



**Governing Council
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OTHER MATTERS

REPRESENTATION OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS
RECOGNIZED IN ITS AREA BY THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Report of the Administrator

1. At its twenty-eighth session in 1973, the General Assembly adopted resolution 3118, by which it requested, inter alia, "the specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Special Committee, to take all necessary measures to ensure that the peoples of the colonial Territories in Africa are represented by their national liberation movements (NLMs), in an appropriate capacity, when dealing with matters pertaining to those Territories". On the basis of this resolution, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) adopted, at its twenty-second session (1976), a decision that, among other things, requested "the Administrator henceforward to invite the representatives of African liberation movements recognized by OAU to take part in the work of the Governing Council as observers throughout the Council's session". In order to cover the travel and subsistence costs of the representatives of African liberation movements recognized by OAU invited to attend the twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions of the Council, the Council further decided that \$50,000 be allocated from that portion of the Programme Reserve set aside for provisional Indicative Planning Figures (IPFs) for NLMs. As a result, project NLM/78/001 was approved for the purpose in 1978 for a total of \$40,000.

2. Following agreement to establish a specific IPF for NLMs during the third programming cycle, the Governing Council once again deliberated, at its twenty-eighth session (1981), the question of financing the participation of

NLMs at meetings convened by UNDP. A suggestion was made that such costs be met from the IPF for NLMs, and introduced in a draft decision. In the debate that ensued, however, concern was voiced by a number of delegations over the advisability of utilizing IPF resources for attendance at meetings. Taken in the context of the views expressed by Council members during the debate, therefore, the resulting decision on the subject, decision 81/12, could be construed as ambiguous in its use of the phrase "out of". The decision, inter alia, requests the Administrator "to study the possibility of financing out of the indicative planning figures for national liberation movements the participation of several representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity in meetings convened by the United Nations Development Programme, including sessions of the Governing Council, as this will contribute to their familiarization with issues being discussed at those meetings".

3. In keeping with the tenor of the views expressed in the Council on the subject, the Administrator has, since 1982, financed the participation of up to two representatives of each NLM from the Trust Fund for Assistance to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The Fund was established in 1974 by resolution 3323 (XXXIX) in connection with General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV), 2621 (XXV) and 3163 (XXVIII) on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and People. It was to operate under the authority of UNDP for the purpose of financing humanitarian assistance projects of NLMs recognized by OAU.

4. Between 1974 and 1983 the contributions to this trust fund totalled \$3,880,000, primarily from the Governments of Sweden, the Netherlands, Norway, Belgium, Ireland and Cameroon. Utilization was directed initially to the training of NLM health personnel through projects NLM/76/001 (1976-1982), NLM/82/002 (1982-1984), and NLM/84/001 (1984-1986). In addition, an amount of \$330,790 was utilized between 1982 and 1986, inclusive, to finance the attendance at sessions of the Governing Council of up to two representatives of each NLM. As no contributions have been received to this trust fund since 1983, and considering that as at 30 June 1986 the resources of the fund have been fully expended, it will no longer be possible to continue to finance such costs from the Trust Fund for Assistance to Colonial Countries and Peoples. No other source of funding such attendance has been identified.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

5. In the absence of any extrabudgetary or trust funds to cover the travel of representatives of NLMs to Governing Council meetings, it is now necessary to respond to the request of the Council in its decision 81/12. Taking into

account the views previously expressed by members of the Council, it is proposed that UNDP continue to invite the NLMs to be represented at the meetings of the Council, and, since no other source of funding is available, to use the IPF for NLMs for this purpose. In order to conserve the IPF for the funding of projects, the following conditions should apply:

(a) Payment should be made from the IPF for only one representative, instead of two, from each NLM, as was the practice when payment was made from the trust fund;

(b) Payment should be made for attendance only at those meetings where a substantive matter affecting NLMs is to be discussed;

(c) NLMs would be free to seek extrabudgetary funds or use other sources to pay for one additional representative to the meetings of the Governing Council if they so wish.
