

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

FIFTEENTH SESSION
Official Records



**SECOND COMMITTEE, 650th
MEETING**

Wednesday, 19 October 1960,
at 10.50 a.m.

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

*Expression of sympathy to the Government and
people of Pakistan.*

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)) (continued)*

*Economic development of under-developed
countries (continued):*

*(a) International flow of private capital: report
of the Secretary-General and recommenda-
tions thereon by the Economic and Social
Council;*

*(b) Question of the establishment of a United
Nations capital development fund: report of
the Secretary-General;*

*(c) Methods and techniques for carrying out a
study of world economic development: re-
port of the Secretary-General and com-
ments thereon by the Economic and Social
Council;*

*(d) Promotion of wider trade co-operation
among States: report of the Secretary-
General*

Land reform (continued)

General discussion (continued) 29

Question of procedure 33

Chairman: Mr. Janez STANOVNIK (Yugoslavia).

**Expression of sympathy to the Government and people
of Pakistan**

1. The CHAIRMAN asked the representative of Pakis-
tan to convey to the Government and people of Pakistan
the sympathy of all the members of the Committee,
who had been very much distressed to learn of the
natural disaster which had struck East Pakistan, taking
a high toll of life and causing considerable damage.

2. Mr. AHMAD (Pakistan) said that the Government
and people of Pakistan, stricken by the devastation
wrought by a cyclone, would greatly appreciate that
expression of sympathy. The loss in human life, pro-
visionally estimated at 3,000, would undoubtedly prove
to be higher than that figure and Pakistan, which was a
poor country, would feel the effects of the disaster for
a considerable time to come.

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) (con-
tinued)**

Page

**Economic development of under-developed countries (con-
tinued):**

**(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 capi-
tal 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, E/3379, E/3379/Add.1-6);**

**(d) Promotion of wider trade co-operation among States: re-
port of the Secretary-General (A/4490, E/3389)**

Land reform (A/4439) (continued)

GENERAL DISCUSSION (continued)

3. Mr. NOSEK (Czechoslovakia) emphasized that, by
adopting an unbiased approach to the important ques-
tions on its agenda, the Committee could make a real
contribution to the development of economic relations
and co-operation between all States, irrespective of
their social systems. Such an approach implied recog-
nition by all that there were two different economic and
social systems in the world, which had to co-exist in
peace and improve their mutual relations, especially
in the economic field. The socialist system had now
been in existence for many years and had achieved
notable success economically, scientifically and cul-
turally.

4. However, the successes of the socialist countries
were not well known, because the Secretariat docu-
ments did not present an objective picture of the devel-
opment of the socialist economy. That could be
explained by the very composition of the Department
of Economic and Social Affairs: of the total of 274
employees at G-5 and higher levels, 74 were United
States nationals while only 7 were from the Soviet
Union. The attitude of the Secretariat could be illus-
trated in the statement made to the Committee by the
Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, who
had twice referred to bad harvests in the socialist
countries but had said nothing about their economy, as
if those countries simply did not exist.

5. In the circumstances, it might be useful to note two
of the principal advantages of the socialist economy
over the capitalist economy: the rate of increase in
production was higher, and the economy was developing
in a planned way, through balanced stages and without
crises. Those facts had been corroborated even by the
United Nations World Economic Survey, 1959, (E/3361)
although the Survey did not describe the development of
the socialist countries accurately. Industrial produc-
tion in those countries had been 5.7 times higher than

the pre-war level, while in the capitalist countries it had been only twice as high. In the socialist countries, industrial production had increased by 33.7 per cent as compared with 1957, whereas in the capitalist countries the increase had been one of only 5 per cent.

6. The Czechoslovak people had built socialism in their country during the fifteen years following the war. The new Constitution provided for the basing of the economy on the socialist system, which excluded every form of exploitation of man by man. Owing to the co-operation of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, the rate of expansion of the Czechoslovak economy had been much higher than that of the most advanced capitalist countries. In Czechoslovakia, the per caput output of coal had overtaken that of the most advanced capitalist countries, the per caput output of steel had overtaken that of the United Kingdom and France and had almost caught up with that of the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany, and the production of cement had overtaken that of all those countries with the exception of the Federal Republic of Germany. In heavy industry, Czechoslovakia was consolidating its position among the five leading countries of the world. It was equalling and surpassing even the advanced capitalist countries in the production of such consumer goods as cotton and woollen textiles, shoes, etc. The living standards of the Czechoslovak people were rising, according to plan. Nominal wages were increasing, but real wages were increasing even faster, as a result of planned price reductions: in April 1960, prices had been reduced for the eighth time.

7. Technological advances merely accentuated the advantages of the socialist system of production, which provided for the harmonious development of the forces of production and the relations between them and ensured the balanced and planned economic expansion of all the socialist countries. History had known no other system allowing for a powerful expansion in production which not only promoted the development of the economy but raised the standard of living of the countries concerned and enabled them all to reach the same economic level as a result of mutual assistance and their common progress. Thus socialism had proved that it was capable of uniting nations and organizing their constructive efforts to attain their lofty aims. The results obtained demonstrated that the establishment of a socialist system in the world represented an important milestone in world progress, was mutually beneficial to nations, and brought about a "rapprochement" between them.

8. Although the capitalist economies had also made advances in the past ten years, they had not been without crises and slow-downs in production. The recovery following the recession of 1957-1958 had not been as strong as had been hoped, and optimism was being overshadowed by apprehensions about the future. Fluctuations in the economic activity of the industrialized capitalist countries were especially dangerous for the under-developed countries, owing to their impact on the international primary commodity market. The terms of trade were consistently unfavourable to the primary producing countries, and the damage which those countries suffered from that circumstance in some cases cancelled out the benefit they might derive from foreign aid.

9. While the maintenance of peace and peaceful co-existence were essential for the solution of the world economic problems, it was clear that peaceful co-

existence was closely linked to disarmament. The arms race distorted all economic development and retarded the progress of international economic co-operation. Economic and financial assistance to the under-developed countries would be much more effective if the vast resources which disarmament would release could be used for that purpose. If States pursued a correct economic and commercial policy, it would certainly be possible to solve the problem of reconverting war industries to peaceful production. The United Nations could contribute to a solution of that problem, and it was to be regretted that certain Governments had not reacted favourably to the suggestion that the United Nations undertake a detailed analysis of the economic aspects of disarmament. In that connexion, importance attached to the proposals made in the General Assembly, in plenary meeting, by the chairman of the Polish delegation and by the President of the Republic of Ghana. The Polish representative had suggested (874th meeting) the establishment of a special committee to study the effects of the use of nuclear weapons on human life and health, on the world economy and on the cultural heritage of mankind; the President of Ghana had proposed (869th meeting) the creation of a committee of experts to study the possibilities of the peaceful use of the sources of energy and technology currently employed in the production of armaments.

10. A comparison of the development of the socialist and the capitalist countries proved that peaceful competition between the two systems, which could only lead to an expansion of production for peaceful purposes, was entering a decisive stage.

11. The Czechoslovak Government favoured not only peaceful coexistence and economic competition between the two systems, but also economic co-operation between all countries, irrespective of their social systems. It therefore attached great importance to international trade, as an instrument for the establishment of economic relations between the two systems and for the development of peaceful relations in other fields. It was to be hoped that the capitalist countries would accept the idea of more trade with the socialist countries, not only in order to strengthen peaceful relations between States, but also in their own economic interest. In that connexion, it was to be regretted that certain capitalist countries had adopted measures restricting the development of economic relations between the two groups of countries. The economic blockade of the People's Republic of China would fail to halt the development of that country, and the economic war being waged by the United States against Cuba could only evoke disapproval. Lastly, the formation of closed economic groups such as the European Economic Community and the European Free Trade Association, which amounted in practice to a restriction of trade, was causing much apprehension in third countries.

12. The socialist countries had repeatedly demonstrated that they were willing to foster world trade, so far as was possible in existing circumstances; but their efforts had not met with success. Their proposal to set up an international trade organization had been rejected, on the grounds that every country was free to join GATT; yet at the present time the proposal that GATT should be a universal organization was regarded as unacceptable. The socialist countries had encountered the same attitude when they had expressed their willingness to take part in the preparations for a

new organization for economic co-operation and development in Europe. One of the reasons often advanced for rejecting the co-operation of the socialist countries was that their foreign trade was organized differently from that of capitalist countries. Such reasoning was mere sophistry. The principle of equal treatment in international trade in no way implied that the foreign trade of all nations should be organized in the same way.

13. Czechoslovakia, which would pursue its efforts to create conditions for a broad expansion of international trade, would support any proposal submitted to that end in the United Nations—in particular that of the representative of the Soviet Union, calling upon the Committee to draw up a declaration formulating the basic principles of international economic co-operation (647th meeting).

14. Since international economic relations were of the greatest importance to under-developed countries, the socialist countries, including Czechoslovakia, were endeavouring to increase their trade with those countries on the basis of equality of rights and mutual advantage. Czechoslovakia supplied the under-developed countries with industrial equipment and made available to them its technical knowledge in all fields, without ever allowing itself to be influenced by commercial considerations. It was not afraid of losing markets for its own products by supplying others with means of production; it thus recognized, in practice, the right of every country to develop its economic resources to the full. The conditions for the reimbursement of loans granted by Czechoslovakia—deferred or gradual repayment in the form of supplies of goods, for example—were not such as to impose heavy burdens on the balance of payments of the countries concerned.

15. The countries which had just gained independence were facing innumerable difficulties arising from their backward economies and the lack of trained personnel—two legacies of colonialism. The former colonial Powers, which had been enriching themselves for centuries by exploiting the colonies and their inhabitants, would therefore only be doing their duty in attempting to repair, at least partially, the evil they had wrought.

16. The under-developed countries could make progress and consolidate their economic independence only through industrialization and through diversification of their economy and their agricultural production. In many of those countries, however, the latter action had to be preceded by land reform; and it was therefore well that agenda item 74 (Land reform), requested by the Cuban Delegation, had been included in the Committee's agenda.

17. If the less developed countries were to increase output in all branches of their economy, they must be able to count on international co-operation and would need, in particular, low-interest and long-term loans. Loans granted by international financial institutions, which were in the hands of Western capitalist States, did not fulfil those requirements and were generally given without any regard to the over-all needs of industrial development in the countries concerned.

18. Assistance granted in the form of foreign private capital investments was risky for the economy of under-developed countries, although some of them tried to bring it about. Such capital actually remained in the hands of those advancing it; their investment

was guided only by profit considerations, and by various devices known as "transfers of profits" they plundered the national economy of under-developed countries. The latter should be on their guard against the dangers of such disguised colonialism, and should exercise effective control over foreign corporations operating on their territories.

19. As the primary producing countries were dependent for their development on their exports of primary products, and as the development of international commodity trade was consistently unfavourable to them, a detailed analysis should be made of the possibility of supplying those countries with industrial equipment or loans to be paid for or reimbursed gradually, by deliveries of primary commodities to those supplying the equipment or loans. The example of the economic relations between the socialist countries and the under-developed countries proved that such a method was practicable. It was also the best approach to a permanent solution of the problem of primary commodity trade. The United Nations could by such means help the under-developed countries much more than it was doing at present. The assistance granted under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund was not sufficient, and the Special Fund in particular, instead of directly aiding the economic development of such countries, only sought in effect to establish better conditions for foreign capital investment. The creation of a United Nations capital development fund which would grant low-interest loans and finance, in preference, industrialization projects, was a matter of great urgency. It was unfortunate that, in their replies to the communication addressed to them by the Secretariat under General Assembly resolution 1424 (XIV) (E/3393 and Add.1-4), the industrialized capitalist countries had once again taken up a negative attitude to the establishment of SUNFED. The Government of the United States of America had even replied that it saw no point in discussing the establishment of such "additional machinery". In their answers the capitalist countries had mentioned the International Development Association, which was understandable because one of the reasons for the establishment of that Association had been to provide an argument for any such countries against the creation of SUNFED, to which the socialist countries would belong. The International Development Association would serve first and foremost the interests of the United States, and would not have resources sufficient to satisfy the needs of under-developed countries.

20. To bridge the enormous gap between the level of development of the industrialized countries and that of the under-developed countries, the present unjust and obsolete international division of labour must be abolished. All States should help the under-developed countries to become industrialized, to play a greater part in the world market, and to increase their export earnings so that they could finance their development programmes.

21. Mr. SILVA SUCRE (Venezuela) said that since the beginning of the year the Economic and Social Council, of which his country was now a member, had taken three important steps. First, it had decided at its twenty-ninth session to set up the Committee for Industrial Development, which was similar in composition to the Technical Assistance Committee. The Venezuelan delegation had warmly supported that

action, which it considered useful for economic development; but it noted that the Committee, which had been set up in April, had not yet met.

22. Secondly, the Council at its thirtieth session, had held meetings at the ministerial level, from which it had become apparent that one of the main obstacles to balance in world economic relations was the gap between the commercial activity of the under-developed and the industrial countries. The lack of balance was analysed in detail in chapter II, section II, of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/4415), where it was stated that the rate of growth of output since 1950 in industrial countries, apart from the United States of America, had been comparable to that recorded during the nineteen-twenties, while it remained very slow in the under-developed countries. Paragraph 138 of the report stated that the rate of growth of Latin America's gross product—very tentatively estimated at 2.7 per cent—appeared to have made some recovery in 1959 in comparison with the previous year, when the figure had been 2.4 per cent; as the Latin American population increased at the annual rate of at least 2.5 per cent, the expansion in the per caput product had, however, been insignificant. In actual fact the figure of 2.7 per cent was perhaps too high, and the Executive Secretary of ECLA had stressed the need for undertaking full-scale concerted action to stimulate the economy of Latin America. Such a situation was moreover common to all the under-developed countries, and it was to be feared that the gap between those countries and the industrial countries would increase. His delegation would therefore advocate the reinforcement of international instruments of economic and technical co-operation either by the establishment of new organs or by an expansion in the scope of those already existing within the framework of the United Nations; it would thus support any proposals for the development of international assistance. The Economic and Social Council had at its thirtieth session, under resolution 782 (XXX), invited its members to communicate to the Secretary-General their views regarding the conditions and circumstances under which it might be useful for the Council to provide for a further meeting at the ministerial level. His delegation believed that such meetings would always be useful, and there was no need to refrain from calling them until new circumstances had arisen in the economic life of peoples or the imbalance in international trade had worsened.

23. Thirdly, the Council had concerned itself with international co-operation on behalf of States which had recently attained independence. His delegation had supported the adoption of General Assembly resolutions 1414 (XIV) and 1415 (XIV), and had welcomed the views expressed by the Secretary-General concerning assistance to newly independent States.^{1/} The Council had proposed, at its twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions, that such assistance should be supplied through the OPEX Programme and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, and that the resources of technical assistance should be increased to avoid any reduction in the assistance granted to other under-developed countries.

^{1/} See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-ninth Session, Annexes, agenda item 10, document E/3338, and *ibid.*, Thirtieth Session, Annexes, agenda items 2 and 4, documents E/3387 and Add.1

24. In his statement (646th meeting), the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs had referred to the decline in economic activity during 1959. That was a matter of particular concern to the under-developed countries, which were expanding at too slow a pace, and various Latin American representatives had expressed their misgivings both in the Council and in ECLA. The amount of primary commodities which Latin American countries had to export in order to import manufactured goods was constantly increasing, and while that problem had been the subject of countless discussions and studies, it had not yet been resolved in practice. The situation was even more regrettable in view of population growth; as a result, the slight increase achievable in per caput income was entirely cancelled out. According to ECLA, the population of Latin America would increase by 65 million by the end of the century. If the economy was to absorb that fresh burden, it would need the help of investment capital and modern technology. Only outside assistance could provide the necessary capital. Economic assistance should take the form not only of bilateral or collective aid but also of an adjustment of international trade between the industrialized and the under-developed areas. In that connexion, his delegation considered that the Expanded Programme and the Special Fund should be provided with greater funds in order that increased assistance might be given to the under-developed countries. Moreover, it fully supported the work of the regional economic bodies, being convinced that economic co-operation at the regional level could facilitate the task undertaken by the United Nations. Technical progress, while also an essential element of economic development, should be viewed with discretion, as automation always entailed transfers of manpower from one sector of the economy to another.

25. Since the previous year his country had been waging a vigorous campaign against economic and social stagnation. After overhauling its administrative and financial policies and instituting a land reform, the Government had drawn up a four-year plan providing for public investment in transport, housing, electric power plants and social services. Funds would also be allocated for private industrial and agricultural enterprises, since private initiative was the very essence of economic activity in Venezuela, despite the fact that the State controlled sectors which directly affected the country's way of life. The four-year plan aimed at raising the gross national product from \$7,300 million to \$10,500 million by 1964. Domestic savings were not, however, sufficient to ensure the country's economic development and the Government therefore maintained a policy designed to attract public and private foreign capital. The progress his country had achieved so far was in large part due to foreign capital investment, the current level of which was about \$7,000 million.

26. With respect to agenda item 29 (d), regarding the promotion of wider trade co-operation among States, he would point out that on 14 September 1960 his country had concluded at Baghdad, with Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, an agreement under which trade in petroleum would be carried on under conditions safeguarding the interests of the producer countries, the consumer countries and the investors. The signatories had recognized that any fluctuation in petroleum prices would affect the implementation of development programmes in the producer countries and the economies of the consumer countries, and they had therefore decided to devise a system to ensure price stability.

The Baghdad agreement was open to all countries exporting substantial amounts of petroleum.

27. At the fourteenth session of the General Assembly, his delegation had submitted, together with the Bolivian, Cuban and Mexican delegations, a draft resolution concerning land reform which had been adopted unanimously becoming resolution 1426 (XIV). His Government had already undertaken studies at that time and in March 1960 those studies had resulted in the passing of a land reform act. The act, which was in keeping with the United Nations recommendations in the field, made provision for three fundamental measures: allocation of land to farmers, technical aid and grant of credits. The measures would have the effect of quickly transforming the country's rural economy. His delegation was convinced that land reform was conducive to economic development and wished to reaffirm its support for resolution 1426 (XIV).

28. Mr. PENTEADO (Brazil) said that the economic backwardness of the under-developed areas, in which two-thirds of the human race lived, was the gravest economic problem of the hour. As a result of a survey of levels of living in those areas it had been established that from \$10,000 to \$11,000 million would have to be spent annually for a number of years in order that the millions of ill-fed people living in Asia, Africa and Latin America might no longer suffer from hunger. A high tribute should be paid to those who had refused to be discouraged by such figures and who had gone ahead during the past decade with the United Nations technical assistance programmes and Special Fund projects. Over 100 countries received such assistance every year and, thanks to perfect team-work, the Technical Assistance Board and the Special Fund had never duplicated each other's efforts. Whether modest or spectacular, the results achieved were always meritorious. It would be wrong, nevertheless, to be complacent. The funds available to the Technical Assistance Board and the Special Fund together were still below the target of \$100 million a year, despite the fact that that figure was only one hundredth of what was thought to be needed to do a modest job properly. Yet conditions in the under-developed countries were steadily deteriorating because the growth of their populations cancelled out the increase in productivity achieved through their own efforts, the Special Fund and some bilateral schemes.

29. The problem could be solved, however, if all the industrialized countries made the necessary financial effort. Some of them were already making generous contributions, and their example should be followed. As for the under-developed countries themselves, they were doing all they could to overcome their difficulties, but their resources were very limited. His delegation therefore agreed with Mr. Hoffman, the Managing Director of the Special Fund, who had said at the fourteenth session (583rd meeting) that an explosive situation was in the making. There was, in fact, no disagreement about the nature and extent of "under-development"; views differed only when it came to ways and means of handling the situation. His delegation hoped that substantial and real progress would be made during the current session. The General Assembly should therefore decide without delay what must be done and how to do it. It could no longer afford to have other organs take decisions in its place. That did not mean that his country had lost confidence in the Eco-

nomic and Social Council; but it was obvious that the Council, with its eighteen members, was no longer representative of an organization whose membership had doubled since its inception.

30. After studying the problem of under-development for years, his delegation, aware of the huge dimensions and tremendous urgency of the problem, had come to the conclusion that the best way out of under-development was industrialization, and, more precisely, accelerated industrialization. Many delegations had explained why great importance must be attached to industrialization, yet industrialization at a slow pace could not solve the problem of under-development; accelerated industrialization was not only positively necessary, it was also feasible. It was necessary because in under-developed countries slow industrialization meant an increase of productivity that lagged behind population growth, and as a consequence the level of living would continue to drop. It was feasible because the industrial revolution of the nineteenth century had prepared the ground for the less developed countries of the modern age. The obstacles were well known and could be overcome, and it was therefore to be hoped that the new Committee for Industrial Development would demonstrate that accelerated industrialization was indeed feasible.

31. The world of today was experiencing feelings of apprehension and anxiety not only in the political field but in the economic field as well, for conditions in the under-developed countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America were growing worse every day. The under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs had pointed out in his statement that the terms of trade were again deteriorating, that the unit value of manufactured goods was again on the increase and that the primary commodity index had again dropped. That process could not be allowed to go on indefinitely.

32. The position regarding international financing of economic development was far from encouraging. Since 1957 the only really sound idea in the field of economic financing—SUNFED—had been abandoned at the summer session of the Economic and Social Council. The under-developed countries had been so bitterly disappointed that several substitutes for SUNFED had been suggested. The International Development Association, for example, could make a valuable contribution towards solving the problem of international financing. Unfortunately, the Association's resources were relatively modest. Moreover, its affiliation to, and administration by IBRD did not encourage the hope of any big improvement in the situation. In view of the rules applied by the Bank, projects of enormous economic importance to less developed countries were likely to be rejected if the guarantees of repayment were not acceptable to the Bank, while other projects, which were disastrous economically, such as the financing of the expansion of coffee production, were accepted by the Bank because the guarantees of repayment were satisfactory.

33. The Brazilian delegation reserved the right to express its views later on other questions, such as oil and atomic energy.

QUESTION OF PROCEDURE

34. The CHAIRMAN reminded the Committee that it had decided (645th meeting) not to consider the draft resolutions until after the completion of the general

discussion. The United States representative had however requested that the draft resolution concerning the provision of food surpluses to needy peoples (A/C.2/L.459) be considered as soon as possible so that it could be presented to the Council of FAO, which was due to meet very shortly. The Committee would therefore have to decide whether it wished to interrupt the general discussion in order to consider the draft resolution and, if so, at what point in the proceedings.

35. Mr. IRWIN (Canada) explained that the sponsors of the draft resolution had asked that its consideration be given priority in order that the text, once it had been adopted by the Assembly, could be presented to the FAO organs which were in a position to give effect to it. He asked the FAO representative to state at what FAO meetings and what date the proposal could be examined.

36. Mr. ACHARYA (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) said that the Conference of FAO met every two years and that its next session would be held in November 1961. The Council of FAO, which assumed the functions of the Conference during the period between its sessions, was to meet 24-28 October. It would not be holding another session until June 1961. If the draft resolution was not considered until the latter date, the decisions of FAO could not be laid before the Economic and Social Council at its summer session.

37. Mr. PAYNE (United States of America) said the FAO representative's statement made it clear that the Council of that organization was competent to take the necessary decisions for putting into effect the proposed resolution. If the text was not presented to that body at its next session, there would be an eight-months' delay. It therefore seemed justifiable to ask for consideration of the draft resolution as a matter of urgency. The general discussion must not of course be thereby delayed, and the Committee could take up consideration of the draft resolution either at a time when the list of speakers was exhausted or at an extra meeting.

38. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) pointed out that his delegation had associated itself with the sponsors of the draft resolution. He believed that consideration of that draft ought to be given priority. The United States Government's proposal to make food surpluses available to needy peoples was a generous and praiseworthy one. Moreover, such action would aid FAO's Freedom from Hunger Campaign.

39. Mr. GEORGIEV (Bulgaria), speaking on a point of order, reminded the Committee that the subject under discussion was not the substance of the matter, but simply the question of priority.

40. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) replied that he was not discussing the substance of the matter but merely wished to make certain observations in support of the request for priority. To enable that attractive proposal to be put into effect as soon as possible, it would, he thought, be desirable to consider it at the earliest opportunity.

41. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Committee had unanimously approved its agenda and the organization of its work. The USSR delegation agreed with the Argentine representative that the United States proposal was neither new nor urgent. If the United States so desired, it could distribute its surpluses either direct or through FAO. The question was not sufficiently important to

interrupt the Committee's work. In point of fact the United States monopolies were wanting to use the United Nations as a means of enriching themselves, and the proposal was part of the United States election campaign.

42. Mr. PAYNE (United States of America), speaking on a point of order, pointed out that the USSR representative's remarks concerned United States domestic politics and had nothing to do with the question under discussion.

43. The CHAIRMAN, in view of the lateness of the hour, asked the members of the Committee whether they wished to adjourn the meeting and continue discussion of the procedural question at a special meeting that afternoon, at the beginning of the following morning's meeting, at the beginning of the following afternoon's meeting or possibly at an evening meeting.

44. After an exchange of views in which Mr. NOSEK (Czechoslovakia), Mr. BERNARDO (Argentina), Mr. ABDEL-GHANI (United Arab Republic) and Mr. GURINOVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) took part, Mr. GEORGIEV (Bulgaria) moved the adjournment of the meeting.

The motion for adjournment was rejected by 30 votes to 16, with 22 abstentions.

45. Mr. NOSEK (Czechoslovakia) pointed out that the Committee had taken a decision concerning the organization of its work. Under rule 124 of the rules of procedure, that decision could be rescinded only if the Committee so decided by a two-thirds majority.

46. Mr. BOIKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that he did not see how the question of priority could be raised. It was a completely new procedure. What would become of the general discussion if the United States request was granted? If the United States delegation attached so much importance to the consideration of its proposal by the competent organs of FAO, perhaps those organs could hold a special session to deal with the question.

47. The CHAIRMAN explained that he had received a request from the United States delegation that priority be given to consideration of the draft resolution. The Committee had therefore to decide whether or not to accede to that request and it should be given an opportunity to discuss the matter.

48. After an exchange of views in which Mr. ABDEL-GHANI (United Arab Republic), Mr. RAJAPATIRANA (Ceylon), Mr. GURINOVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. NOSEK (Czechoslovakia) took part, Mr. GEORGIEV (Bulgaria) again moved the adjournment of the meeting.

The motion for adjournment was rejected by 35 votes to 15, with 20 abstentions.

49. Mr. GALLEGOS (Ecuador), after pointing out the importance of the draft resolution, said he felt that the members of the Committee should not leave before deciding when they would consider the question of priority.

50. Mr. KORTEWEG (Netherlands) proposed that the discussion be suspended and that consideration of the procedural question be continued at the afternoon meeting on the following day.

The proposal was adopted by 49 votes to 10, with 15 abstentions.

The meeting rose at 1.40 p.m.