequent years.

As concern grew about the ever-expanding schedule of meetings, and the burdens this imposed on both participating States and the Secretariat, the Assembly decided in 1966 to supplement this statement of principles with machinery that would examine each proposal for a meeting and draw up an over-all calendar. Accordingly, the Assembly created a 15-member Committee on Conferences.

This Committee functioned for an experimental three-year period, submitting each year a calendar of conferences which was approved by the Assembly and reviewing throughout the year any changes in that calendar. In 1969, it reported to the Assembly (A/7626 and Corr.1 and 2) with the conclusion that it should be extended only if its mandate could be substantially strengthened.

In resolution 2609 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, the Assembly decided not to reconstitute the Committee in 1970, expressing regret that its efforts to make the conference schedule more manageable "have not produced satisfactory results". The Assembly decided to consider in 1970 the membership and terms of reference of the Committee.

In the preamble to its 1969 resolution, the Assembly expressed the belief that "the ability of the United Nations to engage in programmes of value to the Governments and peoples of Member States might be enhanced if there were fewer meetings and if such meetings were better prepared". Statistics in the annual report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (A/8001) show that the number of meetings at Headquarters increased from 2,555 in 1967 to 2,683 in 1969, and that the number in the United Nations Office at Geneva rose from 2,896 to 3,276 over the same period.

Figures provided to the Economic and Social Council in July (E/4887) show that, over the last five years, an increasing number of meetings in the economic, social and human rights fields were held in Geneva and a decreasing number in New York. In accordance with a request by the Assembly last year, the

Secretary-General will submit to the forthcoming session of the Assembly a similar report, expanded to cover its subsidiary bodies. This paper, like the one prepared for the Council, will also give information on related personnel and cost factors.

For a number of years, and again in 1969, the Assembly has laid down as a general principle that, with specified exceptions, meetings of United Nations bodies should be held at the headquarters of those bodies. There may be an exception if a Government offers to act as host for a meeting on its territory and if it agrees to defray the additional costs. Another principle is that, as a general rule, not more than one major special conference shall be scheduled in a year.

The Secretary-General will present for Assembly approval a calendar of conferences for 1971 and preliminary calendars for 1972 and 1973.

Also, the Joint Inspection Unit was asked last year to report to the Assembly in 1970 on possible improvements in the organization of proceedings of United Nations meetings.

#### 78. Appointments to Subsidiary Bodies

The General Assembly will appoint members to five of its subsidiary bodies and will be asked to confirm the Secretary-General's appointments to the Investments Committee.

Appointments for new terms are for three years, beginning in 1971. Elections by secret ballot are held in the Fifth Committee.

Present members are eligible for reappointment. Except for the Board of Auditors, members are appointed in their personal capacity, not as representatives of Governments.

For four of the bodies, the terms of one third of the members expire each year. In the case of the Investments Committee and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Committee, the terms of all of the members on which Assembly action is required expire every third year.

##### (a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

The term of Paulo Lopes Corrêa (Brazil), Mohamed Riad (United Arab Republic), E. Olu Sanu (Nigeria) and Dragos Serbanescu (Romania) expires on 31 December (A/7931). In addition, Jan P. Bannier (Netherlands), who has been Chairman since

1963, has resigned from the Committee, effective 31 December, and the Assembly is to appoint someone to fill the remainder of his term, through 1972.

The others on the 12-member Committee are Albert F. Bender (United States), Emile de Curton (France), Mohsen S. Esfandiary (Iran), Valentin K. Palamarchuk (Soviet Union), José Piñera (Chile), John I.M. Rhodes (United Kingdom) and Salim A. Saleem (Iraq).

The Advisory Committee, established in 1946, makes recommendations to the Assembly on the United Nations budget, the administrative budgets of the specialized agencies and related questions.

(b) Committee on Contributions

The term of Seymour M. Finger (United States), F. Nouredin Kia (Iran) and Stanislaw Raczkowski (Poland) expires on 31 December (A/7932).

The others on the 12-member Committee are Amjad Ali (Pakistan), Fakhreddine Mohamed (Sudan), Théodore Idzumbuir (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Santiago Meyer Picon (Mexico), John I.M. Rhodes (United Kingdom), David Silveira da Mota (Brazil), Maurice Viaud (France), Aleksei V. Zakharov (Soviet Union) and Abele Zoddia (Italy).

The Committee, established in 1946, advises the Assembly on the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations among Member States.

(c) Board of Auditors

The term of the Auditor-General of Canada (A. Maxwell Henderson) expires on 30 June 1971 (A/7933).

The others on the three-member Board are the Controller-General of Colombia (Victor G. Ricardo) and the Comptroller and Auditor-General of Pakistan (Ali I. Osmany). All are elected as the Auditors-General of their countries, not in their personal capacity.

The Board, established in 1947, performs the external audit of the accounts of the United Nations.

(d) Investments Committee

The term of the six members expires on 31 December. When the Secretary-General appoints the new members, he will submit their names for confirmation by the Assembly.

The current members are Eugene Black (United States), Roger de Candolle (Switzerland), R. McAllister Lloyd (United Kingdom), George A. Murphy (United States), B.K. Nehru (India) and Jacques Rueff (France).

The Committee, established in 1947, advises the Secretary-General on investment of the assets of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and other United Nations trust funds.

(e) United Nations Administrative Tribunal

The term of Mrs. Paul Bastid (France), Vincent Mutuale (Democratic Republic of the Congo) and R. Venkataraman (India) expires on 30 December (A/7935).

The others on the seven-member Tribunal are Lord Crook (United Kingdom), Francisco Forteza (Uruguay), Francis T.P. Plimpton (United States) and Zenon Rossides (Cyprus).

The Tribunal, established in 1949, hears and passes judgement on applications alleging non-observance of contracts of employment of staff members of the United Nations and certain specialized agencies.

(f) United Nations Staff Pension Committee

The term of the three members and the three alternate members appointed by the Assembly expires on 31 December. They are: Albert F. Bender (United States), John I.M. Rhodes (United Kingdom) and Guillermo Valdés (Chile), members; and Alfred J. Cahen (Belgium), John R. Kelso (Australia) and Harry L. Morris (Liberia), alternate members (A/7936).

The Committee has nine members and nine alternates. Three of each group are appointed by the Assembly, three by the Secretary-General and three by participants in the Pension Fund.

The Staff Pension Committee, established in 1948, deals with matters relating to participation by United Nations staff members in the Joint Staff Pension Fund and the benefits payable at the time of separation.

79. Scale of Assessments

Member States contribute to the regular budget of the United Nations in proportions fixed by the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Committee on Contributions. The proportions are determined broadly according to capacity to pay, as measured by national income statistics.

This year, the Assembly is to conduct its triennial review of the entire scale of assessments, on the basis of recommendations by the Contributions Committee made during its thirtieth session (20 April to 14 May in New York).

Under the proposed new scale for 1971-1973, as set out in the Committee's report (A/8011 Corr.1), 37 States would have their rates of assessment reduced from the level of the current (1968-1970) scale. They are:

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussia, Ceylon, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Malaysia, Morocco, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Sudan, Ukraine, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

The following 10 States would have their rates increased:

Canada, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Spain.

Under the proposed scale, 63 Member States would contribute at the minimum rate of 0.04 per cent (compared to 60 under the current scale). The five largest contributors would continue to be the United States, 31.52 per cent under the new scale (compared to 31.57 per cent under the present one); the Soviet Union, 14.18 per cent (14.61 per cent); the United Kingdom, 5.90 per cent (6.62 per cent); France, 6 per cent (unchanged); and China, 4 per cent (unchanged).

The Committee also recommended percentage rates for contributions by non-members to United Nations activities in which they take part, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and narcotics control.

The Committee took note of a report by the Secretary-General showing that, as of May, Bolivia, Dahomey, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti and Yemen were in arrears in the payment of contributions to the regular budget within the terms of Article 19 of the United Nations Charter. (Article 19 provides that a Member "shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years".)

The Chairman of the Committee, Syed Amjad Ali (Pakistan), was authorized to issue an addendum to its report, bringing up to date the information on arrears.

Members of the Committee are listed in the notes on item 78 (b) above.

80. Audit Reports on Expenditure by Specialized Agencies of UNDP Funds

Each year, the General Assembly receives audit reports relating to expenditures by the United Nations, specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of funds allocated to them from the Technical Assistance Account and the Special Fund Account of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The funds are used to carry out programmes and projects approved by the Governing Council of UNDP.

The 16 organizations participating in the technical co-operation activities of UNDP last year were: the United Nations; the United Nations Industrial Development Organization; the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); the Food and Agriculture Organization; IAEA; the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD); the International Civil Aviation Organization; the International Labour Organisation; the International Telecommunication Union; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; the Universal Postal Union; the World Health Organization; the World Meteorological Organization; the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO); the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); and the African Development Bank (ADB).

Allocations were made from the Technical Assistance Account to all of these organization except the IDB and ADB, and from the Special Fund Account to all except IMCO and UNCTAD.

Information about total allocations of UNDP funds appears in the notes on item 73 (b) above.]

The report for 1969 (A/8025) concerning the Technical Assistance Account and the Special Fund Account are not yet available. The Fifth Committee will examine the document together with a pertinent report by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

81. Administrative and Budgetary Co-ordination with Specialized Agencies

Co-ordinating the wide-ranging activities of the United Nations system of 13 specialized agencies and a number of semi-autonomous bodies is a concern of both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as of inter-secretariat machinery.



Each year, the Assembly receives a report on general co-ordination matters from its Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ). The Council body dealing with this area is the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC), which was reconstituted in January with an enlarged membership of 21. The principal organ for consultations among secretariats of the various organizations is the Administrative Committee for Co-ordination (ACC).

One of the main developments regarding co-ordination during the past year -- on which the ACABQ is expected to comment when it submits its report later this year -- is the decision of ACC to streamline its own machinery. The ACC agreed on the establishment of small panels of its members to consider certain key issues in depth, beginning with one on the "green revolution" in agriculture. These changes were welcomed by CPC.

After reviewing these and other developments, the Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1547 (XLIX) of 30 July, reaffirmed that the policy-making role in the United Nations system was the prerogative of Member States in the competent organs of the system, and instructed CPC to review the sphere of activities and competence of ACC so that the Council might achieve more effective co-ordination among organizations. The CPC was invited to submit recommendations for consideration by the Council in the summer of 1971.

On the matter of prior consultation among agencies before they adopt work programmes in fields of interest to more than one organization, the Council adopted a resolution (1549 (XLIX) of 30 July) welcoming the agreement in ACC that each agency would seek the comments of other agencies on draft work programmes in areas of interest to them and would bring matters requiring further consideration to the attention of intergovernmental programme review bodies. The Council requested the Secretary-General to ensure that these arrangements were carried out, and it invited all organizations in the United Nations system to observe them.

With regard to another matter involving co-ordination, the Council endorsed in principle the idea of creating an interagency computer centre in Geneva and of transferring from New York -- where the United Nations now has its main computer installation -- the services needed for operating the Geneva centre. The establishment of a new centre was agreed to earlier this year by ACC.

In addition to its report on general co-ordination matters, the ACABQ will present its annual report describing the administrative budgets of each specialized agency and giving comparative information. (The budgets of the World Bank Group and of the International Monetary Fund are not covered, inasmuch as the agreements between the United Nations and those agencies do not provide for such review.)

Finally, the ACABQ will continue its series of reports on administrative and budgetary arrangements within individual agencies, by presenting reports on the World Health Organization (A/8031) and the International Labour Organisation.

The Assembly, after considering in its Fifth Committee the ACABQ reports on co-ordination, normally asks the Secretary-General to refer the Advisory Committee's observations to the agencies concerned.

## 82. Implementation of Recommendations of Committee of Experts on Finances

In 1966, a series of recommendations designed to improve efficiency in the United Nations system of organizations was approved by the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, (A/6343). The 14-member Committee was set up in 1965 following a debate on the financial problems of the United Nations.

The Committee's 52 recommendations were approved by the Assembly in 1966. They called for such steps as the establishment of a Joint Inspection Unit to investigate "all matters having a bearing on the efficiency of the services and the proper use of funds" throughout the entire United Nations system (the Unit began work in 1968); the institution of long-term planning, programme formulation and budget preparation; strengthening the process of evaluating the results of programmes; improved procedures for co-ordinating the work of the United Nations and its agencies; rationalization of the meetings schedule; reduction of documentation; and certain budgetary reforms.

Ever since it approved these recommendations, the Assembly has emphasized the need for each organization in the United Nations system to carry them out, and has called for reports on action taken. This year, the Secretary-General will present a report in response to Assembly resolution 2475 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, in which he was requested to make a "full and detailed report" in 1970.

The Joint Inspection Unit -- on whose activities the Secretary-General is expected to report to the Fifth Committee -- has continued its work by submitting a number of reports on particular topics. These include programming and budgets in the United Nations system, technical assistance activities, field operations, and the work of the regional commissions in Africa and in Asia and the Far East.

These reports have been sent to the organizations directly concerned and have been examined by the Economic and Social Council and by intergovernmental bodies of the specialized agencies, along with comments by the heads of the secretariats concerned. The Council, after reviewing the machinery for handling these reports, adopted a resolution (1554 (XLIX) of 30 July) endorsing the Inspectors' views on the need to give them a prominent place on the agenda of governing organs and to ensure that maximum advantage is derived from the recommendations they contain.

Programming and budgeting -- one of the main areas of the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations -- is the subject of a report by Maurice Bertrand of the Joint Inspection Unit. The report, which is before the Assembly (A/7822, summarized in A/7968), calls for the introduction of a budget system based on clearly defined, medium- or long-range programmes, in place of the present system in which funds are appropriated annually according to object of expenditure (staff salaries, office supplies, cable costs and the like).

Commenting on this report, the Secretary-General (A/7987) states that if Member States agree, the United Nations budget estimates will be presented on a programme basis as soon as the necessary systems can be developed. Later this year, he will present to the Assembly outline proposals on a form of presentation. He adds that "most of the organizations in the United Nations system have accepted the principle of programme budgeting and are taking steps to institute medium-term and long-term programming and budgeting".

The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) in its comments (A/8033) on the Bertrand report, says that programme budgeting and medium- or long-term programming would offer advantages by permitting a clearer understanding of activities, goals and costs. However, it stresses the need to define objectives and priorities in advance. Programme budgeting in name rather

than in substance might well cost more without being more effective, it states. The Advisory Committee suggests that, before a final decision is taken, the Secretary-General should try to indicate in detail all of the implications.

The Secretary-General is to report on another matter raised last year when the Assembly discussed implementation of the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations -- the need to avoid duplication of effort and waste of resources in the activities of control and investigative bodies and of organs concerned with administration and co-ordination. In resolution 2537 B (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, the Assembly asked for a report giving the terms of reference of such bodies, their cost over the 1965-1969 period, and the manpower needed to prepare data for them. The ACABQ is expected to offer comments on this report when it becomes available.

Last year, in the same resolution, the Assembly expressed the hope that "the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations in 1970 will be the occasion for new efforts to resolve the administrative, budgetary and financial problems of the United Nations".

### 83. Publications and Documentation

Concern at the growing volume of United Nations documents and publications has been expressed repeatedly by the General Assembly and other bodies. Last year, in the eleventh resolution on this subject adopted by the Assembly or the Economic and Social Council during the past 17 years, the Assembly stated that, "by freeing resources currently being utilized in excessive documentation and in activities that may have wholly or largely outlived their usefulness, the United Nations would be better able to implement programmes of real value to the Governments of Member States".

On a number of occasions, the Assembly has called for restraint on the part of delegations in requesting reports, studies and meeting records, and has asked the Secretariat to draft documentation as concisely as possible. Its policy on specific types of documentation is set out in a paper (A/INF/136) which it asked the Secretary-General to make available to members prior to each session of a United Nations body.

The most recent resolution on this subject, Assembly resolution 2538 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, contains a series of provisions aimed at limiting the length of verbatim records and the amount of translation needed for preparing them,

reducing background documentation for conferences and ensuring that full cost data are available to United Nations bodies before they take decisions involving documentation. It states also that no new body of the Assembly shall have summary records without specific authorization by the Assembly.

The Secretary-General was asked to implement a number of recommendations for reducing documentation, made last year by several bodies. He will shortly submit a report, as requested by the Assembly, on steps taken to implement this resolution. The Assembly asked that this report also contain a list of resolutions calling for periodic reports, and it requested the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to make recommendations for shortening, discontinuing or reducing the frequency of such reports.

Also last year, in resolution 2609 (XXIV) on the pattern of conferences, the Assembly requested the Joint Inspection Unit to report in 1970 with recommendations on possible improvements in handling and processing documents used in meetings.

Figures in the annual report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (A/8001) show that the number of pages translated at Headquarters increased from 217,464 in 1967 to 233,435 in 1969. At the same time, the number of page-units reproduced internally declined from 595 million in 1967 to 512 million in 1969. The facilities thus freed were used to reproduce publications that would otherwise have been printed outside at greater cost. The report attributes the decrease in page-units reproduced internally to action by United Nations bodies and by the Secretariat in response to the Assembly's appeals for the control and limitation of documentation.

#### 84. Personnel Questions

##### (a) Composition of Secretariat

Paragraph 3 of Article 101 of the United Nations Charter states: "The paramount consideration in the employment of the staff and in the determination of the conditions of service shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible."

The General Assembly, in recent years, has repeatedly requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to achieve a better geographical distribution of the staff at all levels. The latest of these requests was made last year in resolution 2539 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969. The Assembly also invited the Secretary-General to give preference in recruitment to nationals of countries not yet represented or inadequately represented in the Secretariat, particularly with respect to appointments to higher posts.

The Secretary-General reports annually on the steps he has taken to comply with Assembly recommendations on this subject. This year's report is expected in October.

Last year's report on the composition of the Secretariat (A/7745) showed that, as of 31 August 1969, 120 nationalities -- four more than in the previous year -- were included among the 2,031 professional and higher level staff in posts subject to the system of geographical distribution. During that year, the highest proportionate net increases of staff came from the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Two regions -- Eastern Europe, North America and the Caribbean -- remained substantially under-represented, the report stated.

In his 1970 annual report on the work of the Organization (A/8001), the Secretary-General states that "renewed efforts were made to recruit staff that would meet the required qualifications from among nationals of countries not represented or inadequately represented in the Secretariat. Nationals of other countries were granted appointments only in exceptional cases and largely for fixed terms, after it had become apparent that the vacant posts could not be filled otherwise without impairing the work of the Secretariat".

Besides the issue of nationality, the question of language has taken a prominent place in recent Fifth Committee discussions on the composition of the Secretariat. In 1968, the Assembly adopted a language incentive scheme under which, beginning 1 January 1972, all promotions of professional staff are to be conditional on "adequate and confirmed knowledge" of a second official language, except when the Secretary-General decides otherwise in the interest of "the proper functioning of the Secretariat". (The official languages of the United Nations are Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.) Also beginning in 1972, knowledge of a second language will entitle professional staff members to more frequent salary increments.

The 1968 resolution also provided that, beginning 1 January 1970, the "acceptable minimum standard of recruitment" for professionals is the ability to use one of the working languages of the Secretariat (English and French) or, in the case of persons recruited to service a particular organ, one of the working languages of that organ. Such staff members will not be appointed on a permanent basis or have their fixed-term appointments extended beyond two years until they are able to work in one of the working languages.

Last year, the Assembly again requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts "to achieve a better linguistic balance within the Secretariat".

In order to assist staff members to improve their linguistic skills, in-service language training programmes have been expanded.

The Fifth Committee, in its 1969 report to the Assembly on this item, expressed the hope that every effort would be made to ensure the existence of satisfactory opportunities for career development for the staff. In his budget estimates for 1971 (A/8006), the Secretary-General has requested funds to begin a new programme of advanced training and career development for staff members. Initially, up to six staff members will receive special leave -- without pay in some cases -- to study in established institutions.

(b) Other Personnel Questions

The Secretary-General reports annually to the Assembly on any changes made in the Staff Rules during the past year. The Assembly normally takes note of the report. (The report for 1969 is expected in October.)

Proposals by the Secretary-General to raise base salaries of professional staff members will be considered in connexion with item 75, budget estimates for 1971.]

85. Report of United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board

The Board administers the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, which pays pension benefits for staff employed by the United Nations, nine specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency. As of 30 September 1969, there were 29,377 participants in the Fund, and its investments totalled \$450 million.

The Board's annual report to the Assembly (A/8009) -- prepared by the Standing Committee since the Board does not meet this year -- has not yet been issued. It will be considered along with any comments by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

Last year the Assembly, on the Board's recommendation, adopted a revised set of Pension Fund Regulations which included a 10 per cent increase in benefits (resolution 2524 (XXIV) of 5 December 1969).

#### 86. United Nations International School

The United Nations International School had its origin in a nursery school established in New York City by United Nations staff members in 1947. Enrolment during the 1969/1970 school year, as of 1 October 1969, totalled a record 937 pupils, of whom 516 were from Secretariat families. The school is now housed in three locations -- in Manhattan at 418 East 54th Street, at First Avenue and East 51st Street, and in Queens at Parkway Village.

Plans for erecting a permanent building for the school have occupied the attention of its Board of Directors and the General Assembly for the past several years. In 1965, the Assembly, after first approving in principle the use of the north end of the Headquarters site for a school building, decided later to authorize acceptance of an alternative offer of a site on the East River at East 25th Street, a mile south of Headquarters. Between 1967 and last year, consideration was given to a third site, on First Avenue from East 39th to 40th Street, but the Secretary-General reported to the 1969 session of the Assembly that problems had arisen with respect to that location.

In his 1969 report on this item (A/7583), the Secretary-General said the architects expected that construction of a modern facility for 1,500 students could begin in the summer of 1970 and be completed during 1972.

Construction and equipment of the new building is to be financed by a \$7.5 million grant from the Ford Foundation, supplemented last year by an additional \$4 million from the same source.

One of the conditions of the Ford Foundation's supplementary grant was that substantial progress be made in raising a development fund of \$5 million to ensure the financial viability of the school. To help achieve this aim, the Assembly



decided in principle last year, in resolution 2612 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969; to contribute \$2 million to the Development Fund over a four-year period, beginning in 1971. It recommended that the Board of Trustees set up a committee to raise another \$2 million. The balance of the \$5 million would be obtained from funds already contributed (\$755,634 as of 30 June 1969) and from sales of a special postage stamp which the Assembly authorized for issuance in 1971.

Since the school was established, the Assembly has contributed funds to cover its operating deficits. For the 1969/1970 school year, it donated \$65,000 to the school's \$1,551,200 budget, which is financed mostly from tuition and other fees. At the same time, it stated that annual grants for this purpose would be phased out as the Development Fund was built up.

The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), in its report on the budget estimates for 1971 (A/8008), has recommended that the annual grant be reduced to \$50,000 next year, when the operating deficit will be an estimated \$70,000.

The Secretary-General will report to the Assembly in November on plans for construction of the new school building as well as on other matters pertaining to the school. The ACABQ will also submit a report on this item.

## 87. Report of International Law Commission

Each year, the Assembly reviews the work of the International Law Commission, whose task is to codify and progressively develop international law.

A subsidiary body of the Assembly, the Commission was established in 1947. It is composed of jurists from 25 countries elected in their personal capacity by the Assembly. (The membership was originally 15, but the Assembly increased it to 21 in 1956 and to 25 in 1961.)

The Commission devoted its twenty-second session, held in Geneva from 4 May to 10 July 1970, mainly to consideration of three topics. Its work on each topic is summarized as follows:

Relations between States and international organizations: The Commission adopted 66 draft articles on two aspects of this question -- permanent observers of non-member States to international organizations, and delegations to organs of international organizations and to conferences convened by those organizations.

Adoption of these articles brought to 116 the number approved by the Commission on this topic (it approved 21 in 1968 and 29 last year). They are intended to form the basis for a convention on relations between States and organizations.

The Commission reaffirmed its view that it was desirable to complete the study of relations between States and international organizations before the term of office of its present membership expired in December 1971. Thus, it intended to complete the second reading of the draft articles on this topic at its twenty-third session (1971).

As with the groups of articles approved previously, the Commission decided to transmit the draft articles approved at its 1970 session to the secretariats of the United Nations and related agencies for their comments, with a request that replies be received by 15 January 1971.

Succession of States: On this topic, the Commission considered but took no action on two reports submitted by Sir Humphrey Waldock, its Special Rapporteur appointed to deal with succession in respect of treaties. The two reports contain 12 draft articles, with commentaries, covering the use of certain terms, the case of territory passing from one State to another, devolution agreements, unilateral declarations by successor States, and the rules governing the position of "new States" in regard to multilateral treaties.

For lack of time, the Commission was unable to consider the other aspect of this topic -- succession in respect of matters other than treaties.

State responsibility: The Commission considered a second report submitted by Roberto Ago, its Special Rapporteur on this topic. After discussion on this report, which contains draft articles, the Commission agreed that the Special Rapporteur should submit a further report which would include a detailed analysis of the various subjective and objective conditions which must be met if an internationally wrongful act is to be attributed to a State as an act giving rise to international responsibility.

Other action: At the request of the General Assembly, the Commission decided to include in its programme of work the question of treaties concluded between States and international organizations or between two or more international organizations, and set up a 13-member Sub-Committee on this subject. On the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, which met during the session, the Commission requested that the Secretary-General prepare a number of documents, including a working paper on the subject.

In its report (A/8010), the Commission requests a 14-week session (instead of the usual 10 weeks) next year, "in order substantially to advance its work in 1971".

88. Consideration of Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States

After eight years of work, United Nations efforts to elaborate principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States led to the preparation earlier this year of a draft Declaration on this subject.

The Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States, at a session in Geneva from 31 March to 1 May, was able to resolve remaining questions relating to the formulation of seven principles enumerated by the General Assembly in 1961.

The Special Committee adopted a report containing the text of a draft Declaration on all seven principles. The text is proposed for adoption by the Assembly at this session, along with the suggested title "Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Peaceful and Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations".

The seven principles, enumerated by the Assembly in resolution 1815 (XVII) of 18 December 1962, are:

-- The principle that States shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations (principle I);

-- The principle that States shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered (principle II);

-- The duty not to intervene in matters within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter (principle III);

-- The principle of sovereign equality of States (principle IV);

-- The duty of States to co-operate with one another in accordance with the Charter (principle V);

-- The principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples (principle VI); and

-- The principle that States shall fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the Charter (principle VII).

In 1963, the Assembly examined the first four principles and established a 27-member Special Committee to study them, with a view to their progressive development and codification. The Committee, however, reported in 1964 that it had reached a consensus on a text for only principle IV.

In 1965, the Assembly reconstituted the Special Committee, enlarging it to 31 members. It was asked to consider and report on all seven principles, with a view to eventual adoption of an Assembly declaration.

At subsequent annual sessions, the enlarged Special Committee was able to formulate consensus texts of several, but not all, of the principles.

Last year, the Assembly asked the Special Committee to meet in the first half of 1970 in order to complete its work, and called on its members "to devote their utmost efforts to ensuring the success" of the session (resolution 2533 (XXIV) of 8 December 1969).

At its 1970 session, the Special Committee completed work on the outstanding questions relating to principles I, III and VI, before adopting the draft Declaration.

The draft Declaration is contained in the report of the Drafting Committee, which the Special Committee approved. This approval was accompanied by a number of understandings concerning the interpretation of the text. The Chairman of the Special Committee, at the closing meeting, stated that the text represented the consensus of delegations and must be read in connexion with the statements made for the record.

Also, the Committee authorized its Chairman to convene an informal meeting, to be held at Headquarters on 15 September, in order to ascertain the position of members regarding final adoption of the draft Declaration.

The members of the Committee are: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Burma, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, France, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Syria, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

(The Special Committee's report will be issued as A/8018.)

89. Report of United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The 29-member Commission was set up by the Assembly in 1966 to "further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade" by reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade.

The Commission held its first session in New York in 1968 and its second session in Geneva in 1969. Last year, after reviewing the report, on its second session, the Assembly instructed the Commission to continue its work on four priority topics -- the international sale of goods, international payments, international commercial arbitration and international shipping legislation.

The Commission held its third session in New York from 6 to 30 April 1970. A summary of its work so far on each of the priority topics follows.

International sale of goods: Under this item, the Commission is considering three sub-topics -- uniform rules of law that should govern the international sale of goods; time-limits and limitations (prescription); and general conditions of sale and standard contracts.

On the question of uniform law, the Commission set up a 14-member Working Group to determine which modifications of existing texts in this field might make the laws more widely acceptable to countries of different legal, social and economic systems, or whether it would be necessary to elaborate a new text for this purpose. At its third session, the Commission decided that work on this matter should be continued at a meeting of the Group in December 1970.

Concerning time-limits and limitations, the Commission established a seven-member Working Group to determine the feasibility of preparing a draft international convention which would establish the maximum period within which a party to a contract for an international sale might bring action against another party. It decided to obtain the views of Governments on the length of this prescriptive period and on related questions. The Commission, at its third session, decided that this Working Group should hold a further meeting to prepare a tentative draft convention for submission to the Commission's fourth session.

On the third topic, the Commission at its third session requested the Secretary-General to continue to seek the views of Governments and interested trade circles on the feasibility of extending to regions other than Europe the use of general conditions of sale and standard contracts drawn up by the Economic Commission for Europe.

International payments: Three sub-topics are grouped under this item -- negotiable instruments, bankers' commercial credits, and guarantees and securities.

On the first topic, the Commission at its third session had before it a report by the Secretary-General analysing replies from Governments and banking and trading institutions to a questionnaire concerning the legal rules applicable to the use of negotiable instruments in making international payments. The Commission reaffirmed the opinion, expressed earlier, that work should be directed towards a convention setting forth rules applicable to a special instrument for use in international transactions.

The work of the Commission in the field of bankers' commercial credits mainly concerns the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits, which seeks to achieve a standardization of practices relating to documentary credits.

The International Chamber of Commerce, which drew up the Uniform Customs in 1962, plans to undertake a review of this document. In view of this, the Commission has invited interested circles in countries not represented in the International Chamber to submit observations on the operation of the Uniform Customs.

The Commission at its third session took two actions relating to guarantees and securities, respectively. First, the Commission noted that the International Chamber of Commerce was likely to expand the scope of its inquiry and study on bank guarantees, and asked the Secretary-General to invite the Chamber to submit periodic reports on its progress in this respect. In the second action, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to invite Governments to submit information on their national laws and practice and to make a study of security devices relevant to international transactions in goods, with special reference to conditional sale contracts and trust receipts.

International commercial arbitration: The Commission appointed a Special Rapporteur to consider the most important problems concerning the application and interpretation of the existing conventions in this field. He submitted a provisional report to the third session, and the Commission decided to extend his mandate to the fifth session.

International shipping legislation: The Commission, at the Assembly's suggestion, added this item to its priority list and set up a Working Group on International Shipping Legislation. In considering recommendations of the Working Group at its third session, the Commission concentrated on ways of achieving co-ordination and co-operation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). It requested that its Working Group meet shortly after the session of UNCTAD's Working Group on Shipping.

Other action: The Commission has taken a number of other actions at its three sessions in accordance with its mandate.

Acting on one of the Commission's recommendations, the Assembly in 1968 authorized the Secretary-General to set up a register of organizations active in the field of international trade law, together with a summary of their work. It also authorized the Secretary-General to establish another register containing the texts of relevant international conventions, model and uniform laws, and written customs and usages, along with a brief summary of proposed instruments of this type.

The Commission, at its third session, also took a number of measures designed to disseminate information on international trade law, to promote the uniform interpretation and application of existing international instruments in this field and to make its own work known among the organizations concerned.

(For further details, see the Commission's report, A/8017.)

90. Report of Special Committee on Question of Defining Aggression

This is the fourth subsidiary body set up by the Assembly to define aggression. It was established in December 1967 "to consider all aspects of the question in order that an adequate definition of aggression may be prepared".

The 35-member Committee, at its first session held in Geneva in 1968, considered two proposals describing certain acts as aggression. The Committee held its second session in New York in February/April 1969; it received further proposals on a definition but was unable to finish its work.

Accordingly, the Assembly last year instructed the Committee to meet again in the second half of 1970, and expressed the desirability of achieving the objective of defining aggression, "if possible, by the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations" (resolution 2549 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969).

The Committee held its third session in Geneva from 13 July to 14 August, but was again unable to complete its work. In its report to the Assembly (A/8019), the Committee recommends that it be asked to resume its work as early as possible in 1971.

The Assembly first took up the question of defining aggression in 1950, when the Soviet Union submitted a draft resolution listing acts which might be considered as constituting aggression. This text was referred to the International Law Commission, which did not agree on a definition but included aggression among the offences defined in its draft Code of Offences against the Peace and Security of Mankind.

In 1952, the Assembly set up a 15-member committee to formulate draft definitions of aggression or statements of the notion of aggression. This body considered several texts, but decided to submit them to Member States rather than put them to a vote.



The Assembly set up a second committee in 1954. It met in 1956 and considered a number of draft definitions, but transmitted them to the Assembly without putting them to a vote. The third committee was established in 1957 to study the comments of Member States so as to determine when it would be appropriate for the Assembly to consider again the question of defining aggression. This committee met in 1959, 1962, 1965 and 1967, but reached no decision.

Creation of the present Committee resulted from an initiative of the Soviet Union, which in September 1967 proposed that the question of defining aggression again be inscribed on the Assembly's agenda.

The members are: Algeria, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Finland, France, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Madagascar, Mexico, Norway, Romania, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Syria, Turkey, Uganda, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

91. Need to Consider Suggestions Regarding Review of Charter

This item was included in the Assembly's agenda last year on the initiative of Colombia. The Sixth Committee did not have time to consider the question adequately and decided to include it in the provisional agenda of the twenty-fifth session (resolution 2552 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969).

Colombia, in proposing consideration of this question in a letter dated 21 November 1969 (A/7659), requested inclusion in the agenda of an item entitled "Establishment of a Special Committee to consider suggestions for revising the Charter of the United Nations".

At a meeting of the Assembly's General Committee on 26 November 1969, the representative of Colombia accepted a suggestion to retitling the item "Need to consider suggestions regarding the review of the Charter of the United Nations". The item was then added to the Assembly's agenda and referred to the Sixth Committee (Legal).

A note on this item has been issued by the Secretary-General (A/8053).

92. Declaration on Universal Participation in Law of Treaties Convention

The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties was adopted on 22 May 1969 at the second session of the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties. The Assembly, in 1966, decided to convene the Conference in order to consider draft articles prepared by the International Law Commission.

The Conference annexed a number of declarations and resolutions to its Final Act, three of which contained requests for consideration by the Assembly.

Last year, the Assembly acted on two of these requests -- relating to the work of the International Law Commission and to the expenses of conciliation commissions set up under the Convention -- but deferred until its twenty-fifth session consideration of the Declaration on Universal Participation in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.

In this Declaration, the Conference invites the Assembly to consider issuing special invitations to become parties to States which are not Members of the United Nations or its affiliated agencies, "in order to ensure the widest possible participation" in the Convention. A provision empowering the Assembly to issue such invitations is contained in the Convention.

Before recommending that the Assembly defer the item, the Sixth Committee (Legal) last year received two proposals concerning the Declaration. The first sought to have the Assembly invite all States not Members of the United Nations or its affiliated agencies to become parties. Under the second proposal, the Assembly would invite to become parties any of the parties to either of two treaties: the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under water; and the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies. These two treaties are open to "all States".

The 85-article Convention on the Law of Treaties deals with such matters concerning treaties as: conclusion and entry into force; observance, application and interpretation; modification; invalidity, termination and suspension of operation; State succession, State responsibility and outbreak of hostilities; diplomatic and consular relations; and the case of an aggressor State.

The Convention will remain open for signature until 30 November 1970. It will enter into force 30 days after the twenty-fifth instrument of ratification or accession has been received. As of 31 August, 46 countries had signed the Convention. Three of these countries -- Jamaica, Nigeria and Yugoslavia -- had ratified it.

The Secretary-General has submitted a note on this item (A/8048).

93. Invitations to Non-Member States to Become Parties to Convention on Special Missions

Last year, the Assembly adopted and opened for signature the Convention on Special Missions (resolution 2530 (XXIV) of 8 December 1969).

In that resolution, the Assembly resolved "to consider at its twenty-fifth session the question of issuing invitations in order to ensure the widest possible participation in the Convention on Special Missions".

The terms of the Convention provide that five categories of States can become parties to it: United Nations Member States, members of the specialized agencies, members of the International Atomic Energy Agency, parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and "any other State invited by the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a party".

This formula for eligibility was approved last year by the Assembly's Sixth Committee (Legal), prior to adoption of the Convention. The Committee rejected a draft clause by which the Convention would have been open for signature to all States. It also rejected a proposal which sought to add to the five categories of eligibility parties to either of two treaties: the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water; and the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial Bodies. These two treaties are open to "all States".

The Convention on Special Missions defines rules of law applying to forms of "ad hoc" diplomacy -- itinerant envoys, diplomatic conferences, and special missions sent to a State for limited purposes -- that are not covered by the Vienna Conventions of 1961 and 1963 relating to permanent diplomatic and consular relations among States.

The Convention will remain open for signature until 31 December 1970 and will enter into force after the twenty-second instrument of ratification or accession has been received. As of 31 August, six countries had signed the Convention -- Argentina, Jamaica, the Philippines, Switzerland, Tunisia and Yugoslavia. No nation had yet ratified or acceded to the Convention.

The Secretary-General has submitted a note on this item (A/8049).

94. Amendment to Article 22 of Statute of International Court of Justice and Consequential Amendments to Articles 23 and 28

This item appeared on the agenda last year, but the Assembly decided to postpone consideration of it until the twenty-fifth session.

Article 22 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice stipulates that the seat of the Court shall be established at The Hague. The Court has proposed in a draft resolution (A/7591/Add.1) that this Article be changed to provide that the seat shall be at The Hague "or at such other place as shall at any time be approved by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Court".

An explanatory memorandum (A/7591) submitted by the Court last year said that the Peace Palace (the building the Court occupies) was "totally unsuited" to its needs and that a decision concerning a new building should not be confined by the requirement in Article 22 that it must be built in The Hague itself.

Further, the special qualities attached to The Hague when the Statute was drafted in 1922 were less distinctive now, and the importance of other places as legal centres had been enhanced.

The memorandum said that the Court was not now recommending that its seat should be established elsewhere than at The Hague. Its proposal would merely afford the Court the latitude to be established "at whatever place, in the course of the years, it may be considered that it could function most harmoniously and effectively".

The proposed consequential amendments to Articles 23 and 28 would replace references to "The Hague" by the words "the seat of the Court".

Although it postponed consideration of the item last year, the Assembly, on the recommendation of the Security Council, decided that States which are parties to the Statute of the Court but not Members of the United Nations may take part in the Assembly, in the same manner as Member States, in the procedure for amending the Statute.

A note on this item has been issued by the Secretary-General (S/8054).

95. United Nations Programme of Assistance in International Law

The idea of United Nations assistance in this field was put forth in 1962, when the Assembly initiated a study of ways in which Member States could be helped to establish training and exchange programmes in international law.

In the following year, the Assembly appointed a committee to work out a practical plan and proposals. On the basis of the committee's work, the Assembly decided in 1965 to establish what has now become known as the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

The programme was divided into two parts: steps to encourage existing international law programmes carried out by States, organizations and institutions; and direct assistance and exchange, such as seminars, training and refresher courses, fellowships, advisory services of experts, the provision of legal publications and libraries, and translations of major legal works.

Under its 1965 resolution, the Assembly also established an Advisory Committee of 10 Member States to advise the Secretary-General on the content of the programme. It has met each year since then and after each session, the Secretary-General has reported to the Assembly on the execution of the programme and has submitted recommendations for future years.

Last year, the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to carry out the activities specified in his 1969 report (A/7740) and in particular to provide: 15 fellowships at the request of Governments of developing countries, and current United Nations legal publications to institutions in developing countries. It also asked the Secretary-General to take certain measures to promote, within the framework of the programme, training and assistance in the field of international trade law (resolution 2550 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969).

The Secretary-General will convene the Advisory Committee in late September or early October 1970 to consider his report to the Assembly on the execution of the Programme in 1970.

96. Development and Codification of International Law  
relating to International Watercourses

Finland proposed this item for the agenda on 24 April (A/7991).

In an accompanying memorandum, it states that with the exception of two instruments -- the 1921 Barcelona Convention on the Regime of Navigable Waterways of International Concern and the 1923 Geneva Convention relating to the Development of Hydraulic Power affecting more than one State -- there is no general international convention on the law of international waters corresponding to the 1958 Geneva Conventions on the Law of the Sea.

Also, according to the memorandum, there is a large number of international rivers not covered by international agreements, especially in Africa, Asia and South America.

The memorandum says that the use of international rivers and lakes is still based mainly on rules of unwritten customary law, and to a large extent these rules are "too vague and do not cover every practical problem which may arise between riparian States concerning watercourses of their common interest".

The possibility of controversies and disputes between neighbouring States is much greater now than a few decades ago because there are more States and thus more borders, the memorandum continues. Moreover, many national problems concerning water use have assumed an international character, while the concern of Governments has extended from river navigation, water supply and hydraulic works to multi-purpose development of river basins.

Finland states that the Helsinki Rules -- a set of 37 articles on the law of international drainage basins that were adopted by the International Law Association (a non-governmental organization) in Helsinki in 1966 following 12 years of work by a special committee of experts -- could be used as a basis for codification by the United Nations.

The memorandum contains a suggestion that the General Assembly consider adopting a resolution entrusting the task of codification to the International Law Commission, with a request that it be given priority.

The memorandum also suggests that, "without affecting the final outcome" of United Nations work in this field, the Assembly recommend that Member States take into account or resort to the Helsinki Rules in cases where there are no other rules or provisions binding on the parties.

97. Rationalization of Procedures and Organization of General Assembly

This item was submitted by Canada on 26 June (A/7992 and Corr.1), with a suggestion that it might be considered as a sub-item of the agenda item "Celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations". Canada also suggested that it be considered as soon as possible after the opening of the session.

In an accompanying explanatory memorandum, Canada states that the institutional practices of the Assembly had continued almost without change since the earliest days of the United Nations, although the number of Member States had more than doubled and the Organization had assumed responsibilities in the field of social and economic development of a magnitude not foreseen when the Charter was adopted.

It was widely recognized, the memorandum continues, that these practices often did not permit the Organization to respond effectively to the demands made upon it. Some of these practices arose from "necessary accommodations to differing interests", but this should not preclude consideration of ways of improving the procedures and organization of the Assembly which would make it "a more effective instrument for dealing with the problems of the 1970s and beyond".

Attached to the memorandum is a draft resolution, which was supported by Cameroon, Chile, India, Italy, Japan, Liberia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Singapore, Sweden, Venezuela and Zambia.

Under its terms, the Assembly would request its President to establish, as early as possible during the present session, a committee of "persons with wide experience in General Assembly activities" to study ways of improving its procedures and organization, including the allocation of agenda items, the organization of its work, documentation, its rules of procedure and related questions, its methods and practices, and to report to the Assembly at its twenty-sixth session.

98. Signature and Ratification of Additional Protocol II of Treaty for Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America

The request for inclusion of this item was made, in a letter dated 10 July, by eight States: Bolivia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico and Uruguay (A/7993). This request was supported later by Barbados, Nicaragua and Honduras (A/7993/Add.1-2).

In their explanatory memorandum, the sponsors reproduced the text of a resolution adopted on 5 September 1969 in Mexico City by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America.\*

This text constituted the best "explanatory memorandum", the sponsors stated.

In the resolution, the General Conference deplored the fact that not all of the nuclear-weapon States had signed Additional Protocol II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco), and it urged such States to do so.

Further, if the Protocol had not been signed by all such States by 30 June, the General Conference called on the States members of the Agency to propose the inclusion in the General Assembly's agenda of an item concerning the matter.

The Treaty of Tlatelolco, which was opened for signature on 14 February 1967 in that Mexican city, contains two additional protocols, one of which is open to the signature of States internationally responsible for territories within the geographical zone established in the Treaty.

Under additional Protocol II, nuclear-weapon States undertake to respect the denuclearization of Latin America; not to contribute in any way to the performance of acts involving a violation of the Treaty; and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against the Contracting Parties.

So far, the United States and the United Kingdom have signed Additional Protocol II. The United Kingdom deposited its instrument of ratification on 11 December 1969.

On 5 December 1967, the General Assembly invited the nuclear Powers to sign and ratify this protocol as soon as possible (resolution 2286 (XXII)).

This call for adherence to Additional Protocol II was repeated by the Assembly in resolution 2456 B (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, following a recommendation made by the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States earlier that year.

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\* The Agency was set up under the Treaty and had 16 members, as of the date of the letter.



The sponsors, in their explanatory memorandum, also pointed out that last year the General Assembly, in a resolution dealing with the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, appealed to all States to "give urgent consideration to the ratification of, or accession to, a number of multilateral instruments which have been adopted, endorsed and supported by the United Nations and which have not entered into force for lack of sufficient ratifications or accessions" (resolution 2499 (XXIV) of 31 October 1969).

99. Consequences of Armaments Race

In a letter to the Secretary-General, Romania on 12 July proposed the inclusion in the agenda of an item entitled "Economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security".\*

An explanatory memorandum attached to the request said thorough consideration of the current armaments race would facilitate a better understanding of its negative consequences at all levels and of its great dangers, and would make it possible "to draw certain conclusions on the basis of which practical measures could be devised to slow down and halt this senseless competition".

It was absolutely essential at this time for all States and all Governments to make a determined effort to work out effective disarmament measures, the memorandum stated. The economic and social consequences of the arms race and the threat to world peace and security were questions meriting the attention of the Assembly at the current session, which marked a quarter of a century since the end of the Second World War and the establishment of the United Nations, Romania's memorandum stated.

Nuclear and other weapons had been accumulated in quantities capable of destroying mankind many times over, Romania stated, yet the world's military expenditures now exceeded \$200,000 million per year, absorbing a substantial portion of the wealth of mankind and preventing economic and social progress.

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\* The title of the item was submitted in French and erroneously translated. The correct wording in English appears in a corrigendum to the provisional agenda (A/8000/Corr.3).

100. Role of Science and Technology in Development of Nations and Need to Strengthen Economic and Technico-Scientific Co-operation among States\*

The inclusion of this item in the agenda of the twenty-fifth session was requested by Romania on 12 July (A/7995).

In its explanatory memorandum, Romania stated that science and technology now constituted a basic element in the economic policies of States. Access by all States to scientific discoveries and technological innovations was necessary for the reduction and elimination of existing economic disparities between different peoples today. Extensive international co-operation was therefore necessary, the memorandum added.

It referred to the progress made so far by the Economic and Social Council, the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development and the regional economic commissions "in studying and defining those aspects which relate to the application of science and technology".

However, all this was "far from meeting the real needs", it was stated. A fragmentary approach and the lack of a unified concept for defining the objectives and the means to be pursued had "impeded efforts to augment the capacity of the United Nations in this sphere".

The twenty-fifth anniversary celebration, it continued, provided an excellent opportunity to discuss fully the effects of modern science and technology on national development and international co-operation.

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\* The title of the item was submitted in French and erroneously translated. The correct wording in English appears in a corrigendum to the provisional agenda (A/8000/Corr.3).

ITEMS ON THE SUPPLEMENTARY LIST

S.1. Establishment of United Nations Fund for Namibia

The Security Council has requested the General Assembly at its forthcoming session to set up a United Nations Fund for Namibia "to provide assistance to Namibians who have suffered from persecution and to finance a comprehensive education and training programme for Namibians with particular regard to their future administrative responsibilities of the Territory".

This request was contained in paragraph 12 of resolution 283 (1970) on Namibia, which was adopted by the Security Council on 29 July.

The proposal for establishment of the Fund had been put forward in a report (S/9863 and Corr.1) by the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Namibia, set up by the Council in January of this year.

(The existing United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa, which consolidates three earlier programmes, including one that was established in 1961 for the training of Namibians, is financed partly by voluntary contributions and partly by funds from the regular budget of the United Nations. For details, see notes on item 71, which relates to the Programme. Also see item 64 on Question of Namibia.)

S.2. Second United Nations Development Decade: Social Policy and Planning in National Development

This item was proposed for the agenda by Sweden on 13 August (A/8041).

The accompanying explanatory memorandum stated that, during the preparations for the strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, the interrelationship between economic and social factors in development and the importance of planning for a unified approach to development had been widely recognized.

Moreover, the memorandum stated, the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1494 (XLVIII) of 26 May 1970, had stressed the necessity for progressive integration of social and economic goals and programmes in the context of the strategy for the Second Development Decade and had endorsed the principle of the unified approach, in this respect, envisaged by the draft strategy.

The Council, in the resolution, had requested the inclusion in the Assembly's agenda of an item to this effect, and Sweden, accordingly, was proposing it for inscription. Sweden asked that it be considered in connexion with item 43 of the agenda, on the report for the Preparatory Committee for the Second Development Decade.

(For further details on the Second Development Decade, see notes on item 43.)

### S.3. Review of Role of International Court of Justice

Such a review is urgently needed, according to the States proposing this item -- Argentina, Canada, Finland, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Mexico, United States and Uruguay.

In an explanatory memorandum (A/8042), the nine States say that the "lack of business currently before the Court is evidence" of the need for a review, and that "this situation is not commensurate with either the distinction of the judges or the needs of the international community".

The memorandum suggests that a study be undertaken "of obstacles to the satisfactory functioning" of the International Court, and ways of removing them. The study should also include an exploration of additional possibilities for use of the Court that have not yet been adequately explored.

It further suggests that the Assembly authorize an ad hoc committee to undertake such a study and report its conclusions to the twenty-sixth session.

### S.4. Restoration of Lawful Rights of People's Republic of China

This item was submitted for the agenda on 14 August by Albania, Algeria, Cuba, Iraq, Mali, Mauritania, People's Republic of the Congo, Romania, Southern Yemen, Sudan, Syria, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen and Zambia (A/8043). Guinea later joined the signatories (A/8043/Add.1).

An explanatory memorandum (A/8043/Add.2) was circulated on 4 September.

The question of the representation of China in the United Nations was first raised in 1949 by the Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China. It came before the Security Council in January 1950, when a proposal not to recognize the credentials of the existing representative of China failed to receive a majority of votes.

The question was raised in the General Assembly later in 1950. From 1951 through 1960, the Assembly decided each year not to consider the matter.

In 1961, when it considered the question as an agenda item for the first time, the Assembly decided, "in accordance with Article 18 of the Charter, that any proposal to change the representation of China is an important question" and, therefore, required a two-thirds majority vote.

In that same year, the Assembly rejected a proposal to remove "representatives of the Chiang Kai-shek clique" and to invite the People's Republic of China to send representatives.

In each year since then, except for 1964 -- the "non-voting" Assembly, when the question of the representation of China was not discussed -- the Assembly has rejected similar proposals. From 1965 onward, the Assembly also reaffirmed its "important question" decision of 1961.

The vote in 1969 on the proposal to recognize the representatives of the People's Republic of China as "the only lawful representatives of China to the United Nations" and to "expel forthwith the representatives of Chiang Kai-shek" was 48 in favour to 56 against, with 21 abstentions.

The vote in 1969 on reaffirmation of the "important question" decision was 71 in favour to 48 against, with 4 abstentions.

In 1967, the Assembly rejected a proposal calling for establishment of a committee to explore and study the situation in all its aspects in order to make recommendations to the Assembly for "an equitable and practicable solution" to the question of the representation of China.

A similar proposal was rejected in 1968.

#### S.5. Withdrawal of United States and Other Foreign Forces from South Korea

Inclusion in the agenda of an item entitled "Withdrawal of United States and all other foreign forces occupying South Korea under the flag of the United Nations" was requested on 15 August by 16 States: Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mauritania, Mongolia, People's Republic of the Congo, Poland, Somalia, Southern Yemen, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine and USSR (A/8044). This request was supported by Romania (A/8044/Add.1). Guinea became a co-sponsor on 24 August (A/8044/Add.2).

An explanatory memorandum accompanying the request stated that the Korean nation still remained divided because of "gross outside interference". Responsibility for "this abnormal situation, fraught with grave danger", rested first of all with the United States, "whose armed forces continue to occupy South Korea".

The United States, continued the memorandum, had turned South Korea into "a military springboard", and "the Seoul puppet clique" was "an accomplice and obedient tool of its aggressive schemes and actions". Testimony to this was the dispatch by the Seoul régime of more than 50,000 "South Korean mercenaries" to South Viet-Nam to wage war against the Vietnamese people.

Continued United States occupation of the southern part of Korea and transformation of it into "a sort of link in the United States collusion with militaristic circles of Asia", along with "the stepping up of war preparations and provocative actions against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea", was a threat to peace in the whole Far East region, the memorandum stated.

"A meagre reduction" of United States troops in South Korea could not change the essence of the problem or eliminate the existing danger, the memorandum went on.

Withdrawal of all foreign forces from South Korea corresponded with the interests and aspirations not only of the Korean people, but also of all other peoples defending their right to freedom and independence, the memorandum stated. Anyone could see that "the continued military occupation of South Korea, the continued United States aggression in Viet-Nam, its spread to the whole of the Indo-Chinese peninsula, and the escalation of aggressive acts against Arab countries by Israel, aided and abetted by the United States", were "part and parcel of the global strategy of imperialism".

Romania, in a separate communication, supported inclusion of the item in the agenda, saying it had "always called for the dismantling of foreign military bases and the withdrawal within their national frontiers of all forces occupying other States, including the withdrawal of United States forces and all other foreign forces stationed in South Korea under the flag of the United Nations".

In 1967, 1968 and 1969, similar items were proposed for the agenda and were considered by the Assembly as sub-items under the heading "The Korean question". Draft resolutions calling for the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea were rejected by the Assembly's First Committee (Political and Security).

The vote in 1969 on a proposal for withdrawal within six months of all United States and other foreign military personnel deployed in South Korea under the title "United Nations Forces" was 29 in favour to 61 against, with 32 abstentions.

Earlier, in 1966, an item calling both for withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea and for dissolution of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea (UNCURK) was considered by the Assembly, and a draft resolution covering both points was rejected by the First Committee.

S.6. Dissolution of United Nations Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea

This item was submitted on 15 August (A/8045) by 16 States: Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mauritania, Mongolia, People's Republic of the Congo, Poland, Romania, Southern Yemen, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine and USSR. Somalia and Guinea subsequently joined the signatories (A/8045/Add.1 and 2).

In their explanatory memorandum, they stated that the "so-called" United Nations Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea (UNCURK) had been established by illegal methods and in violation of the purposes and principles of the Charter. It was "an obedient instrument of the aggressive policies of the United States" in Korea, the memorandum stated, and "one of the main obstacles blocking the solution of the most vital national task of the Korean people -- the unification of their country on a peaceful and democratic basis".

The United Nations, "by endorsing the existence of this illegal creature and by taking up, under the pressure of the United States, its so-called reports", had been in fact interfering in the internal affairs of Korea for more than 20 years, the memorandum went on. The question of reunification of Korea was a domestic matter for the Korean people, to be solved through direct negotiations between the two parties of that temporarily divided country. "The United Nations should no longer be used, at the expense of its prestige, in the interests of the United States aggressive schemes."

Dissolution of UNCURK was "a most pressing and imperative matter", the signatories said.

In 1967, 1968 and 1969, similar items were submitted for the agenda and considered by the Assembly as part of "The Korean question". Proposals to dissolve UNCURK were rejected in the Assembly's First Committee.

In 1966, an item was submitted for the agenda, calling both for dissolution of UNCURK and for withdrawal of "all United States and other foreign forces occupying South Korea under the flag of the United Nations". A draft resolution submitted under that item was also rejected in the First Committee.

S.7. Question of Korea: Report of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea

The Secretary-General, in proposing this item for the agenda (A/8046), transmitted the text of a communication sent to him on 13 August by the Chairman of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea (UNCURK).

The Chairman, Benjamin T. Tirona (Philippines) said that the report of UNCURK, covering the period from 7 September 1969 to 13 August 1970, had been signed and dispatched to New York. It was being submitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with the 1968 and 1969 resolutions of the General Assembly on this question, the letter stated. Should an item on the Korean question be included in the draft agenda of the twenty-fifth session of the Assembly, the Chairman added, UNCURK would appreciate having the report transmitted to the Assembly for its consideration.

The Secretary-General's memorandum stated that, since the inscription of an item on the question of Korea had been requested (A/8044, A/8045), he was, accordingly, requesting inclusion of this item in the agenda in compliance with the terms of the Chairman's communication.

The report is not yet available.

The Assembly has had the Korean question before it since 1947, when it established a Commission to facilitate the holding of elections and the withdrawal of occupying troops.

Although unable to visit the area north of the thirty-eighth parallel, the Commission reported that it had supervised elections in the south.

In 1948, the Assembly decided that a lawful government had been established in South Korea, and sent a new Commission to that country to assist in bringing about unification.



In 1950, the Commission reported that North Korean forces had invaded the Republic of Korea on 25 June. The Security Council then established a unified command under the United States, to which it recommended that Member States make forces available in order to repel the attack and restore peace.

On 7 October 1950, the Assembly established UNCURK, to "represent the United Nations in bringing about the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic government of all Korea" (resolution 376 (V)). The Commission remained in Korea after the armistice of 27 July 1953.

Since its establishment, UNCURK has reported annually on conditions in Korea.

Last year, the Assembly, in resolution 2516 (XXIV) of 25 November 1969, asked UNCURK to continue to carry out the tasks assigned to it, and reaffirmed that the objectives of the United Nations in Korea are "to bring about, by peaceful means, the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic Korea under a representative form of government, and the full restoration of international peace and security in the area".

The Assembly noted "with approval the efforts made by UNCURK, in pursuit of its mandate, to encourage the exercise of restraint and the easing of tensions in the area and to secure maximum support, assistance and co-operation in the realization of the peaceful reunification of Korea".

UNCURK was asked to pursue these and other efforts to achieve the objectives of the United Nations in Korea and to keep members of the Assembly informed on the situation in the area and the results of these efforts, through regular reports submitted to the Secretary-General, and to the Assembly as appropriate.

The Assembly, in its resolution, also noted "that the United Nations forces which were sent to Korea in accordance with United Nations resolutions have in greater part already been withdrawn, that the sole objective of the United Nations forces at present in Korea is to preserve the peace and security of the area, and that the Governments concerned are prepared to withdraw their remaining forces from Korea whenever such action is requested by the Republic of Korea or whenever the conditions for a lasting settlement formulated by the General Assembly have been fulfilled".

S.8. Question of Breadth of Territorial Sea and Related Matters

The inscription of this item was requested by Bulgaria, Syria and the Soviet Union in a letter dated 15 August (A/8047). Hungary joined the signatories later (A/8047/Add.1).

Their explanatory memorandum states that the breadth of the territorial sea is an important outstanding question in the law of the sea. If, through an international agreement, the territorial sea were extended to 12 nautical miles, it adds, the number of straits consisting entirely of territorial sea could be significantly increased, and it would thus be necessary to assure the freedom of transit through and over straits used for international navigation. It might also be necessary to accord to coastal States certain fishery rights beyond the territorial sea.

The sponsors express the view that "this group of interrelated items" should be urgently considered if further international disputes were to be avoided. However, this should not delay progress with regard to the sea-bed and ocean floor beyond national jurisdiction, a matter on which a General Assembly committee had already made some progress. The related question of marine pollution is also mentioned in the memorandum.

The sponsors state that it would be useful for the General Assembly to consider these matters so as to indicate procedures which might lead to an agreement on them.

In a decision related to the subject matter of proposal, the General Assembly last year, in resolution 2574 A (XXIV), requested the Secretary-General to ascertain the views of Member States on the desirability of convening a conference on the law of the sea to review the régimes of the high seas, the continental shelf, the territorial sea and contiguous zone, fishing and conservation of the living resources of the high seas, with a view to arriving at an accepted definition of the area of the sea-bed beyond national jurisdiction. (For details, see item 26 relating to the Sea-bed.)