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Chairman : Mr. Selim SÄRPER (Turkey).

Libya : (a) Annual report of the United Nations Commissioner in Libya (A/1949, A/1949/Add.1)
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[Item 20]*

1. Mr. PELT (United Nations Commissioner in Libya), on his own behalf and on behalf of the Council for Libya, expressed his gratitude for the complimentary remarks which had been made about his efforts. One representative had said that he should be given special praise for having on occasion differed with the United Kingdom representatives in Libya. It was true that he had had occasional differences of opinion with the administering Powers, the members of the Council for Libya and the various authorities with whom he had had to deal ; on the whole, however, there had been more agreement than disagreement. Had that not been the case, the United Kingdom of Libya might not have come into existence.

2. During the debate, several representatives had referred to the presence of foreign troops and military installations on Libyan soil. The sixth and seven paragraphs of the letter of transmittal to the Secretary-General preceding his own Supplementary Report (A/1949/Add.1) to the Second Annual Report (A/1949)

explained why he had always considered that matter to be outside his competence and why, therefore, no reference to it was to be found in any of his reports to the General Assembly.

3. Up to the day that Libyan independence was proclaimed, the defence of the territory and the conduct of its foreign relations had been the responsibility of the administering Powers. Those prerogatives, and hence the power to conclude agreements with foreign States, had been transferred to the independent Libyan Government only on the day when independence was proclaimed, and from that moment his responsibilities as Commissioner had come to an end. It was now the sole responsibility of the Libyan Government to conduct its foreign relations with other governments on a basis of complete equality. It should, moreover, be recalled that article 69 of the Libyan Constitution stipulated that the King was to declare war, conclude peace and enter into treaties, which he ratified only after the approval of Parliament.

4. Among other delegations, the Egyptian delegation had considered that there were deficiencies in the Libyan Constitution. All the points which those delegations had raised had been dealt with in detail in his various reports to the General Assembly.

5. The Egyptian representative had also asked (51st meeting) what political liberties the Libyan people enjoyed while he and the Council for Libya were advising them on the formulation of the Constitution and the establishment of an independent government, and had raised a number of specific points in that connexion. He would refer the Egyptian representative

* Indicates the item number on the General Assembly agenda.

to paragraph 290 of the Second Annual Report, which pointed out that a certain misunderstanding had prevailed for a long time, at least in certain sectors of Libyan political life, with regard to the competence of the Commissioner and the Council to intervene in the administration of the territories. In particular, he had been repeatedly requested by certain political groups to intervene in matters concerning the maintenance of law and order, a matter of internal administration which was obviously outside his competence. On the other hand, he had received similar requests from the British Administration, the provincial governments and, later, the Provisional Libyan Government. It should be noted that at that time the Libyan Constitution was not yet in force and the political rights of the Libyan people were not clearly defined.

6. It was a tribute to the Libyan people and to the various authorities who had participated in the common task that with the exception of a few incidents, Libyan independence had been achieved without violence or bloodshed. A country whose status was in the process of transformation from a colony to an independent State did not become a full-fledged democracy overnight, but since the Libyan Constitution, which contained a chapter on the rights of the people based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights had come into force, it might be assumed that the rights defined in the Constitution would be observed by all concerned in the democratic spirit in which they had been conceived.

7. He therefore did not feel that any useful purpose would be served if he replied in detail to the questions raised by the Egyptian representative, since if he wished to do so in an objective manner, he would have to mention many more points than the Egyptian representative had brought up. Moreover, it was in the interests of Libya to look towards the future and not towards the past.

8. Several representatives, and the Egyptian representative in particular, had referred to Libya's economic and financial situation. That was indeed a difficult situation. It was undeniable that Libya was a poor country which, for many years, would continue to require technical and financial assistance. The deficit in the budget and the deficitary character of the Libyan economy could not be disputed. The development of the Libyan democratic State required a minimum of governmental apparatus, in conformity with the Constitution. He assured the Committee that it had always been his concern, and that of the administering Powers and the Libyan leaders, to keep the cost of that governmental apparatus at the lowest level compatible with the country's needs.

9. In those circumstances, the only way to help Libya constructively was to grant it technical and financial assistance. Several countries had already undertaken to provide such assistance and it was to be hoped that other countries, of the East as well as of the West, would join in that effort. The United Nations, moreover, would not fail to continue to grant Libya all necessary technical assistance.

10. He had never hidden a certain feeling of uneasiness about the financial assistance that some countries had undertaken to afford Libya and he had made that plain in his various reports, particularly in his Second Annual Report and the Supplementary Report. His anxiety was due to the fact that if financial aid to the administrative budget of Libya continued to be given on a bilateral basis, not only might political repercussions occur, but comprehensive planning for Libya's economic and social development and for the financing of its budgetary deficit might be rendered more difficult. Such a plan, the working out of which was of course, in the first instance, a matter for the Libyan Government, should be established on an international basis and in collaboration with an international official appointed by the Technical Assistance Administration. It was obvious, however, that the contributing States should have some say in the matter, because after all it was their taxpayers' money which would be used to raise the standard of living of the Libyan peoples and to balance the budget and the country's economy. Those remarks did not imply that it was necessary to change immediately the financial agreements concluded between Libya, the United Kingdom and France, or the statutes of the two Libyan agencies for financing the development programme which were admirably suited to the purposes for which they had been established. Those remarks did mean, however, that it would be in the interest of the contributing States and of Libya itself to prepare before 31 March 1953, when the existing bilateral agreements expired, a comprehensive international scheme for financial and economic aid to Libya.

11. Replying to the remarks made by the representative of Pakistan (48th meeting) on the manner in which technical assistance had been granted to Libya by the United Nations, he emphasized that a number of investigations into Libyan economy had been unavoidable at the outset. The experts had indeed made liberal use of existing Italian, British, French and even Ottoman documentation, but since that documentation was mostly on a provincial basis, a general survey had to be undertaken in regard to Libyan economy as a whole. As the Committee was aware, technical assistance was conducted under a separate administration and did not therefore come within the limits of the responsibilities of the United Nations Commissioner. He could, however, give the Committee the firmest assurance that no funds had been wasted in studying unrealistic projects. The experts had now concluded their investigations and had prepared a comprehensive plan of economic, social and cultural development called for under the terms of General Assembly resolution 398 (V). The plan in question would shortly be submitted to the Libyan Government for its approval and, if it were accepted, technical assistance to Libya would enter the field of concrete implementation.

12. Mr. KHAKKIA (Representative of the United Kingdom of Libya), in the absence of the Prime Minister of Libya, wished to tender his sincere and profound thanks for the words of welcome expressed to the

Libyan delegation and for the sympathy shown towards the new Libyan State, its Sovereign, its Government and its people.

13. He was gratified to note that the great majority of the members of the Committee had followed the wise counsel of the representative of Pakistan and had dealt with the problem before them in a sympathetic and realistic spirit. He was also happy to note that almost all the Arab States had adopted the same benevolent attitude to the Libyan problem. Nevertheless, he was unable to subscribe to certain opinions put forward in the course of the discussion, which, in the view of the Libyan Government, related to a domestic matter with which the Libyan Government and Parliament were alone competent to deal.

14. The United Nations Commissioner had replied to certain questions put to him by the representative of Egypt. The delegation of the United Kingdom of Libya warmly supported the Commissioner's statements, and considered that the questions raised by the Egyptian representative were based on inaccurate and possibly tendentious information.

15. If newspapers had been temporarily banned, that was due to the fact that they had published articles likely to disturb public order and cause misunderstanding and distrust, not only between Libyans themselves, but between Libyans and other communities settled in the country. The incident had taken place at the historical moment of the transfer of power, at a time, therefore, when unity of opinion and a calm atmosphere were necessary. For that reason alone certain newspapers had been temporarily prohibited. Moreover, it was not true, as the representative of Egypt had alleged, that the National Congress Party newspaper had been banned. The newspaper in question continued to appear, although on several occasions it had published articles which, in the opinion of the Libyan Government, were prejudicial to the country's unity and independence.

16. The representative of Egypt had spoken of terrorism in Libya. It was true that public order had sometimes been disturbed owing to incidents provoked, not by the Government, but by elements belonging to the opposition. The delegation of the United Kingdom of Libya would have preferred that the representative of Egypt had refrained from raising the question, but as he had done so, it was the Libyan delegation's duty to reply as briefly and as accurately as possible to the criticisms made. The Libyan delegation wished to state, however, that in spite of the unexpected attitude of the Egyptian representative the feelings of fraternity and gratitude which Libya entertained towards Egypt and its noble people remained unchanged.

17. It was the firm intention of the Libyan Government to ensure that the elections which were shortly due to take place should be of a free and democratic character, so that all electors could vote without fear or compulsion.

18. As regards the temporary financial agreements concluded by Libya under the auspices of the United Nations Commissioner, Mr. Khakkia wished to emphasize that all such agreements were subject to ratification by the Parliament which was shortly to be elected under the country's Constitution. The door was being deliberately kept open, however, for all States which sincerely wished to afford Libya economic and financial aid, provided that that aid was not prejudicial to the country's independence and sovereignty.

19. With reference to the draft resolutions submitted by the delegations of Egypt (A/AC.53/L.42) and the USSR (A/AC.53/L.40), the delegation of the United Kingdom of Libya considered that the question dealt with in those resolutions was the sole concern of the Libyan Government and, as several delegations had indicated, should be decided by the Libyan Parliament. He wished to reaffirm that Libya was in a better position than anyone else to protect and maintain its independence and sovereignty.

20. In conclusion, the delegation of the United Kingdom of Libya wished to afford the Committee further assurance of the fact that Libya was firmly determined to maintain and respect the principles of the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It hoped that the United Nations would have confidence in the ability of the democratic Government of Libya to maintain the independence and sovereignty of the United Kingdom of Libya. By strictly adhering to those principles the Libyan people could best testify its gratitude to the United Nations and deserve the aid it hoped to obtain from the Organization.

21. Mr. MOEKARTO (Indonesia) paid tribute to the work done by the United Nations Commissioner and his staff extended his congratulations to the new Libyan State, its Sovereign and its people, whose courage and tenacity had made it possible for Libya to attain independence.

22. The delegation of Indonesia would give careful consideration to the draft resolution submitted by Egypt, calling for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Libya within six months and the return of all foreign military bases to the Libyan authorities. After many years of colonialism the Libyan people must be assured genuine and total independence but the presence of foreign troops and military bases on Libyan soil was prejudicial to that independence. It was essential that the question of the maintenance of foreign troops and military bases in Libya should be decided by the freely elected Libyan Parliament, without any pressure on the Libyan Government from without. For that reason the delegation of Indonesia unreservedly approved and would vote for the Egyptian draft resolution, which did not, moreover, preclude the conclusion of agreements concerning the maintenance of troops and military bases in Libya.

23. With regard to the revised amendment submitted by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen

(A/AC.53/L.41/Rev.1)¹ to the twelve-Power draft resolution (A/AC.53/L.39), it should be observed that paragraph 1 of that amendment urged that the elections provided for should be free and democratic, and that paragraph 2 implied that the United Nations was the most appropriate organ to provide Libya with the necessary technical assistance. It also stressed the importance of Libya's economic, social and cultural development. The delegation of Indonesia therefore supported the amendment submitted by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen, as further amended by Chile (A/AC.53/L.45), as well as the joint draft resolution to which that amendment related.

24. Mr. KYROU (Greece) said that, as one of the authors of the joint draft resolution, he would like to examine the arguments adduced by the USSR representative (52nd meeting) in support of the amendment submitted by the USSR delegation (A/AC.53/L.43), which proposed the deletion of paragraph 4 of the operative part of the joint draft. The Soviet Union representative had given four reasons in support of his proposal. The first was that, in his view, paragraph 4 of the operative part was anti-constitutional and contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, for it made no reference to the prerogatives of the Security Council in the matter of the admission of new Members. It had never been the intention of the authors of the joint draft resolution, however, to by-pass the Security Council in that matter. When paragraph 4 said that Libya should be admitted to the United Nations, the meaning was that Libya should be admitted in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 4 of the Charter.

25. The second reason adduced by the USSR representative was that paragraph 4 of the operative part was contrary to the provisions of a resolution submitted by the Soviet Union (AC.1/703) and adopted by the First Committee at its 501st meeting on 25 January 1952. That was true; but at the same meeting the First Committee had adopted, by a larger majority, another proposal submitted by Peru (A/C.1/702/Rev.3). It was

for the Assembly in plenary session to make a decision on those two resolutions.

26. The third reason adduced by the USSR representative was that a committee of the General Assembly could not make a recommendation relating to the admission of a particular State to the United Nations. There was, however, a precedent to that in General Assembly resolution 387 (V). Paragraph 5 of that resolution recommended that, upon its establishment as an independent State, Libya should be admitted to the United Nations. That resolution had been adopted by the General Assembly unanimously, and the paragraph in question had therefore been approved by the Soviet Union.

27. The fourth reason given by the USSR representative was that paragraph 4 of the operative part of the joint draft resolution was contrary to the principle of universality, or rather to the conception of that principle entertained by the USSR. That conception, however, varied according to the requirements of the case, as was shown by the attitude adopted by the USSR with regard to Israel's application for admission in 1949 and Indonesia's application in 1950.

28. The Greek delegation therefore considered that paragraph 4 of the operative part of the joint draft resolution should be retained.

29. The delegation of Chile had submitted an amendment (A/AC.53/L.45) to the revised amendment (A/AC.53/L.41/Rev.1) to the joint draft resolution (A/AC.53/L.39), of which Chile was one of the authors. The Greek representative was also one of the authors of the joint draft and, though he had not had time to consult with the representative of Chile, he could say then and there that it did not seem to him that he would be able to support the Chilean amendment relating to paragraph 4 of the joint draft. He was, on the other hand, prepared to support the other two parts of the Chilean amendment.

30. Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Chile) observed that the revised text of the amendment submitted by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen (A/AC.53/L.41/Rev.1) had been just recently distributed. For its part, the delegation of Chile proposed an amendment to that text (A/AC.53/L.45). All those proposals must be considered and, although the discussion had been closed, it would be wise to allow their authors to describe their meaning and effect and furnish any necessary explanations. For its part, the Chilean delegation would like to make such a statement. Since, however, the Chilean text was an amendment to the revised amendment submitted jointly by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen, his delegation would prefer to wait until the sponsors of the joint amendment had commented on their text.

31. Mr. RAHIM KHAN (Pakistan) supported the Chilean representative's suggestion. The method proposed would facilitate the Committee's work.

32. The CHAIRMAN said that he also was of that opinion and pointed out that the authors of new proposals would be permitted to comment on them.

¹ Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the original amendment (A/AC.53/L.41) have been replaced by the following text:

"2. After paragraph 2 of the operative part, add the following new paragraphs:

"3. *Invites* Member States of the United Nations and non-members who are in a position to do so, to furnish Libya, on her demand, the necessary financial assistance to further her economic, social and cultural development through contributions which will be paid into a special account, without prejudice to the provisions of the financial regulations which the United Kingdom of Libya may adopt in the exercise of her sovereignty to finance her programme of economic and social development;

4. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to study in the course of its 14th session the necessary measures to be taken to ensure the administration and utilization of the contributions paid into the special account;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To devote in his annual report on Africa, to be presented to the Economic and Social Council, a chapter on the progress of the programmes of the economic and social development of Libya;

(b) To help the Economic and Social Council, on presenting in the course of its 14th session, suggestions on the measures to be taken to ensure the administration and utilization of the contributions paid into the special account; "

(Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the original text thus become paragraphs 6 and 7).

33. Replying to a question by Mr. HOOD (Australia), the CHAIRMAN confirmed that delegations wishing to speak on those new proposals would also be permitted to do so.

34. Mr. GAJEWSKI (Poland) recalled that at the 50th meeting his delegation had affirmed that the presence of foreign troops and the establishment of military bases in Libya constituted an infringement of the sovereignty of the Libyan people and a threat to international peace and security. The Polish delegation had also demonstrated the part played in that respect by the imperialist Powers which, under arrangements made in accordance with the aggressive North Atlantic Treaty, were involving Libya in their plans for the preparation of a new war. The debate, and particularly the Egyptian representative's statement had confirmed Poland's conviction, while at the same time disclosing the dangers to which the Libyan people were exposed by the presence of foreign troops and the existence of foreign military bases on its territory. In that respect it must be noted that none of the speakers who had taken part in the general discussion had been able to adduce any valid argument to refute the contents of the USSR draft resolution. Some delegations had attempted to justify the presence of foreign troops and the establishment of military foreign bases in Libya by pointing out that agreements had been concluded to that effect between the governments of the imperialist Powers and the Provisional Government of Libya. They had wished to convey the impression that the Libyan people had given their agreement in the matter. The discussion, however, had revealed that the Libyan people had been opposed to the construction of foreign bases and the stationing of foreign troops in its territory, and that it had demanded that an end should be put to a situation that infringed its sovereign rights. Furthermore, the agreements relating to the presence of troops and the establishment of military bases had been concluded without consultation of the Libyan people and at a time when foreign troops had for a long time been installed in Libya. The positions of the contracting parties to those agreements had therefore been unequal.

35. The USSR draft resolution required the withdrawal of foreign troops and the liquidation of foreign military bases in Libya within a period of three months. That measure would help to establish the conditions necessary for Libya's genuine independence, and the Polish delegation would therefore support the USSR draft resolution. If that draft resolution were not adopted, the Polish delegation would vote for the Egyptian draft resolution, although some of its provisions did not seem to meet the requirements of the situation.

36. With regard to the twelve-Power draft resolution, the Polish delegation considered that the paragraph relating to the admission of Libya to the United Nations was quite unnecessary. Poland had always been sympathetic towards the Libyan people's struggle for liberation, and desired that Libya should be admitted to the United Nations as soon as possible. It also considered that all States which satisfied the conditions laid down in the Charter should be admitted to the

United Nations. It had always been opposed to the policy of discrimination practised by the United States, a policy which had hitherto prevented the admission of States whose attitude was not favourable to American plans.

37. The conditions laid down in the Charter should be the only ones to determine the admission of new Members, and political sympathies and antipathies should play no part in such decisions. It was precisely as a result of United States policy that fourteen States, including Libya, were waiting to be admitted to the United Nations. Furthermore, the question of the admission of new Members was, of course, on the agenda of the sixth session. In spite of the opposition of the United States, the First Committee had on 25 January adopted a resolution recommending that the Security Council should re-examine the applications for admission of thirteen States and consider the application submitted by Libya. Consequently, it was unnecessary for the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee to make any decision on the admission of Libya; furthermore, it would be quite unjustified in doing so. The Polish delegation would therefore vote for the USSR amendment, which requested the deletion of paragraph 4 of the operative part of the twelve-Power draft resolution. If that paragraph were retained, and if, as a result, the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee continued to deal with a problem which another Committee had already studied and in connexion with which a decision had already been adopted, the Polish delegation would be unable to take part in the vote, either on the twelve-Power draft resolution as a whole or on the amendments to it that had been submitted.

38. ABDEL-RAZEK Bey (Egypt) pointed out that the revised amendment submitted jointly by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen and the Chilean amendment were based on the same principles and had the same objective, namely, to provide Libya with the necessary financial assistance for its economic and social development. Both texts also provided that that assistance would be furnished through the United Nations, which had a certain responsibility in that regard, having taken the initiative in ensuring the independence and unification of Libya.

39. It would appear from a comparison of the two texts that the new paragraph 3 proposed in the joint amendment was more effective and more practical than the corresponding paragraph of the Chilean amendment; in the latter text, the Economic and Social Council was requested "to study ways and means by which the United Nations... could furnish additional assistance to the United Kingdom of Libya with a view to financing its fundamental and urgent programmes of economic and social development", whereas, in the joint amendment, Member States and non-members were invited to furnish Libya, on its demand, with certain specific financial assistance, to be granted "without prejudice to the provisions of the financial regulations which the United Kingdom of Libya may adopt in the exercise of its sovereignty to finance its programme of economic and social development". Nevertheless, both paragraphs were inspired by the same principle. Both texts,

moreover, requested the Secretary-General to give special attention to the economic problems of Libya, and they both recommended certain measures to that end. The Egyptian delegation was therefore prepared to accept the Chilean amendment, but urged that the first paragraph of the joint amendment should be retained.

40. In reply to the representative of Libya, Abdel-Razek Bey emphasized that the Egyptian Government was still prepared to grant Libya financial or technical assistance. Already at the General Assembly's fifth session the Egyptian representative had explained, his Government's intentions at the 135th meeting of the Second Committee. Similar assurances had been given to the United Nations Commissioner. Egypt was anxious to consolidate and develop the independence of Libya, which was a friendly country.

41. Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Chile) explained that his delegation had drafted its amendment (A/AC.53/L.45) at the request of the sponsors of the original amendment (A/AC.53/L.41/Rev.1) and of other delegations which wished concrete expression to be given to the suggestions they had put forward during the general debate.

42. As regards the new paragraph 3 proposed by his delegation, he pointed out that very great responsibility devolved upon the United Nations with regard to Libya. The United Nations must make every effort to prevent Libya from becoming a new theatre of dispute in the Middle East. It was true that as far as economic and social matters were concerned, the United Nations had drawn up a general programme of technical assistance from which many countries could benefit. It must not, however, be forgotten that Libya was a special case. In that connexion, the United Nations Commissioner had rightly stressed that if Libya did not receive the necessary technical and financial assistance, there could be no illusions as to its economic future. For all those reasons, the Chilean delegation was prepared to support paragraph 3 of the joint amendment, in the belief that Member States should be called upon to furnish financial aid to Libya through the Organization.

43. During the discussion on the general programmes of economic development, the Chilean delegation had recommended the establishment of a special international account by means of which the under-developed countries could be helped to implement programmes which, although not production programmes, were nevertheless essential for their development. His delegation still maintained that international assistance was preferable to assistance furnished on the basis of a bilateral agreement. The original text of the joint amendment accorded perfectly with that view.

44. The Chilean delegation, however, had thought it better to propose a slightly different text, so as to remove any possible obstacle to the adoption of the new paragraph 3. Chile was aware that the industrialized countries were opposed to the establishment of a special fund of the kind provided for in the joint amendment, whether that fund were intended for Libya alone or for all under-developed countries generally. As that question was to be studied by the General Assembly, his

delegation merely proposed that the Economic and Social Council should be requested to study ways and means by which the United Nations, with the co-operation of all governments and the specialized agencies, could furnish additional assistance to Libya with a view to financing its fundamental and urgent programmes of economic development, giving consideration to the possibility of opening a special account for voluntary contributions to that end. That recommendation in no way prejudged whatever decisions might be taken by the Economic and Social Council, which was being asked primarily to study ways and means of ensuring such assistance. In the circumstances, most countries regarded the establishment of a special international account as the logical measure to be taken. However, that solution was not suggested: the Council was merely requested to give consideration to it and Mr. Santa Cruz, for his part, could not see how there could be any opposition to such a recommendation.

45. As regards paragraph 5 of the joint amendment, under which the Secretary-General was requested to carry out certain studies, the Chilean delegation had preferred a slightly different wording, designed to adhere to the procedure followed in drawing up the Secretary-General's report on the matter. He was referring to the annual World Economic Report, which included a special chapter on Africa. Since there already was a special chapter dealing with that area, and as the Economic and Social Council had already requested the Secretary-General to give particular attention to "the measures being taken under the technical assistance and other programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies" (resolution 367 B (XIII)), it seemed illogical to repeat the same recommendation in the case of an individual African territory.

46. Lastly, the Chilean delegation had just circulated a revised text of its amendment² (A/AC.53/L.45/Rev.1); in that revised text it proposed that the Secretary-General should be requested to examine, upon the

* The following is the text of the Chilean amendment; the passages shown between square brackets did not appear in the original text (A/AC.53/L.45):

"In the second amendment, substitute the following for paragraphs 3, 4 and 5:

"3. Requests the Economic and Social Council to study ways and means by which the United Nations, with the co-operation of all governments and the competent specialized agencies, could furnish additional assistance to the United Kingdom of Libya with a view to financing its fundamental and urgent programmes of economic and social development, giving consideration to the possibility of opening a special account for voluntary contributions to that end and to report there on to the seventh session of the General Assembly;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to give the Economic and Social Council any assistance necessary to enable it to carry out that task, [and also to examine, upon the request of the Libyan Government, the possibility of appointing an official within the terms of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance to act as the Financial Officer for co-ordinating the receipt and supervising the expenditure of such sums as may be made available to the Government of Libya for meeting its normal administrative budget deficits];

5. Requests also the Secretary-General to give in his studies special attention to the economic problems of Libya and notes in that connexion resolution 367 B (XIII) of the Economic and Social Council of 14 August 1951, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to report as part of the annual World Economic Report, on economic developments in Africa, with special attention to the measures being taken under the technical assistance and other programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies."

request of the Libyan Government, the possibility of appointing an official, within the terms of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, to act as the Financial Officer for co-ordinating the receipt and supervising the expenditure of such sums as might be made available to the Government of Libya for meeting its normal administrative budget deficits. It had seemed necessary to co-ordinate the technical and financial assistance received by Libya under the United Nations technical assistance programme or under bilateral agreements.

47. ABDEL-RAZEK Bey (Egypt) said that the sponsors of the revised joint amendment were willing to accept the proposed Chilean amendment to their text, subject however to the retention of the proposal to insert the words "free and democratic" in paragraph 2 of the operative part. The sponsors of the joint amendment withdrew their proposal to insert three paragraphs after paragraph 2 of the operative part.

48. Mr. TARCICI (Yemen) recalled that his delegation had associated itself with the other three delegations in submitting the amendment contained in document A/AC.53/L.41/Rev.1. He was prepared to accept any alteration or improvement proposed by the Chilean representative. The Chilean delegation's draft conformed to the spirit in which the Egyptian, Saudi Arabian, Syrian and Yemen delegations had submitted their joint amendment. He therefore agreed, in order to facilitate the work of the Committee, that paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the joint amendment should be replaced by paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the Chilean amendment.

49. Mr. LUNS (Netherlands) wished to associate himself with the good wishes which previous speakers had addressed to the new Libyan State, and with the tribute paid to the United Nations Commissioner in Libya. His delegation shared the hope expressed by most representatives that Libya would become a Member of the United Nations. Mr. Luns then discussed the various drafts before the Committee.

50. The twelve-Power draft resolution was based on the General Assembly's resolutions of 1949 and 1950, upon which the existence of Libya was founded. Moreover, although the joint draft resolution indicated how the United Nations could give assistance to the new State, it left the Libyan people entirely free to determine the manner in which it would take advantage of such assistance. Finally, the draft resolution recommended that Libya should be admitted to the United Nations. For all those reasons the Netherlands delegation would vote for that draft.

51. The USSR draft resolution seemed to the Netherlands representative to be based on premises which were not in accordance with the facts. The military bases on Libyan territory did not constitute a threat to any other country, and were maintained there by virtue of bilateral agreements which were in no way forbidden by the Charter. His delegation would therefore vote against the Soviet Union draft resolution.

52. The same applied to the draft resolution submitted by the delegation of Egypt, and the Netherlands delegation could therefore not support it.

53. With regard to the amendment submitted by the delegations of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen, and that submitted by the delegation of Chile, he reserved his delegation's position, as it had not had time to study those amendments at leisure.

54. Mr. HOOD (Australia) said that he had listened with interest to the Chilean representative's explanations of the revised Chilean amendment. He wished to draw attention to the fact that insufficient emphasis had been laid upon the fundamental difference between the twelve-Power draft resolution and the most recent Chilean amendment. A difficulty arose in that the Committee was about to approve a resolution which established the fact of Libyan sovereignty and independence, whereas the amendment stated that further steps on the part of the United Nations were necessary before that objective was achieved. He illustrated that difficulty by reading out paragraph 3 of the operative part of the draft resolution, whereby the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies were requested to continue to extend to Libya, upon its request, such technical assistance as they might be in a position to render in accordance with the principles of their technical assistance programmes. If that paragraph were compared with the text of the Chilean amendment, it appeared that, under the latter, the United Nations and its various technical bodies could impose technical assistance on Libya, without the latter requesting it.

55. The Second Committee of the General Assembly had already dealt with the question of the economic rehabilitation of Libya. The *Ad Hoc* Political Committee should devote its attention primarily to political questions; it was probably not competent to lay down in any detail measures relating to technical assistance.

56. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) recalled that under the Charter the question of admitting new Members could not be considered by the General Assembly until the applications had been examined by the Security Council. Yet, in paragraph 4 of the operative part of the twelve-Power draft resolution, it was proposed to admit Libya to membership of the United Nations without the Security Council first considering its application. The draft resolution, therefore, violated the Charter, and the Ukrainian delegation could not vote for such a resolution.

57. In that connexion Mr. Palamarchuk recalled that his delegation had already stated its point of view in the First Committee, at its 500th meeting, on the question of the admission of new Members. The Ukrainian delegation therefore supported the Soviet Union amendment, which would delete paragraph 4 of the operative part of the joint draft resolution. If that amendment were not adopted, the Ukrainian delegation would take no part in the vote on the twelve-Power draft resolution.

58. Mr. RAHIM KHAN (Pakistan) thought that the proposals before the Committee represented the

fulfilment of the task which the General Assembly had set itself in establishing an independent State of Libya. He did not believe that they would limit in any way the freedom of the Libyan Government to accept outside assistance whenever it wished.

59. After carefully considering the amendment submitted by the Chilean delegation and listening to the explanations given by its representative, he was convinced that nothing in that amendment gave cause to fear that the United Nations would be forcing the Libyan Government to adopt any particular line of action. That proposal was merely attempting to help the Libyan Government by suggesting another way in which it would, if it chose, be able to receive the assistance of the various United Nations agencies. That would not prevent the Libyan Government from concluding bilateral agreements for technical or financial assistance, if it so wished.

60. Mr. Rahim Khan did not share the view of the Australian representative that, in considering the question of technical assistance, the Committee would be intruding upon the sphere of other United Nations bodies. Paragraph 3 of the joint draft resolution requested the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies to continue to extend technical assistance to Libya. The Committee would certainly not be going beyond its terms of reference in adopting an amendment which elaborated that general recommendation. On the contrary, it was desirable that the United Nations' intentions in that respect should be clearly stated, and the Chilean amendment was merely designed to give guidance in the matter of planning technical assistance in Libya. It contained nothing which could prejudice the independence of the United Kingdom of Libya.

61. In his opinion, the only purpose of the Chilean amendment was to clarify the text of the joint draft resolution. Chile was one of the sponsors of the joint draft, and it was therefore natural that the other delegations should pay the Chilean amendments the attention they deserved, especially since they contained

nothing which was in conflict with the provisions of the draft resolution. The delegation of Pakistan would therefore vote for the Chilean amendment and for the twelve-Power draft resolution.

62. Mr. KYROU (Greece) reminded the representative of Pakistan that the Chilean representative had said that he was not submitting his amendment as a sponsor of the twelve-Power draft resolution.

63. Mr. SANTA CRUZ (Chile) explained, that he had not submitted an amendment to a draft resolution of which he himself was one of the sponsors, but merely to amendments submitted by other delegations.

64. With regard to the remarks of the Australian representative, he wished to recall that, at the fifth session the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee had adopted a resolution on economic and financial arrangements for Libya which became General Assembly resolution 388 (V). No one had then been of the opinion that the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee had exceeded its powers, and he could not see that the proposal he now made was technically any more objectionable than resolutions 388 (V) and 387 (V), which had been adopted at the previous session on the recommendation of the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee. The representative of Pakistan had rightly emphasized that it was unnecessary to stipulate that financial assistance was to be given upon the request of Libya. Indeed, it was one of the principles adopted by the Economic and Social Council to give United Nations assistance only on the request of the country concerned. To allay any anxiety felt by the Australian representative, Mr. Santa Cruz was, however, prepared to add to the Chilean amendment a stipulation that assistance should be given "on the request" of the United Kingdom of Libya.³

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

³ In the final text of document A/AC.53/L.45/Rev.1, the words "and upon the request of the Government of Libya" have been added between the words "competent specialized agencies" and "could furnish additional assistance".