

regard to the Fezzan where France has made a corresponding commitment. By agreement with the United Kingdom Government a chief financial officer and an auditor-general have been appointed and Libya has itself created two financing agencies to receive grants or loans from abroad to finance approved development projects. The United States has agreed to provide financial and technical assistance in addition to the very considerable technical assistance provided by the United Nations and Specialized Agencies, whose preliminary technical surveys in Libya were completed early in 1952.

To reduce the extent of Libya's dependence on bilateral financial agreements, four Arab representatives proposed the creation by voluntary contributions of a special United Nations fund from which Libya might be given financial aid at its own request, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) being asked to suggest how the fund should be administered and used. A Chilean amendment was adopted instead, however, inviting ECOSOC, with the help of the Secretary-General, to make a broader study of ways and means whereby the United Nations and Specialized Agencies might provide additional assistance to Libya with a view to financing urgent economic and social programmes. This suggestion was opposed at first by United States, Canadian and other spokesmen on the ground that it seemed to imply a degree of continued supervision of Libya by the United Nations. In the final vote, however, the twelve-power draft resolution as amended by Chile was adopted by 53 votes, including that of Canada, to none, with no abstentions.

The five members of the Soviet bloc took no part in this vote because they objected to the final paragraph of the resolution relating to the admission of Libya to the United Nations. They maintained that the Security Council should consider Libya's membership application before the General Assembly expressed an opinion on the subject. The Representative of the U.S.S.R. nevertheless included Libya among 14 states whose simultaneous admission to the United Nations he proposed to the General Assembly at the same meeting, five days before a resolution to the same effect was put forward by the Soviet Representative in the Security Council.²

On January 29, 1952 the General Assembly adopted a resolution asking the Secretary-General to complete a survey of war damages in Libya begun in June 1951 and inviting the Secretary-General and agencies participating in the Technical Assistance Board to give sympathetic consideration to Libyan requests for assistance with economic development programmes which would strengthen the Libyan economy, including requests for aid in repairing or reconstructing installations damaged during the war, which are also needed to strengthen the Libyan economy. Finally, the General Assembly adopted a resolution noting the announced intention of Egypt to enter into direct negotiations with Libya to settle on a friendly basis issues relating to their common boundary. Both resolutions had Canadian support.

²See above, p. 10.