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ZAMBIA'S FOREIGN TRADE ROUTES IN 1973

1. Before the closing of the Southern Rhodesia border to Zambian traffic, Zambia's foreign trade amounted to 2,810,000 tons yearly. Imports for 1972 were estimated at 2 million tons and exports at 810,000 tons. The distribution of this trade over the different routes used in 1972 was as follows:

	<u>Imports</u> (Tons)	<u>Exports</u> (Tons)
Via Tanzania	300,000	225,000
Via Southern Rhodesia	950,000	425,000
Via Malawi	20,000	5,000
Via Zaire	200,000	145,000
By pipeline	510,000	—
Other routes	<u>20,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>810,000</u>

2. In 1972, Zambia exported 425,000 tons of goods and imported 950,000 tons across the Rhodesian border; these tonnages represented 52 per cent of total exports, 48 per cent of total imports and 63 per cent of imports transported by road and rail (i.e. excluding petroleum products). With the closing of the border to Zambian traffic on 9 January 1973, Zambia was obliged to look for alternatives to the Southern Rhodesia routes for the shipment of the 1,375,000 tons of its foreign trade which had until then been routed through Southern Rhodesia.

3. The team of UN experts which accompanied the Security Council Special Mission established under resolution 326 (1973) assessed the capacity of the alternative routings for Zambian traffic and estimated the cost of the additional equipment and personnel needed by Zambia to divert the 1,375,000 tons of exports and imports away from the Southern Rhodesian routes.

10. According to February 1973 estimates, the cost of maintaining Zambia's commercial traffic at normal levels following the closure of the Southern Rhodesia border, therefore amounts to some 77 million kwachas. In addition to the considerable efforts to be made by Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi and Zaire, all types of external financial, technical and material assistance will be required to enable Zambia to maintain her normal rate of economic development.

11. In accordance with the terms of Security Council resolution 327 (1973), the Secretary-General established a team of six UN experts to be under the over-all guidance and direction of the Executive Secretary of ECA. The team of experts, complemented by two ECA staff members, accompanied the Security Council Special Mission during its visit to Zambia and the neighbouring countries in February 1973. The report of the Special Mission, published under ref. S/10896 and Add. 1, was submitted to the Security Council in March 1973.

12. After deliberating the question, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1766 (LIV) in which it requested the Secretary-General to mobilize all forms of financial, technical and material assistance to Zambia to enable it to carry out its policy of economic independence, and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-fifth session on the progress made. The Council also requested all organizations and specialized agencies in the United Nations system to support the efforts of the Secretary-General and appealed to all Member States to support the efforts of the Secretary-General by providing technical, financial and material assistance to Zambia.

13. In line with the responsibilities given him under the terms of Security Council resolution 329 (1973), the Secretary-General took steps to ensure that the United Nations and its related organizations are equipped to organize, with immediate effect, all forms of financial, technical and material assistance to Zambia. The Secretary-General has also designated an Under-Secretary-General to co-ordinate all actions involved with the implementation of assistance to Zambia, within the United Nations system.

14. The question of assistance to Zambia was the object of a thorough discussion between the Secretary-General and the heads of the specialized agencies at the last meeting of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC). At this session, the ACC endorsed the measures taken by the Secretary-General to organize the United Nations for this purpose, and all the organizations expressed their determination to co-operate fully with the United Nations and to do everything possible, within their spheres of competence, to contribute to the programme of assistance to Zambia.

15. The measures which ECA, for its part, will be called upon to take to assist Zambia under the terms of Commission resolution 240 (XI) must necessarily come within the framework of the United Nations programme of assistance, now in the course of preparation. Whenever the activities planned fall within the sphere of competence of ECA, the Executive Secretary, who is in

contact with the Under-Secretary-General responsible for co-ordinating United Nations action, will take all necessary steps to ensure, within the limits of the secretariat's resources, ECA's contribution to the programme of assistance to Zambia.

16. As indicated above, in the programme of assistance to Zambia, priority is at present being accorded to:

- (a) Providing expert support for the organization and operation of the imports/exports management unit;
- (b) Providing telecommunications equipment;
- (c) Expediting the supply of equipment for Dar es-Salaam port;
- (d) Providing spare parts and at least part of the rolling stock for Zambia railways;
- (e) Providing trucks, tractors and trailers;
- (f) Providing facilities and equipment for handling, transporting and storing vegetable oils and foodstuffs;
- (g) Constructing a freight marshalling yard near Dar es-Salaam port;
- (h) Providing assistance to the Zambian Government to enable it to overcome its financial difficulties and foreign exchange costs.

17. To assist Zambia in overcoming the difficulties which she faces at present, it will be necessary to provide her urgently with:

- (a) Financial support in the form of credits, grants and loans to enable her in particular to purchase the necessary additional equipment;
- (b) Significant amounts of technical assistance over and above what has been planned, to provide her with the necessary technical and managerial skills, and, at the same time, to train local personnel.



