

United Nations
**GENERAL
 ASSEMBLY**

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

Official Records



**SECOND COMMITTEE, 1166th
 MEETING**

Tuesday, 5 December 1967,
 at 11 a.m.

NEW YORK

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Chairman: Mr. Jorge Pablo FERNANDINI
 (Peru).

AGENDA ITEM 41

United Nations Development Decade: report of the Secretary-General (A/6703 and Corr.1, chap. III; A/6824, A/C.2/235, A/C.2/L.984, E/4362 and Corr.1, E/4376)

1. Mr. SHAHI (Pakistan) said it was generally conceded that the targets set for the United Nations Development Decade would not be attained. Between 1960 and 1965, the developing countries had increased their gross domestic product by an average rate of only 4.3 per cent, while their per capita growth rate during the nineteen-sixties had averaged only 1.7 per cent. The failure of most of the developing countries to reach the target of 5 per cent of annual rate of growth set in General Assembly resolution 1710 (XVI) of 19 December 1961 was partly due to the stagnation in the flow of development financing from developed countries, which had not only failed to reach the target of 1 per cent of the latter countries' gross national product, but had actually declined from 0.87 per cent in 1961 to 0.62 per cent in 1966. Thus, although the developing countries' absorptive capacity had considerably increased, the external resources available to them fell far short of their growing needs. Unfortunately, the General Assembly's repeated expressions of concern and its appeals to all concerned to make the maximum effort to achieve the modest targets set for the Development Decade had been of little avail. Nevertheless, even though it might no longer be possible to achieve those targets, present efforts must be vigorously pursued if results were not to be still more disappointing.

2. Economic and Social Council resolution 1089 (XXXIX) of 31 July 1965 and General Assembly resolution 2084 (XX) of 20 December 1965 had both been intended to spur action during the second half of the Decade, and the Secretary-General had submitted

a progress report^{1/} in pursuance of those resolutions in 1966. However, the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2084 (XX) relating to joint reporting on the goals and objectives set by the United Nations family of organizations and the establishment of such goals and objectives in appropriate fields where they had not yet been precisely defined had not been implemented, and it appeared that as a result of the increasing attention being given to the second development decade, due priority was not being given to the urgent need to fulfil the targets of the current Decade. Although adequate preparations for the next decade were essential and should be started as early as possible, progress could be made towards attaining the modest objectives of the current Decade if convergent measures were adopted by both developed and developing countries.

3. Guide-lines and proposals for the second development decade had been suggested in the report of the Committee for Development Planning on its second session (see E/4362, chap. II), following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2218 (XXI) of 19 December 1966, in which the Secretary-General had been requested to prepare a preliminary framework of international development strategy for the nineteen-seventies. Pakistan welcomed the fact that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1260 (XLIII) of 3 August 1967, had requested the Committee for Development Planning to continue its work. That Committee's concept of a charter for the second development decade as a programme of concerted action by both developed and developing countries was acceptable to his delegation, which wished to stress the need to analyse the main obstacles to the attainment of any targets set for the next decade and to devise suitable international arrangements for an annual review of progress. The Committee for Development Planning had also adopted an integrated approach towards the problem of the developing countries' shortage of foreign exchange and had rightly emphasized the importance of both aid and trade in overcoming that shortage. Those two spheres were complementary and should be accorded equal importance. The second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) would provide an opportunity for making a future review of the present situation and for suggesting future action, and the recommendations of that session would have an important bearing on the preparation of an international development strategy for the second development decade.

4. On behalf of the sponsors, which now included Upper Volta, he introduced draft resolution A/C.2/

^{1/} See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 5, documents E/4196 and Add.1-3.

L.984 and expressed the hope that it would be adopted unanimously. Although the draft resolution would give an impetus to the preparatory work already in progress for the second development decade, it contained no specific provision regarding the procedure for the proclamation of that decade. In that connexion, he recalled that the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, speaking in the General Assembly on 10 October 1967 (1584th plenary meeting), had suggested that a special session of the Assembly should be convened solely for that purpose, and had urged that special emphasis should be placed on achieving progress through trade. He hoped that those suggestions would be borne in mind by Member States in considering the action to be taken by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.

5. Mr. LUBBERS (Netherlands) said that his delegation had been glad to become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.984, which was an important step forward towards the thorough preparation of the second development decade. That draft resolution, which had been drawn up in a constructive and co-operative spirit, was as non-controversial as possible and related mainly to procedural matters.

6. The views of the Netherlands delegation on the item under discussion had already been fully stated at the 1129th meeting by the Netherlands Minister in charge of Development Aid. He wished, however, to re-emphasize the importance of using the remainder of the present Decade for laying the foundations for accelerated economic and social development in the developing countries.

7. Encouraging efforts had been made to improve the co-ordination of the multitude of national and international development activities, but it was essential to make those activities more systematic, convincing and productive in the future. As the Netherlands Minister had stated, the previous development policy had lacked distinctive criteria as well as a quantified plan of action. The Netherlands hoped that development policy in the nineteen-seventies would become an integral part of over-all national and international policy, so that the development problems of poorer countries would be seen in the context of the world economy as a whole. In that connexion, the close link between the difficulties of those countries and world economic and financial problems had been illustrated by recent developments in the field of international monetary policy.

8. An international development policy for the next decade would have to be based on a balanced set of national rights and obligations and on mutually agreed goals and targets; in addition, it would have to comprise measures for the implementation of those principles and the attainment of those objectives.

9. The draft resolution before the Committee gave fuller expression to ideas approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-first session, while excluding matters of a controversial nature. Although the Netherlands would have preferred operative paragraph 1 to contain a more clearly defined request to the Secretary-General to prepare, in addition to the survey referred to in that paragraph, a preliminary outline of the possible character and con-

tents of a charter of development, the provisions of the draft resolution were broad enough to reflect its views. In that connexion, it should be recalled that the survey mentioned in operative paragraph 1 would not be ready before the middle of 1968, and that the General Assembly would be able at its twenty-third session, to take a decision on any specific ideas put forward by delegations as well as to take into account the results of the second session of UNCTAD. The Netherlands attached considerable importance to the request contained in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution but had not insisted on the inclusion of its own suggestion regarding the establishment of a committee of governmental representatives, since the "appropriate procedures" referred to in operative paragraph 5 remained to be decided by the Assembly at its twenty-third session. The draft resolution therefore provided a solid basis for the possible proclamation of the second United Nations Development Decade, at the Assembly's twenty-third session, without entering into the substance of the question.

10. Mr. OLUMIDE (Nigeria) said that his delegation, which attached great importance to the item under discussion, had noted with interest the preliminary work of the Committee for Development Planning in formulating general guide-lines and proposals for the adoption of a charter for the second development decade (see E/4362), as well as the memorandum submitted by the Netherlands delegation (A/C.2/235). It was imperative that long-term planning for the next decade should be initiated early, so that measures for international action could be formulated in the light of the experience gained during the present Decade. Although the reasons for the sluggish growth rate in most developing countries differed from country to country, it was to be hoped that the major obstacles in the way of attaining the modest targets set for the present Decade would be identified and their effects analysed so that comprehensive measures to overcome them could be adopted by both advanced and developing countries. The analysis of those obstacles, which included the debt-servicing burden, unfavourable terms of trade and population growth, could be undertaken by existing United Nations development organizations in the context of a global strategy for international co-operation and development.

11. The Nigerian delegation attached great importance to the sixth preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.984, which should be read together. As the Netherlands Minister in charge of Development Aid had stated (1129th meeting), the present Decade lacked distinctive criteria as well as a quantified plan of action; it was therefore essential that the goals and targets of the next decade should be more specific and that the means for attaining them should be defined. His delegation therefore welcomed the preliminary recommendation of the Committee for Development Planning, at its second session, that, when targets were adopted, specific pledges should be given in both quantitative and qualitative terms by the developed countries with regard to the scale and character of their aid and trade policies, and by the developing countries on such matters as institutional improvements, the mobilization of domestic resources, social reforms and other measures to accelerate the rate of growth

in per capita output. In addition, provision should be made for suitable international arrangements to survey progress annually, and, where appropriate, to work out agreements for specific action by developed and developing countries with the assistance of international organizations (see E/4362, para. 84 (c)).

12. As indicated by the references to the second session of UNCTAD in the draft resolution, international trade should be considered as one of the components of a global strategy for development, which would also include industrial development policies, financial aid and regional development schemes. As the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had pointed out in his statement at the 1146th meeting, such a global strategy must be based on the hypothesis that, in order to accelerate their rate of development, the developing countries must have easier access to the markets of the developed countries, to the benefits of modern technology and to the sources of international capital. Thus, measures to overcome such problems as inadequate foreign exchange earnings might include aid, the provision of access to the markets of developed countries and increased efforts by developing countries to expand their exports or to replace their imports.

13. The provisions of operative paragraph 4 were of particular importance. Extensive use of information media, particularly in developed countries, was necessary to bring about a better understanding of the development problems facing the developing countries and to secure greater public support for long-term involvement in global development.

14. The Nigerian delegation endorsed the interim proposals of the Committee for Development Planning contained in chapter II of its report (E/4362), and hoped that they would form the basis for the considerations of the working group whose establishment was proposed in that document.

15. Mr. NENEMAN (Poland) observed that many facts, including the growing economic gap between developed and developing countries, the low average increase in per capita income in the latter countries, the stagnation in their agricultural production, their increasing external indebtedness and their declining share in total world exports, had been cited to substantiate the theory that the current United Nations Development Decade was a failure and to justify gloomy forecasts regarding the second development decade. Much useful experience had, however, been gained during the first Decade, and his delegation considered that it should be used in preparing more realistic guide-lines and proposals for the second decade. Plans for the latter decade should concentrate more on internal reform, adequate financial policy, economic planning and foreign trade and attach less importance to external financing.

16. The fact that the developing countries' external indebtedness had increased from \$10,000 million in 1955 to \$40,000 million in 1966, while their debt service payments had increased to \$4,000 million in 1966, should be carefully analysed and the proper conclusions drawn. External financial assistance was a useful and indeed necessary supplement to local efforts when channelled into directly productive

sectors in accordance with national economic development plans, but unless it was used to further a general national drive for structural change, its only effect would be to preserve the status quo and strengthen the remnants of colonialism.

17. Too much importance had been attached to foreign private investment, which, if not incorporated into national development plans, could even at best do little to promote durable structural changes in developing countries. It was sometimes argued that such investment, especially in the sphere of natural resources, created many employment opportunities and thus raised the levels of living. That view was, however, unfounded, for foreign private investors paid little attention to the interests of the countries in which they operated and naturally preferred to invest in capital-intensive projects employing a limited number of workers, usually highly qualified foreign experts who transferred most of their earnings to their countries of origin and spent the rest on imported products. Similarly, it was often contended that foreign private investment promoted the development on the infrastructure, particularly transport. For example, it had been pointed out that, in the period 1958-1964, mining companies had built over 2,000 kilometres of railway in Africa. Most of those railways, however, ran through uninhabited regions with insignificant economic potential, and had been constructed to serve the needs of the company, not those of the country as a whole. The foreign private investor's basic, if not only, aim was to obtain the largest possible profit in the shortest possible time, but if a developing country were to make economic and social progress, the profits from the exploitation of its natural resources must be channelled into its own development. General Assembly resolution 2158 (XXI) of 25 November 1966 represented an important step in that direction, and its provisions should be taken into account in planning for the second development decade.

18. The establishment of development targets must be accompanied by the definition of realistic ways and means of attaining them. The elaboration of a development strategy was a complex task, for which an accurate assessment of the prevailing situation was a prerequisite, as the implementation of such a strategy would call for many sacrifices which would only be possible in an atmosphere of genuine international co-operation, which in turn depended on the world political situation. Provided that reactionary forces did not transform the next development decade into a decade of war, and that direct or indirect foreign intervention did not prevent the social reforms needed for development, his delegation was optimistic about the second decade's chances of success, for the experience of Poland and the other socialist countries had proved that accelerated development was possible, given the proper economic, political and social conditions. History showed that rapid economic development depended primarily on the mobilization of domestic resources and the appropriate social reforms, rather than on massive external financial assistance.

19. Thanks to the establishment of UNCTAD, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization

(UNIDO), and the Committee for Development Planning, the United Nations system was better prepared for the second development decade than it had been for the first. The Committee for Development Planning was elaborating new ideas for development strategy and the Netherlands delegation, too, had made some interesting proposals in that connexion. The best course would now be to select strategic problems and concentrate on them.

20. In his delegation's view, the first such problem was land reform, which was a prerequisite for development. Progress in that direction had so far been very limited, and the United Nations had played an insignificant role in that respect. The experience acquired by countries which had already carried out land reforms could, if adapted to local conditions, serve as a basis for the decisions to be taken by developing countries. Poland's experience, for example, could be very useful to those countries, for it had successfully applied planning to agriculture, although 80 per cent of the land was owned by small farmers.

21. Land reform, which should increase food supplies, provide the basis for a sound fiscal policy and release some manpower from agriculture, was an important step towards industrialization. UNIDO should play the leading role in formulating the strategy for the industrialization of the developing countries. It should concentrate on the public sector and on those industries which ensured the best use of natural resources, thus laying the foundation for independent economic development. The pace of industrialization could not, however, be fixed arbitrarily, but must be harmonized with the increase in supplies of food and other necessities, in order to prevent inflation. If industrialization was to have the desired impact on levels of living, there must be a balanced increase in supplies of consumer and producer goods. Due attention should be given to investment in export-oriented and import-substituting industries, and to training the local population in industrial skills. Industrialization plans should therefore provide not only for a realistic rate of growth in industrial output but also for a rational commodity structure and time-sequence for the establishment of new industries.

22. The next strategic problem was planning. The need for national, regional and international planning was widely recognized, and the United Nations attached growing importance to planning, as was shown by the decision (Economic and Social Council resolution 1079 (XXXIX)) to establish the Committee for Development Planning, a decision whose soundness had been proved by the results of that Committee's work. Planning could not, however, be a substitute for development policy, which must be formulated by the Governments of the developing countries.

23. The last strategic problem was international trade. The basic decisions taken at the first session of UNCTAD had not been implemented, raw material prices had not been stabilized, and the conclusion of commodity agreements was being impeded. The developing countries' exports to the developed capitalist countries were growing very slowly, whereas their trade with the socialist countries had doubled during the past five years. The future evolution of that trade

would, however, depend on the development of international trade as a whole. Restrictions on trade with the socialist countries imposed by the developed capitalist countries also affected trade between the socialist and developing countries, which could develop only if all restrictions on international trade, including restrictions on trade among developing countries, were eliminated. His delegation hoped that the second session of UNCTAD would help to solve those problems, thus paving the way for the elaboration of realistic guide-lines for the second development decade in the sphere of international trade.

24. Mr. ARNAUTU (Romania) noted that the aim of draft resolution A/C.2/L.984 was to intensify preparations already in progress, so that the targets of international economic co-operation in the second development decade could be discussed at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly. In voting for Assembly resolution 2218 (XXI), the Romanian delegation had drawn attention to the importance of formulating principles to govern international economic relations; in that connexion, it wished to point out that the General Assembly would be able to contribute to the establishment of a framework for international co-operation to accelerate development on the basis of the survey now being prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with operative paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 2218 A (XXI). The preliminary framework of international development strategy being elaborated by the Secretary-General under part B of that resolution should be designed to support, rather than replace, national development programmes and priorities.

25. The Romanian delegation shared the opinion that the preparation of a long-term United Nations policy on economic development required careful and detailed consideration, and that such a policy could best be considered at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, in the light of the results of the second session of UNCTAD and of the studies and reports now in preparation. In that connexion, the request contained in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution before the Committee appeared to be somewhat premature, and he hoped that the sponsors would redraft that paragraph to make it more compatible with the provisions of operative paragraph 5.

26. Mr. NEDIVI (Israel) said that his delegation welcomed the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/L.984, for it was firmly committed to the idea of a charter of development which would provide a background for launching the second development decade. He wished to reiterate his delegation's view that, in organizing international action for the second decade, it must be recognized that the separate, parallel improvement of national economies was not necessarily the only way to make the desired progress, and that suitable provision should therefore also be made for pooling the resources of developed and developing countries, especially in such matters as scientific research and multilateral technological co-operation. He hoped that in preparing the survey mentioned in operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would take into account the views expressed in the debate on the United Nations Development Decade at both the

twenty-first and twenty-second sessions of the General Assembly.

27. Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom) said that, as the first Development Decade was now nearly three quarters completed, it would obviously soon be necessary to decide what was to follow, but that the decision did not have to be made at the present session of the General Assembly. The Economic and Social Council was to report the following year, and would doubtless be much influenced by the second session of UNCTAD. Meanwhile, the Committee for Development Planning was continuing its work, encouraged, he hoped, by Council resolution 1260 (XLIII) which he would like to see endorsed by the General Assembly. The present discussion was, therefore, of an interim nature, as indeed the Secretary-General's note on the United Nations Development Decade (A/6824) had indicated. He would therefore confine his comments to the first Decade. While sympathizing with the developing countries' disappointment at the failure to achieve more during that Decade, his delegation wished to point out that considerable progress had nevertheless been made. The economies of the developing countries as a whole had expanded by about 4.6 per cent per annum since the beginning of the Decade, which suggested that that expansion would not fall far short of the 5 per cent target. Some developing countries had, however, made more progress than others, and in some cases the progress made had been counteracted by population increases.

28. The Committee for Development Planning had submitted some interesting proposals at its second session, which naturally laid considerable stress on family planning, since population control was essential if economic standards were to be raised. The Committee's proposals called for a very high degree of collaboration from Governments and public opinion in both developed and developing countries and from national and international institutions (see E/4362, chap. II). He endorsed the view expressed by the Swedish delegation at the resumed forty-third session of the Economic and Social Council, namely, that targets must be few and realistic if they were to be helpful. Country studies being prepared by a number of United Nations bodies might help the Committee for Development Planning in deciding what could be recommended as feasible aims.

29. The United Kingdom sympathized greatly with the concept of the "development decade" and had tried to contribute to its success. In recent years, it had consistently surpassed the 1 per cent target; in the past two years a little over four sevenths of its transfers to developing countries had consisted of official aid, and in 1966 more than 90 per cent of its commitments to those countries had taken the form of grants or interest-free loans. The United Kingdom was now going through a very difficult period of economic readjustment, but it continued to accord very high priority to the developing countries' needs.

30. Two recent developments had a bearing on the present Development Decade and the action which should follow it. First, the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) had proposed a fresh evaluation of the develop-

ment efforts undertaken during the last twenty years and of ways in which they could be improved. His Government was now giving that proposal close and sympathetic consideration. Secondly, the Netherlands Minister in charge of Development Aid had made an important statement at the 1129th meeting, and some of the ideas which he had advanced were embodied in draft resolution A/C.2/L.984. The United Kingdom delegation strongly agreed with the Minister as to the importance of mobilizing public opinion in favour of development policies and objectives, and considered that steps to that end must be undertaken in both developed and developing countries. His delegation was not, however, certain that attempts should be made at the present time to negotiate documents embodying principles which were in many cases already contained in the Final Act of the first session of UNCTAD.^{2/} The best course would be to make effective and urgent use of existing media. Furthermore, the General Assembly, at its present session, should take no decisions which might in any way prejudice issues to be discussed at the second session of UNCTAD. The Assembly should take, at its twenty-third session, substantive decisions regarding the action to be taken after the first Development Decade. His delegation welcomed the general lines of draft resolution A/C.2/L.984, but wished to suggest a number of amendments which it would submit directly to the sponsors.

31. Mr. MARTOHADINEGORO (Indonesia) said that despite the apparent failure to reach the targets of the first Development Decade, that Decade had in many ways marked a breakthrough in the general approach to the economic development of the developing world. The international community, no longer satisfied with piecemeal programmes, had for the first time attempted to formulate an integrated, world-wide economic development plan for the attainment of specific targets. As the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had pointed out, however, that plan had been formulated in isolation, without an accompanying development policy. That omission must be remedied in preparing for the second Development Decade; a global development strategy was essential, and the Charter of Algiers (A/C.2/237) contained the fundamental elements of such a strategy. The decisions taken at the second session of UNCTAD would exert a decisive influence on the formulation of the global strategy. The Conference would also indicate the extent and degree of co-operation likely to be forthcoming from the developed countries. Many speakers had referred to the need to influence public opinion and policy-making circles in those countries in favour of such co-operation, and systematic efforts to that end should form an essential part of the development strategy.

32. His delegation attached great importance to the goodwill missions established by the ministerial meeting of the group of seventy-seven developing countries, which was held at Algiers in October 1967, and to the proposal by the President of IBRD to which the United Kingdom representative had referred. His delegation hoped that the international community, especially the developed countries, would respond to that proposal.

^{2/} See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, vol. I, Final Act and Report (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 64.II.B.11).

It wished to thank the Secretary-General for his valuable progress report (E/4376) and agreed that he should expedite work to facilitate planning for concerted international action for the period following the first United Nations Development Decade, paying due regard to the experience gained during that Decade. Prompted by the considerations he had mentioned, his delegation had co-sponsored draft resolution A/C.2/L.984.

33. Mr. ZORRILLA (Mexico) said that, prior to the first session of UNCTAD, all Latin American countries had been represented at the meetings held at Brasilia and Alta Gracia at which a common Latin American position on the serious international economic problems affecting their development had been worked out. Over three years later, those problems remained as serious as ever. Few developing countries had achieved the growth target of the United Nations Development Decade, whereas both free-enterprise and planned-economy developed countries continued to have high rates of economic growth.

34. It had become clear that the solution was not merely to demand that each developing country should put its house in order. Those countries could not hope to break out of the vicious circle of under-development by their own efforts alone. The gravity of their situation was illustrated by the fact that their exports of primary commodities had increased very little in recent years, except in the case of the petroleum-producing countries, and that such increases as had occurred were not reflected in their international reserves because of the deterioration in their terms of trade. At the same time, their external debt was rising steadily and their economies were being adversely affected by inflationary pressures.

35. A cause of even greater concern was the failure of developed countries to achieve the Development Decade target of an aid flow equivalent to 1 per cent of their gross national product. As the President of IBRD had pointed out in 1966, the gross flow of official long-term capital from the member countries of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development had remained virtually static since 1961, which, in view of the fact that their national product had increased, meant that that flow represented a declining proportion of their gross national product. Financial assistance from the planned-economy countries was also below the 1 per cent target.

36. The General Assembly had had those facts in mind when it had adopted resolution 2218 (XXI) in which the Secretary-General was requested to elaborate a preliminary framework of international development strategy for the nineteen-seventies. That work would clearly require the United Nations as a whole, and the Committee for Development Planning, in particular, to make a realistic assessment of the true causes of the failure of the first Development Decade and to establish specific quantified targets for the second decade. Draft resolution A/C.2/L.984 took those requirements into account and stressed the need for all Member States to be firmly committed to the policy to be pursued during the second decade; his delegation would therefore give it its full support.

AGENDA ITEM 47

- Multilateral food aid (continued) (A/6703 and Corr.1, chap. IV, sect. I and II; A/6823, A/C.2/L.983/Rev.1):
- (a) Programme of studies on multilateral food aid: report of the Secretary-General (E/4352 and Add.1);
 - (b) Review of the World Food Programme (A/C.2/238, A/C.2/240)

37. Mr. RODRIGUEZ (Philippines), introducing the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.983/Rev.1) on food production, said that the operative paragraphs had been revised to take into account the suggestions made by the representative of Argentina and the United States at the 1165th meeting. The progress report by the Secretary-General on multilateral food aid (E/4352 and Add.1) had emphasized the urgent need for increased food production in the developing countries, and the main purpose of the draft resolution was to ensure that recent technological advances in cereal production were made available to those countries for that purpose. For that reason, FAO and other agencies concerned with world food problems were urged in operative paragraph 1 to give food production the attention it deserved.

38. Some words had inadvertently been omitted from operative paragraph 1; the final line of the paragraph should read: "... the trade interests of the food-exporting countries, especially the developing countries".

39. Mr. HOO (China) said it was generally agreed that the most effective way of combating the world food shortage was to increase food production in the developing countries in order to meet rapid population growth. In recent years, his country had made great efforts to maintain and intensify close technical co-operation with other developing countries relating to the production of food, particularly rice. On the other hand, China lacked certain food-stuffs and was obliged to import large quantities of wheat and soya beans every year. His delegation therefore whole-heartedly supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.983/Rev.1, which would help to alleviate the world food shortage.

40. Mr. DELGADO (Senegal) said that the revised draft resolution was a very useful one. His delegation had a special interest in measures to improve the production of cereals, especially rice, which was one of his country's staple foods. Despite its efforts to increase rice production in recent years, it still had to import almost twice as much as it produced. That situation adversely affected not only its trade balance, but its national economy, since imports of rice had to be subsidized in order to bring the price into line with that of the domestic product. His delegation therefore suggested that the words "and food-importing countries" should be inserted after the words "food-exporting" in operative paragraph 1.

41. Mr. RODRIGUEZ (Philippines) accepted that amendment.

42. Mr. MacLAREN (Canada) said that his delegation was prepared to support the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.983/Rev.1). It had reservations, however, about the procedure employed in submitting the draft resolution to the Committee; there was no indication, for instance, that any steps had been taken to ascertain

whether FAO might not already be doing the work envisaged in operative paragraph 1. The Committee's schedule did not, in fact, allow sufficient time for draft resolutions to be carefully prepared and he intended to raise that and other matters affecting the organization of the Committee's work at a later stage.

43. Mr. SVENNEVIG (Norway) stated, on behalf of his own delegation, as well as the delegations of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden, as an explanation of vote, that, in principle, a question of that kind should have been taken up first in FAO. It was not clear how the present draft resolution stood in relation to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development concerning protein, or how the request to FAO stood in relation to other tasks of that organization. Furthermore, the Nordic delegations had some doubts as to the practical effects of general appeals like the one expressed in the revised draft resolution.

44. Mr. BOIKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that his delegation attached great importance to the revised draft resolution, in view of the fact that his country was a major and successful rice producer: yields in the rice-growing areas of his country, in fact, averaged 52 to 56 cwt. per hectare. His delegation accordingly supported the revised draft resolution, on the understanding that the Secretariat, and all other organs concerned, would make special efforts to ensure that the developing countries were enabled to apply new technological developments to the production of their staple foods.

45. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to vote on the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.983/Rev.1).

The revised draft resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

Organization of the Committee's work

46. Mr. MacLAREN (Canada) said that a situation similar to that to which he had referred earlier had

arisen in the case of a draft resolution which was adopted in the Second Committee on the report of the Industrial Development Board;^{3/} several representatives had on that occasion abstained in the voting because they had had doubts about the meaning of one of the operative paragraphs. Such occurrences were probably caused by the increased volume of work imposed on the Committee as a result of the establishment of a number of new agencies and committees concerned with economic matters. The obvious alternatives facing the Committee were either to confine itself to "rubber-stamping" the reports of subsidiary bodies or to select, at the opening of each session or even earlier, a small number of topics which could be considered in depth. His delegation suggested that some time should be set aside for discussing such matters before the Committee concluded its work for the current session.

47. Mr. SVENNEVIG (Norway), speaking on behalf of his delegation and those of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden, associated himself with those observations.

48. Mr. SKATARETIKO (Yugoslavia) supported the suggestion of the representative of Canada. The Committee's proceedings during the current session showed that there was a need for advance planning of its work.

49. The CHAIRMAN said that there was no reason why the Committee should not devote some time to discussing the organization of its work. He wished to point out, however, that any recommendations it might make at the end of the current session would not be binding on delegations to the twenty-third or subsequent sessions.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

^{3/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Annexes, agenda item 39, document A/6874/Add.2, para. 9.

