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**GENERAL  
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SECOND COMMITTEE  
2nd meeting  
held on  
Tuesday, 25 September 1979  
at 10.30 a.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MORGESCU (Romania)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

1. The CHAIRMAN expressed appreciation of the honour conferred on his country by his election. He need hardly stress the importance of the items to be considered by the Committee, since the difficulties confronting the world economy were well known. In his annual report (A/34/1), the Secretary-General had pointed out that "The forces at work in the world economy call for strong co-ordinated action to remove the structural causes of the present difficulties." Similarly, the President of the General Assembly had referred to the present as a most critical moment in the international economic negotiations and had said that the realm of dialogue must give way to the realm of action.

2. In that context, the problems which the Committee would have to consider at the current session were of vital importance not only to contemporary economic development but also to the future of mankind. Despite their diversity, those problems had a common denominator: the need to redouble efforts to eliminate under-development and build the new international economic order.

3. Both from the major international conferences held between the thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions of the General Assembly and from the annual report of the Economic and Social Council, the reports of the Secretary-General and the reports of other organizations, bodies and institutions of the United Nations system, it could be seen that, whenever an attempt had been made to overcome the stagnation of the world economy through negotiations and dialogue directed with perseverance and political will towards those areas where interests converged, it had been possible to make some progress. The conclusion to be drawn was that it was only in an atmosphere of close collaboration among all countries that realistic and equitable common solutions could be found to the serious economic problems of the modern world.

4. For that reason, he urged the Committee to strive assiduously at the current session to give a new impetus to the dialogue in those sectors where it had been broken off and to extend it in those where it was now possible to reach agreement. The Committee must also contribute to the preparation and success of the special session to be held in 1980, with a view to expediting the establishment of a new international economic order. It must ensure that its proposals focused on the formulation of an effective international development strategy based on a unified set of long-term measures which would ensure accelerated growth in the developing countries, to the benefit of world economic progress.

ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRMEN AND THE RAPPORTEUR

5. Mr. KINSMAN (Canada) nominated Mr. José Luis Xifra (Spain) for the office of Vice-Chairman.

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6. The CHAIRMAN said that, as there were no other nominations, he would take it, if there was no objection, that in accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure the Committee decided to dispense with a secret ballot.
7. It was so decided.
8. Mr. Xifra (Spain) was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.
9. Mr. XIFRA (Spain) expressed thanks for his election.
10. Mr. ZACHMANN (German Democratic Republic) nominated Mr. Abul Ahsan (Bangladesh) for the office of Vice-Chairman.
11. The CHAIRMAN said that, as there were no other nominations, he would take it, if there was no objection, that in accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure the Committee decided to dispense with a secret ballot.
12. It was so decided.
13. Mr. Ahsan (Bangladesh) was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.
14. Mr. AHSAN (Bangladesh) expressed thanks for his election.
15. Mr. THEOPHILOU (Cyprus) nominated Miss Paulina García-Donoso (Ecuador) for the office of Rapporteur.
16. The CHAIRMAN said that, as there were no other nominations, he would take it, if there was no objection, that in accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure the Committee decided to dispense with a secret ballot.
17. It was so decided.
18. Miss García-Donoso (Ecuador) was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.
19. Miss GARCÍA-DONOSO (Ecuador) expressed thanks for her election.
20. Mr. ACEMAH (Uganda) welcomed the officers on behalf of the Committee.

#### ORGANIZATION OF WORK

21. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to document A/C.2/34/1, concerning the allocation of agenda items to the Second Committee, and document A/C.2/34/L.1, in the preparation of which account had been taken of the decisions adopted by the General Assembly on the rationalization of its procedures and the organization of its work. The time-table proposed in document A/C.2/34/L.1, annex I, sought to reconcile the need to combine as many items as possible, particularly for the purpose of the general debate, and the desire expressed by the Committee to hold separate debates on certain items.

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(The Chairman)

22. In order to avoid the past tendency to adopt most decisions towards the end of the session, it was proposed that, after the conclusion of the general debate, the Committee should devote at least one meeting each week to the consideration of proposals and that deadlines should be fixed for their submission. It should also be laid down that, in the case of proposals involving expenditure, at least 48 hours must be allowed after the submission of a proposal so that the Secretariat could consider its financial implications. It was also recommended that a deadline, not later than 1 December, should be established for the submission to the Fifth Committee of all draft resolutions with financial implications. It was to be hoped that delegations would try to submit their draft resolutions as early as possible and that attempts would be made to keep the volume of documentation to a minimum.

23. With regard to item 56 (UNCTAD), the General Assembly had recommended that the Second Committee should consider the possibility of changing the periodicity of sessions of the Trade and Development Board and report thereon to the Assembly as a matter of priority. The Secretariat had prepared a note on the subject (A/C.2/34/2).

24. Mr. KAABACHI (Tunisia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, requested a postponement of the Committee's consideration of document A/C.2/34/L.1, so that the Group of 77 could examine the document beforehand.

25. The CHAIRMAN suggested that consideration of document A/C.2/34/L.1, and also of document A/C.2/34/2, should be postponed until the next meeting. He further suggested that the list of speakers in the general debate should be closed on 26 September at 6 p.m.

26. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.