

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 53rd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. BURKE (Ireland)

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ORGANIZATION OF WORK

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The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 77: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION
(continued)

(c) WORLD DECADE FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on the World Decade for Cultural Development (A/C.2/46/L.50)

1. Mr. ZIARAN (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman, said that in informal consultations on the draft resolution it had been decided to replace the words "as well as" in paragraph 3 (a) with the word "including". He recommended the text to the Committee for adoption without a vote.

2. Draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.50, as orally revised, was adopted.

Draft resolution on a World Commission on Culture and Development (A/C.2/46/L.51)

3. Mr. ZIARAN (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman, announced that Malawi, Malaysia and Mozambique had become sponsors of resolution A/C.2/46/L.51. During informal consultations it had been decided that the words "as the latter proceeds" should be inserted after the word "Organization" in paragraph 2. In addition the word "Requests" in paragraph 3 should be changed to "Expects". He recommended the draft resolution for adoption without a vote.

4. Draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.51, as orally revised, was adopted.

(e) ENVIRONMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas (A/C.2/46/L.7/Rev.1)

5. Mr. McGANN (United States of America), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.7/Rev.1, said that Singapore had become a sponsor. His delegation had worked with the sponsors of draft resolutions A/C.2/46/L.7 and A/C.2/46/L.9, on the same subject, and had successfully reconciled the two texts. He therefore recommended the adoption of the new text - A/C.2/46/L.7/Rev.1 - by consensus.

6. A number of changes should be made in the text. In the fourteenth preambular paragraph, the words "grounds for" should be inserted before the word "concerns" and the word "driftnet" should be inserted before the word "fishing". The words "the fact" should be deleted from the fifteenth preambular paragraph. Lastly, "Reaffirms" in paragraph 1 should be replaced by "Recalls".

(f) DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT (continued)

Draft resolution on desertification and drought (A/C.2/46/L.81)

7. Mr. OULD CHEIKH EL GHAOUTH (Mauritania) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.81.

AGENDA ITEM 82: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(b) UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (continued)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Development Programme Human Development Report (A/C.2/46/L.87)

8. Mr. REDZUAN (Malaysia), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.87, recalled the controversy which had arisen in the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and in other forums regarding the incorporation of a human freedom index in the Human Development Report. The sponsors of the draft resolution felt compelled to submit their text to the Committee because, despite very strong opposition to the index, UNDP had indicated that it intended to proceed with a study of human/political freedoms and to incorporate a new format for a political freedom index in the 1992 edition of the Human Development Report.

9. The sponsors wished to maintain the spirit of consensus which had always guided the work of UNDP and were prepared to consider altering the wording of the draft text as long as its main objectives were adequately addressed. In that connection, he proposed that a reference to the divergent views on the subject among the human rights experts at the UNDP-sponsored seminar on 19-20 November 1991 in New York should be included in the eighth preambular paragraph.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

Draft resolutions on special assistance to Namibia (A/C.2/46/L.27 and L.84)

10. Mr. ZIARAN (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.84, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.27, and recommended that the new text should be adopted without a vote.

11. Mr. STOBY (Secretary of the Committee) said it was the understanding of the Secretariat that the provisions of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.84 were not related to recommendation 6 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213. Accordingly, if the General Assembly adopted the draft resolution, he did not foresee any programme budget implications.

12. Draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.84 was adopted.

13. Draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.27 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

AGENDA ITEM 83: INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION
(continued) (A/C.2/46/L.39 and L.76)

Draft resolution on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction
(A/C.2/46/L.39)

14. Mr. ZIARAN (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman, announced that, following informal consultations, consensus had been reached on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.39. Accordingly, he recommended that the text should be adopted without a vote.

15. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to document A/C.2/46/L.76, containing the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.39.

16. Draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.39 was adopted without a vote.

AGENDA ITEM 89: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMITMENTS AND POLICIES AGREED UPON IN THE DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, IN PARTICULAR THE REVITALIZATION OF THE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued) (A/C.2/46/L.15, L.28 and L.82)

Draft resolutions on regional economic integration among developing countries
(A/C.2/46/L.15 and L.82)

17. Mr. BARAC (Romania), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.82, which he was submitting on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.15, and recommended that it should be adopted without a vote.

18. The CHAIRMAN said that he had been informed by the Secretariat that the programme budget implications contained in document A/C.2/46/L.28 did not apply to draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.82.

19. Draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.82 was adopted.

20. Draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.15 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

21. Mr. BULBULIA (Barbados), speaking on behalf of the States members of the Caribbean Community, said that the Community attached the highest importance to integration as a means of promoting the collective social and economic development of the West Indian people. The Community's efforts to achieve integration were based on the three principles of economic cooperation through the Caribbean Common Market, coordination of foreign policy among the independent member States, and the promotion of functional cooperation through the efficient operation of certain common services.

22. Draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.82 represented a laudable effort to bring the issue of regional economic integration among developing countries within the ambit of the United Nations system. Implementation of that resolution would

(Mr. Bulbulia, Barbados)

contribute significantly to the advancement of the economic integration efforts currently under way in various parts of the developing world.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

23. The CHAIRMAN announced that Mali and the Republic of Korea had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.71 (agenda item 77 (e)) and that Chile and the Dominican Republic had withdrawn their sponsorship of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.47 (agenda item 82).

The meeting rose at 4.25 p.m.