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Express

The Yearbook of the United Nations
Yearbook Express

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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, 1992

Volume 46

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Report of the Secretary-General

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I. Introduction: An opportunity regained

1. As I came into the office of Secretary-General in January 1992, the first-ever meeting of the Security Council at the level of heads of State and Government took place.
2. The summit represented an unprecedented recommitment, at the highest political level, to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. It represented the start of a new phase in the history of the Organization. The power struggle of the cold-war decades and its underlying assumption that history is the unfolding of a struggle between two competing systems permeated international relations and made the original promise of the Organization extremely difficult to fulfil. In that situation, the world envisioned in the Charter seemed to be an aspiration for a distant future. The success of the majority of Member States in keeping that vision alive throughout those difficult years merits praise and admiration.
3. With the end of the bipolar era and the opening of a new chapter in history, States see the United Nations once again as an instrument capable of maintaining international peace and security, of advancing justice and human rights, and of achieving, in the words of the Charter, “social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom”. The summit was a symbol of the unique point that has been reached in world affairs and in the history of the United Nations.
4. Thus, at the outset of my tenure as Secretary-General, it is possible to sense a new stirring of hope among the nations of the world and a recognition that an immense opportunity is here to be seized. Not since the end of the Second World War have the expectations of the world’s peoples depended so much upon the capacity of the United Nations for widely supported and effective action.
5. As I write this report, one great reality stands out: never before in its history has the United Nations been so action-oriented, so actively engaged and so widely expected to respond to needs both immediate and pervasive. Clearly, it is in our power to bring about a renaissance-to create a new United Nations for a new international era.
6. The transition from the old to the new United Nations is neither easy nor risk-free. We are still absorbing the lessons of the end of the cold war. The bipolar competition, which carried an everpresent threat of nuclear devastation, provided a tenuous framework for international relations. New and more enduring structures must now be built. As we look towards days filled with promise, we must also be prepared to deal with uncertainty. The departure of one set of global problems has been followed by the emergence of a multitude of others.
7. In my view, the United Nations has not confronted a time of such significance since the period of its founding in 1945. The years between 1992 and the fiftieth anniversary in 1995 may well determine the course and contribution of the Organization for the next generation or more. Improvement is a never-ending task. Yet there is an expectation, which I wish to see fulfilled, that a fundamental renewal of the United Nations will be complete by the time it marks its first half-century of existence.
8. It is in this setting that, in accordance with Article 98 of the Charter, and eight months into my tenure as Secretary-General, I submit my first annual report on the work of the Organization. In these pages I seek to give my sense of the Organization and its changing role at a time when the world community is entering largely uncharted territory. We need a new spirit of commonality, commitment and intellectual creativity to transform a period of hope into an era of fulfilment.
9. In the second section of my report, I discuss the process of change that the United Nations is undergoing as an institution; the third section deals with the challenge of international cooperation for development; and the fourth section looks at the United Nations peace-keeping operations throughout the

world. Finally, I return to the dominant theme of my report, which is that the current international situation requires an Organization capable of dealing comprehensively with the economic, social, environmental and political dimensions of human development. This requires the full application of the principles of democracy within the family of nations and within our Organization. I take this as my central priority as Secretary-General.

II. The United Nations as an institution

A. Expanding responsibilities

10. Each major turning-point in the course of this century has been reflected by changes in the community of States. The founding of the United Nations confirmed the centrality of the sovereign State as the primary entity of international relations. The end of the colonial era during the midcentury decades brought many new Member States into the United Nations. Today, the transition from one international era to another is symbolized by the wave of new Member States that have now taken their seats in the General Assembly: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan—all joining the Organization in the first eight months of 1992. Most of these new States represent people who have recently gained freedom. They embody a renewal of the fundamental concept of the State by which peoples find a unity and a voice in the international community.

11. In many of these lands, cold-war constraints served to suppress deep-rooted antagonisms. Ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic diversities were held in check by political suppression or by the threat of outside intervention and dangerous escalation. Far fewer reasons for restraint exist today. A resurgence of open rivalry and strife is now taking place. As many new States find themselves free to pursue more open forms of economic policy that promise progress, the very achievement of statehood often involves the breakdown of old and predictable patterns of economic interaction.

12. Today, no State is immune to the revolutionary changes in the international system. Old assumptions, preconceptions and structures have been swept away in a torrent of change. While change brings renewal and a fresh dynamic, it can also bring disruption and violence. The task of adjusting the institutions of international relations will have to take place in a period of tumultuous upheaval. The process of adjustment will be painful and costly, yet we have an unrivalled opportunity to breathe new life into our vocabulary and institutions.

13. Present demands on the United Nations have no precedent in its history. The presence of the Organization is being more intensely felt world wide as it helps people in danger, need or despair. The United Nations is constantly at work: from Security Council meetings and consultations on an almost continuous basis to peace-keeping operations in four continents; from good offices and quiet diplomacy to essential humanitarian missions and responses to emergencies all over the world; from major economic and social conferences, such as the Earth Summit, to technical cooperation activities in practically every developing country.

14. The turning-point in the scale and scope of United Nations activities can be discerned after the year 1987. For the first time in many years, agreement on a wide range of issues became possible, effectively marking an end to the cold war. Yet this same point also can be seen to mark the beginning of shockwaves caused by the reawakening of old conflicts and the emergence of a number of new rivalries. A consequent increase in United Nations activities can be traced quite clearly after 1987.

15. Graphic illustrations of the expanding role of the United Nations are depicted in charts at the end of section V. In reviewing the work of the Organization over the course of the past five years, one cannot avoid the feeling of looking at a qualitatively different body. Some figures speak volumes about the changing international scene.

Expanding activities of the Security Council

16. The Security Council's workload today, when compared with that of the cold-war period, reveals a dramatic increase. The extent of change can be discerned in the sheer number of scheduled activities. In all of 1987, the Council met 49 times, whereas in the first seven months of 1992 alone there were 81 official meetings. The same drastically changed pattern is reflected in the number of consultations. In 1987, there were 360 bilateral consultations; in the first seven months of 1992, 598 took place. Similarly, in 1987 there were 43 consultations of the whole, yet the first seven months of 1992 produced 119. As a consequence of such expanded activity, 14 Security Council resolutions were adopted in all of 1987. In the first seven months of 1992, there were 46. As for presidential statements, there were 9 in 1987, while in the first seven months of 1992 alone, 43 were issued (see figures 1 and 2).

Expanding role of peace-keeping

17. Between 1948 and 1987, the United Nations established 13 peace-keeping operations. Since 1988, 13 new peace-keeping operations have been organized in addition to 5 which have continued from the earlier period. Currently, the United Nations administers 12 peace-keeping operations in various regions of the world (see figures 5 and 6).

18. Nearly 40,000 authorized military personnel are serving under United Nations command in peacekeeping operations around the world. Peace-keeping operations approved at present are estimated to cost close to \$3 billion in the current 12-month period, more than four times the previous highest annual figure-and this only if no new operations are required. The nature of peace-keeping operations is evolving rapidly and requires, in addition to military personnel, substantial numbers of civilians, including specialists in electoral procedures, health, finance, engineering and administration. Their work is crucial to post-conflict peace-building.

19. The reality of those remarkable increases is revealed in raw numbers. In 1987, there were 9,666 military personnel deployed. In mid-1992, the number deployed stood at 38,144. As for police personnel deployed, in 1987 there were 35; at present, 2,461 police are deployed; in 1987 there were 877 civilians employed in peace-keeping operations; as of August 1992, the number of international and local civilian personnel reached 9,461 (see figure 4).

Expanding mandates of the Secretariat

20. The responsibilities of the Organization's administrative body have expanded in a corresponding fashion, also vividly demonstrating the remarkable change from cold-war levels of activity to those at the present time. This year, to date, 75 diplomatic missions of fact-finding, representation and good offices have been undertaken on my behalf. In response to requests from the General Assembly, 189 reports have been submitted by the Secretary-General to the Assembly during its recent session. In 1987, the Secretary-General received only 87 such requests.

21. On the other hand, available resources have not paralleled the rapid expansion of United Nations activities. In 1987, the number of United Nations posts financed by the regular budget was 11,409. Today, in 1992, it has decreased to 10,100, despite the enormous increase in responsibilities entrusted to the Organization. The regular budget itself has not increased significantly, in real terms, since the mid-1980s (see figure 3).

22. I welcome those increased duties and responsibilities. They signal a recognition that the United Nations is the strongest hope for a better world. I welcome the added demands they place upon the Organization and accept the challenge they pose in requiring a search for greater efficiency in the conduct of its mandated activities. Under these circumstances, I have taken and will continue to take all reasonable measures to increase the efficiency, productivity and responsiveness of the Secretariat.

B. Streamlining the Secretariat

23. An effective response to the enormous responsibilities and opportunities inherent in this era will require the fullest possible cooperation between Member States, the Secretary-General and the staff of the Organization. For my part, to meet the new challenges and adapt the Organization to the evolving demands of the times, I have initiated the process of restructuring the Secretariat. My intention is to make the most effective use of resources at my disposal through a rationalization and streamlining of structures and procedures, as well as managerial improvements. A more effective and efficient Secretariat means clearer and more direct lines of responsibility, the capacity to deploy staff and resources where they are most needed and the ability to respond flexibly to new requests and changing mandates.

24. The General Assembly has before it the outcome of the first phase of that restructuring. A number of offices have been regrouped, related functions and activities have been consolidated and the redeployment of resources has been undertaken. Unnecessary bureaucratic layers have been reduced through the elimination of several highlevel posts. Lines of responsibility have been more clearly defined by concentrating the decisionmaking process in seven key departments at Headquarters under eight Under-Secretaries-General. The needs of each component of the Secretariat are now being re-evaluated with a view, on the one hand, to eliminating any remaining duplication and redundancy and, on the other, to reinforcing those offices and departments with expanding mandates and responsibilities.

25. A greater integration of efforts in support of development was the main objective of the first phase of the restructuring in the economic and social area. This will be pursued and further relined in the second phase. The capacity of the Secretariat to provide a timely and coordinated response to complex emergencies and the delivery of humanitarian assistance has also been consolidated and strengthened.

26. In the political sector, the purpose is to strengthen the support provided to the SecretaryGeneral in matters related to the maintenance of international peace and security and to enable the Secretariat to respond swiftly and efficiently to the mandates of the Security Council and the General Assembly. My aim is to develop an enhanced capacity for good offices, preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, research and analysis and early warning, as well as to strengthen the planning and managerial capability of the Secretariat in peacekeeping.

27. I believe that the Secretariat will be better able to provide more effective and integrated assistance to Member States with a streamlined structure comprising components with clearly delineated responsibilities and greater managerial accountability and better aware of the essential linkages among the various mandates of the Organization.

28. While the first phase of the reorganization was focused on offices at Headquarters, I am now extending the process of reform to other parts of the Organization, with special attention to the economic and social sectors. A primary objective will be a more effective Organization-wide distribution of responsibilities and balance between functions performed at Headquarters and those carried out by the regional commissions and other United Nations organs and programmes, based on a clear understanding of our priorities and the comparable advantage of each component. I am seeking broadly representative high-level advice on these complex issues from an independent panel of experts to help me ensure that the Organization as a whole provides Governments with advice and support adapted to their changing needs.

29. I firmly believe that the focus of the United Nations must remain in the “field”, where economic, social and political decisions take effect. A unified United Nations presence at the country level, would, in my view, greatly enhance the impact of the organization and facilitate inter-agency coordination in support of national action. I intend to work further towards that end. The experience of the United Nations Interim Offices, which I have asked the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to establish in six countries of the former Soviet Union, will be drawn upon to further this integrated approach.

30. Strengthening linkages between global strategies and operational activities in the field is a major concern. Current intergovernmental discussions on the reform of operational activities and their governance can be of great significance in this regard. It is important that the restructuring should be supportive of this objective and lead not only to a more dynamic Organization, but also contribute to greater coherence and effectiveness for the entire United Nations system.

Administrative Committee on Coordination

31. As the highest body bringing together the executive heads of all the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) must be the guiding force to promote coherence in the work of the system. The firmest foundation for effective coordination, I am convinced, is a strong commitment on the part of all concerned to an international civil service whose conditions are administered in a truly common system and which shares clear common objectives and goals.

32. As we look towards the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, with various reforms under consideration, it is essential that the current system should be made to work to the full extent of its potential. In that respect, I am sure that the specialized agencies will want to ensure that their autonomy is consistent with the overall view which the world situation demands. Impressively, this was the attitude of the Directors-General of the specialized agencies and the heads of the Bretton Woods institutions and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), who make up the membership of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, at the meeting of that Committee, held at Geneva from 8 to 10 April 1992.

33. One reason why the problem of coordination has appeared intractable is the fact that the structure was devised in 1946 at San Francisco on the basis of a deliberate decision to organize international cooperation through the combined action of the United Nations, on the one hand, and a number of autonomously functioning specialized agencies, on the other. Functional autonomy is explicitly and implicitly recognized in the agreements concluded from that time onwards between the United Nations and the existing or future specialized agencies. The system with which we are operating has remained virtually unchanged over the last 46 years.

34. The need to improve coordination has been a continuing theme in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the governing bodies of the organizations which make up the United Nations system. The many efforts made so far have brought modest and partial improvements.

35. The executive heads of the agencies of the United Nations family all believe that a fresh look is urgently required to enable the system to meet new challenges and objectives, including the ambitious goals recently set by the Rio de Janeiro Conference with respect to sustainable development and the environment. They are fully in agreement that, in the months to come, the problem of coordination must be tackled seriously at the level of both programmes and operational activities. The goal is to ensure that the services which the system provides to Governments are coherent, that its component parts draw on one another's resources rather than duplicating them, and that there is selectivity and coordination in coverage.

36. Alongside current efforts to revitalize central intergovernmental bodies, particularly the Economic and Social Council, reforms in the functioning of the Administrative Committee on Coordination itself are in order. Intergovernmental bodies need an effective and responsive ACC in a position to bring to bear on their work the wealth of experience and the wide range of analytical and operational capabilities available throughout the system, and able to support it with well-grounded policy options. In turn, the effectiveness of ACC depends in many ways on a better coordination of national and group positions in the various governing bodies of the system and on the capacity of the United Nations intergovernmental machinery to build a strong international consensus, based on a comprehensive approach to global, regional and national security, which can guide and harness the work of the various organizations of the system.

37. As its Chairman, I intend to give close personal attention to the work of ACC. Our objectives should include: better focused inter-agency consultations; enhanced system-wide arrangements for data exchange; clear agendas for common action supported by strong analysis and wide consultations; active direct contacts among executive heads outside formal meetings; and a streamlining and continuous assessment of existing consultative mechanisms and constant adaptation of them to meet evolving needs.

38. In agreement with the members of ACC, I have commissioned a comprehensive study by a high-level consultant of the functioning of this key body with a view to developing new approaches to system-wide collaboration and ensuring that the structures of inter-agency coordination are well adapted to the challenges ahead. Further steps will be taken when I have received the report and its recommendations.

C. Reinvigorating the International Civil Service

39. The restructuring process I have initiated must be accompanied by a deeper appreciation of and respect for the International Civil Service. My efforts at organizational reform within the Secretariat will be successful only if they are accompanied by strong political support to preserve the integrity, international character and independence of the staff of the Organization. Of all the tangible and intangible resources available to the Organization and to the Secretary-General, nothing matches the worth of its staff. They must be provided conditions of employment which ensure that the service will continue to attract the best qualified personnel from all parts of the world. At this time of unprecedented responsibilities and ever-expanding mandates, the Secretariat of the United Nations is stretched thinly across a widening range of activities. The confidence of the international community in the Organization's ability to respond swiftly, effectively and impartially rests largely on the performance of its staff.

40. Since I assumed office I have been repeatedly impressed by the dedication and versatility of the United Nations staff. In the course of less than a year they have responded to many hitherto unfamiliar tasks. Many have assumed new or additional functions or volunteered for mission service at short notice, often in hardship and dangerous situations-frequently compelled to leave their families behind for extended periods. They have done so willingly, in the interests of building a new society, ensuring the fairness of an electoral process or facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance. At Headquarters, staff members are responding on a 24-hour basis to the constant requirements of complex operations in many time zones, servicing double or triple the number of meetings, and producing increasing volumes of documentation with shorter and shorter deadlines. They are being called upon to undertake research and provide policy options in a rapidly changing world where long-established modes of thinking and acting are being constantly questioned or redefined. Others are managing, in a situation of financial uncertainty, complex operations involving tens of thousands of military and civilian personnel in the field.

41. In any institution restructuring and change are unsettling for the staff, and that is particularly so at a time when substantially increased demands are being made on them. I am fully aware of current concerns, and I am counting on the dedicated professionalism of my staff to cope with the demands of this period of

transition. I want them to grasp the inherent possibilities of the expanding role of the Organization. I see here a unique opportunity to build a stronger, more self-reliant Secretariat, where the best traditions of public service are combined with modern management practices.

42. Once the current phases of restructuring have been completed, I intend to focus on the improvement of the conditions of service, including salaries, long-term recruitment policies, grade structure and career development opportunities. I should like to build an Organization based on competitive recruitment at all levels, with career development policies which will motivate and reward staff for creativity, versatility and mobility, and the comprehensive training necessary to adjust staff skills to changing requirements. It is to tally unacceptable that some staff members receive national subsidies to support their emoluments, while others are subjected to a salary freeze owing to considerations of financial restraint. I intend to avoid politicization of the Secretariat, to resist outside pressures which favour a few at the expense of the majority, and to give proper recognition to the contributions and talents of many who may not have received equal attention in the past, including women in all parts of the Organization.

43. As I have said, I am committed to eliminating unnecessary bureaucratic levels, abolishing duplication and using the human and financial resources at my disposal in the most efficient and responsible manner possible. I believe that the staff have demonstrated that they share my aspirations and are rising to the challenge to make the Organization the most effective instrument possible for peace and development.

D. Securing financial stability

44. The Organization is being restructured to serve its ends anew. Yet amid the tumult of demands placed upon it, the United Nations cannot afford to become a victim of its own popularity, suffering from a crisis of expectations rather than, as in the past, from a lack of credibility in its capacity to command consensus. In carrying out its added responsibilities, the institutional innovation and political resilience of the Organization have been as striking as its financial insecurity. To ensure that the Organization is fully prepared to respond to the new requirements of international action, the United Nations will need the unstinting financial support of its Members.

45. The programme budget of the United Nations for the current biennium was adopted by the General Assembly by consensus. The same consensus prevailed for the adoption of the previous programme budget, as well as for the acceptance of all major budgets of recent peace-keeping operations. Such broad agreement of all Member States—major and other contributors to the financing of the Organization—represents a significant and welcome change from the not too distant past. A major step forward in this regard was General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, which established a new budgetary process for the United Nations.

46. A fundamental aspect of General Assembly resolution 41/213, calling for payment in full and on time by all Member States of their assessed contributions, however, has yet to be implemented. As of September 1992, only 52 Member States had paid in full their dues to the regular budget of the United Nations. Unpaid assessed contributions totalled \$908.5 million. Unpaid contributions towards peace-keeping operations stood at \$844.4 million. At the end of August 1992, I was able to pay the salaries of the regular staff of this Organization only by borrowing from peace-keeping funds with available cash. Perennial shortages, the absence of reserves, and a debilitating uncertainty over the immediate future are the main characteristics of the financial situation of the United Nations.

47. When putting into effect Article 17 of the Charter, which states that the General Assembly considers and approves the budget of the Organization, Member States have an opportunity to examine in depth the budget proposals of the Secretary-General. At that time, it is their privilege and their duty to question, sometimes to criticize and, in all cases, to analyse both the basic orientation and the detailed provisions of

the various budgets of the Organization. After adoption, especially when such adoption occurs by consensus, it is the obligation of Member States to pay in full and on time their assessed contributions in order to ensure the financing of all activities of the Organization which Member States themselves consider and approve. The simple reason for the present deplorable financial situation of the Organization remains the fact that a number of Member States do not meet their obligations. Figure `3 below illustrates the dimension of what has become the perennial financial plight of the United Nations.

48. There are two main areas of concern: the ability of the Organization to function over the longer term; and the immediate requirements to respond to a crisis.

49. A number of proposals are before the General Assembly to remedy the financial situation of the United Nations in all its aspects. I urge that they be acted upon.

50. To deal with the cash-flow problems caused by the exceptionally high level of unpaid contributions, as well as with the problem of inadequate working capital reserves, it is proposed that:

- (a) Interest be charged on the amounts of assessed contributions that are not paid on time;
- (b) Certain financial regulations of the United Nations to permit the retention of budgetary surpluses be suspended;
- (c) The Working Capital Fund be increased to a level of \$250 million, with endorsement of the principle that the level of the Fund should be approximately 25 per cent of the annual assessment under the regular budget;
- (d) A temporary peace-keeping reserve fund be established at a level of \$50 million, in order to meet initial expenses of peace-keeping operations, pending receipt of assessed contributions;
- (e) The Secretary-General be authorized to borrow commercially, should other sources of cash be inadequate.

51. The establishment of a United Nations peace endowment fund, with an initial target of \$1 billion, has also been proposed. The fund would be created by a combination of assessed and voluntary contributions, with the latter being sought from Governments and the private sector, as well as individuals. Once the fund reached its target level, the proceeds from the investments of its principal would be used to finance the initial costs of authorized peace-keeping operations, other conflict resolution measures and related activities.

52. In addition to those proposals, other ideas include: a levy on arms sales that could be related to maintaining an arms register by the United Nations; a levy on international air travel, which depends upon the maintenance of peace; authorization for the United Nations to borrow from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, for peace and development are interdependent; general tax exemption for contributions made to the United Nations by foundations, businesses and individuals; and changes in the formula for calculating the scale of assessments for peacekeeping operations.

53. As such ideas are debated, a stark fact remains: the financial foundations of the Organization daily grow weaker, debilitating its political will and practical capacity to undertake new and essential activities. This state of affairs must not continue. Whatever decisions are taken on financing the Organization, there is one inescapable necessity: Member States must pay their assessed contributions in full and on time. Failure to do so puts them in breach of their obligations under the Charter.

54. In those circumstances and on the assumption that Member States will be ready to finance operations for peace in a manner commensurate with their present and welcome readiness to establish them, I recommend the following:

- (a) Immediate establishment of a revolving peace-keeping reserve fund of \$50 million;
- (b) Agreement that one third of the estimated cost of each new peace-keeping operation be appropriated by the General Assembly as soon as the Security Council decides to establish the operation; that would give the Secretary-General the necessary commitment authority and assure an adequate cash flow; the balance of the costs would be appropriated after the General Assembly approved the operation's budget;
- (c) Acknowledgement by Member States that, under exceptional circumstances, political and operational considerations may make it necessary for the Secretary-General to employ his authority to place contracts without competitive bidding.

55. Member States wish the Organization to be managed with the utmost efficiency and care. I am in full accord. As the present report indicates, I have taken important steps to streamline the Secretariat in order to avoid duplication and overlap, while increasing its productivity. Additional changes and improvements will take place. As regards the United Nations system more widely, I continue to review the situation in consultation with my colleagues in the Administrative Committee on Coordination. The question of assuring financial security to the Organization over the long term is of such importance and complexity that public awareness and support must be heightened. I have therefore asked a select group of qualified persons of high international repute to examine this entire subject and to report thereon to me. I intend to present their advice, together with my comments, for the consideration of the General Assembly, in full recognition of the special responsibility that the Assembly has, under the Charter, for financial and budgetary matters.

III. Global partnership for development

56. The end of bipolarity has released vast political energies hitherto held mostly captive to ideological rivalry. The search is now on for institution building, less confrontational approaches to global issues and more productive outlets for the utilization of human, material and technological resources. The decades of cold war had imposed the pre-eminence of political over economic considerations. With the cold war behind us there is a distinct trend towards the economics of international relations shaping its politics.

57. In this context, the United Nations as an institution is uniquely placed to press for global solutions to global problems in the economic field, whether they pertain to aid, trade, technology transfer, commodity prices or debt relief. Collectively, the international community itself is better equipped today for dealing with the recurring man-made and natural disasters which demand compelling attention as the world comes to grips with the economic consequences of the end of the cold war. It is an opportune moment to 'evolve a set of global priorities in the short, intermediate and long term. It is also a propitious time to accelerate the implementation of economic targets agreed upon in a less conducive political climate.

58. Many hopeful areas of consensus are already visible to indicate an embryonic pattern of global partnership for development. Democratic structures, popular participation and observance of human rights are being widely recognized as sources of creativity in the process of development. Above all, a new vision of development is gradually emerging. Development is increasingly becoming a people-centred process whose ultimate goal must be the improvement of the human condition. Viewed thusly, development is a global goal, since the need to strike a balance between social equity and economic growth is near universal—even more so now than earlier because both the industrialized and the developing countries are faced with equally demanding tasks: poverty alleviation for many among the former and recovery from economic stagnation for many among the latter.

59. Most industrialized countries today need to sustain their levels of development and most developing countries need to attain higher levels of development. The ecological sustainability of development further strengthens the global linkages between the economic destinies of the developed and developing countries. As will be seen in paragraphs 75 to 79, the Earth Summit, held at Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, showed that this planet simply cannot be demarcated into separate zones of immunity from and vulnerability to ecological decay. The Rio spirit provided a vision of development that can be realized only through a global partnership.

60. As in the past, the United Nations continues to be an important source for putting forward new approaches and promoting consensus. Many ideas originating at the United Nations, and considered too radical at the time, were eventually adopted as viable policy options by the international community. Examples include concessional lending through the International Development Association, "adjustment with a human face" of the United Nations Children's Fund, negative resource transfers and debt relief, where major conceptual advances were made at the United Nations. I believe that the current concerns for humanizing development will also become an accepted basis for infusing new life into the socio-economic sectors of the work of the Organization.

61. The United Nations still has a continuing obligation to put its weight behind those who are most seriously underprivileged and to address the root causes of the economic decline which still characterizes the situation of many countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and is fast reaching crisis proportions in several of them. It is unacceptable that absolute poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy and hopelessness should be the lot of one fifth of the world's population.

62. The economic situation in Africa is of particular concern. Most Africans are poorer today than they were when their countries achieved independence in the late 1950s and 1960s. The continent as a whole accounts for 32 out of the world's 47 least developed countries. Africa is the only low-income region in the world where the number of people living in poverty is, if the current trends continue, likely to increase by the year 2000. It is also the only region of the world whose total debt equals or exceeds its economic output. The freshly witnessed momentum for political pluralism in Africa can hardly withstand a continuing assault by desertification, famine and deprivation. Poverty is infertile soil for democracy. It breeds a search for survival that cannot be held back by national frontiers. The African countries need to become masters of their economic destiny in a more supportive global framework. In that respect, I was heartened by the fact that Member States responded positively to the call for help to combat the severe drought situation in Africa. The United Nations system must do its utmost to support the implementation of the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s aimed at the accelerated transformation, integration, diversification and growth of African economies through the internalization of the development process and the enhancement of self-reliance.

63. In Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, the central challenge before the international community is to facilitate and assist in a smooth and peaceful management of change by countries of the region. The region needs support for the building and strengthening of democratic institutions, while meeting immediate emergency needs. Provision of humanitarian assistance with the active involvement of the United Nations system will have to be followed in the months ahead by the critical tasks of reconstructing war-torn zones and resettling displaced persons. In the longer run, the success of economic reforms in those countries will depend greatly on fiscal and monetary stability, the reshaping of industrial structures and the establishment of legal and economic institutions capable of coping with the market economy so that investment and capital formation can take place.

A. An integrated approach to development

64. Political progress and economic development are inseparable: both are equally important and must be pursued simultaneously. Political stability is needed to develop effective economic policies, but when economic conditions deteriorate too much, as events not only in developing countries but also in Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States have shown, divisive political strife may take root.

65. The Charter of the United Nations assigns to the Organization the major responsibility of promoting social and economic development, and the various agencies of the United Nations system do indeed make great contributions towards this end.

66. It is essential that the United Nations continue to serve as a forum for the analysis and conceptual formulation of socio-economic problems of particular concern to the developing countries and those in transition to more open economic and political systems. It is clear that the Organization's responsibilities and commitments in the political and security area should not be carried out at the expense of its responsibilities in the development field, and neither should be subordinated to the other. It is essential that they be pursued in an integrated, mutually supporting way.

67. There has never been a more evident need for an integrated approach to:

- (a) The objectives of peace, democracy and human rights, and the requirements of development;
- (b) The needs of development and the protection of the environment;
- (c) The economic as well as the social dimensions of development;
- (d) The interrelationships among trade, finance, investment and technology;
- (e) The meeting of immediate needs for emergency and humanitarian assistance and setting the conditions for long-term development.

68. The United Nations is the only institution capable of comprehensively addressing global problems in their political, humanitarian and socio-economic dimensions. In the new climate of international relations, we must not miss the opportunity to develop the necessary international consensus and policy instruments—and also to adapt United Nations structures, and interactions within the United Nations system—to promote this integrated approach. We must have the necessary vision and political will.

69. The prospects for achieving these objectives will, of course, be brighter in a more robust global economy. In this respect, the past year has not been encouraging. The success stories in some parts of the world notwithstanding, world output as a whole declined in 1991 and there were too few signs of recovery in 1992.

70. In assisting the global economy back on the path of strong recovery, the United Nations is gradually considering a more integrated approach towards development. Conceptually, such an approach recognized linkages between the economic and social dimensions of development. Functionally, it implies mutual feedback among the trade, finance, investment and technology sectors. The aim here should be to ensure that the policy advice and the services which the Organization as a whole provides to Governments are coherent; and that target-bound results replace proliferation of activity.

71. The work of the United Nations should be rooted in sound analysis and understanding of development and global trends—relying on the factfinding capabilities of the United Nations system. It should possess an “early warning” function, able to detect threats to security and well-being from energy crises to the burden of debt, from the risk of famine to the spread of disease.

72. Since taking office, I have participated in two major United Nations conferences in the economic and social development field: the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), held at Cartagena in February 1992, and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development—the Earth Summit—held at Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. In July 1992, I addressed the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council. These gatherings have already shown a new spirit of vitality and a readiness to break fresh ground in development cooperation.

Eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

73. At the eighth session of UNCTAD, participating Governments called upon countries at all stages of development to create a new partnership for development based on the recognition of sovereign equality, mutual interest and shared responsibilities. Central to this partnership is the need for strengthened multilateral cooperation to help translate the broad commitments undertaken by countries into sustained growth in the world economy and a reactivation of development throughout the developing world. I am convinced that it is only through such a partnership that the global community can erase the scourge of poverty and deprivation, provide international support for national reform programmes, encourage efficient use of precious global resources, and address economic and social problems through coherent and mutually reinforcing policies. The eighth session of the Conference was also remarkable for the willingness shown on all sides to use the occasion of the Conference to rethink the directions of the work of the organization and to start with a fresh agenda.

74. At the global level, the interrelationships between trade and development are the central focus of the contribution of UNCTAD. In the present economic context, a greater appreciation of the linkages between trade, foreign investment, and the globalization of economic activities and corporate operations is critical. The role of the United Nations in that respect and its contribution to development and poverty alleviation will be strengthened as a result of the reoriented work programme of the Conference stemming from its eighth session.

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

75. The Earth Summit held at Rio de Janeiro in June marked an important milestone in awakening the world to the need for a development process that does not jeopardize future generations.

76. The Rio Conference achieved consensus in more than one area: first, it secured a set of agreements between Governments which marks a significant advance in international cooperation on development and environment issues. Second, it marshalled political commitment to these arrangements at the highest level and placed the issue of sustainable development at the heart of the international agenda. Third, it opened new paths for communication and cooperation between official and non-official organizations working towards developmental and environmental goals. Fourth, it led to an enormous increase in public awareness of the issues that were tackled in the process—an awareness that ought to facilitate the adoption of policies and the allocation of additional resources to fulfil the task.

77. A comprehensive and far-reaching programme for sustainable development is Agenda 21, which constitutes the centrepiece of international cooperation and coordination activities within the United Nations system for many years to come. Its role in galvanizing international cooperation will be crucial. Building on the spirit of Rio, the implementation of Agenda 21 must be seen as an investment in our future. I call upon the donor community to ensure a flow of new resources which will serve the common interests of the whole world.

78. The adoption of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which launches a process of cooperation aimed at keeping greenhouse gases in the atmosphere within safe limits, was a major achievement. I urge Governments to ratify it as soon as possible.

79. The establishment of a high-level Commission on Sustainable Development in followup to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development will be crucial for achieving the vital environmental and developmental goals outlined in Agenda 21.

United Nations Environment Programs

80. This year marked the culmination of a number of major efforts by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): the strengthening of its Earthwatch Programme; the publication of the State of the Environment 1972-1992; the completion of a comprehensive assessment of desertification; and the entry into force of provisions strengthening the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. UNEP made important contributions to the entire preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and in particular towards the negotiation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which was adopted at Rio.

The 1992 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

81. New approaches to the role of the United Nations system in enhancing international cooperation for development were discussed at the July meeting of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council. I was pleased that members of the Council viewed the objectives of securing peace, development and justice as indivisible and equally essential. They also reiterated that international development cooperation and the eradication of poverty are inextricably linked with the preservation of peace. The two must be pursued with equal vigour.

82. The Economic and Social Council has adopted significant improvements in its methods of work, including a high-level policy segment and the identification of "coordination" and "operational activities" as the main areas of concentration. I have already recommended that the Security Council invite a reinvigorated and restructured Economic and Social Council to provide reports, in accordance with Article 65 of the Charter of the United Nations, on those economic and social developments that may, unless mitigated, threaten international peace and security. I urge Governments to pursue this recommendation.

83. During the high-level segment, I also suggested that the Economic and Social Council might introduce a flexible high-level inter-sessional mechanism in order to facilitate a timely response to evolving socio-economic realities. Through such a mechanism, the Council would, in a continuing dialogue with the organizations of the system, build and expand agreement on common ends and objectives and adapt the economic and social policy agendas to changing requirements. In the framework of an integrated approach to the objectives of the United Nations, such a mechanism would enable the Council to play a central monitoring and surveillance role within the United Nations. I will urge Member States represented in the high-level inter-sessional mechanism to send experts and representatives of stature, who have access to top decision makers and can speak for their Governments on issues of global concern.

84. I fully share the emphasis placed by the Council on the need for enhanced inter-agency cooperation and, in that context, a closer and improved relationship between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions. Through such a closer relationship, the United Nations would bring to bear its overall global responsibilities in the political, humanitarian and socio-economic sphere on the work and the policies of the Bretton Woods institutions. They in turn would lend their analytical and financial support to the achievement of the overall United Nations objectives.

85. The members of the Council expressed concern about levels of official development assistance. I fully share these concerns. There is also a need to take a critical look at its modalities; it is imperative that this assistance be used for fully productive purposes. In recent years, less than one tenth of official development assistance was directed to programmes in the critical human development areas, such as basic education, primary health care, supply of safe water, family planning and nutrition.

B. Action undertaken for development Global economic cooperation

86. Data gathering and analysis, the review of global economic trends and policies, and the provision of analytical support to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in the economic and social fields are key elements of the continuing functions of the Secretariat, as is the substantive support required by these organs and by the Secretary-General in the exercise of overview functions in relation to the work of the United Nations system as a whole. Both the research and the technical cooperation activities undertaken by the Secretariat in New York have increased over the years and have expanded to cover a growing number of areas—science and technology, natural resources, energy, the environment, the role of transnational corporations, public administration and economic management. These activities were consolidated, in the first phase of the reorganization to which I have referred in the second section of this report, in a single Department of Economic and Social Development at Headquarters.

Regional cooperation

87. The United Nations regional commissions have assumed an ever greater role in support of Member States in their respective regions over the years. In April 1992, I addressed the Economic Commission for Europe at Geneva and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at Beijing. In July, I appointed a new Executive Secretary for the Economic Commission for Africa. I will chair the Executive Secretaries Meeting at Addis Ababa in December 1992, at which representatives of the regional commissions will come together. At a time when regional cooperation holds, in many different ways, the key not only to conflict resolution but also to economic and social progress, these regional entities represent more than ever an important asset for the Organization.

88. The capacity of each region to harness its collective strength with respect to trade, investment and technological opportunity will undoubtedly be increasingly essential to their development. The commissions play a major role in this process. Making better use of their potential, for the benefit of both their respective constituencies and the Organization as a whole, will be one of my principal objectives in the forthcoming phases of the restructuring of the economic and social sectors.

Social development

89. Traditionally, United Nations social development activities have concentrated primarily on the most vulnerable groups. In the emerging trend to view the social and economic dimensions of development in a more integrated way, the Organization is also beginning to take a closer look at specific phenomena affecting social cohesion. Once again there are much larger areas of mutually shared concerns among both the developed and the developing countries than have been hitherto recognized. The degrees of social cohesion and the levels of development do not necessarily coincide.

90. The demographic trends in some developed countries indicate that, in the future, a larger number of dependent people is likely to have to be supported by a smaller workforce. Among the developing countries, the very efforts at modernization are tugging at the traditions and institutions which held the social fabric together. As societies at different levels of development cope with increasing pressures on basic social structures, like the family unit, their exposure to the media becomes an additional factor for adaptation. Issues of cultural, religious, ethnic and linguistic diversity are so closely related today to the prospects of

political stability and economic advancement that the involvement of the United Nations in the area of social development is acquiring a qualitatively different nature.

91. A particular emphasis in the Organization's work over the past year has been given to promoting the full participation of women in the development process by helping devise policies that facilitate their access to the basic tools of production, credit and technology and enable them to share in the decision-making process. Efforts have been made to address the problems of discrimination and poverty affecting both rural and urban women, and to bridge the gap between equality de jure and de facto by increasing the awareness of women's legal rights. Considerable progress has been registered in developing a draft declaration on the issue of violence against women. Preparations are already under way for the Fourth World Conference on Women to be held at Beijing in 1995 to review progress made in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

92. The integration of vulnerable groups into the mainstream of development efforts is a valid goal in itself, but it also serves as a guarantee of social peace and political stability. The promotion of respect for minority rights and the designation of 1993 as the International Year of the World's Indigenous People will create the necessary impetus to address their concerns. In addition, the United Nations is fostering awareness in developed and developing countries of the need to integrate the elderly and persons with disabilities into a productive social life.

93. One major development in the last year has been the world-wide mobilization of support for the implementation of the commitments adopted by the World Summit for Children. The Declaration endorsed by the Summit, which has now been signed by some 140 heads of State or Government, sets goals, through which we can save the lives of some

50 million children by the decade's end and improve the lives of millions more. Over 130 countries have prepared or are in the process of developing national programmes of action detailing their strategies to achieve these goals. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is mobilizing analytical and operational capacity from a wide range of United Nations organizations in support of these efforts, which are focused on a broad range of issues, including health, basic education, nutrition, water and sanitation, and the rights of women and children. Non-governmental organizations and the private sector have also been actively involved.

Operational activities

94. Operational activities constitute the practical means by which the mandates of the United Nations in the economic and social fields are put into action. I am committed to using the operational capabilities of the Organization to the fullest to transform into reality our vision of equitable and sustainable development.

95. The basic strengths of the United Nations in the economic and social field lie in its neutrality, impartiality and cultural sensitivity. The focus of development assistance must be continuously adjusted to changes in the world in which it operates. The extensive field network of the United Nations, with offices in the majority of developing countries, should enable the Organization to respond flexibly and rapidly to changing national priorities. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is working across all sectors to assist developing countries in strengthening national capacities for managing all phases of the development process from formulation, design and planning of policies and programming to execution and implementation.

96. The United Nations is increasingly involved in helping to continue the process of democratization and providing technical assistance for the electoral process in a number of countries. I am particularly pleased to respond to the requests for support in this process that I am receiving from Governments. In 1992,

the United Nations has provided technical assistance for elections in Albania, the Congo, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guyana, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Rwanda and Togo, and most notably in Angola. The United Nations is assisting as well in preparations for referendums planned for Eritrea and Western Sahara.

97. Population growth in developing countries is a source of deep and justified concern. Numerous United Nations agencies under the aegis of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) are engaged in the promotion of family planning and other population policies. The collaborative work of UNDP, UNICEF, the World Health Organization and UNFPA in maternal and child health care and family planning in support of national population frameworks is promising. The International Conference on Population and Development to be held in 1994 will be an important occasion to review progress made in this critical area.

98. The symbiosis between drugs and many social and political ills is evident. In addition, the ploughing back of vast proceeds from illicit drug trafficking into international money markets is having increasingly destabilizing consequences for national economies. The question of drug control requires coordinated international effort and, indeed, international legislation. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme encourages Governments to consider drug problems in their totality and also in relation to other social, economic and developmental issues. It provides Governments with guidance and technical cooperation regarding all aspects of drug control, income substitution, law enforcement, treatment and rehabilitation, legislative and institutional reform at the national, subregional and regional levels. The connection between drug trafficking and crime and approaches to crime prevention and criminal justice are reflected in a strengthened United Nations crime programme.

99. The recent increase in emergencies has served to highlight the important contribution of the World Food Programme in providing assistance to affected populations. Over the last two years, the Programme has increased its resources by 50 per cent and is moving increasingly towards integrating food aid with national development strategies. In addition to the provision of food, its logistical support has become an indispensable part of the international response to large-scale relief operations. It is coordinating, within the United Nations system, the transport and logistic efforts for the drought emergency in southern Africa.

Human rights and development

100. The protection of vulnerable groups is only one aspect of the commitment of the United Nations to human rights in general. Human rights are an essential component of sustainable development. Sustainable development is not possible without respect for human rights. Human rights are meaningless in an environment of poverty and deprivation. The Charter of the United Nations places the promotion of human rights as one of our priority objectives, along with promoting development and preserving international peace and security. Achievements to date include the development of a significant body of international standards of universal applicability based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the two International Human Rights Covenants, as well as a wide-ranging system supervising the compliance by States with their international human rights obligations. Particularly significant has been the work of the Centre for Human Rights at Geneva.

101. However, if standards and procedures exist for normal situations, the United Nations has not been able to act effectively to bring to an end massive human rights violations. Faced with the barbaric conduct which fills the news media today, the United Nations cannot stand idle or indifferent. The long-term credibility of our Organization as a whole will depend upon the success of our response to this challenge. I suggest that we explore ways of empowering the Secretary-General and expert human rights bodies to bring massive violations of human rights to the attention of the Security Council, together with recommendations for action.

102. Preventing violations before they occur is also of primary importance. The United Nations must be able to identify situations which could degenerate into violations and to take preventive measures. For example, we are studying those elements which have in the past helped to overcome situations of tension related to minorities. Our impartial intervention based on widely accepted standards could dissipate misunderstandings and help build a framework for living together. An impressive quantity of information on human rights is already available within the United Nations system submitted by Governments, nongovernmental organizations and individuals to committees, commissions, the Secretary-General or various other bodies. The challenge is now to bring this information together in a focused way so as to understand complex situations better and thus be in a position to suggest appropriate action. The World Conference on Human Rights to be held at Vienna in 1993 will be important in this regard.

103. Our long-term objective must be to achieve respect for human rights in every country. Building human rights institutions and promoting the human rights culture necessary for the functioning of such institutions is crucial here in connection with the transition of many countries to democracy. In the recent past, we have learned of the importance of strengthening respect for the rule of law and human rights in general through training, education, information and furnishing of expert advice. Many aspects of country programmes in this area could be carried out within the broader development programmes of United Nations agencies or bilateral donors. At the same time, the manifestations of concern for human rights and democracy must go hand in hand with action on such issues as debt, terms of trade and access to development assistance.

104. In our efforts to build a culture of human rights, we must not forget the importance of human rights workers and non-governmental organizations, nor the courage shown by many who risk their lives and security for the rights of others. Those who work in the field understand that development provides the foundation for human rights advances, and that, equally, human rights are the key which unlocks the creative energies of people so central to economic progress.

C. An agenda for development

105. An integrated approach to this wide range of issues, in sum an agenda for development, can only be promoted through a stronger United Nations. It has to become:

- (a) An organization which views its objectives in respect of economic and social cooperation and development with the same sense of responsibility and urgency as its commitments in the political and security area;
- (b) An organization where the intergovernmental bodies promote policy coherence, and where the Economic and Social Council plays the central role envisaged for it in the Charter of the United Nations;
- (c) An organization which takes full advantage of the central coordinating capacity available to it on economic, social and humanitarian issues, and of the intersectoral capabilities at its disposal in the regional commissions and in the various United Nations programmes and organs;
- (d) An organization whose extensive operational capabilities—available through UNDP, the World Food Programme, UNICEF and UNFPA—are fully supportive of its policy objectives, and where economic and social research and policy analysis, operational activities, humanitarian assistance and the promotion of human rights support and reinforce each other.

106. The further phases of the reorganization of United Nations Secretariat structures in the economic and social field will be geared to those objectives.

107. At the level of the United Nations system, my goal is not only to strengthen the coordination of the contributions which the various organizations of the system are in a position to make, it is also—and perhaps more importantly—to ensure that the overall capacities of the system for research and policy analysis, finance for development and technical assistance are mobilized in a mutually reinforcing, concerted way.

108. I warmly welcome the proposal to convene a world summit for social development in 1995, which has now been endorsed by the Economic and Social Council. Consultations on the preparatory process have already begun. I am confident that the summit would provide leadership at the highest level for a shared world-wide commitment to put people at the centre of development and international cooperation. It would also surely act as a source of inspiration for new ideas and proposals towards the development of a more comprehensive approach to actions of the United Nations system in the social sphere.

109. Respect for human rights is clearly important in order to maintain international peace and security and to achieve social and economic development. In turn, without development, longterm enjoyment of human rights and democracy will prove illusory, and war, of course, is the antithesis of both. Good governance, democracy, participation, an independent judiciary, the rule of law, and civil peace create conditions necessary to economic progress. Increasingly, each area of our Organization sees the relevance of human rights in its own objectives and programmes. The Vienna World Conference on Human Rights in 1993 will bring together world leaders at the highest level. We look to this conference to reaffirm the need for the full implementation of economic, social and cultural rights, together with civil and political rights, and to reaffirm the link between development and the enjoyment of all human rights.

IV. Peace endeavours

A. An overview of United Nations activities

110. With the collective security role of the United Nations impaired in the post-Second World War era by the deep divisions between the two major nuclear nations, the United Nations created a new procedure to advance the cause of peace. “Peace-keeping” entered the international vocabulary with a fairly specific meaning: the employment of troops under United Nations command in non-violent operations, with the consent of parties to a conflict, for the purpose of maintaining stability in numerous areas of tension around the world.

111. The cold war confronted the international community with a singular threat to security; now, a widely varying array of resentments, ambitions, rivalries and hatreds masked for decades have come to the fore to threaten international harmony and shared purpose.

112. The nature of peace-keeping operations has evolved rapidly in recent years. The established principles and practices of peace-keeping have responded flexibly to new demands. The most notable feature of change in dealing with regional conflicts is that peace-keeping is no longer solely a military function. It is now almost always the case that operations undertaken by the United Nations must include civilian police, electoral personnel, human rights experts, information specialists and a significant number of political advisory staff. In Asia, Europe, Africa and in the western hemisphere new forms of conflict require a comprehensive approach.

113. Just as today no two conflicts are the same, so the design of cooperation and the division of labour in the service of peace, stability and renewal after conflict must be approached with flexibility and creativity adapted to each particular situation. In this regard, regional arrangements and agencies have new contributions to make.

114. Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations envisages a clear role for regional arrangements and agencies as part of a structure for coping with international peace and security issues. In the past, regional arrangements were created because of the absence of a universal system for collective security; thus, their activities often worked at cross-purposes with the sense of solidarity required for the effectiveness of the world Organization. The cold war crippled the proper use of Chapter VIII and indeed, in that era regional arrangements worked on occasion against resolving disputes in the manner foreseen by the Charter. But in the post-cold-war period, regional organizations can play a crucial role, if their activities are undertaken in a manner consistent with the principles of Chapter VIII.

115. This is a critical moment to advance this concept and fulfil this opportunity. In many of the instances in which the United Nations has been active during 1992, regional organizations have played a part, particularly on the peacemaking side. My aim is to see that, in any new division of labour, the United Nations retains its primacy in the maintenance of international peace and security, while its burden is lightened, and its mission reinforced and underlined by the active involvement of appropriate regional arrangements and agencies. The exact modalities of this division of labour remain to be worked out, as regional organizations, no less than the United Nations itself, redefine their missions in the post-cold-war period.

116. The range of conflict we see today is immense. To provide a sense of this, the following review, based on events as of the end of August, surveys most, but not all, peace operations under way at present as represented on the map (see figure 6). The United Nations attaches equal importance to all these conflicts; when it comes to death and misery, no one situation takes priority over another.

Cyprus

117. The intensive efforts over the past year to reach agreement on the set of ideas on an overall framework agreement on Cyprus culminated in five weeks of meetings under my auspices with the leaders of the two communities. While these talks did not achieve the goal that one could have expected, a set of ideas has now been sufficiently developed to enable the two sides to reach an overall agreement. I share the Security Council's expectation, reflected in its resolution 771(1992), that when the talks resume on 26 October 1992, the two leaders will pursue direct and uninterrupted negotiations to reach an agreement.

Ethiopia and Eritrea

118. In order to promote democracy, I have been actively engaged in efforts to provide the Government of Ethiopia with assistance in the organization of regional elections. In the same vein, and as part of transitional assistance, I have been actively engaged in consultations aiming at the provision of United Nations assistance for the conduct of the planned referendum in Eritrea. A technical team visited Eritrea in August to collect information required for the involvement of the United Nations in the referendum process. Shortly, I shall assign two officers to Asmara to assist in the initial preparations and I shall report to the General Assembly in order to obtain a mandate for further action.

Haiti

119. Following the overthrow of President Aristide in September 1991, the Organization of American States (OAS) has taken the lead in restoring democracy in Haiti. The United Nations has supported OAS in that regard, and my mandate, by General Assembly resolution 46/7 of 11 October 1991, has been to provide the Secretary-General of that Organization with the support he might seek. I accepted his proposal to include a representative of the Secretary-General in a high-level mission of OAS to Haiti, which took place from 18 to 21 August. Nothing that the mission heard in Haiti during its visit indicates that the parties are closer to agreement than before. The Secretary-General of OAS has proposed to deploy to Haiti a first group of

observers. In my view, the deployment of a mission, adequately staffed, with a well-defined mandate and the ability to visit the entire country, could play a useful role. I intend to continue to cooperate with OAS and to stand ready to help in any other way to solve the Haitian crisis.

Liberia

120. My representatives and I have been in regular contact with the leadership of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and with other leaders in the region. In this connection, I support the efforts of ECOWAS towards a peaceful settlement of the Liberian situation. At its fifteenth session, held at Dakar from 27 to 29 July 1992, the heads of State and Government of ECOWAS invited the United Nations to facilitate the verification and monitoring of the electoral process. Between May and July 1992, I sent two consultants to Liberia to evaluate the availability of population data and the situation of constituency maps and to provide support to the Electoral Commission of Liberia. I am continuing with my endeavours to assist in the organization and conduct of the planned election.

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

121. At the request of the Security Council, I have been endeavouring to persuade the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to comply with resolutions for the purpose of establishing responsibility for the terrorist acts against Pan American flight 103 and Union de transports aériens flight 772, and contributing to the elimination of international terrorism. In the context of Security Council resolution 731(1992), I have dispatched six United Nations missions to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya: on 26 January, 24 February, 27 February, 7 April, 11 May and 20 August. On each occasion, my envoy carried a letter from me to Colonel Muammar Qaddafi. These missions so far have not produced a full and effective response to the Council requests. This effort to achieve compliance with the resolutions of the Council will continue.

The Middle East

122. Developments of the past year have had stark consequences for the Palestinian people, including the 2.6 million refugees served by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The aftermath of the Gulf crisis has continued to cause hardship for tens of thousands of Palestinians who lost jobs and employment opportunities in Kuwait and other Arab Gulf States. Their influx into camps and towns in Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Lebanon and the occupied territories has further tightened the already overstretched financial resources of UNRWA.

123. New challenges are arising from the more positive developments of the past year in the Middle East, namely, the start of substantive discussions between Israel, its Arab neighbours and the Palestinians over the framework of a peace settlement. The situation calls for a spirit of compromise and a mutual building of confidence.

Republic of Moldova

124. The conflict which erupted between the Dniester region's separatists and the Government has been at the centre of the peaceful settlement efforts of the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. Concerned about the escalation of violence, I sent a factfinding mission to the area at the end of June. On 21 July, an agreement was signed by the Moldovan and Russian presidents, resulting in the consolidation of a cease-fire monitored by a trilateral peace-keeping force. Following the Republic of Moldova's request for a United Nations observer mission, I sent the fact-finding mission back to the Republic of Moldova from 25 to 29 August. The mission noted that the situation in the Republic of Moldova had greatly improved; the escalation of violence has been reversed; and the parties to the conflict have been cooperating in the implementation of most of the provisions of the 21 July Agreement, including

mechanisms such as the trilateral peace-keeping force. However, the prevailing conditions remain fragile and could rapidly deteriorate if negotiations towards an overall settlement do not progress more quickly.

Mozambique

125. At the invitation of the Government of Mozambique, issued in June, the United Nations is participating as an observer in the Italian-mediated talks between the Government and the Resistência Nacional Moçambicana, joining France, Portugal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. The talks have been going on in Rome since 1990, and the recent declaration by the two parties establishing an October deadline for the cease-fire augurs well for the peace process. I have made it clear that the United Nations stands ready to support the envisaged electoral process as necessary, including the provision of electoral specialists and other relevant assistance. An electoral mission left for Mozambique on 4 September; it was followed by a technical team on 6 September. The Organization's efforts with Mozambique will be important in the region as a whole and the measures required must be approached as a comprehensive package.

Nagorno-Karabakh

126. The four-and-a-half-year-long conflict in and around Nagorno-Karabakh has left some 3,000 dead and over half a million refugees and displaced persons. Concern over the deteriorating situation and the threat to regional peace and security led to two United Nations fact-finding missions being sent to the area, from 16 to 21 March and from 21 to 28 May, in support of the efforts of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) to achieve a peaceful settlement. A third mission was dispatched from 4 to 10 July to investigate Azerbaijani claims that Armenia had used chemical weapons, but found no evidence to that effect. Preliminary peace talks in Rome, sponsored by CSCE, were attended by a United Nations observer to look at arrangements for a cease-fire.

South Africa

127. Following the Boipatong massacre in June, I discussed the situation in South Africa with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, R. F. Botha, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Mr. Nelson Mandela, respectively. During the course of my official visit at the end of June to Abuja (Nigeria) and my attendance at the summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity held at Dakar (Senegal), I continued talks with these leaders and, in addition, with the representative of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, Mr. Clarence Makwetu. I urged them to resume negotiations and reported on my discussions to the Security Council.

128. On 16 July 1992, after hearing statements by the principal representatives of the abovementioned parties, all of whom were in attendance, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 765(1992), which invited the Secretary-General to appoint a special representative. I named Mr. Cyrus R. Vance, who visited South Africa immediately after the adoption of the resolution. Also, at the request of the parties, 10 United Nations observers witnessed mass action during the week commencing 3 August 1992. The United Nations observers worked in close cooperation with the National Peace Secretariat during that week to observe mass mobilization, demonstrations and political rallies.

129. Following the adoption of Security Council resolution 772(1992) on 17 August 1992, 50 United Nations observers have been deployed in order to address effectively the areas of concern noted in my report of 7 August 1992, in coordination with the structures set up by the National Peace Accord. The international community must continue to assist the people of South Africa as a whole in their effort to bring an effective end to the violence and create conditions for negotiations leading towards a peaceful transition to a democratic, non-racial and united South Africa.

Western Sahara

130. In my efforts to reactivate the implementation of the settlement plan, I have tried to overcome the obstacles to the holding of a referendum. The differences over the criteria for eligibility to vote persist. My special representative has continued efforts to break the deadlock in which the settlement plan has found itself since the beginning of this year. Since my report on the subject of 20 August 1992, my special representative has started negotiations with the two parties concerned in order to reach an agreement on the interpretation of the criteria relating to voter eligibility. The outcome of these negotiations will be reported to the Security Council.

B. An analysis of five conflicts

131. As the preceding list indicates, involvement by the United Nations has taken many forms, depending both on the nature of the situation itself and on the role which the United Nations has been called upon to perform. We have dispatched fact-finding missions and special representatives; observer teams have been deployed under United Nations auspices; there have been peace-keeping operations involving substantial numbers of United Nations troops and police; major humanitarian operations, sometimes involving millions of refugees and displaced persons, have been organized; and an active role in peace-building has brought involvement by the United Nations in the establishment of electoral machinery and participatory processes and even, in some cases, in providing advice and assistance on the writing of constitutions. The response has involved many agencies and has been multidisciplinary. The multiplicity of responses by the United Nations has therefore been as remarkable as the number and complexity of the situations with which we have been asked to deal.

132. To illustrate more fully the current range of challenges to United Nations peace operations, five conflicts warrant analysis: Cambodia, Yugoslavia, Somalia, Angola and El Salvador. These undertakings were all initiated, or have witnessed major developments, since I took office. All involve non-State parties whose cooperation is crucial for success. Each has a special character, yet all, in one way or another, require a comprehensive approach to peace-keeping or peace-building. The integrated approach described in section III of the present report applies not only to structural and developmental matters but to peace and security issues as well. In Asia, in Europe, in Africa and in the western hemisphere, new forms of conflict are giving rise to new forms of peace operations. The operations in Cambodia, Angola, Somalia, El Salvador and the former Yugoslavia, which I wish to highlight in this section, epitomize, in my view, the Organization's role in peace-keeping in the broader sense in which it now is coming to be understood.

133. Increasingly, United Nations peacekeeping forces are being established in situations where the success of the operation depends on the cooperation of non-governmental entities or irregular groups. This presents the Organization with a whole new set of problems, such as the lack of a unified or single chain of command, and difficulty in identifying the real source of authority and in establishing direct dialogue with the real as opposed to the formal leadership of these movements, factors which in turn may result in agreements not being honoured at lower levels. Frequently, these entities or groups, lacking international recognition, encounter obstacles in obtaining participation in peace conferences or intergovernmental consultations and have thus not always been parties to the political agreements underpinning the establishment of a peace-keeping force. It is also not uncommon for the leadership of these groups to be located in geographically remote areas lacking an established liaison with the United Nations Force Commander. Their very nature may lead them in turn to a generally mistrustful view of the outside world and of the intergovernmental community in particular, and to their being less susceptible to outside influence, while their often clandestine status sometimes makes it all the more difficult to obtain, where the need arises, reliable information about the locations, number of combatants or inventories of weapons.

Cambodia

134. As a result of the Agreements on a Comprehensive Political Settlement, concluded at the Paris Conference of October 1991, the United Nations has undertaken in Cambodia one of the most ambitious and complex peace-keeping operations of its history. The mandate entrusted to the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and its estimated cost, if not its size, are indeed unprecedented. On the military side, the operation involves performing the difficult tasks of supervision, monitoring and verification of the cease-fire, the withdrawal of foreign troops, and the regrouping, cantonment, disarming and subsequent demobilization of the armed forces of the four Cambodian factions. On the civilian side, it includes innovative responsibilities, such as the control and supervision of the activities of the existing administrative structures and police forces, as well as measures to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the investigation and redress of human rights violations.

135. The United Nations has also been given, for the first time, the responsibility of organizing and conducting free and fair elections, which are scheduled to take place in late April or early May 1993. The repatriation of some 360,000 refugees and displaced persons is a critical element of the overall settlement and is being carried out as an integral part of the operation, with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees acting as the lead agency. In addition, UNTAC is responsible for the coordination of a major programme of rehabilitation assistance launched during my visit to Phnom Penh last April. In other words, the United Nations is faced with the daunting task of nurturing national reconciliation, fostering the democratic process and building peace and stability in a country ravaged by two decades of war.

136. Since the establishment of the operation by the Security Council on 28 February 1992, over 18,000 United Nations military and civilian personnel have been deployed in the country. The presence of the United Nations is now felt in all the provinces and UNTAC has begun to carry out the various aspects of its wide-ranging mandate. In that connection, it is worth noting that, as of the end of August, more than 100,000 refugees and displaced persons had been successfully repatriated.

137. The progress of the operation has, however, been hampered by the refusal of one of the Cambodian parties to implement the second phase of the cease-fire, under which the armed forces of all the factions must be regrouped, cantoned and disarmed. After a careful consideration of the situation, I instructed my special representative to initiate Phase II on schedule on 13 June, so as to maintain the momentum of the operation. I took this decision with the conviction that the international community cannot allow the impressive diplomatic efforts, and the vast human and material resources it has devoted to the pursuit of peace and reconstruction in Cambodia to be negated by the unwillingness of one party to honour its obligations. At the end of July, the Security Council took a clear position on the matter and reiterated the firm commitment of the international community to the full implementation of the Paris Agreements.

138. Some 50,000 troops belonging to three of the Cambodian factions have now been regrouped and cantoned under the supervision of UNTAC. Various initiatives have been taken by my special representative and member countries of the Paris Conference, with a view to convincing the fourth Cambodian party to join the second phase of the cease-fire and extend the necessary cooperation to UNTAC.

139. It is my earnest hope that these efforts will soon reach fruition, for time is now of the essence. We are indeed reaching the stage where any further delay in the implementation of the second phase of the cease-fire would seriously impair the ability of UNTAC to carry out its mandate in accordance with the timetable set by the Security Council and would jeopardize the whole peace process. UNTAC will continue to work closely with the parties and the Supreme National Council of Cambodia to prevent such a predicament. The Cambodian people have endured enough suffering. They must be given the opportunity to determine freely their own political destiny and to enjoy the peace, stability and well-being to which they have aspired for so long.

The former Yugoslavia

140. The upheaval in the former Yugoslavia illustrates how the closing of the cold war opened a Pandora's box of causes and conflicts that had been kept down by the ideological struggle of that era. Old disputes, ambitions and hatreds have burst forth. In the years just past, such activities would have been regarded as points of loss or gain in the calculations of the bipolar Powers. Without the cold war structure to deal with them, it is left to us to provide the approaches and ultimately the answers. Territories of the former Yugoslavia, now the theatre of military operations, have recently been recognized by the international community and have taken their place in the General Assembly of the United Nations as Member States.

141. This is, then, a conflict with an international dimension. The future shape and security of one or more Member States—indeed their very existence—has come under threat. The unfolding of the crisis in the former Yugoslavia is also being watched closely by others who, in similar conditions of instability and new confrontations, could resort to war and destruction rather than choose the road of negotiation and dialogue. They must be led to understand and accept that the only route for change is one that is legal, peaceful, and contributes to a structure of international peace and security.

142. In response to this crisis, the United Nations has undertaken an intensive and extensive array of actions. The Security Council has expressed itself through a series of resolutions. My personal envoy, Mr. Cyrus R. Vance, has undertaken missions on behalf of the international community's effort to stop the fighting and find a peaceful solution. The United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) has been established and steps have been taken to aid refugees, deliver relief supplies to people afflicted by the fighting and to provide help for the huge number of persons displaced by this conflict.

143. It must be realized that the expectations of the international community—which has been shocked by the horror of the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina—continue to exceed the resources and capacity of UNPROFOR. Under these circumstances, a wider international effort in support of the requirements of the Charter of the United Nations is warranted.

144. A Conference on the former Yugoslavia was held on 26 and 27 August in London under the co-chairmanship of Prime Minister John Major, in his capacity as President of the Council of Ministers of the European Community, and myself. The purpose of the Conference is to broaden and intensify the search for a solution to the crisis in the former Yugoslavia in all its aspects. The decisions taken at the London Conference have embodied a framework within which a comprehensive settlement may be achieved through continuous and uninterrupted effort. The Conference established a Steering Committee, and appointed as co-chairmen Mr. Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen; they will direct the six working groups and prepare the basis for a general settlement. An effective mechanism has thus been provided for dealing with the problem in all its aspects. It is my earnest hope that the political will evident at London translates itself in the future into tangible actions.

Somalia

145. Somalia poses a particularly difficult challenge to the United Nations. A means must be found of responding to the urgent and overwhelming needs of a population increasingly desperate in the face of widespread hunger, the absence of national administration, almost complete destruction of basic infrastructure and acute insecurity.

146. As in the former Yugoslavia, United Nations personnel in Somalia face the problem of having to deal with irregular forces and nongovernmental groups. The breakdown of central authority has brought virtually the entire population of Somalia, some 6 million people, into the conflict in one way or another. A vicious circle of insecurity and hunger is at work in Somalia. Lack of security prevents the delivery of food, while

food shortages contribute significantly to the level of violence and insecurity. Meanwhile, refugees from the senseless killing and famine have exported the problem to neighbouring States. There again, our humanitarian action is necessary to save lives and preserve the resources of Somalia's neighbours.

147. The effort to break this circle brings together a comprehensive programme of action covering humanitarian relief, the consolidation of cease-fires, the reduction of organized and unorganized violence and national reconciliation. Thus, action must be comprehensive and multifaceted. There will need to be measures to demobilize regular and irregular forces and to establish law and order, initially on a local basis. And equal consideration must be given to reintegrating the militia forces into civil society. A wide range of supporting intervention will be required to help re-establish local police forces: training, uniforms, communications and other equipment as well as advisory services. The programme of action will also have to include educational and vocational training programmes to provide people eventually with alternatives to armed action for their survival.

148. In short, the task involves nothing less than the reconstruction of an entire society and nation. For this task, it is necessary to broaden the scope of United Nations military involvement beyond the limited deployment, restricted to Mogadishu, which was previously considered sufficient. For the same purpose, the United Nations is working with the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference on arrangements for convening a conference on national reconciliation and unity in Somalia.

Angola

149. The peace process in Angola remains one of the most remarkable and challenging developments in Africa. For three decades, the United Nations has been deeply committed to the quest for peace and to social development in Angola and the process has now entered its most critical phase. It has been over a year since the end of the war and multiparty elections are scheduled to take place at the end of September. We have been providing the services of the United Nations peacekeeping forces and in 1992 have also begun to assist in the electoral process in an endeavour to help bring about a permanent solution. The registration of eligible voters, despite the logistical difficulties, was a remarkable achievement.

150. I appointed a special representative in February 1992 and, with the recent expansion by the Security Council of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission II, more than 500 United Nations observers—electoral, police and military—are assisting in the transition. A large technical assistance project related to the electoral process, involving cost-sharing arrangements with several countries, was prepared between November 1991 and March 1992. The project began in March 1992, followed more recently by the electoral component of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission II. Both are now completely operational.

151. A sizeable effort is being made to feed the tens of thousands of demobilizing troops and to provide for their vocational training, as well as to help the returning refugees. Further, the Special Relief Programme for Angola continues and bilateral assistance has been mobilized with the help of the United Nations. On the military side, the cease-fire has been maintained, although there has recently been an increase in violent incidents throughout the country. Nevertheless, with the help of the Verification Mission, the joint monitoring machinery has so far managed to keep these under control. Notwithstanding all difficulties, both sides are to be congratulated on the progress they have achieved in implementing the Peace Accords. It is important now that they cooperate more closely with each other and with the United Nations, in order to establish a climate of confidence and ensure the success of elections.

El Salvador

152. Negotiations under the aegis of the United Nations culminated successfully at the beginning of the year and I had the pleasure of participating in the signature of the final peace agreement between the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional as one of my first missions away from Headquarters. The Mexico agreement and others previously signed during the two-year negotiating process constitute a blueprint for the comprehensive, positive transformation of Salvadoran society, which was required to bring about national reconciliation. A new nation equipped with reformed institutions is to emerge after a period of transition, which is likely to last through the general elections in early 1994.

153. The Organization is playing a major and unprecedented role in this transition, in verifying the implementation of all agreements, including the nationwide monitoring of respect for human rights, which had begun last year. New verification mandates relate to the separation of forces and the cease-fire, the concentration of combatants, and the reintegration of the members of the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional into society, as well as those relating to the reduction and reform of the armed forces and the reform of the judiciary and the electoral system. A new civilian police is being created, as a substitution for previous security bodies controlled by the armed forces. The United Nations is playing a central role in coordinating international assistance in this project. The United Nations is also overseeing action in regard to land and other economic and social issues. An ad hoc commission composed of distinguished Salvadorans appointed by my predecessor is reviewing the entire officer corps of the armed forces to make binding recommendations regarding their future on the basis of their respect for human rights, professional competence and aptitude for service under the new, peacetime criteria for the functioning of that institution. The Commission on the Truth, composed of three eminent non-Salvadorans, also designated by my predecessor, is investigating serious acts of violence that have occurred since 1980 and “whose impact on society urgently demands that the public should know the truth”.

154. The implementation of this complex series of agreements was to have been carried out in accordance with an intricate calendar painstakingly negotiated by the parties. While the ceasefire is being respected, considerable problems have arisen in respect of the implementation of other agreements, to the point where adherence to the calendar, already twice revised, may be in question. The United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador is working closely with the parties to make certain that, through continued dialogue, differences can be smoothly resolved.

155. These five conflicts reveal the paradox of present-day conflict: each is unique, requiring a specific response, yet all require a comprehensive approach that takes into account the wide range of substantive issues and calls for a coordinated and multidimensional international effort.

C. Conflicts and humanitarian assistance

156. Natural disasters continue to cause massive destruction and suffering, requiring relief aid. Increasingly, however, there is a need to assist people suffering from man-made devastation and warfare. The international community has thus been called upon to respond to massive new demands involving the provision of urgent humanitarian assistance in conditions of violent civil conflict. The magnitude and complexities of the crises make these efforts especially difficult. To the extent possible, humanitarian action is being integrated with efforts to resolve the underlying causes of the crisis.

157. The difficulty of providing humanitarian assistance to the needy has nowhere been more painfully exhibited than in Somalia and the former Yugoslavia. At the onset of the crisis, my predecessor designated the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as the lead agency for providing assistance to the refugees and displaced persons in the former Yugoslavia. The role of that organization has

since vastly expanded. Even after repeated attempts by the international community, assured mechanisms for providing assistance to the needy are still not available. In Somalia, where the entire social infrastructure has collapsed, relief personnel from the United Nations and other organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations have been repeatedly subject to assault. The World Food Programme has carried the principal responsibility, with its logistical support, of providing food aid and helping transport nonfood aid items along with UNICEF under these difficult circumstances. Both in the case of Somalia and in the former Yugoslavia there have been instances where the provision of relief assistance was deliberately prevented, thus perpetuating the misery of innocent victims held in ransom by the parties to the conflict.

158. Humanitarian assistance must be provided regardless of whether or not there is an immediate political solution. However, the security and protection of staff and the safe and effective delivery of relief materials are major concerns with regard to humanitarian efforts in conflict situations. Indeed, the situations in Somalia and the former Yugoslavia have demonstrated that it may not be a question of the capacity to deliver, but rather the security conditions pertaining to distribution of relief supplies, which determines whether humanitarian assistance can be provided. Volatile security situations have in several cases led to the suspension of operations. In other cases, relief operations have continued, but at considerable hazard for those involved. United Nations and other humanitarian relief workers are often exposed to great dangers and many are risking their lives on a daily basis. I greatly admire the courage and humanitarian commitment of these dedicated colleagues. I am, however, very conscious of the heavy responsibility I bear in exposing them to fatal danger. Each situation is unique, requiring caution, as well as imagination and flexibility of approach. In finding viable solutions, I shall need the full cooperation of all parties concerned.

159. In cases of man-made emergencies, essential humanitarian assistance must be accompanied by measures to address the root causes through peacemaking and peace-building efforts. Providing succour to the victims of conflict through effective relief programmes can positively assist peacemaking efforts. Corridors of peace and zones of tranquillity for relief delivery can reinforce peacemaking processes. By expanding or broadening such concepts—with the consent of the parties—momentum can be generated for political dialogue and peace efforts. In insisting on close cooperation, I see a dynamic link between peacemaking, peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance, constituting the essence of humanitarian diplomacy.

160. The mechanisms for refugee assistance that emerged in the light of experience in the postwar period have served us well. But with everincreasing numbers of internally displaced persons—in fact exceeding the number of refugees—there is a need to bring clarity to institutional mandates. This problem has been addressed on an ad hoc basis, but it is now timely to devise a clear United Nations system-wide approach to it.

161. A well-coordinated and coherent United Nations system response to emergencies requires close cooperation among the key operational organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the regional and subregional organizations, and the non-governmental organizations, working together as a team dedicated to the achievement of a shared objective. I am making every effort to ensure that this cooperation and collaboration is achieved, both at the policy level and in the field. This requires changes in attitude, and a broad global rather than institutional approach to addressing problems of coordination. I am pleased to say that, even in this short time, considerable progress has been achieved. This is reflected in the newly established inter-agency process for carrying out needs assessment, the preparation of consolidated appeals, the mobilization of resources and follow-up.

162. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/182, the Central Emergency Revolving Fund has been established for use in “startup” emergency operations. Its ultimate success will depend on the cooperation of the operational organizations and the international community. The former must ensure that

funds advanced are replenished promptly in accordance with the established guidelines, while the response of the latter to consolidated appeals for emergency assistance will be of critical importance.

163. Disaster preparedness and mitigation constitute major objectives for the United Nations. These are also the focus of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction. The cooperation and involvement of development organizations will be vital to the realization of these objectives. Indeed, enhancement of the preparedness capacity of developing countries is perhaps one of the most important elements of humanitarian response to major natural disasters.

164. The capacity of the system to provide effective and timely assistance is largely dependent upon the resources available to it. I was pleased to see that the international community responded positively to the \$854 million appeal for assistance to the drought-stricken countries of southern Africa when it pledged almost \$600 million at the Pledging Conference in June. In contrast, however, most operational organizations continue to face serious financial difficulties, in view of less generous responses to appeals for assistance. My appeal for emergency humanitarian assistance for Afghanistan is a case in point, where less than one third of the \$180 million sought has so far been pledged. I call upon the international community to look once again with solidarity upon those less fortunate and to redouble its financial commitments for the benefit of humanitarian programmes in all parts of the world.

V. Conclusion: Democratization and development

165. The challenge to the United Nations is comprehensive: to become at last an effective collective instrument of global peace and security, to foster responsible relations within the community of States, to ensure the respect of the rights of all peoples for self-determination, to achieve international cooperation in the solution of economic, social, intellectual, ecological and humanitarian problems.

166. The old international order has been swept away by a tidal wave of democratization. Thirst for democracy has been a major cause of change, and it will continue to be a force for the construction of a better world. The United Nations must foster, through its peace-building measures, the process of democratization in situations characterized by long-standing conflicts, both within and among nations.

167. I am committed, as Secretary-General, to reform the Organization to ensure that each of its organs employs its fullest capabilities in the balanced and harmonious fashion envisioned by the Charter of the United Nations. The pace of reform must be increased if the United Nations is to keep ahead of the acceleration of history that characterizes this age. All organs of the United Nations must be accorded and play their full and proper role so that the trust of all nations and peoples will be retained and deserved.

168. In that regard, the United Nations is of particular significance to the developing countries. It is not only a forum where their voices can be heard; it also provides a means of consensusbuilding aimed at securing the socio-economic underpinnings of political freedom. The United Nations has a crucial responsibility to monitor economic and social trends that may become sources of political tensions, violence and repression. Stark poverty, economic deprivation, political denial, and social alienation provide little nourishment for the growth of democracy. The United Nations must push for a global partnership to promote the integration of the developing countries, and those in transition, into the world economy. International financial and developmental agencies are a powerful instrument for realizing a people-centred vision of development that goes beyond the statistics of economic performance among the industrialized and the developing countries. The promotion of universal political participation and world-wide economic recovery are not distant goals; they are the foundations of a healthy and effective movement for democracy.

169. Democracy within the family of nations means the application of its principles within the world Organization itself. I am committed to a broad dialogue between the Member States and the Secretary-General. Preserving the moral authority of the United Nations requires the fullest consultation, participation and engagement of all States, large and small, in the work of the United Nations. That in turn requires the empowerment of people in civil society, providing help where it is needed by supporting indigenous communities, non-governmental organizations, citizens' groups and the private sector.

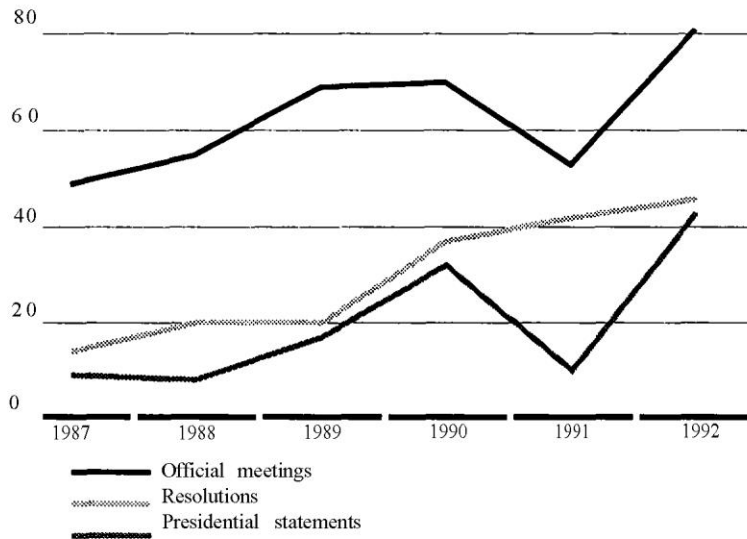
170. Here then, in 1992, a better world is within our reach. It is the time to move forward deliberately and conscientiously towards the realization of the vast potential of this unique Organization and to bring new life to the world of the Charter.

Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

Secretary-General

Figure 1

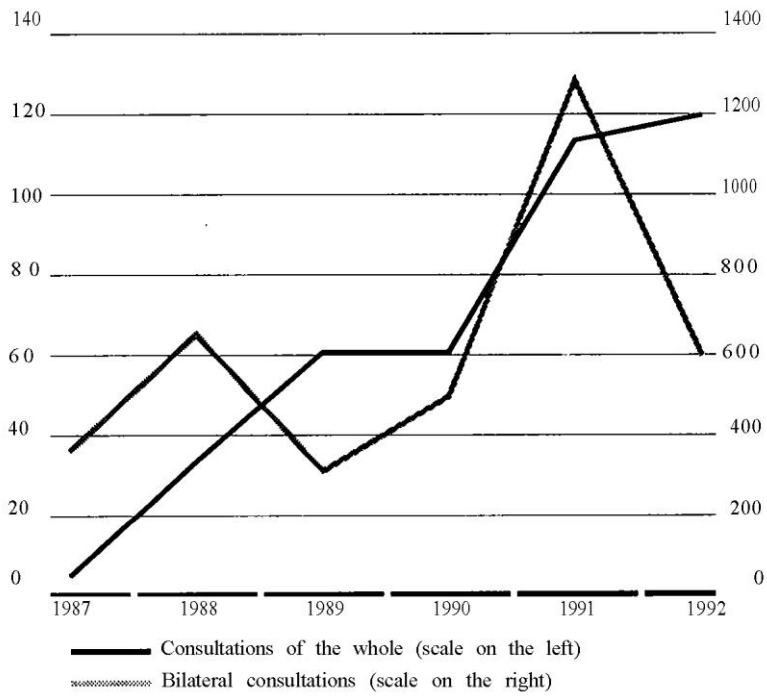
Security Council: number of official meetings,* resolutions and Presidential statements, 1987-1992



* 1990 includes one resumed meeting.
1991 includes six closed sessions of the same meeting
in addition to an open session of the meeting.
1992 includes one resumed meeting.

Figure 2

Security Council: number of consultations of the whole and bilateral consultations,* 1987-1992



* 1990 includes one resumed meeting.

Figure 3

**Annual assessments and paid contributions:
regular budget and peace-keeping combined, 1987—1991**

Millions of US dollars

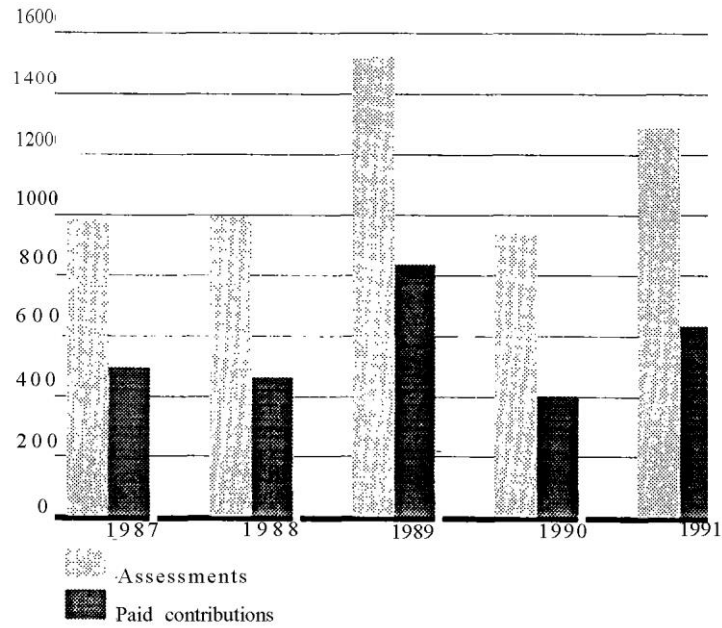


Figure 4

Peace-keeping activities: number of personnel deployed,
1987-1992
Thousands

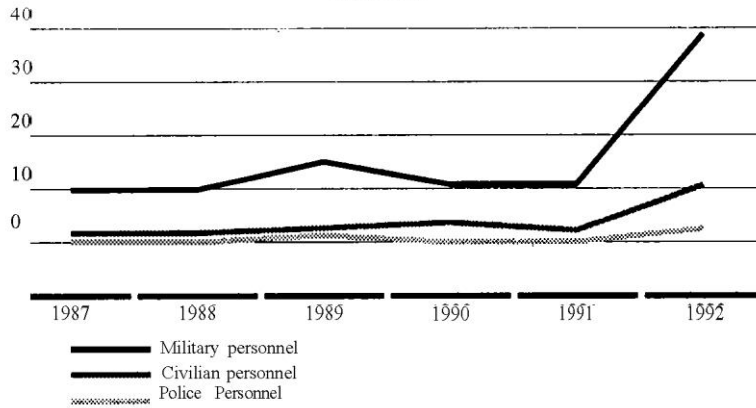


Figure 5

Peace-keeping activities: number of operations deployed
and their annual cost, 1987-1992

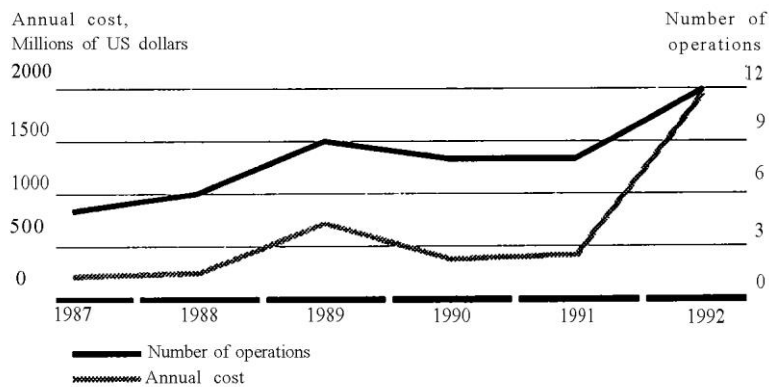
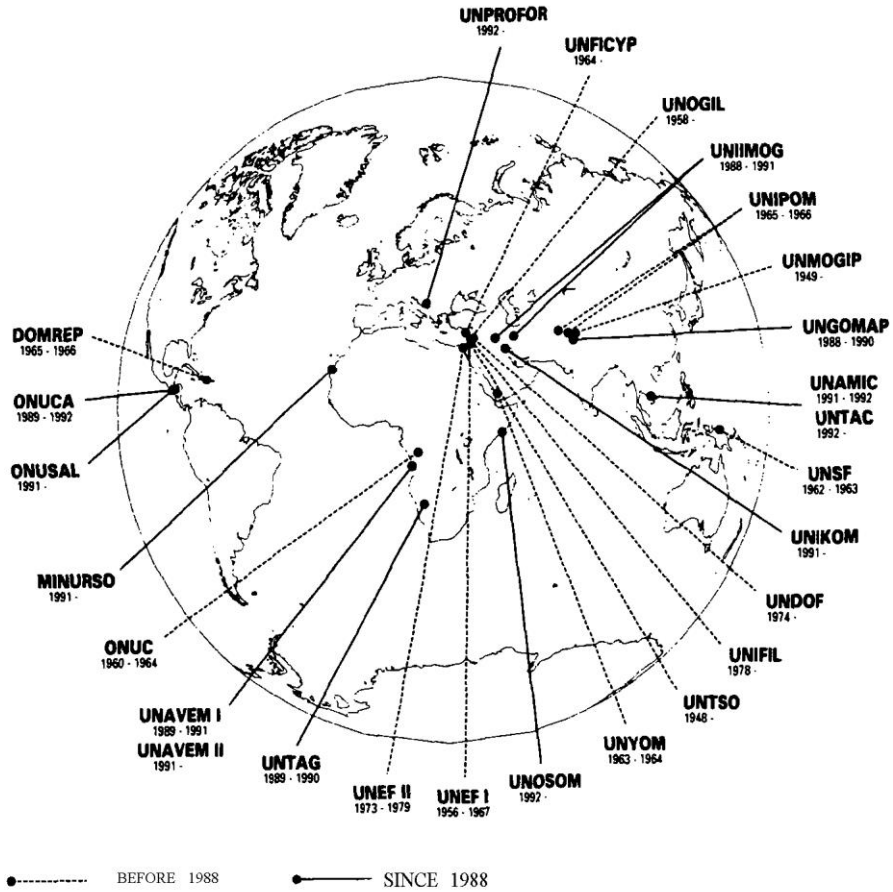


Figure 6
Peace-keeping forces and observer missions, 1948-1992



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Part one: Political and security questions

Chapter I (33-58)

International peace and security

The United Nations continued in 1992 to safeguard international peace and security. During the year, a record number of 12 peace-keeping operations were deployed in various regions of the world, with nearly 40,000 authorized military personnel serving under United Nations command.

For the first time ever, the Security Council held a summit at the level of heads of State and Government to consider its responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security. It adopted conclusions concerning the commitment to collective security, peacemaking and peacekeeping, and disarmament, arms control and weapons of mass destruction. The Secretary-General responded to the summit with “An Agenda for Peace”, outlining concepts and measures of preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping, to which he added the concept of post-conflict peace-building. The Council examined “An Agenda for Peace” in detail throughout the year, as did the General Assembly at its 1992 regular session.

The Assembly’s consideration of that item resulted in the adoption of resolution 47/120, which dealt with the peaceful settlement of disputes, preventive diplomacy and confidence-building measures, including fact-finding, an early-warning mechanism and humanitarian assistance.

On the basis of the report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations, the Assembly, by resolution 47/71, adopted a series of recommendations and conclusions on peacekeeping matters, such as personnel, material and technical resources and financing.

Both the Council and the Assembly condemned the rising number of attacks against United Nations staff serving in various peacekeeping operations. The Assembly put forward a number of recommendations to help protect peace-keeping personnel better.

The Security Council, in January, urged the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to respond to requests in connection with two aerial incidents—the bombing in December 1988 of Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie in southern Scotland and the crash in September 1989 of Union de transports aériens flight 772 over the Ténéré desert in the Niger—in which Libyan nationals were alleged to have been involved. In March 1992, the Council imposed an air and arms embargo against the Jamahiriya.

Part one: Political and security questions

Chapter II (59-109)

Disarmament

Throughout 1992, the world moved further away from the environment of the cold war. The change in the international climate and agreements on major arms reductions by the former Soviet Union and the United States had placed disarmament in a significantly different perspective. Rather than being directed at achieving a balance of power between two military alliances, arms control and disarmament were seen more in the broader context of international peace and security. Moreover, arms limitation and disarmament efforts were being woven into the larger fabric of preventive diplomacy, conflict management and peacebuilding. In that context, the United Nations assumed a new role in international security, arms control and disarmament.

Nuclear disarmament negotiations between the Russian Federation and the United States gained new momentum in 1992. On 1 October, the United States Senate consented to ratification of the 1991 Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START). The Russian Parliament, on 4 November, also approved the Treaty, with the proviso that ratification would not be completed until Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine had joined the 1968 Treaty on the NonProliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Russian Federation had reached accords with them on all aspects of their nuclear forces. A protocol to the START Treaty was signed at Lisbon on 23 May by Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States, under which the four States of the former USSR agreed that, as successor States, they would assume the obligations of the former USSR under START.

On 17 June, at a Washington, D.C., summit meeting, President George Bush of the United States and President Boris Yeltsin of the Russian Federation agreed in principle to further farreaching reductions in their strategic arms. By the end of 1992, a draft treaty—to be known as START II—was ready for signature by the two parties. Another significant development affecting nuclear disarmament took place on 24 September, when the United States Congress for the first time imposed limitations on nuclear testing and called for the negotiation of a multilateral comprehensive nuclear-test ban by the United States, to be concluded on or before 30 September 1996.

The Conference on Disarmament, a 39-nation multilateral negotiating body, completed, after

more than a decade of negotiations, the text of the draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction. The landmark agreement would ban chemical weapons and ensure the destruction of declared stocks under a comprehensive verification regime allowing for on-site inspections, by a new international organization, of any facility suspected of noncompliance. It was the first disarmament agreement negotiated within a multilateral framework that provided for eliminating an entire category of weapons of mass destruction. The General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention, to open it for signature in Paris on 13 January 1993 and called on all States to become parties to it at the earliest possible date (resolution 47/39).

The Disarmament Commission, a deliberative body composed of all United Nations Member States, dealt with objective information on military matters; nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons; a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security; and the role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields. In 1992, the Commission successfully concluded the agenda item on objective information on military matters by adopting a set of guidelines and recommendations on the subject, which were subsequently endorsed by the Assembly (resolution 47/54 B).

Part one: Political and security questions

Chapter III (110-122)

Peaceful uses of outer space

International Space Year, designed to promote international cooperation in space, was commemorated in 1992 through a programme of activities carried out by the United Nations and international organizations focusing on space technology and the environment.

During the year, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (Committee on outer space) and its Scientific and Technical and Legal Subcommittees continued their consideration of matters of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space. The Committee held its thirty-fifth session (New York, 15-26 June). The General Assembly, in December, endorsed the Committee's recommendations and the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 1993 (resolution 47/67). Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, on which the Committee reached consensus in 1992, were adopted by the Assembly in resolution 47/68.

The prevention of an arms race in outer space was considered by an ad hoc committee of the Conference on Disarmament (see PART ONE, Chapter II).

Part one: Political and security questions

Chapter IV (123-147)

Other political questions

In 1992, questions relating to information, the effects of atomic radiation and Antarctica were again on the General Assembly's agenda. Promotion of communication and the free flow of information, and United Nations public information policies and activities were the subjects of two Assembly resolutions. The Assembly requested the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation to continue its work on the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources and noted with satisfaction the Committee's increasing cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme. The Assembly also underlined the significance of Antarctica for international peace and security, environment, global climate conditions, economy and scientific research, reiterated its concern over Antarctic environmental degradation, and appealed again for the exclusion of South Africa from the meetings of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties pending the attainment of a non-racial democratic government in that country.

Thirteen new States were admitted to United Nations membership, bringing the number of Members to 179. Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) was barred from participating in the work of the Assembly until its admission to the United Nations as a new State. Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt entered into a live-year term of office as Secretary-General of the United Nations on 1 January 1992.

Part two: Regional questions

Chapter I (151-217)

Africa

The United Nations continued its efforts in 1992 to build a non-racial, democratic society in South Africa. The peace process was hampered, however, by delays in negotiations and the escalation of political violence. To enhance the peace process, the Security Council authorized the deployment of United Nations observers who, by the end of October, were present in all regions of the country.

The United Nations also faced severe challenges in Angola, Liberia, Mozambique and Somalia. The Security Council expanded the mandate of the second United Nations Angola Verification Mission to include observation of the first-ever multiparty elections held in September, within the framework of implementation of the Peace Accords (“Acordos de Paz para Angola”). Civil war continued to rage in Liberia, in spite of the efforts of the Economic Community of West African States to enforce a cease-fire. In order to help establish peace and stability in that country, the Council in November imposed a complete arms embargo against all parties to the conflict. After extended negotiations, the Government of Mozambique and its main rival, the Resistência Nacional Mozambicana, signed a General Peace Agreement in October. The Council in December authorized the establishment of a United Nations Operation in Mozambique for the purpose of implementing the Agreement. In Somalia, United Nations observers and security personnel were deployed to break the cycle of violence and food insecurity, which threatened the lives of a large part of the population. In view of the deteriorating situation, the Council in December decided to endorse action under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations in order to establish a secure environment for relief operations. In response to that decision, the President of the United States directed the execution of Operation Restore Hope on 4 December, with the first elements of the Unified Task Force arriving at Mogadishu on 9 December.

United Nations involvement was requested to verify a referendum by which the people of Eritrea in 1993 would determine their political future. The General Assembly, in December 1992, authorized the establishment of a United Nations Observer Mission for that purpose.

The Secretary-General continued to exercise his good offices towards finding a solution to the question of the island of Mayotte. The Assembly reaffirmed the sovereignty of the Comoros over the island and urged France to accelerate negotiations with a view to ensuring the return of the island to the Comoros.

At a meeting in April, organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) adopted recommendations for a new joint action programme. The Assembly requested the United Nations to continue supporting OAU in its efforts to promote a peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts and to collaborate with it in implementing the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s.

Part two: Regional questions

Chapter II (218-239)

Americas

United Nations efforts to help resolve the remaining protracted conflicts in Central America bore fruit in 1992 with respect to El Salvador. A final peace agreement was concluded in January between the Government and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional, the opposition movement in the country, formally bringing the 12-year armed conflict between them to an end in December.

In the light of this development and given the undergirding joint course of action adopted by the Central American States in the Managua Agenda for the progressive transformation of the subregion into one of peace, democracy and development, the Security Council terminated the United Nations Observer Group in Central America. The Council enlarged and extended the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador, however, to enable it to verify compliance with all of the agreements concluded between the parties during their negotiations for a comprehensive settlement of their conflict. It subsequently extended the Mission's mandate a second time, to 31 May 1993.

During the year, the General Assembly adopted several resolutions relating to the Americas. It urged the Governments of Central America to continue their efforts to consolidate a firm and lasting peace in the subregion and reiterated the importance of stepping up the negotiating process between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca, the opposition movement, on the basis of the Mexico City and Querétaro Agreements of 1991. In a resolution concerning the need to end the economic embargo imposed by the United States against Cuba, the Assembly called for the repeal of laws whose extraterritorial effects affected States' sovereignty and freedom of trade and navigation. It condemned anew the attempted illegal replacement of the constitutional President of Haiti. It requested continued consultations between the United Nations and the Organization of American States with a view to signing a cooperation agreement in 1993.

In a related action, the Assembly sought continued international support for Nicaragua to overcome the aftermath of war and of recent natural disasters in the country, as well as to stimulate reconstruction and development.

Part two: Regional questions

Chapter III (240-325)

Asia and the Pacific

The United Nations in 1992 steadfastly maintained the momentum of its peace-keeping and peace-building activities in Asia.

In Korea, the implementation of the 1953 Armistice Agreement continued and the United Nations Command submitted its annual report to the Security Council.

In accordance with the 1991 settlement agreements (Paris agreements) that brought about an official cease-fire in Cambodia and called for their implementation under United Nations auspices, the Security Council early in the year established and deployed the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia, one of the Organization's most ambitious and complex peace-keeping operations. Despite the refusal of one of the four signatories to the Paris agreements to implement the second phase of the cease-fire, the Transitional Authority, which became operational in March, forged steadily ahead in discharging its mandate with the ultimate goal of preparing the country for free and fair elections towards the middle of 1993.

United Nations efforts to promote peace among the conflicting factions in Afghanistan were outpaced by political and military events in the country. Although forced to withdraw its personnel from Kabul due to the wide-scale lighting that erupted there in July and August, the United Nations maintained its presence in other parts of the country.

The Secretary-General continued his mission of good offices in Cyprus with the goal of achieving overall agreement between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities.

In March and November, the Security Council conducted a comprehensive review of Iraq's compliance with the series of related Council resolutions, beginning with resolution 687(1991), which embodied the terms of the cease-fire that formally ended the 1991 military action to compel Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait. The key reporting bodies for the reviews were the Special Commission created by the cease-fire resolution and the International Atomic Energy Agency. Both remained resolute, in the face of alternating Iraqi cooperation and resistance, in carrying out their task of uncovering and eliminating Iraq's capability to manufacture or use nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. The Council reviews concluded that Iraq still was not in full and unconditional compliance with its obligations. Insisting that it had complied with its substantive obligations under the cease-fire resolution, Iraq requested the Council to lift the sanctions imposed on it since 1990.

Part two: Regional questions

Chapter IV (326-394)

Europe

The United Nations intensified its efforts in 1992 to resolve the armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia. The situation—triggered in 1991 by the breakaway of four of the six republics that constituted Yugoslavia—grew progressively complex and more violent during the year.

At the beginning of 1992, the United Nations became actively involved in the crisis between Croatia and the truncated Yugoslavia (comprising the republics of Serbia and Montenegro) by deploying a peace-keeping mission to Croatia. By April, the ethnic conflicts between Bosnian Serbs, Muslims and Croats grew increasingly violent, causing massive civilian deaths and dislocations.

United Nations efforts to contain the crisis and alleviate the suffering included the military protection of humanitarian convoys, as well as the control and supervision of Sarajevo's airport to allow for the airlift of humanitarian assistance. These activities were carried out in close cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which supervised the relief assistance.

Throughout the year, the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy, Cyrus R. Vance, worked in close coordination with the European Community to co-sponsor a settlement plan for the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the face of the escalating violence, the Security Council adopted 22 resolutions directly related to the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, while the General Assembly adopted four resolutions on the matter. The Council in December authorized the establishment of a small presence of the United Nations Protection Force in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to monitor developments in the border areas, which could undermine confidence and stability in Macedonia and threaten its territory.

With regard to the events in the former USSR, the General Assembly called for withdrawal of all foreign military forces from the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The Secretary-General sent United Nations good-offices and other missions to the Commonwealth of Independent States and other States of the former USSR experiencing internal strife and conflict. He also dispatched a fact-finding mission to help reach a peaceful settlement to the deteriorating situation in and around Nagorno-Karabakh, an enclave in Azerbaijan marked by over four years of fighting between its Armenian and Azerbaijani inhabitants.

Part two: Regional questions

Chapter V (395-455)

Middle East

United Nations efforts to bring about a comprehensive settlement of the complex Middle East conflict remained unswerving throughout 1992. The parties to the conflict were themselves engaged in an ongoing peace process sponsored by the Russian Federation and the United States, to the multilateral negotiations of which the United Nations had been invited as a full participant. Several Member States welcomed as a positive contribution to that process the fact that the General Assembly, deviating from past practice, did not adopt a general resolution on the Middle East during the year. The Assembly expressed the need, however, for the United Nations to play an expanded role in that process

Concerted action by various United Nations bodies focused on the question of Palestine; on the policies and practices of Israel in the Palestine territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories it had occupied since 1967; and on assistance to the Palestine refugees. To help keep the region's volatility in check, the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, as well as that of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force in the Golan Heights, so that both peacekeeping operations remained in place throughout the year.

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (Committee on Palestinian rights) continued to press for the implementation of its original (1976) recommendations on the rights of the Palestinians to return to their homes and property and to achieve self-determination, national independence and sovereignty in Palestine—and for the convening of an international peace conference under United Nations auspices. The Assembly considered that such a conference should take place, at a certain stage, in the light of the Secretary-General's assessment that sufficient agreement did not exist to permit its imminent convening.

The Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (Committee on Israeli practices) drew to the Assembly's attention the worsening situation in the occupied territories owing to Israeli policies and practices there and to the occupation itself. The Commission on Human Rights reiterated the Palestinians' right to self-determination and called on Israel to desist from human rights violations in the territories.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East continued to provide a wide-ranging programme of education, health, relief and social services for the Palestine refugees. It appealed for more funds from the donor community to enable it to expand its services to meet rising demands from a refugee population that had swelled to an estimated 2.73 million by the end of the year.

By a series of resolutions, the Assembly addressed specific aspects of the refugee problem and of the situation in the occupied territories. By mid-1992, those territories had been under Israeli occupation for a quarter of a century. Throughout that time, the territories' Palestinian and other Arab inhabitants had refused to accept the occupation as a permanent fact. The persistent uprising, born of that refusal, and its suppression by Israeli military force and collective punishment led the Assembly once more to request the Security Council urgently to consider measures to provide international protection to the Palestinian civilians in those territories. The Security Council condemned the renewed cycle of violence between March and April. It convened in January to consider Israel's resumption of deportations, on that occasion of 12 Palestinians accused of inciting terrorism. It met again in December strongly to condemn Israel's deportation of hundreds of Palestinians into Lebanon, to demand their safe and immediate return to the territories, and to ask the Secretary-General to consider dispatching a representative to discuss the matter with the Government of

Israel. Of the 418 Palestinians under deportation orders, 383 were deported into southern Lebanon despite that country's unwillingness to receive them.

The Economic and Social Council, as well as the Assembly, deplored Israel's confiscation of land, its appropriation of water resources and depletion of other economic resources. A number of other United Nations organs and specialized agencies maintained their programmes of economic and social assistance for the Palestinians during the year.

Part two: Regional questions

Chapter VI (456-522)

Regional economic and social activities

The five United Nations regional commissions held their regular sessions during 1992, in continuing efforts to promote economic and social development in their respective regions.

The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) held its twenty-seventh session/eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 20 to 23 April and the thirteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole from 13 to 18 April; the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) held its forty-eighth session at Beijing, China, from 14 to 23 April; the Economic Commission for Europe held its forty-seventh session at Geneva from 7 to 15 April; the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean held its twenty-fourth session at Santiago, Chile, from 8 to 15 April; and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia held its sixteenth session at Amman, Jordan, from 30 August to 3 September.

In July, the Economic and Social Council admitted as members of ESCAP Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan (resolution 1992/46), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (1992/47), the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands (1992/48), and Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan (1992/50). French Polynesia and New Caledonia were admitted as associate members of ESCAP (1992/49).

The Council endorsed the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, 1991-2000 (1992/44), which was subsequently adopted by the General Assembly at its fortyseventh (1992) session and adjusted to cover the years 1993-2002 (resolution 47/177). United Nations activities in Africa were also addressed by the Council in its resolutions on strengthening ECA to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s (1992/51); strengthening the role and functions of ECA in the context of the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields (1992/52); and cooperation in fisheries in Africa (1992/54).

The Council also adopted resolutions on activities of the United Nations system in the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States (1992/40); strengthening the role of the regional commissions (1992/43); and the EuropeAfrica permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar (1992/45).

In October, the General Assembly urged United Nations agencies and organizations to continue and intensify their support for and cooperation with the activities of the Latin American Economic System (47/13).

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter I (525-549)

Development policy and international economic cooperation

World economic growth continued to be slow in 1992, after having contracted in 1991—the first such contraction in the post-war era. The sluggishness of world output was largely a reflection of the slow-down in some large developed market economies and the sharp decline in the transition economies of Eastern Europe and the former USSR. Although the developing countries as a whole were experiencing an acceleration in growth, not all were sharing in it; strong growth rates were almost entirely concentrated in Asia. In July, at the high-level segment of its substantive session, the Economic and Social Council discussed the role of the United Nations system in enhancing international cooperation for development. The General Assembly, in December, reaffirmed the unique position of the United Nations as a forum for promoting such cooperation and requested the Secretary-General to make recommendations on ways to enhance that role (resolution 47/181). During its coordination segment, the Council considered the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the system as they related to assistance in eradicating poverty and supporting vulnerable groups. The Assembly, in December, declared that 17 October would be observed as International Day for the Eradication of Poverty beginning in 1993 (resolution 47/196).

Concerning least developed countries (LDCs), the Assembly discussed the application of new criteria for identifying those countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s. It noted donors' determination to implement their commitments with regard to official development assistance to the 47 countries included in the list of LDCs and the intention of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to examine the effects of the newly added countries on the additional resource requirements of the group as a whole (resolution 47/173). In February, the eighth session of UNCTAD discussed a wide range of international economic issues, including the special problems of LDCs.

With regard to small island developing countries, the Assembly decided to convene, in April 1994, the first global conference on their sustainable development (resolution 47/189).

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter II (550-574)

Operational activities for development

A comprehensive policy review of United Nations operational activities for development took place in 1992 at a critical juncture for developing countries and international development cooperation. The operational activities of the United Nations system were undergoing important changes to adapt to the circumstances of the 1990s. The question of strengthening the operational activities of the United Nations system was discussed by the Economic and Social Council in July, while the triennial policy review of operational activities was carried out by the General Assembly later in the year. In December (resolution 47/199), the Assembly stressed the need for a substantial increase in resources for operational activities for development and made a number of recommendations for improvements in the system, including the strengthening of the resident coordinator function. As part of his efforts to restructure the Secretariat, the Secretary-General established the Department of Economic and Social Development (DESD), incorporating the former Department of Technical Cooperation for Development.

During 1991, the most recent year for which figures were available, expenditures by the United Nations system on operational activities for development totalled \$8.4 billion. Of that amount, \$4.3 billion was in the form of development grants and \$4.1 billion in concessional loans.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)—the central funding body for providing technical assistance to developing countries—spent \$1 billion on programme activities in 1992, a decline from \$1.1 billion in 1991. The organizational entities of the United Nations—mainly through DESD—delivered a technical cooperation programme of \$243 million in 1992, compared with \$285 million in 1991.

Expenditures in 1992 by the United Nations Capital Development Fund, a multilateral agency providing small-scale capital assistance to the least developed countries, amounted to some \$57.5 million.

With regard to technical cooperation among developing countries, the Economic and Social Council, in July, called for increased use by developed countries of consultants from developing countries to improve the cost-effectiveness of technical cooperation projects, and urged UNDP to intensify efforts to build national capacity for human resources development in developing countries (resolution 1992/41).

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter III (575-610)

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

In 1992, in response to an escalation of natural disasters, civil strife and other emergencies, the United Nations implemented a more unified and strengthened approach to special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance. The Secretary-General created a new Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA), absorbing the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator, in order to deal more comprehensively with the consequences of humanitarian emergencies which required ever-mounting humanitarian relief assistance. The General Assembly emphasized the leadership role of the Secretary-General in ensuring rapid and coordinated response of the United Nations system to these humanitarian emergencies and invited States to increase the resources of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund (resolution 47/168).

A System-Wide Plan of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, developed to contribute to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, succeeded the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990. Special economic assistance was provided to Benin, the Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti, Madagascar and the frontline States bordering South Africa, as well as to Vanuatu and Yemen. Organizations of the United Nations system, under the coordination of DHA, provided humanitarian and emergency assistance to countries of the Horn of Africa through the Special Emergency Programme for that subregion. Angola, Liberia, Mozambique, Somalia and the Sudan also received assistance.

DHA and United Nations agencies also provided assistance for the drought emergency in southern Africa, to the countries of sub-Saharan Africa and to the Sudano-Sahelian region.

Countries that received United Nations disaster relief assistance in 1992 included a number of South Pacific countries following cyclones, Nicaragua following a volcanic eruption and an earthquake, Pakistan following storms and floods and the Philippines in the light of the continued activity of the Mount Pinatubo volcano.

The Organization continued to provide rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance to Afghanistan, Lebanon and Liberia and to aid efforts to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear powerplant disaster.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter IV (611-643)

International trade, finance and transport

The deceleration of international trade expansion which began in 1989 continued through 1992. Among the main contributing factors were the recession in North America and the United Kingdom, weakening investment trends in Japan, economic slow-down in Western Europe and the sharp output contractions in Central and Eastern Europe and the former USSR.

The eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, a high-level meeting held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February, included in its final document "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment", which stressed the importance of strengthening multilateral cooperation in order to translate the broad policy commitments undertaken by countries into sustained economic growth and development. In December, the General Assembly endorsed the outcome of the Conference and called on the international community to assist in promoting measures in pursuit of the revitalization of international trade and development, particularly in the developing countries (resolution 47/183).

The Assembly noted, with regard to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade, that the Uruguay Round of multilateral negotiations had not been completed and expressed the hope that it would be rapidly concluded (47/184).

The Assembly examined the various aspects of international trade, finance and development, including the importance of the commodity sector to economic growth and transformation in developing countries (47/185), the promotion of an adequate flow of resources to developing countries and the need to achieve a higher degree of stability in financial markets in order to promote an international financial system more conducive to stable economic growth (47/178). It urged creditor countries, private banks and multilateral financial institutions to consider the extension of appropriate new financial support to developing countries, in particular low-income countries that continued, at great cost, to service their debt and meet their international obligations (47/198). The Assembly also continued to explore the issue of convening an international conference on the financing of development (decision 47/436).

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter V (644-653)

Transnational corporations

Transnational corporations (TNCs) continued to exert a major influence on the global economy in 1992. Changes in the structure of international economic relations and policies in the early 1990s created conditions that placed TNCs in a position to play a significant role in development. Private sector development had become a major concern for many developing countries and countries in transition to market economies, while foreign direct investment was increasingly important as a force for promoting and integrating international flows of capital and of trade and technology.

The Commission on TNCs met twice in 1992. In January, it discussed its contribution to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. In April, the Commission conducted a general discussion on TNCs in the world economy and trends in foreign direct investment in developing countries. It also considered international agreements relating to TNCs and the activities of the former United Nations Centre on TNCs. Following the restructuring of the Secretariat in 1992, the Centre was incorporated into the new Transnational Corporations and Management Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development. The Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting met in March.

In July, the Economic and Social Council invited TNCs to take measures to achieve the eradication of apartheid in South Africa and requested the Secretary-General to collect information on the activities of TNCs there (resolution 1992/34). The Council called on the TNCs and Management Division to strengthen its work on cooperation related to technology transfer, and requested it to assist developing countries to create a favourable investment climate and to develop their endogenous capacity to encourage foreign investment (1992/35).

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter VI (654-662)

Natural resources, energy and cartography

Natural resources exploration and energy resources development continued to be considered by a number of United Nations bodies in 1992, with the environmental aspects of increased exploitation of such resources receiving particular attention. The Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy met in February and considered, among other subjects, a paper on solar energy: a strategy in support of environment and development, which was submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

In January, the International Conference on Water and the Environment, in the Dublin Statement on Water and Sustainable Development, noted that scarcity and misuse of fresh water posed a serious and growing threat to sustainable development and protection of the environment. In December, the General Assembly declared that the World Day for Water would be observed on 22 March of each year, starting in 1993 (resolution 47/193).

In his annual report to the Assembly, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) observed that expanded use of nuclear energy was an option for increasing energy generation without significantly adding to carbon dioxide emissions. The Assembly, in October, urged States to cooperate in carrying out IAEA'S work and in promoting the use of nuclear energy and the application of measures to strengthen the safety of nuclear installations and to minimize risks to life, health and the environment.

The Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names was held in New York in August/September 1992.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter VII (663-669)

Science and technology

In 1992, the United Nations continued its efforts to strengthen the scientific and technological areas of development. As a result of the restructuring of the United Nations Secretariat, the activities of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development were incorporated into the new Science, Technology, Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development. In April, as decided by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council established a new Commission on Science and Technology for Development to replace the Assembly's Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development and its subsidiary body, the Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development.

During the year, two major United Nations conferences—the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 8-25 February) and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3-14 June)—contributed significantly to the new perspectives and directions of science and technology. The Cartagena Commitment and the Rio Declaration adopted by these Conferences made recommendations for the enhancement of the role of science and technology in developing countries, particularly with regard to the transfer and development of technology and transfer of environmentally sound technology.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter VIII (670-692)

Environment

With the global environment having grown worse than it was two decades previously, despite all efforts deployed, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992 adopted the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, seeking international agreements to protect the integrity of the global environmental and developmental systems. The Conference also adopted Agenda 21, reflecting a global consensus on development and environment cooperation, and a statement of principles on the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests. Two conventions—the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity—were opened for signature at the Conference.

The General Assembly adopted resolutions endorsing the results of UNCED (resolution 47/190), establishing institutional arrangements to follow it up (47/191) and inviting the United Nations Development Programme to help developing countries to improve their capacity to implement Agenda 21 (47/194). The Assembly also welcomed the adoption of the Convention on Climate Change (47/195).

The Assembly established an intergovernmental negotiating committee to elaborate by 1994 a convention to combat desertification (47/188). It decided to convene an intergovernmental conference on straddling and highly migratory fish stocks in 1993 (47/192) and a global conference on the sustainable development of small island developing States in 1994 (47/189).

The Assembly appealed for international cooperation to mitigate the environmental consequences resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait (47/151).

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter IX (693-708)

Population and human settlements

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in 1992, while addressing the problems of population growth, distribution and movement, continued to support the right of women and men to family planning. Inadequate resources remained a major constraint, however, and despite significant improvements in reproductive health and increasing acceptance of family planning, the global population continued to grow at a rate of about 93 million per year.

The Economic and Social Council in 1992 decided to convene the International Conference on Population and Development from 5 to 13 September 1994 at Cairo, Egypt (decision 1992/37), and the General Assembly emphasized the need for comprehensive national population policies that were compatible with sustainable economic growth and development (resolution 47/176).

The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, also known as Habitat, continued to assist developing countries in all aspects of human settlements activities through research and development and technical cooperation projects and information dissemination.

The General Assembly noted that the continuing deterioration of living environments in many countries was being aggravated by rapid population growth and urbanization, and decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) from 3 to 14 June 1996 to address the human settlements problems and reassess related policies and programmes (47/180). The Assembly decided that the objectives of the Conference should be to arrest or reverse the deterioration of global living environments, to adopt a general statement of principles and commitments to sustainable improvements in human habitats and to formulate a global plan of action to guide national and international efforts through the first two decades of the next century.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter X (709-817)

Human rights

In 1992, the United Nations continued its efforts to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The General Assembly, in December, proclaimed the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as a set of principles for all States (resolution 47/133) and adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (47/135).

On 10 December 1992 (Human Rights Day), the International Year of the World's Indigenous People (1993) was launched under the theme "Indigenous people—a new partnership". The Working Group on Indigenous Populations continued work on the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. Elaboration of the declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms moved forward. In March, the Commission on Human Rights established a working group to elaborate a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which would establish a system of visits to places of detention.

Alleged violations of human rights on a large scale in several countries were again examined. During 1992, the Commission held two special sessions (13 and 14 August 1992, 30 November and 1 December) to consider the situation of human rights in the former Yugoslavia, as well as its forty-eighth session (27 January-6 March). Its Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities held its forty-fourth session (3-28 August).

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XI (818-831)

Health, food and nutrition

During 1992, the United Nations continued to address health, food and nutrition problems throughout the world.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reported that by late 1992 an estimated 13 million adults were infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), of which some 2.5 million cases progressed to the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). In addition, some 1 million HIV-infected children, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa, had been born to HIV-infected women, and over half of them developed AIDS or died. In 1992, an updated WHO global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS was endorsed by the World Health Assembly to meet the new challenges of the pandemic, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) established an HIV and Development Programme to strengthen UNDP efforts to increase global awareness of the threat posed by the disease.

The year marked the conclusion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992). In October, the General Assembly proclaimed 3 December as the International Day of Disabled Persons (resolution 47/3). An expert group meeting to develop a long-term strategy to further the implementation of the 1982 World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons drew up a strategy to create a society for all and remove barriers that prevented disabled people from fully participating in the socio-cultural, political and economic development of their countries and societies.

War, civil unrest and drought caused food aid requirements to soar in 1992. The World Food Programme—a joint undertaking of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)—shipped a record 5.2 million tonnes of food, benefiting some 42 million people, including 14.4 million refugees and displaced people.

The international community intensified action on nutritional deficiency diseases during the year. Representatives attending the International Conference on Nutrition, jointly sponsored by FAO and WHO, adopted a World Declaration and Plan of Action for Nutrition in which they declared their determination to eliminate hunger and reduce all forms of malnutrition and made recommendations for action by Governments to improve nutrition.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XII (832-862)

Human resources, social and cultural development

During 1992, the United Nations continued to promote human resources and cultural development and improved crime prevention and criminal justice programmes.

The new United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held its first session in April.

The General Assembly adopted resolutions in December on crime prevention and criminal justice (resolution 47/91), on international cooperation in combating organized crime (47/87), and on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (47/89).

The Economic and Social Council adopted resolutions on organized crime (1992/23) and on preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in 1995 (1992/24).

The third Human Development Report was published by the United Nations Development Programme in 1992. The report focused on the workings of global markets and how they met, or failed to meet, the needs of the world's poorest people.

The Assembly decided to convene a World Summit for Social Development in 1995 (47/92).

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XIII (863-879)

Women

In 1992, a summit held by the wives of heads of State or Government on the economic advancement of rural women (Geneva, 25 and 26 February) declared that Governments, national institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, the United Nations and other donor agencies should allocate greater resources to promote the economic and social advancement of rural women.

The United Nations continued to implement the 1985 Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, while also preparing for the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.

The Commission on the Status of Women held its thirty-sixth session (Vienna, 11-20 March), and recommended seven draft resolutions and two draft decisions to the Economic and Social Council.

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, at its eleventh session (New York, 20-30 January), took up three initial reports and six second periodic reports of States parties to the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on the implementation of the Convention. By the end of the year, the Convention had received 96 signatures and 120 ratifications, accessions or successions.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XIV (880-891)

Children, youth and ageing persons

In 1992, the United Nations Children's Fund became increasingly involved in emergency situations caused by man and nature or a combination of both. The Fund provided emergency humanitarian assistance to 54 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. These emergency situations took place against a backdrop of some 35,000 largely preventable child deaths in the developing world each day from causes associated with poverty, malnutrition and diseases.

The problems affecting the health and wellbeing of youth were also widespread in developed and developing countries. More than 1.5 billion people—about one third of the world's population—were aged between 10 and 24 and many of the dramatic forces that were shaping the world were impacting negatively on them.

In October, the Assembly held four special meetings devoted to a conference on the ageing at which it adopted a Proclamation on Ageing and designated the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XV (892-905)

Refugees and displaced persons

During 1992, the world's refugee population increased by almost 2 million, to 18.9 million. In the post-cold war era, resurgent nationalism, together with the economic and social consequences of the collapse of the old world order, had led to a multiplication of conflicts, many of which also resulted from ethnic, tribal or religious tensions.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) undertook to strengthen its emergency preparedness and response capacity, and to couple it with political initiatives to promote the safe and voluntary return of refugees to their countries of origin.

In October, the UNHCR Executive Committee considered international protection of refugees; the refugee situation in Afghanistan, Africa, Cambodia and Yugoslavia; the follow-up to the International Conference on Central American Refugees; and refugee women and children.

The Nansen Medal for 1992—presented since 1954 in honour of Fridtjof Nansen, the first League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees— was awarded to Dr. Richard von Weizsäcker, President of Germany, for his stand against all forms of intolerance and xenophobia and his support for refugees.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XVI (906-926)

Drugs of abuse

Drug abuse and illicit trafficking, accompanied by violence and corruption, remained a serious problem worldwide during 1992. National and international drug control measures that Governments had agreed upon in international conventions and resolutions had not yet yielded to universally visible results and their validity continued to be questioned. In its annual report, the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) stated, however, that it was not convinced that valid alternatives to present policies had been found that would meaningfully reverse the situation. The Board felt that world-wide efforts to combat drug abuse and trafficking would have to be continuous, balanced and applied in an internationally concerted manner for further results to be achieved. Drug abuse was closely linked to political, social and economic problems and progress in these areas would undoubtedly help to solve the problem. Positive experiences in the fight against drugs were reported in a number of countries, and INCB suggested that those experiences be carefully examined to determine whether they could be duplicated elsewhere. INCB continued to supervise the implementation of drug control treaties as well as the comprehensive survey of the world-wide drug control situation.

The United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) provided leadership and coordination for all United Nations activities against drug abuse and trafficking. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs reviewed all United Nations drug control programmes and activities, provided broad policy guidelines and made recommendations to the Economic and Social Council. During the year, the General Assembly passed six resolutions dealing with international drug control.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XVII (927-931)

Statistics

During 1992, the United Nations continued its statistical work programme, including the improvement of statistical methodology; the collection, compilation and dissemination of international statistical data; support for technical cooperation activities and the promotion of coordination in international statistical work. The Statistics Division of the United Nations Secretariat—part of the newly created Department of Economic and Social Development (DESD)—assumed the functions of the former Statistical Office.

In anticipation of an increased demand for environment statistics and indicators in the wake of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the Statistical Division proposed the establishment of a new branch for environment and energy statistics.

The Secretary-General issued a number of reports on statistical issues and activities for consideration by the twenty-seventh session of the Statistical Commission, to be held in 1993. The Commission, which meets biennially, did not meet in 1992.

Part three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XVIII (931-942)

Institutional arrangements

During 1992, the restructuring of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies continued. Following the adoption in April of General Assembly resolution 46/235, which had as its goal the enhancement of the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, the Council established three new subsidiary bodies and approved the work programmes for their first sessions. The Council's work at its 1992 substantive session was conducted in accordance with newly established guidelines.

Upon consideration of a review of the conditions necessary for the effective functioning of the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit, the Council requested the Secretary-General to consider increasing the Unit's resources.

The Administrative Committee on Coordination and the Committee for Programme and Coordination continued efforts to harmonize system-wide work programmes and activities.

Part four: Trusteeship and decolonization

Chapter I (945-976)

Questions relating to decolonization

During 1992, the United Nations continued its efforts to eliminate colonialism in all its forms and manifestations. 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 (the Committee on colonial countries) held its session in New York (5 February-1 June and 20 July-7 August), at which it considered various aspects of the implementation of the 1960 Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The Committee examined decolonization in general as well as individual Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Part five: Legal questions

Chapter I (pp. 979-986)

International Court of Justice

In 1992, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) continued its deliberations on 10 contentious cases. Three new disputes were referred to the Court, and two cases were removed from its list. The Court delivered two Judgments and 12 Orders.

Bulgaria, Madagascar and Hungary deposited with the Secretary-General, in June, July and October, respectively, a declaration recognizing as compulsory the jurisdiction of the Court, as contemplated by Article 36 of the Statute of the Court. In a statement read on his behalf at the United

Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3-14 June), the President of the Court drew attention to the role of ICJ in relation to the environment and sustainable development. On 21 October, he addressed the General Assembly on the work of the Court.

Part five: Legal questions

Chapter II (987-995)

Legal aspects of international political relations

In 1992, the General Assembly, its Sixth (Legal) Committee and the International Law Commission continued to consider legal aspects of international political and state relations.

The International Law Commission took up the question of an international criminal jurisdiction in the context of the draft Code of Crimes against the Peace and Security of Mankind. It further considered State responsibility and international liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law. The Assembly, in November, requested the Commission to elaborate a draft statute for an international criminal court as a matter of priority beginning in 1993 (resolution 47/33).

Also in November, the Assembly urged States to ensure compliance with the existing international law applicable to the protection of the environment in times of armed conflict, to incorporate the relevant legal provisions into their military manuals and to ensure their effective dissemination (47/37). It appealed to all States parties to the 1949 Geneva Conventions that had not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the additional Protocols I and II (47/30). Alarmed by repeated acts of violence against diplomatic and consular representatives, as well as against representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, the Assembly urged States to enforce the international law governing diplomatic and consular relations and to ensure the protection, security and safety of such personnel (47/31). In other action, it urged States, in applying the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations and corresponding provisions of other agreements, to accord full facilities to consular officers in the performance of their functions (47/36).

Part five: Legal questions

Chapter III (pp. 996-1003)

Law of the sea

The year 1992 marked the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Since its adoption, its impact on State practice worldwide showed a remarkable convergence of acceptance of its concepts, principles and basic provisions, given the fact that it had not yet entered into force.

The United Nations system was undertaking a number of initiatives to promote universal acceptance of the Convention, to facilitate the actions required following its eventual entry into force and to ensure that international cooperation in ocean affairs evolved in a coherent manner.

In December, the General Assembly adopted resolution 47/65 containing a call on States that had not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention to allow the effective entry into force of the new legal regime for the uses of the sea and its resources.

Part five: Legal questions

Chapter IV (1004-1016)

Other legal questions

In 1992, the United Nations continued to work on various aspects of international law and international economic law.

The Secretary-General noted that the first summit meeting of the Security Council at the level of Heads of State and Government, in January 1992, represented an unprecedented recommitment, at the highest political level, to the purposes and principles of the Charter. He noted in his report "An Agenda for Peace" that preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace-keeping and postconflict peace-building offered a coherent contribution towards securing peace in the spirit of the Charter. It was time, he stated, to move towards the realization of the Organization's vast potential and bring new life to the Charter.

The General Assembly, in November, requested the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization to give priority, in 1993, to the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and to continue its work on the peaceful settlement of disputes between States (resolution 47/38). The Assembly expressed hope that the host country of the United Nations Headquarters, the United States, would continue to take all measures necessary to prevent interference with the functions of permanent missions to the United Nations and welcomed a recent lifting of travel restrictions by the host country on mission personnel and United Nations Secretariat staff members of certain nationalities. It urged the host country to continue to abide by its obligations to the United Nations and the missions accredited to it (resolution 47/35). Also in November, the Assembly adopted the programme of activities for the second term (1993-1994) of the United Nations Decade of International Law (1990-1999) (resolution 47/32).

Legal aspects of international economic law continued to be considered during the year by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and by the Sixth (Legal) Committee of the General Assembly. The Assembly took note of the Commission's adoption, in 1992, of the Model Law on International Credit Transfers and of the Legal Guide on International Countertrade Transactions. It noted with satisfaction the entry into force on 1 November 1992 of the 1978 United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea (Hamburg Rules) and requested the Secretary-General to increase efforts to promote wider adherence to the Convention (resolution 47/34).

Part six: Administrative and budgetary questions

Chapter I (pp. 1019-1052)

United Nations financing and programming

In 1992, the United Nations continued to operate under difficult financial conditions brought about by the non-payment of assessed contributions by a number of Member States. The problem was exacerbated further by the rapidly rising number of peace-keeping activities throughout the world.

The General Assembly took action towards improving the ability of the Organization to finance its peace-keeping activities more effectively, by authorizing the establishment of a Peace-keeping Reserve Fund, at a level of \$150 million (resolution 47/217). It called on the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee to examine the current placement of Member States in the groups for the apportionment of peace-keeping expenses, with a view to establishing standard criteria for all future operations (47/218). The Assembly also considered proposals by the Secretary-General to stabilize the financing of peace-keeping operations, as outlined in "An Agenda for Peace" (see PART ONE, Chapter I).

The Assembly increased appropriations to the 1992-1993 approved programme budget to \$2.5 billion. Total budget appropriations for 1993 alone were \$1.3 billion. Original income estimates for the biennium were also revised upwards to \$471 million (47/220 A and B).

The Committee on Contributions made recommendations regarding the assessed contributions of 18 new Member States, which the Assembly subsequently adopted (decision 47/456).

The Assembly accepted the financial reports and audited financial statements for the period ended 31 December 1991 for the United Nations and eight development and humanitarian assistance programmes, as well as the audit opinions of the Board of Auditors (47/211). By the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare separate financial reports and statements for peace-keeping operations for submission in 1993.

Part six: Administrative and budgetary questions

Chapter II (pp. 1053-1089)

United Nations officials

In 1992, the Secretary-General began restructuring the Secretariat, with the creation of new departments, redeployment of posts and a redistribution of resources among various sections of the programme budget for the remaining part of the biennium 1992-1993.

Efforts continued to improve staff distribution with regard to nationality and the status of women in the Secretariat. The General Assembly, by resolution 47/93, urged the Secretary-General to overcome obstacles to improving the status of women in the Secretariat, to accord greater priority to the recruitment and promotion of women, and to increase the number of women from developing countries.

The International Civil Service Commission made several recommendations to the Assembly, including changes in the methodology for conducting salary surveys of the General Service and related categories. The Assembly acted on those recommendations in resolution 47/216.

The number of fatalities among United Nations personnel, including those engaged in peacekeeping operations, was on the rise, a fact which the Assembly strongly deplored. It requested continued efforts to ensure respect for the privileges and immunities of United Nations officials (47/28).

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter I (pp. 1093-1098)

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

In 1992, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) continued to foster peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the exchange of scientific and technical information, to establish and administer safeguards, to provide technical assistance to its member States and to establish health and safety standards.

In September, a review conference of the 1987 Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, convened by the Director General as depositary, affirmed that the Convention provided a sound basis for the physical protection of nuclear material during international transport and was acceptable in its current form.

Under the auspices of IAEA, an agreement on the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor Engineering Design Activities (ITER-EDA) was signed (Washington, D.C., 21 July 1992) by the four ITER parties—the European Atomic Energy Community, Japan, the Russian Federation and the United States.

IAEA carried out inspections in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iraq and South Africa.

The thirty-sixth session of the IAEA General Conference (Vienna, 21-25 September 1992) adopted resolutions relating to measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear safety and radiological protection; South Africa's nuclear capabilities; Iraq's non-compliance with its safeguards obligations; IAEA safeguards in the Middle East; strengthening safeguards; practical use of food irradiation in developing countries; and a plan to produce potable water economically.

Estonia and Slovenia became members of IAEA, bringing the number of member States to 114 at the end of 1992. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter II (pp. 1099-1103)

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

In 1992, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) continued activities in its six major programme areas: promotion of policies to create employment and satisfy basic human needs; development of human resources; improvement of working and living conditions and environment; promotion of social security; strengthening of industrial relations and tripartite (government/ employer/worker) cooperation; and the advancement of human rights in the social and labour fields. The main instruments of action continued to be standard-setting, technical cooperation activities, research and publishing.

Azerbaijan, Croatia, Estonia, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, Slovenia and Uzbekistan joined ILO, and Viet Nam resumed its membership, bringing its total membership to 160. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter III (pp. 1104-1110)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

The 49-member Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the organization's governing body, held its one hundred and second session in 1992 (Rome, Italy, 9-20 November). The Council urged that food aid deliveries to developing countries not be reduced as a result of the significant assistance requirements of some countries of Eastern Europe and the successor States of the USSR. It emphasized the increasing role played by FAO in providing policy advice to member States in the areas of food security and nutrition, structural adjustment and economic transformation, trade, sustainable development and environmental resource management, as related to agriculture, fisheries and forestry. It requested FAO to assist member States in their efforts to implement the principles of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (see PART THREE, Chapter VIII) to achieve sustainable development. It urged the countries and groups of countries involved in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (see PART SEVEN, Chapter XVIII) negotiations to bridge their remaining differences in order to reach a successful conclusion.

During 1992, FAO held five regional conferences—in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Near East—to assess problems in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and rural development unique to those regions and to review its work within each region.

The Conference for Africa (Accra, Ghana, 2024 July), attended by representatives of 35 nations, called for FAO's assistance in responding to the effects, particularly on food security, of structural adjustment programmes. It expressed grave concern about the worsening of rural poverty and urged developed countries to intensify assistance. It adopted the Accra Declaration on a Sound Environment for Sustainable Development in Africa, appealing for a mobilization of resources to enable Africa to feed its people.

At the Conference for Asia and the Pacific (New Delhi, India, 10-14 February), representatives of 27 nations discussed measures to alleviate rural poverty, arrest land degradation, intensify pest control and develop agro-processing industries in a region where more than 400 million people remained undernourished, and stressed the importance of vocational education and skill development, especially for women.

The Conference for Europe (Prague, Czechoslovakia, 24-28 August), at which 28 nations and the European Economic Community (EEC) were represented, discussed the food and agricultural situation in Europe, FAO's medium-term plan in the European region, 1994-1999, and alternative uses of marginal land and set-aside farmland in Europe. The Conference called on FAO to help Eastern European countries formulate agricultural policies and establish sustainable production structures and modern distribution systems.

The Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (Montevideo, Uruguay, 28 September-2 October), attended by representatives of 25 nations, stressed the importance of improved food quality and safety systems for all countries of a region plagued by increasing malnutrition and a persistent cholera epidemic. It recommended the creation of information exchange networks, such as the FAO-sponsored Technical Cooperation Network on Plant Biotechnology, to help develop sustainable production alternatives.

At the Conference for the Near East (Tehran, Iran, 17-21 May), representatives of 23 nations requested FAO assistance in water management, including the formulation of national water policies, the monitoring of water quality, agricultural extension services and information systems for water use. It also discussed requests for FAO assistance in controlling animal diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, brucellosis and para sites.

As at 31 December 1992, FAO membership remained at 161 and 1 associate member. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter IV (pp. 1111-1115)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

During 1992, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) continued to promote cooperation among nations through its education, science and technology, social and human sciences, culture and communications, information and informatics activities.

In 1992, UNESCO 'S membership increased to 171 with the admission of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, and Slovenia. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter V (pp. 1116-1122)

World Health Organization (WHO)

The World Health Assembly, the governing body of the World Health Organization (WHO), at its forty-fifth annual session (Geneva, 4-14 May 1992), reviewed a second evaluation of implementation of the global strategy for health for all by the year 2000 and adopted resolutions on: strengthening nursing and midwifery; disability prevention and rehabilitation; immunization and vaccine quality; health and environment; and national strategies for overcoming micronutrient malnutrition. The Assembly urged member States to improve the health of the most vulnerable population groups, analyse the health impact of development projects, and ensure that health protection was an integral part of sustainable development policies. It endorsed an updated and expanded global strategy for combating the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), as well as guidelines for implementing the WHO Certification Scheme on the Quality of Pharmaceutical Products moving in International Commerce. Technical discussions focused on women, health and development and the Assembly requested the WHO Director-General to establish a global commission on women's health.

Within the framework of United Nations relief efforts, WHO undertook 24 projects to rehabilitate the health sector in Afghanistan and provided medical support for the repatriation of Cambodian refugees by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Emergency humanitarian aid was provided to Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan, and emergency health kits were supplied to a number of countries affected by natural disasters, including Albania, Bangladesh, Egypt, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Pakistan, the Philippines, Rwanda and Yemen.

During 1992, the membership of WHO increased to 182, with the admission of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Puerto Rico became an associate member in May and Ukraine notified the Organization that it had reactivated its membership (see Annex I for complete membership).

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter VI (pp. 1123-1128)

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)

During the fiscal year 1992 (1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) and its affiliate, the International Development Association (IDA), continued to provide economic assistance to developing countries. The Bank's strategies for reducing poverty, promoting private-sector development and contributing to the global effort to safeguard the environment shaped its activities in fiscal 1992.

The dissolution of the former USSR into 15 independent, sovereign States and progress towards peace in several of the Bank's regions led to a sharp expansion in the demand for its services. With special funding approved by its Executive Board, the Bank undertook activities to help ease the transition by the successor States of the former USSR to market-oriented economies.

Commitments by the Bank during fiscal 1992 totalled \$24,933 million as follows: \$15,156 million for loans made by the Bank; \$6,550 million for IDA credits; and \$3,227 million for gross investments made by the Bank's second affiliate, the International Finance Corporation.

As at 31 December 1992, 172 States were members of the World Bank. New members in 1992 were Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter VII (pp. 1129-1134)

International Finance Corporation (IFC)

The International Finance Corporation (IFC), established in 1956 as an affiliate of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank), is a multilateral development institution that furthers economic growth in developing member countries by promoting private sector investment. It provides direct loans and equity financing without government guarantees to private companies in developing countries. IFC also mobilizes additional financing in international capital markets and provides an array of advisory services to businesses and Governments on issues related to private investment.

During the 1992 fiscal year (1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992), Albania, Bulgaria, Equatorial Guinea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Switzerland joined IFC, bringing its membership to 146 countries. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Demand for IFC's finance and advisory services intensified as countries throughout the developing world persevered with free-market reforms. IFC's project financing approvals for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1992 totalled \$3,300 million. Of that amount, \$1,800 million was for IFC's own account and the balance, a record \$1,500 million, was used in loan syndications and underwriting of securities issues and investment funds. IFC provided financing for 167 projects with total project costs of \$12,000 million in 51 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. Projects financed by IFC were in a broad range of sectors, including financial services, tourism, mining, power, oil and gas exploration, agribusiness and general manufacturing.

The more than \$1,800 million of IFC financing approved for the Corporation's own account included \$1,200 million in loans, \$375 million in equity and \$251 million in guarantees, swaps and stand-by arrangements. All IFC's loans were made at market rates of interest and carried maturities of 4 to 15 years. The \$375 million in equity and quasi-equity financing set a new volume record for IFC and represented a 21 per cent share of the financing approved for IFC's own account. This increasing percentage of IFC equity investments was consistent with the Corporation's efforts to reduce reliance on debt financing by businesses in developing countries.

In May, the Corporation's Board of Governors approved a \$1,000 million increase in the Corporation's authorized capital, thus raising it to \$2,300 million. The increase was intended to enable IFC to increase new investment approvals in all regions by 10 per cent a year until 1998, bringing annual approvals to about \$4,000 million by the end of the decade.

On 18 June 1992, the IFC Board of Directors recommended a \$150 million selective capital increase to accommodate the membership of the successor States of the former USSR. Of that amount, \$132 million would be allocated to the new members, and the balance would be available to accommodate future requests for shares.

IFC strengthened its commitment to support only those projects which were environmentally responsible. A study on investing in the environment highlighted the potential growth in private sector investment opportunities in environmental goods and services and summarized the findings of nine separate analyses which identified specific environmental market opportunities in Chile, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, Thailand and Turkey.

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter VIII (pp. 1135-1139)

International Development Association (IDA)

The International Development Association (IDA) was established in 1960 as an affiliate of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) to provide assistance for the same purposes as the Bank, but primarily to poorer developing countries and on easier terms. Though legally and financially distinct from the Bank, IDA shares the same staff.

The funds used by IDA—called credits to distinguish them from World Bank loans—come mostly as subscriptions in convertible currencies from members, general replenishments from its more industrialized and developed members and transfers from the Bank's net earnings. Credits are made only to Governments, have 10-year grace periods and 35 or 40-year maturities and are interest-free.

During the fiscal year 1992 (1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992), IDA continued to promote economic development, concentrating on countries with annual per capita gross national product of \$610 or less (in 1990 dollars). IDA'S 110 approved credits in the amount of \$6,549.7 million were distributed among 49 countries and an African regional project in fiscal 1992.

For the most part, IDA funds for lending were provided by its Part I (industrialized) member countries and several Part II (developing) countries under a series of replenishment agreements. Fiscal 1992 was the second year of the ninth replenishment of IDA resources (IDA-9), which provided funds to finance commitments to IDA borrowers in fiscal years 1991-1993. IDA'S commitment authority for the fiscal year amounted to some 4,760 million special drawing rights (SDRs) and was derived mainly from the receipt of formal notifications to contribute and from the release of the second tranche of donors' contributions to IDA-9. During the year, formal notifications to participate in IDA-9 were received from Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Netherlands and the Russian Federation, as well as an additional contribution of \$25 million from Kuwait, thus increasing IDA'S commitment authority during the year by SDR 397 million. Commitment authority also increased by SDR 3,310 million when IDA received a substantial portion of the United States' second installment to IDA-9. Other sources of commitment authority for fiscal 1992 included the transfer from the World Bank's fiscal 1991 income of some SDR 260 million as well as funds available from future reflows amounting to about SDR 795 million.

Negotiations on a tenth replenishment of IDA'S resources (IDA-10) to provide funds to cover credit commitments in fiscal years 1994-1996 were launched with a meeting of IDA deputies in January 1992 in Paris and at a subsequent meeting in April in Washington, D.C.

During 1992, membership of IDA rose to 147, with the admission of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Switzerland and Uzbekistan. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter IX (pp. 1140-1144)

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

During 1992, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) increased its assistance to the formerly centrally planned economies in transition to marketbased systems and focused on initiatives to improve prospects for the world economy.

IMF provided the machinery for, and promoted, international monetary cooperation through surveillance of the exchange-rate policies of its member States. Surveillance was carried out through consultations analysing the economic and financial conditions of IMF members and regular discussions on the world economic outlook.

IMF operates on a fiscal year; fiscal year 1992 covered the period from 1 May 1991 to 30 April 1992.

As at 31 December 1992, IMF membership stood at 175, with the admission of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter X (pp. 1145-1148)

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) facilitates the safety and efficiency of civil air transport. Its objectives were set forth in annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago, United States, 1944) which prescribe standards, recommended practices and procedures for facilitating civil aviation operations.

In 1992, scheduled traffic of the world's airlines increased to some 245 billion tonne-kilometres, indicating a recovery from the first-ever annual decline recorded in 1991. The airlines carried about 1.17 billion passengers and 17 million tonnes of freight. In 1992, the passenger load factor on total scheduled services (domestic and international) remained unchanged at 66 per cent, whereas the weight load factor decreased slightly from 59 to 58 per cent. Air freight rose by 5 per cent to 61.2 billion tonne-kilometres, and airmail traffic increased by 2 per cent. Overall passenger/freight/ mail tonne-kilometres were up by 6 per cent and international tonne-kilometres by 11 per cent.

The ICAO Assembly, which meets triennially, held its twenty-ninth session (Montreal, Canada, 29 September-8 October 1992). It elected a new Council, reviewed the organization's activities during the previous three years, and adopted 34 resolutions dealing with budgetary matters, navigation surveillance and air traffic management systems, environmental protection, implementation of the 1991 Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection, a technical cooperation, the role of ICAO in preventing substance abuse in the workplace, and smoking restrictions on international flights. The Assembly endorsed a programme of activities to mark the fiftieth anniversary of ICAO in December 1994.

The ICAO Council held three regular sessions. In December, at the request of Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States, the Council decided to complete the investigation which ICAO had initiated in 1983 regarding the shooting down of Korean Air Lines flight KAL-007 on 31 August 1983.

In 1992, membership of ICAO rose to 174 with the admission of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, the Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter XI (pp. 1149-1151)

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

The Universal Postal Union (UPU), established in 1874 at Berne, Switzerland, serves to exchange postal services among nations. It promotes the organization and improvement of postal services and development of international collaboration in this area. At the request of its members, it participates in various forms of postal technical assistance.

In 1992, UPU membership rose to 177, with the admission of Armenia, Croatia, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Namibia, the Republic of Moldova and Slovenia. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter XII (pp. 1152-1155)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

In 1992, the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), at its forty-seventh session (Geneva, 21 June-9 July; 20 December), reviewed financial and administrative matters and provisionally approved a cooperation agreement between ITU and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The Council decided to convene a World Radiocommunication Conference in 1993 at Geneva.

The additional Plenipotentiary Conference (Geneva, 7-22 December) revised the Constitution and Convention adopted at the 1989 Plenipotentiary Conference, providing for a new ITU structure, as reflected in the following basic instruments: the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Council, world conferences on international telecommunications, the radiocommunication sector, the telecommunication standardization sector, the telecommunication development sector and the General Secretariat. It decided to implement the new structure and working methods provisionally as from 1 March 1993, pending the entry into force of the Constitution and Convention on 1 July 1994. As a result of the restructuring, the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR), the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (CCITT) and the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) would cease to exist.

In 1992, ITU membership rose to 174 with the admission of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Estonia, the Republic of Moldova, Slovenia and Uzbekistan. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter XIII (pp. 1156-1161)

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

In 1992, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) continued to implement its activities in accordance with the programmes and budget for the period 1992-1995, adopted in 1991 by the World Meteorological Congress, which meets at least once every four years.

The 36-member Executive Council meets annually to supervise the implementation of programmes and regulations. At its forty-fourth session (Geneva, 22 June-4 July 1992), the Council agreed that in the fourth WMO long-term plan (1996-2005) priority should be given to meteorological and hydrological activities in support of sustainable development, the implementation of the Framework Convention on Climate Change, signed in 1992, and a future international convention on desertification.

WMO's involvement in sectoral areas of sustainable development, identified by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) (see PART THREE, Chapter VIII), related mainly to protection of the atmosphere, oceans and freshwater resources, and combating drought and desertification.

During the year, six new States—Armenia, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Slovenia— acceded to the WMO Convention, bringing WMO membership to 161 States and 5 Territories as at 31 December 1992. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter XIV (pp. 1162-1164)

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

In 1992, several legal instruments adopted under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) entered into force. The Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and a Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of the Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, adopted in 1988, entered into force on 1 March. Amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the 1978 Protocol (MARPOL 73/78) entered into force, as did amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (SOLAS Convention).

During 1992, IMO membership rose to 137 with the acceptance of the IMO Convention by Croatia and Estonia. There were also two associate members (Hong Kong and Macau). (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter XV (pp. 1165-1168)

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

In 1992, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) marked the twenty-fifth year of its establishment. WIPO'S General Assembly, its governing bodies and the Unions administered by it held their twenty-third series of meetings at Geneva (21-29 September).

The number of States parties to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property rose to 106 with the accession of Croatia, Slovenia and Ukraine, and States parties to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works increased to 95 with the accession of China, Croatia, the Gambia, Paraguay and Slovenia. Croatia, Slovenia and Ukraine became parties to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, bringing the number of contracting States to 32. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Romania became members of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs, bringing the number of States parties to 21. The number of parties to the Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purpose of the Registration of Marks rose to 35 with the addition of Croatia and Slovenia, which also became members of the Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs, bringing that instrument's membership to 18. The number of States parties to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) rose to 54 with the accession of Ireland, New Zealand, the Niger, Portugal and Ukraine to the PCT Union. Argentina and Australia acceded to the International Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms, bringing the number of States parties to 37. The Convention Relating to the Distribution of Programme-Carrying Signals Transmitted by Satellite had 15 States parties at the end of 1992 with the accession of Slovenia. With the accession of Argentina to the Treaty on the International Registration of Audiovisual Works, its membership was brought to six.

The 17 treaties in the two main fields of intellectual property administered by WIPO in 1992 were as follows, listed in order of the year of adoption:

Industrial property: Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property; Madrid Agreement for the Repression of False or Deceptive Indications of Source on Goods; Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks; the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs; Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purpose of the Registration of Marks; Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration; Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs; PCT; Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification; Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure; Nairobi Treaty on the Protection of the Olympic Symbol; Vienna Agreement Establishing an International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks.

Copyright and neighbouring rights: Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works; Rome Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations; Geneva Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms; Brussels Convention Relating to the Distribution of Programme-Carrying Signals Transmitted by Satellite; Treaty on the International Registration of Audiovisual Works.

During 1992, the membership of WIPO increased to 135 with the accession of Albania, Croatia, Lithuania and Slovenia. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter XVI (pp. 1169-1171)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) continued to provide concessional assistance for financing agricultural projects in developing countries. The Fund's objectives were to increase food production, reduce malnutrition and alleviate rural poverty. It continued to concentrate on low-income, food-deficit countries which received most of IFAD'S lending and on providing the poorest farmers with the necessary production means and institutional support. Particular emphasis was given to restoring the agricultural capacity of sub-Saharan African countries, as well as to the issues of women in development, cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the environment.

Membership of IFAD rose to 147 with the admission of Albania and Cambodia. Of the current member countries, 22 were in Category I (developed countries), 12 in Category II (oil-exporting developing countries) and 113 in Category III (other developing countries). (See Annex I for full membership.)

The fifteenth session of the Governing Council of IFAD (Rome, 21-23 January 1992) adopted a budget for 1992 of \$53.2 million plus a contingency of \$0.9 million. It approved by acclamation the applications for non-original membership by Albania and Cambodia in Category III. The Council considered a report on the Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification (SPA) and reiterated its appeal to all members to contribute generously to the Programme's second phase (see below). It also endorsed IFAD'S Strategies for the Economic Advancement of Rural Women and requested that guidelines for action under the Strategies be further developed.

The Council established a consultation on the fourth replenishment of the Fund's resources, consisting of all member States from Categories I and II and 12 members from Category III. The consultation held four meetings during 1992 and agreed, subject to agreement between Categories I and II in respect of burden-sharing, that \$600 million would be an appropriate target for the fourth replenishment covering the period 1994-1996.

The IFAD Executive Board held three regular sessions in 1992 (April, September and December), approving 27 loans for 25 projects, including one loan under SPA and two from both the Regular Programme and SPA resources, and four technical assistance grants. At each session, the Board reviewed a number of operational matters, including IFAD'S experimental procedure for design and development of grant programmes for agricultural research and training and the evolving approach to environmentally sustainable rural poverty alleviation.

In financial matters, the Board reviewed reports on the management of IFAD'S Investment Portfolio and approved a transfer of \$5 million to the General Reserve for 1992, bringing the Reserve's total amount to \$85 million.

The Board approved a programme of work at a level of special drawing rights (SDRS) 245 million for loans, grants and project-related activities and services to member States under the Regular Programme in 1993, and endorsed a budget of \$54.9 million, plus a contingency of \$0.65 million. It also approved the programme of work and estimated administrative expenditures of SPA for 1993 of SDR 56.1 million and \$6.35 million respectively, including a contingency of \$75,000.

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter XVII (pp. 1172-1177)

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

In 1992, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) continued its activities in the areas of industrial operations, strategies and promotion. Its special programmes, calling for multidisciplinary or interdepartmental approaches, supported industrial growth and restructuring and included the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, assistance to least developed countries, industrial cooperation among developing countries, integration of women in industrial development, cooperation with industrial enterprises and non-governmental organizations, environment and private sector development. The Industrial Development Board reviewed the Organization's overall activities at its ninth and tenth regular sessions held in May and November, respectively. Financial concerns dominated its deliberations, with member States owing the Organization \$98.8 million in assessed contributions as of the end of April.

The Board stressed the need for UNIDO to focus its technical cooperation activities on its areas of particular expertise, emphasizing the importance of coordination, complementarity, systematic monitoring and evaluation. The Programme and Budget Committee held its eighth session during June and July.

As at 31 December 1992, 160 States were members of UNIDO, with Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia and Slovenia having joined during the year. Australia renewed its membership as of 1 January, but on 3 December, Canada gave notice of its intention to withdraw its membership, effective 31 December 1993. (See Annex I for complete membership.)

Part Seven: Intergovernmental organizations related to the United Nations

Chapter XVIII (pp. 1178-1181)

Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ICITO) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)

During 1992, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) continued to serve as a multilateral instrument with the principal objective of liberalizing international trade to facilitate economic growth and development. It provided agreed rules for international trade and served as a forum in which countries could discuss trade problems and negotiate the reduction of various restrictive and distortive measures. GATT focused significantly on promoting economic growth of the developing countries, particularly the least developed among them.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment (Havana, Cuba, November 1947-March 1948) drew up a charter for an International Trade Organization (ITO) and established an Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ICITO). The charter of ITO was never accepted, but the Conference's Preparatory Committee members negotiated tariffs among themselves and drew up GATT, which entered into force on 1 January 1948. Since then, ICITO has served as the GATT secretariat.

The most authoritative body of GATT was the Session of Contracting Parties, which, in 1992, held its forty-eighth session (Geneva, 2 and 3 December).

In 1992, the number of Contracting Parties to GATT rose to 105 with the addition of Mozambique and Namibia. (See Annex I for complete membership.)