

**United Nations**  
**GENERAL**  
**ASSEMBLY**  
**SIXTH SESSION**

**Official Records**



**SECOND COMMITTEE 178th**

**MEETING**

**Tuesday, 8 January 1952, at 3 p.m.**

**Palais de Chaillot, Paris**

**CONTENTS**

*Page*

Economic development of under-developed countries : report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter III) (A/1884 and A/1924) (*continued*)

(b) Land reform (A/C.2/L.76/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.82 and A/C.2/L.131) (*continued*). . . . . 203

*Chairman* : Prince WAN WAITHAYAKON (Thailand).

**Economic development of under-developed countries : report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter III) (A/1884<sup>1</sup> and A/1924) (*continued*)**

**(b) Land reform (A/C.2/L.76/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.82 and A/C.2/L.131) (*continued*)**

[Item 26]\*

1. Mr. NOSEK (Czechoslovakia) recalled that a little over a year had elapsed since the Polish delegation had raised in the General Assembly the question of land reform, which affected 1,300 million persons, or 60 per cent of the population of the world. The Polish draft resolution, stressing the importance and urgency of land reform had been submitted at the fifth session and had been adopted unanimously<sup>2</sup>.

2. In view of the success of the land reform carried out in his own country, in the Soviet Union and in other People's Democracies, his delegation had supported the draft resolutions submitted by Poland both at the fifth session of the General Assembly and at the thirteenth session of the Economic and Social Council. Its purpose in taking part in the present debate was to point to some of the basic causes for the disastrous state of production and the appalling standard of living of agricultural workers and small farmers in certain countries, to give concrete examples of how that state of affairs had been rapidly remedied in the People's Democracies and, finally, to give support to the Polish draft resolution (A/C.2/L.82), which rectified the shortcomings of the Economic and Social Council resolution 370 (XIII).

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Session, Supplement No. 3*.

\* Indicates the item number on the General Assembly agenda.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifth Session, Plenary meetings, 312th meeting*.

3. One of the chief obstacles to any improvement in the standard of living of agricultural workers in the under-developed countries was the production policy of foreign monopolies, which imposed a system of monoculture and thus hampered the development of agricultural production necessary to raise the standard of living of the population. In Latin America, for example, which was a primarily agricultural area, United States monopolies were predominant by virtue of their ownership of vast plantations and their control of the processing and sale of agricultural products. That control enabled them to buy agricultural products cheaply and was ruinous to the small farmers. The United States monopolies, which dominated the organization of credit in Latin America, were directing the production of the region towards the crops which brought in the highest profits. Their influence was responsible for the fact that some Latin-American countries were restricting themselves to the cultivation of one or of two products as, for example, Brazil to coffee and cotton, and Cuba to sugar.

4. Another major obstacle to increased agricultural production and an improvement in the standard of living of the peasant population of under-developed countries was the agrarian structure of those countries, in other words, the concentration of lands in the hands of a small number of large land-owners. The policy of the latter was solely motivated by a desire for the largest possible profits regardless of the wretched plight of agricultural workers or of the privations, and even famine, in which it frequently resulted and was thus similar to the policy of the foreign monopolies.

5. The concentration of land-ownership was not a phenomenon peculiar to under-developed or primarily agricultural countries. It was also found in the large capitalist countries, particularly in the United States. He quoted statistics to show that farms of over 400 hectares had increased both in number and in area between 1920 and 1945 in the United States, and that the proportion of the land represented by large estates was

increasing at the expense of small farms, a process which had the effect of increasing the number of migrant workers in American agriculture. He quoted official United States documents which indicated that the position of migrant workers exploited by the large landowners was extremely difficult, and that such workers had to be satisfied with very low wages and entirely inadequate housing. According to an article published in *The New York Times* in March 1950 the United States Government was encouraging the development of large agricultural undertakings, which had the effect of ruining small farms.

6. Other obstacles to the development of agricultural production were the primitive nature of such production, the shortage of draught animals, tools, seeds, fertilizers, etc. and the indebtedness of small farmers and agricultural workers, which not only hampered the improvement of production but had the effect of depriving thousands of small farmers of their holdings.

7. General Assembly resolution 401 (V) had drawn attention to those problems, and the Polish draft resolution before the Committee contained valuable proposals in that connexion.

8. His delegation had already had an opportunity of outlining the successes achieved by the agrarian reform carried out in Czechoslovakia. As regards the other People's Democracies, the measures adopted in Hungary in 1945 had made it possible to grant land to two-thirds of the rural population, which had previously been landless. That reform, together with the five-year plan which aimed at the mechanization of agriculture, would result in a considerable expansion of agricultural production in Hungary. Following the land reform of 12 March 1946 in Bulgaria, a large number of agricultural co-operatives had been established, in which individual farms had been incorporated. Those co-operatives obtained yields 25 to 30 per cent above those of the individual farms. The land reform of August 1945 in Albania had brought the system of large-scale landowning to an end. In the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, the land reform of 1946 had given the peasants land formerly owned by the Japanese or the large feudal landowners and had resulted in a considerable increase in the area under cultivation and in production. In 1948, for example, the harvest had exceeded by 10.4 per cent the most abundant harvest recorded before the war.

9. In conclusion, he wished to express his support of the Polish draft resolution outlining practical and concrete proposals which would enable a beginning to be made in solving the problem of land reform and all the other related questions. He was also prepared to support the suggestion made by the Ukrainian SSR representative at the previous meeting and he intended to propose that the revised joint draft resolution (A/C.2/L.76/Rev.1) should be supplemented by inserting subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the Polish draft resolution after paragraph 8.

10. The CHAIRMAN called upon the representative of FAO.

11. Mr. McDUGALL (Food and Agriculture Organization) pointed out that the importance of land tenure had been recognized and a resolution on the subject adopted at the very first conference of the United Nations which had been convened by President Roosevelt at Hot Springs in May 1943 to consider problems

relating to agriculture. It was clear from the statements made in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that delegations were interested in the relationship between agrarian structure and economic development. He was glad that the question had been raised in connexion with the general problem of economic development. It was, in fact, generally recognized that increased production was the basis of economic development. An unsatisfactory system of land tenure was an obstacle to increased agricultural production and to an improvement in the standard of living.

12. FAO was of course keenly interested in all problems under the general heading of agrarian structure; in the majority of countries that heading covered not only a series of technical problems but also political problems of great complexity. In view of the significance of the political aspect of the question, FAO was gratified to note that the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly had stressed the importance of land reform and it considered that the resolutions adopted by the United Nations would be a valuable stimulus to action in that field.

13. After undertaking a thorough study of the question, the last Annual Conference of FAO had adopted a resolution endorsing the Economic and Social Council's resolution and calling upon Member States to take the necessary steps to carry it into effect without delay and to ask, should occasion arise, for the assistance of FAO. The resolution had also invited the Director-General of FAO to take the necessary measures to provide Member States with whatever services they might request under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

14. Although the problem of land reform was essentially national in character and its aspects varied from country to country, international organizations were in a position to help such governments as applied for assistance in a variety of ways. FAO was taking steps to ensure that it would be able to accede to requests for assistance. In addition to purely agricultural matters, it was also concerning itself with other related questions, in regard to which it was anxious to obtain the co-operation of the United Nations and the other specialized agencies. Consideration was being given to the possibility of the United Nations, FAO, ILO, UNESCO and perhaps the International Bank preparing a number of international measures to help governments in improving the agrarian structure of their countries.

15. Mr. LESAGE (Canada) said that by its attitude the United Nations demonstrated its awareness of the need to help the under-developed countries raise the standard of living of their populations. That was proved by the technical assistance programme, the many studies of that problem undertaken by the Secretariat and the efforts made to speed up the flow of capital goods to the under-developed countries. It was to be hoped that those activities would be turned to the best possible advantage by the under-developed countries. An essential prerequisite of their maximum effectiveness was the development of the agriculture of the countries concerned, which itself depended primarily upon the introduction of land reform. No action with a view to economic development would be successful unless it were preceded by such reform. In addition to that basic principle, his delegation had always urged that the chief responsibility for carrying out land reform must be borne by the under-developed countries themselves, which did not of course relieve international

organizations of the duty of assisting those countries to implement such reform by means of technical assistance or in other ways.

16. His delegation was glad to note that resolution 370 (XIII) of the Economic and Social Council gave full recognition to both of those principles. It had pointed out the main defects to be remedied in the system of land ownership. Governments must themselves be guided by the principles defined in that resolution in working out reforms specially adapted to the particular conditions of their respective countries. In that connexion, regional commissions could assist governments in a given area in finding formulae appropriate to the particular circumstances of the area. They should be instructed to initiate discussions of that kind.

17. In his report, *Land Reform: Defects in Agrarian Structure as Obstacles to Economic Development*<sup>3</sup>, the Secretary-General had given an excellent analysis of the problems which governments had to face in connexion with land reform, and had emphasized their gravity. In those circumstances, his recommendations had perhaps been somewhat timid. The Council should adopt a strongly-worded resolution on the question and the revised joint draft resolution which recommended approval of Council resolution 370 (XIII) and clearly linked land reform with the problem of economic development, was just what the situation demanded. His delegation would therefore vote for it.

18. Canada itself provided clear proof that a free agricultural economy based on private ownership and family exploitation of the land was the best means of achieving a high standard of living. Canada had become industrialized only recently, thanks in part to the man-power released by the mechanization of agriculture; its economy, however, was still based chiefly upon a prosperous agriculture; in the pioneering stage of the country's development, the Canadian Government had given families sufficient land in certain areas to assure them an adequate standard of living once it had been cleared and developed. In other areas, the seigneurial system of land distribution and exploitation had been abolished and replaced by the system of family ownership of farms. Thanks to those basic factors which had created a vigorous and dynamic body of farmers, and thanks to the more recent establishment of processing, sales and credit co-operatives, Canadian agriculture was flourishing. New areas for development were constantly being opened up, in which the government continued to apply the system based on private ownership and on the grant of State financial and technical assistance. Canadian agriculture at present was among the most prosperous and most highly developed in the world and its farm population enjoyed an almost unrivalled standard of living. It was possible that the methods used in Canada might not be appropriate to the needs of other countries, but his delegation was convinced that the existence of a fair, modern system of land ownership was in all cases an essential condition of all economic progress.

19. Mr. ORMSBY-GORE (United Kingdom) said his delegation was glad to see the United Nations take such an active interest in the question of land reform. It was a vast problem, affecting the fate of two-thirds of the world's population, which must be solved without

delay. The report submitted by the Secretary-General on the question provided a remarkable picture of the unsatisfactory situation in the world in that respect. It was now for the Committee to propose remedies for that situation.

20. His delegation had already often stated what general measures the various countries should take in order to prepare the field for the rapid development of their economy. Land reform was one of the most important of such measures. A bad land tenure system inevitably led to social instability and low productivity. A sound land reform policy would raise agricultural production and standards of living, particularly if it went hand-in-hand with industrial development. In any case, it was not enough to change the land system. Other measures must be adopted to promote co-operatives, agricultural credit, education in rural districts and so on. The experts of the United Nations and specialized agencies might prove most useful in those fields in the framework of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. Governments should therefore call on their services.

21. It was obvious that the very varied conditions prevailing in the different countries all required individual solutions. He was glad to note that the Secretary-General's report and Council resolution 370 (XIII) took account of that fact and did not seek to impose a uniform formula on every country. On that point, he shared the opinion expressed by the USSR representative at the 155th meeting, that land reform should be applied by governments in accordance with their national traditions and could in no case be imposed on them by General Assembly resolutions.

22. In connexion with the references made by some representatives to the alienation of land in the African territories for which his Government was responsible, he said that the United Kingdom representative in the Economic and Social Council had already given detailed figures on the subject<sup>4</sup>. He would merely recall that the proportion of land alienated was 5.25 per cent in Kenya, 0.91 per cent in Tanganyika and 0.5 per cent in Uganda. In Africa, the problem was not so much the result of land alienation as of the population's inadequate knowledge of modern agricultural techniques. The solution of the problem might be accelerated by means of programmes similar to the Gezira Group Farming Plan in the Sudan, and the plan for subsidizing fertilizers and encouraging sales co-operatives in West Africa.

23. Some representatives were concerned by the question of financing land reform. It was true that capital accumulation was slow in the under-developed countries, but he wondered whether, in the case of some of them, a reasonable burden of taxation on the wealthier sections of the community might not prove a source for some of the necessary capital. The international capital which might be available would thus be utilized more effectively for the benefit of those who needed it most.

24. The Polish draft resolution contained many sound ideas, but his delegation considered it too dogmatic. Nor did it favour the proposal that the revised joint

<sup>3</sup> United Nations Publications, Sales No. : 1951.II.B.3.

<sup>4</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirteenth Session, 543rd meeting.*

draft resolution and the Polish draft resolution should be merged. The two drafts were too different from one another and, what was more, nothing need prevent delegations from voting for both of them. His delegation would vote for the revised joint draft resolution and it hoped that, in view of the importance of the problem for millions of human beings, the Committee would reach a unanimous decision which would spur the governments concerned to further action.

25. Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Chile) was very pleased at the interest taken by the United Nations in the question of improving the agrarian structure of the under-developed countries. He thought, like the United States representative, that land reform was an indispensable element of any co-ordinated and effective plan for economic development.

26. His delegation had already had occasion to state its views on the question in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee. At the Council's thirteenth session, it had made a detailed statement<sup>5</sup> on the Secretary-General's report, *Land Reform: Defects in Agrarian Structure as Obstacles to Economic Development*. To avoid unnecessary repetition, he would do no more than summarize briefly his country's attitude towards the problem.

27. In the first place, defects in the agrarian structure of under-developed countries were due, in general, to the backward state of the whole economy of those countries.

28. Secondly, land reform should be aimed at establishing a method of working the land which would be both equitable from the social point of view and rational from the economic point of view. Consequently, land reform could not be limited to mere re-distribution of the land.

29. Thirdly, it was for the countries concerned themselves to study the methods of such a reform and to implement it as an integral part of their economic development. On that point, he did not share the opinion of the Canadian representative, who had said that land reform was a prerequisite of any economic development. There was a very close interconnexion between the problems of agrarian structure and the other problems which determined the backward state of an economy, such as, for example, the absence of an adequate social security system, health service or educational system, low productivity, difficulties in the marketing of agricultural goods, etc. Far from being merely a prerequisite, land reform was one of the basic problems which must be solved simultaneously with the other problems relating to economic development, by the taking of national and international measures for that purpose.

30. Fourthly, the solution of agrarian problems must necessarily vary from country to country, for the historic, social and economic conditions peculiar to each of the countries concerned must be taken into account.

31. Fifthly and lastly, in order to attain the final aim of land reform, namely to ensure social justice, raise standards of living and bring about a rational working of the land, the under-developed countries must shoulder expenditure far in excess of their current

financial resources. It was to enable them to procure the necessary capital that the delegations of India and Chile had submitted an amendment (A/C.2/L.131) to the revised joint draft resolution.

32. To show the need for that amendment he recalled to the Committee a communication addressed by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) to the Economic and Social Council concerning resolution 370 (XIII).

33. In that communication, the ICFTU noted that the recommendations of the Council were very useful, but that they failed to lay sufficient stress on certain aspects of land reform and entirely ignored the question of financing. That omission was the more surprising since, in order to ensure the success of land reform and increase agricultural production, it was necessary in every case to spend large sums of public money and the problems of financing land reform had certain special characteristics in the under-developed countries.

34. It was obvious that public funds would be required in order to finance the purchase of land, to utilize badly-farmed land, to diversify agricultural production, to establish rural industries and to set up a suitable training and agricultural research system. The under-developed countries had little capital at their disposal. There was a danger that the Economic and Social Council resolution would remain a dead letter, unless the more highly developed countries could ensure a steady and adequate flow of capital to the under-developed countries. It was consequently necessary to include in the resolution on land reform a recommendation which would guarantee to the under-developed countries the financial assistance needed by them to achieve that task.

35. The ICFTU had gone on to recall that the Group of Experts appointed by the Secretary-General to study the measures to be taken to ensure economic development of under-developed countries had recommended the establishment of an international development authority and that a certain number of members of the Council had approved that suggestion at the thirteenth session. The ICFTU recommended the establishment of some such institution in order to finance land reform and it also thought that the developed countries might be invited to contribute to that institution by loans and grants in aid.

36. He thought that the ICFTU's statement would relieve him of any need to advance further arguments in support of the amendment submitted by India and Chile. He also recalled that the FAO representative had stressed the need for international action to ensure the success of land reform in the under-developed countries.

37. The communication from the ICFTU whose membership included millions of workers throughout the world, particularly in the more highly developed countries, showed that public opinion in those countries was awake to the need for international action in that field and that labour was spontaneously supporting the idea of an international office to finance such action.

38. The United Kingdom representative was, of course, right in saying that it was for the under-developed countries themselves to improve their agrarian structure and that those countries could obtain part of

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 537th meeting.

the necessary financial resources by improving their fiscal system and other legislation. It was, however, obvious that in order to achieve co-ordinated reform those countries would require financial assistance from abroad.

39. The amendment on that subject submitted by India and Chile was based on resolution 294 (XI) of the Economic and Social Council and he hoped, therefore, that the sponsors of the draft resolution would be able to accept it. Programmes for land reform were of such importance for economic development as a whole that there should be no hesitation in granting them priority in the field of international financing.

40. Mr. KHOSROVANI (Iran) said that when a plan for the economic development of Iran had been prepared, the authorities had realized that agrarian structure was an important problem, but not the only one which had to be solved in order to increase agricultural production.

41. Under the system of land tenure which had prevailed in Iran for many centuries, the large landowners provided the peasants with the necessary financial assistance and assumed the management of agricultural undertakings. Any transfer of land to the workers therefore presupposed the establishment of co-operatives and managing bodies which could assume the functions connected with credit and management hitherto exercised by the large landowners.

42. Genuine efforts had also to be made to increase production, because land reform which led to the establishment of uneconomic agricultural units would be useless. It was for the solution of that problem that an agricultural section had been included in the Directorate of the Seven-Year Plan. That section was responsible for developing production of certain new crops, promoting the mechanization of agriculture, and providing farmers with the necessary technical assistance, granting them credit, and combating noxious insects. The economic and political difficulties which had since arisen in Iran had slightly delayed the implementation of that plan. Iran, however, was hoping to implement certain plans for irrigation and land reform, using both its own resources and the services of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

43. Iran had already embarked on a large-scale land distribution programme. In 3,000 out of a total of 45,000 villages, Crown lands were being distributed to the peasants under very advantageous conditions. Under a royal decree on land distribution, the peasants were required to pay annually a sum not exceeding one-third of the amount usually paid by them to their landlords. The sums thus paid out were reinvested in social security and economic services and in an agricultural bank which would eventually become the central organ of the co-operatives to be established in the Crown villages. The peasants benefiting under that decree were to receive, subject to reasonable conditions, the technical and financial aid which had hitherto been granted to them by the Crown Lands Administration.

44. The Crown lands had thus been distributed to the peasants virtually free of charge. The implementation of the decree had, however, met with serious difficulties arising particularly from the laws on inheritance, which required the subdivision of the land granted to the peasants under individual titles; furthermore, the number of peasants desirous of acquiring land in those

villages had been found to be much too great for the area of land available; finally, it had been found that the villages were unable to provide sufficient capital to organize co-operatives. That latter difficulty was the most serious of all, as neither the Crown Lands Administration nor any other administration had the necessary capital available. That lack of financial resources had slowed up the implementation of the reform and there was a danger that it would stop it completely, at least until such time as Iranian economy had become adapted to the new situation which had recently arisen.

45. On the whole, Iranian landowners had not opposed the implementation of land reform, but the shortage of technical and financial resources seriously hampered rapid progress in that field. In a country like Iran, where nearly 40 per cent of the national territory consisted of mountain and desert, and where the villages were widely separated from each other and from the urban markets, it was very important to develop a proper system of communications; another necessary measure to increase agricultural production was the establishment of advisory centres. Finally, the aridity of the soil was one of the main causes of the inequalities which characterized land distribution in Iran. Irrigation and water supply works were very costly and their maintenance called for considerable expenditure. Consequently, before proceeding to a division of the land, measures would have to be taken ensuring the continuation of irrigation services. The economic development programme attached particular importance to that problem; indeed, at least twenty-five large irrigation projects had been planned which would enable vast areas of land hitherto unused to be put under cultivation and distributed among poor peasants.

46. In order to implement all those programmes, Iran would require very considerable financial resources. It would also need capital in order to set up rural industries and to ensure the industrialization of the country generally, since to develop the country's agriculture alone would not in itself raise the standard of living.

47. Such a survey showed that, in spite of the external and internal difficulties facing it at present, the Iranian Government was making every effort to institute a social system which would be in keeping with the requirements of modern times. In that spirit, the Iranian delegation would support the revised joint draft resolution. It hoped moreover that when Iran came to reply to the Economic and Social Council's questionnaire on the implementation of that resolution, his Government would be able to state that it had abolished the majority of the obstacles standing in the way of the application of the recommendations contained in that draft.

48. He reserved the right to give his views on the Polish draft resolution at a later stage.

49. Mr. GURINOVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) stated that, before the revolution of October 1917, his country's rural economy had all the characteristics of a backward and semi-feudal system. Thus, 4,000 great land-owners held 66.5 per cent of the land suitable for cultivation whereas 33.5 per cent of the land was divided between 664,000 peasants. Ten per cent of the Byelorussian peasants did not own any land at all, 30 per cent owned only from 110 to 330 ares, 20 per cent had no horses, 11 per cent no cattle, etc. Production methods were primitive. One-third of

peasant-held land was regularly left fallow, farmers were ignorant of the use of artificial fertilizers and their equipment was primitive and outdated. Two-thirds of the Byelorussian peasantry consisted of poor landless peasants or agricultural workers.

50. The 1917 Revolution had transferred all the land suitable for cultivation to the peasants. As a result of that change and of the general industrialization of the country, the Byelorussian farmers had been able to proceed to a voluntary collectivization of their land, production means and labour. That collectivization had enabled the mechanization of a very considerable proportion of agricultural work and had made it possible to extend sown areas and to transfer a very considerable quantity of man-power to industry. It had made it possible to put more than 270,000 hectares of swamp land under cultivation, to introduce electricity into country areas, to raise the cultural level of the peasant masses and to ensure the well-being of the rural population.

51. The Nazi invasion had inflicted terrible losses on the rural economy of Byelorussia. Over one million houses and farm buildings had been destroyed; ten million head of cattle belonging to collective farms had disappeared; 66 per cent of collective farmers had lost the cattle which they owned; and the number of horses had decreased by 25 per cent as compared with 1941. As a result of destruction by the Germans, the swamps drained before the war had deteriorated into their original condition.

52. The implementation of the post-war five-year plan and the restoration of the collective farm system had enabled war damage to be speedily repaired. In 1950, total production, as well as the yield of cereals and of industrial crops, had also increased; livestock had increased as compared with the pre-war level, and agricultural technical equipment had been perfected; the number of machines and tractor stations had risen to 387 and production had increased; hundreds of thousands of houses, administrative buildings and farm buildings had been reconstructed.

53. He hoped that that information on the way in which a selective agriculture functioned would throw light on the problem of land reform.

54. Turning to the Polish draft resolution, he expressed his agreement with the Polish and Czechoslovak representatives that that draft emphasized certain aspects of the problem which had been somewhat overlooked by resolution 370 (XIII).

55. The need for land reform in the under-developed countries had become clear to everyone. Indeed, according to the Secretary-General's report, 74 per cent of the population of Africa, 70 per cent of the population of Asia and 67 per cent of the population of Latin America were made up of farmers, the large majority of whom did not own their land.

56. After citing as an example certain official information and statements concerning Turkey in order to show the uneven distribution of the land in that country and that the Turkish peasant masses lived in a state of dire poverty, he stated that the Polish draft resolution recommended measures which would make it possible to remedy that state of affairs, to increase food production and to raise the standard of living of the population. Clearly, the way in which land reform would be effected would vary from one country to another. Nevertheless, the Polish recommendations were acceptable for all countries. The Polish delegation proposed concrete measures aimed at remedying defects in agrarian structure in the under-developed countries. Such measures, particularly those which would liquidate the indebtedness of the peasants and would return to the local population of the Non-Self-Governing Territories the land which had been taken from them, would certainly make it possible to increase agricultural production and would contribute towards the economic development of the under-developed countries.

57. The Byelorussian SSR delegation noted that none of the members of the Committee had opposed the Polish draft resolution. Consequently, it supported the proposal made by the Ukrainian SSR and by Czechoslovakia to incorporate that draft in a single draft resolution on land reform. The Byelorussian SSR delegation would vote in favour of such a draft resolution.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.