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New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 27th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. OUDOVENKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic)

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The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.

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

Draft resolution on creating an environment that encourages capital formation for growth and development (A/C.2/42/L.35)

1. Mr. DAWSON (United States of America) said that his delegation had first sought to introduce a draft resolution on capital formation at the Economic and Social Council's second regular session of 1987. The progress made then in reaching an understanding of the role of capital formation in fostering growth and development had led him to place the current draft resolution before the Second Committee. The text of the draft had also been influenced by the comments made informally by a number of other delegations in recent weeks.
2. The concept of capital formation was not a new one in United Nations activities. Particular emphasis had been placed on that concept in the International Development Strategies for the Second and Third United Nations Development Decades and in General Assembly resolution 36/42, all of which, like the draft resolution before the Committee, had recognized that external factors affected the process of capital formation. His delegation hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

Draft resolution on international economic security (A/C.2/42/L.38)

3. Mr. ZVEZDIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), introducing the draft resolution, said that work on elaborating a concept of international economic security had been initiated in response to General Assembly resolutions 40/173 and 41/184. The Economic and Social Council, after considering that concept, had adopted decision 1987/162 by consensus, which in turn had guided the Committee's consideration of the concept during the current session of the General Assembly.
4. Consultations with other delegations and the many statements on the concept of international economic security made in recent weeks had indicated the existence of agreement on the need for joint efforts to solve international economic problems. The preliminary results of his delegation's consultations were reflected in the draft resolution before the Committee. The preambular paragraphs, which incorporated many of the ideas submitted by other delegations, emphasized the concept of interdependence, the importance of the United Nations system and the need to achieve the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations.
5. Individual countries and groups of countries differed in their views as to the way in which the purposes of the Charter in the economic field ought to be achieved. Overcoming those differences would require much time; however, in view of the widespread recognition of the international community's responsibility for the world economy and of the need for change in the current world economic situation, the operative section of the draft resolution proposed that the United Nations should endeavour to find a common denominator among those different

(Mr. Zvezdin, USSR)

approaches as a first step towards the establishment of a generally acceptable framework. Specific courses of action were described in paragraphs 3 and 4.

6. Pressing problems of development demanded attention. Paragraph 5 of the draft resolution therefore called upon the Secretary-General to consult with international experts on such problems and to convey their views to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

7. He hoped that the draft resolution could be adopted by consensus and expressed his delegation's willingness to accommodate constructive proposals from all delegations to that end.

Draft resolution on assistance to the Palestinian people (A/C.2/42/L.22)

8. The CHAIRMAN announced that China, Tunisia and Yemen had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

AGENDA ITEM 82: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)

(e) ENVIRONMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on international ecological security (A/C.2/42/L.34)

9. Mr. ZÁPOTOCKÝ (Czechoslovakia), introducing the draft resolution also on behalf of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, said that the draft text represented an effort to accommodate the views expressed by many delegations during informal consultations. The preambular section explained that international ecological security was necessary because environmental problems could not be solved in isolation, nor by the mere adoption of protective measures at the national level. International ecological security must be based on broad international co-operation and mutual assistance.

10. Constructive international dialogue should be initiated within the framework of the United Nations so that principles governing the conduct of States with respect to the environment could be elaborated. Paragraph 1 of the draft resolution referred to such a dialogue, while paragraph 2 requested the Secretary-General to co-operate with the Executive Director of UNEP in outlining elements that might lead to the elaboration of the concept of international ecological security. Previous international negotiations and the work done by environmental experts would provide a good basis for that undertaking. He was convinced that the forthcoming informal consultations would make it possible to endorse the draft resolution by consensus.

Draft resolution on protection of the ozone layer (A/C.2/42/L.37)

11. Mrs. GREGORY (Canada), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors, said that the signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in September 1987 had constituted a significant step forward in

(Mrs. Gregory, Canada)

multilateral co-operation on the environment. To be effective, however, the Protocol must be ratified and implemented by countries throughout the world. She was therefore pleased to introduce draft resolution A/C.2/42/L.37, which urged all States to become parties to both the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol. She drew attention to paragraph 3, which apprised States of the Protocol's availability for signature and expressed the hope that the draft resolution would receive the full support of the General Assembly.

(f) DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT (continued)

Draft resolution on the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (A/C.2/42/L.36)

12. Mr. OULD EL GAOUTHE (Mauritania) said that the draft resolution before the Committee comprised two sections, one concerning the implementation and financing of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and one regarding the implementation of the Plan in the Sudano-Sahelian region. Preambular paragraphs in both sections recalled the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution S-13/2, and other bodies. The resolution recommended specific steps to implement the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, with particular emphasis on work that could be undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme. Drawing attention to paragraph 6 of section B, he noted that Norway should be included in the list of countries that had helped implement the Plan of Action in the Sudano-Sahelian region. His delegation intended to co-operate with the Vice-Chairman of the Committee to ensure that the final version of the text was satisfactory to all.

Draft resolution on countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa (A/C.2/42/L.24)

13. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Comoros, the Central African Republic, Ecuador, Ghana, Kenya and Yugoslavia had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

14. Mr. RENDOH (Botswana) said that his delegation also wished to sponsor draft resolution A/C.2/42/L.24.

(h) SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT: REPORT OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on the report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development (A/C.2/42/L.31)

15. Mr. SCHUMANN (German Democratic Republic), introducing the draft resolution also on behalf of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, said that the ninth session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development had emphasized the need to ensure that technological developments were used to foster economic growth and that science and technology were integrated in the mainstream of social and economic thinking, planning and implementation at the national and international levels. The sponsors of the draft resolution believed

(Mr. Schumann, German
Democratic Republic)

that the end-of-decade review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development and the report of the Secretary-General thereon would provide an impetus and direction for co-ordinating United Nations activities in the field of science and technology for development.

16. The current scientific and technological revolution, which was rapidly and radically transforming all aspects of international life, had major implications for global economic and social development and for the environment. The draft resolution was based on a recognition of that impact and should assist in the preparation of the end-of-decade review of the Vienna Programme of Action.

17. As all the resolutions of the ninth session of the Intergovernmental Committee had been adopted without a vote, and since draft resolution A/C.2/42/L.31 was fully consistent with those resolutions, it was the hope of the sponsors that it, too, would be adopted by consensus. At the same time, the sponsors were open to any amendments intended to ensure the effective implementation of the decisions taken by the Intergovernmental Committee at its ninth session.

(g) HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (continued)

Draft resolution on living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories (A/C.2/42/L.23)

18. The CHAIRMAN announced that Yemen had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

AGENDA ITEM 86: SPECIAL PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued)

Draft resolution on special assistance to front-line States (A/C.2/42/L.16)

19. The CHAIRMAN announced that Burkina Faso and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.