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THE GROUP HAD AGREED ON A WORK PROGRAMME, WHICH CONTAINED THREE MAIN ISSUES: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GSETT-3 SYSTEM, THE EVALUATION AND COMPLETION OF GSETT-3 AND THE TRANSITION OF THE GSETT-3 SYSTEM AND EXPERIENCE. THE STEP-BY-STEP IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW FACILITIES AROUND THE WORLD WOULD CONTINUE. THE GSE WOULD COMPLETE A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION OF THE FIRST YEAR OF THE GSETT-3 EXPERIMENT, WITH EMPHASIS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO DEFINE THE IMS. THE GROUP WOULD ALSO EXAMINE THE ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN A TRANSITION FROM GSETT-3 TO IMS OPERATIONS. A PLAN WOULD ALSO BE DEVELOPED TO ADDRESS THOSE ISSUES AND THE GSE WOULD THUS BE PREPARED FOR A POSSIBLE REQUEST BY THE CONFERENCE.

THE CONFERENCE AGREED TO THE GROUP'S SUGGESTION THAT THE NEXT MEETINGS OF THE AD HOC GROUP BE CONVENED FROM 27 NOVEMBER TO 1 DECEMBER, FOLLOWED BY A SESSION FROM 12 TO 23 FEBRUARY 1996.

PROHIBITION OF PRODUCTION OF FISSILE MATERIAL FOR WEAPONS PURPOSES

ON 23 MARCH, THE CONFERENCE ADOPTED THE REPORT BY GERALD SHANNON (CANADA) AS SPECIAL COORDINATOR ON THE MOST APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENT TO NEGOTIATE A NON-DISCRIMINATORY, MULTILATERAL AND INTERNATIONALLY AND EFFECTIVELY VERIFIABLE TREATY BANNING THE PRODUCTION OF FISSILE MATERIAL FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR OTHER NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICES.

THE REPORT STATED THAT A MANDATE FOR AN AD HOC COMMITTEE HAD BEEN AGREED UPON, BASED ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 48/75L. MEMBERS HAD EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT A VARIETY OF ISSUES RELATING TO FISSILE MATERIAL, INCLUDING THE APPROPRIATE SCOPE OF THE CONVENTION. SOME EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE MANDATE WOULD PERMIT CONSIDERATION IN THE COMMITTEE ONLY OF THE FUTURE PRODUCTION OF FISSILE MATERIAL. OTHERS MAINTAINED THAT THE MANDATE WOULD PERMIT CONSIDERATION NOT ONLY OF FUTURE, BUT ALSO OF PAST PRODUCTION. STILL OTHERS BELIEVED THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD NOT ONLY RELATE TO PRODUCTION OF FISSILE MATERIAL (PAST OR FUTURE) BUT ALSO TO OTHER ISSUES, SUCH AS THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MATERIAL.

THE REPORT ALSO STATED THAT THE MANDATE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE DID NOT PRECLUDE ANY MEMBER FROM RAISING ANY OF THE ABOVE ISSUES. THOSE WITH STRONG VIEWS, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, WERE ABLE TO JOIN CONSENSUS ALLOWING THE AD HOC COMMITTEE TO BE ESTABLISHED. THE CONFERENCE ADOPTED THE REPORT, THUS ESTABLISHING THE AD HOC COMMITTEE,

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BUT IT DID NOT APPOINT A CHAIRMAN.

ACTION ON OTHER PERMANENT AGENDA ITEMS

DURING ITS 1995 SESSION, THE CONFERENCE DID NOT RE-ESTABLISH ITS AD HOC COMMITTEES ON PREVENTION ON AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE, ON EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ASSURE NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR ON TRANSPARENCY IN ARMAMENTS. NOR DID IT ESTABLISH AD HOC COMMITTEES ON THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS: CESSATION OF THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT; PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR, INCLUDING ALL RELATED MATTERS; NEW TYPES OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AND NEW SYSTEMS OF SUCH WEAPONS; RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS; AND COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF DISARMAMENT. DURING PLENARY MEETINGS, DELEGATIONS REAFFIRMED OR FURTHER ELABORATED THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS ON ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS.

PARTICIPANTS IN WORK OF CONFERENCE

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBER STATES PARTICIPATED IN THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE DURING THE SESSION: ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, BRAZIL, BULGARIA, CANADA, CHINA, CUBA, EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, FRANCE, GERMANY, HUNGARY, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN, ITALY, JAPAN, KENYA, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, MOROCCO, MYANMAR, NETHERLANDS, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PERU, POLAND, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SRI LANKA, SWEDEN, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, VENEZUELA AND ZAIRE.

THE FOLLOWING 52 NON-MEMBER STATES PARTICIPATED AS OBSERVERS IN THE PLENARY MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCE OR OF ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES: ARMENIA, AUSTRIA, BANGLADESH, BELARUS, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, CAMEROON, CHILE, COLOMBIA, CROATIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, DENMARK, ECUADOR, FINLAND, GHANA, GREECE, HOLY SEE, IRAQ, IRELAND, ISRAEL, JORDAN, KAZAKHSTAN, KUWAIT, LIBYA, MADAGASCAR, MALAYSIA, MALTA, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, OMAN, PHILIPPINES, PORTUGAL, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SENEGAL, SINGAPORE, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SWAZILAND, SWITZERLAND, SYRIA, THAILAND, THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, TUNISIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE, TANZANIA, VIET NAM, ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE.

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(MORE)DAILY PRESS BRIEFING- - FOR INFORMATION OF UNITED
NATIONS SECRETARIAT ONLY
DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN FOR SECRETARY-
GENERAL

AT TODAY'S NOON BRIEFING, LEONA FORMAN, SPOKESWOMAN FOR THE
PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SAID THE PRESIDENT'S FIRST
APPOINTMENT THIS MORNING WAS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF
SLOVAKIA, JURAJ SCHENK. HE ALSO MET LATER WITH THE DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF GERMANY,
KLAUS KINKEL. IN THE AFTERNOON, THE PRESIDENT HAD A MEETING
SCHEDULED WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF MALTA, GUIDO DE MARCO.

THE SPOKESWOMAN SAID THAT DURING THE MORNING SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE SPEAKERS HAD BEEN SPAIN, RUSSIAN
FEDERATION, UNITED KINGDOM, BANGLADESH, FINLAND, BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA AND, DUE TO SOME TIME GAINED, THE REPRESENTATIVES
OF ARMENIA AND PORTUGAL ALSO INTERVENED, INSTEAD OF SPEAKING
IN THE AFTERNOON. SPEAKERS SCHEDULED FOR THE AFTERNOON
INCLUDED JAPAN, CANADA, PERU, NETHERLANDS, ALGERIA, DENMARK,
BELGIUM, LITHUANIA AND HONDURAS.

IN THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S MEETINGS
YESTERDAY WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF BRAZIL, TUNISIA,
PARAGUAY, BURKINA FASO, IRAN, SPAIN, FRANCE, HUNGARY, JAPAN
AND ITALY, AND WITH THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE, THE
GENERAL PREOCCUPATION WAS OVER THE CRITICAL FINANCIAL
SITUATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SAID THE SPOKESWOMAN. THE
PRESIDENT ALSO NOTED THEIR INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THE
WORKING GROUP ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS
SYSTEM.

REGARDING THE OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUPS CHAIRED BY THE
PRESIDENT, THE SPOKESWOMAN INDICATED THAT ON 6 OCTOBER THERE
WOULD BE A LUNCHEON WITH THE EIGHT VICE-CHAIRS OF THE GROUPS,
TO COORDINATE THEIR WORK. THE OPEN-ENDED HIGH LEVEL GROUPS
ARE WORKING ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS;
THE STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM; THE QUESTION
OF EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON AND INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL; AND THE AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT. THE
FIRST WORKING MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS WILL BE ON 9 OCTOBER.

JOE SILLS, SPOKESMAN FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, INDICATED
THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL MET THIS MORNING WITH THE FOREIGN
MINISTER OF MALTA, GUIDO DE MARCO, AND LATER WITH THE FOREIGN
MINISTER OF ALGERIA, MOHAMED SALAH DEMBRI. THE SECRETARY-

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GENERAL HAD ALSO ATTENDED THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. AT THIS TIME, HE WAS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, WHERE HE WOULD SPEAK AT THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MEETING. THE DECLARATION, WHICH WOULD BE ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL, WAS AVAILABLE IN THE SPOKESMAN'S OFFICE.

THIS AFTERNOON, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD ADDRESS THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING OF THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED CORRESPONDENTS THAT THIS WAS THE MID-TERM FOLLOW-UP TO THE 1990 PARIS CONFERENCE, WHICH HAD SET FORTH A 10-YEAR PROGRAMME. THE MEETING WOULD BE AT 3:30 P.M. IN THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL AND THE TEXT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REMARKS WAS AVAILABLE.

IN THE AFTERNOON, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD MEET WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF: NORWAY, BJORN TORE GODAL; SPAIN, JAVIER SOLANA; CANADA, ANDRE OUELLET; ARGENTINA, GUIDO DI TELLA; AND NEW ZEALAND, DON MCKINNON.

THE SPOKESMAN THEN APOLOGIZED FOR AN ERROR IN THE 31 AUGUST STATUS OF CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT WHICH INDICATED THAT CANADA WAS IN ARREARS IN ITS DEBT TO UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING. CANADA HAD MADE A PAYMENT OF \$5 MILLION IN AUGUST; CANADA WAS THUS COMPLETELY CURRENT IN ITS PAYMENTS TO THE PEACEKEEPING BUDGET, WHICH THE UNITED NATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

AS OF 15 SEPTEMBER, HE CONTINUED, THE SUM OF OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS REGULAR AND PEACE-KEEPING BUDGETS AND THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNALS TOTALLED \$3.5 BILLION. OF THAT AMOUNT, \$847.5 MILLION WAS FOR THE REGULAR BUDGET AND \$2.7 BILLION FOR PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS AND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNALS. THE STORY ONLY GETS SADDER AND SADDER, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

MR. SILLS SAID THAT THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, CHRISTIAN CHARTIER, IN HIS BRIEFING TODAY WAS ASKED ABOUT HOW THE UNITED NATIONS FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES COULD AFFECT THE TRIBUNAL. HE RESPONDED THAT IF THE TRIBUNAL WAS NOT GIVEN THE SPECIAL TREATMENT REQUIRED BECAUSE OF ITS SPECIAL MANDATE, THE MEASURES ENFORCED BY UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS WOULD SEVERELY IMPACT UPON THE ABILITY OF THE OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR TO PERFORM ITS MISSION. FOR INSTANCE, THE LIMITATIONS ON TRAVEL AND THE FREEZE ON RECRUITMENT MIGHT GRAVELY HINDER THE FOLLOW-UP OF ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS. IN THE WORST CASE, IT MIGHT PREVENT NEW INVESTIGATIONS FROM BEING UNDERTAKEN. THE TRIBUNAL WAS IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH HEADQUARTERS TO REVIEW THE SITUATION ON A DAY BY DAY AND CASE BY CASE BASIS. MR. SILLS COMMENTED THAT THE TRIBUNAL WAS JUST ONE OF THE MANY PROGRAMMES THAT COULD BE AFFECTED IF THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS WAS NOT RESOLVED.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED CORRESPONDENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION BRIEFING IN CONFERENCE ROOM 5 AT 3 P.M., WITH FRANCOIS GIULIANI, HEAD OF THE MEDIA DIVISION, ON PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COMMEMORATIVE SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING, MR. SILLS INDICATED THAT 12 OF THE 15 MEMBERS ATTENDING WERE REPRESENTED AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL. THE THREE COUNTRIES NOT REPRESENTED AT THAT LEVEL WERE: RWANDA, REPRESENTED BY ITS PERMANENT

REPRESENTATIVE; THE CZECH REPUBLIC, BY ITS DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER; AND OMAN, BY ITS PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE.

THE SPOKESMAN TOLD CORRESPONDENTS THAT SOME \$500 MILLION HAD BEEN PLEDGED AT THE ROUND-TABLE MEETING OF DONORS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF ANGOLA, IN BRUSSELS. THE MEETING WAS ORGANIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA AND THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP) AND HOSTED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION. HE ADDED THAT MORE PLEDGES WERE LIKELY TO BE FORTHCOMING. A UNDP PRESS RELEASE WAS AVAILABLE.

A PRESS RELEASE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, REFERRING TO THE CASE OF DUSKO TADIC, WAS ALSO AVAILABLE, MR. SILLS TOLD CORRESPONDENTS. THE INDICTMENT AGAINST MR. TADIC WAS AMENDED AND HE WAS FACING ADDITIONAL CHARGES, AS OUTLINED IN THE PRESS RELEASE.

ON BEHALF OF THE MISSION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE SPOKESMAN REFERRED CORRESPONDENTS TO THE SIGNING CEREMONY TOMORROW OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ARGENTINA ON THE EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OF OIL IN THE SOUTH-WEST ATLANTIC. THE CEREMONY WOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE TRYGVE LIE ROOM AT THE UNITED NATIONS PLAZA HOTEL. THE PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION WOULD TAKE PLACE AT 10:30 A.M.; ANYONE WISHING TO COVER THE EVENT SHOULD ARRIVE BY 10 A.M. FURTHER INFORMATION COULD BE OBTAINED AT EITHER THE BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICE OR THE ARGENTINE MISSION.

MR. SILLS SAID THAT ON 28 SEPTEMBER AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, A DAY-LONG CONFERENCE ON THE WORLD REFUGEE SITUATION WOULD BE HELD, AS PART OF THE OBSERVANCE ACTIVITIES OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED, AT 3:15 P.M., A PANEL ON MEDIA COVERAGE OF REFUGEES, WHICH WOULD BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST. A PRESS RELEASE WAS AVAILABLE IN THE SPOKESMAN'S OFFICE.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED CORRESPONDENTS THAT THE PRESS CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR 9:45 A.M. TOMORROW WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF ITALY, SUSANNA AGNELLI, HAD BEEN CANCELLED.

THE SPOKESMAN THEN BRIEFLY REFERRED TO EACH OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MEETINGS YESTERDAY. THE MEETING WITH THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE, WARREN CHRISTOPHER, DEALT WITH A SERIES OF ISSUES, INCLUDING THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS; THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL REAFFIRMING HIS SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES PEACE INITIATIVE; AND THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, PARTICULARLY THE AGREEMENT JUST REACHED AND WHICH WOULD BE SIGNED IN WASHINGTON, D.C., ON THURSDAY.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF FRANCE, HERVE DE CHARETTE, FOCUSED MAINLY ON BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND FINANCES. WITH ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SUSANNA AGNELLI THE MEETING CONCENTRATED ON BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, FINANCES AND THE GREAT LAKES REGION OF AFRICA AND THE MISSION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE AREA, JOSE LUIS JESUS.

THE MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF JAPAN, YOHEI KONO, FOCUSED ON FINANCES, THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY, SECURITY COUNCIL REFORM PROPOSALS AND THE SO-CALLED "ENEMY" CLAUSE IN THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL NOTED THAT JAPAN WAS NOW THE SECOND LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND HE PARTICULARLY THANKED JAPAN FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION

TO THE PEACEKEEPING CONTINGENT IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. THE MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARYGENERAL AND THE PRESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR, ARMANDO CALDERON SOL, CONCENTRATED ON THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA, THE REMAINING ASPECTS OF THE SETTLEMENT IN EL SALVADOR AND THE OVERALL PEACE PROCESS IN THE AREA, PARTICULARLY, IN GUATEMALA.

FINALLY, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL EMPHASIZED TO ALL HIS VISITORS THE CRITICAL NATURE OF THE UNITED NATIONS FINANCES AND HOW ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL IT WAS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS TO CONCLUDE ITS OPERATION IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, WHERE THE COST TO THE UNITED NATIONS WAS \$5 MILLION A DAY, A COST THAT COULD NOT BE SUSTAINED. IN CONTRAST, HE NOTED, THE OPERATION IN LIBERIA WAS COSTING \$25 MILLION A YEAR. MEANWHILE, IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THERE WAS A DISAGREEMENT OVER THE COST OF FIVE OR SIX ADDITIONAL PEACE-KEEPERS IN TAJIKISTAN.

FRED ECKHARD, OF THE SPOKESMAN'S OFFICE, SPEAKING ON PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS, SAID THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) HAD MET WITH SENIOR CROATIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN ZAGREB TODAY AND HAD URGED THEM TO RECONSIDER A GOVERNMENT DIRECTIVE ISSUED LAST FRIDAY THAT WOULD STRIP SOME 100,000 BOSNIANS IN CROATIA OF THEIR REFUGEE STATUS. SADAKO OGATA, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, PUBLICLY EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THIS DIRECTIVE YESTERDAY SINCE, UNDER THE 1951 GENEVA CONVENTION, ALL RETURNS MUST BE VOLUNTARY (PRESS RELEASE REF/1119). THE UNHCR WAS ALSO CONCERNED THAT CONDITIONS IN THE SO-CALLED "RECENTLY LIBERATED" AREAS OF BOSNIA WERE NOT YET SECURE ENOUGH, AND FELT THAT ANY REPATRIATION SHOULD BE ORGANIZED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE OVERALL PEACE PROCESS.

WHILE THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN CROATIA HAD STABILIZED, THE PROBLEM OF SOME 20,000 TO 25,000 REFUGEES FROM THE BIHAC POCKET REMAINED UNRESOLVED. THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN SECTORS NORTH AND SOUTH CONTINUED TO BE CHARACTERIZED BY THE LOOTING AND BURNING OF HOMES AND REPORTS OF INTIMIDATION AND HARASSMENT OF THE REMAINING SERB POPULATION. LAST WEEK, 1,200 SERBS LEFT THE SECTORS VOLUNTARILY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE MILITARY SITUATION IN BOSNIA WAS DESCRIBED AS VERY QUIET, ALTHOUGH SOME ACTIVITY CONTINUED AROUND DOBOJ, WHERE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES REMAINED ON THE OFFENSIVE, AND TO THE NORTH OF THE POSAVINA CORRIDOR, WHERE CROATIAN TROOPS WERE PUSHING IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION, MR. ECKHARD SAID.

A LIMITED EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS TOOK PLACE AT SARAJEVO AIRPORT, BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BOSNIAN SERBS. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) WAS NOT INVOLVED; 17 PRISONERS WERE EXCHANGED BY EACH SIDE. MR. ECKHARD INDICATED THAT THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN SARAJEVO CONTINUED TO IMPROVE AS A RESULT OF THE ROUTES AND AIRPORT BEING OPEN; TRAM SERVICES IN THE CITY WERE PARTIALLY RESTORED AND NEGOTIATIONS TO RESTORE UTILITIES IN THE CITY WERE ONGOING, HE SAID.

HAD THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE MADE ANY PROMISES ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS FINANCIAL SITUATION DURING HIS INTERVIEW WITH THE SECRETARYGENERAL? A CORRESPONDENT ASKED. MR. SILLS SAID THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAD INDICATED IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS COMMITTED TO HONOURING ITS OBLIGATIONS. THE PROBLEM WAS

LARGELY THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS; OBVIOUSLY THE SECRETARY
COULD NOT ISSUE ANY GUARANTEES AS TO WHAT THE CONGRESS WOULD
DO, AND HE DID NOT.

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT RECALLED THAT DURING THE
ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH, THERE HAD BEEN SOME
FUNDS PUT ASIDE TO PAY UNITED STATES ARREARS. THE SPOKESMAN
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DURING THE VISIT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH DISCUSSIONS HELD DURING THE VISIT, SEVERAL PRISONERS WERE FREED A FEW MONTHS AFTER THE VISIT. THE CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE HAD BEEN RATIFIED BY CUBA. HE SAID THAT HE WAS WORKING ON A PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF HAVANA AND HAD ALREADY OBTAINED THE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN AND UNIVERSITY CARLOS TERCERO DE MADRID WHICH WOULD PROBABLY BE TAKING PART IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME.

THINGS WERE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION IN CUBA AND HE WAS IN TOUCH PERMANENTLY WITH THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT AND HAD CONTINUED STRESSING THE NEED TO INCREASE THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

ON THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT, HE SAID THAT HE PROPOSED TO WORK WITH THE BRETTON-WOODS INSTITUTIONS SO THAT SOCIAL ISSUES WOULD BE INCORPORATED IN THEIR PROGRAMMES. THE LAST REPORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF) INDICATED THE WORLD BANK HAD STATED IT WAS WORKING ON SOCIAL PROGRAMMES, NOT JUST ON MACRO-ECONOMIC PROGRAMMES, AS IN THE PAST.

ALSO, LAST YEAR IN NAPLES, HE WAS ABLE TO GET THE G-7 GOVERNMENTS TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF HIS OFFICE IN THE FINAL DECLARATION OF THEIR MEETING. THIS YEAR, HE HAD ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF CANADA SO THAT AT THE HALIFAX MEETING OF THE G-7, A SPECIFIC MENTION WAS MADE OF THE NEED TO PAY ATTENTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AND TO GIVE SUPPORT TO THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER. MR. AYALA LASSO SAID THAT HE WAS GIVING FINISHING TOUCHES TO THE CONCLUSIONS OBTAINED IN HALIFAX.

IN ADDITION, HE WENT ON, HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH OTHER REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS THAT OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, TO ASK THEM TO PAY SPECIFIC ATTENTION TO THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT AND TO ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS. IT WAS TIME FOR THE MOVEMENT TO TAKE UP THE FLAG OF HUMAN RIGHTS AT ITS NEXT MEETING IN CARTEGENA.

ON THE ISSUE OF TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT, HE SAID THAT NOTHING SPECIFIC WAS BEING DONE BY HIS OFFICE. HOWEVER, HIS STAND WAS THAT AN ECONOMY WAS GOOD ONLY IF IT BENEFITED HUMAN BEINGS. A VERY GOOD ECONOMY THAT CREATED A VERY BAD SITUATION FOR HUMAN BEINGS WAS NOT USEFUL.

HE SAID THAT THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN GENEVA WAS BEING RESTRUCTURED. ONE OF THE ASPECTS OF THAT RESTRUCTURING INCLUDED THE POSSIBILITY OF A WELL-ORGANIZED FUND-RAISING

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ACTIVITY.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED WHETHER MOST OF THE FUNDING FOR THE OPERATIONS IN RWANDA AND BURUNDI CAME FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION. MR. AYALA LASSO SAID THAT A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF THE FUNDING CAME FROM THE UNION, BUT THAT IT WAS NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT FINANCIAL ELEMENT OF THE OPERATION.

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PRESS BRIEFING BY HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

JOSE AYALA LASSO, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, SAID AT A HEADQUARTERS PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY THAT THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 120 OBSERVERS IN THE FIELD OPERATION STARTED BY THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN RWANDA LAST YEAR. THEY WERE INVOLVED IN MONITORING OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AND COOPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA. THEY ALSO PROVIDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA, ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA OF RESTRUCTURING OF JUSTICE AND EDUCATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

THE OBSERVERS WERE ALSO COOPERATING WITH OTHER AGENCIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN CREATING CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES AIMED AT FACILITATING THE RETURN OF REFUGEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN RWANDA. THEY WERE ALSO INVOLVED IN THE ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION OF PRISONS AND THE REFUGEE CAMPS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, MR. AYALA LASSO CONTINUED.

HE SAID THAT THE OPERATION WAS GOING ON SMOOTHLY AND HIS OFFICE HAD SIGNED COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS. THE EUROPEAN UNION HAD PROVIDED THE CENTRE WITH A CONTINGENT OF 35 FULLY EQUIPPED PERSONS TO WORK IN THE OPERATION. UNDER THE PRESENT PLAN, THE COOPERATION ARRANGEMENT WOULD COME TO AN END NEXT MONTH BUT NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEGUN FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT. HE HOPED THAT SUCH A RENEWAL WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS.

THE CENTRE ALSO COOPERATED WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES, PARTICULARLY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF), THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP), AS WELL AS THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO RWANDA, SHAHRVAR KHAN.

MR. AYALA LASSO SAID THAT HE HAD RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PLANS TO CHANGE THE LEADERSHIP OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OPERATION IN RWANDA. UNDER THOSE PLANS, THE CURRENT CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, WILLIAM CLARENCE, WHO HAD HELD THAT POSITION WITH DEDICATION FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR AND WHO HAD BEEN WORKING UNDER VERY DIFFICULT CONDITIONS, WAS BEING REPLACED BY IAN MARTIN FROM 1 OCTOBER. MR. MARTIN WAS THE CHIEF OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OPERATIONS IN HAITI AND A VERY WELLKNOWN PROFESSIONAL WORKING ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES.

(SASG) FC AMO

TURNING TO BURUNDI, HE SAID THAT FOR ALMOST ONE YEAR, THE CENTRE HAD HAD AN OPERATION IN THAT COUNTRY DEALING, IN PARTICULAR, WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT AS A PREVENTIVE MEASURE TO AVOID CRISIS. THE CENTRE HAD DECIDED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, TO ESTABLISH AN OBSERVER MISSION IN HUMAN RIGHTS BRIEFING - - 20 SEPTEMBER 1995

BURUNDI. PLANS FOR THAT OPERATION HAD BEEN PRESENTED IN MAY BUT PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH FINANCE HAD NOT BEEN SOLVED.

HE SAID THAT THE EUROPEAN UNION HAD PROMISED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE BURUNDI OPERATION. CONSEQUENTLY, IT WAS EXPECTED THAT FUNDING FOR THE OPERATION WOULD BE AVAILABLE VERY SOON. IT WOULD INVOLVE OBSERVATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION; THERE WOULD BE UP TO 35 PERSONS DEPLOYED IN A PROGRESSIVE MANNER, BEGINNING WITH NOT MORE THAN 10 PERSONS UNTIL THE END OF THIS YEAR.

THE CENTRE HAD ALSO MADE ALL THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO COMPLY WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNING ZAIRE, HE CONTINUED. TWO PERSONS WOULD BE DEPLOYED THERE AS SOON AS CERTAIN PROBLEMS, ALSO OF A FINANCIAL NATURE, WERE RESOLVED, MR. AYALA LASSO WENT ON.

THE CENTRE WAS WORKING IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT DECISIONS, INCLUDING THAT BY YASUSHI AKASHI, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THERE. HUMAN RIGHTS UNITS HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED TO DEAL WITH HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS IN CROATIA. THE OPERATION THERE CONTINUED TO GO ON NORMALLY IN SPITE OF THE RESIGNATION OF TADEUSZ MAZOWIECKI, THE FORMER SPECIAL RAPPOREUR FOR THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA. THE CENTRE PLANNED TO INCREASE ITS ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLANS IT WAS ANALYZING WITH MR. AKASHI.

HE DESCRIBED THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AS HAVING DEVELOPED IN A VERY POSITIVE MANNER. A NEW MOMENTUM HAD BEEN GIVEN FOR PROMOTING AND PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD, PARTICULARLY THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN WHICH HAD NOT BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SPECIFIC CONSIDERATION FOR A LONG TIME.

HE SAID THAT HIS OFFICE HAD ALREADY STARTED PREPARING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE ASPECTS OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE THAT FELL WITHIN ITS COMPETENCE.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED MR. AYALA LASSO FOR COMMENTS REGARDING HIS VISIT TO KASHMIR AND HIS OBSERVATIONS WITH REGARD TO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS THERE. MR. AYALA LASSO RESPONDED THAT HE HAD PRESENTED HIS REPORT ON THAT VISIT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL. ALSO, AS WAS HIS USUAL PRACTICE, HE HAD SHARED HIS FINDINGS WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN REGIONAL GROUPS, AND HAD HELD PRESS CONFERENCES ON THEM. THE SITUATION IN INDIA IN GENERAL AND IN JAMMU KASHMIR IN PARTICULAR, REQUIRED CONTINUED ANALYSIS AND ATTENTION. THERE WERE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH MUST BE ADDRESSED. ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT AND OTHER FORCES OR ORGANIZATIONS, MUST CONTRIBUTE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CLIMATE OF TOLERANCE. DURING THE VISIT, HE HAD BEEN PRESENTED WITH PICTURES OF VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS. SOME OF THEM WERE PRESENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND SOME WERE PRESENTED BY THE MILITANTS. WHOEVER WAS THE

VIOLATOR MUST CHANGE HIS CONDUCT, HE SAID. HE WOULD FIGHT TO OBTAIN REDRESS WHERE THERE WAS VIOLATION.

ASKED FOR HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN RWANDA, MR. AYALA LASSO SAID THAT, STRUCK BY THE GENOCIDE IN THAT COUNTRY, THE DAY AFTER HE ASSUMED OFFICE HE HAD PREPARED HIS PLAN OF ACTION ON RWANDA. HE HAD GONE IMMEDIATELY TO THE AREA AND PROPOSED A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR. THOSE PROPOSALS WERE AGREED UPON AND THEN THE SECURITY COUNCIL WENT ON TO SUGGEST TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF EXPERTS. THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS HAD CONDUCTED INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE GENOCIDE IN RWANDA AND CONSIDERED IT TO BE ONE OF THE MOST HORRIBLE SITUATIONS IN THE HISTORY OF AFRICA. THE CENTRE WAS NOW COOPERATING WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL ON RWANDA AND HAD A UNIT INVESTIGATING THE GENOCIDE AND PUTTING ALL THE INFORMATION AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE TRIBUNAL.

RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF JUSTICE IN RWANDA, HE EXPRESSED THE NEED TO ENSURE JUSTICE AND SAID THAT WAS ALSO A STRONG BELIEF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA. TO ENSURE JUSTICE, HOWEVER, A WORKING JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION WAS NECESSARY AND THAT WAS THE PROBLEM IN RWANDA. THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS HAD, THEREFORE, PROPOSED A PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS, THE UNDP AND OTHER AGENCIES. THAT PROGRAMME WAS A COMPLEX EFFORT SINCE THE STRUCTURES OF STATE IN RWANDA HAD BEEN DESTROYED. THE CENTRE HAD BEGUN WORKING ON THAT PROGRAMME, STARTING WITH THE "COMMISSION DE TRIAGE" TO ENSURE THAT NOT EVERYBODY CONSIDERED A SUSPECT WAS TAKEN TO PRISON, BUT THAT CASES WERE SELECTED BASED ON THE REAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CRIMINAL ACTS. THERE WAS ALSO THE QUESTION OF HOW TO ADMINISTER AND ESTABLISH REGISTERS IN THE PRISONS AS WELL AS HOW TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION WHERE MORE THAN 52,000 PRISONERS WERE HELD IN PLACES OF DETENTION THAT WERE DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE NOT MORE THAN 12,000 TO 13,000 PERSONS.

STILL ON RWANDA, HE SAID THAT HIS OFFICE HAD PROPOSED A PROGRAMME TO THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE. THAT PROGRAMME HAD BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION. THE INITIAL PART WOULD INVOLVE SENDING 50 LEGAL EXPERTS TO RWANDA; THE SELECTION OF MOST OF THOSE TO BE ENGAGED HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE. THE CENTRE WAS IN THE LAST STAGE OF CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND UNDP IN ORDER TO START ACTUAL IMPLEMENTATION.

ASKED HOW THE GOVERNMENT WAS RESPONDING TO THE ACTIVITIES OF HIS OFFICE, MR. AYALA LASSO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD REACTED IN A MOST POSITIVE WAY TO THE PRESENCE OF HIS OFFICE. IT WAS, HOWEVER, NOT COMFORTABLE WITH CERTAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE. FOR INSTANCE, REQUESTS BY THE OFFICE FOR REDRESS FOR VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS WERE NOT ALWAYS POSITIVELY ACCEPTED. HOWEVER, IN ITS WORK IN THE VARIOUS PREFECTURES IN THE COUNTRY, THE PEOPLE FELT THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WAS USEFUL, AND THE GOVERNMENT REALIZED THAT THROUGH THAT KIND OF WORK, THE SITUATION TENDED TO BE NORMALIZED, THEREBY HELPING TO FACILITATE ITS WORK. HE REITERATED THAT THE OPERATION HAD RECEIVED THE SUPPORT, COOPERATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAD

FREQUENTLY SENT IN REQUESTS TO DOUBLE OR TRIPLE THE NUMBER OF PERSONS IN THE FIELD. THE DIFFICULTY WAS IN THE FINANCIAL ASPECT OF THE OPERATION. THERE WERE NOT ENOUGH RESOURCES TO KEEP THE OPERATION ALIVE FOR A REASONABLE LENGTH OF TIME. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE PRESENTATIONS HE HAD MADE WOULD BE ANALYZED DURING THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SO THAT SOME DECISIONS WOULD BE TAKEN IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A SMALL, SOLID FINANCIAL BASIS FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE OPERATION.

IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, HE SAID THAT THE PRESENCE OF HIS OFFICE IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA WAS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE AGREEMENT SIGNED BY MR. AKASHI, ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE CROATIAN AUTHORITIES FOR THE OBSERVATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CROATIA. TO IMPLEMENT THAT AGREEMENT, SOME HUMAN RIGHTS UNITS WERE ESTABLISHED AND THOSE UNITS WERE HEADED BY MEMBERS OF HIS OFFICE. HE STATED THAT ONE OF THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF AN AGREEMENT OF A POLITICAL NATURE WAS HUMAN RIGHTS, WHICH NEEDED TO BE DEALT WITH FOR A SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA.

HE STATED THAT ACTIVITIES REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE AREA WERE UNDER HIS AUTHORITY, BUT THROUGH THE REPRESENTATIVE HE HAD IN THE FIELD WHO WORKED IN COORDINATION WITH MR. AKASHI. A LINE OF AUTHORITY HAD BEEN ASSURED.

HE SAID THAT THE QUESTION OF A SUCCESSOR FOR MR. MAZOWIECKI WAS A MATTER FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. HE HAD MET WITH THE PRESIDENT RECENTLY IN GENEVA AND THE PRESIDENT HAD CONVENED A MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE COMMISSION WHERE THE MATTER WAS DISCUSSED. THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE HOPED TO TAKE A DECISION ON THE MATTER SOON, POSSIBLY BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED FOR MR. AYALA LASSO'S REACTION TO THE REPORTS OF VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF CHILDREN, IN PARTICULAR THE SHOOTING IN THE FACE OF A CHILD IN EAST TIMOR BY INDONESIAN FORCES AND THE ENSLAVEMENT OF CHILDREN IN THE SUDAN AND THEIR CONSCRIPTION INTO THE SUDANESE ARMY. MR. AYALA LASSO SAID THAT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS SHOULD BE A PRIORITY IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS. PRACTICAL MECHANISMS WERE NEEDED FOR IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS OF THE VARIOUS UNITED NATIONS ORGANS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. THOSE DECISIONS WERE VERY GOOD, BUT THERE WAS NOT THE NECESSARY SUBSEQUENT ACTION TO IMPLEMENT THEM.

HE STRESSED THAT THERE WAS NEED TO IMPLEMENT THE DECISIONS ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD. HE HAD PREPARED A PLAN OF ACTION FOR THAT AND THAT PLAN HAD BEEN WORKED OUT WITH SEVERAL UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE PLAN WAS READY AND GOVERNMENTS HAD BEEN ASKED TO FINANCE IT. IT CALLED FOR AN INEXPENSIVE OPERATION, WHICH WOULD CREATE A PRECEDENT AND DEMONSTRATE HOW TO ACT ON CASES INVOLVED IN OTHER DECISIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES. SEVERAL COUNTRIES HAD ALREADY MADE FINANCING COMMITMENTS.

WITH REGARD TO THE SPECIFIC CASES RAISED BY THE CORRESPONDENT, HE SAID THAT HE WOULD TRAVEL TO EAST TIMOR AND INDONESIA BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. HE WAS ALSO WORKING ON THE CASE OF SUDAN, IN COOPERATION WITH THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON SUDAN. HE SAID THAT HE CRITICIZED ANY VIOLATION OF HUMAN

RIGHTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF CHILDREN WHICH WERE ESPECIALLY
ATROCIOUS.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED WHAT THE FOLLOW-UP HAD BEEN TO HIS
VISIT TO CUBA IN 1994. MR. AYALA LASSO SAID THAT HE HAD
RECEIVED A CONSTRUCTIVE RECEPTION FROM THE CUBAN AUTHORITIES

END OF PART 1 OF 2

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE BIO/2983

GA/8916
19 SEPTEMBER 1995

DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL OF PORTUGAL ELECTED PRESIDENT
OF FIFTIETH SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL, WHO WAS ELECTED THIS AFTERNOON AS
PRESIDENT OF THE FIFTIETH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY, HAS SERVED AS A PROFESSOR OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF LISBON, PORTUGAL, SINCE 1970.

THE NEW ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT WAS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN
PORTUGUESE POLITICS FROM 1974 TO 1986. A PRESIDENTIAL
CANDIDATE IN THE 1986 PORTUGUESE ELECTION, HE LOST TO THE
CURRENT PRESIDENT, MARIO SOARES, WHILE OBTAINING 48.8 PER CENT
OF THE NATIONAL VOTE.

FROM 1981 TO 1983, MR. FREITAS DO AMARAL WAS VICE-PRIME
MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF PORTUGAL AND WAS INTERIM
PRIME MINISTER, DECEMBER 1980 TO JANUARY 1981. HE ALSO SERVED
AS VICE-PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FROM
1980 TO 1981.

FROM 1982 TO 1983, MR. FREITAS DO AMARAL WAS PRESIDENT OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS. HE HAD FOUNDED THE
PORTUGUESE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN 1974 AND WAS ITS
PRESIDENT UNTIL 1982. IN 1988, HE WAS AGAIN ELECTED PRESIDENT
OF THE PARTY AND HELD THAT POSITION UNTIL 1991.

MR. FREITAS DO AMARAL WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE PORTUGUESE
PARLIAMENT, REPRESENTING THE CONSTITUENCY OF LISBON FROM 1975
TO 1983 AND AGAIN FROM 1992 TO 1993. FROM MAY 1974 TO MARCH
1975 HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

MR. FREITAS DO AMARAL RECEIVED HIS LAW DEGREE FROM THE
UNIVERSITY OF LISBON IN 1963, AND IN 1967, OBTAINED A PH.D. IN
PUBLIC LAW, INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL LAW. IN 1961-1962, HE WAS
PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
OF THE LAW FACULTY.

DURING HIS TENURE AS A PROFESSOR OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
LISBON, HE WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
OF THE FACULTY ON FIVE DIFFERENT OCCASIONS. MR. FREITAS DO
AMARAL HAS PUBLISHED NUMEROUS BOOKS AND ARTICLES ON PUBLIC
LAW, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND THE HISTORY OF POLITICAL THOUGHT.

MR. FREITAS DO AMARAL WAS BORN ON 21 JULY 1941 IN POVOA DO
VARZIM, A SMALL TOWN IN THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL. HE IS MARRIED
AND HAS FOUR CHILDREN.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

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19 SEPTEMBER 1995

UGYEN TSHERING OF BHUTAN ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THIRD COMMITTEE

UGYEN TSHERING, WHO WAS ELECTED TODAY CHAIRMAN OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE (SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL) HAS BEEN BHUTAN'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE SINCE AUGUST 1989.

FROM 1986 TO HIS CURRENT APPOINTMENT, MR. TSHERING WAS DIRECTOR OF PLANNING OF BHUTAN, AND PRIOR TO THAT (1982 TO 1986), HELD VARIOUS GOVERNMENT POSITIONS RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRAL MONETARY AUTHORITY, THE NATIONAL BUDGETING SYSTEM, THE CIVIL SERVICE AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT. FROM 1978 TO 1982, HE WAS AN ADVISER TO BHUTAN'S PLANNING COMMISSION ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MATTERS AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROCESS IN HIS COUNTRY.

DURING THE COURSE OF HIS CAREER, MR. TSHERING CHAIRED SEVERAL NATIONALLEVEL AND REGIONAL COMMISSIONS. HE COORDINATED INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR HIS COUNTRY FROM 1982 TO 1989, ATTENDING NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS DEALING WITH SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ISSUES.

MR. TSHERING HOLDS DEGREES IN ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY, AND WAS A FULBRIGHT FELLOW IN THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES OF THAT UNIVERSITY.

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- - PRESS RELEASE DH/1982
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PREPARED BY CENTRAL NEWS DH/1982
W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*SECRETARY-GENERAL SAYS UNPROFOR SHOULD BE REPLACED BY AD HOC COALITION OF MEMBER STATES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF HOPED-FOR PEACE AGREEMENT IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.

*UNITED NATIONS AGAIN URGES IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN WESTERN BOSNIA, CITING WORSENING REFUGEE CRISIS AND ONGOING PEACE PROCESS.

*HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS APPEALS FOR MORE FUNDING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD OPERATION IN RWANDA; TALKS ON REPATRIATION OF RWANDAN REFUGEES TO BEGIN IN GENEVA ON MONDAY.

*UNITED NATIONS AND NGOS MUST FORGE NEW PARTNERSHIP TO ADDRESS GLOBAL CHALLENGES, SPECIAL ADVISER GREEN TELLS DPI/NGO CONFERENCE.

*SECRETARY-GENERAL TO CONVENE SEVENTH ROUND OF TALKS ON EAST TIMOR IN LONDON ON 16 JANUARY 1996.

*SECRETARY-GENERAL TO ADDRESS INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE COMMEMORATING FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED NATIONS.

* * *

SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI HAS SAID THAT AS SOON AS A PEACE AGREEMENT IS CONCLUDED IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, HE WILL RECOMMEND THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AN AD HOC COALITION OF MEMBER STATES TO SUPPORT ITS IMPLEMENTATION. HE DID SO IN A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL DATED 18 SEPTEMBER. THE LETTER SET OUT OBSERVATIONS MADE FOLLOWING HIS IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA WITH SENIOR AIDES ON SATURDAY.

THE PROPOSED COALITION WOULD ACT AS APPROPRIATE WITH REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OR ARRANGEMENTS, ACCORDING TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. ASPECTS OF THE PEACE AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE RELIEF AND RETURN OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE ENTRUSTED TO THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR).

IF THE CURRENT PEACE INITIATIVE DID NOT SUCCEED AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL DECIDED UPON MORE ENFORCEMENT ACTION, UNPROFOR SHOULD BE REPLACED BY A MULTINATIONAL FORCE AUTHORIZED TO CARRY OUT SUCH ACTION AND TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THOSE ASPECTS OF THE FORCE'S MANDATE WHICH WOULD REMAIN VALID, HE CONTINUED. IN EITHER CASE, URGENT ACTION WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PREPARE FOR AN EXPEDITIOUS HAND-OVER BY UNPROFOR TO THE MULTINATIONAL FORCE.

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THE UNITED NATIONS HAS AGAIN URGED THE PARTIES IN WESTERN BOSNIA TO IMMEDIATELY CEASE ALL MILITARY ACTIVITIES SO AS NOT TO EXACERBATE THE REFUGEE CRISIS OR DISRUPT THE ONGOING PEACE PROCESS. THERE WERE REPORTS TODAY THAT FIGHTING IN THE AREA HAD SUBSIDED, BUT THE UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE (UNPROFOR) WAS UNABLE TO CONFIRM THAT THE OFFENSIVE BY BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT AND CROATIAN FORCES HAD HALTED. THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) REPORTED THAT THE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES WAS RISING DAILY AND WARNED THAT IF THE FIGHTING CONTINUED, THE SITUATION COULD DEVELOP INTO ONE OF THE WORST REFUGEE TRAGEDIES OF THE WAR.

MEANWHILE, UNPROFOR ANNOUNCED THAT THE BOSNIAN SERBS HAD MOVED A TOTAL OF 232 HEAVY WEAPONS OUT OF THE SARAJEVO EXCLUSION ZONE AS OF LAST NIGHT. THE COMMANDER OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE FORCES (UNPF), GENERAL BERNARD JANVIER, MET TODAY WITH UNPROFOR COMMANDER GENERAL RUPERT SMITH AND ADMIRAL LEIGHTON SMITH OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE SERBS HAD COMPLIED SUFFICIENTLY WITH DEMANDS IN THAT REGARD. IN ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT, UNPROFOR EXPRESSED OUTRAGE AND ANGER AFTER BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES FIRED THREE MORTAR ROUNDS OUT OF THE CITY.

* * *

THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, JOSE AYALA LASSO, TODAY APPEALED FOR MORE FUNDING FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD OPERATION IN RWANDA. HE TOLD CORRESPONDENTS AT HEADQUARTERS THAT THE OPERATION HAD ONLY ENOUGH MONEY TO OPERATE THROUGH NOVEMBER. IT HAD COST ONLY \$10 MILLION IN ITS FIRST YEAR, WHICH WAS NOT MUCH COMPARED WITH THE MONEY SPENT ON THE REFUGEE CRISIS ALONE. FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS MEANT THAT THE OPERATION COULD NOT ACHIEVE ITS FULL STRENGTH OF 147 HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD OFFICERS, AND FINANCIAL INSECURITY NEGATIVELY AFFECTED MID- AND LONG-TERM PLANNING.

IN SPITE OF MANY OBSTACLES, THE FIELD OPERATION HAD DEVELOPED A COMPREHENSIVE AND PRO-ACTIVE PROGRAMME TO ADDRESS PAST, PRESENT AND POTENTIAL HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN RWANDA, MR. AYALA LASSO CONTINUED. IT HAD GATHERED VITAL EVIDENCE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL AND CONTINUED TO DOCUMENT HOW THE GENOCIDE HAD BEEN PERPETRATED LAST YEAR. THE OPERATION HAD ALSO HELPED THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT TO PRACTICALLY REBUILD THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF JUSTICE.

IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, OFFICIALS FROM ZAIRE, RWANDA AND THE UNHCR WILL BEGIN TALKS IN GENEVA ON MONDAY ON THE PROCESS OF REPATRIATING MORE THAN ONE MILLION RWANDAN REFUGEES.

* * *

A NEW PARTNERSHIP MUST BE FORGED BETWEEN NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE UNITED NATIONS TO ADDRESS DAUNTING GLOBAL CHALLENGES, ACCORDING TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL ROSARIO GREEN, SPECIAL POLITICAL ADVISER TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. SHE SAID YESTERDAY THAT THE SECRETARIAT WAS LOOKING AT STRUCTURES AND MECHANISMS THROUGH WHICH THE ORGANIZATION INTERACTED WITH THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMUNITY. SHE MADE THOSE COMMENTS IN A STATEMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION (DPI) CONFERENCE FOR NGOS.

SPEAKING DURING A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE ON THE

WORLD WEEK OF PEACE, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE BETTY WILLIAMS STATED THAT MILITARY BUDGETS WERE "INSANE AND MUST BE STOPPED." CITING THE CEASE-FIRE IN NORTHERN IRELAND, SHE SAID THAT A PHILOSOPHY OF NON-VIOLENCE WORKED AND THAT "SAFE AREAS" SHOULD BE CREATED SO THAT CHILDREN COULD GROW UP IN PEACE.

* * *

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WILL HOLD A SEVENTH ROUND OF TALKS ON THE QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF INDONESIA AND PORTUGAL IN LONDON ON 16 JANUARY 1996. IN A REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DATED 15 SEPTEMBER, HE SAID THEY WOULD CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY HIM REGARDING POSSIBLE AVENUES FOR A JUST, COMPREHENSIVE AND INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. THE MINISTERS BEGAN DISCUSSIONS ON SUCH ISSUES AS THE PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF THE CULTURAL IDENTITY OF THE EAST TIMORESE PEOPLE AND BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THEM AT THE SIXTH ROUND OF TALKS IN GENEVA LAST JULY.

* * *

AN INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE WILL BE CONVENED AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE AT 10:30 A.M. ON SUNDAY TO COMMEMORATE THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE SERVICE WILL BRING TOGETHER LEADERS OF DIFFERENT SPIRITUAL TRADITIONS AND FAITHS AND WILL HIGHLIGHT THE SPIRITUAL THREADS WHICH UNITE ALL PEOPLE AND REFLECT THE PURPOSE, IDEALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE ORGANIZATION. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IS EXPECTED TO DELIVER AN ADDRESS.

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WITH THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT IN SARAJEVO. THERE WAS, THEREFORE, NO QUESTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DESIRE OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE HALTING OF THE OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS IN THE WEST HAD BEEN TRANSMITTED TO THE GOVERNMENT.

IN RESPONSE TO A FOLLOW-UP QUESTION, HE SAID THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD NOT SPOKEN WITH PRESIDENT ALIJA IZETBEGOVIC OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.

A CORRESPONDENT SAID THAT IN TODAY'S WASHINGTON POST, A BOSNIAN MUSLIM OFFICER OPENLY THANKED AMERICA FOR THE AIR STRIKES THAT HELPED THEIR OFFENSIVE. DID THE SPOKESMAN STILL MAINTAIN THAT THE UNITED NATIONS AND NATO WERE IMPARTIAL IN BOSNIA AND IF THE MUSLIM OFFENSIVE DID NOT STOP, COULD NATO AIR STRIKES BE EXPECTED TO STOP IT? SHE ASKED. MR. SILLS SAID THAT HE COULD NOT COMMENT ON THE VIEWS OF AN INDIVIDUAL OFFICER. THE POSITION OF THE UNITED NATIONS WAS THAT IT WAS NOT AT WAR WITH ANY OF THE PARTIES. IT WAS, TO BE SURE, OBVIOUS THAT THE AIR STRIKES, PARTICULARLY ON COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, HAD DAMAGED THE MILITARY CAPABILITIES OF THE BOSNIAN SERB. IT WOULD BE SEEN TOMORROW IF THEY HAD FULLY MET THE UNITED NATIONS DEMANDS. THE AIR STRIKES WERE SUSPENDED FOR NOW. THE MATTER OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE OFFENSIVE IN THE WESTERN AREA WAS NOT CURBED WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL WAS EXPECTED TO MEET AGAIN THIS AFTERNOON IF THERE WAS NO INFORMATION DURING THE DAY THAT THAT OFFENSIVE HAD STOPPED.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED HOW THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FELT ABOUT BEING IN HIS CURRENT POSITION DURING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY YEAR. MR. SILLS RESPONDED THAT IT WAS A KIND OF BITTER-SWEET FEELING. MR. BOUTROS-GHALI WAS VERY PROUD AND HONOURED TO BE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY YEAR. IN SPEECHES AND STATEMENTS, HE NOTED THAT IT WAS A VERY IMPORTANT YEAR FOR THE UNITED NATIONS, NOT FOR CELEBRATIONS OR SELF-CONGRATULATION, BUT FOR A SERIOUS EXAMINATION OF THE INSTITUTION AND WHERE IT WOULD GO FROM HERE AND, SPECIFICALLY, WHAT THE MEMBER STATES WANTED FROM IT. ONE OF THE TWO ELEMENTS ON THE BITTER SIDE WAS THE FINANCIAL SITUATION. THE VERY OPERATING EXISTENCE OF THE ORGANIZATION WAS BEING CALLED INTO QUESTION. A LOT OF PEOPLE HAD SAID THAT THE UNITED NATIONS WAS JUST "CRYING WOLF" AND THAT THINGS WOULD WORK THEMSELVES OUT AS THEY ALWAYS DID IN THE PAST, BUT MR. SILLS SAID THAT HE DID NOT THINK THAT WAS THE CASE. THERE HAD TO BE A SERIOUS CHANGE ON THE PART OF THE MAJOR DONOR STATES IN ARREARS FOR THINGS TO WORK THEMSELVES OUT.

THE SECOND AREA THAT WAS A BIT BITTER WAS UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING AND THE RECENT EXPERIENCES IN SOMALIA AND THE

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FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, AND WHAT THEY MEANT FOR THE FUTURE OF UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING, HE CONTINUED. DID THE UNITED NATIONS NEED TO PULL BACK A BIT? WHERE DID THE CREDIBILITY OF THE INSTITUTION STAND? THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S FEELINGS WOULD THUS BE MIXED AT THIS POINT BUT HE REPEATED THAT MR. BOUTROS-GHALI WAS VERY HONOURED AND HAPPY TO BE SECRETARY-GENERAL DURING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY YEAR.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED IF THE SPOKESMAN HAD ANY INFORMATION ON THE REPORTS THAT THE CROATIAN ARMY HAD CROSSED THE SAVA RIVER IN THE NORTH AND WAS PUSHING TOWARD BANJA LUKA. MR. SILLS SAID THAT HE DID NOT HAVE INFORMATION ON HOW FAR THE CROATIANS HAD GONE OR HOW CLOSE THEY WERE TO BANJA LUKA. THE ONLY FIGURES HE HAD FROM UNITED NATIONS SOURCES THIS MORNING WAS THE ESTIMATE OF THE 15-KILOMETRE DISTANCE FROM BANKA LUKA IN THE SOUTH. HE DID UNDERSTAND THAT THE CROATS HAD CROSSED THE SAVA RIVER.

IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, MR. SILLS SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THAT THE CROATIAN ACTION WAS BEFORE THE INSTRUCTION BY FOREIGN MINISTER GRANIC FOR THEM TO HALT THEIR OFFENSIVE.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED IF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL INTENDED TO MAKE ANY CONCRETE PROPOSALS ON HIS RECENT STATEMENT THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD NOT BE SO DEPENDENT ON ONE MEMBER NATION. MR. SILLS RESPONDED THAT THE SECRETARYGENERAL HAD SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THAT IT WAS UNHEALTHY FOR THE UNITED NATIONS TO BE AS DEPENDENT ON ONE MEMBER AS IT HAD BEEN. HOWEVER, THE MATTER WAS NOT REALLY UP TO HIM TO RESOLVE BECAUSE A CHANGE IN ASSESSMENTS WOULD INVOLVE WORKING OUT NEW PERCENTAGES. THERE WERE TALKS GOING ON AMONG THE MEMBER STATES ON A POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENT OF THE PERCENTAGES. HE DID NOT THINK THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD GET DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THOSE DETAILS.

ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT ASKED FOR CONFIRMATION THAT FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES WAS THE MAIN REASON FOR THE PROPOSALS TO CLOSE THE OPERATIONS OF UNPROFOR. MR. SILLS SAID THAT WAS A VERY PROMINENT REASON. HOW WAS THE SECRETARYGENERAL SUPPOSED TO PAY THE BILLS WHEN HE DID NOT HAVE ANY MONEY? THE CONTINUING COST OF UNPROFOR WAS A MAJOR CONSIDERATION AT SATURDAY'S MEETING OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SENIOR ADVISERS ON THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED TO WHOM THE CITY OF BANJA LUKA BELONGED. MR. SILLS SAID THAT IT WAS PART OF YUGOSLAVIA BEFORE HOSTILITIES STARTED, WAS NOW LOCATED IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, BUT WAS CONTROLLED BY THE BOSNIAN SERBS.

ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT ASKED WHAT THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION PERSONNEL IN SOMALIA WAS. DID THEY HAVE SOME KIND OF SEMI-DIPLOMATIC STATUS? HE ASKED. MR. SILLS SAID THAT THE QUESTION WAS A VERY TOUGH ONE SINCE THERE WAS NO FUNCTIONING GOVERNMENT IN SOMALIA SO THAT THOSE WHO WERE THERE WERE THERE AT THEIR OWN RISK. PERSONNEL OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS DID NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC STATUS, IN ANY CASE. THEY WOULD HAVE TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH WHOMEVER CONTROLLED A PARTICULAR CITY OR AREA IN SOMALIA THAT THEY WERE WORKING IN. THAT WAS ALSO WHAT THE UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES AND PROGRAMMES STILL IN SOMALIA HAD TO DO. THE UNITED NATIONS RESTRICTED THE NUMBER OF ITS PERSONNEL THAT WERE THERE AT ANY ONE TIME AND TRIED TO BE VERY CAREFUL ABOUT THEIR SAFETY.

OBVIOUSLY IN BAIDOA, A DIFFICULT SITUATION HAD DEVELOPED.

IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, MR. SILLS SAID THAT ROOM 226 (WHERE PRESS BRIEFINGS ARE NORMALLY HELD) WAS EXPECTED TO BE READY IN THE FIRST WEEK IN OCTOBER.

ASKED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA, HE SAID THAT THINGS WERE MOVING REASONABLY WELL. A BRAZILIAN ADVANCE TEAM WAS GOING IN TODAY, AHEAD OF THE BRAZILIAN BATTALION THAT WOULD BE ARRIVING IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS. TALKS WERE GOING ON IN LUANDA WITH A MILITARY TEAM OF THE NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA (UNITA) ON THE QUESTION OF THE DEMOBILIZATION AND THE QUARTERING OF THE UNITA TROOPS. THE BIG PROBLEM AT THE MOMENT WAS GETTING THE UNITA TROOPS INTO THE QUARTERS THAT HAD BEEN BUILT. THE NEXT STAGE WOULD BE THE FORMATION OF A UNIFIED ARMY. ALIOUNE BLONDIN BEYE, THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO ANGOLA, WAS VERY ACTIVE THERE AND WAS WORKING ON THE SITUATION.

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(MORE)FOR INFORMATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT ONLY

19 SEPTEMBER 1995

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN FOR SECRETARY-GENERAL

JOE SILLS, SPOKESMAN FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, BEGAN TODAY'S NOON BRIEFING BY TELLING CORRESPONDENTS THAT SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS BOUTROSGHALI THIS MORNING RANG THE PEACE BELL AND SPOKE AT THE ANNUAL CEREMONY.

AT 10:30 A.M., THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD RECEIVED NOUHOUM SAMASSEKOU, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALI TO THE UNITED NATIONS, WHO PAID HIM A FAREWELL VISIT, AND AT 11 A.M., HE MET WITH JOSE AYALA LASSO, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. HE DID NOT YET HAVE A READ-OUT ON THE MEETING WITH MR. AYALA LASSO BUT MR. SILLS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE WORK RELATED TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN RWANDA WAS THE MAIN TOPIC OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS.

AT 11:30 A.M., THE SECRETARY-GENERAL MET WITH SIR JOHN WILSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE AGAINST AVOIDABLE DISABILITY. AT THE MOMENT, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WAS RECEIVING THE CREDENTIALS FROM THE NEW PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF GRENADA (ROBERT E. MILLETTTE), TURKEY (HASEYIN CELEM), FRANCE (ALAIN DEJAMMET) AND CYPRUS (NICOS ATATHOCLEOUS).

MR. SILLS ADDED THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD BE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HALL FOR THE OPENING OF THE FIFTIETH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

HE SAID THAT TOMORROW AT 3 P.M., ALVARO DE SOTO, ASSISTANT SECRETARYGENERAL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS WHO SUPERVISES THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AFFAIRS DIVISION, WOULD BRIEF CORRESPONDENTS ON THE FIFTIETH SESSION IN CONFERENCE ROOM 9.

TURNING TO THE SITUATION IN SOMALIA, MR. SILLS SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF THE 12 UNITED NATIONS AND NINE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION INTERNATIONALLY RECRUITED STAFF WHO WERE STILL BEING DETAINED IN BAIDOA. YESTERDAY HE HAD DESCRIBED THEIR SITUATION AS "IN EFFECT HOUSE ARREST" BUT HE SAID THAT HE WOULD NOW REMOVE THE WORDS "IN EFFECT". THEY WERE BEING DETAINED BY THE AIDID FORCES. SEVENTEEN OF THEM WERE IN THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF) OFFICE COMPLEX AND FOUR IN THE CARE COMPLEX. THE UNITED NATIONS STILL HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THEY WERE IN ANY PHYSICAL DANGER AND WAS CONTINUING TO NEGOTIATE TO OBTAIN THEIR RELEASE.

ON THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, HE SAID THAT YESTERDAY, THE CROATIAN ARMY LAUNCHED AN OPERATION FROM DVOR IN CROATIA IN A SOUTH-EASTERLY DIRECTION TOWARDS PRIJEDOR IN BOSNIA AND

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HERZEGOVINA. DURING THAT OPERATION, THERE WAS A HEAVY EXCHANGE OF ARTILLERY BETWEEN CROATIAN AND SERB FORCES. A DANISH BATTALION COMPOUND NEAR DVOR WAS HIT AND ONE DANISH PEACE-KEEPER WAS KILLED AND NINE INJURED, TWO OF THEM SERIOUSLY. SUBSEQUENTLY, ONE OF THE INJURED DIED. A STRONG LETTER OF PROTEST HAD BEEN SENT BY THE UNITED NATIONS TO THE DAILY PRESS BRIEFING - - 19 SEPTEMBER 1995 CROATIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OVER THE IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS OF THE CROATIAN ARMY UNITS IN PLACING FIRING POSITIONS CLOSE TO UNITED NATIONS FACILITIES FROM WHICH THEY PROVIDED FIRE SUPPORT TO TROOPS ATTACKING SERB POSITIONS. THE EXPECTED RETURN FIRE BY SERB ARTILLERY HAD HIT THE DANISH BUNKER. THAT WAS A TACTIC THAT BOTH SIDES HAD USED BEFORE. THEY PLACED THEIR EQUIPMENT NEAR A UNITED NATIONS LOCATION AND HOPED THAT WOULD OFFER SOME DEGREE OF SECURITY. HOWEVER, UNITED NATIONS SOLDIERS WERE OFTEN INJURED AND KILLED DURING THE SUBSEQUENT FIRE FIGHTS.

MR. SILLS REMINDED CORRESPONDENTS THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL ISSUED A STATEMENT LAST NIGHT WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, DEPLORED THE KILLING OF THE DANISH SOLDIERS AND EXTENDED THE COUNCIL'S CONDOLENCE TO THEIR FAMILIES AND THE GOVERNMENT. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL JOINED IN EXTENDING HIS CONDOLENCES.

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DISPLACED PERSONS WERE REPORTED TO BE FLEEING AHEAD OF THE FIGHTING IN WESTERN BOSNIA, AS HE HAD ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY, WITH A FURTHER 15,000 LEAVING THE OZREN SALIENT.

THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) HAD SUCCESSFULLY OPENED THE ROUTE FROM BELGRADE TO BANJA LUKA AND WAS TRYING TO RE-ESTABLISH THE AIR BRIDGE, BUT THE CURRENT SECURITY SITUATION VERY STRONGLY LIMITED THE UNHCR'S OPERATIONS. MR. SILLS REITERATED HIS STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY THAT THE RECENT FIGHTING IN WESTERN BOSNIA WAS CREATING YET ANOTHER HUMANITARIAN CATASTROPHE AND HAD THE POTENTIAL SERIOUSLY TO UNDERMINE THE CURRENT PEACE EFFORT. THE CASUALTIES AMONG THE DANISH PEACE-KEEPERS UNDERSCORED THE NEED TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TOWARDS AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE.

THIS MORNING, FOREIGN MINISTER MATE GRANIC OF CROATIA, FOLLOWING MEETINGS WITH UNITED STATES ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE RICHARD HOLBROOKE, HAD ANNOUNCED THAT CROATIAN UNITS HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO STOP THEIR ADVANCE IN WESTERN BOSNIA. NO SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS HAD TO DATE BEEN ISSUED, AS FAR AS HE KNEW, TO THE BOSNIAN ARMY IN THAT AREA. MR. SILLS REPEATED HIS STATEMENT IN EARLIER BRIEFINGS THAT THE UNITED NATIONS HAD VERY LIMITED ABILITY TO CONFIRM THE SITUATION AROUND BANJA LUKA BECAUSE IT DID NOT HAVE PEOPLE ON THE GROUND. IT APPEARED THAT THERE WAS A LINE OF STABILIZATION DEVELOPING ABOUT 15 KILOMETRES SOUTH OF THE CITY, AND A BIT FURTHER THAN THAT IN THE NORTH-WEST OF BANJA LUKA.

THE SECOND 72 HOURS DURING WHICH AIR STRIKES WERE SUSPENDED WOULD END AT 10 P.M. HOURS LOCAL TIME TOMORROW (4 P.M. NEW YORK TIME), HE CONTINUED. THE ASSEMBLING OF A FURTHER SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF BOSNIAN SERB HEAVY WEAPONS AT COLLECTION POINTS HAD BEEN MONITORED BY SECTOR SARAJEVO UNITS. TODAY, THE HEAVY WEAPONS CONVOYS WERE BEING ESCORTED BY UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE (UNPROFOR) UNITS OUTSIDE THE 20-KILOMETRE EXCLUSION ZONE AND THE UNITED NATIONS WAS RETAINING

OBSERVATION POINTS ON THE EXCLUSION ZONE LIMITS ON THE THREE EXIT ROUTES.

HE STATED THAT THE ROUTES IN AND OUT OF SARAJEVO CONTINUED TO BE USED BY UNITED NATIONS AND UNHCR TRAFFIC WITH UNIMPEDED FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT.

THE FORCE COMMANDER OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE FORCES IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, LIEUTENANT-GENERAL BERNARD JANVIER, AND THE COMMANDER OF UNPROFOR, GENERAL RUPERT SMITH, WERE TRAVELLING TODAY TO SARAJEVO TO ASSESS THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND AND TO DETERMINE THE LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE BY THE BOSNIAN SERBS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) DEMANDS TO WITHDRAW THEIR HEAVY WEAPONS FROM AROUND THE CITY.

YESTERDAY, MR. SILLS CONTINUED, GENERAL SMITH AND THE UNPROFOR CHIEF OF MISSION, ANTONIO PEDAUYE, MET WITH BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS A POSSIBLE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT IN AND AROUND SARAJEVO. NO CONCRETE AGREEMENT RESULTED FROM THAT MEETING.

ALSO YESTERDAY, ONE BOSNIAN CIVILIAN WAS KILLED BY SNIPER FIRE IN SARAJEVO. SIX UNHCR FLIGHTS AND FOUR UNITED NATIONS FLIGHTS LANDED IN SARAJEVO WITHOUT INCIDENTS.

TURNING TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL, A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT HAD BEEN ISSUED LAST NIGHT DEPLORING THE ESCALATING OF THE MILITARY SITUATION IN THE WESTERN PART OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA. MR. SILLS SAID YESTERDAY THAT THE COUNCIL DID NOT PLAN TO HOLD ANY CONSULTATIONS OR MEETINGS TODAY. THAT WAS STILL THE PLAN BUT, AT THE REQUEST OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WOULD BE ON STANDBY THIS AFTERNOON AFTER THE OPENING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. DEPENDING ON WHAT HAPPENED IN THE WESTERN PART OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND THE REACTION TO THE APPEAL THAT WAS ISSUED, THERE COULD BE CONSULTATIONS THIS AFTERNOON.

TOMORROW, THE COUNCIL WOULD TAKE UP THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR THE REFERENDUM IN WESTERN SAHARA (MINURSO). HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE WAS NOW CONSIDERABLE AGREEMENT ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE, BUT THERE WERE CONCERNS ABOUT THE COST INVOLVED AND HOW THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS WAS PROCEEDING. A RESOLUTION WAS EXPECTED LATER THIS WEEK.

TURNING TO AFGHANISTAN, MR. SILLS SAID THAT MAHMOUD MESTIRI, THE SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THERE, LEFT FOR KABUL TODAY TO RESUME HIS MISSION TO SEEK A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT TO THE HOSTILITIES. HE HAD BEEN IN ISLAMABAD YESTERDAY WHERE HE HAD HAD A ROUND OF TALKS WITH THE AFGHAN FACTIONAL REPRESENTATIVES.

ON SIERRA LEONE, HE RECALLED THAT THE BERHANU DINKA, THE SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, HAD TRIED FOR A VERY LONG TIME WITHOUT SUCCESS TO ARRANGE MEETINGS WITH THE REVOLUTIONARY UNITED FRONT. HE HAD ISSUED A STATEMENT TODAY IN WHICH HE WELCOMED THE DECISION OF THE NATIONAL PROVISIONAL RULING COUNCIL TO ISSUE THE NECESSARY CLEARANCE FOR A MEETING BETWEEN THE LEADER OF THE FRONT AND A GROUP OF PROMINENT SIERRA LEONEANS. IF THE MEETING WENT THROUGH, THAT WOULD BE THE FIRST SUCH MEETING TO TAKE PLACE. MR. DINKA HOPED THAT IT WOULD FACILITATE THE START OF A GENUINE AND SERIOUS PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH WOULD CULMINATE IN A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE.

THIS AFTERNOON AT 2:30 P.M. ON THE IN-HOUSE TELEVISION THERE WOULD BE A UNITED NATIONS CHRONICLE PROGRAMME WITH ROBERT MULLER, CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE AND A FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

SPEAKING ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY AFFAIRS, LEONA FORMAN, SPOKESWOMAN FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SAID THAT THE FIFTIETH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY WOULD OPEN THIS AFTERNOON. BEING A SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY SESSION, IT WOULD HAVE SOME EXCEPTIONAL SPEAKERS. THE OPENING SESSION WOULD BE CHAIRED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DELEGATION OF COTE D'IVOIRE, AMARA ESSY, AND WOULD FOLLOWED BY A MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION.

SHE SAID THAT ITEMS IN ARREARS WOULD BE CONSIDERED BRIEFLY AND THEN THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE, ON THE PROPOSAL OF THE TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN, WOULD FOLLOW. THE ASSEMBLY WOULD THEN ELECT THE PRESIDENT OF THE FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHO WOULD BE NOMINATED BY THE WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER STATES. DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL WAS EXPECTED TO BE ELECTED THE INCOMING PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY. HE WOULD MAKE A STATEMENT. A COPY OF THAT STATEMENT, EMBARGOED UNTIL 4 P.M. TODAY, WAS AVAILABLE FOR CORRESPONDENTS. IT WOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE IN FRENCH THIS AFTERNOON.

AFTER THE STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT, MAYOR RUDOLPH GIULIANI OF NEW YORK CITY, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE HOST COUNTRY, WOULD SPEAK AND WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY THE CHAIRMEN OF THE REGIONAL GROUPS (SENEGAL FOR AFRICA; PAPUA NEW GUINEA FOR ASIAN STATES; UKRAINE FOR EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES; BARBADOS FOR LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STATES; AND MALTA FOR WESTERN EUROPEAN STATES AND OTHER STATES).

TOMORROW MORNING, AS HIS FIRST MEETING, THE PRESIDENT WOULD MEET WITH THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SPAIN, IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND AT 9:30 A.M., HE WOULD MEET WITH THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF CHINA AND NICARAGUA TO DISCUSS AN ITEM IN THE DRAFT AGENDA. THE PRESIDENT WOULD THEN MEET WITH THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, MS. FORMAN CONTINUED. HE WOULD THEN PRESIDE OVER THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE, WHICH WOULD BE MEETING THROUGH TOMORROW AND, POSSIBLY, THURSDAY.

AN OUTLINE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE FIFTIETH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ITS AGENDA WAS AVAILABLE AS A NOTE FOR CORRESPONDENTS AND COULD BE PICKED UP ON THE THIRD FLOOR, SHE ADDED.

MS. FORMAN SAID THAT ON THURSDAY, AT 10:30 A.M., MR. FREITAS DO AMARAL WOULD MEET WITH CORRESPONDENTS IN CONFERENCE ROOM 9 FOR A PRESS CONFERENCE.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED FOR DETAILS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MEETING WITH AN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) DELEGATION YESTERDAY. MR. SILLS SAID THAT HE DID NOT GET A READ OUT ON THAT MEETING. HE WOULD TRY TO GET SOMETHING ON IT AND TO PUT OUT THAT INFORMATION. HOWEVER, AS HE HAD ANTICIPATED, IT WAS A REVIEW OF THE SITUATION IN LIBERIA. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD GIVEN HIS VIEWS IN A RECENT REPORT. THEY DISCUSSED THE FINANCING BECAUSE THE NEED HAD BEEN EXPRESSED FOR SOME \$90 MILLION TO BE PROVIDED.

ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT ASKED WHAT KIND OF CONTACT EXISTED
BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE BOSNIANS. MR. SILLS SAID
THAT THE UNITED NATIONS HAD REGULAR CONTACTS AT ALL LEVELS
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

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19 SEPTEMBER 1995

ERICH VILCHEZ ASHER OF NICARAGUA ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF FIFTH COMMITTEE

ERICH VILCHEZ ASHER, WHO WAS ELECTED TODAY AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY) HAS BEEN NICARAGUA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS SINCE MARCH 1994.

BEFORE THAT, HE SERVED AT VARIOUS TIMES AS DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AND, EARLIER, AS A MINISTER COUNSELLOR AND COUNSELLOR IN NICARAGUA'S MISSION, AS FROM 1988. MR. VILCHEZ, WHO STARTED HIS CAREER IN 1979 AS A LEGAL ADVISER TO VARIOUS PRIVATE AND STATE ORGANIZATIONS, ROSE IN 1985 TO HEAD THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS AND UNITED NATIONS IN NICARAGUA'S FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE HELD THAT POSITION UNTIL HIS TRANSFER TO HIS COUNTRY'S MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

DURING HIS CAREER WITH THE MINISTRY, HE WAS A MEMBER OF NICARAGUA'S DELEGATIONS FROM THE FORTIETH TO THE FORTY-NINTH SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND WAS A VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE FORTY-NINTH SESSION. IN ADDITION, HE REPRESENTED HIS COUNTRY AT THE EIGHTEENTH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE REACTIVATION OF THE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

ALSO, MR. VILCHEZ WAS IN HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATIONS TO SESSIONS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, MEETINGS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AS WELL AS MEETING OF THE MOVEMENT OF NONALIGNED COUNTRIES.

THE NEW FIFTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RECEIVED A DEGREE IN JURIDICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES FROM THE NATIONAL AUTONOMOS UNIVERSITY OF NICARAGUA IN 1979, AND A YEAR LATER, BECAME A REGISTERED ATTORNEY AT LAW AND NOTARY PUBLIC OF NICARAGUA TO THE SUPREME COURT OF JUSTICE. FROM THEN UNTIL 1991, HE ALSO STUDIED SENIOR MANAGEMENT, INTERNATIONAL LAW AND CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN POLITICS, THE LAST AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK.

BORN ON 12 FEBRUARY 1956 IN MANAGUA, MR. VILCHEZ IS MARRIED.

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19 SEPTEMBER 1995

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*GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEGINS FIFTIETH SESSION BY ELECTING DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL OF PORTUGAL AS ITS PRESIDENT.

*SECURITY COUNCIL DEPLORES RAPIDLY ESCALATING MILITARY SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA; CALLS ON PARTIES TO CEASE MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND RESPECT RIGHTS OF CIVILIAN POPULATION.

*TWO DANISH PEACE-KEEPERS KILLED DURING FIGHTING BETWEEN CROATIAN AND BOSNIAN SERB FORCES AROUND TOWN OF DVOR; UNITED NATIONS HOLDS CROATIANS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR INCIDENT.

*SECRETARY-GENERAL SAYS WORLD REVOLUTION IS UNDERWAY AND ONLY UNITED NATIONS HAS NETWORK, EXPERIENCE AND LEGITIMACY TO MEET NEW CHALLENGES.

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY BEGAN ITS FIFTIETH SESSION BY ELECTING DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL (PORTUGAL) AS ITS PRESIDENT. IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE ASSEMBLY, MR. DO AMARAL SAID THAT DESPITE ITS FAILURES IN THE PAST FIFTY YEARS, THE UNITED NATIONS HAD ACHIEVED ITS PRINCIPAL GOAL OF PREVENTING A THIRD WORLD WAR. IT HAD ALSO CONTRIBUTED DECISIVELY TO PROGRESS IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT AND THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND TO THE PEACE PROCESSES IN CAMBODIA, EL SALVADOR, MOZAMBIQUE AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

THE UNITED NATIONS HAD DONE MORE THAN ANY OTHER INSTITUTION TO GUARANTEE THE PRIMACY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, PRESIDENT DO AMARAL SAID. WITHOUT THE RULE OF LAW, HUMANITY COULD KNOW NEITHER PEACE NOR FREEDOM. IN THAT REGARD, THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE DESERVED SPECIAL RECOGNITION. THE ORGANIZATION HAD MADE HUMAN RIGHTS UNIVERSAL, BY INDUCING MEMBERS TO ACCEPT THAT THE STATE EXISTED TO SERVE MAN AND NOT VICE-VERSA. IT HAD ALSO AFFIRMED SECONDGENERATION FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, PARTICULARLY ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

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ONES, AND WAS TODAY FOCUSING ATTENTION ON THIRD-GENERATION RIGHTS, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE PROTECTION OF NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

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DECOLONIZATION AND THE END OF APARTHEID WERE MAJOR VICTORIES

FOR THE UNITED NATIONS, THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED. THE ORGANIZATION HAD ALSO ASSISTED THE PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIZATION IN NUMEROUS COUNTRIES THAT HAD DECIDED OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL TO MOVE FROM A SINGLE-PARTY TO A MULTI-PARTY SYSTEM. ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND OVERLOOKED ASPECTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS WAS THE WORK DONE BY ITS SPECIALIZED BODIES AND AGENCIES TO PROMOTE THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE WORLD'S POOREST AND NEEDIEST COUNTRIES.

MR. DO AMARAL CALLED ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE PRESENT AND THE PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE. A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER WAS BEGINNING TO TAKE SHAPE, BUT ITS FORM WAS STILL VAGUE, CONFUSED AND IMPRECISE. THE COLD WAR WAS OVER BUT PEACE HAD YET TO BE CONSOLIDATED, FLARE-UPS OF RADICAL NATIONALISM HAD YET TO BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL, AND HUMAN RIGHTS HAD YET TO BE GUARANTEED IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD. AT THE SAME TIME, THE UNITED NATIONS MUST BE REFORMED AND STRENGTHENED WITH THE AIM OF ENSURING THE PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ALL THE WORLD'S PEOPLES.

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THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS DEPLORED THE RAPIDLY ESCALATING MILITARY SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, AND EXPRESSED DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THE RESULTING PLIGHT OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION. IN A STATEMENT BY ITS PRESIDENT, FRANCESCO PAOLO FULCI (ITALY), LAST NIGHT, THE COUNCIL DEMANDED THAT ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED IMMEDIATELY CEASE MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND HOSTILE ACTS IN WESTERN BOSNIA, AND FULLY RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF THE LOCAL POPULATION.

THE COUNCIL REITERATED THAT THERE COULD BE NO MILITARY SOLUTION TO THE BOSNIAN CONFLICT AND URGED THE PARTIES NOT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESENT SITUATION. IT ONCE AGAIN EXPRESSED ITS FULL SUPPORT FOR THE GENEVA DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES OF 8 SEPTEMBER, WHICH PROVIDED A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS FOR A LASTING PEACE THROUGHOUT THE REGION.

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TWO DANISH PEACE-KEEPERS WERE KILLED AND EIGHT WERE INJURED YESTERDAY DURING AN EXCHANGE OF FIRE BETWEEN CROATIAN AND BOSNIAN SERB FORCES AROUND THE TOWN OF DVOR, ACCORDING TO A UNITED NATIONS SPOKESMAN. THE PEACE-KEEPERS' BUNKER WAS HIT BY A SERB SHELL, BUT THE UNITED NATIONS CONFIDENCE RESTORATION OPERATION IN CROATIA (UNCRO) HELD THE CROATIAN ARMY DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INCIDENT. THE CROATIANS HAD DELIBERATELY PLACED THEIR FIRING POSITIONS CLOSE TO UNITED NATIONS FACILITIES IN THE EXPECTATION OF RETURN FIRE FROM THE SERBS.

CROATIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MATE GRANIC ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING THAT CROATIAN FORCES HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO STOP THEIR ADVANCE IN WESTERN BOSNIA, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED. HOWEVER, NO SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS WERE ISSUED TO THE BOSNIAN FORCES IN THE AREA. THERE WERE REPORTS THAT THE SITUATION HAD STABILIZED SOMEWHAT SOUTH AND NORTH-WEST OF BANJA LUKA, ALTHOUGH MORE THAN 100,000 SERB REFUGEES WERE STILL ON THE MOVE AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT FIGHTING.

MEANWHILE, THE BOSNIAN SERBS CONTINUED TO WITHDRAW THEIR HEAVY WEAPONS FROM THE 20-KILOMETRE EXCLUSION ZONE AROUND SARAJEVO. THE COMMANDER OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE FORCES (UNPF), GENERAL BERNARD JANVIER, MET TODAY WITH THE COMMANDER

OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE (UNPROFOR), GENERAL RUPERT SMITH, TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF SERB COMPLIANCE WITH UNITED NATIONS AND NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) DEMANDS IN THAT REGARD.

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THE WORLD IS CRYING OUT FOR PEACE AND FOR THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT THAT PEACE ALONE CAN ASSURE, ACCORDING TO SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI. IN A STATEMENT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE, HE SAID THAT THE GOAL FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S HISTORIC FIFTIETH SESSION SHOULD BE KEPT CLEAR AND SIMPLE -- IT SHOULD BE PEACE.

AT A LUNCHEON AT HEADQUARTERS TODAY, MR. BOUTROS-GHALI SAID THAT A WORLD REVOLUTION WAS UNDERWAY WHICH REQUIRED A NEW SYSTEM FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. WHILE THE SOVEREIGN STATE WAS THE ONLY FOUNDATION FOR SUCH A SYSTEM, THE STATE ALONE COULD NOT ACT WITH THE POWERS IT ONCE HAD. A TRUE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST BE CREATED THROUGH THE WORK THE UNITED NATIONS. ONLY THE UNITED NATIONS OFFERED AN INTEGRATED APPROACH BASED ON ITS GLOBAL NETWORK, MATCHLESS EXPERIENCE AND UNIVERSAL LEGITIMACY.

REGARDING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, POLITICAL WILL, NOT STRUCTURE, WAS THE ISSUE, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL STRESSED. REFORM WAS NECESSARY WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT, BUT THE REAL ARENA FOR REFORM WAS THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AREA. "THE FUTURE IS OURS TO BUILD," HE CONTINUED. "THE UNITED NATIONS IS THE PLACE WHERE IT CAN BE DONE. AND WITHOUT THE UNITED NATIONS, IT CANNOT BE DONE."

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE BIO/2984

GA/DIS/3019
19 SEPTEMBER 1995

LUVSANGUN ERDENECHULUUN OF MONGOLIA ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF FIRST COMMITTEE

LUVSANGUN ERDENECHULUUN, WHO WAS TODAY ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE (DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY), HAS BEEN MONGOLIA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS SINCE 1992.

MR. ERDENECHULUUN HAS SERVED IN VARIOUS CAPACITIES IN HIS COUNTRY'S UNITED NATIONS MISSION AND IS NOW ATTENDING HIS TWENTY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION.

HE IS THE CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT COMMISSION AND ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF LAND-LOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. PREVIOUSLY, MR. ERDENECHULUUN SERVED AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION AND, IN 1993, CHAIRED THE WORKING GROUP ON THE ROLE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND DISARMAMENT.

ALSO, MR. ERDENECHULUUN ATTENDED THE FIRST AND SECOND UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL SESSIONS ON DISARMAMENT, AND THREE SESSIONS OF THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, IN 1976, 1978 AND 1982. IN 1992, HE ATTENDED THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT.

MR. ERDENECHULUUN HEADED THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN MONGOLIA'S MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FROM 1988 TO 1990 AND WAS PREVIOUSLY HEAD OF THE MINISTRY'S DEPARTMENT OF PRESS AND INFORMATION. HE REPRESENTED MONGOLIA AT FIVE MEETINGS OF THE MOVEMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES BETWEEN 1988 AND 1994.

EDUCATED AT THE STATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN MOSCOW, HE GRADUATED FROM THE DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY THERE IN 1988. MR. ERDENECHULUUN WAS BORN ON 10 OCTOBER 1948; HE IS MARRIED AND HAS THREE CHILDREN.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

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19 SEPTEMBER 1995

GOCE PETRESKI OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF SECOND COMMITTEE

GOCE PETRESKI, WHO WAS ELECTED TODAY AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
SECOND COMMITTEE (ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL) WAS APPOINTED
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF
MACEDONIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA IN JUNE 1994.

PRIOR TO THE APPOINTMENT, HE SERVED AS THE ADVISER ON
ECONOMIC ISSUES TO THE PRIME MINISTER FROM 1992 TO 1993. HE
WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES, ANTI-INFLATION,
AND TRANSITIONAL ISSUES. BETWEEN 1991 AND 1992, HE SERVED AS
THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT.

FROM 1978 TO 1994, MR. PETRESKY WAS PROFESSOR AND SENIOR
LECTURER ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INVESTMENT AND PRINCIPLES OF
ECONOMICS AT THE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, CYRIL AND METHODIUS
UNIVERSITY IN SKOPJE. HE HAS PUBLISHED AND COPUBLISHED OVER
60 SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES AS WELL AS ARTICLES ON DEVELOPMENT,
ECONOMIC, MONETARY AND FINANCIAL ISSUES. IN ADDITION, HE HAS
TAKEN PART IN SCIENTIFIC GATHERINGS, INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIA
AND MANY RESEARCH PROJECTS.

MR. PETRESKI HOLDS DEGREES IN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, AS WELL AS A PH.D
IN ECONOMICS.

HE IS MARRIED AND HAS TWO CHILDREN.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

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19 SEPTEMBER 1995

FRANCIS KIRIMI MUTHAURA OF KENYA ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF FOURTH COMMITTEE

FRANCIS KIRIMI MUTHAURA, WHO WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION) TODAY, HAS BEEN KENYA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS SINCE 1993. IN 1994, HE WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE REVIEW OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

PRIOR TO HIS PRESENT ASSIGNMENT, FROM 1988 TO SEPTEMBER 1993, MR. MUTHAURA WAS KENYA'S AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (EEC). HE WAS COUNSELLOR, KENYA HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON, FROM 1987 TO 1988 AND, BEFORE THAT, HAD ASSIGNMENTS AS UNDER-SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF THE ECONOMIC DIVISION AND SENIOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN NAIROBI.

MR. MUTHAURA BEGAN HIS DIPLOMATIC CAREER AS A DISTRICT OFFICER IN MOMBASSA IN 1972. ASSIGNMENTS THAT FOLLOWED INCLUDED ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SECOND SECRETARY IN KENYA'S UNITED NATIONS MISSION AND FIRST SECRETARY AT THE KENYAN EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS.

MR. MUTHAURA WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF KENYA'S DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM 1975 TO 1977 AND HEAD OF HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATION TO THE 1990 MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BRUSSELS RELATED TO THE URUGUAY ROUND OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT). IN 1991-92 HE WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC GROUP --EEC WORKING GROUP ON THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS OF GATT.

MR. MUTHAURA ATTENDED THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, WHERE HE RECEIVED BOTH HIS B.A. (HONOURS) IN ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE (1972) AND POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (1975). WHILE SERVING AT KENYA'S EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS, HE TOOK ADDITIONAL COURSES TOWARDS AN M.A. IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY'S BRUSSELS CAMPUS.

BORN ON 20 OCTOBER 1946 IN MERU, KENYA, MR. MUTHAURA IS MARRIED AND HAS THREE CHILDREN.

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FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY GA/8921
GENERAL COMMITTEE 20 SEPTEMBER 1995
2ND MEETING (PM)
GENERAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS 167-ITEM AGENDA
FOR FIFTIETH SESSION OF ASSEMBLY
DELEGATES SET WORK PROGRAMME OF MAIN COMMITTEES;
CONSIDERATION OF ITEM ON REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN IS NOT
REQUESTED

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE THIS AFTERNOON RECOMMENDED THAT THE
FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPT AN AGENDA OF 167 ITEMS.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE INCLUSION OF AGENDA ITEMS AND THEIR
ALLOCATION TO THE ASSEMBLY'S SIX MAIN COMMITTEES WERE MADE
DURING A PARAGRAPH-BY-PARAGRAPH REVIEW OF A MEMORANDUM OF THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE SESSION.
AMONG THE NEW ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR INCLUSION WERE THE REPORT
OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF
PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE AND OTHER SERIOUS VIOLATIONS
OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY
OF RWANDA AND RWANDAN CITIZENS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE AND
OTHER SUCH VIOLATIONS COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF
NEIGHBOURING STATES BETWEEN 1 JANUARY AND 31 DECEMBER 1994;
MULTILINGUALISM; UNIVERSAL CONGRESS ON THE PANAMA CANAL; AND
STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM.

THE COMMITTEE DID NOT RECOMMEND THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
CONSIDER THE "EXCEPTIONAL SITUATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA
ON TAIWAN IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT, BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE
OF UNIVERSALITY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ESTABLISHED MODEL
OF PARALLEL REPRESENTATION OF DIVIDED COUNTRIES AT THE UNITED
NATIONS" AS PROPOSED BY SEVERAL COUNTRIES. THAT
RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWED A LONG DEBATE BEGUN IN THE COMMITTEE
THIS MORNING. MANY SPEAKERS SUPPORTED THE INITIATIVE, STATING
THAT THE 21 MILLION PEOPLE OF TAIWAN WERE NOT REPRESENTED AT
THE UNITED NATIONS, IN VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF
UNIVERSALITY. ON THE OTHER SIDE, NUMEROUS PARTICIPANTS TOOK
THE FLOOR TO OPPOSE THE INITIATIVE, STATING THAT IT VIOLATED
THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CHINA.

STATEMENTS ON THE PROPOSED INCLUSION OF THE ITEM CONCERNING
TAIWAN WERE MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALGERIA, LEBANON,
GUATEMALA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, NAMIBIA, YEMEN, KENYA, MYANMAR,
PAKISTAN, NAMIBIA, COSTA RICA, GAMBIA, SRI LANKA, MAURITIUS,
BHUTAN, SYRIA, BENIN, UKRAINE, MALAWI, EGYPT, NIGER, SAINT
LUCIA, AFGHANISTAN AND BOTSWANA.

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GENERAL COMMITTEE - 1A - PRESS RELEASE GA/8921
2ND MEETING (PM) 20 SEPTEMBER 1995

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE FOLLOWING NINE ITEMS BE ALLOCATED TO PLENARY MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY: COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION; REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE AND OTHER SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF RWANDA AND RWANDAN CITIZENS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE AND OTHER SUCH VIOLATIONS COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF NEIGHBOURING STATES BETWEEN 1 JANUARY AND 31 DECEMBER 1994; COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION; OBSERVER STATUS FOR THE CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION SYSTEM; MULTILINGUALISM; COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE AGENCY FOR CULTURAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION; WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT; UNIVERSAL CONGRESS ON THE PANAMA CANAL; AND STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT THE ITEM ON THE ROLE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL SHOULD BE INITIALLY CONSIDERED IN PLENARY AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN THE SIXTH COMMITTEE.

FOLLOWING A DISCUSSION OF THE FINAL NEW ITEM RECOMMENDED FOR INCLUSION IN THE ASSEMBLY'S AGENDA -- NORMALIZATION OF THE SITUATION CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICA -- THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO DEFER A DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO CONSIDER IT IN PLENARY.

THE COMMITTEE THEN DECIDED TO ALLOCATE THE SUBITEM ON THE SUSTAINABLE USE AND CONSERVATION OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCE OF THE HIGH SEAS TO THE PLENARY UNDER THE ITEM CONCERNING LAW OF THE SEA.

WHILE RECOMMENDING THAT THE ALLOCATION OF OTHER AGENDA ITEMS BE BASED ON THE PATTERN OF PREVIOUS YEARS, THE COMMITTEE DECIDED THAT ITEMS PREVIOUSLY ALLOCATED TO PLENARY MEETINGS BE REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEES UNLESS THERE WERE COMPELLING CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING CONTINUED PLENARY CONSIDERATION.

IN OTHER ACTION THIS AFTERNOON, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE ASSEMBLY HOLD SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE MEETINGS MARKING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 26 AND 27 OCTOBER. IT ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT A SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE PLENARY MEETING BE HELD TO MARK THE END OF THE UNITED NATIONS YEAR FOR TOLERANCE ON A DATE TO BE FIXED.

REGARDING THE AGENDA ITEM ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON GRANTING INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT ALL CHAPTERS OF THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE RELATING TO SPECIFIC TERRITORIES SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION) THUS ENABLING THE ASSEMBLY TO DEAL IN PLENARY WITH THE QUESTION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION AS A WHOLE.

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GENERAL COMMITTEE - 1B - PRESS RELEASE GA/8921
2ND MEETING (PM) 20 SEPTEMBER 1995

ALSO FOLLOWING PREVIOUS PRACTICE, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT CERTAIN RELEVANT PARAGRAPHS OF THE REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA) BE DRAWN TO THE ATTENTION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE (DISARMAMENT AND

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY).

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THE ALLOCATION OF LISTS OF ITEMS TO THE RESPECTIVE MAIN COMMITTEES AS PROPOSED IN THE MEMORANDUM OF THE SECRETARYGENERAL.

THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA, AS WELL AS THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ALLOCATION OF ITEMS AMONG THE ASSEMBLY AND ITS MAIN COMMITTEES, WILL GO BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY ON FRIDAY MORNING, 23 SEPTEMBER.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS BE CONSIDERED DIRECTLY IN PLENARY WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT INTERESTED BODIES AND INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE HEARD IN THE FOURTH COMMITTEE. THE QUESTION OF CYPRUS WILL BE ALLOCATED AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME DURING THE SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PREVIOUS PRACTICE.

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETS AGAIN AT 10 A.M. TOMORROW, 21 SEPTEMBER.

GENERAL COMMITTEE	- -	PRESS RELEASE GA/8921
2ND MEETING (PM)		20 SEPTEMBER 1995
GENERAL COMMITTEE	- -	PRESS RELEASE GA/8921
2ND MEETING (PM)		20 SEPTEMBER 1995

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PREPARED BY CENTRAL NEWS DH/1983

T H U R S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*UNITED NATIONS AND NATO SAY BOSNIAN SERBS HAVE WITHDRAWN HEAVY WEAPONS FROM SARAJEVO EXCLUSION ZONE AND RESUMPTION OF AIR STRIKES IS CURRENTLY NOT NECESSARY.

*GENERAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS 167-ITEM AGENDA FOR FIFTIETH SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY; REJECTS ITEM ON REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN IN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT.

*GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT SAYS UNITED NATIONS SHOULD MAKE ITSELF BETTER KNOWN FOR WORK IN FIELDS OF DEVELOPMENT, HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW.

*UNCTAD TO HOLD HIGH-LEVEL MEETING AT HEADQUARTERS FROM 26 SEPTEMBER TO 6 OCTOBER TO DISCUSS HOW TO IMPROVE LIVING STANDARDS IN LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

*SOMALI FACTION RELEASES SEVEN INTERNATIONAL AID WORKERS DETAINED IN BAIDOA; NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE FOR RELEASE OF REMAINING 14 DETAINEES.

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THE BOSNIAN SERBS HAVE WITHDRAWN DEFINED HEAVY WEAPONS FROM THE SARAJEVO EXCLUSION ZONE AND THE RESUMPTION OF AIR STRIKES IS CURRENTLY NOT NECESSARY, ACCORDING TO LIEUTENANT-GENERAL BERNARD JANVIER, UNITED NATIONS FORCE COMMANDER, AND ADMIRAL LEIGHTON SMITH OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO). IN A JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED LAST NIGHT, THEY NOTED THAT SARAJEVO AIRPORT REMAINED OPEN AND THAT UNITED NATIONS AND HUMANITARIAN TRAFFIC HAD UNIMPEDED ACCESS TO THE CITY.

GENERAL JANVIER AND ADMIRAL SMITH SAID THE BOSNIAN SERBS HAD EXPRESSED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT AT ANY TIME. THEY URGED ALL PARTIES TO JOIN THE SERBS AND FINALIZE A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT FOR THE SARAJEVO AREA WITH THE UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE (UNPROFOR), WITH A VIEW TO EXTENDING IT TO A COMPLETE AND COUNTRY-WIDE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY. THEY WARNED THAT ANY SUBSEQUENT ATTACK ON SARAJEVO OR ANY OTHER SAFE AREA, OR OTHER NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE EXCLUSION ZONE, COULD LEAD TO THE RESUMPTION OF AIR STRIKES.

A UNITED NATIONS SPOKESMAN TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT THE BOSNIAN SERBS HAD WITHDRAWN OR DESTROYED SOME 250 HEAVY WEAPONS FROM AROUND SARAJEVO, INCLUDING FOUR ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE NUMBER OF FIRING INCIDENTS IN THE

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CITY HAD INCREASED FOR THE THIRD DAY IN A ROW YESTERDAY, ALBEIT TO A HISTORICALLY LOW 237. MEANWHILE, THE SITUATION WAS REPORTED TO HAVE STABILIZED IN WESTERN BOSNIA. HOWEVER, RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENT AND POOR WEATHER MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS TO CONFIRM THAT OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS HAD HALTED IN THE AREA.

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THE GENERAL COMMITTEE HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPT AN AGENDA OF 167 ITEMS. AMONG THE NEW ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR INCLUSION WERE THE REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA, MULTILINGUALISM, UNIVERSAL CONGRESS ON THE PANAMA CANAL, AND STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM. RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE INCLUSION OF AGENDA ITEMS AND THEIR ALLOCATION TO THE ASSEMBLY'S SIX MAIN COMMITTEES WERE MADE DURING A REVIEW OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MEMORANDUM ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE SESSION.

THE COMMITTEE DID NOT RECOMMEND THAT THE ASSEMBLY CONSIDER THE "EXCEPTIONAL SITUATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT, BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ESTABLISHED MODEL OF PARALLEL REPRESENTATION OF DIVIDED COUNTRIES AT THE UNITED NATIONS" AS PROPOSED BY SEVERAL STATES. IN A LONG DEBATE, MANY SPEAKERS SUPPORTED THE INITIATIVE, STATING THAT THE 21 MILLION PEOPLE OF TAIWAN WERE NOT REPRESENTED AT THE UNITED NATIONS, IN VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF NEUTRALITY. HOWEVER, NUMEROUS SPEAKERS OPPOSED THE INITIATIVE, SAYING THAT IT VIOLATED THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CHINA.

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WHILE REFORM OF THE UNITED NATIONS IS A VITAL UNDERTAKING, THE ORGANIZATION DESERVES MORE CREDIT FOR ITS SUCCESSES IN MANY FIELDS, ACCORDING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT DIOGO FREITAS DO AMARAL (PORTUGAL). HE TOLD CORRESPONDENTS AT HEADQUARTERS THAT SOME PEOPLE FOCUSED ONLY ON ISSUES OF WAR AND PEACE. THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD THUS MAKE ITSELF BETTER KNOWN FOR ITS WORK IN THE FIELDS OF DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL WELFARE, HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW. WORLD PUBLIC OPINION SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE TREMENDOUS AND POSITIVE WORK OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND BODIES.

THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S NEW WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW PROPOSALS TO REVITALIZE, STRENGTHEN AND REFORM THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM WOULD HAVE A BLUEPRINT FOR ACTION BY THE END OF THE FIFTIETH SESSION. HE STRESSED THAT HE WANTED TO BE A REFORMER PRESIDENT, NOT A MERE CEREMONIAL ONE, AND TO HELP TRANSFORM THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY INTO THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.

AS THE ONLY BODY WHICH REPRESENTED ALL MEMBER STATES, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHOULD HAVE A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL, HE WENT ON TO SAY. TO THAT END, THERE SHOULD BE A DIRECT, PERMANENT DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSEMBLY AND THE COUNCIL. THE ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT SHOULD BE WELL INFORMED ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT WENT ON IN THE COUNCIL, HE ADDED.

* * *

MINISTERS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL MEET AT HEADQUARTERS FROM 26 SEPTEMBER TO 6 OCTOBER TO DISCUSS WAYS OF IMPROVING THE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE ONE-TENTH OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THE HIGH-LEVEL INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING WILL UNDERTAKE A MID-TERM GLOBAL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THOSE COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990S, WHICH WAS ADOPTED AT THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN PARIS IN SEPTEMBER 1990. IT WILL ALSO IDENTIFY CONCRETE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS TO ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME.

THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD) CURRENTLY IDENTIFIES 48 COUNTRIES AS LEAST DEVELOPED, OF WHICH 33 ARE IN AFRICA. THEIR COMBINED POPULATION IS ESTIMATED AT 560 MILLION. THEY HAD AN AVERAGE PER CAPITA INCOME OF \$300 IN 1993, COMPARED TO \$900 IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD AS A WHOLE AND \$21,600 IN THE DEVELOPED MARKET ECONOMIES. THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION AIMED AT ARRESTING THE DETERIORATION IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN THE POOREST COUNTRIES, AND SETTING THEM ON THE PATH OF SUSTAINED GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH A SERIES OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS.

* * *

GENERAL MOHAMED FARAH AIDEED'S FORCES HAVE RELEASED SEVEN WOMEN FROM AMONG THE 21 INTERNATIONAL AID WORKERS HELD CAPTIVE IN BAIDOA, SOMALIA, SINCE EARLIER IN THE WEEK. THE SEVEN -- TWO UNITED NATIONS STAFF MEMBERS AND FIVE NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION EMPLOYEES -- WERE FLOWN OUT OF THE COUNTRY YESTERDAY. NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDER WAY FOR THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING 14 WORKERS, TEN OF WHOM ARE UNITED NATIONS STAFF MEMBERS.

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15 September 1995

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Prepared by Central News DH/1979
15 September 1995

F R I D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*Fourth World Conference on Women concludes with adoption of Platform for Action; Secretary-General urges international community to effectively implement agenda for empowerment of women.

*NATO and United Nations suspend air strikes in Bosnia and Herzegovina after Serb leaders undertake to withdraw heavy weapons from Sarajevo exclusion zone.

*Security Council extends UNOMIL mandate until 31 January 1996; welcomes Abuja Agreement, installation of Council of State and cease-fire in Liberia.

*Security Council extends suspension of certain sanctions against Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for six months.

*Interim Accord between Greece and former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will encourage stability in region, Security Council says.

*Secretary-General announces composition of five-member Commission of Inquiry for Burundi.

*United Nations increases inter-agency funding target for humanitarian operations in former Yugoslavia to \$515 million.

*Secretary-General, in Staff Day address, says United Nations staff are precious asset; stresses importance of ongoing reform of Organization.

*Forty-eighth annual DPI/NGO Conference to be held at Headquarters from 18 to 20 September.

* * *

The Fourth World Conference on Women concluded today by adopting a Platform for Action calling for the protection and promotion of women's human rights as an integral part of human rights. In a closing statement delivered by Special Representative Ismat Kittani, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali described the Platform for Action as a powerful agenda for the empowerment of women. He stressed that it must be disseminated and implemented globally, regionally and locally.

The Platform focused on concrete measures to address critical areas of concern worldwide, the Secretary-General continued. It called for action to: eradicate the persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women; remove the obstacles to women's full participation in public life and

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decision-making; eliminate all forms of violence against women; ensure equal access to education and health services; promote economic autonomy for women; and encourage an equitable sharing of family responsibilities.

The United Nations had a key role to play in the follow-up to the Conference, the Secretary-General said. He pledged that recommendations addressed to him would be implemented swiftly and effectively. He called on all governments to accede to and ratify United Nations human rights instruments and labour conventions -- particularly the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. "Let us work together to implement the Platform for Action adopted here at Beijing," he concluded. "Let us tell the world -- and let us tell it with pride: the empowerment of women is the empowerment of all humanity!"

* * *

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the United Nations last night suspended NATO air strikes in Bosnia and Herzegovina for a threeday period after Bosnian Serb leaders committed themselves to withdrawing their heavy weapons from the 20-kilometre exclusion zone around Sarajevo. At the end of the three-day period, NATO and United Nations military commanders will assess the level of Serb compliance with that commitment. Failure to comply, or attacks on the other safe areas, will lead to the resumption of air operations.

The United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) Sector Commander in Sarajevo today visited the Lukavica military compound to oversee the assembly of weapons by the Bosnian Serbs. Meanwhile, a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) convoy reached the city via the Kiseljak road without being stopped at any Serb check-points. At the same time, a French aircraft landed at Sarajevo airport. It was the first flight into the Bosnian capital since 9 April.

* * *

Welcoming the Abuja Agreement of 19 August, the installation of the new Council of State and other steps in the Liberian peace process, the Security Council today extended the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) until 31 January 1996. By unanimously adopting resolution 1014 (1995), the Council also welcomed the Secretary-General's decision to deploy an additional 42 number military observers to monitor the cease-fire and disengagement of forces there.

The Council welcomed the Secretary-General's intention to submit, by the end of October, recommendations on the new concept of UNOMIL operations. He should address measures to enhance the relationship between the Mission and the Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG), aspects of disarmament and demobilization, and the resources which UNOMIL would require to carry out its tasks effectively. The Council also welcomed his intention to send a mission to consult with Liberian leaders and other parties on the requirements to implement the Abuja Agreement.

The Council urged Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Liberia and to provide financial, logistical and other assistance to ECOMOG to enable it to carry out its

mandate. It encouraged Member States, particularly African countries, to consider providing troops to the expanded ECOMOG.

* * *

In a second meeting today, the Security Council extended the suspension of certain sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) for six months until 18 March 1996. It took that action, under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, by unanimously adopting resolution 1015 (1995).

Restrictions on air travel, maritime traffic, sporting events and cultural exchanges were originally suspended by resolution 943 (1994) for 100 days, provided that the border between the Federal Republic and Bosnia and Herzegovina were closed. The suspension was subsequently extended by resolutions 970 (1995), 988 (1995) and 1003 (1995).

* * *

The Security Council today welcomed the signing of the Interim Accord by Greece and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. In a statement by its President, Francesco Paolo Fulci (Italy), the Council said it looked forward to the establishment of a new relationship between the parties based on international law and peaceful, friendly relations. It believed the Accord would promote stability in the region.

The Council commended both parties, the Secretary-General, Special Envoy Cyrus Vance, and United States envoy Matthew Nimetz for their efforts in bringing about the Interim Accord, pursuant to resolutions 817 (1993) and 845 (1993). It encouraged them to continue their efforts to resolve the remaining differences between the parties, and urged the parties to implement fully the Accord.

* * *

The Secretary-General has appointed the following as members of the Commission of Inquiry for Burundi: Abde El Ali El Mounni (Morocco), Mehmet Guney (Turkey), Luis Herrera Marcano (Venezuela), Michel Maurice (Canada), and Edilbert Razafindralambo (Madagascar). The Commission, which will be chaired by Mr. Razafindralambo, is expected to leave for Burundi around mid-October.

The Commission's mandate, according to Security Council resolution 1012 (1995), is: (a) to establish the facts relating to the assassination of the President of Burundi in 1993, the massacres and other serious acts of violence which followed; and (b) to recommend measures, after consultation with the Government of Burundi, to prevent any repetition of similar deeds and, in general, to eradicate impunity and promote national reconciliation in Burundi.

* * *

The United Nations inter-agency funding target for assistance to the former Yugoslavia has been increased to \$515 million because of a dramatic escalation in humanitarian needs there. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs launched a revised appeal for \$470 million in May, but the number of internally displaced persons and refugees in the region has since risen by more than 280,000. More than 3.5 million people in the former Yugoslavia receive United Nations

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assistance.

In a supplement to the 1995 consolidated inter-agency appeal, United Nations agencies have asked donors for additional funds to cover new and adjusted assistance programmes. Taking into account the adjusted shortfalls in contributions received by the end of August, the agencies need \$90 million to fund assistance until the end of the year.

* * *

The Secretary-General today paid tribute to the staff of the United Nations, describing them as a precious asset. In his annual Staff Day address, he said he would work to preserve that asset and, where possible, to enhance its value and effectiveness. As part of the ongoing process of reform of the Organization, staff members would be helped to sharpen and update their skills as necessary.

Member States wanted a leaner and more efficient Secretariat, which responded promptly to their needs and concentrated on necessary tasks, he continued. That was why a new management culture was needed. The aim was to define goals for the United Nations and to determine the exact function of each staff member in the achievement of them. The process of reform was not assisted by the current financial crisis, and sacrifices would be required from all.

"We are privileged to be taking part in the building of a better world," the Secretary-General went on to say. "Let us pledge ourselves anew to work untiringly to improve and perfect the instruments of international cooperation. We are at the very centre of an historical movement to bring lasting peace, development and security to all humankind."

* * *

The forty-eighth annual NGO Conference organized by the Department of Public Information (DPI) will take place at Headquarters from 18 to 20 September. The Conference is held in cooperation with the Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations associated with the DPI.

The theme of the 1995 DPI/NGO Conference is, "The United Nations at the turn of the century: global issues; global actors; global responsibility." Participants will highlight successful strategies for applying international agreements at the regional, national and local levels, focusing on the integration of younger generations in the process.

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MUST BE GREATER FINANCIAL FLOWS TO LDCS; THOSE COUNTRIES MUST HAVE GREATER ACCESS TO MARKETS AND BETTER TERMS OF TRADE; COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT IN THEM MUST BE ENCOURAGED; AND AN ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DEVELOPMENT MUST BE PUT IN PLACE. A STRONGER SENSE OF PURPOSE -- AND PARTNERSHIP -- WAS NOW REQUIRED, HE ADDED.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE OPENING SESSION ELECTED NORWEGIAN MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION KARI NORDHEIM AS PRESIDENT OF THE MEETING. SHE ANNOUNCED THAT NORWAY WOULD CONTRIBUTE AN EXTRA \$10 MILLION TO THE UNDP TRUST FUND FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE. IT WOULD ALSO GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO THE ISSUE OF POPULATION GROWTH, ALLOCATING AT LEAST FOUR PER CENT OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO POPULATION PROGRAMMES.

* * *

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TODAY CALLED FOR THE ELIMINATION OF LAND-MINES ONCE AND FOR ALL. IN A VIDEOTAPED MESSAGE TO THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE REVIEW CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS IN VIENNA, HE SAID THE USE AND PRODUCTION OF LAND-MINES SHOULD BE BANNED AND STOCKPILES DESTROYED.

LAND-MINES KILLED OR WOUNDED MORE THAN 20,000 PEOPLE EVERY YEAR, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL NOTED. MOST OF THOSE PEOPLE WERE NOT COMBATANTS, BUT WERE FARMERS, WOMEN OR CHILDREN. MEANWHILE, THE SITUATION WAS WORSENING -- 100,000 LAND-MINES WERE CLEARED EVERY YEAR BUT 2 TO 5 MILLION MORE WERE LAID. HE APPEALED TO ALL STATES TO RATIFY OR ACCEDE TO THE CONVENTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS.

* * *

DONORS MEETING IN BRUSSELS YESTERDAY PLEDGED SOME \$500 MILLION FOR THE PEACE PROCESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN ANGOLA, AND MORE PLEDGES WERE EXPECTED TODAY, ACCORDING TO THE UNDP. PRESIDENT JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS OF ANGOLA AND THE LEADER OF THE NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA (UNITA), JONAS SAVIMBI, USED THE OCCASION TO REITERATE THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE IN THEIR COUNTRY.

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SECURITY COUNCIL SC/6104

3583RD MEETING (PM) 26 SEPTEMBER 1995

SECURITY COUNCIL MARKS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED NATIONS
HEARS STATEMENTS ON COUNCIL'S ACHIEVEMENTS AND ITS FUTURE

THE SECURITY COUNCIL, COMMEMORATING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS THIS AFTERNOON, HEARD STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF ITS 15 MEMBERS, INCLUDING 13 FOREIGN MINISTERS, AND BY SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI.

ALSO THIS AFTERNOON, THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF ITALY, SUSANNA AGNELLI, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL, SAID THAT DESPITE ITS LARGELY SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS FOR THE RESTORATION OF PEACE AND STABILITY, THERE WERE AREAS WHERE THE COUNCIL HAD NOT ACHIEVED SUCCESS. EFFECTIVE USE SHOULD BE MADE OF INSTRUMENTS FOR PREVENTIVE ACTION. THE UNITED NATIONS CAPACITY TO CONDUCT PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE TO IMPROVE.

SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS-BOUTROS GHALI SAID THAT NEW APPROACHES WOULD HAVE TO BE ADOPTED EVEN AS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WERE MAINTAINED AND STRENGTHENED. MEMBER STATES CURRENTLY OWED THE ORGANIZATION MORE THAN \$3.5 BILLION, LEADING IT TO RENOUNCE ACTIONS WHICH WOULD BE POLITICALLY DESIRABLE AND POSSIBLY FORCING THE ORGANIZATION TO CHOOSE ITS OPERATIONS FOR MOTIVES CONTRARY TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER.

STATEMENTS WERE ALSO MADE BY THE MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF INDONESIA, HONDURAS, GERMANY, FRANCE, CHINA, BOTSWANA, ARGENTINA, UNITED STATES, UNITED KINGDOM, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, NIGERIA AND ITALY.

ALSO, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND RWANDA MADE STATEMENTS.

THE MEETING, WHICH BEGAN AT 12 NOON, WAS ADJOURNED AT 1:54 P.M.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT, WHICH WILL BE ISSUED AS S/PRST/1995/48, READS AS FOLLOWS:

(PAGE 1A FOLLOWS)

SECURITY COUNCIL - 1A - PRESS RELEASE SC/6104

3583RD MEETING (PM) 26 SEPTEMBER 1995

"THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS MET ON 26 SEPTEMBER 1995, AT THE LEVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, TO COMMEMORATE THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE CHALLENGES WHICH THE SECURITY COUNCIL FACES.

"SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY ON WHICH DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION AMONG NATIONS

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ARE BASED. THE PAST FEW YEARS IN PARTICULAR HAVE BEEN ONES OF MOMENTOUS CHANGE, BRINGING FRESH HOPE AND NEW CHALLENGES. OPERATIONS MANDATED BY THE COUNCIL HAVE ASSISTED IN THE RESTORATION OF PEACE AND STABILITY TO COUNTRIES LONG PLAGUED BY WAR. ALTHOUGH SUCH OPERATIONS HAVE LARGELY BEEN SUCCESSFUL, THERE ARE AREAS WHERE SUCCESS HAS NOT BEEN ACHIEVED. THE COUNCIL MUST CONTINUE TO SPARE NO EFFORT IN WORKING FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, AND BUILD UPON ITS EXPERIENCE OF PAST AND EXISTING OPERATIONS.

"THE SECURITY COUNCIL RECOGNIZES THAT THE CHALLENGES FACING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY DEMAND A RESOLUTE RESPONSE, BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDER THAT THE UNITED NATIONS MUST BE STRENGTHENED AND REVITALIZED TO HELP MEET THESE CHALLENGES. THEY TAKE NOTE OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE QUESTION OF EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON AND INCREASE IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL, INTER ALIA, THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE EXPANDED, AND THAT ITS WORKING METHODS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE REVIEWED, IN A WAY THAT FURTHER STRENGTHENS ITS CAPACITY AND EFFECTIVENESS, ENHANCES ITS REPRESENTATIVE CHARACTER AND IMPROVES ITS WORKING EFFICIENCY AND TRANSPARENCY; AND THAT IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES ON KEY ISSUES CONTINUE TO EXIST. THE COUNCIL ALSO BELIEVES THAT EFFECTIVE USE SHOULD BE MADE OF INSTRUMENTS FOR PREVENTIVE ACTION, AND THE ORGANIZATION'S CAPACITY TO CONDUCT EFFECTIVE PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE IMPROVED. THE COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE TO ATTACH UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF ALL WHO SERVE UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS FLAG IN THE FIELD.

"THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL REAFFIRM THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM OF THE CHARTER. ON THE SOLEMN OCCASION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE COUNCIL, ALONG WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS BODIES, COMMEMORATES WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED SO FAR, BUT ALSO COMMITS ITSELF ONCE AGAIN TO THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY FOR WHICH IT HAS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY, AND TO WORKING TO SAVE SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS FROM THE SCOURGE OF WAR."

(PAGE 2 FOLLOWS)

SECURITY COUNCIL - - PRESS RELEASE SC/6104

3583RD MEETING (PM) 26 SEPTEMBER 1995

(MORE)

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETS THIS MORNING TO HEAR STATEMENTS FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF 13 OF ITS MEMBERS TO COMMEMORATE THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

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INDICATED THAT SOME FUNDS HAD BEEN INDEED SET ASIDE FOR REPAYMENTS OF ARREARS TO THE UNITED NATIONS OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD, SO AS TO CLEAR UP THE ARREARS. HIS MEMORY WAS THAT ONLY TWO, OR PERHAPS THREE, PAYMENTS HAD BEEN MADE, BUT AFTERWARDS THE FUNDS HAD BEEN FROZEN. HE WOULD CHECK THAT FURTHER.

WERE THE TRIBUNALS FUNDED FROM THE PEACE-KEEPING BUDGET? MR. SILLS SAID THE TRIBUNALS WERE SEPARATELY FUNDED; THEY WERE SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AND THERE HAD BEEN SPECIAL PROVISIONS BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THEIR FUNDING THIS YEAR. THE FUNDING OF THE TRIBUNALS WOULD BE REGULARIZED IN THE NEW BUDGET, WHICH SHOULD BE APPROVED BY THE PRESENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE SPOKESMAN UNDERLINED THAT THE ISSUE WAS NOT WHETHER THE MONEY WAS IN THE BUDGET, BUT RATHER THE ABSENCE OF CASH.

WERE THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES VOLUNTARILY FUNDED? MR. SILLS NOTED THAT THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES WERE LEGALLY INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATIONS, SEPARATE FROM THE UNITED NATIONS; THUS, THEIR BUDGETS WERE COMPLETELY SEPARATE FROM THAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE MEMBERS OF THE AGENCIES ASSESSED THEIR MEMBER STATES FOR THEIR BASIC BUDGET; MANY ALSO HAD VOLUNTARY PROGRAMMES AND TRUST FUNDS AS WELL, BUT THEIR BASIC EXPENSES WERE ASSESSED. THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE UNITED NATIONS ALWAYS REFERRED TO BOTH AGENCIES AND PROGRAMMES, BECAUSE THERE WERE SOME UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMMES, SUCH AS UNDP, UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA) AND UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF), THAT WERE NOT SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, WHICH WERE ARE FUNDED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS. THEY WERE NOT PART OF THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED WHETHER THE UNITED NATIONS WAS APPRAISED, HOUR BY HOUR, OF THE TALKS TAKING PLACE TODAY ON THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA? THE SPOKESMAN REFERRED THE CORRESPONDENT TO THE UNITED STATES MISSION, AND SAID THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THE UNITED NATIONS WAS NOT APPRAISED HOUR BY HOUR OF THE TALKS, BUT WAS GENERALLY KEPT INFORMED.

A CORRESPONDENT SAID THAT THE BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER HAD IMPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT THE UNITED NATIONS FINANCES WERE SO BAD THAT THE ORGANIZATION COULD GO "BELLY-UP" IN TERMS OF MONEY BY NEXT YEAR, WHICH HE SAID WOULD BE A SHAME BECAUSE IT WOULD THEN BE NECESSARY TO REINVENT THE UNITED NATIONS ALL OVER AGAIN. WAS THE UNITED NATIONS ASSESSMENT THAT PESSIMISTIC? HE ASKED. YES, REPLIED THE SPOKESMAN, ADDING THAT IT COULD BE MADE OPTIMISTIC IF MEMBER STATES STARTED PAYING THEIR DUES. BASED ON WHAT WAS KNOWN NOW, AND ON THE PROBABILITIES AS WERE NOW KNOWN, PERHAPS THE SITUATION WOULD

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NOT GO SO FAR AS TO BE DESCRIBED AS "BELLY-UP", BUT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THE PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION COULD BE CUT BACK AND SEVERELY DAMAGED OVER THE NEXT YEAR, EVEN SOONER, UNLESS THERE WAS A QUICK CHANGE IN THE SITUATION, HE ADDED.

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION HAD INDICATED THAT THERE WERE 20,000 RUSSIAN TROOPS IN PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS, A CORRESPONDENT SAID. WHERE WERE THOSE TROOPS? THE BULK OF THE RUSSIAN TROOPS WERE IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES (CIS), SAID THE SPOKESMAN. MR. ECKHARD ADDED THAT THERE WERE RUSSIAN TROOPS IN UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN CROATIA AND SARAJEVO. IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE UNITED NATIONS WAS NOT PAYING FOR THE CIS PEACE-KEEPERS.

A CORRESPONDENT NOTED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MUHAMED SACIRBEY, WAS NOT TAKING PART IN THE NEW YORK TALKS TODAY. DID THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAVE A COMMENT ON THAT? THE SPOKESMAN SAID NO, THAT THE ISSUE WAS ONE FOR THE SPONSORS OF THE TALKS AND THE THREE FOREIGN MINISTERS.

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FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY GA/8928
PLENARY 26 SEPTEMBER 1995

6TH MEETING (AM)

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA WILL NOT ACCEPT 'SHAM' ELECTIONS
DICTATED

BY DESPOTS, FOREIGN MINISTER SACIRBEY TELLS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SAYS NEGOTIATING PROCESS MUST NOT SHIELD WAR CRIMINALS;
BALKANS SITUATION ALSO REVIEWED IN STATEMENTS FROM OTHER
LEADERS

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA WAS UNDER PRESSURE TO AGREE TO
ALLOWING ITS GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT TO BE CHOSEN BY MEANS
OTHER THAN DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS, THAT COUNTRY'S FOREIGN
MINISTER TOLD THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS MORNING, AS IT
CONTINUED ITS GENERAL DEBATE. HE SAID BOSNIA WOULD NOT SETTLE
FOR "SHAM ELECTIONS" THAT DESPOTS WANTED TO DICTATE TO IT IN
ORDER TO UNDERMINE DEMOCRACY AND LEGITIMIZE TOTALITARIANISM.

REAFFIRMING HIS COUNTRY'S COMMITMENT TO THE NEGOTIATING
PROCESS, THE BOSNIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, MUHAMED SACIRBEY, SAID
THAT PROCESS SHOULD NOT SHIELD WAR CRIMINALS FROM JUSTICE. IF
THE OTHER SIDE DID NOT ACCEPT PROPOSALS BEING PUT FORWARD
TODAY, THAT WOULD RAISE THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THEY AIMED TO
PERPETUATE POWER AND DOMINATION OVER THE INNOCENT SERB
POPULATION. BOSNIA, HE STRESSED, WOULD NOT MAKE CONCESSIONS
TO CRIMINALITY AND HATE.

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
ANDREI V. KOZYREV, CALLED ON THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS MEMBER
STATES TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF ECONOMIC REHABILITATION IN
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE FORMER
YUGOSLAVIA. RUSSIA WOULD CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIALLY TO SUCH
EFFORTS AND TO A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, WHICH SHOULD NOT BE
SACRIFICED TO POWER OR UNILATERAL APPROACHES, HE STATED.

SAYING THAT THE UNITED NATIONS FINANCIAL CRISIS WAS CAUSED
BY A LACK OF POLITICAL WILL ON THE PART OF SOME MEMBER STATES,
JAVIER SOLAN, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF SPAIN, SPEAKING
ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, PROPOSED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
INCENTIVES AND DISINCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBER STATES TO
COMPLY WITH THEIR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS. HE ALSO SAID THAT
THE ORGANIZATION'S PRESENT BUDGET FOR THE PROTECTION AND
PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS INADEQUATE.

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF BANGLADESH SAID IT WAS IRONIC THAT AT
A TIME WHEN THE UNITED NATIONS WAS IN GREATER DEMAND THAN EVER
BEFORE, AND ITS CAPACITY STRETCHED TO THE MAXIMUM, A SERIOUS
CAMPAIGN OF VILIFICATION HAD BEEN LAUNCHED AGAINST IT. ITS
GROWING MEMBERSHIP, IN THE WAKE OF DECOLONIZATION, WAS
CONSIDERED

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(PAGE 1A FOLLOWS)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY - 1A - PRESS RELEASE GA/8928
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OBSTRUCTIVE, AND IT WAS ACCUSED OF INDISCRIMINATELY EXERCISING THE SO-CALLED "TYRANNY OF THE MAJORITY". THAT TARNISHED IMAGE PROPAGATED BY A FEW, AND REJECTED BY MANY, HAD STILL LEFT DEEP SCARS THAT HAD DIMINISHED THE UNITED NATIONS.

ALSO TAKING PART IN THE GENERAL DEBATE WERE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF FINLAND, OF ARMENIA AND OF PORTUGAL.

THE PLENARY WILL CONTINUE ITS GENERAL DEBATE AT 3 P.M. TODAY.

(PAGE 2 FOLLOWS)

(MORE)GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY - - PRESS RELEASE
GA/8928

6TH MEETING (AM) 26
SEPTEMBER 1995

ASSEMBLY WORK PROGRAMME

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MET THIS MORNING TO CONTINUE ITS GENERAL DEBATE. IT WAS TO HEAR STATEMENTS BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF SPAIN AND OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF FINLAND, OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND OF ARMENIA. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF BANGLADESH WAS ALSO TO SPEAK.

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(MORE)FOR INFORMATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT ONLY

22 SEPTEMBER 1995

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN FOR SECRETARY-GENERAL

JOE SILLS, SPOKESMAN FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, TOLD CORRESPONDENTS AT THE NOON BRIEFING THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S FIRST APPOINTMENT THIS MORNING WAS A FAREWELL CALL BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TOGO, BIOVA-SOUMI PENNANEACH. AT NOON, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD RECEIVE THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF GEORGIA, ALEXANDER CHIKVAIDZE, AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS HE WAS DUE TO RECEIVE THE CREDENTIALS OF THE NEW PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF ANDORRA, JULI F. MINOVES-TRIQUELL, AND HASAN ABU-NIMAH OF JORDAN. IN THE AFTERNOON, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD APPOINTMENTS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER UNG HUOT OF CAMBODIA AND THE CHAIRMEN OF THE REGIONAL GROUPS (SENEGAL, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, UKRAINE, BARBADOS AND MALTA). THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED CORRESPONDENTS THAT THE MEETINGS WITH THE REGIONAL GROUPS TOOK PLACE REGULARLY.

AT 6 P.M., THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD A MEETING SCHEDULED WITH THE UNITED STATES ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE, RICHARD HOLBROOKE. ON SUNDAY, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD PARTICIPATE IN AN INTER-FAITH SERVICE SCHEDULED FOR 10:30 A.M. AT THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOHN THE DIVINE IN NEW YORK CITY, TO COMMEMORATE THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE SPOKESMAN SAID CORRESPONDENTS COULD CONSULT NOTE 5291 FOR DETAILS OF THE PROGRAMME AND ALSO FOR A CONTACT IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE EVENT, AS INVITATIONS WOULD BE REQUIRED.

ON THE SITUATION IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, MR. SILLS INDICATED THAT THERE WAS VERY LITTLE NEW TO REPORT, AS THE SITUATION HAD STABILIZED IN THE LAST 36 TO 48 HOURS. THE OFFENSIVE IN WESTERN BOSNIA HAD ALMOST STOPPED, ALTHOUGH MINOR SKIRMISHES AND SOME RE-SUPPLY OPERATIONS CONTINUED. THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED CORRESPONDENTS THAT THE UNITED NATIONS HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO FOLLOW THE COURSE OF EVENTS IN THAT AREA BECAUSE OF RESTRICTIONS OF MOVEMENT ALONG THE CONFRONTATION LINE. THERE WAS STILL SOME FIGHTING IN THE AREA WEST AND SOUTH OF DOBOJ, BUT THE LEVEL HAD DECREASED IN THE LAST 24 HOURS. IN SARAJEVO, THE NUMBER OF FIRING INCIDENTS HAD DECREASED YESTERDAY, AFTER THREE STRAIGHT DAYS OF INCREASES. THE UNHCR AND UNITED NATIONS CONVOYS CONTINUED TO MOVE FREELY IN AND OUT OF THE CITY. FOURTEEN FLIGHTS LANDED (11 OF THEM UNHCR AND THREE UNPROFOR). THE REDUCTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFIDENCE RESTORATION OPERATION IN CROATIA (UNCRO) TROOPS CONTINUED, AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY MID-DECEMBER. YESTERDAY, 331 ARGENTINE TROOPS LEFT ZAGREB AND 490 JORDANIANS

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WERE DUE TO LEAVE ON SUNDAY, WITH 375 DANISH SOLDIERS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE THE NEXT DAY. ALMOST 4,000 PEACE-KEEPERS HAD NOW DEPARTED THE UNCRO THEATRE, MR. SILLS SAID.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL WAS DEALING TODAY WITH THE ISSUE OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR THE REFERENDUM IN WESTERN SAHARA (MINURSO) AND THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH RECOMMENDED THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE THROUGH 31 JANUARY DAILY PRESS BRIEFING - - 22 SEPTEMBER 1995

1996. THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS SINCE THE COUNCIL HAD BEEN ABLE TO NARROW THE GROUND ON THE QUESTION OF FINANCING AND HE EXPECTED THE RESOLUTION TO BE ADOPTED TODAY. (SEE PRESS RELEASE SC/6103 ON THE COUNCIL MEETING.)

THE COUNCIL WAS ALSO CONSIDERING A DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THERE WOULD A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON 26 SEPTEMBER AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. THIRTEEN OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, OF THE TOTAL OF 15, INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY THEIR FOREIGN MINISTERS. THE TWO EXCEPTIONS WERE OMAN AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC.

THE SPOKESMAN INFORMED THE PRESS THAT ALL THE REMAINING INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING BOTH UNITED NATIONS PERSONNEL AND THOSE FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, THAT HAD BEEN DETAINED BY THE AIDID FORCES IN BAIDOA, SOMALIA, HAD BEEN RELEASED. THEY HAD ALREADY FLOWN OUT OF THE COUNTRY, TO NAIROBI.

THE SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THE ROUND TABLE MEETING OF DONORS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF ANGOLA ON 25 AND 26 SEPTEMBER IN BRUSSELS. THE MEETING WAS ORGANIZED BY THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AND WAS HOSTED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. THE PRESIDENT OF ANGOLA, JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS, WAS EXPECTED TO PRESIDE OVER THE MEETING AND THE PRESENCE OF JONAS SAVIMBI, LEADER OF THE UNITA PARTY, WAS ALSO EXPECTED. MR. SILLS SAID THAT PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS AND MR. SAVIMBI WERE EXPECTED TO HOLD THEIR THIRD BILATERAL MEETING WHILE IN BRUSSELS. THE TARGET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF ANGOLA IS APPROXIMATELY \$700 MILLION. THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO ANGOLA, ALIOUNE BLONDIN BEYE, PRESIDED YESTERDAY AT A MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMISSION IN LUANDA WHICH REVIEWED THE PEACE PROCESS AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LUSAKA PROTOCOL OF 20 NOVEMBER. THE COMMISSION NOTED THE SIGNIFICANT DROP IN CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS AND EXPRESSED ITS SATISFACTION OVER THE CREATION OF A PERMANENT MILITARY COMMITTEE TO MONITOR THE MILITARY SITUATION. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION (UNAVEM) FORCES, MAJOR-GENERAL PHILIP SIBANDA FROM ZIMBABWE, WAS NOW IN LUANDA AND WOULD TAKE UP HIS COMMAND ON THE FIRST OF OCTOBER. THE UNAVEM III WAS NOW UP TO ABOUT 4,700 TROOPS, WITH A BRAZILIAN BATTALION DUE TO ARRIVE AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

MR. SILLS REMINDED CORRESPONDENTS THAT THE UNITED NATIONS ACCREDITATION CENTRE WOULD REMAIN OPEN DURING THE COMING WEEKEND. HE ALSO INFORMED CORRESPONDENTS THAT A LIST OF PRESS CONFERENCES SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK WAS POSTED IN THE PRESS AREA. MR. SILLS ALSO MENTIONED TWO WORLD CHRONICLE PROGRAMMES SCHEDULED FOR THIS AFTERNOON, ON CHANNELS 6, 23 AND 38. AT 2:30 P.M. THERE WOULD BE A PROGRAMME WITH MR. JOSEPH CONNOR,

UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL FOR ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT, AND
AT 3:00 P.M. THE GUEST WOULD BE ROLF EKEUS, CHAIRMAN OF THE
SPECIAL COMMISSION.

LEONA FORMAN, SPOKESWOMAN FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY, TOLD CORRESPONDENTS THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD A MORNING
APPOINTMENT WITH THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE, ALAIN
DEJAMMEG, AND AFTERWARDS HE CHAIRED THE THIRD PLENARY MEETING
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH APPROVED, WITHOUT DISCUSSION,
THE REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE (DOCUMENT A/50/250) ON THE
SESSION'S AGENDA AND THE ALLOCATION OF ITEMS TO THE VARIOUS
COMMITTEES.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WAS INFORMED, IN A
LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DATED TODAY, THAT BURUNDI
AND GUATEMALA HAD MADE THE NECESSARY PAYMENTS TO REDUCE THEIR
ARREARS, TO FIGURES BELOW THE AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN THE ARTICLE
19 OF THE CHARTER. THE SPOKESWOMAN INDICATED THAT FURTHER
INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECT COULD BE FOUND IN DOCUMENT A/50/444
OR THROUGH HER OFFICE.

THE PRESIDENT HAD A MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THE AFTERNOON WITH
THE COCHAIRS OF TWO OF THE FOUR WORKING GROUPS UNDER HIS
CHAIRMANSHIP: THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF AUSTRIA, HERNST
SUCHARIPA, AND OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, ANNETTE DES ILES, CO-
CHAIRS OF THE HIGH-LEVEL GROUP WORKING ON THE FINANCIAL
SITUATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS; AND THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVES OF INDIA, PRAKASH SHAH AND OF NEW ZEALAND,
COLIN KEATING, CO-CHAIRS OF THE OPEN-ENDED HIGH-LEVEL GROUP
WORKING ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM.
NEXT WEEK, MS. FORMAN SAID, THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY WOULD BE MEETING WITH THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE WORKING
GROUPS ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND ON THE AGENDA FOR
DEVELOPMENT, RESPECTIVELY. THE PRESIDENT WOULD MAINTAIN AN
INTENSE RHYTHM OF WORK AND IT WAS HIS INTENTION TO CHAIR THE
WORKING GROUPS PERSONALLY, THE SPOKESWOMAN SAID.

THE GENERAL DEBATE, BEGINNING MONDAY, WOULD BEGIN WITH THE
STATEMENT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF BRAZIL, LUIZ FELIPE
LAMPREIA. THE DEBATE WOULD CONTINUE WITH WARREN CHRISTOPHER,
THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE; YANDJA YENTCHABRE,
FOREIGN MINISTER OF TOGO; PRINCE MOHAMED BOLKIAH, FOREIGN
MINISTER OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM; DR. GABRIELE GATTI, SECRETARY
OF STATE OF SAN MARINO, AND HABIB BEN YAHIA, MINISTER FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF TUNISIA. IN THE AFTERNOON, EL SALVADOR,
BELARUS, NORWAY, ANGOLA, ICELAND, NICARAGUA, BELIZE, IRAN,
ESTONIA AND CUBA WERE SCHEDULED TO MAKE STATEMENTS.

REGARDING THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, A CORRESPONDENT ASKED THE
SPOKESMAN HOW MANY TROOPS WOULD BE NEEDED TO MONITOR THE
SITUATION FOLLOWING A PEACE AGREEMENT, AND WERE ANY NATIONS
EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE FORCES? MR. SILLS SAID THAT PRESS
REPORTS REFERRING TO A POSSIBLE NATO FORCE REPLACING THE
UNITED NATIONS FORCE HAD PROMPTED MUCH DISCUSSION ON THE
SUBJECT. THE UNITED NATIONS OPERATIONS WERE STILL IN PLACE,
AND STILL MANDATED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL. HE RECALLED THAT
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD WRITTEN THE SECURITY COUNCIL
INDICATING THAT, IN THE EVENT OF A PEACE AGREEMENT, HE FELT
THAT THE UNITED NATIONS FORCE SHOULD BE REPLACED BY A FORCE
ASSEMBLED BY A GROUP OF MEMBER STATES, PERHAPS WORKING IN
CONJUNCTION WITH A REGIONAL ORGANIZATION, AND THAT THIS SHOULD

BE AUTHORIZED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT AT THIS POINT HE COULD NOT SPECULATE ON HOW MANY TROOPS WOULD BE NEEDED. IF THE COUNCIL EFFECTIVELY ASSIGNED THAT RESPONSIBILITY TO A GROUP OF STATES AND/OR A REGIONAL ORGANIZATION, IT WOULD BE UP TO THAT ENTITY TO DECIDE WHAT WOULD BE NEEDED. THE NUMBER NEEDED WOULD ALSO DEPEND A GREAT DEAL ON THE NATURE OF THE AGREEMENT, MR. SILLS SAID.

ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT ASKED IF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD THE AUTHORITY TO BORROW MONEY. MR. SILLS INDICATED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS, AS AN ORGANIZATION, HAD ABSOLUTELY NO AUTHORITY TO BORROW MONEY FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES. THERE HAD BEEN, HE SAID, SOME RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE UNITED NATIONS BE GIVEN THAT AUTHORITY, BUT THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DISAGREEMENT ON THE ISSUE.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL COULD BORROW MONEY FROM WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS OWN ACCOUNTS. MR. CONNOR HAD INDICATED THAT MONEY HAD BEEN BORROWED FROM THE PEACE-KEEPING ACCOUNTS, WHERE THERE WERE FUNDS AVAILABLE, TO COVER REGULAR BUDGET EXPENSES. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DOES HAVE THAT AUTHORITY, BUT HE HAS NO AUTHORITY TO BORROW MONEY FROM OUTSIDE THE UNITED NATIONS, MR. SILLS SAID.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED ABOUT A BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED WITH ALL THE STATEMENTS MADE DURING THE COMMEMORATIVE SESSION, AT A COST OF \$715 PER PAGE. MR. SILLS SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE REACTION TO THAT COST WAS SO NEGATIVE, PLUS THE FACT THAT THERE WERE NO FUNDS AVAILABLE, THAT THE PROJECT WOULD LIKELY NOT GO MUCH FURTHER. WOULD THERE BE ANY RECORD OF THE SESSION? THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT THERE COULD BE AN INTERNAL PUBLICATION -- NOT IN A GLOSSY, "COFFEE TABLE" FORMAT, OF THE EXTENDED REMARKS OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, WHOSE DELIVERED SPEECHES DURING THE COMMEMORATIVE SESSION WOULD BE LIMITED TO FIVE MINUTES.

AFTER THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, WILL THERE BE A CONFERENCE ON MEN? NO, MR. SILLS SAID.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED FOR DETAILS ON THE MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARYGENERAL AND ASSISTANT RICHARD HOLBROOKE. MR. SILLS SAID THAT HE DID NOT HAVE ANY DETAILS, BUT THAT THEY WOULD OBVIOUSLY DISCUSS THE STATUS OF THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING THE MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS NEXT TUESDAY IN NEW YORK.

DID THE UNITED NATIONS PROPOSE WITHDRAWING FROM BOSNIA FOR FINANCIAL REASONS, OR JUST TO HAND THE JOB OVER TO NATO? WHETHER IT WAS HANDED TO NATO OR ANYBODY ELSE, WAS A MATTER TO BE DECIDED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THE SPOKESMAN SAID. BUT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DID MAKE IT VERY CLEAR THAT THE UNITED NATIONS COULD NOT CONTINUE EXPENSIVE PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IF NOBODY WAS GOING TO PAY FOR THEM. WE DO NOT HAVE ANY AUTHORITY TO BORROW MONEY, AND WE ALSO DO NOT HAVE ANY AUTHORITY TO PRINT MONEY, MR. SILLS SAID. UNLESS MEMBER STATES COVERED THE COSTS, THE UNITED NATIONS COULD NOT CONTINUE THESE OPERATIONS.

HAD THE SIEGE OF SARAJEVO BEEN LIFTED, AND IF NOT, WHO WAS KEEPING THE PEOPLE IN? THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT SAY THAT THE SIEGE HAD BEEN LIFTED. WHILE THERE HAD BEEN TREMENDOUS IMPROVEMENT IN THE SITUATION IN SARAJEVO, AND GOOD COOPERATION BY THE BOSNIAN SERBS IN THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE

HEAVY WEAPONS FROM THE EXCLUSION ZONE, THERE WERE STILL
PROBLEMS WITH SNIPERS, BOTH FROM OUTSIDE THE CITY AND FROM
WITHIN SARAJEVO. THE UTILITIES IN THE CITY -- ELECTRICITY,
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F R I D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*SECRETARY-GENERAL CONDEMNS OVERTHROW OF COMOROS GOVERNMENT BY MERCENARY GROUP; CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC WAYS.

*UNITED NATIONS SHOULD NOT BE MERE INSTRUMENT OF POWER PERPETUATION FOR RICH MEMBERS, MALAYSIA TELLS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*INDIA SAYS UNITED NATIONS MUST ASSUME CHARTER DUTIES TO SUPERVISE AND COORDINATE GLOBAL ECONOMIC POLICIES.

*DEBT SERVICE HINDERS REFORM AND EXACERBATES POVERTY IN MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ZAMBIA STATES.

*UNHCR WELCOMES PROGRESS TOWARDS POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, BUT SAYS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WILL STILL NEED HUMANITARIAN AID THIS WINTER.

*UNRWA AND UNHCR URGE LIBYA AND MIDDLE EAST STATES TO FIND SOLUTION TO PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CRISIS.

*INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR FORMER YUGOSLAVIA SAYS POLICY OF PROSECUTING POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERS FOR WAR CRIMES HAS GIVEN IT CREDIBILITY.

*ELISABETH REHN OF FINLAND IS APPOINTED SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN FORMER YUGOSLAVIA.

*WHO REPORTS OUTBREAKS OF DENGUE AND DENGUE HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER IN 12 LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES.

*DPI PROVIDES WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES DURING FIFTIETH SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI TODAY EXPRESSED DEEP SHOCK ON LEARNING THAT A GROUP OF MERCENARIES HAD OVERRUN THE DEMOCRATICALLY-ELECTED GOVERNMENT OF THE COMOROS AND WAS HOLDING PRESIDENT SAID MOHAMED DJOHAR HOSTAGE. STRONGLY CONDEMNING THE USE OF FORCE AS A MEANS OF CHANGING THE GOVERNMENT OF ANY COUNTRY, HE CALLED FOR THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES AND THE RETURN OF THE COMOROS TO DEMOCRATIC WAYS.

* * *

PRIME MINISTER MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD OF MALAYSIA TODAY EXPRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS, BUT SAID THE TENDENCY TO MAKE IT AN INSTRUMENT OF THE RICH AND POWERFUL SHOULD BE CORRECTED. IN AN ADDRESS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, HE SAID THE "NARROW NATIONAL INTEREST OF THE FEW IS STILL WHAT THE UN IS ALL ABOUT." THE VICTORS OF 1945 HAD CLUNG TENACIOUSLY TO THE LEVERS OF POWER. THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THE WORLD BANK AND THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

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(IMF) HAD BECOME MERE INSTRUMENTS OF POWER PERPETUATION, WHILE THE CHARTER WAS "MORE HONoured IN ITS VIOLATIONS THAN ITS ADHERENCE."

THE PRIME MINISTER CRITICIZED THE WAY IN WHICH THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY HAD BEEN PUSHED THROUGH ONLY TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE TESTING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY SOME MAJOR POWERS. HE CALLED FOR AN IMMEDIATE END TO TESTING AND THE TOTAL ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR ARSENALS. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE LESSON LEARNED FROM THE SITUATIONS IN RWANDA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CAMBODIA AND CHECHNYA WAS THAT NO INTERNATIONAL ORDER WOULD BE DEFENDED UNLESS THE MAJOR POWERS SAW THEIR VITAL INTERESTS AT RISK. HE ALSO CRITICIZED THIRD WORLD LEADERS WHO HAD LED THEIR OWN PEOPLE DOWN THE PATH OF DESPAIR AND MISERY FOLLOWING DECOLONIZATION.

* * *

THE UNITED NATIONS MUST ASSUME ITS CHARTER RESPONSIBILITIES TO SUPERVISE AND COORDINATE GLOBAL ECONOMIC POLICIES, INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PRANAB MUKHERJEE TOLD THE ASSEMBLY TODAY. HE SAID DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES, POVERTY ALLEVIATION, DEBT AND RESOURCE TRANSFERS WERE BURNING ISSUES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; IF THE ORGANIZATION IGNORED THEM, IT WOULD NOT SERVE THE NEEDS OF ITS MEMBERSHIP. IN THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO), EFFORTS HAD BEEN MADE TO LINK TRADE TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND LABOUR STANDARDS. MEANWHILE, THE WORLD BANK HAD WARNED AGAINST THE PROLIFERATION OF PROTECTIONIST DEMANDS. IF THERE WAS A GENUINE INTEREST IN PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND LABOUR INTERESTS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WHY WERE THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP) AND THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO) BEING SIDELINED? HE ASKED.

THE FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO HIGHLIGHTED THE PROBLEM OF TERRORISM, TO WHICH DEMOCRACIES, AS OPEN SOCIETIES, WERE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE. CITING THE RECENT MURDER OF A NORWEGIAN TOURIST IN INDIA, HE SAID AN "EMPIRE OF TERROR" WAS BEING BUILT UP WITH ARMS AND MONEY SENT ACROSS BORDERS. THE UNITED NATIONS MUST SPEAK ABOUT TERRORISM IN FORTHRIGHT TERMS. TERRORISM WAS DESTRUCTIVE OF PEACE AND DEMOCRACY BECAUSE TERRORISM WAS WAR BY OTHER MEANS, HE CONCLUDED.

* * *

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF ZAMBIA, CHRISTON TEMBO, TOLD THE ASSEMBLY THAT THE UNITED NATIONS REQUIRED A NEW VISION FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS. AS LONG AS THERE WAS A PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS, THERE COULD NEVER BE GENUINE INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, HE SAID. THE RESUMPTION OF NUCLEAR TESTING BY CERTAIN STATES WAS NOT IN THE SPIRIT OF NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION. FURTHER DISARMAMENT MEASURES WERE NEEDED, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO LAND-MINES.

POVERTY IN MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WAS EXACERBATED BY THE COST OF SERVICING DEBT, WHICH SHOULD BE REDUCED, THE FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUED. FOR THE POOREST COUNTRIES, DEBT-SERVICE RATIOS SHOULD BE REDUCED TO 21 PER CENT OF EXPORT EARNINGS. THE CHALLENGE NOW WAS TO MOVE AWAY FROM CONCERNS OF STABILIZATION AND LIBERALIZATION TO STIMULATION OF PRODUCTION, EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY. HE STRESSED THAT DOMESTIC REFORM EFFORTS COULD ONLY BE SUSTAINED BY GENEROUS DEBT REDUCTION. THE DEBT OVERHANG REMAINED THE SINGLE MOST

IMPORTANT BARRIER TO RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT IN ZAMBIA.

* * *

THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR), SADAOKO OGATA, TODAY WELCOMED THE PROGRESS BEING MADE TOWARDS A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA. HOWEVER, SHE WARNED THAT MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WOULD REMAIN DEPENDENT ON HUMANITARIAN AID THIS WINTER. UNHCR WAS CURRENTLY ASSISTING 3.5 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE REGION, INCLUDING ALMOST 420,000 PEOPLE FORCED FROM THEIR HOMES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND CROATIA SINCE EARLY JULY.

MRS. OGATA URGED THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ENSURE THAT RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES -- INCLUDING THE RIGHT OF REFUGEES TO RETURN HOME -- WERE INCLUDED IN ANY DISCUSSIONS ON AN OVERALL PEACE PLAN. SUCH PROVISIONS WERE CRUCIAL FOR A SUSTAINABLE PEACE AND RECOVERY IN THE REGION, SHE STRESSED.

* * *

THE HEADS OF TWO UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES TODAY URGED LIBYA AND STATES IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE CURRENT CRISIS FACING PALESTINIAN REFUGEES BEING EXPELLED FROM LIBYA OR FORCED TO LIVE IN DESERT CAMPS. IN A JOINT STATEMENT, THE COMMISSIONER-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST (UNRWA), ILTER TURKMEN, AND UNHCR SADAOKO OGATA CALLED ON THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED TO EXERCISE COMPASSION AND RESTRAINT IN HANDLING THE MATTER.

* * *

THE POLICY OF PROSECUTING POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERS WHO ORDERED OR FAILED TO PUNISH WAR CRIMES HAS GIVEN THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA CREDIBILITY, ACCORDING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE TRIBUNAL, ANTONIO CASSESE. HOWEVER, IN A REPORT ISSUED TODAY, HE STATED THAT THE TRIBUNAL STILL FACED THREE PROBLEMS WHICH, IN ADDITION TO ITS FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, COULD GREATLY LIMIT ITS EFFECTIVENESS AND SLOW DOWN THE PACE OF ITS ACTION.

FIRST, THE TRIBUNAL HAD NO ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND RELIED ON THE COOPERATION OF STATES. REGRETTABLY, SOME STATES HAD NOT COOPERATED, INCLUDING THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO), NOR HAD SOME DE FACTO AUTHORITIES SUCH AS THE SELF-STYLED REPUBLICS OF KRAJINA AND SRPSKA. THE SECOND PROBLEM RELATED TO THE LIMITATIONS INHERENT IN AN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JURISDICTION TRYING OFFENSES COMMITTED IN A DISTANT COUNTRY. THE TRIBUNAL DID NOT COMMAND POLICE OFFICERS WHO COULD BE SENT QUICKLY TO THE SCENE OF A CRIME. INSTEAD, IT HAD SOME 80 STAFF TO INVESTIGATE MANY PERPETRATORS WHO HAD A GREAT MANY OFFENSES.

THE THIRD PROBLEM, THE REPORT CONTINUED, WAS THAT THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED IN THE MIDST OF AN ARMED CONFLICT. AT NUREMBERG AND TOKYO, THE WAR HAD ENDED AND MANY CRIMINALS HAD BEEN CAPTURED. BY CONTRAST, THE TRIBUNAL HAD TO DEAL WITH HIGH-RANKING PLANNERS AND PERPETRATORS OF WAR CRIMES WHO COULD TAKE SHELTER FROM PROSECUTION UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF MILITARY OR POLITICAL POWER. RESPONDING TO CRITICISM THAT ONLY SERBS HAD BEEN INDICTED SO FAR, THE REPORT SAID THE TRIBUNAL DID NOT PROSECUTE MEMBERS OF ETHNIC GROUPS, BUT INDIVIDUALS ACCUSED OF GRAVE CRIMES.

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THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS HAS APPOINTED ELISABETH REHN OF FINLAND AS SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA. TADEUSZ MAZOWIECKI OF POLAND RESIGNED AS SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR IN JULY, HAVING SERVED THE COMMISSION SINCE 1992.

MS. REHN IS CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT. SHE SERVED AS FINLAND'S MINISTER FOR DEFENCE FROM 1990 TO 1994, AND AS MINISTER FOR EQUALITY AFFAIRS FROM 1991 TO 1994. DURING HER TERM AS DEFENCE MINISTER, MS. REHN BECAME WELL ACQUAINTED WITH UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING MISSIONS AND THEIR HOST COUNTRIES DURING OFFICIAL VISITS TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE BALKANS.

* * *

SINCE JANUARY, MORE THAN 140,000 CASES OF DENGUE HAVE BEEN REPORTED BY THE AUTHORITIES IN 12 LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES, ACCORDING TO THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO). IN ADDITION, MORE THAN 3,600 CASES OF THE MORE SERIOUS DENGUE HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER (DHF) HAVE BEEN RECORDED, ALONG WITH 38 DEATHS.

THE CURRENT OUTBREAK IS LIKELY TO BECOME THE MOST SERIOUS IN THE AMERICAS SINCE 1981, WHEN CUBA EXPERIENCED THE HEMISPHERE'S FIRST DHF EPIDEMIC, THE WHO WARNED. AT THAT TIME, 116,000 INDIVIDUALS WERE HOSPITALIZED OVER A 3-MONTH PERIOD AND MORE THAN 10,000 CASES OF DHF WERE CONFIRMED, RESULTING IN 158 DEATHS.

DENGUE AND DHF ARE TRANSMITTED BY THE BITE OF THE AEDES AEGYPTI MOSQUITO AND CAN CAUSE ILLNESS RANGING FROM FEVER TO SEVERE AND FATAL HAEMORRHAGES. DENGUE IS ENDEMIC IN 100 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE, PUTTING 2.5 BILLION PEOPLE AT RISK. OF THE 50 MILLION CASES WHICH OCCUR ANNUALLY, 500,000 ARE HOSPITALIZED AND 1 TO 5 PER CENT DIE.

* * *

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION (DPI) IS PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES FOR THE MEDIA DURING THE FIFTIETH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. SPECIAL EVENTS DURING THE SESSION INCLUDE THE VISIT OF POPE JOHN PAUL II ON 5 OCTOBER AND THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE MEETING FROM 22 TO 24 OCTOBER.

THE DPI PRODUCES DAILY PRESS RELEASES IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH ON THE WORK OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY, THE SIX MAIN COMMITTEES, THE GENERAL COMMITTEE AND THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE. THE DAILY HIGHLIGHTS IS PREPARED BY THE CENTRAL NEWS SECTION AND ISSUED AS A PRESS RELEASE, AND CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH THE INTERNET VIA THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD WIDE WEB HOME PAGE. THE ADDRESS IS: [HTTP://WWW.UN.ORG](http://www.un.org).

THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDES DAILY NEWS REPORTS IN ENGLISH, FRENCH AND SPANISH VIA THE UNITED NATIONS NEWS AUDIO INFORMATION SYSTEM, AND COVERAGE OF VARIOUS MEETINGS, BRIEFINGS AND CONFERENCES ON UNITED NATIONS TELEVISION.

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PART 2 OF 2

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING -- 29 SEPTEMBER 1995

A QUESTION AROSE REGARDING THE LETTER BY JOSEPH CONNOR, UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL FOR ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT, PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S WASHINGTON POST, IN REPLY TO A STORY SAYING THE UNITED NATIONS HAD "LOST CONTROL" OVER ITS OWN EMPLOYEES. WHAT THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL WAS SAYING WAS THAT THE ARTICLE COULD HAVE BEEN WRITTEN A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO, AND COULD THEN HAVE CONTAINED SOME TRUTHS, BUT MANY OF THE DEFICIENCIES IN THE SYSTEM HAD BEEN CORRECTED, MR. FAWZI SAID. ONE OF THE STATEMENTS MADE WAS THAT THE UNITED NATIONS DID NOW KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE IT EMPLOYED, AT A CERTAIN TIME, AND THAT STATEMENT WAS COMPLETELY REFUTED BY THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL'S LETTER. THE COMPUTER SYSTEM INSTALLED IS WORKING COMPLETELY EFFECTIVELY.

IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, MR. FAWZI INDICATED THAT THE LIST OF COUNTRIES AND THEIR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS REGULAR AND PEACE-KEEPING BUDGETS WERE PUBLISHED EVERY TWO WEEKS.

THE IDEA OF THE UNITED NATIONS BORROWING FROM THE WORLD BANK COULD BE "SCRATCHED", BUT IN VIEW OF THE MEETINGS WITH THE IMF AND WORLD BANK, COULD THIS NOW BE A POSSIBILITY, OR HAD THE MEETING BEEN ARRANGED FOR SOME TIME? MR. FAWZI CONFIRMED THAT THE MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD BEEN ARRANGED FOR SOME TIME, ADDING THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD BEEN DISCUSSING VARIOUS ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES WITH THOSE INSTITUTIONS OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS. THE SUGGESTION REFERRING TO THE UNITED NATIONS RECEIVING A LOAN FROM THE WORLD BANK WAS "DEAD IN THE WATER", MR. FAWZI SAID.

WHERE DID THE SUGGESTION COME FROM? MR. FAWZI INDICATED THAT HE DID NOW KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION.

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(SRS G) FC CAD

CONTINUING HIS EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY ON THE CROATIAN SIDE OF THE ISSUES, AND HIS EUROPEAN COUNTERPART, CARL BILDT, WHO WAS IN THE BUILDING TODAY, WAS VERY MUCH INVOLVED IN THE CURRENT EFFORTS BEING LED BY THE UNITED STATES.

THE UNITED NATIONS ANNOUNCED IT HAD BORROWED \$100 MILLION FROM THE PEACE-KEEPING BUDGET, AND IF NECESSARY IT WOULD BORROW ANOTHER \$100 MILLION, A CORRESPONDENT SAID. HOW MUCH REMAINED IN THE PEACE-KEEPING BUDGET, AND WHAT ABOUT THE COUNTRIES THAT WERE GETTING UPSET AT THE PROSPECT OF NOT BEING REIMBURSED FOR THEIR TROOP CONTRIBUTIONS? MR. ECKHARD INDICATED THAT THE AMOUNT OF LIQUIDITY IN THE PEACE-KEEPING ACCOUNTS -- EACH MISSION HAD A SEPARATE ACCOUNT -- DID PERMIT A CERTAIN AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS, WHICH ONLY IN VERY DESPERATE CIRCUMSTANCES HAD THE UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATORS "DIPPED INTO", IN ORDER TO MEET ESSENTIAL NEEDS. BUT THERE WERE GREAT SHORTFALLS IN THOSE ACCOUNTS, THE SHOCK OF WHICH WAS ABSORBED BY THE ORGANIZATION NOT REIMBURSING TROOP CONTRIBUTORS. MR. ECKHARD CONFIRMED THAT THERE WERE COUNTRIES THAT WERE NOT BEING REIMBURSED, AND THAT HAD THIS BEEN A CHRONIC CONDITION. IF IT CONTINUED -- OR WORSENER -- IT COULD AFFECT THE CONTRIBUTORS' WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE MISSIONS IN THE FUTURE. BUT THERE WAS ENOUGH LIQUIDITY AT DIFFERENT TIMES FOR EXCEPTIONAL BORROWING, THOUGH IT COULD NOT BE COUNTED ON BEING THERE ALL THE TIME.

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W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*MEMBER STATES, NOT ALLEGED SHORTCOMINGS OF UNITED NATIONS, ARE TO BLAME FOR SETBACKS IN SOMALIA, RWANDA AND BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, GERMANY TELLS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*CHINA SETS OUT GUIDELINES FOR PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS; SAYS REFORM PROCESS MUST STRENGTHEN, NOT WEAKEN, UNITED NATIONS ROLE IN PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT.

*FRANCE SAYS IT IS COMPLETING NUCLEAR TEST PROGRAMME WITH VIEW TO SIGNING TEST-BAN TREATY DEFINITELY; STRESSES ITS SUPPORT FOR DISARMAMENT.

*IRELAND URGES ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT, SAYING VIOLATIONS OF HUMANITARIAN LAW THREATEN GLOBAL PEACE AND SECURITY.

*MEXICO SAYS ITS RECENT CRISIS REVEALED VULNERABILITY OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM; COUNTRIES UNDERGOING STRUCTURAL CHANGE NEED SUPPORT OF IMF AND WORLD BANK.

*FOREIGN MINISTERS FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES AGREE TO PURSUE WORK TO ENHANCE UNITED NATIONS RAPID REACTION CAPACITY, CANADA AND NETHERLANDS ANNOUNCE.

*UNITED NATIONS CONDEMNS BOSNIAN SERB ROCKET ATTACKS AGAINST FOUR TOWNS IN CROATIA, NOTING NEWS OF PROGRESS IN NEW YORK PEACE TALKS.

*DONORS MEETING IN BRUSSELS PLEDGE TOTAL OF \$993 MILLION TO CONSOLIDATE PEACE PROCESS AND ASSIST DEVELOPMENT IN ANGOLA.

*UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR TO UNDERTAKE MISSION TO AFGHANISTAN, LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE FROM 1 TO 18 OCTOBER.

*WFP WARNS FOOD SHORTAGES ARE CAUSING IRREPARABLE DAMAGE TO ENTIRE GENERATION OF IRAQI CHILDREN; DOUBLES TARGET BENEFICIARY POPULATION TO 2.15 MILLION.

*CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO BASEL CONVENTION ADOPTS AMENDMENT BANNING EXPORTS OF HAZARDOUS WASTES FROM DEVELOPED TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

*LEGAL COMMITTEE BEGINS SUBSTANTIVE WORK FOR FIFTIETH SESSION BY TAKING UP UNCITRAL REPORT.

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DISAPPOINTMENTS AND SETBACKS IN SOMALIA, RWANDA AND BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA HAVE BEEN UNFAIRLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE ALLEGED

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INEFFICIENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER KLAUS KINKEL TOLD THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY. HE SAID THEY WERE THE RESULT OF UNSATISFACTORY MANDATES, A LACK OF POLITICAL WILL ON THE PART OF MEMBER STATES, AND A SHORTAGE OF FUNDS. "IT IS US, THE MEMBERS, WHO CAUSE THE DIFFICULTIES," HE STRESSED. GERMANY WAS INTERESTED IN PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AND WOULD ASSUME GREATER RESPONSIBILITY AS AN EXTENSION OF ITS COMMITMENT TO THE ORGANIZATION.

THE UNITED NATIONS COULD NOT TAKE ON EVERY RESPONSIBILITY, AND MUST FOCUS ON WHAT WAS FEASIBLE, MR. KINKEL CONTINUED. THE EXTENT AND DURATION OF ITS COMMITMENTS MUST BE PRECISE; POLITICAL AND MILITARY OBJECTIVES MUST BE CLEARLY DEFINED AND MANDATES MUST BE REALISTIC AND COHERENT. THE ORGANIZATION MUST ACT CONSISTENTLY AND RESOLUTELY, SO AS NOT TO REPEAT WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN RWANDA OR IN ZEPA AND SREBRENICA. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO), MUST BE PLANNED SO AS TO ASSURE SPEED AND EFFICIENCY. REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS MUST PLAY A LARGER ROLE, AS NOT EVERY PROBLEM SHOULD GO STRAIGHT TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

* * *

IN AN ADDRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY TODAY, CHINA'S VICE PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER, QIAN QICHEN, OFFERED A SET OF GUIDELINES FOR UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS. THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER SHOULD BE OBSERVED, IN PARTICULAR THE PRINCIPLE OF RESPECT FOR STATE SOVEREIGNTY AND NONINTERFERENCE IN STATES' INTERNAL AFFAIRS, HE SAID. DISPUTES SHOULD BE SETTLED THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS INSTEAD OF FREQUENT MANDATORY ACTIONS. DOUBLE STANDARDS AND THE IMPOSITION OF THE VIEWS OF ONE OR A FEW COUNTRIES ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD BE AVOIDED. OPERATIONS SHOULD OBTAIN PRIOR CONSENT FROM THE PARTIES CONCERNED, OBSERVE STRICT NEUTRALITY AND NOT USE FORCE EXCEPT IN SELF-DEFENCE. THE ORGANIZATION SHOULD NOT TRY TO EXCEED ITS CAPABILITY AND SHOULD NEVER BECOME A PARTY TO A CONFLICT.

THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD PAY AT LEAST AS MUCH ATTENTION TO DEVELOPMENT AS TO PEACE, HE CONTINUED. IT SHOULD PLAY A MORE DYNAMIC ROLE IN GALVANIZING ECONOMIC GROWTH IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THOSE COUNTRIES WERE FACED WITH FORMIDABLE OBSTACLES TO RAISING THE LIVING STANDARDS OF THEIR PEOPLE. MORE THAN ONE BILLION PEOPLE WERE LIVING IN ABJECT POVERTY, POSING ONE OF THE MOST ACUTE PROBLEMS FOR THE WORLD COMMUNITY. UNITED NATIONS REFORM MUST RESULT IN THE STRENGTHENING, NOT THE WEAKENING, OF THE ORGANIZATION'S ROLE IN THE AREA OF DEVELOPMENT.

* * *

FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER HERVE DE CHARETTE TODAY SAID THAT HIS COUNTRY HAD DECIDED TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAMME OF NUCLEAR TESTS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED IN 1992 SO THAT IT COULD SIGN THE TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR TESTS DEFINITELY. IN AN ADDRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY, HE STRESSED THAT IT WAS A FINAL TEST SERIES, LIMITED TO WHAT WAS STRICTLY NECESSARY AND HELD UNDER CONDITIONS THAT HAD BEEN PROVED TO BE HARMLESS. HE EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR DISARMAMENT, AND CALLED ON ALL STATES TO ADHERE TO THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY WITHOUT DELAY. FOR ITS PART, FRANCE HAD REDUCED ITS NUCLEAR WARHEADS BY 15

PER CENT BETWEEN 1991 AND 1995.

THE FOREIGN MINISTER WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE WORLD NEEDED THE UNITED NATIONS, CITING THE INCREASING NUMBER OF TASKS ENTRUSTED TO IT. HOWEVER, THE ORGANIZATION WAS NOT SHOWN SUFFICIENT RESPECT, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF A LACK OF POLITICAL WILL AND RESOURCES. IN SOMALIA, RWANDA AND THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, PEACE-KEEPERS HAD FOUND THEMSELVES IN SITUATIONS WHICH THE UNITED NATIONS HAD ACCEPTED, BUT WHICH WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY A MEMBER STATE. MEANWHILE, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAD IMPASSIVELY WITNESSED UNACCEPTABLE SUFFERING, ETHNIC CLEANSING AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY. THOSE TRAGIC EVENTS SHOWED THE DANGER OF MIXING HUMANITARIAN AND MILITARY MISSIONS, AND THE RISKS POSED WHEN MISSIONS LACKED CLARITY. THE ORGANIZATION NEEDED TO MAKE ITSELF RESPECTED WHEN IT INTERVENED, HE CONCLUDED.

* * *

THE UNITED NATIONS HAS A REMARKABLE RECORD ON WHICH TO BUILD, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER OF IRELAND, DICK SPRING, TOLD THE ASSEMBLY TODAY. IT HAD ENSHRINED THE UNIVERSAL OBLIGATION OF RESPECT FOR LAW AND GOOD CONDUCT BETWEEN STATES AS THE CENTRE-PIECE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS; IT HAD REDUCED THE DANGER OF GLOBAL CONFRONTATION DURING THE COLD WAR; IT HAD PROVIDED AN INDISPENSABLE FRAMEWORK FOR CRUCIAL ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS; IT HAD FACILITATED DECOLONIZATION AND THE DISMANTLING OF APARTHEID; IT HAD RESTORED STABILITY TO MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD THROUGH ITS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS; IT HAD SET THE BASIC INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS; AND IT HAD SUSTAINED EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE POVERTY AND IMPROVE THE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE WORLD'S MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE.

THERE WAS GROWING ACCEPTANCE THAT VIOLATIONS OF HUMANITARIAN LAW WERE A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, HE CONTINUED. THE CASE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT WAS THEREFORE MORE OBVIOUS THAN EVER. ONLY THROUGH SUCH A BODY COULD THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY EFFECTIVELY DEMONSTRATE THAT MASSIVE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS WOULD NEVER GO UNPUNISHED. IT WAS ALSO NECESSARY TO DEVISE MEASURES TO PROVIDE EARLY WARNING OF POTENTIAL SITUATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.

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THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF MEXICO, ANGEL GURRIA, TODAY TOLD THE ASSEMBLY THAT HIS COUNTRY'S RECENT FINANCIAL CRISIS REVEALED THE VULNERABILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM AS A WHOLE. WHILE THE GLOBALIZATION OF PRODUCTION, TRADE AND FINANCE UNDOUBTEDLY STIMULATED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, IT COULD ALSO LEAD TO SITUATIONS WHICH THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF) AND THE WORLD BANK COULD NOT EFFECTIVELY DEAL WITH. STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN ALL COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE DEVELOPING ONES, CALLED FOR A STABLE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM, THE AVAILABILITY OF TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE BRETTON WOODS INSTITUTIONS, AND THE ABILITY TO DETECT AND PREVENT CRISES.

MEXICO HAD FACED ITS CRISIS HEAD-ON, THE FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUED. WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, IT HAD ESTABLISHED A STRICT ECONOMIC PROGRAMME WITH STRINGENT BUT NECESSARY ADJUSTMENT MEASURES. IT HAD SOUGHT TO MITIGATE

THE COSTS OF THAT PROGRAMME AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, WHILE
CONSTRUCTING A NEW PLATFORM FOR SUSTAINED DEVELOPMENT. AS A
HAND RESULT, REINFLATION AND SE INTEREST RATES WERE DECLINING,
PRODUCTIVITY WAS RISING, AND THE BALANCE OF TRADE WAS NOW
SHOWING A SURPLUS. MEANWHILE, MEXICO WAS CONTINUING TO SEARCH
STORE FOR NEW MARKETS IN ORDER TO DIVERSIFY ITS TRADE.

SEND * * *
MINISTERS FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES HAVE AGREED TO PURSUE WORK
TO ENHANCE THE RAPID REACTION CAPACITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.
SEND THAT DEVELOPMENT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS

No.	OF CANADA AND THE NETHERLANDS, ANDRE MOULLET, AND HANS VAN MIERLO, WHOSE GOVERNMENTS HAD PUT FORWARD PROPOSALS ON THE ISSUE. THEY MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH
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NOTE: THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF AUSTRALIA, DENMARK, JAMAICA, NEW
ZEALAND, NICARAGUA, SENEGAL AND UKRAINE, ALONG WITH UNDER-
SECRETARY-GENERAL KOFI ANNAN AND SEVERAL MILITARY ADVISERS.
MR. MOULLET TOLD CORRESPONDENTS THAT THE IDEA WAS TO REDUCE
DELAYS BETWEEN SECURITY COUNCIL DECISIONS AND DEPLOYMENT IN

THE FIELD. HE SAID THE MINISTERS HAD AGREED TO ASK THEIR
RESPECTIVE UNITED NATIONS AMBASSADORS TO PURSUE WORK ON THE
ISSUE AND TO EXPAND SUPPORT WITH A VIEW TO SUBSTANTIALLY
ENHANCING THE ORGANIZATION'S CAPACITY TO RESPOND QUICKLY TO
CRISIS SITUATIONS. THEY WERE NOT ADVOCATING A UNITED NATIONS
ARMY TO FIGHT WARS, BUT UNITS TO SERVE IN HOT SPOTS AROUND THE
WORLD TO HELP PARTIES MAKE PEACE AND KEEP PEACE. MR. VAN
MIERLO SAID THE NEXT MOVE WOULD BE TO WORK WITH THE
SECRETARIAT ON IDENTIFYING THE STEPS NEEDED TO ADVANCE THE
PROCESS.

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THE UNITED NATIONS TODAY CONFIRMED THAT BOSNIAN SERB FORCES
HAD LAUNCHED CROSS-BORDER ROCKET ATTACKS AGAINST SEVERAL TOWNS
IN CROATIA. ROCKETS LANDED IN THE TOWNS OF KUTINA, NOVSKA,
IVANIC GRAD AND POZEGA, CAUSING EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO PROPERTY,
SEVERAL INJURIES AND POSSIBLY ONE DEATH, THE UNITED NATIONS
CONDEMNED THE ATTACKS IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS,
ESPECIALLY GIVEN THAT THEY HAD COME AMID NEWS OF PROGRESS IN
THE PEACE TALKS IN NEW YORK.

MEANWHILE IN SECTOR SOUTH, THE CROATIAN AUTHORITIES IN KNIN
ANNOUNCED THE ARREST OF 375 PEOPLE IN CONNECTION WITH THE
LOOTING OF HOMES. THAT FIGURE INCLUDED 260 CIVILIANS, 70
POLICE AND 35 SOLDIERS.

* * *

DONORS MEETING IN BRUSSELS HAVE PLEDGED \$993 MILLION TO
CONSOLIDATE THE PEACE PROCESS AND PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT IN
ANGOLA, EXCEEDING A GOAL OF \$700 MILLION, A UNITED NATIONS
SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY. HE NOTED THAT MANY OF THE DONORS
HAD LINKED THEIR PLEDGES TO CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
LUSAKA PROTOCOL, AND POINTED OUT THAT PLEDGES MADE DID NOT
ALWAYS TRANSLATE INTO FUNDS DISBURSED.

THE TWO-DAY MEETING WAS ORGANIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF
ANGOLA, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME (UNDP), AND HOSTED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION. A
SEPARATE CONSULTATION WAS HELD TODAY TO ADDRESS THE ENABLING
POLICY AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT THAT WOULD STIMULATE PRIVATE
SECTOR INVESTMENT IN ANGOLA.

* * *

IN HIS CAPACITY AS UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY RELIEF
COORDINATOR, UNDERSECRETARY-GENERAL PETER HANSEN WILL
UNDERTAKE A MISSION TO AFGHANISTAN, LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE
FROM 1 TO 18 OCTOBER, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANIZATION SAID
TODAY. HE WILL REVIEW THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN
END OF PART 1 OF 2
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FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GA/8928

PLENARY

26 SEPTEMBER 1995

6TH MEETING (AM)

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA WILL NOT ACCEPT 'SHAM' ELECTIONS
DICTATED

BY DESPOTS, FOREIGN MINISTER SACIRBEY TELLS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SAYS NEGOTIATING PROCESS MUST NOT SHIELD WAR CRIMINALS;
BALKANS SITUATION ALSO REVIEWED IN STATEMENTS FROM OTHER
LEADERS

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA WAS UNDER PRESSURE TO AGREE TO
ALLOWING ITS GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT TO BE CHOSEN BY MEANS
OTHER THAN DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS, THAT COUNTRY'S FOREIGN
MINISTER TOLD THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS MORNING, AS IT
CONTINUED ITS GENERAL DEBATE. HE SAID BOSNIA WOULD NOT SETTLE
FOR "SHAM ELECTIONS" THAT DESPOTS WANTED TO DICTATE TO IT IN
ORDER TO UNDERMINE DEMOCRACY AND LEGITIMIZE TOTALITARIANISM.

REAFFIRMING HIS COUNTRY'S COMMITMENT TO THE NEGOTIATING
PROCESS, THE BOSNIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, MUHAMED SACIRBEY, SAID
THAT PROCESS SHOULD NOT SHIELD WAR CRIMINALS FROM JUSTICE. IF
THE OTHER SIDE DID NOT ACCEPT PROPOSALS BEING PUT FORWARD
TODAY, THAT WOULD RAISE THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THEY AIMED TO
PERPETUATE POWER AND DOMINATION OVER THE INNOCENT SERB
POPULATION. BOSNIA, HE STRESSED, WOULD NOT MAKE CONCESSIONS
TO CRIMINALITY AND HATE.

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
ANDREI V. KOZYREV, CALLED ON THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS MEMBER
STATES TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF ECONOMIC REHABILITATION IN
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE FORMER
YUGOSLAVIA. RUSSIA WOULD CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIALLY TO SUCH
EFFORTS AND TO A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, WHICH SHOULD NOT BE
SACRIFICED TO POWER OR UNILATERAL APPROACHES, HE STATED.

SAYING THAT THE UNITED NATIONS FINANCIAL CRISIS WAS CAUSED
BY A LACK OF POLITICAL WILL ON THE PART OF SOME MEMBER STATES,
JAVIER SOLAN, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF SPAIN, SPEAKING
ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, PROPOSED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
INCENTIVES AND DISINCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBER STATES TO
COMPLY WITH THEIR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS. HE ALSO SAID THAT
THE ORGANIZATION'S PRESENT BUDGET FOR THE PROTECTION AND
PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS INADEQUATE.

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF BANGLADESH SAID IT WAS IRONIC THAT AT
A TIME WHEN THE UNITED NATIONS WAS IN GREATER DEMAND THAN EVER
BEFORE, AND ITS CAPACITY STRETCHED TO THE MAXIMUM, A SERIOUS
CAMPAIGN OF VILIFICATION HAD BEEN LAUNCHED AGAINST IT. ITS
GROWING MEMBERSHIP, IN THE WAKE OF DECOLONIZATION, WAS
CONSIDERED

SSG FL CAO

(PAGE 1A FOLLOWS)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY - 1A - PRESS RELEASE GA/8928
6TH MEETING (AM) 26 SEPTEMBER 1995
OBSTRUCTIVE, AND IT WAS ACCUSED OF INDISCRIMINATELY EXERCISING
THE SO-CALLED "TYRANNY OF THE MAJORITY". THAT TARNISHED IMAGE
PROPAGATED BY A FEW, AND REJECTED BY MANY, HAD STILL LEFT DEEP
SCARS THAT HAD DIMINISHED THE UNITED NATIONS.

ALSO TAKING PART IN THE GENERAL DEBATE WERE THE SECRETARY OF
STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED
KINGDOM AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF FINLAND, OF ARMENIA AND
OF PORTUGAL.

THE PLENARY WILL CONTINUE ITS GENERAL DEBATE AT 3 P.M.
TODAY.

(PAGE 2 FOLLOWS)

(MORE)GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY - - PRESS RELEASE
GA/8928
6TH MEETING (AM) 26
SEPTEMBER 1995

ASSEMBLY WORK PROGRAMME

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MET THIS MORNING TO CONTINUE ITS
GENERAL DEBATE. IT WAS TO HEAR STATEMENTS BY THE FOREIGN
MINISTERS OF SPAIN AND OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF FINLAND, OF BOSNIA
AND HERZEGOVINA AND OF ARMENIA. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF
BANGLADESH WAS ALSO TO SPEAK.

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26 SEPTEMBER 1995

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PREPARED BY CENTRAL NEWS

DH/1986

26 SEPTEMBER 1995

T U E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*SECURITY COUNCIL HOLDS MINISTERIAL MEETING TO COMMEMORATE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED NATIONS; REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY.

*SECRETARY-GENERAL SAYS SECURITY COUNCIL HAS BEEN FUNCTIONING MORE FLEXIBLY AND CREATIVELY THAN EVER BEFORE; NOTES INTERACTIVE AND DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH SECRETARIAT.

*UNITED NATIONS CANNOT AFFORD PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, SECRETARY-GENERAL SAYS.

*BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CROATIA AND FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA REACH AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR FREE, FAIR AND DIRECT ELECTIONS IN BOSNIA.

*UNITED NATIONS MUST CONTINUE TO IMPROVE MECHANISMS TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS WHILE MAINTAINING UNIVERSAL STANDARDS, RUSSIAN FEDERATION TELLS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*UNITED KINGDOM WARNS UNITED NATIONS IS ON VERGE OF FINANCIAL COLLAPSE AND NEEDS NEW FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS; SAYS DISENGAGEMENT AND DISORDER COST MORE THAN PEACE-KEEPING.

*JAPAN PROPOSES NEW DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY BASED ON REALISTIC TARGETS, BROAD-BASED PARTICIPATION AND INCREASED SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION.

*INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST ACT URGENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY TO REVITALIZE GROWTH IN LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, SECRETARY-GENERAL TELLS INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING ON LDCS.

*SECRETARY-GENERAL CALLS FOR ELIMINATION OF LAND-MINES ONCE AND FOR ALL; SAYS USE AND PRODUCTION SHOULD BE BANNED AND STOCKPILES DESTROYED.

*DONORS ATTENDING UNDP MEETING IN BRUSSELS PLEDGE \$500 MILLION FOR PEACE PROCESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN ANGOLA.

* * *

THE SECURITY COUNCIL MET TODAY AT THE LEVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS TO COMMEMORATE THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE CHALLENGES WHICH THE COUNCIL FACED. IN A STATEMENT BY ITS PRESIDENT, SUSANNA AGNELLI (ITALY), THE COUNCIL SAID IT HAD PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, ON WHICH DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION AMONG NATIONS WERE BASED.

THE PAST FEW YEARS HAD BEEN ONES OF MOMENTOUS CHANGE,

SRSG FL CAO

BRINGING FRESH HOPE AND NEW CHALLENGES, THE STATEMENT CONTINUED. OPERATIONS MANDATED BY THE COUNCIL HAD HELPED TO RESTORE PEACE AND STABILITY TO COUNTRIES PLAGUED BY WAR. ALTHOUGH SUCH OPERATIONS HAD LARGELY BEEN SUCCESSFUL, THERE WERE AREAS WHERE SUCCESS HAD NOT BEEN ACHIEVED. THE COUNCIL MUST CONTINUE TO SPARE NO EFFORT IN WORKING FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, AND BUILD ON ITS EXPERIENCES OF PAST AND EXISTING OPERATIONS.

THE COUNCIL RECOGNIZED THAT THE CHALLENGES FACING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY DEMANDED A RESOLUTE RESPONSE, BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSES OF THE CHARTER. THE UNITED NATIONS MUST BE STRENGTHENED AND REVITALIZED TO HELP MEET THOSE CHALLENGES. MEMBERS NOTED THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S WORKING GROUP ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AMONG THEM, THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE EXPANDED AND ITS WORKING METHODS REVIEWED, IN A WAY THAT STRENGTHENED ITS CAPACITY AND EFFECTIVENESS, ENHANCED ITS REPRESENTATIVE CHARACTER AND IMPROVED ITS EFFICIENCY AND TRANSPARENCY, AND THAT IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES EXISTED ON KEY ISSUES.

"THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL REAFFIRM THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM OF THE CHARTER," THE STATEMENT CONCLUDED. "ON THE SOLEMN OCCASION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE COUNCIL, ALONG WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS BODIES, COMMEMORATES WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED SO FAR, BUT ALSO COMMITS ITSELF ONCE AGAIN TO THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY FOR WHICH IT HAS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY, AND TO WORKING TO SAVE SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS FROM THE SCOURGE OF WAR."

* * *

THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS BEEN FUNCTIONING MORE FLEXIBLY, CONTINUOUSLY AND CREATIVELY THAN EVER BEFORE, SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI TOLD TODAY'S MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL. ALONG WITH ITS MORE TRADITIONAL RESPONSES IN RESOLVING CONFLICTS, HE SAID, THE COUNCIL HAD TAKEN PIONEERING POSITIONS ON SANCTIONS, PREVENTIVE DEPLOYMENT, INTERNATIONAL WAR CRIMES TRIBUNALS, CONFIDENCE-BUILDING AND DEMOCRATIZATION. THE WORK HAD BEEN OFTEN FRUSTRATING, BUT THE

THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE SHOULD INSPIRE ALL WHO MADE DECISIONS IN AN AGE OF AMBIGUITY AND CHANGE.

THE EVER-INCREASING AND VARIED AGENDA OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAD PLACED NEW DEMANDS ON THE SECRETARIAT, WHICH WAS ITSELF ADAPTING TO NEW REALITIES, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONTINUED. HE STRESSED HIS DETERMINATION TO MAKE THE SECRETARIAT MORE EFFECTIVE IN CARRYING OUT THE TASKS ASSIGNED TO IT BY THE COUNCIL. FOR SEVERAL YEARS, THE COUNCIL HAD SUCCEEDED IN ACHIEVING CONSENSUS ON MOST OF ITS DECISIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SECRETARIAT AND THE COUNCIL HAD BECOME MORE INTERACTIVE AND DYNAMIC. THE TWO MUST CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE THEIR METHODS AND THEIR ACTIONS.

* * *

DURING HIS MEETINGS WITH MINISTERS YESTERDAY AND TODAY, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL EMPHASIZED THE CRITICAL NATURE OF UNITED NATIONS FINANCES, AND "HOW ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL IT IS THAT THE UN GET OUT OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA," ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN. PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN THE REGION WERE

COSTING \$5 MILLION A DAY AND COULD NOT BE SUSTAINED, HE SAID. IN CONTRAST, THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN LIBERIA (UNOMIL) COST \$25 MILLION A YEAR.

MEMBER STATES OWED THE UNITED NATIONS A TOTAL OF \$3.59 BILLION AS OF 15 SEPTEMBER, THE SPOKESMAN REPORTED. ALMOST \$850 MILLION WAS OWED TO THE REGULAR BUDGET AND \$2.74 BILLION WAS FOR PEACE-KEEPING. THE UNITED STATES -- THE LARGEST DEBTOR -- OWED NEARLY \$530 MILLION TO THE REGULAR BUDGET AND \$1.05 BILLION TO PEACE-KEEPING. THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION OWED MORE THAN \$20 MILLION TO THE REGULAR BUDGET AND \$570 MILLION TO PEACE-KEEPING.

* * *

AT A MEETING AT HEADQUARTERS TODAY, REPRESENTATIVES OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CROATIA AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO) REACHED AN AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR FREE, FAIR AND DIRECT ELECTIONS IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA. BOSNIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MUHAMED SACIRBEY TOLD CORRESPONDENTS THAT HE WAS CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT. HE SAID ASSURANCES HAD BEEN GIVEN THAT THE ELECTIONS WOULD NOT BE BASED ON STANDARDS IMPOSED BY DICTATORS AND WAR CRIMINALS.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA WOULD NOT SETTLE FOR SHAM ELECTIONS DICTATED BY DESPOTS TO UNDERMINE DEMOCRACY UNDER THE COVER OF AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE AGREEMENT, MR. SACIRBEY CONTINUED. THE SUCCESS OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS WOULD BE MEASURED BY WHETHER OR NOT WAR CRIMINALS WERE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE AND DICTATORS SWEEPED OUT OF POWER, NOT BY PAPER AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY SUCH DICTATORS AND CRIMINALS. HE ADDED THAT ELECTIONS COULD NOT BE FREE, FAIR OR DEMOCRATIC UNTIL BASIC RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WAS ESTABLISHED AND WAR CRIMINALS WERE TRIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL.

* * *

THE UNITED NATIONS MUST CONTINUE TO IMPROVE MECHANISMS FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, PRIMARILY BY STRENGTHENING ITS CONTROL AND PREVENTIVE FUNCTIONS, ACCORDING TO RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI KOZYREV. IN AN ADDRESS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY, HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF SINGLE STANDARDS IN THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND BASIC DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS. CITING THE DANGERS POSED BY FASCISM, RACISM AND RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM, HE SAID THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST NOT TOLERATE THE EMERGENCE OF DOUBLE STANDARDS. THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD TAKE ACTION DURING THE CURRENT SESSION ON SUCH ISSUES AS THE STRUGGLE AGAINST RACISM, ALL FORMS OF XENOPHOBIA AND AGGRESSIVE NATIONALISM, ENSURING THE RIGHTS OF MINORITIES, AND THE PROMOTION OF DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW IN COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION.

THE POLICY OF SINGLE STANDARDS MUST ALSO APPLY TO THE SPHERE OF PEACEKEEPING, MR. KOZYREV CONTINUED. "JUSTICE WITHOUT FORCE IS POWERLESS WHILE FORCE WITHOUT JUSTICE IS TYRANNICAL," HE SAID. IT WAS NECESSARY TO RADICALLY IMPROVE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING, WITH CLOSE LINKAGE BETWEEN PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS AND EFFORTS TO PEACEFULLY SETTLE CONFLICTS, AND BETTER PLANNING, COMMAND AND CONTROL. THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD BE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW MODEL OF GENERAL AND COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY FOR EUROPE. IT SHOULD ALSO TAKE URGENT MEASURES ON THE PREVENTION OF ILLICIT

TRAFFICKING OF LIGHT FIREARMS AND PROLIFERATION OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES. HE CALLED FOR A UNIVERSAL AND PERMANENT MORATORIUM ON NUCLEAR TESTS, WITH A VIEW TO CONCLUDING A COMPREHENSIVE TEST-BAN TREATY BY 1996.

* * *

THE UNITED NATIONS IS ON THE VERGE OF FINANCIAL COLLAPSE, AND ITS FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE CHANGED, UNITED KINGDOM FOREIGN SECRETARY MALCOM RIFKIND TOLD THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY. NOTING THAT 39 MEMBER STATES HAD MADE NO PAYMENTS TO THE ORGANIZATION LAST YEAR, HE SAID PENALTIES SHOULD BE TIGHTENED FOR NON-PAYMENT AND INTEREST CHARGED ON LATE PAYMENTS. "PERHAPS AN APPROPRIATE POLICY COULD BEST BE ENTITLED NO REPRESENTATION WITHOUT TAXATION," HE STATED. AT THE SAME TIME, SOME MEMBERS PAID TOO MUCH. THE SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS SHOULD BE SIMPLIFIED, AND SHOULD REFLECT A COUNTRY'S REAL CAPACITY TO PAY.

THE WORLD NEEDED A STRONG, EFFECTIVE UNITED NATIONS AND THE COST WAS NOT HIGH, HE CONTINUED. MULTILATERAL ACTION WAS NOT AN ADD-ON TO NATIONAL POLICY; IT GAVE WIDER LEGITIMACY TO SUCH VALUED PRINCIPLES AS HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY. THE BILL FOR ALL UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING, AID AND DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS IN 1994 EQUALED 3.5 PER CENT OF THE UNITED STATES DEFENSE BUDGET. ONE DAY OF OPERATION DESERT STORM COST AS MUCH AS THE YEAR'S PEACE-KEEPING. "THE PRICE OF DISENGAGEMENT AND DISORDER WOULD BE GREATER," HE CONCLUDED. "PUBLIC SUPPORT IS THERE. EVEN IN THE UNITED STATES, POLLS ARE CLEAR: PEOPLE SUPPORT THE UN; THEY SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL PEACE-KEEPING. WE HAVE A DUTY TO OUR ELECTORATES TO CONTINUE THE UN'S WORK."

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IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF JAPAN, YOHEI KONO, STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPMENT, CONFLICT PREVENTION AND DISARMAMENT. HE PROPOSED A NEW DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY WITH THREE MAJOR GUIDELINES: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REALISTIC TARGETS; THE PROMOTION OF PARTICIPATORY DEVELOPMENT, INVOLVING CENTRAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS; AND THE PROMOTION OF "SOUTH-SOUTH" COOPERATION, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EFFECTIVE MECHANISM FOR THAT PURPOSE WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP).

MR. KONO DEPLORED RECENT NUCLEAR TESTS AND SAID DISARMAMENT EFFORTS MUST BE REDOUBLED. JAPAN INTENDED TO SPONSOR A DRAFT RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE CESSATION OF NUCLEAR TESTING DURING THE ASSEMBLY'S CURRENT SESSION, AS WELL AS A DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PANEL OF EXPERTS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF THE PROLIFERATION OF SMALL ARMS. HE REITERATED JAPAN'S READINESS TO DISCHARGE ITS RESPONSIBILITIES AS A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AND URGED ALL MEMBER STATES TO REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON A BROAD FRAMEWORK FOR UNITED NATIONS REFORM BY SEPTEMBER 1996.

* * *

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST ACT URGENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY TO HALT SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DECLINE AND REVITALIZE GROWTH IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCS), ACCORDING TO SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI. IN A STATEMENT TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING ON THE MID-TERM GLOBAL REVIEW OF

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR LDCS FOR THE
1990S, HE SAID A LACK OF EXTERNAL SUPPORT WAS A KEY REASON WHY
THE HOPES OF THE 1990 PARIS DECLARATION HAD NOT MATERIALIZED.

MR. BOUTROS-GHALI SET OUT FIVE BROAD OBJECTIVES FOR
INTERNATIONAL ACTION: THE DEBT BURDEN MUST BE LIFTED; THERE
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(MORE)

FOR INFORMATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT ONLY

25 SEPTEMBER 1995

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN FOR SECRETARY-GENERAL

JOE SILLS, SPOKESMAN FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, TOLD CORRESPONDENTS AT THE NOON BRIEFING THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD A SERIES OF APPOINTMENTS TODAY WITH VISITING FOREIGN MINISTERS, THE FIRST ONE OF WHICH WAS WITH THE BRAZILIAN MINISTER, LUIZ FELIPE LAMPREIA. FOLLOWING THIS, THE SECRETARYGENERAL ATTENDED THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND AT 11:30 A.M. HE HAD A MEETING WITH THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE, WARREN CHRISTOPHER. AT APPROXIMATELY 12:45 P.M. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WAS DUE TO MEET THE PRESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR, ARMANDO CALDERON SOL. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SCHEDULE ALSO INCLUDED A LUNCHEON IN HONOUR OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ATTENDING THE FIFTIETH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

IN THE AFTERNOON, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD A SERIES OF CONSECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, ANDREI V. KOZYREV; OF INDONESIA, ALI ALATAS; OF DENMARK, NIELS HELVEG PETERSEN; OF FRANCE, HERVE DE CHARETTE; OF ITALY, SUSANNA AGNELLI; AND OF JAPAN, YOHEI KONO. THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT HIS STAFF WOULD MAKE AN EFFORT TO HAVE A BRIEF READ-OUT AVAILABLE FOR INTERESTED PRESS ABOUT HALF AN HOUR AFTER EACH MEETING.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO REFERRED TO AN EMBARGOED VIDEO MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE BANNING OF LAND MINES, THAT WOULD BE SHOWN AT THE REVIEW CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, WHICH BEGINS TOMORROW IN VIENNA. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CALLS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF LAND MINES: A BAN ON BOTH THEIR USE AND PRODUCTION AND THE DESTRUCTION OF ALL EXISTING STOCKPILES. THE SPOKESMAN UNDERLINED THE STARK NUMBERS INVOLVED, STATING THAT EVERY YEAR IN THE WORLD SOME 100,000 LAND MINES WERE CLEARED, BUT IN THE SAME PERIOD OF TIME, BETWEEN 2 AND 5 MILLION MORE MINES WERE LAID. IT WAS A LOSING BATTLE, HE SAID, UNLESS DRAMATIC CHANGES WERE MADE. HE ADDED THAT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONFERENCE COULD BE OBTAINED FROM A DPI PRESS RELEASE (DC/2523).

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO CALLED THE CORRESPONDENTS' ATTENTION TO A REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON MACROECONOMIC POLICY

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QUESTIONS: EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT (DOCUMENT A/50/379). THE REPORT WAS PRODUCED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE FORTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IN IT, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IDENTIFIES THE WEAKER AREAS WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL DEBT STRATEGY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MIGHT WISH TO ADDRESS. THE REPORT CONCLUDED THAT SOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SOME SPECIFIC CLASSES OF DEBT HAD BEEN ACCORDED SIGNIFICANT RELIEF, BUT THAT THE INTERNATIONAL DEBT STRATEGY HAD NOT COMPREHENSIVELY ADDRESSED THE FULL SIZE OF THE DEBT, LEAVING A VULNERABILITY FOR COUNTRIES WHOSE DEBT SERVICE OBLIGATIONS STILL EXCEEDED THEIR CAPACITY TO DAILY PRESS BRIEFING - - 25 SEPTEMBER 1995
PAY. THE REPORT INCLUDED STATISTICS ILLUSTRATING THE MAGNITUDE OF THE DEBT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO REFERRED CORRESPONDENTS TO A PRESS RELEASE (TAD/1798) ON A MEETING OPENING TOMORROW AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS DEALING WITH THE LEAST DEVELOPED NATIONS WHICH WOULD BE ATTENDED BY MINISTERS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THIS MEETING, A MIDTERM REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 10-YEAR PROGRAMME OF ACTION ADOPTED AT THE 1990 CONFERENCE ON LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, WILL CONTINUE UNTIL 6 OCTOBER.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO REPEATED HIS REFERENCE LAST FRIDAY TO THE UNDP PRESS RELEASE REFERRING TO THE ROUND TABLE MEETING OF DONORS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF ANGOLA, WHICH STARTED TODAY AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL TOMORROW IN BRUSSELS. THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT THERE WAS A MEETING YESTERDAY BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT OF ANGOLA, JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS, AND THE LEADER OF THE UNITA PARTY, JONAS SAVIMBI, THEIR THIRD FACE-TO-FACE MEETING; THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT ACCORDING TO REPORTS, THE ENCOUNTER WENT QUITE WELL.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL DID NOT HAVE ANYTHING SCHEDULED TODAY. THE MEETING AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL WAS PLANNED FOR 11:45 A.M. TO COMMEMORATE THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT A DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT HAD BEEN AGREED UPON.

THIS AFTERNOON, A WORLD CHRONICLE PROGRAMME AT 2:30 P.M. ON IN-HOUSE TELEVISION CHANNELS 6 AND 23 WOULD PRESENT AN INTERVIEW WITH THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION, SAMIR SANBAR.

THERE WAS A PRESS CONFERENCE AT 5 P.M. TODAY BY THE PRESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR, ARMANDO CALDERON SOL.

FRED ECKHARD, SPEAKING ON PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS, TOLD CORRESPONDENTS THAT THE SITUATION IN SARAJEVO CONTINUED TO BE CALM AND STABLE. NEARLY 2,000 PEOPLE FROM BOTH THE BOSNIAN AND BOSNIAN SERB SIDES CROSSED THE AIRPORT YESTERDAY ON NEWLY-OPENED ROADS LINKING DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY. HUMANITARIAN AS WELL AS RESUPPLY CONVOYS WERE ENJOYING UNIMPEDED ACCESS TO THE CITY; 13 AIRCRAFT LANDED SAFELY YESTERDAY AND 19 FLIGHTS WERE EXPECTED FOR TODAY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID. ELSEWHERE IN BOSNIA, GORAZDE AND BIHAC WERE BOTH QUIET. THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT'S FIFTH CORPS HAD PERMITTED LIMITED PATROLLING BY THE UNITED NATIONS MILITARY OBSERVERS, WHO CONFIRMED THAT THE FIFTH CORPS CONTROLLED SIGNIFICANT TERRITORY SOUTH AND

SOUTHEAST OF THE BIHAC POCKET, WHICH -- SAID MR. ECKHARD -- MIGHT NOW BE BETTER DESCRIBED AS A "SLEEVE", INCLUDING KLJUC, BOSANSKA KRUPA, BOSANSKI PETROVAC AND KULEN VAKUF.

HE SAID UNITED NATIONS OBSERVERS VISITED A MASS GRAVE SITE NEAR KLJUC, FIRST REPORTED BY BOSNIAN AUTHORITIES OVER THE WEEKEND. LOCAL OFFICIALS WERE TO BEGIN DIGGING AT THE SITE IN THE PRESENCE OF UNITED NATIONS OBSERVERS.

MR. ECKHARD ADDED THAT OTHER REPORTED GRAVE SITES IN THE AREA WOULD ALSO BE VISITED.

THE CONFRONTATION LINE IN NORTHWESTERN BOSNIA REMAINED STABLE, HE REPORTED, DESPITE REPORTS OF SOME LIMITED COUNTER-ATTACKS BY BOSNIAN SERB FORCES.

UNITED NATIONS TROOPS FROM CANADA, DENMARK AND JORDAN WERE IN THE PROCESS OF PULLING OUT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFIDENCE RESTORATION OPERATION IN CROATIA (UNCRO) AREA, WHICH REMAINS CALM AND STABLE. MORE THAN 4,500 UNCRO SOLDIERS HAD NOW LEFT DURING THIS PHASE, HE SAID.

ON RWANDA, AS A FOLLOW-UP TO HER VISIT TO THE REGION, SADAKO OGATA, THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, WAS HOLDING MEETINGS TODAY IN GENEVA WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND VICE-PRIME MINISTER OF ZAIRE AND WITH THE MINISTER OF REHABILITATION OF RWANDA. IT WAS THE FIRST SUCH MEETING SINCE A TRIPARTITE COMMISSION FOR THIS PURPOSE WAS SET UP LAST OCTOBER, HE SAID. TODAY'S MEETING WOULD FOCUS ON THE DETAILS OF A PLAN FOR THE ACCELERATED RETURN OF RWANDAN REFUGEES IN ZAIRE (SEE PRESS RELEASE REF/1120).

LEONA FORMAN, SPOKESWOMAN FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, RECALLED THAT LAST WEEK SHE HAD TOLD CORRESPONDENTS ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING FRIDAY WITH THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUPS ON FINANCE AND THE STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, RESPECTIVELY. DURING THE MEETINGS, WAYS OF STARTING THEIR WORK DURING THE CURRENT SESSION SO AS NOT WAIT UNTIL JANUARY, WERE DISCUSSED, INCLUDING CONTACT WITH DELEGATIONS AND OTHER PREPARATORY WORK.

YESTERDAY, THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PARTICIPATED IN THE INTER-FAITH CELEBRATION IN HONOUR OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AT THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOHN THE DIVINE IN NEW YORK CITY. HE INVOKED THE NEED TO INVOLVE YOUNG PEOPLE IN POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE UNITED NATIONS. HE SAID THAT YOUNG PEOPLE WERE BOTH MAJOR HUMAN RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT AND KEY AGENTS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE. THE PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED THAT ON OCTOBER 26 AND 27, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WOULD DEVOTE UP TO FOUR PLENARY MEETINGS TO MARK THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR, AND CONSIDER, WITH A VIEW OF ADOPTING, THE WORLD PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR YOUTH TOWARDS THE YEAR 2000 AND BEYOND.

THE PRESIDENT WAS PRESIDING TODAY OVER THE FOURTH PLENARY MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE OPENING OF THE GENERAL DEBATE (SEE PRESS RELEASE GA/8926).

THE PRESIDENT RECEIVED TODAY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF BRAZIL, LUIZ FELIPE LAMPREIA, AND OF TUNISIA, HABIB BEN YAHIA; THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES, WARREN CHRISTOPHER; AND THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTERS OF PARAGUAY, LUIS MARIA RAMIREZ BOETTNER; OF IRAN, ALI AKBAR VELAYATI, AND OF SPAIN, JAVIER SOLANA MADARIAGA. THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HOSTED THE LUNCHEON FOR VISITING HEADS OF

STATE AND GOVERNMENT.

THIS AFTERNOON, PROFESSOR FREITAS DO AMARAL WOULD PRESIDE OVER THE FIFTH PLENARY MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH WOULD BEGIN WITH A STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR, ARMANDO CALDERON SOL. THERE WOULD ALSO BE STATEMENTS BY BELARUS, NORWAY, ANGOLA, ICELAND, NICARAGUA, BELIZE, IRAN AND ESTONIA.

THE PRESIDENT WOULD ALSO RECEIVE THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTERS OF FRANCE, HERVE DE CHARETTE; OF HUNGARY, LASZLO KOVACS; OF JAPAN, YOHEI KONO; AND OF ITALY, SUSANNA AGNELLI, WHO WAS THE FIRST WOMAN OF THE GROUP OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, WHO WAS DUE TO ADDRESS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THURSDAY.

WILL THE CONTACT GROUP FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETING BE HELD TOMORROW IN THE ABSENCE OF THE BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA MINISTER, ASKED A CORRESPONDENT. THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT SUCH A QUESTION SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE UNITED STATES MISSION, SINCE IT WAS NOT A UNITED NATIONS MEETING. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE DIFFICULTY HAD BEEN SORTED OUT AND THAT THE MINISTER WOULD ATTEND THE MEETING.

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, MR. SILLS SAID THAT THERE WAS NO MEETING WITH ALIJA IZETBEGOVIC, THE PRESIDENT OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, ON THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SCHEDULE TODAY.

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, LEONA FORMAN SAID THAT TOMORROW THE SPEAKER FOR THE BOSNIAN DELEGATION WOULD BE THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MUHAMED SACIRBEY.

THE UNITED STATES SENATE HAD VOTED THURSDAY TO CUT OFF FOREIGN AID TO HAITI, DUE TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD OF THAT COUNTRY. WHAT WAS THE UNITED NATIONS POSITION? THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT COMMENT ON A DECISION BY THE PARLIAMENT, OR CONGRESS, OF A MEMBER STATE ON SUCH A MATTER. THE SPOKESMAN NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT A VOTE IN THE SENATE IS A LONG WAY FROM BECOMING A LAW. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN HAITI (UNMIH) HAD MADE GREAT PROGRESS IN THAT COUNTRY. THERE HAVE CERTAINLY BEEN SOME PROBLEMS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA, MR. SILLS SAID, BUT ONE SHOULD RECALL THE TIMES WHEN THE UNMIH WAS FIRST SET UP (IN 1993) AND ALL THE PREDICTIONS OF DOOM THAT WERE THEN MADE. THINGS HAVE GONE FAR BETTER THAN MANY EXPECTED, HE SAID. HE NOTED THAT THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR HAITI, LAKHDAR BRAHIMI, WILL BE IN THE CITY EARLY NEXT WEEK AND WILL MEET WITH THE PRESS AT THAT TIME.

CANADA WAS PRESENTING ITS RAPID REACTION RESPONSE REPORT TOMORROW, AND COULD THE SPOKESMAN SAY HOW ITS RESULTS WOULD BE INTEGRATED TO THE WORK OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DURING THE CURRENT SESSION? THE SPOKESWOMAN SAID SHE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER.

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25 SEPTEMBER 1995

M O N D A Y H I G H L I T E S

*UNITED NATIONS MUST DIRECT ITS LIMITED RESOURCES TO WORLD'S HIGHEST PRIORITIES, FOCUSING ON TASKS IT PERFORMS BEST, UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE TELLS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*FOREIGN MINISTER OF TOGO SAYS AFRICA NEEDS MORE ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN GLOBAL ECONOMY, INCLUDING FAIRER COMMODITY PRICES, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS AND DEBT REDUCTION.

*NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CALLS ON GOVERNMENTS TO EMPOWER UNITED NATIONS TO PURSUE ITS GOALS WITH RENEWED VIGOUR; STRESSES NEED TO NARROW GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR.

*SECRETARY-GENERAL EXPRESSES STRONG SUPPORT FOR UNITED STATES PEACE INITIATIVE IN FORMER YUGOSLAVIA; SAYS SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME WILL ENABLE UNITED NATIONS TO REDUCE TROOP LEVELS IN REGION.

*SECRETARY-GENERAL CALLS ON ABKHAZ LEADERSHIP TO RETURN TO NEGOTIATING TABLE WITH SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO ADVANCE PEACE PROCESS.

*UNHCR URGES CROATIA TO RECONSIDER DIRECTIVE REVOKING REFUGEE STATUS OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF BOSNIANS; SAYS FORCED REPATRIATION WOULD VIOLATE GENEVA CONVENTION ON REFUGEES.

*DPI AND MEDIA HAVE JOINT OBJECTIVE OF MAKING WORLD MORE AWARE OF UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION SAYS.

*WHO SAYS INCOMPLETE AND HARMFUL TUBERCULOSIS TREATMENT PRACTICES THREATEN LIVES OF HIV-POSITIVE PEOPLE.

*IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE ELECTS ELEVEN MEMBER STATES TO AGENCY'S BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

*UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY TO HOLD PUBLIC SEMINAR ON LIKELY CONSEQUENCES OF POWERFUL EARTHQUAKE IN TOKYO AREA.

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THE AGENDA OF THE UNITED NATIONS MUST BE SHAPED AS IF THE ORGANIZATION WERE BEING CREATED ANEW, ACCORDING TO UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE WARREN CHRISTOPHER. ADDRESSING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS IT BEGAN ITS GENERAL DEBATE TODAY, HE SAID THE UNITED NATIONS MUST DIRECT ITS LIMITED RESOURCES TO THE WORLD'S HIGHEST PRIORITIES, FOCUSING ON THE TASKS IT PERFORMED BEST. ITS BUREAUCRACY SHOULD BE SMALLER, WITH A CLEAR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND SHARP LINES OF RESPONSIBILITY. EACH PROGRAMME MUST BE HELD TO A SIMPLE STANDARD -- IT MUST

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MAKE A TANGIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE FREEDOM, SECURITY AND WELL-BEING OF REAL PEOPLE IN THE REAL WORLD.

IT WAS NECESSARY TO END UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMMES THAT HAD ACHIEVED THEIR PURPOSE, AND CONSOLIDATE THOSE THAT OVERLAPPED, ESPECIALLY IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AGENCIES, MR. CHRISTOPHER CONTINUED. THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD BE STREAMLINED TO MAKE IT MORE EFFICIENT, ACCOUNTABLE AND EFFICIENT. PROPOSALS FOR NEW AND EXTENDED PEACE-KEEPING MISSIONS SHOULD BE RIGOROUSLY SCRUTINIZED, AND THE ORGANIZATION'S ABILITY TO RESPOND RAPIDLY WHEN NEW MISSIONS WERE APPROVED SHOULD BE IMPROVED. FINALLY, THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL MUST BE MAINTAINED. GERMANY AND JAPAN SHOULD BECOME PERMANENT MEMBERS, WHILE ALL OF THE WORLD'S REGIONS SHOULD BE FAIRLY REPRESENTED.

THERE WAS NO AREA WHERE THE UNITED NATIONS COULD MAKE A MORE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION THAN IN NON-PROLIFERATION, THE SECRETARY OF STATE WENT ON TO SAY. HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY, AND FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON A FISSIONABLE MATERIAL CUT-OFF TREATY. MEANWHILE, THE UNITED STATES AND THE COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION SHOULD SHARPLY REDUCE THEIR STRATEGIC NUCLEAR ARSENALS. THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD ALSO PROMOTE RESPONSIBILITY AND RESTRAINT IN THE TRANSFER OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, WITH A VIEW TO ENDING THE EXPORT OF LAND-MINES.

THE UNITED STATES HAD MADE A COMMITMENT TO THE CHARTER FIFTY YEARS AGO AND WAS DETERMINED TO KEEP IT, INCLUDING ITS FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS, MR. CHRISTOPHER SAID. JUST AS THE FOUNDERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS HAD DEVISED A NEW FRAMEWORK TO DETER AGGRESSION AND ARMED CONFLICT, THE ORGANIZATION MUST NOW ASSIGN THE SAME PRIORITY TO COMBATING PROLIFERATION, TERRORISM, INTERNATIONAL CRIME, NARCOTICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION. "WE SHOULD DEDICATE OUR EFFORTS IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND ELSEWHERE TO TURNING OUR GLOBAL CONSENSUS AGAINST THESE THREATS INTO CONCRETE ACTION," HE CONCLUDED. "WE MUST RENEW AND REFORM THE UNITED NATIONS NOT FOR ITS SAKE, BUT FOR OUR OWN."

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IN AN ADDRESS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, FOREIGN MINISTER YANDJA YENTCHABRE OF TOGO TODAY CALLED FOR GREATER ATTENTION TO BE PAID TO PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY, DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT. HE WELCOMED THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS PEACE IN LIBERIA AND ANGOLA, BUT EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER CONTINUED FIGHTING IN SIERRA LEONE. SAYING AFRICA NEEDED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY, HE CALLED FOR FAIRER PRICES FOR COMMODITIES, MORE TRANSFERS OF TECHNOLOGY, AND A REDUCTION IN THE CONTINENT'S DEBT BURDEN, WHICH NOW STOOD AT \$313 BILLION.

THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA REQUIRED THE MOBILIZATION OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES THROUGH OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND PRIVATE INVESTMENT. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD ALSO DO MORE TO COMBAT POVERTY. HE NOTED THAT THE NUMBER OF POOR PEOPLE IN AFRICA HAD RISEN FROM 105 MILLION IN 1985 TO 216 MILLION IN 1990. UNLESS MEASURES WERE TAKEN, IT COULD REACH 304 MILLION BY THE YEAR 2000.

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THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF NORWAY, BJORN TORE GODAL, TODAY CALLED ON GOVERNMENTS TO EMPOWER THE UNITED NATIONS TO WORK WITH RENEWED VIGOUR IN PROMOTING PEACE, HUMAN RIGHTS, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING. IN AN ADDRESS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, HE ALSO VOICED SUPPORT FOR UNITED NATIONS REFORM, RESTRUCTURING AND MODERNIZATION, INCLUDING THE EXPANSION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. CITING THE ORGANIZATION'S FINANCIAL CRISIS, HE SAID THE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM SHOULD BE REFORMED WITHOUT DELAY.

TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF PEACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, FOREIGN MINISTER GODAL PROPOSED FIVE PARALLEL PATHS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS MEMBER STATES: AN INCREASE IN LOCAL AND REGIONAL CAPACITY TO HANDLE CONFLICT SITUATIONS; AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF STATES CONTRIBUTING TO PEACE-KEEPING FORCES; AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE ORGANIZATION'S RAPID REACTION AND STAND-BY CAPABILITY; GREATER EMPHASIS ON CONFLICT-PREVENTION MEASURES; AND DECISIVE ACTION IN PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ERADICATING POVERTY. "AS LONG AS THE GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR, WHETHER BETWEEN STATES OR WITHIN STATES, CONTINUES TO WIDEN, WE CANNOT CLAIM TO BE ON THE RIGHT TRACK," HE SAID.

* * *

SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI HAS EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED STATES PEACE INITIATIVE IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA. MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE RICHARD HOLBROOKE ON FRIDAY EVENING, HE SAID HE HOPED THAT A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME TO THE PEACE TALKS RESUMING TOMORROW WOULD ENABLE THE UNITED NATIONS TO REDUCE ITS TROOP LEVELS IN THE REGION. HE NOTED THAT THE ORGANIZATION WAS OWED \$3.4 BILLION, AND THAT PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS THERE WERE COSTING \$5 MILLION A DAY.

MR. HOLBROOKE BRIEFED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AND OUTLINED THEIR POSSIBLE FUTURE COURSES. HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED MEASURES TO EASE THE SIEGE OF SARAJEVO.

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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS CALLED ON THE ABKHAZ LEADERSHIP TO RETURN TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE WITH SPECIFIC PROPOSALS THAT WILL ENABLE THE PEACE PROCESS TO MOVE FORWARD AND PERMIT THE EARLY RETURN OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS TO THEIR HOMES. HE MADE THAT CALL ON FRIDAY, FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF GEORGIA, ALEXANDER CHIKVAIDZE. THE FOREIGN MINISTER BRIEFED HIM ON EFFORTS TO FIND A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT IN ABKHAZIA.

NOTING WITH CONCERN THE RECENT RISE IN TENSION IN THE GALI REGION AND THE CALLS FROM SOME QUARTERS TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION BY A RETURN TO MILITARY ACTION, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL URGED THE CONTINUATION OF MAXIMUM RESTRAINT.

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UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) SADAOK OGATA TODAY URGED THE CROATIAN GOVERNMENT TO RECONSIDER A DIRECTIVE REVOKING THE REFUGEE STATUS OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF BOSNIANS IN CROATIA. THE DIRECTIVE STATED THAT THE REFUGEES WOULD BE RETURNED TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA IN COOPERATION WITH THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT AND BOSNIAN CROAT AUTHORITIES.

MRS. OGATA SAID THE ILL-TIMED DIRECTIVE COULD MEAN THE

FORCED RETURN OF REFUGEES TO AN AREA THAT WAS NEITHER SAFE NOR PREPARED TO RECEIVE THEM. SUCH AN ACTION WOULD VIOLATE THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF NON-REFOULEMENT CONTAINED IN THE 1951 GENEVA CONVENTION ON THE STATUS OF REFUGEES, TO WHICH CROATIA WAS A SIGNATORY. ANY LARGE-SCALE REPATRIATION MUST BE DEALT WITH IN THE CONTEXT OF THE OVERALL PEACE PROCESS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, SHE STRESSED.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION (DPI) AND THE MEDIA HAVE THE JOINT OBJECTIVE OF MAKING THE WORLD MORE AWARE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, ACCORDING TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL SAMIR SANBAR. SPEAKING ON UNITED NATIONS TELEVISION'S WORLD CHRONICLE TODAY, HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT SOMETIMES HAD DIFFICULTY EXPLAINING THE ORGANIZATION'S POSITION WITHOUT OFFENDING ANY OF THE 185 MEMBER STATES. IT THUS REGARDED THE MEDIA AS AN ALLY WHICH COULD DISSEMINATE IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO A WIDE AUDIENCE.

MR. SANBAR SAID THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN THE UNITED STATES AND ELSEWHERE WAS GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN PRINCIPLE, ALTHOUGH CRITICAL OF SOME ACTIVITIES IN PRACTICE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAD TO RESPOND TO INCREASED DEMANDS AT A TIME OF DECREASED RESOURCES. THOSE DEMANDS WERE ALSO BECOMING MORE COMPLEX -- PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS NOW HAD MAJOR HUMANITARIAN AND POLITICAL COMPONENTS AND MEANT DEALING WITH WARLORDS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS.

THE UNITED NATIONS DID NOT JUST LOOK TO MEMBER STATES FOR FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL RESOURCES, MR. SANBAR CONTINUED. IT ALSO NEEDED SUSTAINED POLITICAL WILL TO CARRY OPERATIONS THROUGH TO THE END. HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR A CULTURE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION, SAYING THE DPI AND THE MEDIA WERE "TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN."

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INCOMPLETE AND HARMFUL TUBERCULOSIS TREATMENT PRACTICES ROB YEARS OF LIFE FROM ALMOST A THIRD OF ALL HIV-POSITIVE PEOPLE, ACCORDING TO THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO). IT SAID THAT THE MOST COMMON ERROR IN TREATING TB PATIENTS WAS FAILING TO ENSURE THAT THEY TOOK THEIR MEDICINE EVERY DAY. OTHER ERRORS INCLUDED FAILING TO DIAGNOSE TB IN HIV-POSITIVE PEOPLE, AND PRESCRIBING THE ANTITB DRUG THIAETAZONE, WHICH COULD BE FATAL TO THEM.

WHO ESTIMATED THAT 266,000 HIV-POSITIVE PEOPLE WOULD DIE FROM POTENTIALLY TREATABLE TB THIS YEAR. IT SAID PATIENTS COULD PROBABLY GAIN MORE THAN TWO YEARS OF HEALTHY LIFE WITH AN IMPROVED TB TREATMENT STRATEGY KNOWN AS DIRECTLY OBSERVED TREATMENT, SHORT-COURSE (DOTS). UNDER THE DOTS REGIMEN, HEALTH WORKERS OR VOLUNTEERS ENSURE THAT PATIENTS TAKE A COMBINATION OF ANTI-TB MEDICINES FOR A SIX-MONTH PERIOD.

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THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY ASSOCIATION (IAEA) HAS ELECTED ELEVEN MEMBER STATES TO THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS. THE ELEVEN ARE: BULGARIA, CHILE, DENMARK, EGYPT, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, KUWAIT, THE NETHERLANDS, NICARAGUA, NIGERIA, ROMANIA AND SAUDI ARABIA.

THE OTHER 24 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS ARE: ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, BRAZIL, CANADA, CHINA, FRANCE, GERMANY, GHANA, INDIA, JAPAN, MEXICO, MOROCCO,

PAKISTAN, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC, SOUTH
AFRICA, SPAIN, THAILAND, TURKEY, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE
UNITED STATES AND URUGUAY.

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Fiftieth General Assembly GA/8927
Plenary 25 September 1995

5th Meeting (PM)

EL SALVADOR PRESIDENT ADDRESSES GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY

Hears Members Views on Peace-keeping, United Nations
Finances, Sustainable Development; Problems of Small States

With logistical problems delaying the full implementation of the El Salvador peace accords, the United Nations should extend its mission there, that country's President said this afternoon in his address to the General Assembly plenary.

President Armando Calderon Sol also called upon the industrialized nations to help the Central American countries in general with their ambitious plans to move from confrontation to peace, democracy and sustainable development.

Central America was passing from a model of military security to a model of democratic security, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, Ernesto Leal, said. He added that a treaty of democratic security developed by Nicaragua was being discussed by the Central American countries.

The Minister of External Relations of Angola, Venancio de Moura, said there had been positive advances in the peace process in his country, but concern arose over excessive delays, notably regarding the quartering and demobilization of troops of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), which had delayed the formation of a single national army. Delays had the potential to create dangerous focal points of tension.

The Foreign Minister of Norway, Bjorn Tore Godal, stressed the need to empower the United Nations, which was now technically bankrupt, largely because one major contributor's payment was being withheld and was expected to be unilaterally reduced in the years ahead. He also emphasized the need for more nations to be willing to contribute to United Nations peace-keeping operations, stating that traditional contributors could not provide all of the resources needed to meet future peace-keeping needs.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Estonia, Riivo Sinijarv, supported the working arrangement between the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in former Yugoslavia. Estonia regarded the United

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Nations-mandated NATO air strikes in recent weeks as an
unfortunate but necessary means of bringing an end to the

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fighting. He viewed this cooperation as a harbinger of greater effectiveness in future United Nations peace-keeping efforts.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iran, Ali Akebar Velayati, said his country was prepared to contribute peace-keeping troops to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). If the Security Council had committed the necessary forces to protect the safe areas, including through taking advantage of assistance offered by Islamic countries, the Bosnian Serbs could not have continued their crimes of genocide with such ease. Iran welcomed recent diplomatic developments, but maintained that only a plan which did not entail recognition of the fruits of ethnic cleansing and which guaranteed the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia could restore peace.

Statements were also made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belarus; Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade of Iceland; and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belize. Speaking in exercise of the right of reply were the representatives of France and Libya.

The plenary will continue its general debate at 10 a.m. tomorrow,
26 September.

End of Part 1 of 1

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Fiftieth General Assembly
Plenary

GA/8926

4th Meeting (AM)

UNITED NATIONS AGENDA MUST BE SHAPED TO MEET NEW GLOBAL THREATS,

UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE TELLS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Cuba's Foreign Minister Calls for End to United States Embargo; Foreign

Ministers of Brazil, Tunisia, Togo, Brunei Darussalam, San Marino, Also Speak

"We must shape the United Nations agenda as if we were creating the institution anew", the United States Secretary of State told the General Assembly this morning, as it began its general debate for the fiftieth session.

Priority should be attached to new global threats posed by proliferation, terrorism, international crime, narcotics and environmental pollution, said Warren Christopher. The global consensus against such threats must be turned into concrete action. Further, the United Nations required reform. It must not tolerate ethical or financial abuses, and managers should be appointed on the basis of merit. In addition, an equitable scale of assessments for peace-keeping operations was needed, as well as a unified budget for those operations, to reflect today's realities.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba, Roberto Robaina Gonzalez, said it was time to stop the hands that wished to stab in the back any attempt to establish rapprochement between his country and the United States. It was time to do more than condemn the blockade; it was time to end the madness. Addressing the need for international solidarity, he questioned how it could exist when the Security Council resisted sharing power in a fairer way that better represented the world.

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Political Affairs of San Marino, Gabriele Gatti, asked "why should we not admit that especially in the former Yugoslavia, the United Nations has revealed its weakness and its incapacity to stop a massacre?" He said it was high time to reconsider the effectiveness, and above all the consequences, of the instrument of the embargo. "When an embargo is imposed on a country for long periods, it also affects its social and commercial sectors", he said. "In this case, the main victims are not the regime, but the population that is already suffering from that system." That was unacceptable.

The Foreign Minister of Brazil, Luiz Felipe Lampreia,

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stressed that reform of the Security Council was an imperative that should no longer be

(page 1a follows)

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4th Meeting (AM) 25 September 1995

delayed. Reform was not about the individual prestige of any country, but about the prestige of the Security Council itself. Brazil was ready to assume all of its responsibilities in that endeavour, he said. He also deplored that certain countries persisted on testing and improving their nuclear arsenals. Nuclear tests undermined efforts towards disarmament and jeopardized the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty.

The Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Togo, Yandja Yentchabre, said curbing weapons proliferation was of paramount importance. Prevention should be one of the main priorities of peace-keeping. In addition, the vast divergence in the development of the economies of the North and South was not in keeping with the provisions of the United Nations Charter. For sustainable development to be a reality, the foreign debt burden must be reduced and access provided to international markets. International assistance to Africa was critical in that regard.

Statements were also made by the Foreign Ministers of Tunisia and Brunei Darussalam.

The general debate will continue at 3 p.m. today.

End of Part 1 of 1

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ROUND-UP

DCF/245

25 SEPTEMBER 1995

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT CONCLUDES 1995 SESSION

GENEVA, 22 SEPTEMBER (UN INFORMATION SERVICE) -- THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT, THE WORLD'S PRINCIPAL MULTILATERAL DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATING FORUM, CONCLUDED ITS THREE-PART REGULAR ANNUAL SESSION AT GENEVA ON FRIDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER, BY ADOPTING ITS REPORT TO THE FIFTIETH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE FIRST PART OF THE SESSION WAS HELD FROM 27 JANUARY TO 7 APRIL, THE SECOND PART FROM 29 MAY TO 7 JULY, AND THE THIRD PART FROM 31 JULY TO 22 SEPTEMBER.

A LARGE PART OF THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE AT THIS SESSION WAS DEVOTED TO THE QUESTION OF A NUCLEAR TEST BAN. THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON A NUCLEAR TEST BAN WAS RE-ESTABLISHED AND CONTINUED ITS NEGOTIATIONS ON A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY (CTBT).

HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TOLD THE CONFERENCE, AS HE PRESENTED THE REPORT, THAT A BREAKTHROUGH MUST COME SOON ON THE SCOPE OF THE TREATY. HE ADDED THAT UNLESS THE PACE OF NEGOTIATIONS INCREASED, THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE HARD-PRESSED TO MEET THE GOAL OF CONCLUDING A TREATY BY 1996. THE REPORT INCLUDES THE ROLLING TEXT OF THE FUTURE TREATY IN AN APPENDIX. AN ADDITION TO THE REPORT WHICH WAS ADOPTED AT THE FINAL MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE, INCLUDES IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE ROLLING TEXT CONCERNING THE SCOPE OF A FUTURE TREATY.

CONCERNING PROHIBITION OF THE PRODUCTION OF FISSIONABLE MATERIAL FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR OTHER NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICES, THE CONFERENCE DECIDED IN MARCH TO ESTABLISH AN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THIS ISSUE, BUT DID NOT APPOINT A CHAIRMAN.

THERE WAS ALSO NO AGREEMENT ON ESTABLISHING OR RE-ESTABLISHING AD HOC COMMITTEES ON CESSATION OF THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE, PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR, PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE, EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ASSURE NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, NEW TYPES OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS, AND ON TRANSPARENCY IN ARMAMENTS. THE AD HOC GROUP OF SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS TO CONSIDER INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE MEASURES TO DETECT AND IDENTIFY SEISMIC EVENTS CONTINUED ITS WORK.

THE CONFERENCE CONSISTS OF 38 STATES: THE FIVE NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES (CHINA, FRANCE, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES), OTHER MILITARILY SIGNIFICANT STATES, AS WELL AS NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED STATES, WHICH

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25 SEPTEMBER 1995 FORM THE GROUP OF 21. IN RECENT YEARS, AN INCREASING NUMBER OF NON-MEMBER STATES HAVE BEEN INVITED, ON THEIR REQUEST, TO PARTICIPATE IN ITS WORK. THIS YEAR, 52 SUCH STATES PARTICIPATED IN THE CONFERENCE'S WORK.

DURING THE PLENARY MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCE, SPEAKERS WELCOMED THE INDEFINITE EXTENSION OF THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (NPT) ON 14 MAY IN NEW YORK. AMONG OTHER ISSUES RAISED WERE THE CHINESE NUCLEAR TESTS AND THOSE CARRIED OUT BY FRANCE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC. THE NEED TO CONCLUDE THE CTBT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE WAS ALSO FREQUENTLY MENTIONED. IN THAT CONTEXT, STATEMENTS MADE DURING THE 1995 SESSION BY THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ON THEIR AGREEMENT TO A ZERO YIELD TEST BAN WERE OFTEN REFERRED TO AND WELCOMED.

THE CONFERENCE CONTINUED TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO THE REVIEW OF ITS AGENDA AND IT ALSO RECOGNIZED THE URGENCY OF THE EXPANSION OF ITS MEMBERSHIP, BUT DID NOT APPOINT SPECIAL COORDINATORS ON THOSE MATTERS.

AT THE PLENARY MEETING, ON 21 SEPTEMBER, A PRESIDENTIAL DECISION WAS ADOPTED TO ALLOW THE FOLLOWING 23 STATES TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE "AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE". THEY ARE: AUSTRIA, BANGLADESH, BELARUS, CAMEROON, CHILE, COLOMBIA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, FINLAND, IRAQ, ISRAEL, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SENEGAL, SLOVAKIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SWITZERLAND, SYRIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE, VIET NAM AND ZIMBABWE. AT THE FINAL PLENARY MEETING, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF SWITZERLAND CALLED FOR THE DECISION TO BE FOLLOWED BY CONCRETE STEPS. SLOVAKIA REITERATED THAT THE DECISION WAS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ITS REQUEST TO FILL THE SEAT LEFT VACANT BY THE CZECH AND SLOVAK REPUBLIC.

IN KEEPING WITH THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBER STATES ASSUMED, SUCCESSIVELY, THE PRESIDENCY OF THE CONFERENCE: ITALY, JAPAN, KENYA, MEXICO, MONGOLIA AND MOROCCO.

IN HIS CLOSING STATEMENT, CONFERENCE PRESIDENT NACER BENJELLOUN-TOUIMI (MOROCCO) VOICED HIS REGRET THAT THE POSITIVE CONCLUSION OF THE NPT REVIEW AND EXTENSION CONFERENCE HAD NOT CREATED THE CONDITIONS NEEDED FOR A BALANCED APPROACH TO RESOLVING THE PERSISTENT PROBLEMS OF THE CONFERENCE. IT WAS CLEAR THAT FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES STILL EXISTED REGARDING BASIC PRIORITIES, IN PARTICULAR, THE QUESTION OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND THE ISSUE OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS.

THE FIRST PART OF THE 1996 SESSION IS SCHEDULED FROM 22 JANUARY TO 29 MARCH, THE SECOND PART FROM 13 MAY TO 28 JUNE, AND THE THIRD PART FROM 29 JULY TO 13 SEPTEMBER.

NUCLEAR TEST BAN

ON 3 FEBRUARY, THE CONFERENCE DECIDED TO RE-ESTABLISH AN AD HOC COMMITTEE UNDER ITEM 1 OF ITS AGENDA, ENTITLED "NUCLEAR TEST BAN". THE CONFERENCE DIRECTED THE COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE INTENSIVELY A UNIVERSAL AND MULTILATERALLY AND EFFECTIVELY VERIFIABLE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY (CTBT), WHICH WOULD CONTRIBUTE EFFECTIVELY TO THE PREVENTION OF THE

PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN ALL ITS ASPECTS, TO THE PROCESS OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND THEREFORE TO THE ENHANCEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. LUDWIK DEMBINSKI (POLAND) WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE.

THE AD HOC COMMITTEE CONTINUED NEGOTIATION OF THE TREATY DURING 26 MEETINGS. IT DECIDED TO HOLD A GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ALL ASPECTS OF A NUCLEAR TEST-BAN TREATY AND TO SET UP TWO WORKING GROUPS: WORKING GROUP 1, ON VERIFICATION, CHAIRED BY LARS NORBERG (SWEDEN); AND WORKING GROUP 2, ON LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES, CHAIRED BY JAAP RAMAKER (NETHERLANDS).

IN ADDITION, FIVE FRIENDS OF THE CHAIR WERE APPOINTED TO DEAL WITH

SPECIFIC ISSUES IN PRIVATE AND OPEN-ENDED CONSULTATIONS. FOR WORKING GROUP 1: TECHNICAL VERIFICATION; INTERNATIONAL MONITORING SYSTEM; CONSULTATION AND CLARIFICATION; ON-SITE INSPECTION; REPORT WRITING; FOLLOW-UP/SANCTIONS; ASSOCIATED/CONFIDENCE-BUILDING/TRANSPARENCY MEASURES; TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DATA CENTRE: SEISMIC TECHNIQUES; NON-SEISMIC TECHNIQUES; ON-SITE ACTIVITIES; TRANSPARENCY MEASURES; ORGANIZATION; AND ENTRY INTO FORCE.

HOLDING 60 MEETINGS, WORKING GROUP 1 MADE INTENSIVE EFFORTS TOWARDS STRUCTURING AND REVISING TREATY LANGUAGE ON THE VERIFICATION REGIME IN THE ROLLING TEXT. AN EXPERT MEETING WAS HELD DURING THE FIRST PART OF THE SESSION RELATING TO THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONITORING SYSTEM (IMS). DURING THE THIRD PART OF THE SESSION, THE WORKING GROUP, WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF EXPERTS, CONTINUED TO NARROW OPTIONS AND SPECIFY THE NUMBER AND LOCATION OF MONITORING STATIONS. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE REVISED DRAFT LANGUAGE ON PROVISIONS ON VERIFICATION ISSUES FOR INCLUSION IN PART 2 OF THE ROLLING TEXT.

HOLDING 35 MEETINGS, WORKING GROUP 2 DISCUSSED THE POSSIBLE CONTENT OF LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS OF A CTBT. FOLLOWING AN EXTENSIVE DEBATE ON EACH ITEM, THE TREATY LANGUAGE WAS SUBSTANTIALLY REVISED AND REFINED, IN PARTICULAR REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION OF THE TREATY. IN ADDITION, THE FRIENDS OF THE CHAIR AND THE TWO CONVENORS -- ON "ORGANIZATION" AND ON "ENTRY-INTO-FORCE" -- HELD INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON RELEVANT LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE REVISED DRAFT LANGUAGE ON PROVISIONS ON LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES FOR INCLUSION IN PARTS 1 OR 2 OF THE ROLLING TEXT, DEPENDING ON THEIR RESPECTIVE STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT.

THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO INCLUDE THE RESULTS OF ITS ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS IN A ROLLING TEXT SET OUT IN THE APPENDIX TO ITS REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE. PART 1 OF THE APPENDIX REPRESENTS THE STAGE OF THE ELABORATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT TREATY WHICH CURRENTLY COMMAND A CERTAIN DEGREE OF CONSENSUS. PART 2 CONTAINS PROVISIONS WHICH NEED MORE EXTENSIVE NEGOTIATION.

AN ADDITION TO THE REPORT COVERS THE MOST RECENT WORK OF THE

AD HOC COMMITTEE. THE RESULTS OF THAT WORK, INCLUDING IMPORTANT CHANGES ON THE SCOPE OF A FUTURE TREATY, WERE ADOPTED AT THE FINAL PLENARY MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE AND WERE INCORPORATED INTO THE ROLLING TEXT OF THE TREATY.

THE ISSUES ADDRESSED IN PART 1 OF THE APPENDIX INCLUDE: MEASURES TO REDRESS A SITUATION AND TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE, SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES, SIGNATURE, RATIFICATION AND ACCESSION. PART 2 FOCUSES ON SUCH QUESTIONS AS THE PREAMBLE, SCOPE, PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, THE ORGANIZATION, PROTOCOL, RESERVATIONS, ENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENTS, AND NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES.

THE AD HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED TO THE CONFERENCE THAT: THE APPENDIX BE USED FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATION AND DRAFTING OF THE TREATY; OTHER DOCUMENTS LISTED IN THE REPORT, TOGETHER WITH OTHER RELEVANT AND FUTURE DOCUMENTS OF THE CONFERENCE, ALSO BE UTILIZED IN THE FURTHER NEGOTIATION AND ELABORATION OF THE TREATY; EXPERT WORK ON THE INTERNATIONAL MONITORING SYSTEM BE CONTINUED DURING THE PERIOD 4 TO 15 DECEMBER; THE COMMITTEE'S WORK ON THE TREATY, INCLUDING MEETINGS WITH FULL SERVICES, BE CONTINUED DURING THE PERIOD 8 TO 19 JANUARY 1996; AND THAT THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON A NUCLEAR TEST BAN BE RE-ESTABLISHED AT THE OUTSET OF THE 1996 SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE WITH ITS PRESENT MANDATE, WITH A VIEW TO COMPLETING THE NEGOTIATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND NO LATER THAN 1996.

GROUP OF EXPERTS ON SEISMIC EVENTS CONTINUES WORK

THE AD HOC GROUP OF SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS TO CONSIDER INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE MEASURES TO DETECT AND IDENTIFY SEISMIC EVENTS (GSE) CONTINUED ITS WORK ON MEASURES WHICH MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF SEISMOLOGICAL DATA UNDER A CTBT IN A PROTOCOL WHICH WOULD BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE TREATY. MEETING FROM 7 TO 18 AUGUST UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF OLA DAHLMAN (SWEDEN), IT WAS ATTENDED BY 34 COUNTRIES AND FOCUSED ON THE CONDUCT AND THE EVALUATION OF THE GROUP OF SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS THIRD TECHNICAL TEST (GSETT-3).

INTRODUCING THE REPORT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AD HOC GROUP RECALLED THAT THE PURPOSE OF GSETT-3 WAS TO PROVIDE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE TO FACILITATE DECISIONS ON THE FINAL IMS SYSTEM AND THEREBY REDUCE THE UNCERTAINTIES AND RISKS INVOLVED. FROM A TECHNICAL PERSPECTIVE, IT WAS DECIDED THAT A SYSTEM BASED ON A SINGLE INTERNATIONAL DATA CENTRE (IDC), NATIONAL DATA CENTRES (NDCS) IN PARTICIPATING STATES AND A TWO-TIERED NETWORK OF PRIMARY AND AUXILIARY STATIONS WAS AN EFFICIENT CONCEPT FOR AN INTERNATIONAL SEISMOLOGICAL MONITORING SYSTEM.

THERE HAD BEEN A COSTLY AND LENGTHY EFFORT TO ESTABLISH THE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED FOR GSETT-3 INCLUDING HIGH QUALITY STATIONS, NDCS, THE IDC AND COMMUNICATION LINKS. IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT THE OPERATION OF KEY ELEMENTS OF THIS INFRASTRUCTURE THAT COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE FUTURE IMS BE MAINTAINED. THE FACT THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO UTILIZE SO MANY OF THE FACILITIES EXISTING TODAY WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE NEED FOR NEW INVESTMENTS. THE TOTAL INVESTMENT COST FOR ALL THE FACILITIES PLANNED FOR GSETT-3 WAS \$180 MILLION, OUT OF WHICH FACILITIES WITH AN ESTIMATED VALUE OF \$150 MILLION WERE ALREADY ESTABLISHED. THE GSETT-3 HAD ALSO

RECONFIRMED EARLIER ESTIMATES THAT THE YEARLY OPERATIONAL
COSTS FOR THE PRIMARY AND THE AUXILIARY STATIONS, THE
COMMUNICATION LINKS AND THE IDC WERE ABOUT \$30 MILLION.
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GAS AND WATER -- HAD STILL NOT BEEN RESTORED. AS MENTIONED, CONVOYS OF UNHCR AND UNPROFOR HAD BEEN MOVING FREELY, BUT CIVILIANS DID NOT HAVE COMPLETE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT IN AND OUT OF THE CITY.

TO A QUESTION REGARDING THE COST TO THE UNITED STATES OF A NATO PEACEKEEPING OPERATION IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, THE SPOKESMAN REFERRED THE CORRESPONDENT TO THE UNITED STATES MISSION. THE BUDGET FIGURES FOR THE CURRENT UNITED NATIONS OPERATIONS WERE AVAILABLE; IF THE UNITED NATIONS FORCES WERE REPLACED BY SOME OTHER GROUP, IT WAS UP TO THEM TO FIGURE OUT NOT ONLY HOW MUCH TO SPEND BUT HOW TO RAISE THE MONEY.

A CORRESPONDENT, REFERRING TO AN ARTICLE IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE NATION ON WHAT REALLY HAPPENED IN THE BOMBING OF THE SARAJEVO MARKET, SAID THAT THE STORY IMPLIED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS WAS COLLUDING WITH THE MUSLIM AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO CREATE A FALSE PRETEXT FOR BOMBING THE SERBS. THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS CARRIED OUT AN INVESTIGATION, AND, BASED ON IT, CONCLUDED "BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT" THAT THE MORTAR ROUNDS HAD BEEN FIRED FROM BOSNIAN SERB POSITIONS. THIS REPORT WAS AN INTERNAL UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENT, HE ADDED. IF THE AUTHOR OF THE ARTICLE HAS ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH WOULD CONTRAVENE THE UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION, THE UNITED NATIONS WOULD CERTAINLY BE INTERESTED IN LOOKING AT IT. THE CORRESPONDENT SAID THAT THERE WERE TWO AMERICANS AND A CANADIAN WHO DISPUTED THAT REPORT. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT HE DID NOT HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THAT POINT. HE ADDED THAT THIS SORT OF OPERATIONAL REPORT WAS NORMALLY INTERNAL; PERSONALLY, HE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO MAKE IT PUBLIC, BUT THAT DECISION WAS NOT HIS.

A CORRESPONDENT SAID THAT IT SEEMED THAT THE PEOPLE WHO WERE BEING ACCUSED OF COLLUDING WITH THE MUSLIM AUTHORITIES WERE THE SAME ONES WHO DID THE INVESTIGATING AND DID NOT AUTHORIZE THE RELEASE OF THE REPORT. THE SPOKESMAN STATED THAT THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO SUBSTANCE TO THE CHARGES OF COLLUSION. HE ADDED THAT UNPROFOR HAD TO DO THE INVESTIGATION, BECAUSE THEY WERE THE ONES ON THE SPOT WITH THAT RESPONSIBILITY.

REGARDING THE "SLOW-MOTION" TACTIC SUGGESTED AS A METHOD TO PERSUADE MEMBER STATES TO PAY THEIR DUES, THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT HE HAD SEEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S REMARKS ON THAT SUBJECT. THE ONLY PENALTY FOR ARREARAGES, ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 19 OF THE CHARTER, WAS "ALL OR NOTHING", I.E., LOSS OF VOTING RIGHTS IN THE ASSEMBLY. THE PRESIDENT'S SUGGESTION WAS TO ESTABLISH SOMETHING IN BETWEEN, MR. SILLS SAID. PERHAPS, IF A STATE WERE ONE YEAR BEHIND, IT

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WOULD LOSE THE RIGHT TO SERVE ON COMMITTEES, OR SOMETHING TO THAT EFFECT. THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT IT WAS NOT UP TO THE SECRETARYGENERAL TO ENDORSE OR REJECT THOSE SUGGESTIONS; IT WAS UP TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE PROBLEM WOULD BE SOLVED, HE ADDED, IF THE MEMBER STATES PAID THEIR DUES. IN RESPONSE TO A REMARK, MR. SILLS SAID THAT THE ORGANIZATION DID NOT NEED PLEDGES; IT NEEDED PAYMENTS, HE SAID.

TO A CORRESPONDENT WHO COMMENTED THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAD SUGGESTED PORTUGUESE AS ANOTHER OFFICIAL UNITED NATIONS LANGUAGE, AND THAT IT WOULD COST SOME \$10 MILLION, LEONA FORMAN RESPONDED THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD SAID HE WISHED PORTUGUESE WERE AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE, BUT HAD NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE TOO EXPENSIVE. SHE SAID NO AMOUNT HAD BEEN MENTIONED.

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25 SEPTEMBER 1995

TOKYO SEMINAR TO ASSESS LIKELY CONSEQUENCES OF MAJOR
EARTHQUAKE AND REVIEW RISK MANAGEMENT

NEW YORK, 25 SEPTEMBER (UNU) -- THE UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY (UNU), JOINTLY WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR
DISASTER-MITIGATION ENGINEERING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO, IS
TO HOLD A PUBLIC SEMINAR ON WEDNESDAY
(27 SEPTEMBER) AT THE UNU HEADQUARTERS IN TOKYO.

THE SEMINAR, PART OF A THREE-DAY INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP,
WILL BRING TOGETHER LEADING EARTHQUAKE EXPERTS FROM JAPAN AND
OTHER COUNTRIES TO REVIEW THE LIKELY CONSEQUENCES OF A
POWERFUL EARTHQUAKE IN THE TOKYO METROPOLITAN AREA. IT WILL
DRAW UPON INTERNATIONAL EXPERTISE BROUGHT TOGETHER BY THE
GLOBAL NETWORK ON NATURAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT, WHICH WAS
ESTABLISHED JOINTLY BY THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY, THE
DISASTER-MITIGATION CENTER, STANFORD UNIVERSITY AND THE WORLD
SEISMIC SAFETY INITIATIVE.

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE PETER HADFIELD, AUTHOR OF THE BOOK,
THE COMING TOKYO EARTHQUAKE: SIXTY SECONDS THAT WILL CHANGE
THE WORLD, PROFESSOR HARESH C. SHAH OF STANFORD UNIVERSITY,
WHO HAS STUDIED "WORST CASE SCENARIOS" FOR EARTHQUAKES TAKING
PLACE IN MAJOR WORLD CITIES, PROFESSOR TSUNEO KATAYAMA,
DIRECTOR OF THE DISASTER-MITIGATION CENTER, AND PROFESSOR BEN
WISNER OF HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE, UNITED STATES, WHO WILL DISCUSS
THE SITUATION OF PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE GROUPS AND AREAS.

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SUNITED

NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL

DISTR.

GENERAL

S/RES/1017 (1995)

22 SEPTEMBER 1995

RESOLUTION 1017 (1995)

ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT ITS 3582ND MEETING,

ON 22 SEPTEMBER 1995

THE SECURITY COUNCIL,

REAFFIRMING ITS RESOLUTIONS 621 (1988) OF 20 SEPTEMBER 1988, 658 (1990) OF 27 JUNE 1990, 690 (1991) OF 29 APRIL 1991, 725 (1991) OF 31 DECEMBER 1991, 809 (1993) OF 2 MARCH 1993, 907 (1994) OF 29 MARCH 1994, 973 (1995) OF 13 JANUARY 1995, 995 (1995) OF 26 MAY 1995 AND 1002 (1995) OF 30 JUNE 1995,

REAFFIRMING IN PARTICULAR ITS RESOLUTIONS 725 (1991) AND 907 (1994) RELATING TO THE CRITERIA FOR VOTER ELIGIBILITY AND THE COMPROMISE PROPOSAL OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THEIR INTERPRETATION (S/26185),

HAVING CONSIDERED THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF 8 SEPTEMBER 1995 (S/1995/779), AND NOTING FURTHER THE FACT THAT ONLY TWO OUT OF THE EIGHT IDENTIFICATION CENTRES ARE CURRENTLY FUNCTIONING,

COMMITTED TO REACHING A JUST AND LASTING SOLUTION TO THE QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA,

REITERATING THE FACT THAT, FOR PROGRESS TO BE ACHIEVED, THE TWO PARTIES MUST HAVE A VISION OF THE POST-REFERENDUM PERIOD,

EXPRESSING THE HOPE FOR A RAPID RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS CAUSING DELAYS IN THE COMPLETION OF THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS,

EXPRESSING ITS REGRET THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE PRELIMINARY VETTING BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MOROCCO OF THE 100,000 APPLICANTS NOT RESIDING IN THE TERRITORY IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE INABILITY OF MINURSO TO MAINTAIN ITS TIMETABLE FOR COMPLETING THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS,

EXPRESSING ITS REGRET ALSO THAT THE POLISARIO FRONT IS REFUSING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IDENTIFICATION, EVEN WITHIN THE TERRITORY, OF THREE GROUPS WITHIN THE DISPUTED TRIBAL

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GROUPINGS, THUS DELAYING COMPLETION OF THE IDENTIFICATION
PROCESS,
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TAKING NOTE OF PARAGRAPH 49 OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S
REPORT OF 8 SEPTEMBER 1995,

STRESSING THE NEED FOR PROGRESS TO BE MADE ON ALL OTHER
ASPECTS OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN,

REAFFIRMING ITS ENDORSEMENT IN RESOLUTION 1002 (1995) OF THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MISSION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
CONCERNING THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE
SETTLEMENT PLAN AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPHS 41 TO 53 OF THE
REPORT OF THE MISSION OF 21 JUNE 1995 (S/1995/498),

1. REITERATES ITS COMMITMENT TO THE HOLDING, WITHOUT
FURTHER DELAY, OF A FREE, FAIR AND IMPARTIAL REFERENDUM FOR
THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE OF WESTERN SAHARA IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE SETTLEMENT PLAN, WHICH HAS BEEN ACCEPTED
BY THE TWO PARTIES STATED ABOVE;

2. EXPRESSES ITS DISAPPOINTMENT THAT, SINCE THE ADOPTION OF
RESOLUTION 1002 (1995), THE PARTIES HAVE MADE INSUFFICIENT
PROGRESS TOWARDS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN,
INCLUDING THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS, THE CODE OF CONDUCT, THE
RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, THE CONFINEMENT OF POLISARIO
TROOPS AND THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE REDUCTION OF MOROCCAN
TROOPS IN THE TERRITORY;

3. CALLS UPON THE TWO PARTIES TO WORK HENCEFORTH WITH THE
SECRETARYGENERAL AND MINURSO IN A SPIRIT OF GENUINE
COOPERATION TO IMPLEMENT THE SETTLEMENT PLAN IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, TO ABANDON THEIR INSISTENCE ON
STRICT RECIPROCITY IN THE OPERATION OF THE IDENTIFICATION
CENTRES AND TO CEASE ALL OTHER PROCRASTINATING ACTIONS WHICH
COULD FURTHER DELAY THE HOLDING OF THE REFERENDUM;

4. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN CLOSE CONSULTATION
WITH THE PARTIES, TO PRODUCE SPECIFIC AND DETAILED PROPOSALS
TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS HINDERING THE COMPLETION OF THE
IDENTIFICATION PROCESS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE RELEVANT
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS, IN PARTICULAR RESOLUTION 907
(1994) RELATING TO THE COMPROMISE PROPOSAL OF THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL (S/26185), AND RESOLUTION 1002 (1995) RELATING TO THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL MISSION (S/1995/498),
AND TO REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF HIS EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD BY
15 NOVEMBER 1995;

5. DECIDES TO REVIEW THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COMPLETION OF
THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS ON THE BASIS OF THE REPORT
REQUESTED IN PARAGRAPH 4 ABOVE, AND TO CONSIDER AT THAT TIME
ANY FURTHER NECESSARY MEASURES WHICH MIGHT NEED TO BE TAKEN TO
ENSURE THE PROMPT COMPLETION OF THAT PROCESS AND OF ALL THE
OTHER ASPECTS RELEVANT TO THE FULFILMENT OF THE SETTLEMENT
PLAN;

6. DECIDES TO EXTEND THE MANDATE OF MINURSO UNTIL 31
JANUARY 1996 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN HIS
REPORT OF 8 SEPTEMBER 1995 AND TAKES NOTE OF HIS INTENTION,
IF, BEFORE THEN, HE CONSIDERS THAT THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY
FOR THE START OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD ARE NOT IN PLACE, TO
PRESENT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WITH ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS FOR
CONSIDERATION, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF

MINURSO;

7. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO REPORT BY 15 JANUARY 1996 ON PROGRESS ACHIEVED TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN, AND TO STATE IN THAT REPORT WHETHER OR NOT THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD WILL BE ABLE TO BEGIN BY 31 MAY 1996;

8. STRESSES THE NEED TO ACCELERATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN AND URGES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO EXAMINE WAYS OF REDUCING THE OPERATIONAL COSTS OF MINURSO;

9. FURTHER STRESSES THAT THE EXISTING MECHANISM FOR THE FINANCING OF MINURSO REMAINS UNCHANGED, SUPPORTS THE INVITATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO MEMBER STATES, IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 49/247 OF 7 AUGUST 1995, TO MAKE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO MINURSO, AND REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO EXISTING PROCEDURES, TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRUST FUND TO RECEIVE SUCH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CERTAIN SPECIFIC PURPOSES TO BE DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL;

10. DECIDES TO REMAIN SEIZED OF THE MATTER.

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FIFTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY GA/8924
PLENARY
3RD MEETING (AM)

ASSEMBLY ADOPTS AGENDA WITH 164 ITEMS FOR FIFTIETH SESSION:
GENERAL DEBATE SET FOR 25 SEPTEMBER - 12 OCTOBER
GUIDELINES AGREED FOR CONDUCT OF BUSINESS, TO MEET TECHNICAL
AND TIME CONSTRAINTS; PLANS FOR SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY MEETING
ALSO APPROVED

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS MORNING ADOPTED A 164-ITEM AGENDA
FOR ITS FIFTIETH SESSION, COVERING A WIDE RANGE OF POLITICAL,
DISARMAMENT, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN MATTERS, AS
WELL AS LEGAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS.

THE NEW ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PLENARY CONCERN:
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE INTER-
PARLIAMENTARY UNION; REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL
TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR
GENOCIDE AND OTHER SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL
HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF RWANDA AND
RWANDAN CITIZENS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE AND OTHER SUCH
VIOLATIONS COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF NEIGHBOURING STATES
BETWEEN 1 JANUARY AND 31 DECEMBER 1994; COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION;
OBSERVER STATUS FOR THE CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION SYSTEM;
MULTILINGUALISM; COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND
THE AGENCY FOR CULTURAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION; WORLD
SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT; UNIVERSAL CONGRESS ON THE
PANAMA CANAL; AND STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM.

IN ADDITION, A NEW ITEM ON THE ROLE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL WILL INITIALLY BE CONSIDERED IN PLENARY AND
SUBSEQUENTLY IN THE SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL). THE ASSEMBLY
WILL ALSO CONSIDER A NEW SUB-ITEM, ON THE SUSTAINABLE USE AND
CONSERVATION OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES OF THE HIGH SEAS.

ANOTHER NEW ITEM ON THE AGENDA, ON NORMALIZATION OF THE
SITUATION CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICA, HAS NOT YET BEEN ALLOCATED.
CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION OF CYPRUS HAS ALSO NOT YET BEEN
ALLOCATED.

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ASSEMBLY OVERVIEW

GA/8925

22 SEPTEMBER 1995

PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT REMAIN FOCUS OF UN AT 50

AS THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES IN ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY YEAR, IT WILL CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON THE ISSUES THAT PROMPTED THE WRITING OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER -- PEACE AND SECURITY AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT -- AS WELL AS STRENGTHENING AND REFORMING THE ORGANIZATION TO FULFIL THE CHARTER'S GOALS.

THE SESSION WILL BE HIGHLIGHTED BY AN UNPRECEDENTED GATHERING AT HEADQUARTERS FROM 22 TO 24 OCTOBER OF MORE THAN 150 HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, CULMINATING A YEAR-LONG SERIES OF EVENTS COMMEMORATING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY. THE EVENTS INCLUDED CEREMONIES IN GENEVA AND SAN FRANCISCO, WHERE THE CHARTER WAS SIGNED, AND THE FINAL DAY OF THE SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE MEETING IS EXACTLY 50 YEARS FROM THE DAY THE CHARTER ENTERED INTO FORCE.

SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI HAS IDENTIFIED FOUR GOALS FOR THE ANNIVERSARY: TO PROMOTE A MORE BALANCED IMAGE OF THE ORGANIZATION; TO ENLARGE ITS CONSTITUENCY OF SUPPORT, ESPECIALLY AMONG YOUTH AND NONTRADITIONAL AUDIENCES; TO IMPROVE WORLD-WIDE EDUCATION ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION'S WORK; AND TO MOBILIZE PUBLIC SUPPORT.

DURING THIS SESSION, THE ASSEMBLY WILL ALSO ADDRESS THE ONGOING CONFLICT IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, AND REVIEW THE WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNALS ESTABLISHED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO PROSECUTE WAR CRIMINALS IN THE TERRITORIES OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA AS WELL AS RWANDA. IT WILL CONSIDER THE STATUS OF DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI, THE UNITED STATES EMBARGO AGAINST CUBA AND THE CONTINUING PEACE EFFORTS AND TERRITORIAL CONFLICTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

MANY ISSUES WILL BE TAKEN UP IN THE ASSEMBLY'S SIX MAIN COMMITTEES. IN ADDITION, THE ASSEMBLY WILL TAKE UP IN PLENARY MEETINGS SEVERAL MAJOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AMONG THEM: THE COMING ROLE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL; THE COMPOSITION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S MEMBERSHIP; COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF EFFORTS; AND REVITALIZATION OF THE ORGANIZATION'S APPROACH TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS.

THE FIRST COMMITTEE (DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY) WILL REVIEW INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS UNDER WAY TO NEGOTIATE A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN

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TREATY, WHICH HAS BEEN HIGH ON THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA FOR SEVERAL YEARS. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE BROUGHT TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION NO LATER THAN 1996. THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO HAVE BEFORE IT THE FINAL TEXT OF A TREATY ON AN AFRICAN NUCLEAR-WEAPONFREE ZONE AND WILL DISCUSS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH ZONES IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA.

THE DECLINE IN DEVELOPMENT FINANCING WILL BE ONE OF THE CENTRAL CONCERNS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE (ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL), WHICH WILL CONDUCT ANOTHER TRIENNIAL POLICY REVIEW OF UNITED NATIONS OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED WILL INCLUDE THE NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD IX), WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE HELD IN SOUTH AFRICA NEXT YEAR. ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE 1995 COPENHAGEN WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, THE COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO PROPOSE THE DECLARATION OF THE FIRST UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY.

HIGH ON THE AGENDA OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE (SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL) ARE THE CHALLENGES POSED BY THE INCREASING NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY OF HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS, WHICH ARE NOW COSTING MORE THAN \$1 BILLION ANNUALLY. THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE TAKING UP SEVERAL ISSUES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO WOMEN, AMONG THEM A REVIEW OF THE RECENT WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN BEIJING, AND REPORTS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THE PLIGHT OF WOMEN MIGRANT WORKERS.

THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION) WILL REVIEW ALL ASPECTS OF UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS AND CONSIDER A WIDE RANGE OF DECOLONIZATION QUESTIONS, INCLUDING THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN WESTERN SAHARA, NEW CALEDONIA AND GIBRALTAR. AS OF JULY, APPROXIMATELY 65,000 MILITARY PERSONNEL, 1,700 CIVILIAN POLICE AND 6,000 CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WERE DEPLOYED IN 16 UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS WITH AN AGGREGATE ANNUAL BUDGET OF ABOUT \$3.6 BILLION. IN ITS REVIEW, THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER, AMONG OTHER THINGS, MANDATES, CONSULTATION, COMMAND AND CONTROL, THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF UNITED NATIONS PERSONNEL, PLANNING ORGANIZATION AND EFFECTIVENESS, TRAINING, RAPID DEPLOYMENT AND STAND-BY ARRANGEMENTS.

THE UNITED NATIONS REGULAR BUDGET AND THE CURRENT FINANCIAL CRISIS ARE THE CHIEF CONCERNS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY). THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1996-1997 OF \$2.51 BILLION (BEFORE ADJUSTMENT FOR SUCH FACTORS AS INFLATION AND CURRENCY VARIATIONS) WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON 4 OCTOBER, THE COMMITTEE'S FIRST DAY OF SUBSTANTIVE WORK. THE FINANCIAL CRISIS HAS RECENTLY BEEN DESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AS "DEEPENING" AND THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE "BLEAK." AS OF AUGUST, THE ORGANIZATION WAS OWED MORE THAN \$3.9 BILLION BY MEMBER STATES. THE COMMITTEE WILL THUS BE CONSIDERING WAYS TO ALLEVIATE THE CRISIS, INCLUDING CONTINUED FINANCING FOR SOME 16 PEACE-KEEPING AND SIMILAR MISSIONS.

AMONG THE ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL) THIS YEAR ARE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT, DELETION OF OBSOLETE "ENEMY STATE" CLAUSES FROM THE CHARTER, MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE THE IMPACT OF SECURITY

COUNCIL SANCTIONS ON THIRD STATES, A DRAFT CODE OF CRIMES AGAINST THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF MANKIND AND PRACTICAL MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY

AS PART OF ITS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE PEACE AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, THE ASSEMBLY WILL CONSIDER WAYS OF REINFORCING PEACE EFFORTS IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES AND THE SOLUTION OF LONG-STANDING CONFLICTS. THE AGENDA INCLUDES DISCUSSIONS OF THE SITUATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, BURUNDI, CYPRUS, HAITI, AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

WITH RESPECT TO THE MIDDLE EAST, IN RECENT YEARS THE ASSEMBLY HAS BOTH OPPOSED ISRAEL'S TERRITORIAL ANNEXATIONS -- THE HOLY CITY OF JERUSALEM AND THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN -- AND EXPRESSED ITS SUPPORT OF THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, AS WELL AS THE JORDAN-ISRAEL TREATY OF PEACE. THE ASSEMBLY HAS CONTINUED TO STRESS THAT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST REQUIRES AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORY OCCUPIED SINCE 1967. IT HAS AFFIRMED THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND URGED MEMBER STATES TO ASSIST THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA WILL TAKE PLACE AMID RAPIDLY EVOLVING DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS. AT ITS LAST SESSION, THE ASSEMBLY CONDEMNED SERBIAN AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR AGGRESSION AGAINST BOTH BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, AND CONDEMNED THE SERBIAN POLICY OF ETHNIC CLEANSING. IT ENCOURAGED THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO EXEMPT BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA FROM ITS ARMS EMBARGO. IT EXPRESSED ITS SUPPORT FOR SPEEDY RESUMPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL'S WORK IN TRYING AND PUNISHING THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. AT ITS CURRENT SESSION, THE ASSEMBLY WILL CONSIDER A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE TRIBUNAL'S WORK.

IN GENERAL, THE UNITED NATIONS HAS INCREASED ITS EFFORTS TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS. THOSE EFFORTS INCLUDE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE POST OF UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 100 HUMAN RIGHTS TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS WERE IMPLEMENTED IN SOME 50 COUNTRIES. MORE THAN 120 HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS ARE NOW DEPLOYED IN THE PARTS OF THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA AND IN RWANDA. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THOSE EFFORTS, THE ASSEMBLY WILL REVIEW THE SITUATION IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, AND WILL ALSO TAKE UP THE QUESTION OF THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE AND OTHER HUMANITARIAN LAW VIOLATIONS IN RWANDA.

THE UNITED NATIONS HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AND PEACEBUILDING IN MANY PARTS OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND, AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THOSE EFFORTS WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE ASSEMBLY. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS REPORTED THAT EL SALVADOR, WITH THE UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE, HAS "CONTINUED ITS PROGRESS FROM A VIOLENT AND CLOSED SOCIETY". AT THE SAME TIME, HE SAID, THERE HAVE BEEN DELAYS IN THE PLANNED PROGRAMME, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREAS OF LAND TRANSFER, STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL CIVIL POLICE AND IMPLEMENTING JUDICIAL REFORMS. IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE ASSEMBLY HAS EXPRESSED ITS SUPPORT FOR THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES'

ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, THE VERIFICATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN GUATEMALA AND FOR THE RESETTLEMENT OF POPULATION GROUPS DISPLACED BY THE CONFLICTS IN THAT COUNTRY. AT THIS SESSION, THE ASSEMBLY WILL EXAMINE A REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION CHARGED WITH MONITORING THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION THERE.

DISCUSSIONS OF THE SITUATION IN HAITI WILL TAKE PLACE AS THAT NATION PREPARES TO HOLD, IN DECEMBER, ITS FIRST PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS SINCE PRESIDENT JEAN-BERTRAND ARISTIDE WAS DEPOSED. LAST YEAR, THE ASSEMBLY EXPRESSED ITS SATISFACTION AT THE RETURN OF PRESIDENT ARISTIDE AND REQUESTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT OF HAITI AS IT WORKED TOWARDS NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION.

ALSO LAST YEAR -- FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW -- THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CALLED FOR AN END TO THE ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL EMBARGO IMPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES AGAINST CUBA, CONTENDING THAT IT INHIBITED FREE TRADE AND ADVERSELY AFFECTED THE SOVEREIGNTY OF OTHER STATES. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IS SCHEDULED TO DELIVER A REPORT ON THE SITUATION.

SEVERAL ISSUES BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY CONCERN STRENGTHENING AND REFORMING THE ORGANIZATION. AT ITS LAST SESSION, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACKNOWLEDGED THE NEED TO IMPROVE COORDINATION OF UNITED NATIONS HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF, IN PARTICULAR TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES IN THE CENTRAL EMERGENCY REVOLVING FUND. THE ISSUE OF SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP WAS SUBMITTED TO AN OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S 1993 SESSION AND THE COUNCIL'S METHODS OF WORK WERE EXTENSIVELY DEBATED LAST YEAR. DEBATE ON THIS ISSUE IS EXPECTED TO RESUME AT THE PRESENT SESSION.

IN 1994, WITH THE TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT FOR THE LAST TRUST TERRITORY -- THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS -- AND PALAU'S ADMISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS, THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL COMPLETED THE TASK ENTRUSTED TO IT. THIS YEAR, A DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL WILL BEGIN IN THE PLENARY, LATER TO BE TAKEN UP IN THE SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL).

OTHER ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE BEFORE THIS YEAR'S ASSEMBLY INCLUDE THE CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, WHICH ENTERED INTO FORCE LATE LAST YEAR AS THE WORLD'S MOST IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENT IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW; AND THE INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO CLEAR THE ESTIMATED 100 MILLION LANDMINES SCATTERED ON THE FORMER BATTLEFIELDS IN AFGHANISTAN, ANGOLA, CAMBODIA, EL SALVADOR, MOZAMBIQUE, RWANDA AND SOMALIA.

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SECURITY COUNCIL

SC/6103

3582ND MEETING (PM)

SECURITY COUNCIL EXTENDS MANDATE OF WESTERN SAHARA MISSION TO
31 JANUARY 1996

RESOLUTION 1017 (1995) URGES END TO DELAYING

ACTIONS; SUPPORTS CALL FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO MINURSO

THE SECURITY COUNCIL THIS AFTERNOON EXTENDED THE MANDATE OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR THE REFERENDUM IN WESTERN SAHARA (MINURSO) UNTIL 31 JANUARY 1996, AND TOOK NOTE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S INTENTION TO PRESENT ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF MINURSO'S WITHDRAWAL, IF CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR THE START OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD ARE NOT IN PLACE BEFORE THEN.

THE COUNCIL CALLED ON THE TWO PARTIES TO WORK WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND MINURSO TO IMPLEMENT THE SETTLEMENT PLAN, TO STOP INSISTING ON RECIPROCITY IN THE OPERATION OF THE IDENTIFICATION CENTRES AND TO CEASE ALL PROCRASTINATING ACTIONS WHICH COULD FURTHER DELAY THE REFERENDUM.

BY UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTING RESOLUTION 1017 (1995), THE COUNCIL ALSO REQUESTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PRODUCE SPECIFIC AND DETAILED PROPOSALS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS HINDERING THE COMPLETION OF THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS, AND TO REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF HIS EFFORTS BY 15 NOVEMBER.

ON THE BASIS OF THAT REPORT, THE COUNCIL WILL REVIEW THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMPLETING THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS AND CONSIDER FURTHER MEASURES WHICH MIGHT BE NEEDED TO ENSURE THE PROMPT COMPLETION OF THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS AS WELL AS OTHER ASPECTS OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN.

THE COUNCIL URGED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO EXAMINE WAYS OF REDUCING THE OPERATIONAL COSTS OF MINURSO. IT STRESSED THAT THE EXISTING MECHANISM FOR THE FINANCING OF MINURSO REMAINS UNCHANGED AND SUPPORTED THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S INVITATION TO MEMBER STATES TO MAKE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO MINURSO. IT REQUESTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRUST FUND TO RECEIVE SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES TO BE DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

THE COUNCIL ALSO REQUESTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO REPORT BY 15 JANUARY 1996 ON PROGRESS TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN AND TO STATE IN THAT REPORT WHETHER OR NOT THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD WILL BE ABLE TO BEGIN BY 31 MAY 1996.

THE MEETING, WHICH BEGAN AT 12:20 P.M., WAS ADJOURNED AT 12:23 P.M.

(MORE)

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SECURITY COUNCIL - - PRESS RELEASE SC/6103
3582ND MEETING (PM) 22 SEPTEMBER 1995

(MORE) SITUATION IN WESTERN SAHARA

THE SECURITY COUNCIL MET THIS AFTERNOON TO CONSIDER THE SITUATION IN WESTERN SAHARA AND A RECOMMENDATION BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO EXTEND THE MANDATE OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR THE REFERENDUM IN WESTERN SAHARA (MINURSO) UNTIL 31 JANUARY 1996. THAT PROPOSAL IS CONTAINED IN A REPORT WHICH COVERS DEVELOPMENTS IN WESTERN SAHARA SINCE 19 MAY (S/1995/779). THE SECRETARY-GENERAL STATES, HOWEVER, THAT IF THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR THE START OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD ARE NOT IN PLACE BY 31 JANUARY 1996, HE WILL SUGGEST ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF MINURSO'S WITHDRAWAL.

THE MINURSO -- WHICH IS KNOWN BY ITS FRENCH ACRONYM -- WAS ESTABLISHED BY SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 658 (1990). THAT TEXT APPROVED PLANS FOR A SETTLEMENT OF THE WESTERN SAHARA QUESTION. IT PROVIDES FOR THE UNITED NATIONS TO SUPERVISE A CEASE-FIRE BETWEEN MOROCCO AND THE POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF SAGUIA EL-HAMARA AND RIO DE ORO (POLISARIO) AND TO ORGANIZE AND CONDUCT A REFERENDUM IN WHICH THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY WOULD CHOOSE BETWEEN INDEPENDENCE AND INTEGRATION WITH MOROCCO.

THE CURRENT REPORT, ISSUED IN PURSUANCE OF COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1002 (1995), DISCUSSES THE SETTLEMENT PLAN, THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN COMPONENTS OF MINURSO AND FINANCIAL ASPECTS. IT STATES THAT PROGRESS IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING. SO FAR, A TOTAL OF OVER 53,000 PERSONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS BEING QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN THE REFERENDUM ON WESTERN SAHARA. THAT REPRESENTS OVER 40 PER CENT OF PERSONS RESIDING IN THE TERRITORY AND OVER 51 PER CENT OF THOSE IN THE REFUGEE CAMPS. WERE BOTH PARTIES TO COOPERATE FULLY, THE PROCESS OF IDENTIFICATION IN ALL FOUR REFUGEE CAMPS AND THREE OF THE FOUR CENTRES IN THE TERRITORY (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF LAAYOUNE) COULD BE COMPLETED IN APPROXIMATELY FIVE WEEKS.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS CAN CONTINUE AND BE EXPANDED TO COVER ALL APPLICANTS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY ONLY IF CERTAIN ISSUES ARE RESOLVED. MOROCCO INTENDS TO PRESENT FOR IDENTIFICATION 100,000 APPLICANTS RESIDING OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY AND REPORTEDLY HAS COMPLETED THE PRELIMINARY VETTING OF THOSE APPLICANTS. THE POLISARIO CATEGORICALLY DISMISSES THE APPLICATIONS AS AN ATTEMPT TO INCLUDE 100,000 MOROCCAN NATIONALS IN THE VOTERS LIST.

THE POLISARIO ALSO HAS MAJOR RESERVATIONS ABOUT MEMBERS OF CERTAIN TRIBAL GROUPINGS IN THE TERRITORY -- CHORFA; NORTHERN TRIBES; AND COASTAL AND SOUTHERN TRIBES. FROM AMONG THOSE THEY REJECT THREE GROUPS AS "IN NO SENSE BELONGING TO THE TERRITORY". THE POLISARIO HAS SUGGESTED THAT IDENTIFICATION OF THE THREE GROUPS BE LEFT UNTIL THE END OF THE PROCESS, AFTER THE LESS CONTENTIOUS CASES HAD BEEN COMPLETED. THAT, IN FACT, IS WHAT MINURSO HAS DONE IN THE PLANNING FOR IDENTIFICATION.

WITH RESPECT TO OTHER GROUPS, THE POLISARIO HAS AGREED TO PARTICIPATE IN IDENTIFICATION ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE NUMBER WOULD BE MODEST AND THE INDIVIDUALS COULD BE IDENTIFIED

BY ONE TRIBAL LEADER FROM EACH SIDE. THE GOVERNMENT OF MOROCCO, ON THE OTHER HAND, INSISTS THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN APPLICANTS, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER THEY ARE CURRENTLY RESIDING IN OR OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY AND IRRESPECTIVE OF THE CRITERION UNDER WHICH THEY APPLY. THE MINURSO HAS AN OBLIGATION TO CONSIDER ALL APPLICATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN CORRECTLY SUBMITTED.

THE REPORT GOES ON TO SAY THAT TECHNICALLY, THERE WOULD BE NO OBSTACLE TO ORGANIZING IDENTIFICATION SESSIONS IN VARIOUS PLACES WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE TERRITORY, WHEREVER THE BULK OF THE APPLICANTS RESIDE. THE PRACTICE COULD CONTINUE OF CALLING ON TWO TRIBAL LEADERS (SHEIKS) FROM THE TRIBAL SUBGROUP CONCERNED, BUT THESE WOULD NOT INVARIABLY BE DRAWN FROM EACH SIDE AS HAS BEEN THE PRACTICE HITHERTO. WERE IDENTIFICATION TO TAKE PLACE WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE TRIBAL LEADERS FROM THE POLISARIO, IT WOULD REQUIRE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE TO ESTABLISH THAT THE INDIVIDUAL'S FATHER IS A SAHARAN AND THAT THE FATHER WAS BORN IN THE TERRITORY. THE POLISARIO WOULD BE INVITED TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS. THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU) SHOULD ALSO BE REPRESENTED. IF SUCH A PROGRAMME COULD BE IMPLEMENTED, THERE WOULD BE NO PRACTICAL REASON WHY THE IDENTIFICATION OF PERSONS LIVING OUTSIDE AS WELL AS THOSE FROM THE CAMPS AND THE TERRITORY COULD NOT BE COMPLETED IN APPROXIMATELY FOUR MONTHS.

REGARDING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN, THE GOVERNMENT OF MOROCCO HAS REITERATED ITS COMMITMENT TO REDUCE ITS TROOPS TO THE AGREED LEVEL OF 65,000 AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME. THE POLISARIO OBJECTS TO THE SUGGESTION THAT ITS TROOPS BE CONFINED OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY. MOROCCO REFUSED TO AGREE THAT THE POLISARIO TROOPS BE CONFINED IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE SANDWALL (BERM) AND THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER OF WESTERN SAHARA.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) IS PREPARED TO START WORKING ON THE RELEASE OF PRISONERS OF WAR AS SOON AS THE PARTIES ARE READY TO DO SO. BOTH PARTIES HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR READINESS TO ADDRESS ALL QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE AGREEMENT ON THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

THE CODE OF CONDUCT WAS FINALIZED AND SENT TO THE TWO PARTIES. BOTH SIDES INDICATED THEIR INABILITY TO ACCEPT THE CODE OF CONDUCT AS SUBMITTED TO THEM.

THE REPORT STATES THAT BOTH SIDES ARE RELUCTANT TO COMPROMISE ON ANY ISSUE WHICH THEY BELIEVE COULD WEAKEN THEIR OWN POSITION. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL APPEALS TO THE PARTIES TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PERMIT THE EXPEDITIOUS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN.

SHOULD THE COUNCIL DECIDE TO EXTEND THE MANDATE FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF FOUR MONTHS, THE COST OF MAINTAINING MINURSO WILL BE WITHIN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,592,500 GROSS AS AUTHORIZED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. AS AT 31 AUGUST, UNPAID ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MINURSO SPECIAL ACCOUNT AMOUNTED TO \$55.8 MILLION. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE MISSION WITH THE NECESSARY CASH FLOW, A TOTAL OF \$16.1 MILLION WAS BORROWED FROM OTHER PEACE-KEEPING ACCOUNTS. THESE LOANS REMAIN UNPAID.

AT THE TIME OF THE REPORT, THE MILITARY COMPONENT OF MINURSO TOTALLED 285 PERSONNEL. PENDING THE FULFILMENT OF THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE TRANSITIONAL

PERIOD, THE MILITARY MANDATE OF MINURSO REMAINS RESTRICTED TO MONITORING AND VERIFYING THE CEASE-FIRE, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON 6 SEPTEMBER. THE ORIGINAL MILITARY CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF MINURSO DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD CONSISTED OF A TOTAL MILITARY STRENGTH OF ABOUT 1,695 (ALL RANKS). IT IS ESTIMATED THAT A FORCE OF ABOUT 1,780 (ALL RANKS) WOULD BE REQUIRED IN ORDER FOR MINURSO TO IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVELY ITS MILITARY MANDATE.

THE REPORT OF A SECURITY COUNCIL MISSION WHICH VISITED THE AREA IN JUNE (S/1995/498) RECOMMENDED THAT BOTH PARTIES STOP INSISTING ON RECIPROCITY IN THE NUMBER AND OPERATION OF IDENTIFICATION CENTRES AND REFRAIN FROM BLAMING THEIR LACK OF COOPERATION ON THE OTHER SIDE; THAT ADDITIONAL IDENTIFICATION TEAMS BE SET UP IN TEMPORARY FIXED CENTRES; THAT THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF PERSONS BE IDENTIFIED ON ANY GIVEN DAY; THAT MINURSO SPEED UP THE SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW OF UNDECIDED CASES AND THE COMPILING OF PRELIMINARY VOTER ELIGIBILITY LISTS; AND THAT MEASURES BE TAKEN TO ENSURE FULL CONFIDENTIALITY IN DEALING WITH REVIEW CASES. THE MISSION ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT MINURSO MAXIMIZE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING INFORMATION ABOUT THE IDENTIFICATION AND THAT IT COMMENCE WITHOUT DELAY THE IDENTIFICATION OPERATION FOR APPLICANTS LIVING IN MAURITANIA.

IN 1993, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OFFERED A COMPROMISE TO OVERCOME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE POLISARIO AND MOROCCO ON THE PROCESS OF REGISTRATION OF VOTERS. THE COMPROMISE, WHICH WAS PRESENTED WHEN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL VISITED THE MISSION AREA IN JUNE 1993, ADDRESSES THE INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF THE CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL VOTERS.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL ALSO HAS BEFORE IT A DRAFT RESOLUTION (S/1995/816) WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS:

"THE SECURITY COUNCIL,

"REAFFIRMING ITS RESOLUTIONS 621 (1988) OF 20 SEPTEMBER 1988, 658 (1990) OF 27 JUNE 1990, 690 (1991) OF 29 APRIL 1991, 725 (1991) OF 31 DECEMBER 1991, 809 (1993) OF 2 MARCH 1993, 907 (1994) OF 29 MARCH 1994, 973 (1995) OF 13 JANUARY 1995, 995 (1995) OF 26 MAY 1995 AND 1002 (1995) OF 30 JUNE 1995,

"REAFFIRMING IN PARTICULAR ITS RESOLUTIONS 725 (1991) AND 907 (1994) RELATING TO THE CRITERIA FOR VOTER ELIGIBILITY AND THE COMPROMISE PROPOSAL OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THEIR INTERPRETATION (S/26185),

"HAVING CONSIDERED THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF 8 SEPTEMBER 1995 (S/1995/779), AND NOTING FURTHER THE FACT THAT ONLY TWO OUT OF THE EIGHT IDENTIFICATION CENTRES ARE CURRENTLY FUNCTIONING,

"COMMITTED TO REACHING A JUST AND LASTING SOLUTION TO THE QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA,

"REITERATING THE FACT THAT, FOR PROGRESS TO BE ACHIEVED, THE TWO PARTIES MUST HAVE A VISION OF THE POST-REFERENDUM PERIOD,

"EXPRESSING THE HOPE FOR A RAPID RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS CAUSING DELAYS IN THE COMPLETION OF THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS,

"EXPRESSING ITS REGRET THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE PRELIMINARY VETTING BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MOROCCO OF THE 100,000 APPLICANTS NOT RESIDING IN THE TERRITORY IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE INABILITY

OF MINURSO TO MAINTAIN ITS TIMETABLE FOR COMPLETING THE
IDENTIFICATION PROCESS,
"EXPRESSING ITS REGRET ALSO THAT THE POLISARIO FRONT IS
REFUSING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IDENTIFICATION, EVEN WITHIN THE
TERRITORY, OF THREE GROUPS WITHIN THE DISPUTED TRIBAL
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F R I D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*SECURITY COUNCIL EXTENDS MINURSO MANDATE UNTIL 31 JANUARY 1996; CALLS ON PARTIES IN WESTERN SAHARA TO CEASE ALL DELAYING ACTIONS AND COOPERATE WITH MISSION.

*SECURITY COUNCIL CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE AND CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES THROUGHOUT BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.

*GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTS AGENDA WITH 164 ITEMS FOR ITS FIFTIETH SESSION.

*INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISMISSES NEW ZEALAND'S ACTION TO HALT FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTS IN SOUTH PACIFIC.

*DONORS TO MEET IN BRUSSELS ON 25 SEPTEMBER TO MOBILIZE RESOURCES FOR PEACE PROCESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN ANGOLA.

*SOMALI FACTION FREES LAST OF INTERNATIONAL AID WORKERS HELD CAPTIVE IN BAIDOA.

*IFAD EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDS MICRO-LENDING AND GRANTS BE INCREASED BY 5 PER CENT TO \$434 MILLION IN 1996.

*UNCTAD TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD RECOMMENDS UNCTAD IX BE CONVENED IN SOUTH AFRICA IN APRIL 1996.

* * *

THE SECURITY COUNCIL TODAY EXTENDED THE MANDATE OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR THE REFERENDUM IN WESTERN SAHARA (MINURSO) UNTIL 31 JANUARY 1996. IT REQUESTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO REPORT BY 15 JANUARY 1996 ON PROGRESS TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN, STATING WHETHER OR NOT THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD COULD BEGIN BY 31 MAY 1996. IT NOTED THAT IF THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR THE START OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD WERE NOT IN PLACE BEFORE 31 JANUARY, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD PRESENT ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION, INCLUDING THE POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF THE MISSION.

BY UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTING RESOLUTION 1017 (1995), THE COUNCIL CALLED ON THE PARTIES TO WORK WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND MINURSO TO IMPLEMENT THE SETTLEMENT PLAN. THEY SHOULD ABANDON THEIR INSISTENCE ON STRICT RECIPROCITY IN THE OPERATION OF IDENTIFICATION CENTRES AND CEASE ALL OTHER PROCRASTINATING ACTIONS WHICH COULD FURTHER DELAY THE HOLDING OF THE REFERENDUM. THE COUNCIL STRESSED THE NEED TO ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN AND URGED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO EXAMINE WAYS OF REDUCING THE MISSION'S OPERATIONAL COSTS.

* * *

THE SECURITY COUNCIL LAST NIGHT CALLED ON ALL PARTIES AND

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OTHERS CONCERNED TO REFRAIN FROM VIOLENCE AND HOSTILE ACTS AND TO REACH AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE AND CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES THROUGHOUT BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA. BY UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTING RESOLUTION 1016 (1995), IT CALLED ON MEMBER STATES INVOLVED IN PROMOTING A PEACE SETTLEMENT TO INTENSIFY THEIR EFFORTS WITH THE PARTIES, TO ENSURE THAT THEY TOOK NO ADVANTAGE FROM THE CURRENT SITUATION AND SHOWED UTMOST RESTRAINT.

THE COUNCIL EXPRESSED DEEP CONCERN AT THE MILITARY SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND AT THE PLIGHT OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, WHICH CONSTITUTED A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS OF SIGNIFICANT PROPORTIONS. IT EXPRESSED SPECIAL CONCERN ABOUT THE HUMANITARIAN CONSEQUENCES OF THE RECENT FIGHTING, INCLUDING LOSS OF LIFE AND A NEW FLOW OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS. THE COUNCIL NOTED THE ASSURANCES GIVEN BY THE BOSNIAN AND CROATIAN GOVERNMENTS REGARDING OFFENSIVE ACTIONS IN WESTERN BOSNIA.

A UNITED NATIONS SPOKESMAN TODAY REPORTED THAT THE RECENT OFFENSIVE IN WESTERN BOSNIA HAD ALMOST STOPPED, ALTHOUGH RESUPPLY OPERATIONS AND MINOR SKIRMISHES WERE CONTINUING. THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING AROUND DOBOJ AND MAGLAJ ALSO DECREASED IN THE PAST 24 HOURS. THERE WERE FEWER FIRING INCIDENTS IN SARAJEVO, AND THE UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE (UNPROFOR) CONTINUED TO ENJOY FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT ACROSS THE AIRPORT ROUTES.

* * *

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY ADOPTED A 164-ITEM AGENDA FOR ITS FIFTIETH SESSION. THE AGENDA COVERS A WIDE RANGE OF POLITICAL, DISARMAMENT, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN MATTERS, AS WELL AS LEGAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS.

THE NEW ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PLENARY CONCERN: COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION; REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA; COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION; OBSERVER STATUS FOR THE CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION SYSTEM; MULTILINGUALISM; COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE AGENCY FOR CULTURAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION; WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT; UNIVERSAL CONGRESS ON THE PANAMA CANAL; AND STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM.

IN ADDITION, A NEW ITEM ON THE ROLE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL WILL INITIALLY BE CONSIDERED IN PLENARY AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN THE SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL). THE ASSEMBLY WILL ALSO CONSIDER A NEW SUB-ITEM ON THE SUSTAINABLE USE AND CONSERVATION OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES OF THE HIGH SEAS. ANOTHER NEW ITEM, ON NORMALIZATION OF THE SITUATION CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICA, HAS NOT YET BEEN ALLOCATED. CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION OF CYPRUS HAS ALSO NOT YET BEEN ALLOCATED.

* * *

THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE TODAY DISMISSED NEW ZEALAND'S REQUEST FOR AN EXAMINATION OF THE SITUATION RELATING TO FRANCE'S NUCLEAR TESTING IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC. THE COURT DECIDED BY 12 VOTES TO 3 THAT THE REQUEST DID NOT FALL WITHIN THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF ITS 1974 JUDGEMENT IN A CASE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES CONCERNING NUCLEAR TESTING. CONSEQUENTLY, NEW ZEALAND'S REQUEST FOR PROVISIONAL MEASURES

AND APPLICATIONS FOR PERMISSION TO INTERVENE SUBMITTED BY AUSTRALIA, SAMOA, SOLOMON ISLANDS, THE MARSHALL ISLANDS AND THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA WERE ALSO DISMISSED.

NEW ZEALAND HAD REQUESTED THE COURT TO DECLARE THAT FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTS WOULD CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF NEW ZEALAND AND OTHER STATES, UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, BY INTRODUCING RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL INTO THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT. IT HAD ALSO SOUGHT A DECLARATION THAT IT WOULD BE UNLAWFUL FOR FRANCE TO CONDUCT NUCLEAR TESTS AT MURUROA AND FANGATAUFA ATOLLS BEFORE UNDERTAKING AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT ACCORDING TO ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

* * *

THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP) WILL HOLD A ROUND-TABLE MEETING OF DONORS IN BRUSSELS ON 25 AND 26 SEPTEMBER TO MOBILIZE RESOURCES FOR THE PEACE PROCESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN ANGOLA. THE PRESIDENT OF ANGOLA, JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS, WILL PRESIDE OVER THE MEETING. THE LEADER OF THE NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA (UNITA), JONAS SAVIMBI, WILL ALSO ATTEND.

AN ESTIMATED \$700 MILLION IS NEEDED TO CONSOLIDATE THE ANGOLAN PEACE PROCESS, REVIVE THE ECONOMY, REBUILD INFRASTRUCTURE AND IMPROVE LIVING STANDARDS. MORE THAN 1.25 MILLION ANGOLANS WERE CLASSIFIED AS INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS LAST YEAR, WHILE SOME 280,000 WERE REFUGEES IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ALIOUNE BLONDIN BEYE YESTERDAY PRESIDED OVER A SESSION OF THE JOINT COMMISSION IN LUANDA. THE COMMISSION, WHICH REVIEWS THE PEACE PROCESS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LUSAKA PROTOCOL, NOTED A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN THE NUMBER OF CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS. IT ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE CREATION OF A PERMANENT MILITARY COMMITTEE TO MONITOR THE MILITARY SITUATION.

* * *

GENERAL MOHAMED FARAH AIDEED'S FORCES HAVE NOW RELEASED ALL OF THE INTERNATIONAL AID WORKERS TAKEN CAPTIVE IN BAIDOA, SOMALIA, EARLIER IN THE WEEK. THE REMAINING 14 DETAINEES - TEN UNITED NATIONS STAFF MEMBERS AND FOUR NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION EMPLOYEES -- ARRIVED TODAY IN NAIROBI, KENYA.

* * *

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD) HAS RECOMMENDED AN INCREASE OF 5 PER CENT IN THE FUND'S 1996 PROGRAMME OF WORK, WHICH WOULD BRING IT TO OVER \$434 MILLION. IT TOOK THAT ACTION AT THE END OF ITS FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION IN ROME. THE PROPOSED INCREASE SHOULD BE FORMALLY ENDORSED BY THE IFAD GOVERNING COUNCIL IN JANUARY.

ALMOST \$30 MILLION WOULD BE EXTENDED IN THE FORM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER. THE REMAINING \$505 MILLION WOULD SUPPORT A MICRO-LENDING PROGRAMME FOR OVER 30 NEW PROJECTS IN ASIA, AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA, EASTERN EUROPE AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION.

* * *

THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD) HAS RECOMMENDED THAT UNCTAD IX BE CONVENED FROM 27 APRIL TO 11 MAY 1996 IN MIDRAND, NEAR JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA. THE BOARD DECIDED

TO HOLD A SPECIAL PREPARATORY SESSION FROM 11 TO 15 DECEMBER,
DURING WHICH IT WILL REVIEW THE FUNCTIONING OF UNCTAD'S
INTERGOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY SINCE 1992.

DURING ITS AUTUMN SESSION IN GENEVA, THE BOARD ALSO
DISCUSSED SUCH ISSUES AS GLOBAL INTERDEPENDENCE AND PROSPECTS
FOR THE WORLD ECONOMY, AND THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT WAS
ASKED TO ADDRESS THE NEGATIVE TRADE-RELATED EFFECTS ON
NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES OF UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON
PARTS OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA.

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GROUPINGS, THUS DELAYING COMPLETION OF THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS,

"TAKING NOTE OF PARAGRAPH 49 OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT OF 8 SEPTEMBER 1995,

"STRESSING THE NEED FOR PROGRESS TO BE MADE ON ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN,

"REAFFIRMING ITS ENDORSEMENT IN RESOLUTION 1002 (1995) OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MISSION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL CONCERNING THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPHS 41 TO 53 OF THE REPORT OF THE MISSION OF 21 JUNE 1995 (S/1995/498),

"1. REITERATES ITS COMMITMENT TO THE HOLDING, WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY, OF A FREE, FAIR AND IMPARTIAL REFERENDUM FOR THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE OF WESTERN SAHARA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SETTLEMENT PLAN, WHICH HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE TWO PARTIES STATED ABOVE;

"2. EXPRESSES ITS DISAPPOINTMENT THAT, SINCE THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 1002 (1995), THE PARTIES HAVE MADE INSUFFICIENT PROGRESS TOWARDS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SETTLEMENT PLAN, INCLUDING THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS, THE CODE OF CONDUCT, THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, THE CONFINEMENT OF POLISARIO TROOPS AND THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE REDUCTION OF MOROCCAN TROOPS IN THE TERRITORY;

"3. CALLS UPON THE TWO PARTIES TO WORK HENCEFORTH WITH THE SECRETARYGENERAL AND MINURSO IN A SPIRIT OF GENUINE COOPERATION TO IMPLEMENT THE SETTLEMENT PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, TO ABANDON THEIR INSISTENCE ON STRICT RECIPROCITY IN THE OPERATION OF THE IDENTIFICATION CENTRES AND TO CEASE ALL OTHER PROCRASTINATING ACTIONS WHICH COULD FURTHER DELAY THE HOLDING OF THE REFERENDUM;

"4. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THE PARTIES, TO PRODUCE SPECIFIC AND DETAILED PROPOSALS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS HINDERING THE COMPLETION OF THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE RELEVANT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS, IN PARTICULAR RESOLUTION 907 (1994) RELATING TO THE COMPROMISE PROPOSAL OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (S/26185), AND RESOLUTION 1002 (1995) RELATING TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL MISSION (S/1995/498), AND TO REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF HIS EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD BY 15 NOVEMBER 1995;

"5. DECIDES TO REVIEW THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS ON THE BASIS OF THE REPORT REQUESTED IN PARAGRAPH 4 ABOVE, AND TO CONSIDER AT THAT TIME ANY FURTHER NECESSARY MEASURES WHICH MIGHT NEED TO BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THE PROMPT COMPLETION OF THAT PROCESS AND OF ALL THE

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OTHER ASPECTS RELEVANT TO THE FULFILMENT OF THE SETTLEMENT
PLAN;

"6. DECIDES TO EXTEND THE MANDATE OF MINURSO UNTIL
31 JANUARY 1996 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN HIS
REPORT OF 8 SEPTEMBER 1995 AND TAKES NOTE OF HIS INTENTION,
IF, BEFORE THEN, HE CONSIDERS THAT THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY
FOR THE START OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD ARE NOT IN PLACE TO
PRESENT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WITH ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS FOR
CONSIDERATION, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF
MINURSO;

"7. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO REPORT BY 15 JANUARY
1996 ON PROGRESS ACHIEVED TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
SETTLEMENT PLAN, AND TO STATE IN THAT REPORT WHETHER OR NOT
THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD WILL BE ABLE TO BEGIN BY 31 MAY 1996;

"8. STRESSES THE NEED TO ACCELERATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE SETTLEMENT PLAN AND URGES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO EXAMINE
WAYS OF REDUCING THE OPERATIONAL COSTS OF MINURSO;

"9. FURTHER STRESSES THAT THE EXISTING MECHANISM FOR THE
FINANCING OF MINURSO REMAINS UNCHANGED, SUPPORTS THE
INVITATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO MEMBER STATES, IN
GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 49/247 OF 7 AUGUST 1995, TO MAKE
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO MINURSO, AND REQUESTS THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO EXISTING PROCEDURES,
TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRUST FUND TO RECEIVE SUCH
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CERTAIN SPECIFIC PURPOSES TO BE
DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL;

"10. DECIDES TO REMAIN SEIZED OF THE MATTER."

ADOPTION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, FRANCESCO PAOLO FULCI (ITALY),
CALLED ATTENTION TO THE DRAFT RESOLUTION PREPARED IN THE
COURSE OF THE COUNCIL'S PRIOR CONSULTATIONS (S/1995/816). HE
ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO A REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON
THE SITUATION CONCERNING WESTERN SAHARA (S/1995/779).

THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE AS
RESOLUTION 1017 (1995).

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15 SEPTEMBER 1995

CONFERENCE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S CLOSING STATEMENT AT CONCLUSION
OF FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN
THEIR DIVERSITIES SHOULD NOW MAKE WOMEN 'GREATEST MULTIPLIERS
OF PROSPERITY, RATHER THAN GREATEST VICTIMS OF POVERTY,'
STATES GERTRUDE MONGELLA

AS I RISE TO MAKE MY CLOSING REMARKS AT THIS MOST SPECIAL OF
ALL UNITED NATIONS WORLD CONFERENCES, I CANNOT HELP BUT HEAVE
A BIG SIGH OF RELIEF. RELIEF, NOT BECAUSE THE NUMEROUS
MEETINGS, CONSULTATIONS AND EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FOURTH
WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN ARE OFFICIALLY OVER. BUT RELIEF AND
HAPPINESS, THAT WE HAVE MADE IT.

MY DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS, WE HAVE MADE IT! WE HAVE
MANAGED TO TRANSCEND HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL COMPLEXITIES; WE
HAVE MANAGED TO TRANSCEND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DISPARITIES AND
DIVERSITIES; WE HAVE KEPT AFLAME OUR COMMON VISION AND GOAL OF
EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE. IN A NUMBER OF AREAS, WE
HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDED THE HORIZONS OF PREVIOUS
CONFERENCES. FINALLY, WE HAVE MANAGED TO ACHIEVE OUR
CONSENSUS DOCUMENT - THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION - A TASK THAT WAS
ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH THE HARD WORK AND COOPERATIVE SPIRIT,
DEDICATION AND DETERMINATION OF GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER GROUPS
REPRESENTED HERE.

IT IS A WONDERFUL FEELING! I AM SURE THAT WE ALL SHARE THIS
MOMENT FOR WHICH WE HAVE ALL DILIGENTLY WORKED FROM ALL
LEVELS. WE ALL CONTRIBUTED OUR PART SO WE CAN ALL JOIN
TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE OUR COMMON ACHIEVEMENT OF TODAY IN THE
SAME SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY WHICH GUIDED OUR ACTIVITIES AND
ACTIONS UP TO, AND INCLUDING BEIJING. EACH AND EVERY ONE HAS
CONTRIBUTED TIME, ENERGY AND VISION TO ENABLE US ALL TO ARRIVE
AT THIS CRITICAL TURNING POINT IN THE HISTORY OF HUMANITY. I
THANK YOU ALL SINCERELY.

TO OUR HOSTS, THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF CHINA, NO WORDS
CAN ADEQUATELY EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE FOR THE PHYSICAL
INFRASTRUCTURE YOU PLACED AT OUR DISPOSAL; FOR THE MORAL AND
FRIENDLY SUPPORT YOU PROVIDED TO MAKE US FEEL WE ARE AT HOME
HERE; FOR THE UNTIRING EFFORTS
(MORE)

- 2 -

PRESS RELEASE WOM/BEI/39

15 SEPTEMBER

YOU MADE TO SECURE AND PROTECT US; AND ALSO FOR THE MANY
SPECTACULAR ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS ARRANGED FOR PARTICIPANTS

SLG FL CAO

TO BOTH THE NGO FORUM AND THE CONFERENCE. THANK YOU. FOR ALL THESE, WE ARE ESPECIALLY GRATEFUL TO THE CHINA ORGANIZING COMMITTEE AND THE ALLCHINA WOMEN'S FEDERATION AND ALL THE VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT AND FOR THE SMOOTH COORDINATION OF ALL PREPARATORY ARRANGEMENTS.

THE 1995 NGO FORUM ON WOMEN, WHICH WAS HELD FROM 30 AUGUST TO 8 SEPTEMBER, "TO BRING TOGETHER WOMEN AND MEN TO CHALLENGE, CREATE AND TRANSFORM GLOBAL STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES AT ALL LEVELS THROUGH THE EMPOWERMENT AND CELEBRATION OF WOMEN", BROUGHT TOGETHER OVER 25,000 WOMEN, MEN AND YOUTH TO DISCUSS IN WORKSHOPS, SYMPOSIA AND OTHER CONSULTATIONS, DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF CONCERNS WHICH TOUCH THE VERY LIVES OF WOMEN. SOME OF THE DEBATES THAT TOOK PLACE GENERATED ANIMOSITY WHICH REFLECTS DIVERGENT VIEWS AND THE DIFFICULT PROCESS OF CONSENSUS-BUILDING. FOR AFTER ALL, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DO WE KNOW OF ANY CONFERENCES THAT DID NOT HAVE THESE IMPASSIONED DEBATES?

THE ALL-INCLUSIVE CELEBRATIONS OF WOMEN'S WORK WHICH TOOK PLACE AT HUAIROU HELPED TO CEMENT THE BONDS AND NETWORKING AMONG WOMEN FROM ALL CORNERS OF THE GLOBE. I THANK THE ORGANIZERS OF THE 1995 NGO FORUM FOR THEIR DRIVE, DEDICATION AND SUPPORT.

TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI, WHO HAS BEEN WITH US FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, I THANK HIM FOR HIS SUPPORT AND FOR PLACING HIS TRUST IN ME. I THANK HIM ALSO FOR COMMITTING HIMSELF TO THE FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO MEET THE ASPIRATIONS OF SO MANY, MANY WOMEN AND HE HAS DONE SO.

I ALSO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE GRATITUDE TO ALL THE SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS AS WELL AS COLLEAGUES FROM OTHER UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES, SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS AND BODIES, WHO ARE TOO MANY TO ENUMERATE HERE, FOR THEIR UNFLINCHING SUPPORT. HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR THEIR HARD WORK THROUGHOUT THE PREPARATORY PROCESS AND CERTAINLY IN BEIJING, THE CONFERENCE WOULD NOT HAVE PROCEEDED AS SMOOTHLY AS IT HAS BEEN.

I THANK AND BLESS THE YOUTH. YOU HAVE BEEN WITH US THROUGHOUT. IT IS YOU, WITH YOUR CREATIVITY, COURAGE, ENERGY AND VISION, WHO WILL MAKE US MOVE FORWARD. FOR AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, THE YOUTH OWN THE FUTURE AND YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO OWN THE ACTIONS OF BEIJING. WE WILL, THEREFORE, RELY ON YOU TO CARRY ON THE REVOLUTION!

(MORE)

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15 SEPTEMBER 1995

AND NOW, FRIENDS, WE HAVE OUR PLATFORM, A PLATFORM FROM WHICH WE SHOULD MANAGE THE CHANGES EXPECTED OF US. WE OWE MUCH TO THE ABLE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MME. CHEN MUHUA, PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE; PATRICIA LICUANAN, CHAIRPERSON OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE; OBAAPANYIN NANA AMA YEBOAA, CHAIRPERSON OF WORKING GROUP I; IRENE FREUDENSCHUSSREICHL, CHAIRPERSON OF WORKING GROUP II AND ALL THE OTHERS, WHOSE EFFORTS HAVE FACILITATED THE PROCESS TOWARDS THE ADOPTION OF THIS PLATFORM. WE NOW HAVE IN OUR HANDS, THE MANDATES FOR WHICH WE HAVE BEEN WORKING; OUR LEGITIMATE BASIS TO DEMAND CHANGE. OUR PLATFORM WHICH REPRESENTS A GLOBAL CONSENSUS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE CANNOT

NOW BE HIDDEN AWAY AND ALLOWED TO COLLECT DUST.

FRIENDS, THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IS CONCLUDED, BUT THE REAL WORK OF TRANSFORMING WORDS INTO ACTION IS ONLY NOW BEGINNING. LET THE SPIRIT OF ORGANIZATION AND GOAL-SETTING WHICH MARKED THE PREPARATORY PHASE OF THIS CONFERENCE BECOME THE ENERGY TO PROPEL IMPLEMENTATION. LET THE DIVERSITIES OF WOMEN NOW BE CHANNELLED INTO MAKING WOMEN INDEED, "THE GREATEST MULTIPLIERS OF PROSPERITY" RATHER THAN THE "GREATEST VICTIMS OF POVERTY".

WE HAVE TAKEN THE DECISIVE, IRREVERSIBLE STEP FORWARD; THERE IS NO GOING BACK. THE STRANDS FOR WEAVING A BETTER WORLD FOR HUMANITY ARE HERE; LET US, THEREFORE, ACT, AND ACT NOW. WHILE I DO NOT WISH TO UNDER-ESTIMATE THE PROBLEMS WHICH WOULD ACCOMPANY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM, I BELIEVE FIRMLY THAT IF WE ALL DO OUR LITTLE BIT, NO MATTER HOW SMALL IT IS, WE SHALL SUCCEED IN MAKING EVEN THE IMPOSSIBLE, POSSIBLE.

FOR, AS OUR CHINESE HOSTS SAY, THE JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES, BEGINS WITH ONE STEP. THE JOURNEY WILL, HOWEVER, NOT BE ON SUPER-HIGHWAYS ON WHICH WE CAN GEAR UP AT FULL SPEED: IT MIGHT RATHER TAKE US OVER SEAS AND LAKES; OVER HILLS, MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS; IT WILL TAKE US MANY YEARS OF HARD WORK AND SACRIFICE TO JOURNEY TO THE END. WE MAY HAVE TO REST A LITTLE AT REST-STOP WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH SO THAT WE CAN RE-FUEL, RE-FRESH, AND RE-DIRECT OURSELVES. SOCIAL JUSTICE DEMANDS THAT WE MOVE ON. NOT EVEN WHEN WE STRAY A LITTLE AWAY FROM OUR COURSE CAN WE REVERSE THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION WHICH HAS BEEN LAUNCHED.

LET BEIJING BE THE FIRST STEP OF OUR THOUSAND MILES TO IMPLEMENT THE ATTAINMENT OF TRUE EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE IN THE WORLD. LET BEIJING BE THE PLATFORM FROM WHICH OUR GLOBAL CRUSADE WILL BE CARRIED FORWARD. LET US ALL COMMIT OURSELVES, AS WE HAVE BEEN DOING

(MORE)

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ALL ALONG, TO CARRY THE SPIRIT AND HOPES OF BEIJING TO ALL WOMEN, MEN AND THE YOUNG HAMLETS IN OUR HAMLETS, VILLAGES, TOWNS, CITIES IN EVERY NATION OF THE GLOBE. DISSEMINATE THE PLATFORM ON YOUR RETURN HOME TO YOUR COUNTRIES AND LET THE MESSAGE BE LOUD AND CLEAR: ACTION NOW.

THE EYES OF THE WORLD ARE UPON US. THE WORLD WILL HOLD US ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GOOD INTENTIONS AND DECISIONS ARRIVED AT IN BEIJING. I, THEREFORE, CHARGE YOU, MY DEAR FRIENDS AND SISTERS, TO RE-ASSEMBLE IN YOUR RANKS, SHARPEN YOUR FOCUS AND MARCH ON. LET US ENSURE THAT WE CARRY THE TORCH WHICH WAS LIT IN MEXICO, AND REKINDLED IN COPENHAGEN AND NAIROBI, FURTHER FORWARD FROM BEIJING. WE SHALL SURELY GET THERE!

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28 SEPTEMBER 1995

PRESS CONFERENCE BY FOREIGN MINISTER OF FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
YUGOSLAVIA
(SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO)

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
YUGOSLAVIA (SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO), MILAN MILUTINOVIC, HELD A
PRESS CONFERENCE AT HEADQUARTERS LATE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON,
FOLLOWING WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS TUESDAY'S "IMPORTANT AND
DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS" AIMED AT SETTING UP THE CONSTITUTIONAL
ARCHITECTURE FOR A SINGLE STATE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.

MR. MILUTINOVIC SAID TUESDAY'S NEGOTIATIONS HAD ENDED VERY
SUCCESSFULLY, AND HE WAS MOST SATISFIED WITH THE AGREEMENT.
THE FINAL DOCUMENT MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE DETAILED, BUT THE
PARTIES HAD ACHIEVED WHAT WAS WITHIN THEIR POWER. HE FELT THAT
THEY HAD COME THROUGH A VERY SIGNIFICANT PHASE OF THE WHOLE
PEACE PROCESS AND REACHED A BASIC ARRANGEMENT. THE NEXT STEP
WAS TOTAL AND UNLIMITED CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES, WHICH SHOULD
BE FOLLOWED AT ONCE BY THE PEACE CONFERENCE ENVISAGED IN THE
AGREEMENT. HIS OWN COUNTRY WAS READY TO MOVE IMMEDIATELY.

A CORRESPONDENT, REFERRING TO REPORTS WITHIN THE PAST 24
HOURS OF CROSSBORDER FIRING INVOLVING ALL PARTIES IN BOSNIA
AND HERZEGOVINA, SUGGESTED THAT THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES
AGREEMENT WAS NOWHERE GETTING UNDER WAY. MR. MILUTINOVIC
REPLIED THAT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA DID NOT
CONTROL THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.
THE SITUATION THERE REMAINED TERRIFYING, WITH PROVOCATIONS
COMING SOMETIMES FROM ONE SIDE, SOMETIMES THE OTHER. WHAT THE
WORLD WAS SEEING WAS THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC
TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) AIR STRIKES AGAINST WESTERN BOSNIA,
AS WELL AS OF THE MUSLIM AND CROAT OFFENSIVE THERE.

THERE WERE SO MANY WARLORDS IN THE REGION EAGER TO EXPLOIT
THE SITUATION FOR ELEVENTH-HOUR GAINS BEFORE THE PROJECTED
CONFERENCE BEGAN, HE CONTINUED. ALL SUCH ACTIVITY HAD TO BE
STOPPED, PERMANENTLY AND THROUGHOUT BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA --
AND NOT JUST TO ADVANCE A NEW SET OF PRECONDITIONS. OF
COURSE, SOME KIND OF POLITICAL FRAMEWORK WAS NEEDED FOR THE
CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT. IT WOULD HAVE TO BE
ARRANGED IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO. AFTER THAT, THE GENERALS ON
THE GROUND WOULD WORK OUT THE TECHNICALITIES.

ASKED IF HE HAD MADE IT CLEAR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF
CROATIA THAT A CROATIAN MILITARY INTERVENTION IN EASTERN

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SLAVONIA WOULD BRING A MILITARY RESPONSE FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA, MR. MILUTINOVIC SAID THAT HIS COUNTRY WOULD LIKE TO SETTLE THE PROBLEM OF EASTERN SLAVONIA PEACEFULLY AND SOON, WITH THE SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND WITH SOME KIND OF GUARANTEES. BUT THREE SIDES WOULD BE INVOLVED IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS OVER EASTERN SLAVONIA: THE CROATIAN AUTHORITIES; THE SERBS IN EASTERN SLAVONIA; AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA. AND THE LATTER HAD YUGOSLAVIA BRIEFING - - 28 SEPTEMBER 1995 TO DISCUSS WITH CROATIA THE WHOLE COMPLEX SPECTRUM OF RELATIONS BETWEEN CROATIA AND SERBIA, WHICH WERE OF COURSE CRUCIAL TO THE RESOLUTION OF ALL QUESTIONS IN THE AREA -- INCLUDING THAT OF EASTERN SLAVONIA. HOWEVER, MILITARY ACTION WOULD BE OUT OF PLACE, AND THE RESPONSE TO ANY SUCH ACTION WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. THERE WAS NO NEED FOR SUCH A DEVELOPMENT. EASTERN SLAVONIA WAS A PART OF THE PEACE PACKAGE KNOWN AS THE VANCE PLAN, AND HIS COUNTRY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE PEACE PROCESS CLEARLY BROUGHT FULL CIRCLE. EVERYTHING HAD STARTED IN BOSNIA. IT HAD TO BE FINISHED BY BOSNIA.

A CORRESPONDENT SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION WANTED SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA TO BE LIFTED AT THE COMING CONFERENCE. HE ASKED IF MR. MILUTINOVIC HAD DISCUSSED THE ENDING OF THE SANCTIONS REGIME WITH ANYONE FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION AT TUESDAY'S MEETING. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT THE QUESTION HAD INDEED BEEN DISCUSSED, BUT THAT THERE WERE STILL DIVERGENT OPINIONS ON EXACTLY HOW TO APPROACH THE SUSPENSION OR LIFTING OF SANCTIONS AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT. THAT, TOO, WAS PART OF THE PACKAGE AGREED ON AT TUESDAY'S MEETING.

A CORRESPONDENT SAID THAT THE TUESDAY AGREEMENT APPEARED TO BE "FULL OF HOLES" AND IGNORED IMPORTANT CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES, SUCH AS THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE PROPOSED PRESIDENCY IN THE SINGLE BOSNIAN STATE AND THE CONDITIONS FOR THE HOLDING OF ELECTIONS, WITH THE BOSNIAN PRIME MINISTER INSISTING ON EXTRADITION OF ACCUSED WAR CRIMINALS BEFORE ELECTIONS COULD BE HELD. WAS THE AGREEMENT WORKABLE? HE ASKED. MR. MILUTINOVIC ANSWERED THAT IT WAS; MANY OF THOSE QUESTIONS WERE ESSENTIALLY TECHNICALITIES WHOSE RESOLUTION WOULD DEPEND ON MUTUALLY AGREED "NUMBERS JUGGLING". THERE WERE NO "HOLES" IN THE AGREEMENT, AS A CAREFUL READING OF THE DOCUMENT WOULD CONFIRM. THE PARTIES HAD AGREED ON "A THIN ROOF OVER TWO ENTITIES". THE BASIS FOR THAT TENUOUS OVERARCHING CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT WAS THE COMPLETE EQUALITY OF THE TWO ENTITIES. THAT BEING THE CASE, THERE WERE "NO HOLES" IN TUESDAY'S AGREEMENT.

A CORRESPONDENT CITED SUSPICIONS THAT THE AGREEMENT WAS "SMOKE AND MIRRORS", THAT NO OVERARCHING PARLIAMENT COULD POSSIBLY WORK, AND THAT ESSENTIALLY THE AGREEMENT WOULD LEAD TO THE PARTITION OF BOSNIA. THE FOREIGN MINISTER REPLIED THAT HE COULD NOT PREDICT THE FUTURE, BUT HE REITERATED THAT IT HAD BEEN DECIDED YESTERDAY TO PLACE A "VERY THIN ROOF" OVER THE TWO ENTITIES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA. WHAT WAS ENVISAGED WAS A SORT OF LOOSE CONFEDERATION OF THE TWO ENTITIES, THE MUSLIM-CROAT FEDERATION ESTABLISHED BY THE WASHINGTON AGREEMENT, AND THE REPUBLIKA SRPSKA. NEITHER ENTITY WAS INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED -- SO SURELY THE NEW PLAN FOR

CONFEDERATION IMPLIED THAT THE SITUATION CREATED BY THE AGREEMENT WAS LESS "FULL OF HOLES" THAN HERETOFORE.

IN ANOTHER REFERENCE TO EASTERN SLAVONIA, THE SAME CORRESPONDENT CITED REPORTS FROM DIPLOMATS TO THE EFFECT THAT CROATIA WAS READY TO TAKE BACK EASTERN SLAVONIA BY FORCE. WAS THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA PREPARED IN SUCH AN EVENT TO DEFEND EASTERN SLAVONIA MILITARILY? "YES AND NO", SAID MR. MILUTINOVIC. A KNOWLEDGE OF THE HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF THE REGION SHOULD MAKE IT PLAIN THAT IT WAS "NOT NECESSARY TO BE DIRECTLY INVOLVED TO FINISH THE JOB".

ASKED HOW HE INTENDED TO ADDRESS THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT'S STIPULATION THAT WAR CRIMINALS BE EXTRADITED BEFORE ELECTIONS COULD BEGIN, THE FOREIGN MINISTER ASKED WHY HE SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO RESOLVE THAT QUESTION. THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE AT THE HAGUE WAS A "ONE-SIDED COURT". THERE WERE NO INNOCENT SIDES IN CIVIL WAR, BUT ATROCITIES HAD BEEN COMMITTED ON BOTH SIDES. ALTHOUGH THE COURT HAD STATED ITS INTENTION OF SEEKING THE GUILTY ON BOTH SIDES, IT WAS A FACT THAT ONLY SERBS WERE BEING ACCUSED.

CONTINUING, HE ASKED WHAT THE COURT PROPOSED DOING ABOUT THE 3,000 SERBS KILLED IN WESTERN SLAVONIA, THE AERIAL BOMBING OF SERBS, AND THE EXPULSION OF 250,000 SERBS FROM THE KRAJINA. HIS COUNTRY WAS NOT AFRAID OF THE COURT. ALL THE EVIDENCE OF ATROCITIES COMMITTED, OF MASS GRAVES AND SO FORTH, HAD BEEN SCRUPULOUSLY RECORDED. BUT THE COURT HAD TO ARRAIGN EVERYONE WHO HAD MADE THE PRESENT SITUATION POSSIBLE, WHICH MEANT EVERYONE WHO HAD SUPPORTED THE DISMANTLING OF YUGOSLAVIA. HE ADDED THAT THE CONSTITUTIONS OF MANY COUNTRIES SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED THE EXTRADITION OF THEIR CITIZENS. THAT WOULD ALSO BE A LIMITATION FOR HIS COUNTRY.

A CORRESPONDENT NOTED THAT TUESDAY'S AGREEMENT CONTAINED NO MECHANISM TO INHIBIT THE REPUBLIKA SRPSKA FROM SECEDING AND "MAKING OF YUGOSLAVIA A GREATER SERBIA". IF THE REPUBLIKA SRPSKA WANTED TO SECEDE TO YUGOSLAVIA, HOW WOULD HE REACT? MR. MILUTINOVIC ANSWERED THAT A DECISION WOULD BE MADE WHEN THE BOSNIAN SERBS EXPRESSED SUCH A DESIRE, BUT THE NOTION OF "GREATER SERBIA" WAS A NINETEENTH-CENTURY INVENTION WHICH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA HAD CATEGORICALLY REJECTED. ITS CONSTITUTION CLEARLY STATED THAT IT HAD NO TERRITORIAL CLAIMS WHATSOEVER AND THAT ITS PRESENT BORDERS SHOULD REMAIN AS THEY WERE.

IF A GREATER SERBIA WAS THE AIM, MR. MILUTINOVIC ASKED, WHY SHOULD THE SERBS NOW BE WITHDRAWING SO REGULARLY? HE SUGGESTED THE MEDIA MIGHT ASK ABOUT GREATER ALBANIA OR GREATER MACEDONIA RATHER THAN GREATER SERBIA. BUT OF COURSE THE GENEVA AGREEMENT CLEARLY ENTITLED THE REPUBLIKA SRPSKA TO SECEDE OR ESTABLISH ITS OWN RELATIONS WITH ANY NEIGHBOURING COUNTRY. WHETHER ITS LEADERS EXERCISED THAT RIGHT DEPENDED ON THEM, AND OF COURSE ON YUGOSLAVIA AS WELL.

ASKED WHAT WAS THE SINGLE MOST DIFFICULT ISSUE TO EMERGE IN HAMMERING OUT THE AGREEMENT, HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO DIFFICULTIES. EVEN THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE BOSNIAN SERB SECESSION HAD NOT PRESENTED A PROBLEM. THE MUSLIMCROAT FEDERATION HAD THE RIGHT, ACCORDING TO THE GENEVA AGREEMENT, TO BE IN CONFEDERATION WITH CROATIA. THE SAME RIGHT EXISTED FOR CONFEDERATION WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA.

THAT DID NOT MEAN THAT ANYONE HAD TO SECEDE FROM ANYTHING. WHEN THE DISMANTLING OF YUGOSLAVIA BEGAN, NO ONE HAD ASKED WHY SLOVENIA OR CROATIA HAD SECEDED AND NO ONE HAD ASKED WHY AN IMPOSED REFERENDUM IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA HAD CAUSED ANOTHER VIOLENT SECESSION. WHY THIS CONCERN ABOUT SECESSION NOW? HE ASKED. IT WAS, MOREOVER, FOR THE BOSNIAN SERBS TO DECIDE IF THEY WISHED TO SECEDE. IF THEY WISHED TO JOIN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA, HOWEVER, TWO WILLS, NOT ONE, WOULD BE REQUIRED. IF THE TWO WILLS COINCIDED, IT WOULD COME ABOUT.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED IF THERE HAD BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING AT YESTERDAY'S MEETING OVER THE FORM OF FUTURE ELECTIONS. HAD THE PARTIES INDEED AGREED ON DIRECT POPULAR ELECTIONS, AS HAD BEEN REPORTED? YES, SAID MR. MILUTINOVIC, HIS GOVERNMENT WAS FOR FREE ELECTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT INTERNALLY, INSIDE EACH ENTITY IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA. OTHERWISE, THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE NEUTRALIZED.

ASKED WHAT KINDS OF PEACE-IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS HE ENVISAGED IN THE WAKE OF THE AGREEMENT, MR. MILUTINOVIC SAID THERE WERE MANY POSSIBILITIES, SUCH AS "NATO PLUS THE RUSSIANS", A UNITED NATIONS UMBRELLA, OR SPECIAL MULTINATIONAL FORCES. BUT THE EXACT CONFIGURATION WOULD BE UNIMPORTANT ONCE A JUST AND LASTING PEACE WAS IN PLACE AND ALL SIDES WERE SATISFIED.

A CORRESPONDENT ASKED IF THE AGREEMENT WOULD BE SATISFYING TO GREECE, BULGARIA, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, TURKEY AND OTHER NEIGHBOURING STATES. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT HE COULD NOT ANSWER FOR THOSE COUNTRIES, BUT THE SANCTIONS REGIME WAS INFLECTING TREMENDOUS DAMAGE THROUGHOUT THE REGION. EVERYBODY HAD TO BE HAPPY AT THE PROSPECT OF PEACE AT THE HEART OF THE AREA.

A CORRESPONDENT PRESSED THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO CONCEDE THAT WHILE THE GENEVA AGREEMENT GAVE THE REPUBLIKA SRPSKA THE RIGHT TO ENTER A CONFEDERATION WITH ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT, IT DID NOT SPECIFICALLY GIVE IT THE RIGHT TO SECEDE. MR. MILUTINOVIC REPLIED THAT THAT WAS "THE ART OF THIS DOCUMENT". IT MADE NO MENTION OF THE RIGHT TO SECEDE. FROM ANOTHER STANDPOINT, THAT MEANT THAT WHAT WAS NOT PROHIBITED WAS ALLOWED. THE READER COULD CHOOSE.

ASKED IF THERE WAS A NEARING OF POSITIONS BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND CROATIA ON THE TIME FRAME FOR THE PEACEFUL REINTEGRATION OF EASTERN SLAVONIA TO CROATIA, HE SAID HE BELIEVED IT WOULD TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS.

TO A CORRESPONDENT WHO ASKED WHETHER IT WAS HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION THAT AN AMNESTY WAS A NECESSARY CONDITION FOR A FINAL PEACE SETTLEMENT, HE SAID THAT HE HAD NEVER CONSIDERED THE IDEA, BUT THAT IT SEEMED A GOOD ONE TO HIM. HE WOULD GIVE IT CAREFUL THOUGHT.

ASKED ABOUT HIS DISCUSSIONS YESTERDAY WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, HE SAID THE TALKS HAD BEEN USEFUL. HE HAD BEEN ASKED FOR HIS PRELIMINARY OPINION ON EUROPEAN PROPOSALS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, WHICH WOULD PROCEED ALONG THREE FRONTS: THE RECONSTRUCTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND MATERIAL DESTROYED BY WAR; THE REFUGEE QUESTION; AND THE POSSIBLE AFFILIATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND OTHER STATES OF THE REGION TO THE EUROPEAN

UNION. SUCH AN AFFILIATION PROMISED TO BE COMPLEX, GIVEN THE
NUMBER OF CANDIDATES ALREADY CROWDING IN THE WINGS OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION. BUT REBUILDING WHAT HAD BEEN DESTROYED WAS
STRAIGHTFORWARD; IT DID NOT MATTER IN WHICH TERRITORY
DESTRUCTION HAD TAKEN PLACE. HOWEVER, THE REFUGEE QUESTION
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WOULD BE AN ENORMOUS PROBLEM, AND THERE WAS CLEAR DANGER THAT IT MIGHT BE POLITICIZED.

ASKED HOW HE SAW THE FINAL CONFIGURATION OF THE TERRITORIAL MAP -- FOR EXAMPLE, POSSIBLE EXCHANGES OF TERRITORY, ABANDONMENT OF GORAZDE, WIDENING OF THE POSAVINA CORRIDOR -- HE SAID THAT THE MAP HAD BEEN DISCUSSED IN GENERAL RATHER THAN SPECIFIC TERMS. PRINCIPLES SUCH AS COMPACTNESS AND VALIDITY OF TERRITORY, RATHER THAN "SQUARE METRE BY SQUARE METRE" QUESTIONS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED. THE PARAMETERS FOR TERRITORY WOULD REMAIN AT 51:49. THE CRITERIA OF QUALITY AND QUANTITY WOULD HAVE TO BE MATCHED, WITH CAREFUL ASSESSMENT OF SUCH FACTORS AS THE RELATIVE ARIDITY OR FERTILITY OF TERRITORY AND THE PRESENCE OF MANUFACTURING OR EDUCATIONAL CENTRES. THOSE WERE THE TERMS IN WHICH THE MAP ISSUE WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT. THE REAL PROBLEM, WOULD BE THE LAST ONE -- THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FORCES. THAT WAS NOT A PROBLEM FROM THE YUGOSLAV SIDE, BUT WHO KNEW HOW THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WOULD APPROACH THE ISSUE?

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