

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION
Official Records *



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SECOND COMMITTEE
23rd meeting
held on
Friday, 26 October 1979
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 23rd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MURGESCU (Romania)

later: Mr. XIFRA (Spain)

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ORGANIZATION OF WORK

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Distr. GENERAL
A/C.2/34/SR.23
31 October 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

79-57860

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The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 61: FOOD PROBLEMS: REPORT OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (continued)
(A/34/19; A/C.2/34/L.9)

1. Mr. KHAN (Pakistan) said that five years had elapsed since the World Food Conference had adopted a comprehensive plan of action to redress the structural imbalance in the world food economy and reverse the growing dependence of most developing countries on food aid and commercial imports to meet their essential food requirements. During those years, food production in the major developed countries had increased significantly, leading to the building up of national stocks in major grain-producing countries. Although on the surface the world food situation seemed to have improved, at a deeper level the situation was deteriorating, primarily because the measures agreed on at the World Food Conference had remained largely unimplemented. For example, the Conference had called for a growth rate of 4 per cent in food and agriculture in the developing countries, with a view to making them increasingly self-reliant in that key sector, and for an annual external assistance target of \$8.3 billion in 1975 prices, out of which \$6.5 billion on concessional terms would be set aside for aid to the food and agriculture sector as a key measure for the realization of the 4 per cent target. Those targets had not been realized. The rate of increase in food production in the low-income food-deficit countries had declined from 2.5 per cent in the 1960s to only 2 per cent in the 1970s. The result had been growing hunger and malnutrition.

2. Food aid had not kept pace with the widening food gap of the developing countries. Only one third of the cereal import requirements of the low-income food-deficit countries was being met through food aid. The remaining two thirds had to be imported through commercial channels, imposing an unbearable burden on the balance of payments of those countries. At the same time, grain prices had been rising sharply. Thus, even when a poor developing country was able to reduce its import requirements through larger production, the burden on its balance of payments was not reduced correspondingly. For example, Pakistan had been able to halve its import requirements of wheat, but owing to an increase of \$40 a ton in world wheat prices there had been no significant reduction in its food import bill.

3. The 10 million ton target for food aid had yet to be realized. The pledges to the World Food Programme for the current biennium had not yet reached the target of \$950 million. Despite its resource limitations, Pakistan had contributed 20,000 tons of good grain to WFP in the current biennium. The efforts to construct an international system of food security had received a major set-back with the failure of the wheat negotiations earlier in 1979. That had put into question even the current level of food aid, at 950,000 tons, unless a new food aid convention was agreed upon shortly. The targets for emergency reserves, the fertilizer fund and other inputs required for increasing food production in developing countries had also not been met.

4. The latest crop estimates for 1979 indicated that the level of food production would be lower than in 1978. The worst sufferers in the unfavourable world food situation would be the most seriously affected developing countries, which were

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(Mr. Khan, Pakistan)

already heavily dependent on food imports and faced serious balance-of-payments difficulties. There was an evident need for an urgent, imaginative and courageous response to that situation. Fortunately, the food and agriculture sector was one of the few areas of the world economy where a large measure of international consensus already existed. That consensus must be translated into policy action. To that end, his delegation proposed the following measures: (a) a substantial increase in food aid for developing countries with a view to achieving the target of \$8.3 billion by 1980; (b) an early agreement on a new food aid convention with a minimum target of 10 million tons, the conclusion of which should not await negotiations on an international wheat trade agreement; (c) the early implementation of the FAO Five-Point Plan of Action on world food security, as an interim measure, and the immediate realization of the target of 500,000 tons for the International Emergency Reserve; (d) the replenishment of IFAD resources to ensure a substantial increase in real terms in its lending to developing countries; (e) special measures to increase substantially food aid to the large food-deficit and food-priority countries; (f) full international support to FAO's special programmes on fertilizers, seeds, technical assistance and other inputs for food and agriculture.

5. The least the General Assembly could do at the current session was to agree to implement effectively those measures, if it wished to achieve a significant breakthrough in reducing the imbalance in the world food economy and improving the food situation in the developing countries in the years to come.

6. Mr. Xifra (Spain) took the Chair.

7. Mr. CHAN YOURAN (Democratic Kampuchea) said that the entire world was following with concern the plight of the people of Kampuchea, threatened with starvation and extermination as a result of the barbarous aggression by the Vietnamese forces of occupation. The latter had managed to undo all that the people of Kampuchea had laboured to achieve since 1975. Through an impressive programme of irrigation and the production of insecticides and natural fertilizers, the people and Government of Democratic Kampuchea had completely solved the food problem within three years. Foreign visitors and journalists had noted the abundant supply of food, attributing the achievements of agriculture, especially in the cultivation of rice, to the simple but highly effective irrigation system, the improvement of dikes for more effective retention of water and the construction of reservoirs.

8. The present famine in Democratic Kampuchea had been deliberately caused by the Vietnamese aggressors in an effort to overcome the resistance of the people of Kampuchea and gain recognition for the puppet régime in Phnom Penh by the international organizations providing humanitarian assistance. Whatever the obstacles and sacrifices, the people of Kampuchea would never allow themselves to be enslaved by the Vietnamese expansionists and would pursue their just struggle until total victory was won. The Government of Democratic Kampuchea, the sole authentic representative of the people of Kampuchea, called on all peace-loving and justice-loving countries and international organizations to give humanitarian assistance to the people of Kampuchea with the utmost urgency. While it was deeply grateful for the assistance already being provided, it wished to alert the international community to the need to take adequate measures to prevent humanitarian

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(Mr. Chan Youran, Democratic Kampuchea)

supplies from falling into the hands of the Vietnamese invaders. In some cases, humanitarian assistance intended to relieve the suffering of the people of Kampuchea was helping to fuel the Vietnamese war of aggression and genocide. In any event, until a definitive solution to the problem was found, the people of Kampuchea would continue to suffer at the hands of the Vietnamese.

9. The United Nations should take the necessary action to restore peace, security and stability in South-East Asia, and enable the Kampuchean people to live in peace and security in an independent, united, peaceful, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea. But first Viet Nam must cease its aggression, withdraw its forces of occupation and respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Democratic Kampuchea.

10. Mr. HATEGA (Uganda) said that he wished to express his Government's appreciation for the World Food Council's response to its urgent request for food assistance after the national liberation forces had overthrown the dictator Amin. The Council had been the first agency to send assistance to stricken areas of Uganda, particularly in the northern region, where insufficient food production had resulted from the drought and the havoc created by Amin's soldiers. The current Government fully welcomed the World Food Council's activities in Uganda, whereas the previous Government had refused the Council's assistance, which had led to malnutrition in some areas, particularly among children.

11. The shortage of fertilizers and pesticides was among the causes of low productivity in the food sector in developing countries. He wished to commend FAO's International Fertilizer Supply Scheme, which helped developing countries to meet their fertilizer requirements, and its Seed Improvement and Development Programme, aimed at increasing productivity. Developed countries could supplement FAO's efforts in that field by more generous donations of improved seeds. More fertilizers should be used to produce food in developing countries, rather than for recreational facilities in developed countries. Developed fertilizer-producing countries should sell fertilizer and pesticides at subsidized rates, or preferably at domestic rates, particularly to the least developed countries. They should invest in fertilizer plants in developing countries as a matter of urgency, especially where the raw materials were available.

12. His delegation welcomed the Indian Government's offer to share its experience in agriculture by extending co-operation, consultancy assistance and aid on a bilateral basis to other developing countries. It also welcomed the Canadian offer to set up a special fund of \$2 million to assist the developing countries in preparing long-term national food strategies for the 1980s. His delegation hoped that the least developed among the developing countries would benefit, and that other developed countries would emulate the Canadian example.

13. Because of the previous régime's neglect of the agricultural sector, there was a shortage of certain food-stuffs, in Uganda. At one time, Uganda had had well-stocked government farms from which farmers could purchase animals and poultry. Those farms had been completely destroyed by Amin's soldiers before the liberation.

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(Mr. Hatega, Uganda)

Both the Government and the farmers were now without a source of stocks of dairy and beef animals and poultry. The Governments had immediate and future plans to rehabilitate the agricultural sector so as to provide sufficient food for the people. It was hoped that, with international support, Uganda would be able to produce enough food not only for its own consumption but for export to those countries which were not blessed with fertile land.

14. His delegation noted with great concern that certain developed countries had worked out special deals among themselves regarding trade in commodities. The few commodities that remained on the world market were competed for so intensively by the developing countries and were sold at such high prices that artificial shortages of those commodities tended to result. Members of the European Common Market were complaining of mountains of butter that they did not wish to use or give away; that food could easily have been given to the countries of the Sahelian region of Africa, where famine was rampant.

15. He wished to appeal to energy-producing countries to consider setting up special or subsidized pricing for such grades of fuel as diesel, which was essential for running tractors and other agricultural equipment. It was clear that the success of farmers in the United States, Canada, the Common Market countries and other developed market-economy countries had largely resulted from the subsidies built into their Governments' farming policies.

16. Mr. GREEN (New Zealand) said that, as was widely known, New Zealand considered the agricultural sector, on which its economy was primarily based, to be of fundamental importance to economic growth and development. It was one of a rather small number of food-surplus countries, accounting for a significant proportion of international trade in certain food commodities. It was willing to share its agricultural technology with developing countries. On average, more than 30 per cent. of its bilateral official development assistance was directed to the agricultural and other primary sectors. New Zealand contributed to and strongly supported multilateral channels of assistance in that field.

17. Against that background, he wished to record New Zealand's satisfaction with the results of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and the fifth session of the World Food Council. There had been a large measure of complementarity between those two meetings in their approaches to some of the most important and difficult problem areas in the agricultural sector. The Council's emphasis on the development of national food sector strategies and on the need to give more attention to structural reforms if the constraints affecting food production were to be overcome followed logically from the acceptance at the Conference of the fact that agrarian reform and rural development required major political decisions and inputs. In that context, the announced willingness of several developing countries to adopt national food strategies must surely be seen as a significant step towards a major new attack on hunger in the 1980s.

18. That willingness to entertain new approaches had been less evident in the discussion of international issues affecting rural development. By and large, no fresh initiatives or new ideas had emerged. New Zealand's immediate interest in several of those issues was not great. New Zealand was not a significant exporter

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(Mr. Green, New Zealand)

of cereals, which had not been a component of its food aid. As an earlier speaker had said, there was an unfortunate tendency in discussions on food problems and food aid to equate food with cereals. There was, of course, a much wider range of agricultural products affected by price instability, problems of market access and protectionist trade practices, including the products on which the New Zealand economy was based. While New Zealand fully shared the concern expressed in the paragraphs of the WFC report (A/34/19) concerning international trade, it endorsed the comments of previous speakers who had reminded the Committee that those difficulties also confronted efficient developed country producers.

19. There was no room for complacency about the future. Greater and sustained efforts would be needed, involving both developing and developed countries, if the interest and resolve generated by the 1979 meetings, and especially by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, were to be transmuted into practical policies of lasting impact. The follow-up activities agreed by the Conference would help to keep the subject of agrarian reform and rural development before the international community, but in the final analysis it would be decisions taken at the national level - decisions concerning both the domestic and the international aspects of the Programme of Action - that would determine success. To the best of its ability, New Zealand would play its part.

20. Mr. WORKU (Ethiopia) said that, despite some successes in some developing countries, the over-all picture of their food production was still grim. In 1977/78, the developing countries as a group had imported more than double the amount of a decade ago. The per capita production index for Africa in 1977 had declined by 10 per cent from the level in 1961-1965. The situation of food priority countries had worsened, and the number of undernourished people had increased substantially.

21. A lasting solution to food problems was only to be found in a sharp increase of food production in developing countries themselves. If the long-term objective of world food policy was to make the less developed countries self-sufficient, that called for far-sighted policies in regard to transfer of resources, inputs, food aid, food security and favourable trade arrangements. Socialist Ethiopia, having realized that any attack on poverty must begin with efforts to increase food production on a self-reliant basis, was engaged in serious development activities, giving special priority to the agricultural sector. It hoped to attain self-sufficiency in food in the next few years. However, efforts by developing countries must be supplemented by assistance from countries which had the needed means and technology.

22. The efforts of developing countries to increase their food production were hampered by sharp rises in the cost of basic agricultural inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides. Unless those inputs were made available at reasonable prices, developing countries would not be able to make maximum use of their land. Fertilizer had been a key factor in the recent expansion of agricultural production in most developing countries. The volume of international co-operation in fertilizer aid had not kept pace with the provisions envisaged at the Rome Conference. His delegation strongly appealed to donor countries to increase their assistance for fertilizers, pesticides and other basic inputs. It fully endorsed the World Food Council's call on all countries to support actively FAO's Action Programme for Prevention of Food Losses and its Seed Improvement and Development Scheme, and appealed to donor countries to make substantial contributions.

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(Mr. Worku, Ethiopia)

23. Although there had been some increase in food aid, the minimum annual target of 10 million tons of cereals had not yet been attained. Many developing countries depended heavily on food aid in order to pursue their development objectives; such aid must therefore be considerably increased and be made available on an assured, predictable and long-term basis. Special treatment must be accorded to food priority countries and aid provided to them in grant form.

24. Although his delegation agreed with the Council's view that the International Emergency Food Reserve should be established on a continuous basis and replenished annually, it doubted that the target of 500,000 tons would be adequate to meet emergency food needs. The figure should be increased substantially, and his delegation therefore requested the Council to look into that issue at its next session and to revise the figure in the light of actual world conditions.

25. His delegation had been pleased at FAO's quick and forward-looking response to the disappointing outcome of the negotiations on a new grains arrangement. It agreed with the Five-Point Plan of Action's provisions for national food reserves, including their management and release, and for improved collective self-reliance of developing countries. It strongly urged the early implementation of the Plan of Action, and regretted that the United Nations Conference to negotiate an International Arrangement to replace the International Wheat Agreement, 1971, had adjourned without any result.

26. The gloomy picture of the food situation was ample evidence of the need for urgent action within the United Nations system. It was therefore gratifying to see that FAO was dealing directly and on a day-to-day basis with food problems. His delegation welcomed FAO's continued efforts to decentralize its activities to the field level and the individual country. It whole-heartedly supported the newly established funding mechanisms for financing those activities which were most urgently needed. The FAO Technical Co-operation Programme, for example, had a quick-action funding mechanism and was now well established and highly successful, as were the other special action programmes recently set up. All those programmes facilitated practical and timely assistance in the priority areas identified by the international community.

27. His Government wished to express its appreciation to FAO for its enormous assistance to Ethiopia. In 1978, it had organized a multi-donor mission to assess Ethiopia's needs, and the Director-General of FAO had subsequently issued two appeals to the international community for emergency food aid. The response of donors had remained short of the requirement, however, and his delegation hoped that the international community would be more forthcoming in its assistance. FAO deserved the unqualified support of every nation if the international community genuinely wished to save mankind from the scourge of famine.

28. Mr. MENDEZ AROCHA (Venezuela) said it should be remembered that hunger was simply a consequence of poverty, as could be seen from the fact that those wealthy countries which had no wheat or oil did not suffer from hunger or cold. His delegation was therefore concerned to note from the report of the World Food Council (A/34/19) that the solutions being sought to the current food crisis

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(Mr. Méndez Arocha, Venezuela)

were concerned solely with food. The distribution of hunger throughout the world was one of the situations most indicative of the injustices implicit in the world pattern of economic development. Centres of wealth had been created at the cost of impoverishing other regions and exhausting their resources.

29. In economic terms, accumulated poverty was expressed in the form of a huge and growing public debt which was overwhelming the developing countries, but in biological terms, malnutrition and hunger were expressed in more macabre forms, especially among children. Hunger, unlike debt, could not accumulate indefinitely. However, the hunger and the indebtedness of the developing countries were expressions of the same injustice. The food needs of many developing countries would not be met solely through the production of food, partly because some of them had neither the resources nor the climatic conditions for food production. In addition, some lacked not only food, but also energy and machinery, all of which had to be imported.

30. There were therefore two dimensions to the food problem in developing countries, one external and the other internal. Where international trade was concerned, the basic element was the inability of developing countries to import what they needed because of the weakness of their exports, in view of the low prices for their products, and the difficulties of access to markets. According to World Bank statistics, the annual food imports alone of a number of developing countries, especially the least developed, had been greater than their total exports. The burden of food imports was also a matter of prices, especially for grain. The price of wheat, which 30 years before had been comparable to that of oil at \$10 a barrel, had increased in recent years to more than the equivalent of \$60 a barrel. Thus, for developing countries, being able to eat sometimes depended on being able to import.

31. Internally, hunger in developing countries was not only a matter of ability to produce food but a matter of the population's ability to purchase it - in other words, a matter of employment opportunities and thus of income. The importance of promoting employment as a driving force for meeting that and other needs in developing countries was even more apparent in the light of medium-term prospects for the supply of manpower. According to some World Bank estimates, an immense expansion in the work force was anticipated in the low-income countries of Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, with some 500 million new workers between 1975 and the end of the century.

32. His delegation did not subscribe to the Malthusian theories held in such high regard in some technocratic circles in developed countries, according to which, in order to eliminate poverty, it was necessary to have less poor people. That specious reasoning suggested that, if only the rich had children, eventually the whole world would be rich. Venezuela considered that population planning policies were within the sovereignty of each nation and that the way to eliminate poverty was rather through the creation and better distribution of wealth. It believed that the right of the poor of the world to well-being was a human right. Those millions of young people who would be entering the labour market should have the

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(Mr. Méndez Arocha, Venezuela)

opportunity to work in order to be able to eat and live - to work in industries oriented towards export and the processing of raw materials, the products of which would have access, without barriers, to international markets.

33. However, finding employment for those millions would require industrialization and development efforts which in turn would call for huge financial resources, apart from the requirements for related services. The amount of capital needed to achieve the minimum Lima target in industrial production had been indicated in other forums, and the report of the World Food Council gave figures for the increase in agricultural production, running into billions of dollars for the coming decade alone. One obvious and reasonable solution was to divert, as recommended by the Committee of the Whole Established under General Assembly Resolution 32/174, part of the resources to be spent on arms into financing agreements to accelerate the development of developing countries and improve their food situation. Moreover, not only financial but human resources should be developed with a view to stimulating the endogenous scientific and technological capacity of developing countries through international co-operation.

34. What he had said did not mean that his delegation did not support the measures concerning targets for increased agricultural production, concerning achievement of the targets for official development assistance or concerning the need for a strategy to promote structural changes with a view to eliminating the imbalance in the world food economy. It meant that the world food situation should be viewed in the context of the basic issues involved in the international economic injustice which now prevailed - issues of trade, currency, development and world finance. The food problem of the developing countries could not be solved in isolation, because it derived from the current world economic system. There was only one solution to the twofold problem of external trade and internal reordering: the establishment as a matter of urgency of the new international economic order, converting battle tanks into farm tractors.

35. Mr. Al-MUSFIR (United Arab Emirates) said that food was perhaps the main problem facing humanity today. Sixty per cent of the world population was now living in a "hunger belt", while 30 per cent lived in a "wealth belt" and 10 per cent were in between. If all other factors remained constant, and failing concerted international action to change that situation, the world would face an international food deficit of over 150 million tons in the 1980s.

36. The 1970s had seen a substantial drop in the per capita food production of many countries. According to FAO estimates, some countries had to import over 16 million tons of food. It was appalling to think that in the developed countries \$1.7 billion was expended annually on ice cream and \$4 billion on dog food, while people throughout the world were starving. Many of the countries recently freed from colonialism were in debt to their former oppressors; did that mean that their reward for achieving independence was the burden of indebtedness and starvation? It was the responsibility of the United Nations to investigate the legacy of the colonial Powers in the areas they had colonized, and to insist that they should contribute a percentage of their national incomes for the development and reconstruction of the newly independent countries.

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(Mr. Al-Musfir, United Arab Emirates)

37. In order to provide enough food for the growing world population, which was expected to reach 7 billion by the end of the century, food production must be increased by 100 million tons. The recent modest increases in food production in certain areas should not, therefore, be taken as a reason for undue optimism. Owing to the rising cost of fertilizers, developing countries could not afford them. Since the developed countries produced over 90 per cent of the world's fertilizers, and since fertilizers were not their only resource, they should hold down prices and provide developing countries endowed with arable land with fertilizers, agricultural machinery and expert agricultural advice on easy terms.

38. His country's contribution to local agriculture could be taken as an example in that regard. Land had been distributed to citizens and they had been supplied with imported equipment. Artesian wells had been dug, and prizes had been offered to farmers who increased the productivity of their land. In co-operation with Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other countries, the United Arab Emirates had established development funds and agricultural banks, the majority of whose resources were spent on agricultural development and food production. Credit facilities and loans had been provided to developing countries for such purposes as the development of their fishery and livestock resources.

39. His country welcomed and supported any international efforts to promote agricultural development in the third world.

40. Mr. VIDAL-NAQUET (World Food Council) said that the statements made by delegations had demonstrated the Second Committee's interest in world food problems and confirmed the interest of Governments in the policy-making role of the World Food Council. The discussion in the Committee had further shown that the Council's activities complemented those of other United Nations bodies, particularly FAO. He was pleased that the Council was able to assist other United Nations bodies dealing with world food problems, just as the specialized agencies strongly supported the Council's policies. He hoped that the statements made by members of the Committee would be translated into a resolution that would strengthen the role of the entire family of United Nations organizations in combating hunger and malnutrition.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

Implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region (A/C.2/34/L.8)

41. Mr. OULD SID'AHMED (Mauritania), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.8 on behalf of the sponsors, including Togo in addition to those listed, said that it dealt with a subject which provided an opportunity for members of the Committee to translate the statements they had recently made into concrete action.

42. Some minor revisions or corrections had been made in the text. In the fifth preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 5, the words "Sudano-Sahelian region" should be replaced by the word "Sahel". In the sixth preambular paragraph, the word "twenty-first" should be replaced by the word "eleventh".

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(Mr. Ould Sid'Ahmed, Mauritania)

43. The draft resolution was generally along the same lines as resolution 33/133, adopted at the preceding session. One new element was the request in paragraph 3 for special attention to the current food situation in Cape Verde, Chad and Mauritania, which were the three most seriously affected countries in the Sahelian region. The sponsors would be available to discuss the draft resolution with members of the Committee, and hoped that it would be adopted by consensus

AGENDA ITEM 65: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

44. Mr. NABULSI (Jordan), speaking also on behalf of the delegations of Kuwait and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, asked why the report of the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories had not yet been circulated. The delegations for which he spoke would be unable to take part in the discussion of item 65 until the document was available in all the working languages. He therefore proposed that consideration of the item should be postponed until the document had been issued.

45. Mr. VORONIN (Assistant Secretary of the Committee) said that there had been a delay in the production of the report, but it would be circulated on 1 November 1979 as document A/34/536.

46. Mr. AL-MUSFIR (United Arab Emirates) supported the Jordanian proposal.

47. The proposal was adopted.

48. Mr. GREEN (New Zealand) said that he shared the Jordanian representative's concern at the late issuance of documents but wondered whether representatives who were prepared to speak immediately on the item might not be allowed to do so, while those wishing to await the circulation of the document would be given an opportunity to make their statements at a later stage.

49. Mr. OULD SID'AHMED (Mauritania) pointed out that the decision to postpone the debate had already been taken. He supported the representative of Jordan in his complaint; it was not the first time that the report on the living conditions of the Palestinian people had been late in appearing, and he would like to hear the Secretariat's explanation.

50. Mr. BOUZARBIA (Algeria) said that he entirely agreed with the request for postponement of the debate, and noted that there was still no explanation from the Secretariat.

51. Mr. VORONIN (Assistant Secretary of the Committee) said that, unfortunately, the demand for documentation exceeded the Secretariat's capacity to provide it. The Economic and Social Council had taken action at its last session to reduce requirements for documentation and so speed the processing of documents; the results were beginning to be felt, but the situation was still very difficult and delays were inevitable. He apologized to those delegations which were particularly inconvenienced by the late appearance of the report in question and assured them that it would be available on 1 November.

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ORGANIZATION OF WORK

52. The CHAIRMAN said that on Monday, 29 October, the Committee would hear a statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme at its morning meeting and a statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at the afternoon meeting. The United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator would make his statement on item 64 on Friday, 2 November, at 3 p.m. Delegations wishing to speak on items 57, 60 and 64 should place their names on the list as soon as possible. The list of speakers on items 60 (UNEP) and 57 (UNIDO) would be closed on 29 October at 6 p.m.

53. It had originally been intended to spend the remainder of the Monday meetings on the general debate on item 65 and on the consideration of draft resolutions. The Canadian delegation would be introducing a draft resolution entitled "Conclusions and recommendations of the World Food Council at its fifth session" (A/C.2/34/L.9), and two resolutions (A/C.2/34/L.8, A/34/3/Add.4) had already been submitted under item 12. He hoped that it would also be possible to take a decision on the draft resolution on UNITAR (A/C.2/34/L.7) and the draft resolutions on measures to assist the Dominican Republic and Dominica following the severe disasters caused in those countries by hurricane "David" and hurricane "Frederic" (A/C.2/34/L.10, A/C.2/34/L.11). The Committee's decision to postpone the debate on item 65 would necessitate some changes in the time-table, and delegations would be informed as soon as a decision could be taken.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.