

**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

**SECRETARIAT
B. P. 3243**

ADDIS ABABA

**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAIN**

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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

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CM/305

RECOMMENDATION TO DECREASE BY A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE,
FOR A PARTICULAR YEAR OR YEARS, CONTRIBUTION TO THE
REGULAR BUDGET BY A MEMBER STATE WHICH IS A VICTIM OF
A BIG DISASTER

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The Secretariat thinks that it would be proper if Member States show their sympathy, in a concrete way, to their colleagues who are victims of national disasters. One of the ways that this sympathy can be shown is for Member States to offer material assistance to the victim. A concrete example of this is the case of Equatorial Guinea when Spain, the former colonial power, deserted the young state, on the eve of its independence, with its economy in shambles.

The Secretariat believes that another way is to allow a state, which is a victim of a big disaster, to pay only a portion of its regular contribution to the annual budget for the year or years in which its economy is in serious difficulty. The Secretariat suggests that the country concerned will apply for this reduction setting out the circumstance which has compelled it to do so. The Council of Ministers will examine the application and fix the percentage of reduction. The Council can decide that the reduction continue until the economy of the affected state recovers from the disaster.

The Secretariat suggests that this temporary exemption from full payment of annual contribution should also apply to a country which, due to some compelling reason, is unable to pay its full contribution. Such a country should apply to the Council of Ministers for the temporary exemption giving reasons why it cannot meet its full obligation. The Council will be free to fix the percentage and duration of the exemption.

The Secretariat believes that this sympathy is a concrete way of showing African solidarity.

1970-02

Recommendation to decrease by a certain percentage, for a particular year or years, contribution to the regular budget by a member state which is a victim of a big disaster

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