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Chairman: Mr. Janez STANOVNIK (Yugoslavia).

**AGENDA ITEMS 12, 29 AND 74**

- Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters II (sections I, II and III A, except paragraphs 189-198), III, IV and VII (section I and paragraph 645)) (A/4415) (continued)**
- Economic development of under-developed countries (continued):**
- (a) **International flow of private capital: report of the Secretary-General and recommendations thereon by the Economic and Social Council (A/4487, E/3325 and Corr.1-3);**
  - (b) **Question of the establishment of a United Nations capital development fund: report of the Secretary-General (A/4488, E/3393, E/3393/Add.1-4);**
  - (c) **Methods and techniques for carrying out a study of world economic development: report of the Secretary-General and comments thereon by the Economic and Social Council (A/4489 and Add.1, E/3379, E/3379/Add.1-7);**
  - (d) **Promotion of wider trade co-operation among States: report of the Secretary-General (A/4490, E/3389)**

**Land reform (A/4439) (continued)**

**CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.2/L.490) (continued)**

1. The CHAIRMAN said that the Secretariat had asked him to inform the Committee that in view of the interpretation placed by its sponsors upon draft resolution A/C.2/L.492 which had been adopted at the previous meeting, it would have no financial implications. He invited the Committee to turn to the draft resolution on land reform (A/C.2/L.490).
2. Mr. ROA KOURI (Cuba), introducing the draft resolution, said that the Revolutionary Government of Cuba had taken the initiative of requesting the inclusion of land reform in the agenda of the fifteenth session because the General Assembly had not discussed the question for several years, even though a number of countries were carrying out or studying the possibility of carrying out important programmes for the transformation of their agrarian structure.
3. The question of land reform could, of course, be interpreted in many ways, and could be debated ad nauseam; but the draft resolution submitted by the co-sponsors could hardly be described as extremist in its implications.
4. The provisions of the United Nations Charter and of the many resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council designed to remedy the economic ills afflicting mankind and ensure international peace and security would have no meaning unless the United Nations took the necessary steps to translate into reality the aspirations of the peoples and of the growing number of States which, as they became independent, were taking their places in the United Nations. The United Nations could not remain indifferent to problems affecting more than 2,000 million human beings. Experience showed that it was impossible to break the vicious circle of under-development without taking steps to bring about radical changes in the agricultural sector of the economy and in the structure of agricultural employment. In countries with a rural population representing between 65 and 95 per cent of the total population, and with a very high level of unemployment and under-employment; in countries where agriculture consisted for the most part of subsistence farming, where wages were wretched, health precarious, savings non-existent and the contribution of farmers to the national income insufficient, it was unthinkable that the process of economic development could be set in motion without making any change in those conditions. That was why it was the duty of the United Nations to urge Member States to take vigorous action to facilitate a radical change in the agrarian structure of the under-developed countries. At the same time, the United Nations should carry out the studies, analyses and surveys needed to bring to the attention of those countries the experience and achieve-

ments of countries which had already carried out a process of agrarian reform.

5. The Cuban delegation had noted, not without concern, a tendency on the part of the United Nations Secretariat to regard land reform as a social question rather than as one of the keys to economic development in the under-developed countries. The question ought to be part of the regular programme of work of the economic services, whose staffs were certainly better equipped than that of the Bureau of Social Affairs to deal with land reform. In point of fact, apart from the first publication on the subject, prepared in 1951, the studies carried out by the United Nations to date were far from satisfactory. The studies entitled Progress in Land Reform published in 1954<sup>1/</sup> and 1956<sup>2/</sup> were superficial, and failed to provide a basis for gauging the importance of the qualitative changes made in the agrarian structure of countries which had carried out important reforms in that regard.

6. In the second preambular paragraph of the draft resolution, the sponsors, in their revised text, would delete the reference to General Assembly resolution 1426 (XIV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 712 (XXVII), as the Mexican and New Zealand representatives had requested, since the Assembly and the Council had not yet received the reports which the Secretary-General was asked to prepare in those two resolutions. It had seemed more logical to refer to them in operative paragraph 1. Since a number of new States had recently been admitted to the United Nations, and since such countries as Cuba, the United Arab Republic and Iraq, to name only a few, were engaged in land reform, it would be useful if the United Nations resumed the publication of periodic reports on the subject. Those reports should deal with the basic problems of land reform; they should not be mere compilations of data of secondary importance, which offered no basis for assessing the changes made in their agrarian structure by countries which had carried out such reforms.

7. Operative paragraph 3 was the most important paragraph of the draft resolution, for in it the sponsors set out the criteria upon which the studies mentioned in Economic and Social Council resolution 712 (XXVII) and in earlier resolutions should be based. Since land reform had technical as well as political aspects, the sponsors would refer in the revised text of paragraph 3 to the need for consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Director-General of FAO and the directors of the specialized agencies concerned.

8. By recommending "country studies", in paragraph 3 (b), the sponsors made it clear that they wished the United Nations to devote the major part of its efforts and resources to carrying out surveys in the countries which had actually adopted land reform measures. A factual survey of that kind was much more useful than a superficial compilation of various laws and programmes, which would not describe the techniques used, the results obtained or the difficulties encountered in carrying out the reform.

9. In connexion with paragraph 3 (c) it was not without point to recall that States members of FAO had, at the tenth session of its conference, emphasized the need to

provide the beneficiaries of land reform with the technical and financial means of maintaining and raising the level of agricultural production, for otherwise land reform measures would provoke social instability and popular discontent. In that connexion, FAO had drawn attention to the advisability of organizing co-operatives.

10. The Land Reform Act promulgated in Cuba on 17 May 1959 had abolished the latifundia system. Its aim was the redemption of Cuba's agricultural wealth, which had been to a large extent controlled by foreign monopolies, and the elimination of monoculture. It was not without significance that the United States Government had begun to harass and intimidate Cuba and to engage in aggressive demonstrations against it from the moment of the entry into force of the Land Reform Act, which had ended the exploitation of Cuban land by United States plantation and ranch-owners.

11. The basic articles of the Act provided for the distribution of land to landless peasants—the minimum of 26.6 hectares going to them free of charge—the liquidation of such relics of feudalism as the payment of land rent in kind, crop diversification, the planning of agriculture and stock-raising, for which the National Land Reform Institute had been made responsible, the establishment of agricultural co-operatives managed by the workers themselves, and the elimination of the middle-man in trading, through the creation of "people's stores" attached to each co-operative.

12. The importance of the abolition of the latifundia system was obvious to all who knew that one-third of Cuba's national territory had been owned by 68 agricultural enterprises, that 12.7 per cent had been owned by 40 ranchers, and that 67.3 per cent of Cuban farmers had not owned the land they cultivated.

13. The nationalization of the sugar industry and the expropriation of the great landowners had given a fresh impetus to land reform. The sugar co-operatives which had been organized each had about 1,330 hectares. As a result, the level of productivity would be maintained, and the co-operatives would be able to raise it by improving methods of cultivation.

14. According to Marco Antonio Duran, the Mexican economist, Cuba's new agrarian structure was characterized by the existence of holdings of varying sizes, from a maximum of 400 hectares to the minimum of 26.6 hectares, the whole constituting a production apparatus capable of achieving the objectives of the land reform, one of which had been to provide full employment for the rural population until the development of the other sectors of the economy permitted a reduction in the proportion of the population employed in agriculture and a better distribution of manpower. Duran's conclusion was that the land reform merely marked the beginning of a long evolution.

15. Thanks to the establishment of 2,000 co-operatives and 1,000 people's stores, production had not only not declined, but in the case of a number of important products had actually increased, and the standard of living of the peasants had risen.

16. In 1960, contrary to the forecasts of certain "experts", sugar production had been exactly the same as in 1959, and an increase of more than one million tons was anticipated for 1961. As a result of measures taken by the Government, such as the creation of artificial grasslands, it had for the first time been

<sup>1/</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: 54.II.B.3.

<sup>2/</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: 56.II.B.3.

possible to supply the national market with meat the whole year round. The rice harvest had been better in 1960 than in any previous year, and Cuba would be able to reduce its rice imports. The production and export of tobacco had increased slightly over 1958. Increases had also been recorded in the production of coffee, tomatoes, beans, maize, potatoes, oranges, cotton, cocoa, honey and poultry.

17. The replacement of the great plantations by co-operatives had brought about an appreciable increase in the total income of the 2,000 workers who were members, since there were no longer any great land-owners to draw inordinate profits. The basic wages of workers in the sugar co-operatives had risen by 25 per cent. At the present time, 1,000 new villages were being built in Cuba, each of which would have a school, a health centre, a "people's store" and a co-operative headquarters. Ten thousand housing units had been built in rural districts since the beginning of the year.

18. In 1960, again, the National Land Reform Institute had invested nearly \$19 million in new agricultural and stock-raising enterprises, in the textile, chemical and mining industries and in the tobacco industry.

19. The results achieved through land reform in only twenty months were so striking that the urban and rural proletariat had thrown their full support behind the revolt of the humble, which was restoring to every man a sense of dignity, was preparing the way for economic progress and was to guarantee Cuba's political independence.

20. Mr. DIPP-GOMEZ (Dominican Republic) said that his delegation had studied with great interest the draft resolution on land reform, a question which was of primary importance for the economic development and the raising of the level of living of all peoples. His delegation was prepared to support any proposal designed to accelerate land reform, for as early as 1930 his Government had taken steps to achieve land reform by peaceful means, by applying laws which were equitable and in conformity with the principles recognized at inter-American conferences.

21. The main features of Dominican land reform were: organization of education to encourage the use of scientific methods of farming; free distribution of land; irrigation and improvement of arid land; agricultural settlement and free distribution of agricultural implements and seed. In 1954 his Government had established an agricultural and industrial credit bank which made loans to farmers at reasonable interest. The loans made so far by that bank exceeded \$25 million a year. In view of the high cost of agricultural equipment, the bank had also purchased 100 tractors and it performed work for farmers on a contract basis.

22. As a result of those measures, the national product had increased more than fifteen times between 1930 and 1960. His Government, however, was not content with that. A month ago, it had decided to establish a Department of Social Reform and Agricultural Improvement, which was to accelerate, in accordance with equitable scientific principles, the land reform initiated in 1930. The head of the country, General Rafael L. Trujillo, had recommended that the equivalent of \$8 million should be appropriated in the 1961 budget for the purpose of intensifying action in land and social reform through the establishment of farm

groups, the construction of dwellings for farmers and the distribution of land and seed.

23. In view of the importance which his Government attached to land reform, he wished to make a few suggestions regarding the recommendations in the draft resolution. The first preambular paragraph could well be made clearer and more specific and might be replaced by the following text:

"Bearing in mind that agriculture is the main source of prosperity for many countries and particularly for the less developed countries,

"Bearing in mind that agricultural production in many countries is far from satisfactory and that there are many obstacles to the efficient use of the land,

"Recognizing that land reform is one of the main prerequisites for the development of agriculture and the corresponding increase in productivity,

"Recognizing the importance of studies that reveal the difficulties which constitute a serious obstacle to the gradual execution of an orderly land reform,".

24. In the second preambular paragraph, the words "by no means indicate that the subject of land reform has been exhausted", should be replaced by the words "reveal the need for continued study of the question of land reform".

25. Operative paragraph 1 would be clearer and more logical if the words "devoting particular attention to the analytical examination of the basic problems of land reform in the under-developed countries" were added after the words "agrarian structure". The word "analytical" further on and the final phrase beginning "devoting particular attention" would then have to be deleted.

26. In the Spanish text of operative paragraph 3 the words "de la presente resolución" should be inserted after the word "primero". In operative paragraph 3 (a), the words "undertaking studies with a view to ascertaining" might be replaced by the word "analysing", since the United Nations had already made studies in that field which might be used for the proposed analysis. Finally, operative paragraph 4 should mention the regional economic commissions, which had a thorough knowledge of economic and social conditions in their respective regions.

27. Mr. ABDEL-GHANI (United Arab Republic) congratulated the Cuban delegation on having submitted a draft resolution proposing that the United Nations should resume its study of land reform. The people and Government of his country attached considerable importance to the national land reform programme which was being carried out. The work already done in that field by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and FAO, and particularly certain seminars which had been held, had proved useful to many countries by giving them general guidance and providing an opportunity for them to exchange information. The consideration of the problem should therefore be resumed, taking into account the experience acquired in the various countries. The United Nations could not remain indifferent to a problem which, according to FAO statistics, affected 60 per cent of the world's population. It was obvious that in most countries, and particularly in the countries in process of development, farmers constituted the central nucleus of the economic and political life of the community. Some years

before, IBRD had stated that the maintenance of a defective system of land tenure constituted an obstacle to increased agricultural production and improved standards of living.

28. Land reform was both an economic and a social problem. Redistribution of land was difficult if it was not accompanied by measures to provide credit and by the establishment of consumers' and producers' co-operatives. As the experience of a number of countries had shown, land reform gave the peasants a sense of dignity. On the other hand, unjust distribution of land was a source of agitation and violence.

29. The principles of the land reform introduced in his country had been set forth at length in the documents of the Second Committee in 1952, 1953 and 1954. The reform had started in 1952 in the Egyptian region and in 1958 in the Syrian region. The maximum amount of land which a farmer could own had been defined, the land had been distributed among those who farmed it and provision had been made for payment of fair compensation to dispossessed owners. The reform had not only remedied the unjust distribution of land but had also made it possible to increase agricultural production through financial measures and the development of the co-operative movement. The establishment of a maximum size of holding promoted saving, and thereby industrialization. In his country, land reform had proved a success from both the economic and the social point of view.

30. The studies proposed in the draft resolution would provide an opportunity to obtain a greater amount of data concerning land reform in his country, which might be useful to other countries.

31. Mr. SAMUEL (India) said that he considered land reform to be one of the main prerequisites for the development of the under-developed countries. Unfortunately the progress made in that field had been slow, in spite of the studies already undertaken by the United Nations and the fact that legislation on the subject had been enacted in many countries. The time had come to enter the phase of execution through economic and social programmes.

32. The obstacles in the way of land reform had been enumerated in a number of reports: resistance of large landowners, difficulty in applying the laws and respect for customs and traditions. One of the most serious difficulties, however, was the financial question, even where land redistribution laws existed. The peasants did not possess the necessary means to acquire or to farm land and could not benefit from the legislation if the land reform was not accompanied by credit measures. In some very densely populated countries it had been found useful to establish agricultural organizations which worked both on the implementation of land reform measures and on the improvement of farming methods through a co-operative system. A large number of such bodies had been set up in his country and that movement might be accelerated if the under-developed countries were given the necessary financial and technical assistance. It was obvious that any new studies which were undertaken should concentrate on the elimination of obstacles to land reform and the appraisal of the progress achieved. Particular attention should be paid to technical difficulties and the possibility of providing national and international aid should be considered.

33. The proposed studies might cover such matters as the type of assistance hitherto received, the need for outside technical assistance, the technical and financial rôle of co-operatives, and the supply of fertilizers and agricultural machinery. In resolution 512 C (XVII) the Economic and Social Council had recommended that IBRD should give sympathetic consideration to loan applications from under-developed countries for development projects designed to implement their programmes of agrarian reform. The Bank had as yet done nothing in the field of land reform and it was to be hoped that IDA, which was better equipped for the purpose, would display greater activity.

34. It would be a grave omission if the 1962 report did not deal with the influence of land reform and agricultural progress on the industrial infrastructure. In the modern world a country's economic development depended less on its agricultural production than on its industrial power, and industrial progress itself tended to bring about an increase in agricultural production. In the studies envisaged in the draft resolution attention should therefore be given to methods of establishing the industrial infrastructure. Industrialization was not possible in the first stage of agricultural development, but the objective of industrialization and of agricultural development alike was to ensure the well-being of the population, and the existing relationship between industrial and agricultural development might therefore be studied. The question was one that should not be overlooked, since every country eventually had to industrialize.

35. In India, agriculture had been the subject of much legislation during the past ten years, and questions of land reform had received considerable attention in the drafting of the first two five-year plans. The land reform legislation was designed to bring about the abolition of the old structure which had impeded agricultural development, to eliminate social injustices and the exploitation of the peasantry, to ensure security of tenure, to prevent the fragmentation of holdings and to encourage consolidation. The measures taken had imposed a heavy burden on the Government.

36. His delegation had listened with great interest to the Cuban representative's statement introducing the draft resolution. Methods of land reform might be different in different countries since they depended in large measure on economic and social conditions and traditions, but every country could benefit from the experience of others. The studies envisaged in the draft resolution would therefore be of use to all countries, whether they had embarked on land reform programmes or not. His own Government regarded land reform as an integral part of its economic development plan.

37. Mr. SOLOVYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that land reform was a vitally important problem which had to be solved by the under-developed countries if they were to achieve any substantial degree of economic progress. In most under-developed countries more than 70 per cent of the active population was employed in agriculture, which usually accounted for over half the national income. Until recently all the countries concerned had been colonies of the Western Powers, and their economic function had been to supply the metropolitan country with agricultural commodities and raw materials. In many of the countries one-crop agriculture had been artificially introduced and

the best land had been taken over by foreign monopolies. In Indonesia there had been 2,227 foreign-owned plantations, with a total area of 3,439,000 hectares and only 82 Indonesian-owned plantations with a total area of 73,000 hectares. In Tunisia more than half a million hectares still belonged to foreign settlers. In Africa, Asia and Latin America millions of hectares of good land were owned by foreign companies. The economies of the dependent countries had been designed solely to serve the interests of the colonial Powers, with the result that local industry had declined and remnants of feudalism had persisted in the rural areas.

38. In most under-developed countries from 50 to 90 per cent of the land had belonged to a handful of land-owners although two-thirds of the population had consisted of farmers and farm labourers. In Egypt small holders and landless peasants had represented 90 per cent of the rural population. While the imperialists had exploited their colonies and preserved a feudal agrarian structure, they had also held back the development of industry. A relative surplus of manpower had thus developed in rural areas, resulting in increasing pressure on the labour market, where the supply had far exceeded the demand. Wages had been so low that in some cases the use of machinery had been regarded as an extravagance. Technical backwardness had been the direct cause of the extremely slow and uneven improvement of agricultural production in the under-developed countries. In most of those countries, yields of the main food crops in the post-war years had not risen above the pre-war period, and in some cases had even fallen. Some countries which had been food exporters had even been obliged to become heavy importers. Agriculture had no longer been capable of feeding the population.

39. In such circumstances land reform must be undertaken not only in order to ensure social justice but also to increase agricultural productivity. Without land reform it was impossible to achieve progress in agriculture, to develop industry, and to wage an effective campaign against hunger. Palliatives of the kind envisaged in General Assembly resolution 1496 (XV) recommending the provision of food surpluses to needy peoples could not alter the situation. The representatives of under-developed countries recognized the importance of the question and the need for undertaking programmes of land reform to give the land to those who tilled it. The under-developed countries hoped that land reform would enable them to rescue their economies from stagnation and to embark on social progress.

40. It was not the first time that the United Nations had concerned itself with land reform, which had been discussed by the General Assembly at its fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth and fourteenth sessions and by the Economic and Social Council at its thirteenth, seventeenth, twenty-third and twenty-seventh sessions. In the report submitted to the Council at its seventeenth session<sup>3/</sup> it was stated that little progress had been made in the matter of land reform, especially in under-developed countries, because of economic and social difficulties. The report submitted to the Council at its twenty-seventh session (E/3208)<sup>4/</sup> made no mention of

measures recently taken in the field of land reform and merely listed studies undertaken on the subject by the specialized agencies. The prospectus of the report which the Secretariat was to submit to the Council in 1962 was equally unsatisfactory. Such reports should serve to guide the activities of United Nations bodies in the field of land reform. The basic principles of those activities were the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 370 (XIII), which recommended that Governments should institute appropriate land reforms in the interest of landless, small and medium farmers.

41. It was all the more necessary to proceed with land reform because an attempt had been made in the past by several delegations of Western Powers to substitute discussions on technical progress in agriculture for the consideration of land reform, which was of great importance in achieving social progress.

42. His delegation warmly welcomed the initiative taken by the Cuban delegation and the other sponsors of the draft resolution. The draft confirmed the principles of Economic and Social Council resolution 370 (XIII) and presented a programme of assistance for under-developed countries in the field of land reform. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

43. Mr. TARDOS (Hungary) said that he welcomed the draft resolution and appreciated the sponsors' initiative. Many speakers had pointed out that the realization of land reform was an indispensable prerequisite for the economic development in many countries. Failure to carry out land reform hindered both industrial and agricultural development. His country had undertaken a large-scale land reform in 1945. Before that time Hungarian peasants had been so poor that they had emigrated in large numbers. The structure of agriculture had been feudal: in 1938, 21 per cent of the arable land had been held by 300 large landlords while 1,200,000 small owners had owned only 10 per cent. Over 500,000 peasants had owned neither land nor a home of their own. Land reform had affected 35 per cent of the country's area. The upper limit of landed property had been set at 280 acres. Although it had not been possible to satisfy all claims, land had been allotted to 662,000 persons. The reforms had also affected farm machinery and the buildings on large estates, valued at the equivalent of 18 to 20 million quintals of wheat. The reform had been carried out by the peasants themselves, who had formed land claim committees. As a result of the land reform it had been possible to promote agricultural production, which had been a difficult task because the war had caused heavy damage to livestock and farm machinery. The peasants had vigorously defended the reform against reactionary elements, and by 1948 agricultural production had regained the pre-war level.

44. During the discussions, the representatives of Iraq, Mexico and Bolivia had said that the peasants in their countries had set up producers' co-operatives on the large estates, with Government support. The Hungarian peasantry had realized for themselves that small farms could not employ modern methods of agriculture or make economic use of special machines requiring large capital investments and for that reason had organized producers' co-operatives. In the spring of 1960, 58 per cent of the arable land had been cultivated by co-operatives. The average size of co-operatives was 2,000 acres, which made possible the

<sup>3/</sup> *Progress in Land Reform*, United Nations publication, Sales No.: 54.II.B.3.

<sup>4/</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-seventh Session, Annexes*, agenda item 5, document E/3208.



use of machines with high productivity. The co-operatives had proved to be a major factor in increasing agricultural productivity and production, and the 1960 harvest showed that they achieved much greater output than small farms.

45. Although land reform was the prerequisite of agricultural development in many countries, it was not the only one. In the long run, small holdings would not be able to compete with large-scale farming. When there was a shortage of capital, land reform should not place the peasants in a position in which they would be forced to sink into debt. In many cases agricultural co-operatives needed assistance, and his delegation endorsed the reference in paragraph 3 (c) of the draft resolution to evaluating the role of co-operatives in programmes for the transformation of the agrarian structure.

46. In spite of the United Nations many resolutions on land reform, the question was far from solution, and called for further consideration. Paragraph 3 of the draft resolution suggested a proper approach. His delegation agreed that the experience of countries carrying out land reform should be studied. The studies would make it possible to avoid certain mistakes and to prepare to face certain problems. His delegation was in agreement with the ideas advanced in the draft resolution and would vote for it.

47. Mr. KOCHUBEI (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the question of land reform was of great interest in the modern world. Every country's economy was a complex structure built up of various independent components. Agriculture was one component, and in the under-developed countries it was the essential sector of the economy. The agrarian structure was obviously a vital factor in the development of agricultural production and could promote or hinder agricultural progress. Diversification and industrialization were the keys to rational economic development that would enable the under-developed countries to achieve genuine economic independence and raise the levels of living of their peoples. Agriculture substantially affected industrial development; that explained the importance of land reform in the under-developed countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America

engaged in the task of building up their national economies. The idea of land reform was gaining ground. For example, in the Economic Survey of Latin America, 1959, (E/CN.12/541 and Corr.1) which contained a whole chapter on the subject, it was stated that in almost all countries of Latin America it was now more and more widely agreed that the present agrarian structure could be fairly radically changed.

48. Major events in the history of peoples were almost always accompanied by changes in the agrarian structure. Many countries which were trying to develop their economies independently were hindered by remnants of the former agrarian structure inherited from colonialism. In those countries land reform was a necessity. Every country had the right to carry out land reform in the interest of its people. In matters of land reform, the principles embodied in Economic and Social Council resolution 370 (XIII) should be followed.

49. The United Nations could not ignore the problem. It must assist in solving it and the draft resolution was designed to achieve that goal. It emphasized that land reform was important for the economic development of under-developed countries and that the subject of land reform had by no means been exhausted either from the standpoint of economic development or from that of the maximum utilization of resources. His delegation agreed with the sponsors that the United Nations should give all its attention to the subject, and approved of the recommendation that a comprehensive analytical survey should be submitted to the Economic and Social Council every three years.

50. The recommendation in paragraph 2 was fully justified in view of the urgent importance of the question of land reform. One of the studies provided for in paragraph 3 should examine the effect of land reform on the development of countries. It would then be possible to determine the possibilities offered by such reform.

51. His delegation supported the draft resolution and would vote for it.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.