

achieve effective results for the benefit of the developing countries.

112. Mr. QUARTIN SANTOS (Portugal), exercising his right of reply, said that the representative of Zaire had stated that there were 1 million refugees from Angola in his country. That figure, as stated in paragraph 49 of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees<sup>4</sup> was the total number of all refugees in Africa in 1972.

113. Mr. ELIASHIV (Israel), exercising his right of reply, said that the Arab delegations knew that their allegations were distortions and had no relation to the facts. The statement by his delegation in the general debate in the Committee (1520th meeting) provided sufficient information pertinent to the reference by the representative of Iraq to the IPFs of the second cycle.

114. Mr. AL-KHUDHAIRY (Iraq), speaking in exercise of his right of reply, said that he was sorry that the Committee had to listen to such distortions. He wished to ask the representative of Israel just who was occupying whose lands and why 27 independent African countries had broken off relations with Israel.

115. Mr. ZAHARAN (Egypt), exercising his right of reply, said that it appeared that the representative of Israel was not ashamed of repeating his distortions. Everyone knew that Israel was occupying parts of Egypt, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic and was

<sup>4</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 12.

usurping the natural resources of those countries. The continuation of that aggression compelled those States to use their resources for purposes of defence rather than for development. It was time that the leaders of Israel changed their attitude and respected their neighbours' sovereignty, territorial integrity and rights over natural resources. Israel had turned a deaf ear to decisions of WHO, the General Assembly and the Security Council. Its practice of gradual annexation and colonization of occupied territories was the reason for Israel's international isolation. That policy ran counter to the principles of the United Nations and was a threat to peace and security in the Middle East and the world. Because of its aggression and its refusal to withdraw from the territories of three Arab States, Members of the United Nations, Israel was responsible for the current energy crisis in the world. It appeared that that situation would be aggravated as long as Israel continued its aggression. Furthermore, Israel was not a developing country and did not deserve UNDP assistance. Any assistance received by Israel should be paid back and be redistributed to needy countries, especially the least developed countries.

116. The CHAIRMAN announced that Nepal had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1306, Gabon and Laos had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1308 and the Dominican Republic had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1309.

*The meeting rose at 7.10 p.m.*

## 1561st meeting

Monday, 19 November 1973, at 10.45 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Zewde GABRE-SELLASSIE (Ethiopia).

A/C.2/SR.1561

### AGENDA ITEM 49

Operational activities for development (*continued*)  
(A/9003 and Corr.1, chap. VI; A/C.2/L.1311):

- (a) United Nations Development Programme (E/5256 and Corr.1, E/5365/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.1307);
- (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund (A/C.2/L.1306);
- (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General;
- (d) United Nations Volunteers programme (E/5342, A/C.2/L.1309);
- (e) United Nations Fund for Population Activities;
- (f) United Nations Children's Fund (A/C.2/L.1308);
- (g) World Food Programme (A/9003/Add.1 (part IV); A/9031, A/C.2/L.1298)

1. Mr. CHANDLER (Barbados) announced that his delegation wished to become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1308, relating to UNICEF.

2. His Government attached considerable importance to UNDP and would continue to support the Programme through its annual voluntary contributions. It welcomed the efforts to ensure that the resources of UNDP were utilized as effectively as possible and

hoped that the Programme would not suffer from a lack of adequate resources in future years.

3. The country programming system provided valuable technical assistance within the context of the development plans of recipient countries; it had created a priority-conscious approach to development within recipient Governments and had required them to identify key problem areas and to determine what development efforts should be emphasized to accelerate growth and maximize benefits. As a developing country, Barbados looked forward to continuing assistance from UNDP under the country programming system.

4. From the outset his Government had been concerned at the use of population and *per capita* income as the criteria for determining indicative planning figures (IPFs). Taken alone, *per capita* gross national product (GNP) was not a reliable indicator. Barbados had a *per capita* income of approximately \$700, a relatively high figure in the UNDP context. However, that obscured the fact that the Barbadian economy was small, the economic structure was not diversified, the country lacked adequate resources to permit any great degree of specialization, and its economy was excessively dependent on external demand for its goods and services. Fluctuating capital inflows and an unstable interna-

tional monetary system also adversely affected the growth of the Barbadian economy.

5. Prompted by the dissatisfaction of a number of recipient countries with the use of population and *per capita* GNP as criteria for the calculation of IPFs, the Governing Council of UNDP had been reviewing the criteria since its fourteenth session, at which the Administrator had recommended the adoption of a new scheme aimed at securing improved equity for all recipient countries, with particular attention to the special needs of the least developed countries. His delegation had noted with concern, however, that the Administrator had further recommended that the scheme should be based primarily on the same criteria of population and *per capita* income. His delegation had followed the discussion of the question in the Governing Council very closely and, in that connexion, he drew attention to the guidelines adopted by the Council at its sixteenth session (see E/5365/Rev.1, para. 90). The suggestions in those guidelines that countries with relatively high levels of *per capita* GNP should forgo any increase in their IPFs and that countries at the upper end of the *per capita* GNP scale should gradually become net contributors had caused his Government even further concern, for it might be asked to do both and was in no position to do either. Accordingly, his Government strongly insisted that UNDP should take seriously into consideration the various factors affecting the growth of the Barbadian economy before devising a system which would restrict the flow of assistance to or impose a burdensome level of contributions on Barbados. In devising the new criteria for IPFs for the Second United Nations Development Co-operation Cycle, greater attention should be attached to certain supplementary criteria: first, the magnitude of the country's development effort; the extent to which the Government was making structural changes to promote development; and the distribution of income and other elements of the establishment of social justice; secondly, a country's cumulative debt burden and over-all balance-of-payments deficit, and the chronic deterioration of the terms of trade; thirdly, the difficulties of a country in participating in regional and/or subregional development activities; and lastly, the correction of inequalities due to historical circumstances.

6. Mr. BA-ISA (Democratic Yemen) said that his delegation attached great importance to operational activities for development. In view of the disappointing results of the first two years of the Second United Nations Development Decade, there must be a radical change of will on the part of the industrialized countries translated into economic terms.

7. UNDP might well play a central role in narrowing the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and it could do so more effectively than was the case at present. The encouraging increase of resources indicated by the 1973 Pledging Conference on UNDP and the United Nations Capital Development Fund<sup>1</sup> would certainly restore some of the declining confidence of the developing countries, particularly the least developed among them. His country had been excluded from the latter category because of an absence of absolute data. Much greater efforts were needed to alleviate mass unemployment and poverty in the developing countries, to improve the quality of life

and to enable those countries to exercise sovereignty over their natural resources.

8. Upon attaining independence in 1968, after a long period of harsh colonial rule, his country had been confronted with tremendous economic and social problems. The closing of the Suez Canal as a result of the Israeli aggression of June 1967 had dealt a crippling blow to the economy, which was largely dependent on trade. The effects of the closing of the Canal on world trade were indicated in a study by the Secretariat of UNCTAD, introduced at the sixth session of the Committee on Shipping, entitled *The economic effects of the closure of the Suez Canal*.<sup>2</sup> Viewing the situation from both an economic and a political standpoint, his delegation reiterated that all United Nations assistance to Israel should be immediately withheld. By refusing to withdraw from occupied Arab lands, exploiting their natural resources and depriving the Palestinians of their legitimate right to their homeland, Israel openly defied Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

9. Instead of being used to produce instruments of war and destruction, science and technology must be used for the benefit of the developing countries. The flow of foreign capital did not depend solely on economic factors. Furthermore, in his country's experience, generous encouragement to foreign investment had produced results far below expectations. With assistance from the socialist and other friendly countries and with its own efforts, Democratic Yemen had been able to make progress towards providing a better life for its people, particularly the poor in rural areas. The United Nations system should intensify its efforts to help the developing countries to accelerate their economic and social development. In that connexion, his delegation supported the establishment of a United Nations revolving fund for natural resources exploration in those countries. It also looked forward to even closer co-operation and co-ordination between UNDP and the executing agencies.

10. His delegation shared the desire of others for a more flexible and more equitable revision of IPFs for the second development cycle. Data should also be periodically updated. UNDP should also expand its assistance to the national liberation movements in Africa.

11. His delegation appreciated the efforts of UNFPA, in view of the interrelationship between demographic factors and economic and social development. His country was grateful for the assistance it had received in connexion with its first population census. In recognition of the fact that demographic statistics were prerequisites for economic planning, a national commission had been established and efforts had been mobilized throughout the country to make the census a success. His delegation attached considerable importance to the WFP, and, in view of the critical food shortages, it supported the convening of a world food conference. Lastly, his delegation wished to express its appreciation for the indispensable work of UNICEF, particularly its efforts in emergency situations.

12. Mr. GARCIA BELAUNDE (Peru) said that operational activities for development were of the greatest importance to the developing countries, and he welcomed the support shown by some countries, which would undoubtedly encourage others to increase their

<sup>1</sup> See A/CONF.59/SR.1 and 2.

<sup>2</sup> Document TD/B/C.4/104/Rev.1 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.D.13).

participation. He was pleased to note the increase in contributions pledged for UNDP, as the Programme was one of the most imaginative and effective instruments for development assistance in the United Nations system.

13. However, the countries of Latin America were disturbed at the picture emerging from UNDP documents suggesting that they would receive less support from UNDP for the period 1977-1981. Although Latin America was in a relatively better position than other continents, it was far from having overcome the major problems of under-development, for which current development assistance criteria were totally inadequate. UNDP assistance should be allocated through some regional machinery, so that Latin America as a whole would recover the resources it had lost under the current IPFs. Peru attached great importance to the supplementary criteria for calculating IPFs, including social factors and the internal development effort of the country concerned. In that way, economic growth would be consistent with the efforts being made to achieve social justice.

14. His delegation was a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1306, which it regarded as a necessary instrument for the implementation of decisions taken in the Economic and Social Council and in the Governing Council of UNDP. Such implementation was possible as a result of the generous participation of the Netherlands and Norway. He pointed out that the words "first and foremost" in operative paragraph 1 did not necessarily imply exclusivity; the objectives of the United Nations Capital Development Fund were such that his delegation considered them applicable within the broad context of the countries of the third world.

15. Mr. HABIB (Syrian Arab Republic) said it was UNDP that had taken the initiative and translated international concern for the problems of the developing countries into action. The Programme should now expand its activities in proportion to the increased interest of the developing countries and the dimension of the gap between them and the advanced countries. Its financial capacity reflected the aggregate desire of the advanced countries to alleviate under-development. UNDP was still the major United Nations source for technical assistance, and his country hoped to receive additional aid, particularly through UNDP research activities in the agricultural sector. It considered the transfer of technology to be the most important element in the development process. It would also welcome increased technical assistance at the regional level, particularly at a time when economic co-operation and integration among the Arab countries had achieved a high degree of progress through the Arab common market.

16. His delegation supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1306 on the United Nations Capital Development Fund and believed that the resources and activities of the Fund should be used for the benefit of the least developed countries. In recognition of the valuable role played by UNICEF in promoting economic and social development, his delegation would support draft resolution A/C.2/L.1308. It also supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1309 on the United Nations Volunteers programme.

17. A nation's development depended on how it allocated its resources and on the degree of security and

economic independence which it enjoyed. The Arab countries of the Middle East faced a crucial problem because they were compelled to divert resources from the development process to defence needs. Their economic development had been seriously affected since 1948 by constant Zionist aggression. Since 1967, the Zionist forces of aggression had been occupying parts of three Arab countries, including his own. The Zionist authorities exploited the human and natural resources of the Arab countries, and Israeli aggression had prevented them from exercising their legitimate rights and sovereignty over the natural resources in their occupied territories. Israeli economic exploitation was contrary to various General Assembly resolutions concerning the permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources. Furthermore, in the past month the Zionist forces had bombed civilians, industrial areas and economic development projects, including dams, in many Syrian cities, destroying much of what the country had achieved in the past 25 years by using domestic resources and assistance from friendly nations and international institutions such as UNDP, UNIDO and UNICEF. The Israeli air raids directed against civilian targets had resulted in the killing and injuring of some foreign civilians and diplomats as well as some representatives of the United Nations institutions in Damascus. Furthermore, the closing of the Suez Canal had severely affected international trade as a whole.

18. Colonialism, racial discrimination and foreign occupation were the main reasons for the economic backwardness of the developing countries. Aggression such as that perpetrated by Israel created further instability and an unsuitable climate for economic and social development. The Syrian Arab Republic called upon the third-world countries, as well as the developed countries, to eliminate all aspects of colonialism, racial discrimination and foreign occupation. A country like Israel should be isolated economically and politically. African countries had already broken off relations with Israel. The United Nations system should not provide any assistance to Israel, which used it against the Arab countries and the Palestinian people.

19. Mr. PAGUAGA (Nicaragua) expressed deep concern at the possibility that population variables and *per capita* GNP would constitute the only criteria—or the main ones—for determining the IPFs which would govern UNDP activities during the period 1977-1981. It was clear that the rigid application of those criteria would be detrimental to the Latin American region, as was borne out by paragraph 62 of the Governing Council's report on its sixteenth session (E/5365/Rev.1). Nicaragua was one of the 19 countries referred to in that paragraph which would be seriously affected, since its IPF for 1977-1981 would be 0.29 per cent as against 0.39 per cent for 1972-1976. Furthermore, the situation of his country had been aggravated by the earthquake in December 1972, which had followed a persistent drought, so that the arduous task of rebuilding the capital city had been added to that of restoring the fertility of the land.

20. Greater emphasis should be placed on the supplementary criteria, some of which were listed in paragraph 90 of the Governing Council's report. If criterion (i), concerning countries suffering from acute ecological and geographical disabilities, were applied,

the IPF for his country would be increased instead of reduced. He urged all concerned to help to correct such anomalies so that, without detriment to any other region, Latin America would not be placed at a disadvantage.

21. Mr. PATEL (Deputy Administrator (Programme), United Nations Development Programme) noted that many delegations had stressed the successful results of the recent Pledging Conference, which they viewed as evidence of a new attitude and an expression of confidence in the Administration. For UNDP, they had indeed constituted an incentive to greater effort. He thanked those countries which had not been in a position to announce a contribution at the Pledging Conference but had done so during the current debate in the Second Committee. Nevertheless, it would not be wise to adopt an attitude of excessive optimism. The increased resources would still be subject to the effects of inflation and parity changes. Moreover, as the representative of Pakistan had pointed out, only 45 countries had in fact increased their contributions by as much as 15 per cent, the Netherlands was responsible for 25 per cent of the total increase in resources, and only four or five countries accounted for between one half and two thirds of the increase over 1973. While welcoming those efforts, he hoped that the example set by the countries concerned would be followed by others at the 1974 Pledging Conference.

22. Any additional resources should be used primarily to help the least developed countries during the next cycle and to do more for the regional, interregional and global projects, where restraint had been felt for some time. At its seventeenth session in January 1974, the Governing Council could explore the possibility of a reserve list of projects which could be implemented with any resources that became available beyond the requirements of the IPFs already established. Despite country programming, needs changed, and the preparation of a list in advance would enable projects to be implemented without the whole process of programming being necessary for each new project.

23. Many delegations had suggested that emphasis should now be placed on improvement in project implementation in both quality and quantity. UNDP was giving close attention to that possibility, and had held discussions with the agencies; the Programme Working Group and the Inter-Agency Consultative Board had also discussed the problem at their October meetings.

24. General Assembly resolution 2975 (XXVII) had formed the basis for those consultations to improve implementation. Among the points on which there seemed to be general agreement were: greater authority for project approval at its various stages should be delegated to the field offices; approval in principle could be given in appropriate cases before all the details of the technical assistance programme were worked out. That would facilitate and accelerate recruitment and give greater flexibility in the implementation of a project. He agreed with those who felt that the quality of the resident representatives was also crucial for implementation. He was pleased to note that some delegations felt that not enough use was being made of national institutions to speed up and improve project implementation, as provided for in the consensus. He agreed that implementation was not entirely the re-

sponsibility of the agencies but ultimately rested with UNDP.

25. That was why, apart from taking an active interest in the selection of project managers for major projects, the Administration was involved in the tripartite evaluation with programme managers at the field level in order to achieve closer co-ordination.

26. He noted the suggestions that, in extending its activities, UNDP should rely more heavily on subcontracting, and that subcontracting should be more widely and evenly distributed, in order to encourage competition among a greater number and thus improve project delivery.

27. Replying to a question put by the representative of the USSR at the 1556th meeting, he said that the draft omnibus statute for UNDP would be discussed at the seventeenth session of the Governing Council. The differences between the United Nations Administration and UNDP which had caused the Council to postpone consideration of it at the sixteenth session had now been resolved.

28. Suggestions for the simplification of the Governing Council's procedures had been welcomed, and he noted comments regarding the need for shorter sessions of the Council. That point had in fact been discussed at the last session of the Council, as had another important issue of concern to many, namely, indicative planning figures. He had noted the statement of the representative of China, namely, that the IPFs should be an expression of solidarity among the developing countries. A delicate compromise had been arrived at concerning the calculation of IPFs, and the time had come for member countries to reach a consensus among themselves without further help from the Administration. He was hopeful that a consensus which would give reasonable satisfaction to all concerned was within reach. He pointed out to the representative of the Dominican Republic that the figures she had quoted seemed to come from an earlier document than that now being circulated in preparation for the seventeenth session of the Governing Council, since it had in fact been decided at the sixteenth session of the Council that no country's IPFs would be lower than for the period 1972-1976. The collective efforts that were being made had already created an atmosphere conducive to reaching a satisfactory solution.

29. Some delegations had mentioned new sectors of aid such as non-formal education, and others had felt that there was too little emphasis on industrialization. In fact, there had been an increase in industrial projects. In any case, UNDP had to accept the priorities of the country concerned, and if a country did not request an industrial project UNDP could not act.

30. Regarding the suggestion that humanitarian assistance should be given to peoples in liberated territories, that subject was on the agenda of the January session of the Council, which would explore ways, within the limits of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session, to do more for such peoples. Some delegations had inquired about the possibility of examining construction projects to be financed by UNDP, and of taking a sympathetic approach to co-operation among developing countries. UNDP would discuss those matters further.

31. During the discussion on agenda item 49, larger issues had been raised, such as disarmament and a possible "disarmament dividend", and the total development effort, which it was felt was inadequate. More could assuredly be done, and he hoped that the "disarmament dividend" would become a reality to bolster development assistance. He had noted the warm support for the United Nations Volunteers programme, for draft resolution A/C.2/L.1309 and for specific projects as outlined in the report of the Governing Council. He had listened with pleasure to the representative of the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service and to suggestions from representatives that volunteer efforts should be concentrated on the least developed countries, with more recruits drawn from developing countries, and that closer co-ordination should be arranged with national volunteer organizations.

32. The United Nations Capital Development Fund was already a reality and was being administered by UNDP. Further resources were welcome, and he hoped that more would be forthcoming. The United States delegation and others had questioned the utility of creating another fund when the financial position of the developing countries was not such that they could service more loans. He hoped that, in the new context, priority would be given to the use of the Fund's resources for the least developed countries, that the authority which had been given to provide grants would be interpreted liberally and that any loans would be made on the most generous terms.

33. Mr. LABOUISSSE (Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund) said that he deeply appreciated the support expressed for UNICEF and welcomed the general recognition that programmes for children were an integral part of the development process. Stress had been laid on greater efforts to assist the least developed countries and the poorer areas of the more developed countries, and he noted that delegations had welcomed the type of co-ordination arranged with other agencies, which UNICEF intended to continue. In emergencies, immediate relief was better left to other organizations such as the Red Cross, while UNICEF preferred to channel its emergency assistance to rehabilitation work. He reminded the Committee that UNICEF was expanding its activities and that the success of its work depended on resources. He hoped that the suggestion for greater funds to support the total development effort would be taken up, and he pointed out that UNICEF needed to reach its 1975 target of \$100 million.

34. He would be pleased to pass on the encouraging comments made about the work of the field officers to them.

35. Mr. GILLE (Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities) thanked representatives for their comments and suggestions, which had been noted, and for their support. One delegation had expressed concern regarding resources invested in areas other than data collection and purely demographic matters—for example, population policy. He pointed out that UNFPA was acting in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1763 (LIV), but he assured the Committee that the trend was to invest more in data collection and statistics.

36. Representatives had expressed appreciation of UNFPA relations with various organizations in the United Nations system, which acted as executing agencies for it. The aim was to help countries to make the most effective use of the executing agencies. He foresaw no dramatic change in policy, but felt that there would be a gradual process towards more direct assistance to countries. UNFPA continued to make full use of the experience accumulated in the agencies, and he expected that the latter would continue to assist in assessing requests, providing an advisory service on requests and monitoring UNFPA-supported programmes.

37. He assured the Committee that General Assembly resolution 3019 (XXVII) provided the necessary institutional framework within which UNFPA could provide greater and more effective assistance to the developing countries.

38. Mrs. DE GROSSMAN (Dominican Republic) said that her delegation welcomed the statement by the Deputy Administrator of UNDP that there would be no decrease in UNDP resources for any country. However, the objective was not to avoid a decrease but to achieve an increase in the technical assistance resources made available to Latin America. During the second programming period, the situation with regard to IPFs should not remain the same as it had been in 1972. Both the absorptive capacity of the Latin American countries and their development problems had increased, and account should also be taken of the effects of currency devaluations and the increase in subcontracting costs.

39. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had completed its discussion on item 49 and would now proceed to consider the relevant draft resolutions. He announced that Liberia had become a sponsor of draft resolutions A/C.2/L.1306, A/C.2/L.1308 and A/C.2/L.1309, that Burundi, Mali, Nigeria and the Sudan had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1306, and that Somalia had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1308.

40. Mr. VERCELES (Philippines) said that the first preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1308 should be revised to read:

*"Having considered the section of the report of the Economic and Social Council dealing with the United Nations Children's Fund"*

41. Since there had been no opposition to the draft resolution during the Committee's discussion, he suggested that it should be adopted by consensus.

42. Mr. VAN GORKOM (Netherlands), on behalf of the sponsors, said that the word "of" should be replaced by the word "for" between the words "support" and "the expansion" in paragraph 5 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1306, and that the word "particularly" should be inserted between the words "developed countries" and "in the light of".

43. Mr. OLIVERI LOPEZ (Argentina) proposed that the words "and of the comments made by delegations during the general debate on this item" should be added at the end of draft resolution I proposed by the Chairman (A/C.2/L.1311).

44. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should adopt the following procedure in respect of the



draft resolutions before it. He would first give the floor to delegations wishing to explain their vote on any of the draft resolutions before the vote, and would then put each draft resolution to the vote consecutively and separately. Once a vote had been taken on all the draft resolutions, delegations would have the opportunity of explaining their votes after the voting.

*It was so decided.*

45. Mr. BOTHNER (Norway) said that his delegation supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1298 and considered that the target of \$440 million to be established under paragraph 1 was realistic on the basis of the pledges made up to the present for the current period, as well as being an expression of future expansion of the activities of WFP. The Programme was now a fully operational organ for development and had also proved its efficiency in emergency situations. He expressed his delegation's recognition of the assistance given by WFP to the least developed countries and its support for a further increase in the relative share of those and other low-income countries in such assistance.

46. The activities of WFP should be viewed in the general context of United Nations and FAO appraisal of food deficits and food aid needs. In that connexion, his delegation supported the FAO system of advance warning of food scarcity in developing countries and the further improvement of that system. It also supported the proposal by the Director-General of FAO concerning the formulation of the concept of a minimum level of world food security, including the adequacy of national stock levels, and looked forward to concrete proposals in that regard, particularly concerning the developing countries. In WFP the United Nations system had a tool which might possibly be entrusted with even more comprehensive tasks that might emerge from the proposed world food conference to be held in 1974 under the auspices of the United Nations.

47. Mr. CARIAS ZAPATA (Honduras), speaking also on behalf of the delegations of the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela, said that due consideration should be given at the seventeenth session of the Governing Council of UNDP to the various positions adopted in the Committee with regard to the basic and supplementary criteria for IPFs, the methods of distribution of resources and other related questions. The delegations on whose behalf he was speaking supported the amendment proposed by the representative of Argentina to draft resolution I in document A/C.2/L.1311 and would vote in favour of it.

48. Mr. DE MEDEIROS (Dahomey) proposed the insertion of the following new operative paragraph in draft resolution A/C.2/L.1309:

*"7. Expresses its appreciation to the volunteer organizations, and in particular to the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service, for the valuable co-operation provided to the United Nations Volunteers programme in the field of recruitment"*

If that amendment was adopted, paragraphs 7 and 8 of the original text would need to be renumbered accordingly.

49. Mr. VERCELES (Philippines), speaking on a point of order, said that the procedure suggested by the Chairman and approved by the Committee made no

allowance for consideration of new amendments to the draft resolutions under consideration. Since some new amendments had been proposed, the Committee's task would be facilitated if the draft resolutions were considered one by one.

50. Mr. KANÉ (Mauritania) supported the view expressed by the preceding speaker.

51. Mr. ARVESEN (Norway) said that, as coordinator of the draft resolutions under consideration, he was to be blamed if the Committee was not yet ready to vote on them. He had requested all delegations wishing to submit amendments to contact him; however, he had not received advance notice of the amendment just proposed to draft resolution A/C.2/L.1309.

52. Mr. MITIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation would also prefer the draft resolutions to be discussed one by one.

53. Mr. EKBLOM (Finland), explaining his delegation's vote on draft resolution A/C.2/L.1306 before the vote, said that Finland had for years strongly supported special measures in favour of the least developed countries. The regrettably inadequate availability of resources for development had created a situation where priorities had to be clearly identified and agreed upon. The problems of the least developed countries deserved priority attention. His delegation therefore supported such criteria for establishing IPFs as would increase those countries' share of UNDP assistance. That was why his Government had welcomed the increasing emphasis by the World Bank Group, particularly IDA, on concessionary assistance to the least developed countries, and supported the Tokyo Declaration of 14 September 1973 on the multilateral trade negotiations in which the interests of those countries were particularly stressed. However, the establishment of a special fund for the least developed countries, or the transformation of an existing fund into such a special fund, could not be favoured by his Government, which had consistently advocated coherence in the United Nations development system and favoured concentration rather than proliferation of funds in order to further the essential co-ordination and planning of United Nations development assistance. In its statement to the Committee at the 1556th meeting his delegation had also spoken of certain national concerns related to the allocation of multilateral aid appropriations within the national budget. His Government could not guarantee that its contributions would be additional, should it decide to contribute to a new multilateral fund. It was concentrating its efforts on UNDP and, as long as it was not convinced that a new fund would really add to the potential already covered by existing institutions, it could not support the establishment of such a fund. His delegation would therefore abstain in the vote on draft resolution A/C.2/L.1306.

54. Mr. ELIASHIV (Israel) said that his delegation had great pleasure in supporting draft resolution A/C.2/L.1308. It had not spoken during the discussion, since it had often stated its whole-hearted support of UNICEF in the past and had not considered further broad endorsement of its activities to be necessary. UNICEF symbolized the best of man's humanitarianism and deployed a range of most laudable efforts within the framework of its action programmes. He reaffirmed his Government's support of UNICEF and its activities and said that his delegation was glad to

join with other nations in supporting the draft resolution.

55. Mr. BONAO (Ivory Coast) said that the purpose of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1306 was not absolutely clear. If its intention was to establish a fund for the least developed countries, his delegation would support such an initiative. If, however, the objective was to use the United Nations Capital Development Fund primarily for the benefit of the least developed countries, care must be taken to ensure that the interests of the countries which had been able to benefit from the Fund up to the present were not jeopardized. The answer given to his question would determine his delegation's vote on the draft resolution.

56. Mr. JABER (Jordan) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the Argentine amendment to draft resolution I in document A/C.2/L.1311.

57. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) supported the Argentine amendment. He also supported the comments of the representative of the Dominican Republic. His delegation hoped that the views and reservations expressed during the Committee's discussion on UNDP would be reflected in its report and duly taken into account at the seventeenth session of the Governing Council.

58. Mr. CUBRIA (Cuba) supported the Argentine amendment.

59. Mr. HAMID (Sudan), speaking on a point of order, proposed that the draft resolutions should be considered one by one, and that explanations of vote should be given on each draft resolution in turn.

60. Mr. HAQ (Pakistan) supported that proposal.

61. Mr. MBÉDO (Central African Republic) also supported the Sudanese proposal. With regard to explanations of vote, time would be saved if the floor was given only to delegations that had objections to specific points.

62. The CHAIRMAN asked whether the Committee wished to follow the procedure proposed by the Sudanese representative.

*It was so decided.*

63. The CHAIRMAN asked whether any delegation wished to explain its vote before the vote on the draft resolution recommended by the Economic and Social Council in document A/C.2/L.1298 relating to WFP.

64. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) reiterated his delegation's concern about the level of resources, which was such that the Programme was not always able to respond to the urgent needs of Member States. He hoped that the Committee's report would reflect that point of view, and that particular emphasis would be placed on the present and future food situation of drought-stricken countries, to which reference was made in reports of FAO and other organizations. Member States should take full account of that situation and should give more serious consideration to the proposal by the Director-General of FAO concerning the establishment of a minimum security stock. His delegation would have preferred the situation to be reflected in the draft resolution, but would be prepared to vote in favour of it as it stood.

65. The CHAIRMAN said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.2/L.1298 without a vote.

*Draft resolution A/C.2/L.1298 was adopted without a vote.*

66. Mr. MITIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), explaining his delegation's vote, said that if the draft resolution had been put to the vote his delegation would have abstained for reasons that had already been stated at the resumed fifty-fifth session of the Economic and Social Council (1885th meeting).

*The meeting rose at 1 p.m.*

## 1562nd meeting

Monday, 19 November 1973, at 3.10 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Zewde GABRE-SELLASSIE (Ethiopia).

A/C.2/SR.1562

### AGENDA ITEM 49

**Operational activities for development (concluded)**  
(A/9003 and Corr.1, chap. VI; A/C.2/L.1311):

- (a) United Nations Development Programme (E/5256 and Corr.1, E/5365/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.1307);
- (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund (A/C.2/L.1306);
- (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General;
- (d) United Nations Volunteers programme (E/5342, A/C.2/L.1309);
- (e) United Nations Fund for Population Activities;
- (f) United Nations Children's Fund (A/C.2/L.1308);
- (g) World Food Programme (A/9003/Add.1 (part IV); A/9031)

1. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Committee would vote on draft resolution A/C.2/L.1306, on the United Nations Capital Development Fund, as orally revised at the previous meeting.

2. Mr. MOUSKY (United States of America) associated his delegation with the comments and reservations expressed by the representative of Finland at the previous meeting. Like a number of other delegations, as well as the Administrator of UNDP, he felt that the United Nations Capital Development Fund would compete with other financing organs, and doubted that duplication could be avoided. In addition, he was not sure that the Fund was the best instrument for providing assistance to the least developed countries. Certainly, an attempt must be made to obtain more resources for those countries, but that could be achieved