

English
Express

The Yearbook of the United Nations
Yearbook Express

Yearbook of the United Nations



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Express

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

YEARBOOK OF THE UNITED NATIONS 1984

Volume 38

Table of contents

Foreword.....	v
About the 1984 edition of the <i>Yearbook</i>	xiii
Abbreviations commonly used in the <i>Yearbook</i>	xiv
Explanatory note on documents	xvi

Part One: United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization	3
---	---

Political and security questions

I. Disarmament.....	11
---------------------	----

GENERAL ASPECTS OF DISARMAMENT, 11: Proposed comprehensive programme, 12; Conference on Disarmament, 13; Disarmament Commission, 15; Special sessions of the General Assembly on disarmament, 16; Implementation of the 1979 Declaration on co-operation for disarmament, 19; Implementation of the 1980 Declaration on the Second Disarmament Decade, 20; Disarmament negotiations, 20. NUCLEAR WEAPONS, 21: Nuclear disarmament, 21; Prevention of nuclear war, 27; Climatic consequences of a nuclear war, 29; Proposed convention against nuclear weapons, 31; Proposed negotiations on the neutron weapon, 33; Proposed nuclear-weapon freeze, 34; Nuclear non-proliferation, 37; Cessation of nuclear-weapon tests, 47; Fissionable material for weapons purposes, 52; Strengthening the security of non-nuclear-weapon States, 53. OTHER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, 57: Chemical and biological warfare, 57; New weapons of mass destruction, including radiological weapons, 62. CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, 65: Study by Group of Experts, 65; Ratification of the 1980 Convention and Protocols, 66; Naval armaments, 67. OTHER ASPECTS OF DISARMAMENT AND RELATED MATTERS, 69: Military budgets and expenditures, 69; Study on military research and development, 72; Review Conference on the Convention to prohibit the hostile use of environmental modification techniques, 73; Arms race in outer space, 74; Regional disarmament, 78; Confidence-building measures, 81; Disarmament and international security, 82; Disarmament and development, 83; Parties and signatories to disarmament agreements, 85; Proposed World Disarmament

	Conference, 85; Public information, 86; Disarmament research, 91; UN fellowship programme, 96; Organizational aspects, 96.	
II.	Peaceful uses of outer space	100
	SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND LAW, 100: Space science and technology, 100; Space law, 103. LAUNCHINGS OF FUNCTIONAL SPACECRAFT, 107.	
III.	Law of the sea	108
	UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, 108; Preparatory Commission, 110; Functions of the Secretary-General, 111; Pioneer investors, 112.	
IV.	International peace and security	114
	DECLARATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, 114: Implementation of the 1970 Declaration on international security, 114; Implementation of the 1978 Declaration on societies and peace, 117; Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace, 118. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECURITY PROVISIONS OF THE UN CHARTER, 119: Strengthening international security, 120. STATE TERRORISM, 121. REVIEW OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, 123. INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE (1986), 124.	
V.	Africa	125
	SOUTH AFRICA AND APARTHEID, 125: General aspects, 126; Relations with South Africa, 135; Situation in South Africa, 152; Apartheid in sports, 165; Aid programmes and inter-agency co-operation, 167; Other aspects, 170. SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FRONT-LINE STATES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, 177: Angola-South Africa armed incidents and South African occupation of Angola, 180; Lesotho-South Africa dispute, 184; Mozambique-South Africa accord, 184. QUESTIONS INVOLVING THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, 185: Chad-Libyan Arab Jamahiriya dispute, 185; Libyan Arab Jamahiriya-Sudan dispute, 185. ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA DISPUTE, 187. COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE, 187. MALAGASY ISLANDS QUESTION, 189. UN EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA, 190. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN OAU AND THE UN SYSTEM, 191.	
VI.	Americas	195
	CENTRAL AMERICA SITUATION, 195: Nicaragua situation, 200. ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA, 212.	
VII.	Asia and the Pacific	213
	EAST ASIA, 213: Korean question, 213. SOUTH-EAST ASIA, 214: Kampuchea situation, 214; International security in South-East Asia, 220; China-Viet Nam dispute, 221; Lao People's Democratic Republic-Thailand dispute, 221. WESTERN AND SOUTHWESTERN ASIA, 224: Afghanistan situation and Afghanistan-Pakistan armed incidents, 224; Iran-Iraq armed conflict, 229.	
VIII.	Mediterranean	240
	CYPRUS QUESTION, 240: Peace-keeping operations, 251. LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA UNITED STATES DISPUTE, 253. INTERNATIONAL SECURITY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES, 255.	

IX. Middle East	257
<p>MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, 258: Proposed peace conference, 263; Military co-operation with Israel, 268; Credentials of Israel, 268. PALESTINE QUESTION, 268: Jerusalem, 272; Public information, 274; Assistance to Palestinians, 275; Palestinian detainees, INCIDENTS AND DISPUTES BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL, 280: Iraq and Israel, 280; Lebanon situation, 283; Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic, 304. FINANCING OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCES, 305: UNDOF financing, 306; UNIFIL financing, 309; Review of reimbursement rates to troop-contributors, 314. TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL, 315: Settlements policy, 319; Fourth Geneva Convention, 320; Golan Heights, 322; West Bank officials, 325; Economic and social conditions, 327. PALESTINE REFUGEES, 335: UN Agency for Palestine refugees, 335; Other aspects, 340.</p>	
X. Other political questions	351
<p>INFORMATION, 351: Mass communication, 351; UN public information, 356. RADIATION EFFECTS, 368. ANTARCTICA, 369.</p>	
XI. Institutional machinery.....	371
<p>UN MEMBERS, 371. SECURITY COUNCIL, 372. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 374. SECRETARY GENERAL, 377. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, 377. OTHER INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS, 382.</p>	

Economic and social questions

I. Development policy and international economic cooperation.....	385
<p>INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, 386: Development and economic co-operation, 386; Economic rights and duties of States, 398; Economic co-operation among developing countries, 400. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRENDS AND POLICY, 404. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, EDUCATION, ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION, 407. AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 410. SPECIAL ECONOMIC AREAS, 412: Developing countries, 412.</p>	
II. Operational activities for development.....	425
<p>GENERAL ASPECTS, 425. TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION THROUGH UNDP, 434: UNDP operational activities, 438; UNDP programme planning and execution, 440; UNDP financing, 442; UNDP administration and staff, 453. OTHER TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION, 453: UN programmes, 453; United Nations Volunteers, 456; Technical co-operation among developing countries, 458. UN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, 461.</p>	
III. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief	463
<p>ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, 463: Africa, 465; Other regions, 495. DISASTERS, 500: Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, 500; Co-ordination in the UN system, 506; Disaster relief, 507; Disaster preparedness and prevention, 520. EMERGENCY RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE, 522.</p>	

IV	International trade and finance	525
	UNCTAD VI FOLLOW-UP, 526. INTERNATIONAL TRADE, 527: Trade policy, 527; Trade promotion and facilitation, 533; Commodities, 536; Manufactures, 540; Consumer protection, 540. FINANCE, 541: Financial policy, 542; Trade-related finance, 545; Taxation, 546. PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNCTAD, 546; UNCTAD programme, 547; Organizational questions, 548.	
V.	Transport and communications	550
	TRANSPORT, 550: Maritime transport, 550; Transport of dangerous goods, 554; Multimodal and container transport, 555; Customs transit for goods, 555. COMMUNICATIONS, 556: World Communications Year, 556.	
VI.	Industrial development	557
	PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNIDO, 557: Programme policy, 557; Institutional machinery, 565; Financial questions, 567. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, 569: Technical co-operation, 569; Industrial co-operation, 574; Industrial development of LDCs, 576; Redeployment of industrial production to developing countries, 576; Industrial financing, 578; Industrial processing of raw materials, 580; Rural areas, 580; Industrial management, 580; Industrial planning, 581; Industrial studies, 582; Industrial technology, 582. DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES, 584: Agro-industries, 584; Chemical industries, 586; Engineering industries, 588; Metallurgical and mineral industries, 588; Other industrial categories, 590.	
VII.	Transnational corporations	591
	DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT, 591. STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING, 594. CENTRE ON TNCs, 594. COMMISSION ON TNCs, 599.	
VIII.	Regional economic and social activities	601
	REGIONAL CO-OPERATION, 601: Strengthening of regional commissions, 602. AFRICA, 602: Economic and social trends, 603; Critical economic situation, 603; Activities in 1984, 604. ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, 621: Economic and social trends, 622; Activities in 1984, 622; Programme, organizational and administrative questions concerning ESCAP, 627. EUROPE, 629: Economic trends, 629; Activities in 1984, 630. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 633: Economic trends, 634; Activities in 1984, 634; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 638. WESTERN ASIA, 639: Economic and social trends, 640; Activities in 1984, 640; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 642.	
IX.	Natural resources and cartography	645
	GENERAL ASPECTS OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 645. MINERAL RESOURCES, 647. WATER AND MARINE RESOURCES, 648. CARTOGRAPHY, 651.	
X.	Energy resources	653
	GENERAL ASPECTS, 653: Energy resources development, 653; Energy resources in industry, 658. NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES, 658: Implementation of	

the 1981 Nairobi Programme of Action, 658. NUCLEAR ENERGY, 663: IAEA report, 663; Preparations for the Conference on nuclear energy, 664.

XI. Food..... **666**

FOOD PROBLEMS, 666. FOOD AID, 673: World Food Programme, 673.

XII. Science and technology **679**

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION, 680: General aspects, 680; Scientific and technological policies, 681; Scientific research and development, 682; Scientific and technological information, 683. FINANCING, 684: UN Financing System, 684. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, 687: National focal points, 687; Intergovernmental Committee, 688; Advisory Committee, 689; Centre for science and technology, 690; Co-ordination in the system, 690. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, 691: Draft code of conduct, 692; Other aspects of technology transfer, 692. BRAIN DRAIN, 693.

XIII. Social and cultural development..... **696**

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE, 696: Social aspects of development, 696; Popular participation, 697; Co-operatives, 697; Institutional machinery, 698. CRIME, 698: UN congresses on crime, 698; Committee on crime, 701; Questions related to criminal justice, 702; UN Trust Fund for Social Defence, 712. CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, 713.

XIV. Population **714**

THE 1984 CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 714. UN FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 719. OTHER POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 726: Population Commission, 726.

XV. Health and human resources **731**

HEALTH, 731: General aspects, 731; Disabled persons, 732; Nutrition, 735. HUMAN RESOURCES, 736: Human resources development, 736; UN Institute for Training and Research, 736; UN University, 740.

XVI. Environment **743**

PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNEP, 743: Programme policy, 743; Regional activities, 745; Co-ordination, 745; UNEP Fund, 747; Other administrative questions, 749. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES, 750: Environmental monitoring, 750; Ecosystems, 756; Environmental aspects of political, economic and other issues, 766.

XVII. Human settlements **772**

PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNCHS, 772: Programme policy, 772; Administrative and budgetary questions, 774; UN Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, 774. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS ACTIVITIES, 774. ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS, 781.

XVIII. Human rights	784
<p>DISCRIMINATION, 784: Racial discrimination, 784; Other aspects of discrimination, 794. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, 800: Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol, 800; Self-determination of peoples, 802; Rights of detained persons, 811; Disappearance of persons, 826; Other aspects of civil and political rights, 827. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, 832: Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 832; Right to development, 834; The new international economic order and human rights, 835; Popular participation and human rights, 835; Right to education and employment, 836; Right to food, 837. ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, 837: National institutions for human rights protection, 840; UN machinery, 841; International human rights instruments, 843; Other measures to advance human rights, 846. HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, 851: Africa, 852; Asia and the Pacific, 860; Europe and the Mediterranean area, 861; Latin America and the Caribbean, 862; Middle East, 876; Mass exoduses, 877; Genocide, 878. OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, 878.</p>	
XIX. Women	888
<p>ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN, 889. STATUS OF WOMEN, 903. WOMEN IN SOCIETY, 907.</p>	
XX. Children, youth and aging persons	912
<p>CHILDREN, 912: UN Children's Fund, 912; Draft declaration on adoption and foster placement, 925. YOUTH, 926: Integrating youth in development, 926; Activities of the UN system, 927; Strengthening channels of communication between youth and the United Nations, 927; Preparations for International Youth Year (1985), 929. AGING PERSONS, 932: Implementation of the Plan of Action, 932.</p>	
XXI. Refugees and displaced persons	935
<p>PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNHCR, 935: Programme policy, 935; Financial and administrative questions, 937. ACTIVITIES FOR REFUGEES, 939: Assistance, 939; Refugee protection, 952. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO AVERT NEW REFUGEE FLOWS, 954.</p>	
XXII. Drugs of abuse	955
<p>International control, 955; Drug abuse, 957; Supply and demand, 958; Conventions, 965; Organizational questions, 966.</p>	
XXIII. Statistics	967
XXIV. Institutional arrangements	970
<p>CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 970. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, 976: Proposed organizational change, 976; Co-operation with other organizations, 979; Other organizational matters, 981. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, 983: General Assembly, 984; Secretariat, 990.</p>	

Trusteeship and decolonization

I.	General questions relating to colonial countries	993
	THE 1960 DECLARATION ON COLONIAL COUNTRIES, 993. OTHER GENERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING NSGTs, 1017.	
II.	International trusteeship system	1020
	TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, 1020. OTHER ASPECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM, 1024.	
III.	Namibia	1027
	NAMIBIA QUESTION, 1028. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1050. INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE, 1056.	
IV.	Other colonial territories	1063
	FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS), 1063. EAST TIMOR, 1065. WESTERN SAHARA, 1066. OTHER TERRITORIES, 1068.	

Legal questions

I.	International Court of Justice	1083
	Judicial work of the Court, 1083; Organizational questions, 1086.	
II.	Legal aspects of international political relations	1087
	Peaceful settlement of disputes between States, 1087; Good-neighbourliness between States, 1088; Non-use of force in international relations, 1089; Draft Code of Offences against peace and security, 1090; Draft convention against mercenaries, 1092; Draft articles on non-navigational uses of international watercourses, 1094.	
III.	States and international law	1095
	DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, 1095. STATE IMMUNITIES, LIABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY, 1098.	
IV.	International organizations and international law	1100
	STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, 1100. HOST COUNTRY RELATIONS, 1102. OBSERVER STATUS OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, 1104. DRAFT STANDARD RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR CONFERENCES, 1105.	
V.	Treaties and agreements	1107
VI.	International economic law	1111
	GENERAL ASPECTS, 1111: Report of UNCITRAL, 1111. INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW, 1112: Unification of trade law, 1112; Training and assistance, 1114. LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, 1114.	

VII. Other legal questions..... 1117

International Law Commission, 1117; UN Programme for the teaching and study of international law, 1118; Co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, 1118.

Administrative and budgetary questions

I. United Nations financing..... 1121

UN BUDGET, 1121: Budget for 1984-1985, 1121. BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS, 1126: Budget contributions of new Members, 1127; Budget contributions in 1984, 1128. FINANCIAL SITUATION, 1130: Effects of currency instability and inflation, 1132. ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING, 1134: Accounts for 1983, 1134; Auditing practices, 1135.

II. United Nations programmes..... 1137

PROGRAMME PLANNING, 1137. PROGRAMME BUDGETING, 1141. PROGRAMME EVALUATION, 1143. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 1146.

III. United Nations officials..... 1147

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, 1147: Staff composition, 1151; Career development, 1156; Staff representation, 1157; Field staff, 1157; Staff rules of the United Nations, 1157; Privileges and immunities of the international civil service, 1158. STAFF COSTS, 1159: Salaries and allowances, 1159; Pensions, 1163. UN ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL, 1168. TRAVEL, 1169. OTHER UN OFFICIALS, 1170: Conditions of service, 1170; Experts and consultants, 1170. QUESTIONS RELATING TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, 1171.

IV. Other administrative and management questions..... 1173

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS, 1173. DOCUMENTS, 1176. UN PREMISES, 1178. INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND COMMUNICATIONS, 1182. UN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION, 1186.

Part Two: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

I. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)..... 1191

II. International Labour Organisation (ILO)..... 1198

III. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)..... 1207

IV. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) 1214

V. World Health Organization (WHO)..... 1220

VI. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (WORLD BANK)·· 1229

VII.	International Finance Corporation (IFC)	1237
VIII.	International Development Association (IDA)	1242
IX.	International Monetary Fund (IMF)	1249
X.	International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)	1255
XI.	Universal Postal Union (UPU)	1260
XII.	International Telecommunication Union (ITU)	1264
XIII.	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	1269
XIV.	International Maritime Organization (IMO)	1275
XV.	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	1278
XVI.	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	1284
XVII.	Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ICITO) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)	1289

Appendices

I.	Roster of the United Nations	1295
II.	Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice 1297 Charter of the United Nations, 1297; Statute of the International Court of Justice, 1306.	
III.	Structure of the United Nations	1311
	General Assembly, 1311; Security Council, 1328; Economic and Social Council, 1329; Trusteeship Council, 1338; International Court of Justice, 1339; Other United Nations-related bodies, 1340; Principal members of the United Nations Secretariat, 1341.	
IV	Agenda of United Nations Principal Organs in 1984	1344
	General Assembly, 1344; Security Council, 1349; Economic and Social Council, 1350; Trusteeship Council, 1351.	
V.	United Nations Information Centres and Services	1353

Indexes

	Using the subject index	1358
	Subject index.....	1397
	Index of names.....	1359
	Index of resolutions and decisions.....	1406
	How to obtain previous volumes of the <i>Yearbook</i>	1409

PART ONE
United Nations

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

Following is the text of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, submitted to the General Assembly and dated 5 September 1984.

After nearly three years as Secretary-General of the United Nations, I am more convinced than ever of the need to preserve and strengthen the Organization as a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations. I also believe that an extended and tolerable future for all humanity ultimately depends upon our success in making the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations the basis of the day-to-day relations of Governments and peoples. On the eve of our fortieth anniversary, in this, my third, report on the work of the Organization I intend to examine the basic premises of our activity in the United Nations which is the practical embodiment of the concept of multilateralism.

The original intent of the United Nations was to provide a framework in which Governments of differing persuasions could, in their wisdom, work out solutions to international problems and, if necessary, together take action to put those solutions into effect rather than engaging in conflict. As the Preamble to the Charter puts it, the main purpose was, and is, "to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security". The basic assumption was that all nations had a vital common interest in peace and in an orderly and equitable world and would be prepared to cooperate to achieve it.

Unfortunately, the history of post-war international relations has so far shown that the common interest in peace and security has tended to assert itself only when things have reached a dangerously critical stage. Until that stage short-term national interest and opportunism tend to override the common interest. We are still very far from general acceptance of the principles of the Charter as rules to be lived by at all times by all Governments in their international relations.

In these circumstances, it is paradoxical that while contemporary realities have strengthened the need for the use of multilateral means for dealing with our problems and enlarged the scope for growth and development through multilateralism, there is an increasing questioning of the rules, instruments and modalities of multilateral cooperation. There is also, on occasion, an apparent reluctance to make the effort required to use international organizations effectively.

The past year has been a time of great-Power tension accentuated by a lack of progress in disarmament and arms limitation which has heightened fears of nuclear confrontation; of violence or threatened violence in several parts of the world; of continued economic difficulties in spite of a recovery in certain developed countries, and a deterioration in the situation of many developing countries; of drought and famine in several regions; and of a tendency to side-step major problems in a way which is likely in the long run to increase frustration and bitterness. Virtually nothing that has happened has shown that these problems can be solved effectively by purely bilateral or unilateral efforts.

Why has there been a retreat from internationalism and multilateralism at a time when actual developments both in relation to world peace and to the world economy would seem to demand their strengthening? We need to consider this question carefully if we are to make our institution work better. I hope very much that political scientists and intellectuals the world over, as well as political leaders and diplomats, will ponder this essential problem on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations.

* * *

After the Second World War there was admittedly a certain over-confidence in the capacity of international institutions, born of a desperate desire to build a new and better world. It then seemed possible to establish, as a first priority, a system for maintaining international peace and security under the provisions of the Charter. If such a system could become effective, the main obstacle to disarmament and arms limitation, the insecurity of nations, would be removed, and the rule of law rather than the rule of force would at last begin to come into its own on the international level. With these co-operative achievements a world community would have come into being, capable of directing its affairs by reason and enlightened self-interest. The system would include equitable economic institutions and steady progress in social justice and human rights.

What has happened to that majestic vision? It was soon clouded by the differences of the major Powers. The advent of atomic weapons brought with it a new doctrine of security based on nuclear deterrence, a doctrine which was not taken account of when the Charter was drafted. Moreover, the world turned out to be a more complex, far less orderly place than had been hoped at San Francisco. The problems of post-war international peace and security were less clear-cut and less susceptible to the kind of international action envisaged in the Charter. The forces of nationalism and fears for national security, far from abating after the Second World War, were soon very much on the increase. The international community's inability to solve many of its problems, whether political or economic, even when it could agree in principle on what the solution should be, gave rise to a process of side-stepping the United Nations and recourse to other measures-force, unilateral action or confronting military alliances-which weakened reliance on the Organization.

* * *

In looking back, however, it would be a grave mistake to underestimate, or simply take for granted, what has been achieved and what is now being done by the United Nations system. During a period of revolutionary change, it has accomplished a great deal for the betterment of the human condition.

The United Nations has played a decisive role in the process of decolonization which has brought independence to hundreds of millions of people. The Security Council has throughout its existence considered many of the difficult problems of conflict in the world and on a large number of occasions has come up with a basic formula on which their solution might be based. It has also taken numerous actions to limit and control conflict. Peacekeeping operations have successfully controlled violence in a number of critical areas. Nor should we forget that, although there have been a number of regional conflicts, their escalation into global conflict has

been avoided. Even on the most difficult question of disarmament and arms limitation a number of agreements have in fact been reached.

The United Nations Development Programme, together with the specialized agencies, has come to represent a vital source of economic and technical assistance for developing countries. The United Nations Children's Fund has brought life and hope to millions of children and mothers and is the leading influence in furthering technological communication advances that can bring a virtual survival revolution for children in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The specialized agencies have, in their various fields of activity, made major contributions to the alleviation of global problems.

The United Nations has provided authoritative definitions of the fundamental rights and freedoms which all human beings should enjoy. It is responsible for the development of the Convention on the Law of the Sea which provides a broadly accepted new regime for the oceans. In the past 40 years more has been done by the United Nations in codifying international law than in all the previous years of history together. Millions of refugees have gained protection and assistance through United Nations instruments and agencies; international humanitarian activity and concern have been mobilized on an unprecedented scale; guidelines have been established to deal with many of the most critical problems of our time, and the Governments and peoples of the world have been sensitized to their importance through the great international conferences and programmes which the United Nations has sponsored, the most recent of which was the International Conference on Population held in August this year.

All of these accomplishments required a multilateral structure of co-operation. Moreover, in some situations the United Nations, or the Secretary-General, remains essential to communication between the parties. I think, for example, of Cyprus, over which at this moment I am engaged in a new effort to find a just solution; of Afghanistan, the Iran/Iraq war and South-East Asia. The critical value of peace-making and peace-keeping efforts would be instantly evident if they were to cease. It is essential, in considering our problems, to remember the positive side of the United Nations account and to keep in perspective politically-motivated criticism.

However, for all of the accomplishments of the past decades, and they have been major, the fact of the matter is that the three main elements of a stable international order—an accepted system of maintaining international peace and security; disarmament and arms limitation; and the progressive development of a just and effective system of international economic relations—have yet to take hold as they should.

In dealing with the most vital problems of the widest concern, we often witness heated rhetoric rather than a reasoned co-operative approach. In such an atmosphere, which extends far beyond the Organization, the United Nations, which should be used to provide constructive solutions, provides a convenient target of criticism.

* * *

The United Nations reflects in a unique way the aspirations and frustrations of many nations and groups all over the world. One of its great merits is that all nations—including the weak, the oppressed and the victims of injustice—can get a hearing and have a platform even in the face of the hard realities of power. A just cause, however frustrated or disregarded, can find a voice in

the United Nations. This is not always a well-liked attribute of the Organization, but it is an essential one.

What needs to be studied in the light of experience is whether present practices in the United Nations are in all instances best suited to promote concrete and just solutions and strengthen confidence in an Organization the essence of which is its universality. If confrontations in the deliberative organs are carried too far, either by one side or the other, they destroy the possibility of a consensus which could form the basis for practical action. I am totally in sympathy with the pursuit of just aspirations, however great the difficulties. But for the good of all, as well as of the United Nations itself, we should assess very carefully the most effective and correct method of using the Organization. The United Nations is a willing and patient horse, but it should not be ridden to a standstill without thought of the consequences.

We should beware of blurring the separate and specific functions of the main organs and specialized agencies by treating them as interchangeable platforms for pursuing the same political aims. Issues must be dealt with primarily on their own merits and in their own context. Otherwise the fever of one or two issues can pervade the entire body politic of the United Nations.

The non-implementation of resolutions, as well as their proliferation, has tended to downgrade the seriousness with which Governments and the public take the decisions of the United Nations. Very often the only outcome of such a process is to ask the Secretary-General to make yet another report to the next session, thus perpetuating a stalemate which, to be resolved, requires governmental and intergovernmental action. This process, and the almost automatic repetition of some agenda items and debates, is expensive and time-consuming both in terms of meetings and documentation, as well as often being ineffective in terms of practical results. I believe that such tendencies have been debilitating to the efforts of the Organization in the cause of peace and economic co-operation. I hope that Member States, even during the forthcoming session of the General Assembly, will give serious thought to the best way of doing business.

* * *

Two years ago, in my first annual report I made a series of suggestions as to how the Charter system of international peace and security might be made to work better. Although the Security Council has devoted many hours of thoughtful consultations to these and related ideas, concrete results are still needed for which the impetus must come from the highest political levels. I feel that the realization of the full potential of the United Nations depends upon a willingness to take active steps to experiment with new approaches.

In recent years the collective capacity and influence of the Security Council have been insufficiently tested. There are important issues where the members of the Council, including the permanent members, hold substantially similar views. And yet other factors not directly related to these problems inhibit the Council from exerting collective influence as envisaged in the Charter.

The same consideration applies to peace-keeping. We are often urged to strengthen the peace-keeping capacity of the United Nations, the implication being that this is a matter that can be handled without regard to the political relations of Member States and particularly of members of the Security Council. A number of lessons have been learned recently about the nature of peace-keeping, but it is essential to emphasize the fundamental issue. Peace-keeping is an expression of

international political consensus and will. If that consensus or will is weak, uncertain, divided or indecisive, peace-keeping operations will be correspondingly weakened. There are occasions when the differences among members of the Security Council even make it impossible to take any peace-keeping action at all. The strongest peacekeeping operation would be one which had the unreserved support, political, diplomatic and financial, of all the Members of the United Nations and even the actual participation of the permanent members of the Security Council under the mandate of the Council. This may be unrealistic at present, but it is also the political truth which indeed applies across the whole range of the activities of the Organization.

I give the example of peace-keeping to demonstrate the process by which internationalism becomes discredited in the public mind. Peace-keeping is one of the more successful innovations of the United Nations. But when this technique cannot be used in a situation which obviously requires it, because the members of the Security Council are divided on the matter, the public generally concludes that there is something wrong with the United Nations and with the concept of internationalism. This conclusion is, of course, easier than analysing the conflicting positions and motives of Governments which are the real cause of the impasse and of the failure of the United Nations to act or to respond.

I do not have any simple solutions to offer to this problem. Obviously, a radical improvement in the international political climate would make a profound difference, but we cannot rely on miracles. In the mean time we could perhaps work on a few ideas for improving the situation, on the assumption that our common and agreed objective is human survival in reasonably decent conditions.

I myself have put forward some ideas and suggestions on a number of issues-about Lebanon, for example, and the Middle East problem-but the reactions so far have been mixed. I notice that there is a tendency at present in the direction of bilateral or unilateral action, or no action at all. And yet bilateral or unilateral approaches do not seem to be noticeably effective in most cases. Nor is this surprising, for by their very nature many of the disputes that we face around the globe require the building of a wide consensus if solutions are to hold.

I suggest that we review the current tendency in relation to specific situations. I very much hope, for instance, that we shall see real-and long overdue-progress in proceeding to the independence of Namibia on the basis of the United Nations plan. I also hope that in the coming months we shall see the full and concrete co-operation and positive action which are needed to ensure the success of the untiring efforts which the Contadora Group is making for peace in Central America.

In many disputes accusations and counteraccusations are freely traded over a situation which, to most people, is mystifying and complex. What harm would be done if United Nations teams were dispatched to clarify and certify what the real facts are? Surely such clarification of the situation by objective observers might help to reduce international tension and strengthen other efforts. Let us ask ourselves what useful steps can be taken in a given situation rather than starting by thinking of all the extraneous reasons why they cannot be taken.

Most of all we need to reaffirm the Charter concept that threats to international peace and security, from whatever source or in whatever region of the world, override ideological or other differences between States and entail an obligation on all States to agree and co-operate. Under the terms of the Charter some situations clearly require immediate consideration and action by the Security Council regardless of political disagreements. Surely one such situation is when a national frontier is violated and the State concerned calls for United Nations action.

* * *

There must of course be a substantial improvement in the international climate if there is to be meaningful progress in the limitation and reduction of arms. This is a field in which it is essential to utilize the full potential of multilateral and bilateral negotiations, both to improve mutual understanding of the reasoning behind military postures and negotiating positions and to reach substantive, balanced arms regulation and disarmament agreements. During the past year there has been little sign of movement in this direction, and the arms race has continued to burgeon both qualitatively and quantitatively.

It is only realistic to recognize that nuclear disarmament will depend primarily on agreement among the nations having nuclear weapons, especially, and beginning with, the two most powerful. It is equally true, however, that success or failure in the reduction of nuclear weapons can have a most important bearing on the future of the entire international community. To approach nuclear disarmament exclusively as a factor in the relations of the nuclear Powers and their allies is to do injustice to the broad and grave responsibility that the possession of nuclear weapons carries with it. It is also unfortunate and, I believe, unnecessary to allow the course of disarmament negotiations on the whole range of issues in the multilateral forums to be largely governed by tension stemming from other causes. The fact is that progress on the issues included in the agenda of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, and especially on those currently before the Conference on Disarmament, could help to restore confidence and improve the critical bilateral relationship on which the international political climate so heavily depends.

It is especially valuable in times of tension that a multilateral structure is available within which nations, despite their differences, can come together for dialogue and serious negotiations, whether in the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Geneva Conference on Disarmament. In fact, the possibility exists in that Conference for nuclear and non-nuclear countries to work together towards agreement on such vital subjects as measures to avoid nuclear war, the prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests, the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and the complete prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons. If, instead, the Conference is used mainly for the public presentation of rigid positions and rhetorical exchanges, the potential of this broadly representative negotiating forum will be largely wasted. I urge all concerned—East, West, nonaligned and neutral alike—to recognize that the need for disarmament measures—both nuclear and conventional—is too compelling to allow this to happen.

* * *

Let me turn to another aspect, namely, multilateral co-operation through the United Nations in the economic and social spheres. We are here in the presence of a slightly different set of political realities and in a predominantly North-South dimension. Global economic relations have changed significantly since the immediate post-war years when most international economic institutions began their work. There has been growing frustration among the developing countries, a large international constituency which has looked upon the institutions of multilateral economic co-operation established after the Second World War as insufficiently responsive to the needs of those countries. This perception has been strengthened in light of the serious economic difficulties which have affected them in the 1970s and early 1980s. Their attempts in the United Nations, through an essentially political process, to obtain changes in that

system have not had the desired results, as shown by the failure to launch global negotiations. It is in a way comprehensible that some developed countries, whose influence in those institutions has been paramount, should find this shift difficult to accept and should tend to favour retaining the existing institutional structures and decision-making machinery as they are.

It is easy to criticize United Nations economic institutions because such institutions often fall short of their high aims. Conflicting national interests in a time of flux and change make such a falling short virtually inevitable. Nevertheless, multilateral co-operation has already achieved much, most of it taken for granted as soon as it is achieved. In an economically interdependent world where the growth and stability of the North is intertwined with accelerated development of the South, it is hard to see how international economic problems can be solved, except through intensified multilateral co-operation. Despite the difficulties involved in such co-operation, it is short-sighted to turn away from the concept of multilateralism and the institutions which embody it.

There is a distinction to be made between United Nations operational activities in the field of development at the national level where much is being achieved, and activities at the global level, in trade, money and finance, for example, where there is a high degree of frustration.

The support provided by the United Nations system for development, excluding the World Bank, now amounts to over \$2 billion a year. High priority is given to the low-income countries with particular attention to the problems of the poorest of the poor. In a period of restricted resources, continuous efforts are being made to ensure more effective operational co-operation within the United Nations system.

It should be mentioned that in the domain of "global" issues, the "achievements" of the Organization cannot be measured simply in terms of the number of treaties and agreements negotiated and signed. Of course, there have been many of these. But many of the contributions of the United Nations are in less tangible forms: for example, the extent to which the United Nations has succeeded in raising global consciousness on key issues, the critical situation in Africa being a case in point, or in shaping the framework of international debates on major problems. For instance, I have consistently stressed the importance of finding solutions to the acute debt problem that go beyond the short term and that take into account the need to ensure growth in the export earnings of developing countries. It is, similarly, in no small measure due to the discussions on the International Development Strategy that the world community today gives a high priority to the cause of development which, in its simplest form, must be understood to mean the raising of the living standards of the vast majority of mankind in this interdependent world, and in a manner, that benefits the global economy as a whole.

This aspect of the work of the United Nations has recently met with some doubts and criticisms. These need to be faced. Where substantive issues are raised, they need to be adequately debated, and misunderstandings dispelled. Otherwise, the normal functioning of important organs of the United Nations will be impaired. One of these, for example, relates to the complex issue of the relative roles accorded in United Nations discussions to Governments and to the private sector.

Another matter frequently raised is the extent to which issues that are essentially economic and technical are politicized in the United Nations. I have mentioned one aspect of this problem earlier in this report. There is another aspect. In the present world few issues in human affairs can be regarded as completely unpolitical. Nevertheless, the extent to which economic issues are politicized in the United Nations should also be understood as a reflection of the frustrations

which developing countries feel in their long attempt to reshape their economic destiny. The absence of global policy-makers-i.e., politics in the best sense-to meet this need is also a factor in this frustration. There is an additional factor: many Governments feel that only when economic issues are politicized will they attract the attention of the highest level of decision makers. And many economic issues are so complex that only decisions at the highest levels can make any significant impact in the current situation.

The difficulties which the community of nations experiences in strengthening economic cooperation in the United Nations stem from a number of causes. A new consensus on economic issues in the light of world economic and political realities has not yet emerged. There is disagreement on the cause of the trouble as well as on what to do about it. Ideological differences on economic problems further complicate the issue. But the absence of a consensus, which will take time to emerge, need not prevent progress in critical areas.

These are not difficulties which can be ignored or willed away. The world is not just one country or one point of view. If we are serious about the future, this is the context in which we need to seek practical solutions to both short-term and long-term problems. Patience, perception and persistence are more relevant to this search than relentless criticism whether from one side or another. Human solidarity demands these qualities. If we do not address current economic problems seriously and urgently, we will not be able to confine them to the economic sphere alone. In our world of growing economic interdependence, impoverished people faced perpetually with a variety of overwhelming economic and social crises constitute not only a challenge to international conscience, but a threat to international stability as well.

* * *

Respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is one of the basic principles of the United Nations. A human rights philosophy based on the concept of an international rule of law pervades the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the codifying instruments adopted by the United Nations since its establishment. These instruments are the yardstick for measuring regard or disregard for human rights.

In this area, too, we constantly encounter trenchant criticism. I welcome such criticism in the hope that it will spur everyone, including the critics, on to a more serious assessment of the importance-and the difficulty-of reducing injustice in an unjust world, of promoting development in a world divided between rich and poor, and of instilling the virtues of mercy and compassion into people many of whom are fighting-or believe they are fighting-for their lives.

I spend much of my time, sometimes with encouraging results, on human rights and humanitarian problems, which I regard as uniquely important. Despite the existence of definitive norms developed within the United Nations, perceptions differ greatly. One person's freedom fighter is another person's terrorist; one's champion of human rights is another's subversive; one's plaintiff is another's criminal. The reality is that many are dispossessed, many confined, many tortured and many starve. This is the world we have to deal with.

In the field of human rights, gross violations, such as the system of apartheid, are obviously the first priority for the Organization. In addition, it is my concern to help individuals whose human rights may have been violated. In particular, I seek to facilitate the release of those who may

have been imprisoned or sentenced for political reasons. The criteria for judging such efforts must be whether they advance the cause of human rights and not whether they serve the political interest of one side or another.

The primary responsibility in this important matter rests, of course, with Governments which have entered into firm commitments towards each other and towards their peoples to respect internationally recognized standards proclaimed by the United Nations. We must try to create the conditions which will encourage all Governments to ensure respect of human rights in accordance with those standards. At the same time, we should examine existing United Nations practices and consider ways and means to make them more effective in dealing with gross violations of human rights wherever they occur.

The question of human rights is closely linked with the humanitarian activities of the United Nations. It seems to be a general rule that in times of recession or other difficulties, the weakest developing countries suffer the most, and the weakest groups in those countries are the most vulnerable of all.

In such cases, multilateral action through the United Nations is essential to alleviate the plight of the victims-action parallel to and co-ordinated with the remarkable work of non-governmental agencies. Various institutions within the United Nations system, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, as well as the specialized agencies, have done much in this field.

During the past year, the United Nations has focused attention on two major problems. In December 1983, I launched an appeal for help to the many African countries which were facing the worst drought in the twentieth century. The Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa in July of this year was another manifestation of multilateral co-operation in dealing with urgent social and humanitarian problems.

It is essential that we learn from our experience to approach future humanitarian problems in a coherent manner which takes account of all their elements. We must develop better means of alleviating and preventing crises. We must improve our capacity to provide humanitarian assistance quickly. In order to establish an early warning system, I have requested the heads of the various agencies of the United Nations as well as those of my field offices to inform me, on an urgent basis, of any situation which in their view could give rise to a major humanitarian crisis. Such a system should enable the United Nations to react to cases of emergency more adequately and speedily. The problems are enormous, but I believe that the level of public and governmental consciousness of the need to provide assistance in great humanitarian tragedies is growing. It is a fundamental responsibility of the international community to come to the aid of its least fortunate and most afflicted members.

The growing problem of narcotic drugs has become a major international anxiety, not least because of its effect on the future of children and young people. It has become more and more evident that international and multilateral efforts provide the best hope for arresting and reducing the traffic in and use of drugs, which have such appalling effect on both individuals and the societies in which they live. The institutions of the United Nations system, in co-operation with Governments and other groups concerned with the problem, are actively working to deal with it.

Greater effort is needed, however, and, for my part, I have taken steps to improve the coordination within the United Nations system of this vital activity.

Finally, I wish to mention the steady increase in various forms of politically motivated violence, including hijacking, kidnapping, car-bombing and assassination. Our society is in some sectors becoming an armed camp. Order, civility and even public life are under serious threat in many parts of the world. As usual, the toll of innocent victims is appalling. It is not enough to deplore or condemn or try to control such acts of violence. Attention has also to be focused on ways of dealing with the root causes of these phenomena.

* * *

The machinery of international co-operation must be serviced by an efficient and solid secretariat. One of my priorities is to improve the efficient functioning of the Secretariat, so that I may be able to satisfy Member States that all necessary human and other resources-but not more than is needed-are available and are being effectively used. To this end, last year I asked some of my senior colleagues to advise me on measures that could be taken to improve the administration and functioning of the Secretariat. On the basis of their advice, I have now decided on a number of actions designed either to increase efficiency or reduce costs, or both. For example, I have directed that there shall be a temporary suspension of recruitment. I shall report on these matters to the General Assembly in greater detail shortly. I very much hope that the Assembly will be mindful, in the resolutions it adopts, of my objectives.

The success of any programme for administrative improvement requires the active co-operation not only of all the members of the Secretariat but also of the Member States themselves. To this end I intend to ascertain the views of the membership on a number of approaches which I believe could with advantage be explored.

The General Assembly will be called upon to consider this year a number of issues of personnel policy including, in particular, those concerning salaries and other conditions of service of the staff. Different points of view inevitably will arise, and indeed have already been expressed to me, on the adequacy of these conditions of service. I am sure that Member States will recognize that the achievement of the highest standards of competence and integrity called for by the Charter requires corresponding and appropriate conditions of service.

The current system of salaries, allowances and pensions extends far beyond the United Nations itself. It affects all the agencies which, with the United Nations, participate in what has come to be known as the "common system". The General Assembly has repeatedly stressed the need to preserve and promote that linkage, without which the recruitment and administration of staff for the many participating organizations would be a chaotic exercise. The common system is also one in which a number of organs-notably the International Civil Service Commission and the Joint Staff Pension Board-have a regulatory role to play. I am confident that the discussion in the Assembly on these issues will take these facts into account.

* * *

In considering the purpose and necessity of multilateralism, we should not forget that national interest generally stands first in the priorities of Governments. There is also, however, a growing

sense of the international interest, the common good of humanity, and the preservation and wise stewardship of the world's resources for the benefit of future generations. That is why there is a widespread commitment to the United Nations and a general interest in making the Organization work better. Quite naturally different Governments or groups of Governments have different ideas about the work of the United Nations and wish it to work on their terms. To make the United Nations work better, what is needed, above all, is a determined and persistent effort to strike a balance between national and international interest.

In conclusion, therefore, I wish to repeat my call for a multilateral and rational approach to the problems of international peace and development. I believe that this is what the peoples of the United Nations really desire in spite of all the difficulties and irritations encountered by Governments in trying to make a multilateral system work. It is widely understood that without such a system we shall run unacceptable risks and that it is therefore irresponsible to weaken the multilateral approach. Without the safety net which multilateral organization provides, the world would certainly be a much more dangerous and disorderly place.

In the United Nations we have now had nearly 40 years of experience, 40 years of change, and, for all the conflict of our time, 40 years without a global war. Let us look back at the road we have travelled, distil the experience and set out again refreshed and with a new determination. The purposes for which the United Nations was set up are essential for the future of our planet. The vision expressed in the Charter remains, and we should rally to it.



Javier PÉREZ DE CUÉLLAR
Secretary-General

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

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

At its 94th plenary meeting, on 11 December 1984, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.

General Assembly decision 39/413

Adopted without vote.

Oral proposal by President: agenda item 10. Meeting number. GA 39th session: plenary 94.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 11-99)

Disarmament

GENERAL ASPECTS OF DISARMAMENT, 11: Proposed comprehensive programme, 12; Conference on Disarmament, 13; Disarmament Commission, 15; Special sessions of the General Assembly on disarmament, 16; Implementation of the 1979 Declaration on co-operation for disarmament, 19; Implementation of the 1980 Declaration on the Second Disarmament Decade, 20; Disarmament negotiations, 20. NUCLEAR WEAPONS, 21: Nuclear disarmament, 21; Prevention of nuclear war, 27; Climatic consequences of a nuclear war, 29; Proposed convention against nuclear weapons, 31; Proposed negotiations on the neutron weapon, 33; Proposed nuclear-weapon freeze, 34; Nuclear non-proliferation, 37; Cessation of nuclear-weapon tests, 47; Fissionable material for weapons purposes, 52; Strengthening the security of non-nuclear-weapon States, 53. OTHER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, 57: Chemical and biological warfare, 57; New weapons of mass destruction, including radiological weapons, 62. CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, 65: Study by Group of Experts, 65; Ratification of the 1980 Convention and Protocols, 66; Naval armaments, 67. OTHER ASPECTS OF DISARMAMENT AND RELATED MATTERS, 69: Military budgets and expenditures, 69; Study on military research and development, 72; Review Conference on the Convention to prohibit the hostile use of environmental modification techniques, 73; Arms race in outer space, 74; Regional disarmament, 78; Confidence-building measures, 81; Disarmament and international security, 82; Disarmament and development, 83; Parties and signatories to disarmament agreements, 85; Proposed World Disarmament Conference, 85; Public information, 86; Disarmament research, 91; UN fellowship programme, 96; Organizational aspects, 96.

Little progress was made in 1984 in disarmament or arms limitation, despite the continuing arms race absorbing more than \$800 billion in estimated global military expenditures for the year.

The General Assembly, at its 1984 regular session, decided to convene an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, with a view to examining the implications of the continuing military expenditures for the international economic and social situation, and recommending remedial measures. The Assembly, acting on the recommendations of the First Committee, also adopted 62 other resolutions on disarmament and related international security questions, many of which reflected competing approaches to substantive issues. While most resolutions dealt with arms control and disarmament measures, the Assembly also adopted the statute of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and requested the Secretary-General to prepare new studies—one on nuclear deterrence and the other on the climatic effects of nuclear war.

The Conference on Disarmament, the main intergovernmental negotiating body known until 1984 as the Committee on Disarmament, and the United Nations Disarmament Commission, a deliberative body composed of all United Nations Member States, continued to discuss much the same issues as in previous years. Outside the United Nations framework, the USSR and the United States announced, in November, their intention to hold bilateral negotiations early in 1985.

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

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 100-107)

Peaceful uses of outer space

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND LAW, 100: Space science and technology, 100; Space law, 103. LAUNCHINGS OF FUNCTIONAL SPACECRAFT, 107.

The Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, adopted by the General Assembly in 1979, entered into force in July 1984 following its ratification by a fifth State. In December, the Assembly adopted resolution 39/96 by which it invited States that had not become parties to international outer space treaties to do so. It endorsed the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 1985 and emphasized the importance of implementing the recommendations of the Second (1982) United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE-82). It urged all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to prevent an arms race in outer space.

The Assembly's 1984 actions were based mainly on the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (Committee on outer space) (twenty-seventh session, Vienna, Austria, 12-21 June) and that of the Committee's two subcommittees-the Legal Sub-Committee and the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee.

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

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 108-113)

Law of the sea

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, 108; Preparatory Commission, 110; Functions of the Secretary-General, 111; Pioneer investors, 112.

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea was widely recognized as a significant contribution to the progressive development of international law and one of the most outstanding achievements of the United Nations, the Secretary-General stated in 1984. Adopted in 1982, it established rules governing virtually all uses of the oceans, including navigation, fisheries, mineral resource development and scientific research.

Signatories to the Convention rose to 159 during 1984, while the number of ratifications increased to 14.

The Preparatory Commission, charged with setting up the two main organs under the Convention—the International Sea-Bed Authority and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea—continued its work with meetings at Kingston, Jamaica, and at Geneva.

By resolution 39/73, adopted in December, the General Assembly called on States to safeguard the Convention's unified character and to desist from undermining or defeating its purpose. The Assembly also called on States that had not done so to consider ratifying the Convention.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: naval armaments. Transport: maritime transport. Natural resources: marine resources. Food: fisheries management and development. Environment: marine ecosystems. International Court of Justice: continental shelf delimitation (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Tunisia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Malta); maritime boundary delimitation (Canada and the United States).

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 114-124)

International peace and security

DECLARATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, 114: Implementation of the 1970 Declaration on international security, 114; Implementation of the 1978 Declaration on societies and peace, 117; Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace, 118. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECURITY PROVISIONS OF THE UN CHARTER, 119: Strengthening international security, 120. STATE TERRORISM, 121. REVIEW OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, 123. INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE (1986), 124.

International peace and security and ways to strengthen it continued to be a major concern of the United Nations in 1984.

In November, the Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace (resolution 39/11) and, in December, it urged further action to implement its 1978 Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace (39/157).

The Assembly called for measures to prevent further deterioration of the international situation (39/155). It recommended that the Security Council give priority consideration to strengthening collective security (39/154) and encouraged the Council to intensify its efforts to prevent international conflict (39/156). The Assembly expressed regret that the Ad Hoc Committee on implementing the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations had not been constituted (39/158) and renewed the mandate of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations (39/97). Further preparations were made for the International Year of Peace (1986) and an appeal made for contributions to the Voluntary Fund (39/10).

Acting on a new item on State terrorism, the Assembly demanded that no State take action aimed at military intervention and occupation, forcible change in or undermining of the socio-political system of States, destabilization and overthrow of their Governments (39/159).

The Secretary-General, in his annual report to the Assembly (p. 3), declared that most of all a reaffirmation was needed of the Charter concept that threats to peace overrode ideological or other differences and required that all States agree and co-operate. He emphasized that peace-keeping was an expression of international political will and, if that will were weak, uncertain, divided or indecisive, peace-keeping operations would be correspondingly weakened.

Maintaining international peace and security was also a main topic considered by the Special Committee on the Charter (see LEGAL QUESTIONS, Chapter IV).

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

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter V (pp. 125-194)

Africa

SOUTH AFRICA AND APARTHEID, 125: General aspects, 126; Relations with South Africa, 135; Situation in South Africa, 152; Apartheid in sports, 165; Aid programmes and inter-agency co-operation, 167; Other aspects, 170. SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FRONT-LINE STATES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, 177: Angola-South Africa armed incidents and South African occupation of Angola, 180; Lesotho-South Africa dispute, 184; Mozambique-South Africa accord, 184. QUESTIONS INVOLVING THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, 185: Chad-Libyan Arab Jamahiriya dispute, 185; Libyan Arab Jamahiriya-Sudan dispute, 185. ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA DISPUTE, 187. COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE, 187. MALAGASY ISLANDS QUESTION, 189. UN EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA, 190. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN OAU AND THE UN SYSTEM, 191.

In 1984, the United Nations considered a number of political questions concerning Africa and continued to focus on ways to abolish the apartheid policies of South Africa (see below, under “South Africa and apartheid”).

The Security Council, the General Assembly, the Special Committee against Apartheid, the United Nations Council for Namibia, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Committee on colonial countries), the Commission on Human Rights, and the Commission on Transnational Corporations were the main bodies concerned with apartheid and the related matter of South Africa’s relations with neighbouring countries. Regarding those relations, they condemned South Africa’s aggression against and occupation of Angola, which South Africa had invaded and bombed in early January. The Security Council condemned South Africa for its premeditated and unprovoked bombing and for its use of Namibia for launching attacks against Angola, demanded that it withdraw, requested States to assist Angola in its self-defence, and reaffirmed that Angola was due appropriate compensation. In December, the Assembly condemned South Africa for its aggression and its economic blockade against Lesotho. Earlier, Lesotho and South Africa had informed the Secretary-General about their respective positions in regard to a proposed nonaggression pact. As for Mozambique, it notified the United Nations in March that it had signed a non-aggression agreement with South Africa.

Chad and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya continued to disagree over who represented the Government of Chad, while the Sudan complained about aggression by the Jamahiriya, which it deemed. The Council considered the Sudan’s complaint in March.

Ethiopia and Somalia disputed the cause of military activity in two areas in Somalia. Somalia alleged that Ethiopian forces were in its territory, but Ethiopia denied that it was involved in the area, where, it said, Somalia was confronting resistance from local opposition.

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

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: nuclear-weapon-free zones-Africa. Mediterranean: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya-United States dispute. Transnational corporations. Regional economic and social activities: Africa. Environment: environment and apartheid. Human rights: human rights violations-South Africa and Namibia. Women: women under apartheid. Refugees: Africa. Namibia.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter VI (pp. 195-212) Americas

CENTRAL AMERICA SITUATION, 195: Nicaragua situation, 200. ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA, 212.

Both the Security Council and the General Assembly considered the situation in Central America during 1984. The Assembly looked at the question as a whole, while the Council addressed specific disputes between countries.

The Council met in February, March/April, September and November at Nicaragua's request regarding allegations of aggression against it. In April, a draft resolution on the mining of Nicaragua's ports was not adopted owing to the negative vote of a permanent Council member, the United States.

In October, the Assembly, by resolution 39/4, urged the five Central American Governments—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua—to speed up their consultations with the Contadora Group—Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela—and to bring about the early signing of the Contadora Act on Peace and Co-operation in Central America, a legal instrument designed to bring about a negotiated solution to the problems of the region. The Assembly also called on all States, especially those with ties to and interests in the region, to respect fully the Contadora Act and the commitments undertaken by them by acceding to its Additional Protocol. In his annual report to the Assembly on the work of the Organization (p. 3), the Secretary-General stressed the need for full co-operation with the Contadora Group to ensure the success of its efforts.

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

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter VII (pp. 213-239) Asia and the Pacific

EAST ASIA, 213: Korean question, 213. SOUTH-EAST ASIA, 214: Kampuchea situation, 214; International security in South-East Asia, 220; China-Viet Nam dispute, 221; Lao People's Democratic Republic-Thailand dispute, 221. WESTERN AND SOUTHWESTERN ASIA, 224: Afghanistan situation and Afghanistan-Pakistan armed incidents, 224; Iran-Iraq armed conflict, 229.

Matters relating to Korea, the situations in Afghanistan and Kampuchea, and the Iran-Iraq war were prominent concerns in Asia brought before the United Nations in 1984.

The United Nations Command continued to monitor the 1953 Armistice Agreement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea. Attention focused on an October 1983 attempt on the life of the President of the Republic of Korea.

In South-East Asia, the situation in Kampuchea and border incidents-affecting that country, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam-occupied the attention of the United Nations, with the Security Council meeting in regard to disputes along the borders both of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand, and of China and Viet Nam. The Secretary-General's Special Representative visited the area in pursuit of a peaceful solution to the problems of the region, particularly those of Kampuchea. In October, the General Assembly again called for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Kampuchea and requested the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea to continue its work (resolution 39/5).

Armed incidents affecting Afghanistan and Pakistan continued to be reported, while the Secretary-General's Personal Representative maintained his contacts with the parties leading to a new format of separate, high-level "proximity" talks regarding a political settlement. The Assembly, in November, called on all parties concerned to work for the urgent achievement of a political solution and expressed its support for the Secretary-General's efforts to that end (resolution 39/13).

The Security Council met twice in connection with the Iran-Iraq conflict, once on allegations of chemical-weapons use and the other on firings on third-party ships in the Gulf. The Secretary-General, while continuing his efforts to end the war, took a number of initiatives on particular aspects of the conflict, among them, the dispatch, out of humanitarian concern, of a mission of specialists to investigate allegations of chemical weapons use, and the placing of United Nations teams in the area to inspect, as requested, areas of alleged shellings of civilian population centres. Concern was also raised as regards treatment of

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter VIII (pp. 240-256) Mediterranean

CYPRUS QUESTION, 240: Peace-keeping operations, 251. LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA UNITED STATES DISPUTE, 253. INTERNATIONAL SECURITY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES, 255.

Several political issues relating to the Mediterranean region were before the United Nations in 1984: the Cyprus question; the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya-United States dispute; and the strengthening of regional security and cooperation.

The Security Council twice extended the stationing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), by resolutions 553(1984) and 559(1984). In a May decision on Cyprus (resolution 550(1984)), the Council condemned all secessionist actions, including the purported exchange of ambassadors between Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot leadership, declared them illegal and called for their immediate withdrawal, and also called for the transfer of Varosha (Famagusta) to United Nations administration. At the same time, the Council reaffirmed the good offices mandate of the Secretary-General, requested him to undertake new efforts to attain an overall solution to the Cyprus, problem and called on all parties to co-operate.

In regard to his good offices mission, the Secretary-General held a number of meetings at various levels throughout the year followed by separate “proximity talks” with leaders of the two communities. In early December, he believed that a draft agreement was ready for submission to a joint high-level meeting at which an agreement could be concluded containing the necessary elements for a comprehensive solution aimed at establishing a Federal Republic of Cyprus. The Secretary-General stressed-in his annual report on the work of the Organization (p. 3)—that he remained essential to communication between the parties.

The Security Council met in March/April at the request of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to consider what it said was the deteriorating situation resulting from hostile American acts directed against the Jamahiriya.

Regarding the strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region, the General Assembly, by resolution 39/153 adopted in December, reaffirmed the need for further efforts to that end while encouraging the intensification of existing forms and the promotion of new forms of co-operation, particularly those aimed at reducing tension and strengthening confidence and security in the region.

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

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter IX (pp. 257-350)

Middle East

MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, 258: Proposed peace conference, 263; Military co-operation with Israel, 268; Credentials of Israel, 268. PALESTINE QUESTION, 268: Jerusalem, 272; Public information, 274; Assistance to Palestinians, 275; Palestinian detainees, INCIDENTS AND DISPUTES BETWEEN ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL, 280: Iraq and Israel, 280; Lebanon situation, 283; Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic, 304. FINANCING OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCES, 305: UNDOF financing, 306; UNIFIL financing, 309; Review of reimbursement rates to troop-contributors, 314. TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL, 315: Settlements policy, 319; Fourth Geneva Convention, 320; Golan Heights, 322; West Bank officials, 325; Economic and social conditions, 327. PALESTINE REFUGEES, 335: UN Agency for Palestine refugees, 335; Other aspects, 340.

The search for a peaceful settlement to the conflict in the Middle East and its key issue, the Palestine problem, continued in 1984. The General Assembly, the Security Council and several other United Nations bodies considered various aspects of the situation, including the Palestine question, incidents and disputes between individual Arab States and Israel, the situation in Lebanon and in the territories occupied by Israel, and Palestine refugees. The United Nations continued to maintain two major peace-keeping operations in the region, the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) in the Golan Heights and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

By resolution 39/146 A, the Assembly dealt with a variety of issues related to the Middle East situation. It declared once more that peace in the region must be based on a comprehensive, just and lasting solution under United Nations auspices, and reaffirmed that it could not be achieved without the participation on an equal footing of all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

The question of Palestine continued to be a concern of the Assembly and its Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. Following consideration of the Committee's report, the Assembly, in December, adopted four resolutions on the question. It requested the Committee to keep that question under review as well as the implementation of the 1983 Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights (resolution 39/49 A); it invited co-operation with the United Nations Secretariat's Division for Palestinian Rights (39/49 B); it requested expansion of United Nations public information activities on the question (39/49 C); and it reaffirmed its endorsement of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East (39/49 D). The Secretary-General reported in March 1984 on consultations held on issues relating to the organization of such a conference, particularly the identification of participants. Member States expressed their views in a number of communications. The status of Jerusalem was the subject of Assembly resolution 39/146 C.

Assistance to Palestinians was rendered by the United Nations Development Programme and other organs. The United Nations Children's Fund supported programmes for Palestinian children and mothers in Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as in territories occupied by Israel. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1984/56, and the Assembly,

in resolution 39/224, requested United Nations organizations to intensify such assistance and provide it in co-operation with PLO and with the consent of the Arab host countries. Both resolutions pointed out the need to ensure that aid to Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories was not used for the interests of the occupation authorities.

The 1981 bombing by Israeli aircraft of a nuclear research centre near Baghdad, Iraq, was again taken up by the Assembly in resolution 39/14, following consideration of a brief report by the Secretary-General.

The situation in Lebanon, particularly in Beirut, was taken up by the Security Council in February; because of the negative vote of a permanent Council member (USSR), it did not adopt a draft resolution by France to constitute a United Nations force in the Beirut area. The Council also met in May following reports of an Israeli search operation at the Ein El-Helweh Palestinian refugee camp near Sidon. After Lebanon came to the Council in August to complain about Israeli practices in southern Lebanon, the western Bekaa Valley and the Rashaya district, the Council again convened in August/September but, due to the negative vote of the United States—a permanent member—did not adopt a Lebanese draft calling on Israel to respect the rights of civilians in those areas and demanding that it lift its restrictions which included the closing of roads and the imposing of curfews—so that normal life could be restored. Responding to the Council's request, the Secretary-General's continued consultations with Lebanon and others resulted in the beginning, in November, of military talks between Lebanon and Israel on the withdrawal of the latter's forces.

The mandate of UNIFIL was extended twice during the year, in April and October, by Security Council resolutions 549(1984) and 555(1984). Also renewed was the mandate of UNDOF, by Council resolutions 551(1984) and 557(1984), adopted in May and November. Appropriations for the operation of UNDOF from 1 June 1984 to 31 May 1985, totalling more than \$35 million, were made by the Assembly in resolution 39/28 A.

For the UNIFIL operation from 19 April 1984 to 18 April 1985, the Assembly appropriated \$141 million, by resolution 39/71 A. In view of the difficult financial situation of UNIFIL caused by withholding of contributions by certain Member States, the Assembly, by resolution 39/71 B, authorized suspension of certain provisions of the United Nations Financial Regulations to enable the Force to retain a "surplus balance" of \$6 million. A similar procedure was approved for UNDOF, regarding a "surplus" of nearly \$5 million, by resolution 39/28 B.

As the last revision of standard rates of reimbursement to countries which contributed troops to both peace-keeping forces had taken place in 1980, the Assembly, by resolution 39/70, requested the Secretary-General to review the existing rates with a view to ensuring an equitable reimbursement.

The situation in the territories occupied by Israel as a result of earlier armed conflicts was again considered by the Assembly and its Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights: of the Population of the Occupied Territories. In December, the Assembly adopted seven resolutions dealing with specific aspects of the Committee's report, including Israeli action against the Mayors of Hebron and Halhul and the Sharia Judge of Hebron (39/95 E), applicability of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (39/95 B), and the status and composition of Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967 (39/95 C). The Assembly condemned Israeli policies and practices in the

Golan Heights (39/95 F), those taken against Palestinian students and faculties of educational institutions (39/95 G), and a number of others, demanding that Israel desist from such practices (39/95 D). It also demanded information from Israel on the results of investigations of assassination attempts against three Palestinian mayors in 1980 (39/95 H).

Also under the agenda item on the Committee's report, the Assembly reiterated its demand for the release of the Palestinian Ziyad Abu Eain and other prisoners held in southern Lebanon (39/95 A).

Israeli occupation of the Palestinian and other Arab territories, as well as its policies and practices there, was also condemned by the Assembly in resolution 39/146 A. The Security Council, expressing concern about legislation on settlement activities under consideration in the Israeli parliament, urged that no measures be taken to aggravate tensions in the area.

The refugee problem continued to dominate the activities of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), which carried out both emergency relief measures and regular support operations. The Assembly addressed various aspects of the problem in 11 resolutions adopted in December. Resolution 39/99 A dealt with assistance to Palestine refugees and resolution 39/99 B with the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA. Related resolutions covered assistance to displaced persons (39/99 C), scholarships for higher education and vocational training (39/99 D), Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip (39/99 E), ration distribution to Palestine refugees (39/99 F), population displaced since 1967 (39/99 G), revenues from refugee properties (39/99 H), refugee protection (39/99 I), refugees in the West Bank (39/99 J) and a proposed University of Jerusalem for Palestine refugees (39/99 K).

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: Nuclear-weapon-free zones-Middle East. Africa: Israel-South Africa relations. Disasters and emergency relief: Lebanon. Regional economic and social activities: Western Asia. Human rights. Refugees and displaced persons: Middle East and South-West Asia.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter X (pp. 351-370)

Other political questions

INFORMATION, 351: Mass communication, 351; UN public information, 356. RADIATION EFFECTS, 368. ANTARCTICA, 369.

Under the broad scope of political issues falling within its competence, the General Assembly continued, in 1984, to consider questions related to information, atomic radiation and Antarctica.

After consideration by its Committee on Information of various aspects of information, the Assembly, in December, adopted resolutions on the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (39/98 B) and on United Nations public information programmes (39/98 A).

With regard to the levels, effects and risks of atomic radiation, the Assembly commended the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for its activities and requested that it continue its work (resolution 39/94).

By resolution 39/152, the Assembly took note of a report by the Secretary-General on Antarctica.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: public information. Africa: South Africa and apartheid-public information. Middle East: Palestine question-public information. Communications. General questions relating to colonial countries: public information. Namibia: public information. Other administrative and management questions: UN communications satellite.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS

Chapter XI (pp. 371-382) Institutional machinery

UN MEMBERS, 371. SECURITY COUNCIL, 372. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 374. SECRETARY GENERAL, 377. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, 377. OTHER INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS, 382.

With the admission of Brunei Darussalam, United Nations membership rose to 159 in 1984.

The Security Council, in addition to its agenda, continued to examine ways of enhancing its role as an instrument for the maintenance of international peace and security, concentrating on those aspects of its work designed to promote agreement on practical measures to strengthen its effectiveness.

The General Assembly resumed and concluded its thirty-eighth session in 1984. It held the major part of its thirty-ninth session, considering 123 items of its 143-item agenda; the remainder were to be considered in 1985.

Missions of good offices and other diplomatic contacts were an important aspect of the Secretary-General's political activities during the year, with the focus on Afghanistan, Cyprus, the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Iran-Iraq and Kampuchea. In his annual report to the Assembly on the Organization's work (p. 3), he emphasized the need to use international institutional machinery effectively.

Co-operation between the United Nations and intergovernmental organizations was the subject of five Assembly resolutions.

Preparations continued for the observance of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations in 1985.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: cooperation between OAU and the UN system. Regional economic and social activities: Africa co-operation between the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference and the United Nations. Institutional arrangements: Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics; organizational structure-General Assembly Second Committee. Intergovernmental organizations and international law: draft standard rules of procedure for conferences. Treaties and agreements: cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee. Other administrative and management questions: calendar of meetings.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 385-424)

Development policy and international economic co-operation

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, 386: Development and economic co-operation, 386; Economic rights and duties of States, 398; Economic co-operation among developing countries, 400. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRENDS AND POLICY, 404. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, EDUCATION, ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION, 407. AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 410. SPECIAL ECONOMIC AREAS, 412: Developing countries, 412.

The weak and uneven character of the world economic recovery and the poor prospects of the developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, were reviewed by numerous United Nations bodies throughout 1984. The need for urgent action regarding both the critical state of sub-Saharan Africa and the serious external debt situation of developing countries was stressed in several economic reports and during discussions on the world economic situation.

In his annual report on the work of the Organization (p. 3), the Secretary-General noted that criticism of United Nations economic institutions was easy since they often fell short of their high aims. However, only intensified multilateral cooperation could solve global economic problems in an increasingly economically interdependent world.

The Committee established to carry out the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade considered progress made towards achieving the Strategy's goals and the strengthening of its implementation. Despite the Committee's work and contributions from many United Nations sources, the exercise was not completed.

In December, the General Assembly commemorated the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and decided on a thorough review of its implementation in 1985.

Reiterating concern first expressed in 1983 about the impact of political tensions on international economic co-operation, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue consultations on the scope of possible confidence-building measures in international economic relations. The Assembly deplored the continued application of coercive economic measures against developing countries.

Discussions continued on the launching of global negotiations on international economic co-operation for development, originally scheduled to start in 1980; in December, in suspending its 1984 session, the Assembly decided to keep the item open and to reconvene to consider any agreements that might emerge from informal consultations. Discussions also continued on various aspects of the proposed new international economic order, including its legal aspects.

Economic co-operation among developing countries (ECDC) continued to be discussed within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), while the Fourth General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) decided to accord high priority in UNIDO's activities to industrial co-operation among those

countries. The mandates of, and problems addressed by, the United Nations system in economic and technical co-operation among developing countries were discussed by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) and the Economic and Social Council. The Assembly urged the United Nations system to intensify support for ECDC. Support by the system for economic and technical co-operation among developing countries was also discussed by the Organization's co-ordination bodies, while the Council considered promotion of such co-operation at the interregional level.

The World Economic Survey 1984, which gave an account of trends and policies in the world economy, was the background document for the annual discussion in the Council on international economic and social policy. UNCTAD published the fourth annual report on trade and development issues, the Trade and Development Report, 1984, which, in addition to analysing the world economic situation, focused on the international trade and payments system. A further assessment of the economic situation was carried out by the Committee for Development Planning (CDP), which identified priority areas for urgent international attention.

Broad areas of economic and social development were considered in several United Nations forums during the year. The improvement of various aspects of development planning, education, administration and Information continued to be studied. The Seventh Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance took place and the programme of technical cooperation for public administration continued.

The work of the United Nations system in rural development was reviewed, with particular emphasis on alleviating the poverty of the poorest and drought-stricken countries.

Action on behalf of countries particularly affected by the world economic situation was again urged by the Assembly, which again called for immediate measures in favour of the developing countries. Preparations intensified throughout the system for the 1985 mid-term global review of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s (SNPA) for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs); to carry out the review, the Assembly decided to convene a high-level meeting of the UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries. That review was discussed by UNCTAD's Trade and Development Board and the UNCTAD secretariat published The Least Developed Countries 1984 Report, the first such annual report. Country review meetings continued to be organized for individual LDCs by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which also administered the special fund for them. UNIDO's Fourth General Conference recommended that industrialization be taken fully into account in the mid-term review and requested UNIDO to strengthen its industrial development assistance to LDCs. In July, the Economic and Social Council requested CDP to consider adding Kiribati and Tuvalu to the list of the 36 LDCs and in December a request for consideration of Vanuatu was made by the General Assembly.

The particular problems of land-locked and island developing countries were kept under consideration by the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board and by the Assembly which renewed calls for action on their behalf. The Assembly also renewed its appeal for contributions to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries.

Topics related to this chapter. Disarmament: disarmament and development. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief: Africa-critical economic situation. Operational activities for development. International trade and finance. Regional economic and social

activities: economic and social trends-Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America, Western Asia; development policy and regional economic cooperation-Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America, Western Asia. Social and cultural development: social aspects of development planning; popular participation in development; family in development; social aspects of rural development. Human rights: right to development; proposed new international economic order and human rights. Women: women in development. Statistics: economic statistics.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 425-462)

Operational activities for development

GENERAL ASPECTS, 425. TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION THROUGH UNDP, 434: UNDP operational activities, 438; UNDP programme planning and execution, 440; UNDP financing, 442; UNDP administration and staff, 453. OTHER TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION, 453: UN programmes, 453; United Nations Volunteers, 456; Technical co-operation among developing countries, 458. UN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, 461.

In 1984, total official development assistance transferred through all the organizations of the United Nations system to developing countries amounted to \$6.6 billion dollars. Total contributions for the system's development activities amounted to \$5.7 billion, a decline compared with \$6 billion in 1983. A number of countries increased the national currency value of their contributions, but, as several reports on operational activities indicated, part of the increase was lost due to the strength of the United States dollar.

In his annual report on the work of the Organization (p. 3), the Secretary-General said that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with the specialized agencies, had come to represent a vital source of economic and technical assistance for developing countries. High priority was being given to the low-income countries and, in a period of restricted resources, efforts were continuing to ensure more effective operational co-operation within the system.

The three major issues which illustrated the new technical co-operation requirements claiming the attention of UNDP in 1984 were the debt problems of developing countries, their needs in shaping and implementing macroeconomic policies, and the crisis in Africa. Programme adjustments were initiated by UNDP to respond to the emergency in Africa, which was widely perceived to be a development issue. Field expenditures in the region, by and through UNDP, amounted to more than \$300 million over the year.

The work of UNDP in technical co-operation among developing countries during the year included a major interregional project through which 133 activities were financed at a cost of \$1.28 million.

The General Assembly, by resolution 39/220 of 18 December 1984, recognized the contributions of Governments to UNDP and called on the UNDP Governing Council, while considering the level of resources of the fourth programming cycle (1987-1991), to take into account the increased needs of the developing countries in technical co-operation and the need for real growth in resources.

The United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) delivered a technical co-operation programme of almost \$111 million in 1984 which was almost comparable to that of 1983 despite a drop in the level of budgets.

In 1984, the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) attached the highest priority to assisting the most severely affected African countries to utilize emergency relief assistance more effectively. Twenty-seven countries were selected to receive such assistance, requests for which

were predominantly in the areas of aid coordination, food distribution, and vehicle, water pump and borehole maintenance.

The United Nations Capital Development Fund approved \$36.8 million for 17 new projects. In programming its assistance, the Fund gave priority to drought-affected areas of Africa and to projects related to food production and distribution, primary health care and water-related projects.

Topics related to this chapter. Africa: South Africa and apartheid—aid programmes and interagency co-operation. Middle East: aid programmes for Palestinians. Development policy and international economic co-operation: economic co-operation among developing countries. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief. International trade and finance: UNCTAD technical co-operation. Development finance. Regional economic and social activities -technical co-operation. Food: food aid. Health and human resources: human resources. Refugees: refugee assistance. Institutional arrangements: organizational structure. Namibia: international assistance.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 463-524)

Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, 463: Africa, 465; Other regions, 495. DISASTERS, 500: Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, 500; Co-ordination in the UN system, 506; Disaster relief, 507; Disaster preparedness and prevention, 520. EMERGENCY RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE, 522.

Through a number of organizations, the United Nations continued in 1984 to provide special assistance to countries with serious economic difficulties. Those problems were frequently aggravated by natural or other disasters. Of particular concern was the critical economic situation in Africa which was compounded by a prolonged drought in certain regions. Both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly added an item to their agenda for the first time on that situation. In a December resolution (39/29), the Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa, expressing concern at the crisis which over the previous few years had assumed alarming proportions, seriously jeopardizing not only the development process, but also the very survival of millions of people. By the Declaration, the Assembly outlined the problems and proposed remedial measures.

In order to view first-hand the effects of widespread drought, food shortages, livestock epidemics and dwindling resources, the Secretary-General travelled to eight countries in West Africa from 17 January to 4 February. On his return, he remarked that the dimensions of the human tragedy became all the more poignant during his trip, and he called on the international community to respond urgently and adequately, as lives were threatened and the economic survival of many African countries was at stake. In addition to problems of food, health, water supply, refugees, transportation and communication, the international community needed to deal with the causes of the crisis, he said. In December, the Secretary-General established the United Nations Office for Emergency Operations in Africa; the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was appointed to direct the new Office. The most urgent problem was famine, which was complicated by problems of transport, storage and distribution of food.

With regard to countries suffering grave economic difficulties, the Economic and Social Council in July called for assistance to Guinea (resolution 1984/59), and in December the Assembly adopted a series of resolutions calling for economic assistance to Benin (39/185), Cape Verde (39/189), the Central African Republic (39/180), Chad (39/195), the Comoros (39/193), Democratic Yemen (39/184), Djibouti (39/200), Equatorial Guinea (39/181), the Gambia (39/203), Guinea (39/202), Guinea-Bissau (39/186), Haiti (39/196), Lesotho (39/183), Liberia (39/182), Mozambique (39/199), Nicaragua (39/204), Sao Tome and Principe (39/187), Sierra Leone (39/192), Uganda (39/188) and Vanuatu (39/198).

The United Nations system continued to respond to emergency situations arising from natural disasters, mainly through action co-ordinated by the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO). The Assembly (in resolutions 39/190, 39/191, 39/194, 39/201, 39/205 and 39/206) and the Council (in resolutions 1984/3, 1984/5, 1984/6 and 1984/7 and decision 1984/106) dealt with assistance needs resulting from the continuing drought in certain areas in Africa, particularly the Sudano-Sahelian region and East Africa; cyclones and floods in

Madagascar; a cyclone in Swaziland, and an earthquake in Yemen. Both the Assembly and the Council, in resolutions 39/207 and 1984/60 respectively, called for strengthening the United Nations capacity to respond to disasters.

In addition to special economic assistance and disaster relief, emergency humanitarian assistance was provided to Lebanon. Lebanon had been unable to carry out its reconstruction programme due to renewed fighting and disorder and the military situation in the south. The Assembly, in resolution 39/197, called for assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon, as did the Council in decision 1984/174.

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

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 525-549)

International trade and finance

UNCTAD VI FOLLOW-UP, 526. INTERNATIONAL TRADE, 527: Trade policy, 527; Trade promotion and facilitation, 533; Commodities, 536; Manufactures, 540; Consumer protection, 540. FINANCE, 541: Financial policy, 542; Trade-related finance, 545; Taxation, 546. PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNCTAD, 546; UNCTAD programme, 547; Organizational questions, 548.

In 1984, the year in which the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) commemorated its twentieth anniversary, debate in the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board centred on the debt problems of developing countries and the need to deal simultaneously with the interdependent problems of trade, development finance and the international monetary system. At its two 1984 regular sessions, the Board also considered matters arising from recommendations of the sixth session of the Conference (UNCTAD VI) held in 1983; a special session (the Board's thirteenth) was devoted to the review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

In his annual report on the work of the Organization (p. 3), the Secretary-General stated that there was a high degree of frustration in United Nations activities at the global level in trade, money and finance, where the Organization's achievements could not be measured simply in terms of the number of treaties and agreements negotiated and signed. Many of the Organization's contributions were in much less tangible forms, such as shaping the framework of international debates on major problems. For example, he had consistently stressed the importance of finding solutions to the acute debt problems, solutions going beyond the short term and taking into account the need to ensure growth in the export earnings of developing countries.

In a December resolution (39/214), the General Assembly addressed several specific areas of UNCTAD's work programme and called on countries to strengthen international economic co-operation by revitalizing the development process and dealing with structural problems in the global economy.

Following its third annual review of protectionism and structural adjustment, the Trade and Development Board adopted a programme with respect to its continuing work on the issue, full implementation of which was called for by the Assembly in December.

The International Trade Centre continued to assist developing countries in promoting their exports and facilitating movement of goods in international commerce and took steps to strengthen its export market development activities in commodities, in line with an UNCTAD VI recommendation.

Although additional States adhered during 1984 to the 1980 Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities, by year's end it had not entered into force. With regard to individual commodities, the International Sugar Conference culminated in July with the adoption of the International Sugar Agreement, 1984. Progress was made at two sessions of the United

Nations Cocoa Conference towards completing negotiations on a successor agreement to the 1980 International Cocoa Agreement and it was decided to reconvene the Conference. Although neither the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983, nor the International Agreement on Jute and Jute Products, 1982, received sufficient ratifications to enter into force, the latter Agreement entered into force provisionally by a decision of the Governments which had signed or ratified it, or had given notice that they would apply it provisionally. Meetings were held during the year to review the market situation of iron ore and tungsten.

A set of draft guidelines on consumer protection was discussed by the Economic and Social Council and forwarded to the General Assembly (resolution 1984/63), which in December decided to consider adopting them in 1985 (decision 39/444).

Concerning international financial relations, the debt problems of developing countries were considered to require urgent international action, as was the need for reform of the international monetary and financial system. Those issues were taken up in United Nations bodies and the Organization's major economic reports, which all stressed the close link between international monetary and financial matters and international trade issues. In December, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ascertain the views of Governments and United Nations bodies on expanding international co-operation in money, finance, debt and resource flows, including development assistance and trade (resolution 39/218). In April, the Trade and Development Board adopted agreed conclusions on the debt problems of developing countries. In December, the Assembly called on the international community to address those problems taking into account the Board's action.

In the area of trade-related finance, an expert group on the compensatory financing of export earnings shortfalls held three sessions in 1984 and made recommendations regarding a proposed complementary facility to finance commodity-related shortfalls.

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

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter V (pp. 550-556)

Transport and communications

TRANSPORT, 550: Maritime transport, 550; Transport of dangerous goods, 554; Multimodal and container transport, 555; Customs transit for goods, 555. COMMUNICATIONS, 556: World Communications Year, 556.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and its subsidiary bodies, particularly the Committee on Shipping (eleventh session, Geneva, 19-30 November) of the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board, continued in 1984 to deal with problems of transport.

The United Nations Conference on Conditions for Registration of Ships (Geneva, 16 July-3 August) made progress in, but did not complete, preparing an international agreement, and the General Assembly, in December, agreed that the Conference meet in resumed session in 1985 (resolution 39/213 A).

In July, the Economic and Social Council called for the promotion of a system of customs transit for goods applicable world-wide (resolution 1984/79).

The outcome of World Communications Year (1983) was considered by the Committee on Information at its June/July session.

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy and economic co-operation: land-locked countries. Regional economic and social activities: Africa—Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; Asia—Transport and Communications Decade in Asia and the Pacific; Europe—Europe-Africa link through the Strait of Gibraltar.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VI (pp. 557-590) **Industrial development**

PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNIDO, 557: Programme policy, 557; Institutional machinery, 565; Financial questions, 567. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, 569: Technical co-operation, 569; Industrial co-operation, 574; Industrial development of LDCs, 576; Redeployment of industrial production to developing countries, 576; Industrial financing, 578; Industrial processing of raw materials, 580; Rural areas, 580; Industrial management, 580; Industrial planning, 581; Industrial studies, 582; Industrial technology, 582. DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES, 584: Agro-industries, 584; Chemical industries, 586; Engineering industries, 588; Metallurgical and mineral industries, 588; Other industrial categories, 590.

Difficult conditions of world trade were exerting unfavourable effects on the industrialization of developing countries, concluded the Fourth General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in 1984. The Conference recognized that protectionism in many countries was harmful to trade and industrial development, and agreed that it should be resisted and reversed. Furthermore, the Conference found that the broad objectives contained in the 1975 Lima Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation and the 1980 New Delhi Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrialization of Developing Countries and International Co-operation for their Industrial Development were far from attainment. UNIDO's goal was to assist developing countries to increase their share of world industrial production to 25 per cent in 2000; since 1975, their share had risen from 10 to 11.9 per cent.

In December 1984, the General Assembly expressed concern that the Conference had not yielded results commensurate with the problems (resolution 39/232), took note of the Conference's report (decision 39/448), and urged developed countries to pursue policies that would facilitate world industrial restructuring (resolution 39/235). It referred a draft resolution on mobilizing financial resources for industrial development to its 1985 session (decision 39/447).

The Assembly also requested that the Secretary-General continue his efforts to convert UNIDO into a United Nations specialized agency (resolution 39/231), and confirmed the appointment of the UNIDO Executive Director for an additional two years (decision 39/315).

The Executive Director stated that UNIDO's annual expenditures of between \$120 million and \$130 million were glaringly inadequate. Funds had to be spread thin because all countries had an equal right to request assistance from UNIDO; thus, it was currently active in 136 countries, carrying out 1,503 projects of varying complexity.

The Industrial Development Board, the principal UNIDO body, held its eighteenth session (Vienna, Austria, 2-19 May) and expressed concern at the lack of progress during the preceding four years in increasing the developing countries' share of world industrial production. The Board adopted 16 conclusions on various programme, industrial and organizational matters. They included technical assistance to Namibians (see TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION, Chapter III) and Palestinians (see p. 276), and integration of women in development (see Chapter XIX of this section). In addition, it adopted a resolution on the Industrial Development

Decade for Africa (IDDA) (see Chapter VIII of this section). The Board's Permanent Committee held its twenty-first session (Vienna, 19-23 November).

By decision 1984/167, the Economic and Social Council in July transmitted the report of the UNIDO Board on its session as well as a report on IDDA to the General Assembly.

As a result of the admission of Brunei Darussalam to the United Nations, the Assembly added it to the list of States eligible for UNIDO Board membership (resolution 39/234).

Topics related to this chapter. Regional economic and social activities: implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Energy: industrial uses. Science and technology: technology transfer. Environment: environment and industry. Women: women in development.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VII (pp. 591-600)

Transnational corporations

DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT, 591 STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING, 594. CENTRE ON TNCs, 594. COMMISSION ON TNCs, 599.

The impact of the activities of transnational corporations (TNCs) on the changing world economy continued to be a major concern of the international community in 1984. The positive contribution of TNCs to development, especially to that of low-income and least developed countries, was overshadowed by the consequences of the world economic recession.

The draft code of conduct on TNCs continued to be discussed at a special session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations, reconvened in January and June 1984. As certain outstanding issues—which included a definition of TNCs and the scope of the code's application, international obligations vis-a-vis national legislation, settlement of disputes, and non-collaboration with racist minority regimes in southern Africa—could not be resolved during discussions, the negotiations on the draft code reached an impasse. The General Assembly, in December (decision 39/443), requested the Chairman of the Commission to initiate consultations aimed at overcoming that impasse and decided to reconvene the special session in 1985.

International standards of accounting and reporting—a question related to the world-wide growth of TNCs—were examined by an intergovernmental group. In addition to assisting in the work on the draft code and preparing studies for the intergovernmental group, the United Nations Centre on TNCs continued to develop a comprehensive information system, carried out research, and conducted and supervised technical cooperation activities. An important element in the Centre's work continued to be research on TNC activities in South Africa and Namibia. The Centre also participated in the work of an Ad Hoc Committee on preparations for public hearings on those activities (see p. 149). These aspects of the Centre's work and other matters related to TNC activities were considered by the Commission on TNCs at its tenth regular session (New York, 17-27 April).

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

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VIII (pp. 601-644)

Regional economic and social activities

REGIONAL CO-OPERATION, 601: Strengthening of regional commissions, 602. AFRICA, 602: Economic and social trends, 603; Critical economic situation, 603; Activities in 1984, 604. ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, 621: Economic and social trends, 622; Activities in 1984, 622; Programme, organizational and administrative questions concerning ESCAP, 627. EUROPE, 629: Economic trends, 629; Activities in 1984, 630. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 633: Economic trends, 634; Activities in 1984, 634; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 638. WESTERN ASIA, 639: Economic and social trends, 640; Activities in 1984, 640; Programme, organizational and administrative questions, 642.

In 1984, the five regional commissions held their regular intergovernmental sessions: the Economic Commission for Latin America (changing its nomenclature to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)), at Lima, Peru (29 March-6 April); the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) at Geneva (3-14 April); the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Tokyo (17-27 April); the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) at Baghdad, Iraq (22-26 April); and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and its Conference of Ministers at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (24-28 May).

Among issues of concern to the regional commissions considered by the General Assembly in 1984 were: The Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (resolution 39/230), the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (39/233), the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific (39/227) and co-operation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (39/215). The Assembly endorsed, in principle, the proposed construction projects at both ECA and ESCAP headquarters (sections III and XI of resolution 39/236) to expand their conference facilities. It authorized the Secretary-General to take measures to enable ECWA to meet its personnel requirements (resolution 39/243).

The Economic and Social Council, in July, took action on: The Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (resolution 1984/68), development of a remote-sensing programme in Africa (1984/69), the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1984/70), water resources development in Africa (1984/73), the Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar (1984/75), ECA's women's programme (1984/77) and the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific (1984/78). Other Council actions dealt with strengthening the ECA role as an executing agency (1984/74), matters arising from ECA Executive Secretary's 1982-1983 report (1984/76), policy-making structure (1984/80) and staff and administrative questions of ECWA (1984/81), and the terms of reference of ECLAC and ESCAP (1984/67 and 1984/66).

Summaries of the annual survey of current economic conditions in each region, prepared by commission secretariats, were taken note of by the Council in July during its discussion of the world economic situation (see p. 406).

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: assistance to Palestinians. Development policy and international economic co-operation: economic and social trends and policy. Operational activities for development. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief. Food. Environment.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter IX (pp. 645-652)

Natural resources and cartography

GENERAL ASPECTS OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 645. MINERAL RESOURCES, 647. WATER AND MARINE RESOURCES, 648. CARTOGRAPHY, 651.

During 1984, the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration (UNRFNRE) continued to assist developing countries. Programme expenditures in 1984 were estimated at \$3.7 million, a decline of some \$1 million from the previous year. Concern over the Fund's diminishing financial capacity was expressed by the administering body, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

A Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Management and Utilization of Marine Mammals, prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in co-operation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), was endorsed by the UNEP Governing Council.

The Economic and Social Council decided that the Third United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas should be held in 1985 instead of 1984 (decision 1984/105) and that the Conference should meet in New York rather than at Buenos Aires, Argentina (decision 1984/117).

In decision 1984/112, the Council took note of an offer by Turkey to host the Eleventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific in 1987.

Topics related to this chapter. Law of the sea: sea-bed mining. Middle East: permanent sovereignty over natural resources in the occupied territories. Regional economic and social activities. Energy. Namibia: natural resources.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter X (pp. 653-665)

Energy resources

GENERAL ASPECTS, 653: Energy resources development, 653; Energy resources in industry, 658. NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES, 658: Implementation of the 1981 Nairobi Programme of Action, 658. NUCLEAR ENERGY, 663: IAEA report, 663; Preparations for the Conference on nuclear energy, 664.

In 1984, United Nations entities continued their work in trying to diminish world-wide dependence on depletable sources of energy, focusing special attention on the energy needs of developing countries. In an effort to accelerate progress in the development of their energy resources, the General Assembly, in resolution 39/176, urged improved international co-operation and consideration of new avenues for financing. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) remained a major force in mobilizing funds in support of developing countries' energy efforts through collaboration with the World Bank, the international donor community and various co-financing arrangements. As an instrument for channelling additional voluntary resources into high priority projects, the UNDP Energy Account had, at the end of 1984, \$18 million allocated to projects. Transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries was a key element in energy-related activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Secretariat's Department of Technical Cooperation for Development (DTCD), while the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) focused on assisting developing countries in integrating national industrial and energy policies and improving industrial energy efficiency.

The 1981 Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy provided the basis for another sphere of United Nations efforts concerning such sources in 1984. Practical problems concerning its implementation were examined at the second session of the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, which made recommendations to that end. In resolution 39/173, the Assembly called for early action on them, expressing concern over the slow pace of the Programme's implementation.

With regard to nuclear energy, most United Nations work continued to be carried out by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). After considering IAEA's annual report for 1983, the Assembly urged, in resolution 39/12, international co-operation in promoting the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, strengthening technical assistance to developing countries, and promoting nuclear safety. By resolution 39/74, the Assembly decided that the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy would be held at Geneva in November 1986.

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

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XI (pp. 666-678)

Food

FOOD PROBLEMS, 666. FOOD AID, 673: World Food Programme, 673.

Faced with a persisting dichotomy, when hundreds of millions of people in the world went hungry and malnourished just as ample food was available at a global level, various United Nations entities stepped up their efforts in 1984 to tackle the gamut of food problems through emergency operations, development aid and policy planning assistance.

In a year that marked the tenth anniversary of the World Food Conference, the World Food Council (WFC) reviewed progress in the implementation of the Conference objectives and identified major tasks to be addressed by the international community and individual countries to ensure food security and eradicate hunger and malnutrition. WFC's recommendations were endorsed by the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1984/54) and welcomed by the General Assembly (resolution 39/166), which called on Governments and international organizations to give particular attention to the measures proposed by WFC. The role of fisheries in ensuring national self-reliance in food production was high on the agenda of the World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development, which mapped out a strategy and associated programmes of action, endorsed subsequently by the Assembly (resolution 39/225).

For the World Food Programme (WFP), 1984 brought record levels of activity in providing food aid to developing countries. As compared with the previous year, WFP food commitments increased by 48 per cent to reach 2.1 million metric tons. By 31 December 1984, a total of \$999.8 million had been pledged to the regular WFP budget for 1985-1986. That represented 74 per cent of the \$1.35 billion WFP target for the period, the need for achieving which was stressed by the Assembly in resolution 39/166. The governing body of WFP, the 30-member Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, held its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, approving projects at a total cost of more than \$770 million.

Topics related to this chapter. Law of the sea. Economic assistance, disasters and emergency relief. Regional economic and social activities: Africa—food and agriculture. Natural resources and cartography: marine resources. Health and human resources: nutrition. Human rights: right to food. Women: women in rural areas. Children: nutrition.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XII (pp. 679-695)

Science and technology

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION, 680: General aspects, 680; Scientific and technological policies, 681; Scientific research and development, 682; Scientific and technological information, 683. FINANCING, 684: UN Financing System, 684. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, 687: National focal points, 687; Intergovernmental Committee, 688; Advisory Committee, 689; Centre for science and technology, 690; Co-ordination in the system, 690. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, 691: Draft code of conduct, 692; Other aspects of technology transfer, 692. BRAIN DRAIN, 693.

Responding to demands for a restructuring of international scientific and technological relations, the United Nations continued in 1984 its efforts to strengthen the related capacities of developing countries by mobilizing financial resources, upgrading institutional arrangements and balancing the international flows of technology within the framework provided by the 1979 Vienna Programme of Action. A major effort to review progress in implementing the Vienna Programme's operational plan and map out further measures needed to accelerate the process was undertaken in analytical reports by the Secretary-General and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation (DIEC). Several ad hoc panels and workshops met in 1984 to provide expert advice on such specific problems as long-term perspectives on science and technology, scientific and technological indicators for development, and integration of emerging and traditional technologies.

A central role in financing various activities was played by the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSSTD). Although uncertainty about its long-term financial prospects had hindered the mobilization of resources through regular pledging procedures, UNFSSTD initiated a number of new projects and programming activities with funds provided directly from Governments and from such non-core mechanisms as cost-sharing and trust funds, which yielded \$4.7 million in 1984. Long-term financial and institutional arrangements of UNFSSTD were considered by the General Assembly, which decided in December to establish an informal open-ended intergovernmental working group for a speedy conclusion of the arrangements, while urging all countries to contribute to the System's operation under existing procedures (decision 39/428).

The Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, the main directing and policy-making body, held its sixth session in May/June 1984, focusing special attention on implementation of the Vienna Programme, on strengthening the role of the Committee and on improving the effectiveness of its work methods. The Assembly, in December, supported those initiatives, in particular the Committee's decision to select in advance the themes for its sessions (resolution 39/164). The Committee also considered activities of its Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development, which met for its fourth session in February, and of the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development. Charged with the task of providing substantive assistance to the Intergovernmental Committee and co-ordinating United Nations activities at the Secretariat level, the Centre proceeded with efforts to initiate the Advance Technology Alert System, continued its feasibility study of

indicators for measuring the impact of science and technology on national development and prepared the first biennial review of United Nations implementation of the Vienna Programme. In the area of inter-agency co-operation, it provided assistance to the Task Force on Science and Technology for Development, which held its fifth session in January, adopting recommendations on a variety of issues, including United Nations joint activities, criteria for building endogenous capacities of developing countries, and further actions by United Nations entities to strengthen their role in science and technology.

The problem of balancing flows of technology between industrialized and developing countries remained high on the agenda of United Nations bodies in 1984, particularly the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). UNCTAD's Committee on Transfer of Technology, at its first special session in February, took up the question of a strategy for the technological transformation of developing countries; at its fifth regular session in December, it considered a broad spectrum of economic, commercial, developmental, legal and organizational issues related to the international transfer of technology. The question of the reverse transfer of technology, or brain drain, was again a concern of the General Assembly which requested, in resolution 39/211, the organizing of further meetings of governmental experts and of the Inter-Agency Group on Reverse Transfer of Technology.

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

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXX (pp. 696-713)

Social and cultural development

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE, 696: Social aspects of development, 696; Popular participation, 697; Co-operatives, 697; Institutional machinery, 698. CRIME, 698: UN congresses on crime, 698; Committee on crime, 701; Questions related to criminal justice, 702; UN Trust Fund for Social Defence, 712. CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, 713.

Available evidence on the social aspects of development suggested a mixed picture, with large groups in Asia improving their standards of living, poverty increasing dramatically in Africa, and both the poor and middle-income social groups in Latin America experiencing a deterioration in their living conditions.

Reviewing activities of the Joint Committee for the Promotion of Aid to Co-operatives (COPAC), a liaison body of the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation and four international non-governmental organizations, the Secretary-General recommended that the United Nations remain a member of COPAC and continue to contribute to it in 1985. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the General Assembly concurred with the Secretary-General's recommendation.

The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development continued in 1984 its research programme covering such issues as food systems and society, popular participation, improvement of development data and refugee settlements.

Preparations continued to be made during 1984 for the Seventh (1985) United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. Interregional preparatory meetings were held on four of the five substantive items to be taken up by the Congress and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, acting as the preparatory body, met for its eighth session at Vienna, Austria, in March. Both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly took action on the preparations. The Council accepted an invitation from Italy to hold the Congress at Milan (decision 1984/154) and decided that it would be held from 26 August to 6 September 1985 with the general theme of "Crime prevention for freedom, justice, peace and development" (resolution 1984/45). The Assembly called for broad participation and welcomed the Council's recommendations to the Congress, particularly one on finalizing guidelines on crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development (resolution 39/112).

A draft declaration on the rights of victims of crimes or other illegal acts involving the abuse of power was discussed and finalized at an interregional preparatory meeting for the 1985 Congress. Draft minimum rules for the administration of juvenile justice were also recommended to the Congress for consideration. At another preparatory meeting, draft guidelines on the independence of the judiciary were revised, finalized and recommended to the Congress as a matter of highest priority.

Following the Committee's recommendations, the Council adopted several resolutions on other topics related to criminal justice: crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of

(development (1984/48); fair treatment of women by the criminal justice system (1984/49); alternatives to imprisonment (1984/46); and technical co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice (1984/51). The Council also approved safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty (resolution 1984/50) and approved revised procedures for the effective implementation of the 1955 Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (1984/47).

The Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization proposed the proclamation of a World Decade for Cultural Development beginning in 1986.

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy. Health: disabled persons. Human rights: arbitrary and summary executions; rights of detained persons; popular participation. Women: violence against women.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XIV (pp. 714-730)

Population

THE 1984 CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 714. UN FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 719. OTHER POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 726: Population Commission, 726.

The major United Nations event in the area of population in 1984 was the International Conference on Population which culminated in the adoption of the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development and 88 recommendations for the further implementation of the 1974 World Population Plan of Action. The Conference reaffirmed the validity of that Plan, which was aimed at improving standards of living and quality of life for all peoples in promotion of their common destiny in peace and security. In December, the General Assembly endorsed the report of the Conference and welcomed the Mexico City Declaration (resolution 39/228).

During the year, the United Nations system continued to support the population programmes of Member States through the United Nations Fund for Population Activities which spent 72.5 per cent of country programme resources on 53 priority countries, exceeding the goal of two thirds set by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme. In June, the Governing Council supported continued assistance to seven regional and interregional demographic training and research centres and approved assistance to large-scale programmes or projects for seven developing countries.

In addition to January and March meetings as the Preparatory Committee for the Population Conference, the Population Commission met in January to assess the progress of the Secretariat's work in population and to formulate its future work programme. In May, acting on the Commission's recommendation, the Economic and Social Council adopted the work programme (resolution 1984/4) and emphasized the importance of maintaining the effectiveness of the global and regional population programmes and of strengthening co-ordination among the departments and organizations of the United Nations system in planning and executing population programmes.

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

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XV (pp. 731-742)

Health and human resources

HEALTH, 731: General aspects, 731; Disabled persons, 732; Nutrition, 735. HUMAN RESOURCES, 736: Human resources development, 736; UN Institute for Training and Research, 736; UN University, 740.

Health conditions in 1984 continued to be very poor in large parts of the developing world. Malnutrition and improper sanitation and water supply accounted for high incidences of diseases and mortality rates, and much remained to be done to improve primary health care and availability of medication.

At least 350 million of some 500 million disabled persons throughout the world were reportedly living in areas where disability services were inadequate or unavailable. In November, the General Assembly called upon Member States and other donors to contribute to the United Nations trust fund for the disabled persons, and requested the Secretary-General to convene in 1987 a meeting of experts to evaluate the progress of the United Nations Decade for Disabled Persons (1983-1992) (resolution 39/26).

In December, the Assembly stressed the importance of training qualified national personnel for the social and economic development of developing countries (resolution 39/219). It welcomed the continuing emphasis of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) on economic and social training and research (39/178), and requested the preparation of a comprehensive study on UNITAR activities, funding and future role, (39/177).

The Assembly noted the advance made by the United Nations University in its activities and emphasized the University's continuing need to strengthen the capacity of existing scholarly and scientific institutions in developing countries (39/179).

Topics related to this chapter. Operational activities for development: skilled workers. Food: food problems; food aid. Science and technology: b rain d rain. Environment: protection against harmful products. Human rights: human rights of disabled persons. Children: UNICEF programmes by sector.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XVI (pp. 743-771)

Environment

PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNEP, 743: Programme policy, 743; Regional activities, 745; Co-ordination, 745; UNEP Fund, 747; Other administrative questions, 749. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES, 750: Environmental monitoring, 750; Ecosystems, 756; Environmental aspects of political, economic and other issues, 766.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was able to make scant headway against the rising tide of environmental destruction in 1984, according to the UNEP Executive Director. It undertook a global campaign to engender a better understanding of the central role of environmental issues in the broader economic and social context.

The Governing Council of UNEP held its twelfth session in 1984. After reviewing implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification from 1978 to 1984, the Council noted with great concern that desertification was continuing to spread, particularly in Africa; it proposed further measures to ameliorate the problem. By resolution 39/208, the General Assembly called on the international community, particularly the developed countries, to assist countries stricken by desertification and drought. The Economic and Social Council (resolution 1984/65) and the Assembly (resolution 39/168 A) urged increased assistance to those countries. The Assembly also emphasized the need to redouble efforts to combat the problem in the Sudano-Sahelian region (resolution 39/168 B). To develop a joint policy for combating desertification, the 21 countries affected held a regional Ministerial Conference in Senegal in July.

The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1984/72, urged the Assembly to expand the scope of work of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) to assist additional States to tackle desertification.

The Global Environmental Monitoring System of Earth watch, the assessment arm of UNEP, continued to monitor renewable resources, climate, health, pollutants and oceans. A Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer was drafted. The International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals continued to expand its global information network. Draft guidelines were being developed for the management of hazardous wastes. Other UNEP activities included world climate impact studies, management of tropical forests and world soil resources, wildlife conservation, protection of the marine environment, and linkages between environment and development, industry, population and human settlements.

By resolution 39/229, the Assembly decided that a list of products whose consumption and/ or sale had been banned, withdrawn, severely restricted or not approved by Governments should be issued annually. By resolution 39/167, it regretted that no concrete measures had been taken to solve the problem of material remnants of war and requested the Secretary-General to assist countries affected in their efforts to detect and clear them.

Forty-eight new projects were approved by the Environment Fund in 1984; 53 projects were concluded. The Fund disbursed \$17 million for programme activities; government contributions totalled \$29.5 million.

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

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XVII (pp. 772-783)

Human settlements

PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNCHS, 772: Programme policy, 772; Administrative and budgetary questions, 774; UN Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, 774. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS ACTIVITIES, 774. ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS, 781.

Progress in implementing the work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS), also known as Habitat, continued to be made during 1984, with the completion of 16 technical co-operation projects and the beginning of 41 new ones.

The seventh session of the Commission on Human Settlements was held at Libreville, Gabon, from 30 April to 11 May 1984. Among the items on its agenda were the 1987 International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (IYSH), human settlements activities of the United Nations system, and systematic approaches to training and information for human settlements. The Commission adopted 15 resolutions and one decision; two of the resolutions, concerning IYSH and the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Israeli-occupied territories (see POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS, Chapter IX), required General Assembly action.

The Secretary-General presented a cross-organizational programme analysis of United Nations human settlements activities to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC), which made several recommendations to improve their system-wide co-ordination.

The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1984/57 A., encouraged the Commission to continue helping developing countries to develop human settlements and urged it to support technical co-operation among those countries.

The Council, by resolution 1984/57 B, requested United Nations agencies and organizations to review their programmes with a view to incorporating in their activities the objectives of IYSH.

By resolution 39/170 A, the Assembly took note of the Commission's report on its 1984 session and made a renewed appeal to Governments to contribute to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation. By resolution 39/170 B, the Assembly welcomed the Secretary-General's intention to review the arrangements regarding UNCHS participation in the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC). By resolution 39/171, the Assembly urged Governments to intensify their activities for IYSH and to assess prospects and resources regarding shelter and settlements, leading to the formulation of national shelter strategies applicable until the year 2000.

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: territories occupied by Israel-living conditions of Palestinians; settlements policy. Regional economic and social activities.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XVIII (pp. 784-887)

Human rights

DISCRIMINATION, 784: Racial discrimination, 784; Other aspects of discrimination, 794. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, 800: Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol, 800; Self-determination of peoples, 802; Rights of detained persons, 811; Disappearance of persons, 826; Other aspects of civil and political rights, 827. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, 832: Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 832; Right to development, 834; The new international economic order and human rights, 835; Popular participation and human rights, 835; Right to education and employment, 836; Right to food, 837. ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, 837: National institutions for human rights protection, 840; UN machinery, 841; International human rights instruments, 843; Other measures to advance human rights, 846. HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, 851: Africa, 852; Asia and the Pacific, 860; Europe and the Mediterranean area, 861; Latin America and the Caribbean, 862; Middle East, 876; Mass exoduses, 877; Genocide, 878. OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, 878.

In 1984, the United Nations continued its efforts to foster human rights and fundamental freedoms world-wide and to curtail their violation. Through its Commission on Human Rights and Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, it responded to the challenges posed by discrimination in all its aspects and violations of the entire range of civil and political, as well as economic, social and cultural, rights. Engaging a large part of its attention were denial of the right to self-determination of peoples and gross human rights violations in various countries, primarily the system of apartheid, and violations of the human rights of the individual. The Secretary-General added his concern for individuals whose rights might have been violated and stated his commitment to seek to facilitate the release of those who might have been imprisoned for political reasons (p. 8).

In addition to its endeavours to define the rights to development, to food, and to education and employment, the United Nations broadened its activities in the area of scientific and technological progress in relation to human rights.

During the year, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment was adopted, marking an achievement in United Nations efforts towards eventual respect for all human rights through international human rights instruments. Adherence to these instruments continued to be encouraged, and elaboration of other international standards moved forward on behalf of the child, those detained due to mental ill-health, indigenous populations, migrant workers, minorities and non-citizens, on the rights to development and to promote human rights, and in respect of computerized files.

Actions on these and other human rights taken by the Commission, at its fortieth session held at Geneva from 6 February to 16 March 1984, were embodied in 64 resolutions and 17 decisions; those taken by the Sub-Commission, at its thirty-seventh session, held also at Geneva, from 6 to 31 August, in 37 resolutions and six decisions. Action taken on their recommendations by the Economic and Social Council was embodied in 22 resolutions and 25 decisions; those taken by the General Assembly, in 31 resolutions and two decisions.

Topics related to this chapter. International peace and security. Africa: South Africa and apartheid. Americas: Central America situation. Asia and the Pacific: Kampuchea situation; Afghanistan situation; Iran-Iraq armed conflict. Mediterranean: Cyprus question. Middle East: Middle East situation; territories occupied by Israel; Palestinian prisoners. Social and cultural development. Health and human resources. Women. Namibia. Other colonial Territories.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XIX (pp. 888-911)

Women

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN, 889. STATUS OF WOMEN, 903. WOMEN IN SOCIETY, 907.

Improvements in the status of women and reduction of discrimination had affected only a small minority and the condition of the majority of women in the developing world had changed at most marginally, the Secretary-General stated in an April 1984 report on social aspects of development. The achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (1976-1985) in helping women advance in the economic, social and political spheres were to be appraised by the 1985 World Conference to review the Decade.

In 1984 Governments and the United Nations system worked for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women and continued with preparations for the 1985 Conference. The Commission on the Status of Women, meeting for its second session as the preparatory body for the Conference (Vienna, Austria, 2-7 February-March), made recommendations on the preparations which were endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in May (decision 1984/125) and the General Assembly in December (resolution 39/129). Also in May, the Council considered that the objectives of the Decade had not been achieved and that activities towards equal treatment for women and their full integration in development should continue beyond 1985 (resolution 1984/16).

The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women continued its work to augment the flow of resources to rural and poor urban women. By the end of the year, the Fund had approved over 400 projects valued at more than \$24 million. In December, the Assembly decided on future arrangements for the Fund, establishing it under the name of United Nations Development Fund for Women as a separate entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (resolution 39/125).

The Commission on the Status of Women, at its thirtieth session (Vienna, 15-25 February), recommended to the Economic and Social Council 11 draft resolutions for adoption. These resolutions dealt with a number of issues relating to the status of women, women in the United Nations system and items related to the Commission's work. In closed session, the Commission considered confidential and non-confidential communications on the status of women. The Commission also reviewed the status of the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to which 64 States had become parties at the end of 1984. Questions related to the Commission's work at its next (1986) session were dealt with by the Council in a resolution (1984/20) and a decision (1984/123) adopted in May.

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, at its third session (New York, 26 March-6 April), considered initial reports of six States parties on their implementation of the Convention. The Economic and Social Council, in May (resolution 1984/8), and the Assembly, in December (resolution 39/130), emphasized the importance of strictest compliance with the Convention and requested the parties to it to make all possible efforts to submit their

implementation reports. The Council, also in May (resolution 1984/10), urged States to ratify or accede to the Convention in the light of the 1985 Conference.

In October, the Secretary-General reported on the world survey on the role of women in development. The Assembly, in December, recommended that the survey in its final form be considered in 1985 together with comments on it and related decisions by the World Conference (resolution 39/172). By resolution 39/124, it pledged to encourage the full participation of women in economic, social, cultural, civil and political affairs, and invited Governments to ensure implementation of the 1982 Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation.

The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) continued work on studies relating to issues affecting women. Its Board of Trustees, at its fourth session (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 23-28 January), approved a budget of \$2.5 million for 1984-1985 and approved a draft statute for the Institute which was later endorsed by the Economic and Social Council (decision 1984/124). The Assembly, in December, took note of INSTRAW's activities as a valuable contribution to an increased role of women in development (resolution 39/122).

The Assembly, also in December, adopted resolutions on the role of women in society—as mothers and as participants in economic development and in public life (39/123); on the integration of women in all aspects of development (39/128); and on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (39/126).

Acting on recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Economic and Social Council adopted, in May, resolutions on women under apartheid (1984/17), Palestinian women (1984/18), violence in the family (1984/14) and violence against detained women (1984/19). It also made recommendations for the promotion of opportunities for young women (resolution 1984/15) and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the status and situation of elderly women (resolution 1984/13).

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: territories occupied by Israel–Palestinian women. Operational activities for development: inter-agency co-operation. Industrial development: Fourth General Conference of UNIDO. Regional economic and social activities; Africa–women in development in Africa. Food: food problems. Social and cultural development: treatment of women by criminal justice system. United Nations officials: status of women in Secretariat.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XX (pp. 912-934)

Children, youth and aging persons

CHILDREN, 912: UN Children's Fund, 912; Draft declaration on adoption and foster placement, 925. YOUTH, 926: Integrating youth in development, 926; Activities of the UN system, 927; Strengthening channels of communication between youth and the United Nations, 927; Preparations for International Youth Year (1985), 929. AGING PERSONS, 932: Implementation of the Plan of Action, 932.

In 1984, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) continued its programmes for children in 117 countries—in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Mediterranean area—reaching a total population under 16 years of age of approximately 1.3 billion. Support was provided for water supply and sanitation, primary health care, education, food and nutrition, social services and emergency relief. UNICEF promoted effective, inexpensive methods to improve children's health and reduce child mortality and morbidity. The General Assembly once more reaffirmed the goal of children's immunization against major diseases by 1990 and again called for comments from States on a draft declaration relating to children's protection and welfare, especially foster placement and adoption.

Due to the burgeoning emergency situation in many African countries, which was claiming the lives of 12,000 children each day, UNICEF strengthened its efforts in the region through redeployment of resources. An international appeal was launched for 13 of the most seriously affected countries.

Activities concerning youth—persons 15 to 24 years old—focused during the year on preparations for International Youth Year (1985) (IYY). The Assembly decided to strengthen the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa to enable it to fulfil its youth mandate, and to continue promoting activities relating to intergenerational matters.

Follow-up actions to implement the 1982 Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging (people aged 60 and over) continued in 1984. The Assembly called on Governments to take into account the changing age structure of the population in their economic and social development plans and to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for Aging. It further requested the Secretary-General to promote joint activities regarding aging and youth, especially during IYY.

Topics related to this chapter. Health and human resources. Human rights: rights of the child; youth and human rights; human rights of aging persons. Women: women and children under apartheid.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXI (pp. 935-954)

Refugees and displaced persons

PROGRAMME AND FINANCES OF UNHCR, 935: Programme policy, 935; Financial and administrative questions, 937. ACTIVITIES FOR REFUGEES, 939: Assistance, 939; Refugee protection, 952. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO AVERT NEW REFUGEE FLOWS, 954.

During 1984, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) faced the challenge of attaining durable solutions to refugee problems in the midst of seriously deteriorating situations in some parts of the world and the onset of a major emergency in Africa. In November, the High Commissioner issued a special appeal in response to a refugee crisis in four drought-stricken countries—the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan.

The Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (ICARA II) (Geneva, 9-11 July) examined some 128 projects valued at \$362 million designed to help African host countries. The Conference emphasized the complementarity between refugee aid and development assistance, urging that refugee projects be integrated into the development process. The first such conference had been held in 1981.

Major assistance programmes were maintained, notably in Pakistan, which had the largest refugee population in the world, and in South-East Asia, where Indo-Chinese refugees continued to arrive. Resettlement in third countries remained the primary solution for the latter, some 68,500 of whom were resettled in 1984. In Somalia and the Sudan, care and maintenance programmes were accompanied by local integration activities until late 1984, when attention had to be diverted to emergency relief. Local integration activities were also carried out in Central America, Mexico, Uganda and Zaire.

Assistance to Palestine refugees continued as in past years under the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) (see p. 335).

At the thirty-fifth session of the Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme (Geneva, 8-18 October), the High Commissioner reported that 42 per cent of the 1985 UNHCR budget would be devoted to durable solutions through voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement, adding that UNHCR would like that percentage to be much higher.

Violations of the physical safety of refugees continued. The ninth meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Whole on International Protection (Geneva, 3, 4, 11 and 15 October) discussed military and armed attacks on refugee camps.

In December, the General Assembly urged States to ensure the safety of refugees and asylum-seekers and to support the High Commissioner in pursuing durable solutions to the refugee problem (resolution 39/140); emphasized the vital importance of the complementarity of refugee aid and development assistance (39/139); and called for emergency assistance to returnees and displaced persons in Chad (39/106) and Ethiopia (39/105), as well as refugees in Djibouti (39/107), Somalia (39/104) and the Sudan (39/108) and student refugees in southern Africa (39/109).

The Assembly called on the Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees to work expeditiously to complete its review of the problem (39/100). It expressed the hope that the 1985 Assembly would adopt a declaration on the human rights of individuals who were not citizens of the country in which they lived (39/103).

The International Conference on Population (Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984) invited States that had not done so to accede to the international instruments concerning refugees and urged Governments and international agencies to find durable solutions to refugee problems and work towards their elimination (see p. 716).

The 1984 Nansen Medal-awarded in honour of Fridtjof Nansen, the first League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees-went to Captain Lewis M. Hiller of the United States merchant ship *Rose City* and two of his crew members, Jeff Kass and Gregg Turay, for their rescue of 85 Indo-Chinese refugees adrift in a storm in the South China Sea.

In November 1984, the United Nations Postal Administration issued commemorative stamps on the theme "A Future for Refugees" (see ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS, Chapter IV).

Topics related to this chapter. Middle East: Palestine refugees. Human rights: human rights of non-citizens.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXII (pp. 955-966)

Drugs of abuse

International control, 955; Drug abuse, 957; Supply and demand, 958; Conventions, 965; Organizational questions, 966.

During 1984, drug abuse continued to threaten a large segment of society and to undermine economic and social order in most parts of the world. The unprecedented dimensions of the danger to societies had led the Governments concerned to launch similarly unparalleled counter-offensives against traffickers.

The Secretary-General, in his 1984 report on the work of the Organization (p. 3), noted that the growing problem of narcotic drugs had become a major international anxiety, and that efforts were needed to arrest the traffic in and use of drugs, which had appalling effect on both individuals and societies. Steps had been taken to improve co-ordination within the United Nations system in that regard.

The General Assembly, in December, adopted a Declaration on the Control of Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse, stating that the eradication of trafficking in narcotic drugs was the collective responsibility of all States and calling for efforts to combat the grave threat the drug abuse situation posed to societies (resolution 39/142). The Assembly also requested that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs begin preparing in 1985 a draft convention against such illicit traffic (39/141), and recommended preparation of specific technical and economic co-operation programmes for the countries most seriously affected (39/143).

Acting on the recommendations of the Commission (eighth special session, Vienna, Austria, 6-10 February), the Economic and Social Council, in May, recommended that all Governments combat cannabis abuse (resolution 1984/22), called for urgent regulation of the demand and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs (1984/21), and urged the World Health Organization (WHO) to review certain amphetamine-like drugs for international control (1984/23).

The International Narcotics Control Board— holding two sessions at Vienna (thirty-fifth session, 14-25 May; thirty-sixth session, 8-25 October)— discussed the international drug control system for narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor materials; reported on the demand and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs; and analysed the world situation by region and country.

The Narcotics Laboratory Section of the United Nations Division of Narcotic Drugs continued to assist national narcotics laboratories and to collect and analyse drug samples, and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) initiated a large coca control programme in South America and expanded its assistance to Asian countries.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXIII (pp. 967-969) Statistics

In 1984, the Statistical Office of the United Nations continued to collect and publish a wide range of statistical data, including those on international trade, industry, transport, energy, national accounts and population.

The office also continued its work on development of standards and methods for improving national statistics and statistical systems, and published a number of technical reports on methods in various fields of statistics. Substantive support for technical co-operation to developing countries was provided on behalf of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development for the improvement of national statistics and statistical data processing capability. The office continued to promote the co-ordination of international statistical activities among international organizations and provided statistical services to the United Nations Secretariat and intergovernmental expert bodies.

The Secretary-General issued a number of reports on statistical activities, for consideration by the Statistical Commission at its 1985 session. The Commission, which meets biennially, did not meet in 1984.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Chapter XXIV (pp. 970-990)

Institutional arrangements

CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 970. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, 976: Proposed organizational change, 976; Co-operation with other organizations, 979; Other organizational matters, 981. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, 983: General Assembly, 984; Secretariat, 990.

Harmonization and co-ordination of programme activities of the United Nations system continued to be pursued in 1984 by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC). In its 1983/84 report, ACC noted that the executive heads of the system fully shared the Secretary-General's concern that the value of multilateral diplomacy was being questioned and that international institutions were all too often not being fully utilized. Recent developments, ACC observed, had indicated increasing scepticism and criticism of particular organizations and of the system as a whole. The executive heads were determined to meet this challenge constructively and remained committed to improving further the efficiency of their organizations, individually and collectively, so that the United Nations might continue to make an invaluable contribution to solving the problems confronting the world community.

During the year, in addition to a review of various aspects of the 1984-1989 medium-term plan, a cross-organizational programme analysis in human settlements was undertaken, as was an analysis of the mandates of the system and problems addressed in economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. Efforts were also made to co-ordinate relief activities for Africa.

The General Assembly reviewed progress made in restructuring the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, initiated in 1977. Restructuring activities in 1984 focused on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council with respect to its calendar of meetings, reports submitted to it and meetings of its subsidiary bodies; and on the formulation of a biennial work programme for the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee, which the Assembly set forth in resolution 39/217. The functioning of the regional commissions and of the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters (OSSECS) was also analysed.

Topics related to this chapter. Regional economic and social activities: strengthening of regional commissions. United Nations programmes: programme planning; administrative and budgetary co-ordination.

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter I (pp. 993-1019)

General questions relating to colonial countries

THE 1960 DECLARATION ON COLONIAL COUNTRIES, 993. OTHER GENERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING NSGTs, 1017.

During 1984, the General Assembly's Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Committee on colonial countries) continued to address the implementation of the Assembly's 1960 Declaration. It considered the action of international organizations and action impeding implementation by foreign economic and military interests.

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

In July, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1984/55, in which it reaffirmed the need for assistance by the United Nations system to the peoples of the colonial Territories and their national liberation movements and deplored the collaboration of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) with South Africa.

Acting on recommendations by the Committee on colonial countries, the General Assembly took action in December on several general aspects of the subject. By resolution 39/93 and decision 39/420, it endorsed a programme of activities for the twenty-fifth anniversary in 1985 of the 1960 Declaration and, by resolution 39/161 B, associated this event with the United Nations fortieth anniversary (1985). By resolution 39/91, the Assembly called for implementation of the Declaration and by resolution 39/43 for the assistance of the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. By resolution 39/42, it condemned activities of foreign economic and other interests impeding the Declaration's implementation and by decision 39/412 condemned military activities in colonial Territories which denied peoples their right to self-determination and independence and which were detrimental to their interests.

By resolution 39/92 on the dissemination of information on decolonization, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to publicize the work of the United Nations on decolonization. Resolution 39/45 included an invitation to States to make offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs). In resolution 39/41, the Assembly requested the administering Powers to transmit information as prescribed in the United Nations Charter as well as information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned.

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

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter II (pp. 1020-1026)

International Trusteeship System

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, 1020. OTHER ASPECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM, 1024.

On behalf of the Security Council, the Trusteeship Council continued during 1984 to supervise the one Trust Territory remaining under the International Trusteeship System—the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, a strategic territory administered by the United States.

The Trusteeship Council considered the Administering Authority's annual report, heard 12 petitioners and examined 15 written petitions and 12 communications regarding the Territory.

The Council held its fifty-first session at United Nations Headquarters from 14 May to 18 July; of its five members (China, France, USSR, United Kingdom, United States), China did not participate.

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter III (pp. 1027-1062)

Namibia

NAMIBIA QUESTION, 1028. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1050. INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE, 1056.

The United Nations continued in 1984 to work for the independence of Namibia, the largest Territory remaining under colonial rule. As the legal Administering Authority for Namibia until its independence, the United Nations Council for Namibia monitored the situation there and participated in formulating United Nations policy on the Territory. At extraordinary plenary meetings at Bangkok, Thailand, the Council adopted in May its Bangkok Declaration and Programme of Action, outlining its policies.

In its 1984 annual report to the General Assembly, the Council reviewed the political and military situation, foreign investment in the Territory, the exploitation of its natural resources, and social conditions and the labour situation under the continued illegal occupation of the South African administration. It said that South Africa was attempting to maintain control of Namibia through the establishment of a puppet institution, the so-called Multi-Party Conference (MPC). Furthermore, South Africa continued to insist on the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola before acting on independence plans. Independence talks between the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the South African Administrator-General of Namibia and an MPC delegation took place at Lusaka, Zambia, in May, and at Mindelo, Cape Verde, in July, the first direct encounter between South Africa and SWAPO since 1981, but the conferences ended without agreement on key issues. According to the Council, the talks failed because MPC members refused to support the independence plan endorsed by the Security Council in 1978 and insisted on linking independence to extraneous issues such as the Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

Cuba and Angola, in a joint declaration issued in March, stated their intention to initiate the gradual removal of Cuban forces from Angola as soon as certain conditions had been met, including South Africa's withdrawal of its forces from Angola and implementation of the independence plan.

The General Assembly, in resolution 39/50 A, condemned South Africa for attempting to circumvent the United Nations plan for Namibia by promoting an internal settlement through MPC, and for sabotaging the independence talks held in 1984 by insisting on the "linkage" precondition. It urged the Security Council to fulfil United Nations responsibility over Namibia and ensure that the Organization's independence plan was not undermined. In resolution 39/50 B, the Assembly again called for the plan's implementation, as endorsed by the Council in 1978, and demanded that South Africa and the United States desist from their attempts to establish linkage.

The Council for Namibia viewed with concern the increased assistance given by major Western countries and Israel to South Africa in the economic and financial areas, and said such help was a hostile act against the Namibian people. It reported that certain Western States, in disregard of

United Nations resolutions, continued to maintain their wide-ranging economic interests in Namibia. Their unwillingness to prevent those activities had contributed to the illegal exploitation of the Territory's natural and human resources. Foreign economic interests were attracted to Namibia because of the high profitability made possible by the abundance of cheap, enslaved labour. Such interests, particularly South African- and Western-based transnational corporations, continued to exploit the natural resources without reinvesting much of the profit in the Territory. The Council, having sought information and advice about initiating legal proceedings in domestic courts of countries whose nationals and companies were involved, reiterated its resolve to end the plunder through such means as legal action. The Assembly declared that the activities of foreign economic interests in Namibia were illegal under international law and demanded that transnational corporations refrain from activities there.

In co-operation with the United Nations Department of Public Information, the Council disseminated information on Namibia in order to mobilize world public opinion in support of independence. As part of the publicity campaign, it organized seminars and missions, issued publications and broadcast materials, maintained contacts with non-governmental organizations and held observances. The Assembly, in resolution 39/50 D, called for United Nations and other action to promote international public opinion in support of Namibia. By resolution 39/50 C, it decided on the work programme of the Council.

Namibians outside their country continued to receive assistance from various United Nations programmes, financed primarily by the Fund for Namibia. In 1984, the Fund spent \$7.5 million, while voluntary contributions by States totalled \$4.4 million. Funding was also provided from the regular United Nations budget, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and specialized agencies. The Fund consisted of three main programmes-the Nationhood Programme for Namibia, which financed training programmes and surveys of the economic and social sectors in preparation for independence; the United Nations Institute for Namibia, involved with research, training and planning activities; and educational, social and relief assistance to Namibians, which emphasized their immediate needs and welfare. In resolution 39/50 E, the Assembly appealed for increased contributions to the Fund and urged United Nations organizations to implement projects approved by the Council and to allocate funds for them.

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

TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION

Chapter IV (pp. 1063-1082) Other colonial Territories

FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS), 1063. EAST TIMOR, 1065. WESTERN SAHARA, 1066. OTHER TERRITORIES, 1068.

Conflicts in Western Sahara and East Timor and the sovereignty dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) continued to be considered in 1984 by the General Assembly and its Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Committee on colonial countries).

The Assembly, in resolution 39/40, reaffirming that the Western Sahara question was related to decolonization, again requested Morocco and the Frente Popular de Liberación de Saguía el Hamra y Río de Oro to undertake direct negotiations for a cease-fire and a self-determination referendum among the people of Western Sahara, under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity. By decision 39/402, it decided to consider the East Timor question in 1985. Meanwhile, the human rights situations in both Western Sahara (see p. 811) and East Timor (see p. 808) were also examined in 1984.

In resolution 39/6, the Assembly again requested Argentina and the United Kingdom to resume negotiations for a peaceful solution to their sovereignty dispute and other differences over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas); it also requested the Secretary-General to continue his good offices mission.

The Assembly adopted resolutions on American Samoa (39/31), Guam (39/32) and the United States Virgin Islands (39/38), under United States administration, and on Bermuda (39/33), the British Virgin Islands (39/34), the Cayman Islands (39/35), Montserrat (39/36) and the Turks and Caicos Islands (39/37), under United Kingdom administration.

A United Nations mission visited Anguilla in 1984, and the Assembly, in resolution 39/39, called on the United Kingdom as the administering Power to intensify its programmes of political education and development assistance in Anguilla. The Assembly noted in resolution 39/30 that another visiting mission had observed an act of self-determination in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands by which a substantial majority of the people voted for integration with Australia. In decision 39/410, it welcomed an agreement by Spain and the United Kingdom to implement their 1980 Lisbon Declaration on Gibraltar by February 1985, including equality of rights, freedom of movement, and negotiation of differences.

It called on the United Kingdom in decision 39/409 to safeguard the interests of the people of Pitcairn, and declared in decisions 39/408 and 39/411 that the possibility of sending visiting missions to Tokelau and St. Helena should be kept under review.

Background information on developments in most of the Territories was prepared for the Committee on colonial countries by the United Nations Secretariat. The Committee, and usually

its Sub-Committee on Small Territories, considered the situation in each Territory, and made recommendations which were taken up mainly by the Assembly's Fourth Committee.

Topics related to this chapter. General questions relating to colonial countries: information to the United Nations; visiting missions.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 1083-1086) International Court of Justice

Judicial work of the Court, 1083; Organizational questions, 1086.

In 1984, the International Court of Justice continued to deal with three contentious cases. A fourth dispute was referred to it in April. In addition, it received two requests—one for the revision of a 1982 Judgment and the other for an advisory opinion.

Three Judges were re-elected and two others were elected to the Court for terms beginning in February 1985 (see APPENDIX III).

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 1087-1094)

Legal aspects of international political relations

Peaceful settlement of disputes between States, 1087; Good-neighbourliness between States, 1088; Non-use of force in international relations, 1089; Draft Code of Offences against peace and security, 1090; Draft convention against mercenaries, 1092; Draft articles on non-navigational uses of international watercourses, 1094.

In 1984, the United Nations continued working towards effective legal measures for promoting friendly relations among States. The General Assembly, in December, called for continuation of work towards the legal codification of: non-use of force in international relations (resolution 39/81), offences against the peace and security of mankind (39/80) and an international convention against mercenary activities (39/84). It also requested the Secretary-General to prepare a draft handbook on the peaceful settlement of disputes between States (39/79), decided to begin identifying good-neighbourliness between them (39/78), and recommended that work continue on draft articles on the non-navigational use of international watercourses (39/85).

Topic related to this chapter. International peace and security.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 1095-1099) States and international law

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, 1095. STATE IMMUNITIES, LIABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY, 1098.

Protecting diplomats and consular missions continued to be a major concern for the United Nations, which received, throughout 1984, reports of incidents threatening their security and safety. In December, the General Assembly condemned, by resolution 39/83, acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, and urged States to ensure their security.

The International Law Commission (ILC) (see p. 1117) continued preparing draft articles with a view to elaborating legal instruments on the status of the diplomatic courier and the diplomatic bag not accompanied by courier, jurisdictional immunities of States and their property, international liability for injurious consequences arising from acts not prohibited by international law, and State responsibility for internationally wrongful acts.

In the past 40 years, more had been done by the United Nations in codifying international law than in all the previous years of history, the Secretary-General pointed out (see p. 4).

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

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 1100-1106)

International organizations and international law

STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, 1100. HOST COUNTRY RELATIONS, 1102. OBSERVER STATUS OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, 1104. DRAFT STANDARD RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR CONFERENCES, 1105.

In 1984, the United Nations remained concerned with strengthening its role in maintaining international peace and security, and the General Assembly requested the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization to devote more time to considering that question (resolution 39/88 A).

The Assembly, having considered the annual report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, urged the host country, the United States, to continue ensuring the security of diplomatic missions and their personnel (resolution 39/87). The Assembly again called on States which hosted international organizations or conferences to accord to specified national liberation movements the facilities, privileges and immunities necessary for their functioning (resolution 39/76).

The Assembly once more deferred consideration of an item on the implementation of United Nations resolutions, until it resumed its thirty-ninth session in 1985 (decision 39/456), and of draft standard rules of procedure for United Nations conferences, until its fortieth (1985) session (decision 39/419).

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

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter V (pp. 1107-1110) Treaties and agreements

In 1984, the General Assembly decided by resolution 39/86 that the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations should be held at Vienna, Austria, from 18 February to 21 March 1986.

Work reviewing the multilateral treaty-making process was completed in 1984, and the Assembly, in resolution 39/90, recommended to States which were considering initiating such a treaty to give attention to the procedures set forth by the Working Group established to review that process.

The Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies entered into force in July 1984 (see p. 106)

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VI (pp. 1111-1116) International economic law

GENERAL ASPECTS, 1111: Report of UNCITRAL, 1111. INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW, 1112: Unification of trade law, 1112; Training and assistance, 1114. LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, 1114.

In 1984, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and the General Assembly's Sixth (Legal) Committee continued to deal with legal aspects of international economic relations.

The Assembly, by resolution 39/82, recommended that UNCITRAL continue its work on the topics in its work programme and reaffirmed the importance of training and assistance in international trade law, particularly for developing countries. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research completed an analytical study on the progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order, and the Assembly, by resolution 39/75, urged States to submit their comments on the study, including proposals for further action.

Topics related to this chapter. Development policy and international economic co-operation: economic rights and duties of States. Industrial development: industrial co-operation contracts.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

Chapter VII (pp. 1117-1119)

Other legal questions

International Law Commission, 1117; UN Programme for the teaching and study of international law, 1118; Co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, 1118.

In 1984, the International Law Commission (ILC) held its thirty-sixth session at Geneva from 7 May to 27 July, continuing work on the progressive development and codification of international law and maintaining co-operation with several juridical bodies. By resolution 39/85, the General Assembly recommended that ILC continue work on all the topics in its current programme.

The International Law Seminar held its twentieth session at Geneva. Other seminars and training courses were offered in 1984 as part of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

By resolution 39/47, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue promoting co-operation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter I (pp. 1121-1136)

United Nations financing

UN BUDGET, 1121: Budget for 1984-1985, 1121. BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS, 1126: Budget contributions of new Members, 1127; Budget contributions in 1984, 1128. FINANCIAL SITUATION, 1130: Effects of currency instability and inflation, 1132. ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING, 1134: Accounts for 1983, 1134; Auditing practices, 1135.

A number of actions were taken by the General Assembly in 1984 on various aspects of United Nations financing.

With the short-term deficit of the United Nations expected to amount to \$356 million by the end of 1984, the General Assembly again appealed to States to pay their assessed contributions promptly (resolution 39/239 B). Concerned also about the impact of inflation and monetary instability on the Organization's regular budget, the Secretary-General was asked to prepare a study on the problem (resolution 39/240).

The Assembly also took several decisions on the 1984-1985 programme budget. It increased budget appropriations by \$24.4 million, raising the amount appropriated for the two-year period to \$1.6 billion (resolution 39/237 A) and increased income estimates, other than income from Member States, by \$17.5 million, to \$301.4 million (39/237 B). The Assembly also specified the amounts to be obtained to finance appropriations during the second year of the biennium (39/237 C).

Regarding budget contributions, the Assembly established the rates for the Organization's newest members (39/247 A) but deferred action on adjusting the assessments of all Members until 1985 (decision 39/456).

In view of the growth of United Nations activities, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to carry out a review of the Secretariat's Internal Audit Division to determine whether its resources were adequate to handle its increased responsibilities (decision 39/416).

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter II (pp. 1137-1146) United Nations programmes

PROGRAMME PLANNING, 1137. PROGRAMME BUDGETING, 1141. PROGRAMME EVALUATION, 1143. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY CO-ORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, 1146.

Further action was taken in 1984 to improve United Nations programme planning, budgeting and evaluation. The Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) reported progress in joint planning on human settlements, nutrition and rural development. CPC'S recommendations and conclusions, taken at its twenty-fourth annual session, were endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1984/61 A. The General Assembly, by resolution 39/238 on programme planning, adopted addenda and revisions proposed by the Secretary-General to the medium-term plan for 1984-1989.

A timetable for intergovernmental review of in-depth and triennial evaluation studies scheduled for 1986-1992 was accepted by the Assembly, also by resolution 39/238, as were other aspects of programme planning. The complete text of regulations governing programme planning, programme aspects of the budget, monitoring of programme implementation and evaluation methods was issued by the Secretary-General in September 1984.

The Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) presented 15 reports, most of which evaluated specific United Nations programmes, and the Assembly, in resolution 39/242, requested JIU to concentrate its work programme on areas of greatest importance within the system, and renewed its invitation to United Nations organs to bear in mind specific decisions on JIU recommendations for effective follow-up.

The annual report on administrative and budgetary co-ordination in the United Nations system, prepared by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), focused in 1984 on budgetary practices of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The Assembly, in resolution 39/241, concurred with ACABQ's observations and recommendations.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter III (pp. 1147-1172) United Nations officials

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, 1147: Staff composition, 1151; Career development, 1156; Staff representation, 1157; Field staff, 1157; Staff rules of the United Nations, 1157; Privileges and immunities of the international civil service, 1158. STAFF COSTS, 1159: Salaries and allowances, 1159; Pensions, 1163. UN ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL, 1168. TRAVEL, 1169. OTHER UN OFFICIALS, 1170: Conditions of service, 1170; Experts and consultants, 1170. QUESTIONS RELATING TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, 1171.

Staff in organizations of the United Nations system belonging to the common system of salaries and fringe benefits of the international civil service totalled 50,544 as at 31 December 1984, according to figures compiled for the inter-agency Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC). This total consisted of 26,251 in the United Nations Secretariat and the balance in specialized agencies and other related intergovernmental organizations. The common system encompassed the entire United Nations system except for international financial institutions headquartered at Washington, D.C.

Of the total in the system, 21,346, or 42 per cent, were stationed at the organizations' headquarters, 20,688, or 40 per cent, were at other established offices, and 8,510, or 16 per cent, were project staff, working on technical co-operation and other operational activities in the field. By category, 18,875 were Professionals and 31,669 were in the General Service or related categories.

As in previous years, the General Assembly acted on issues affecting working conditions, salaries and benefits, guided by advice from the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), which in turn consulted the participating intergovernmental organizations. In 1984, ICSC held its nineteenth and twentieth sessions, from 5 to 23 March in Paris, and from 5 to 27 July in New York.

By resolutions 39/27 and 39/69, Assembly adopted a number of changes in the United Nations salary system with effect from 1 January 1985 for staff in the Professional and higher categories. It requested ICSC to re-examine, and recommend to the Assembly in 1985, a desirable margin between the net remuneration (net base salary and post adjustment) of the United Nations and that of the best-paid national civil service and its effect on the operation of the post adjustment system; and to suspend implementation of the post adjustment increase for New York, while ensuring equivalence of purchasing power at all duty stations. The Assembly also ruled on consolidation of post adjustment into net base salaries, rates of staff assessment, and separation payments.

After examining the United Nations pension system, the Assembly adopted changes in the pensionable remuneration for the Professional and higher categories and approved amendments to the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and to its pension adjustment system, with a view to improving the Fund's actuarial balance (resolution 39/246). The action followed recommendations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, ICSC and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ).

By resolution 39/245 on the composition of the Secretariat, the Assembly expressed concern over the lack of progress regarding unrepresented and underrepresented Member States; the recruitment, career development and promotion of women; and the achievement of a balanced and equitable geographical distribution of staff. It supported the Secretary-General's decision to designate, on a temporary basis, a Co-ordinator for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat, and requested the Secretary-General to: review the system of competitive examinations in the United Nations, pursue work on the design and implementation of a career development system, strengthen various appeals machinery and examine the feasibility of setting up an office of Ombudsman. The Assembly urged the Secretary-General to give priority to reporting and follow-up of cases of arrest, detention and other matters related to the safety of international civil servants (resolution 39/244).

In 1984, the United Nations Administrative Tribunal delivered 21 judgements with respect to claims arising under labour contracts. The Assembly decided to defer consideration, until 1985, of the feasibility of establishing a single administrative tribunal for the entire common system (decision 39/450), and conditions of service and compensation for non-Secretariat officials (resolution 39/236, section V). It requested the Secretary-General to provide, in future, details on all exceptions to the rules on standards of accommodation for air travel (resolution 39/236, section VII) and to continue to assure maximum restraint in the travel of United Nations officials to attend Assembly sessions (section VIII).

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Chapter IV (pp. 1173-1187)

Other administrative and management questions

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS, 1173. DOCUMENTS, 1176. UN PREMISES, 1178. INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND COMMUNICATIONS, 1182. UN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION, 1186.

In 1984, the General Assembly took a number of actions related to United Nations administration and management. It continued to foster the rational use of conference resources and to pursue the possibility of shortening sessions (resolution 39/68 B), and to seek improvement in the pattern of conferences (39/68 C) and in the control and limitation of documents (39/68 D). The Assembly authorized meetings of subsidiary organs during its 1984 session (decision 39/403) and approved the revised calendar of meetings for 1985 (39/68 A). It also took action on the catering operation (39/67) and parking facilities at United Nations Headquarters (39/236, section II), on the United Nations Office at Nairobi, Kenya (39/236, sections XIII-XV), and on the management of support services shared by the various entities of the United Nations system at the Vienna International Centre, Austria (39/242, section IV).

The Assembly set the United Nations share of the costs of the Advisory Committee for the Co-ordination of Information Systems for 1984-1985 (39/236, section IX) and approved the 1985 budget for the International Computing Centre (39/236, section VI). In December, the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee approved an additional net amount of \$1,497,400 for 1984-1985 to improve the United Nations communications system.

To strengthen the role of United Nations libraries in information systems, the Assembly requested implementation of recommendations to improve the functioning of those libraries (39/242, section III).

In connection with the activities of the United Nations Postal Administration, the Assembly called for a special postage stamp issue to sensitize the international community to the social and economic crisis in Africa (39/239 A).

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