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## Second Committee

### Summary record of the 4th meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 1 October 2001, at 3 p.m.

*Chairman:* Mr. Seixas da Costa ..... (Portugal)

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General debate (*continued*)

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*The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.*

**General debate** (*continued*)

1. **Mr. Ahsan** (Bangladesh), speaking on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries, observed that the lack of resources had been shown to be the universal stumbling block to achieving the goals set out in the various programmes of action adopted by the major global conferences of the past decade touching on aspects of sustainable development. When trade and development issues were considered at the upcoming International Conference on Financing for Development and fourth Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the need to mobilize resources should be faced squarely.

2. The least developed countries in particular required greater access to the global markets. They had opened up their own markets with the expectation of reciprocal treatment and long-term benefits; these however, had yet to materialize. Except for the European Union's "Everything but Arms" initiative, they had not been granted the duty-free treatment needed to remedy their external trade situation. Instead, they faced tariffs that were actually 30 per cent higher than the global average, and had to contend with non-tariff barriers such as quotas and antidumping measures against the few products they could produce.

3. The Preparatory Committee for the International Conference must focus on integrating the agreements that had been reached at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries by settling on an implementation mechanism favourable to the least developed countries and translating the pragmatic programme of action adopted at that Conference into action. The time for procrastination was long past.

4. **Mr. Shen** Guofang (China) said that the proper approach to the development goals set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration was crucial. States themselves must make an effort *inter alia* by establishing a political and economic system suited to the conditions in their respective countries and by adopting sound macroeconomic policies. However, favourable external conditions were equally necessary; the current international economic system must be reformed to meet the challenges of globalization and growing interdependence among countries and made

more equitable by increasing the decision-making power of the developing countries.

5. Sufficient funds were the key to fulfilling development goals. If each member country of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) met the official development assistance (ODA) target of 0.7 per cent of its gross national product (GNP), that would be enough. The forthcoming International Conference on Financing for Development should, accordingly, develop a comprehensive strategy for mobilizing resources, make substantive commitments and take steps to deal with the external debt of developing countries.

6. Trade, too, had an important role to play in economic development and poverty eradication. Thus far the elimination of trade barriers had primarily benefited the developed countries. He therefore appealed to those countries to fully implement the agreements reached at the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, to open markets and eliminate trade barriers. The upcoming WTO Ministerial Meeting should focus on the concerns of the developing countries and make specific recommendations regarding financing, technology transfer and capacity-building. Also in 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development would undertake its own comprehensive review of Agenda 21, identifying the problems encountered in implementing the various principles of sustainable development.

7. **Mr. Widodo** (Indonesia) said that the Millennium Declaration of the United Nations and the Plan of Action adopted by the Non-Aligned Movement at its South Summit in 2000 should serve as blueprints for the tasks ahead. The Millennium Declaration had asserted that the central challenge was to ensure that globalization became a positive force for all the world's people. To do that it was necessary to integrate the economies of the developing countries proportionally into the global economy, thereby boosting development, eradicating poverty and reducing the yawning disparities that divided the world and threatened peace and stability worldwide.

8. Partnership and dialogue anchored in mutual interests and benefits were the key to making globalization a positive force. Stronger links should thus be established between Governments, civil society, international organizations and the private

sector in order to deal with the core issues of development.

9. The next 12 months would throw two of those issues — financing for development and sustainable development — into relief. The forthcoming International Conference on Financing for Development would be addressing the inequities inherent in the global economy and would bring together for the first time the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions, the private sector and civil society to consider how to reform the current financial system and find means of increasing cooperation to stimulate financial flows to the developing countries. In the wake of a decade of devastating financial crises that had shattered the development efforts of a number of developing countries, including Indonesia, the international financial architecture should be completely overhauled, and the developing countries should be given a greater role in decision-making.

10. The debt strategies employed thus far by the international community had failed to resolve the problem of external indebtedness. The Conference should address the structural causes of indebtedness in order to arrive at a durable solution. Debt relief should be extended to all highly indebted poor countries and, as needed, to low- and medium- income developing countries. In addition, arrangements should be made for new financial flows and concessional financial assistance to debtor developing countries, particularly to reinforce domestic economic reforms, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes.

11. Protection of the environment had become a dominant concern since the adoption of Agenda 21, yet the promise of the latter remained unfulfilled. Progress on normative and institutional issues should be coupled with full implementation of commitments to sustainable development, particularly by the developed countries. In carrying out its own national and sectoral Agenda 21, Indonesia considered the support of the international community to be crucial. The comprehensive ten-year review of the implementation of Agenda 21 at the forthcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development would be critically important and should serve to reinvigorate the global commitments at the highest level. The active engagement of all the major groups identified in Agenda 21 and full international cooperation were needed to translate the targets set in the Millennium Declaration into concrete action.

12. **Mr. Šerkšnys** (Lithuania) said that the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development were interrelated. As recent events had shown, poverty, a deficient educational system and an oppressive political climate could serve as breeding grounds for an extremism that applauded and perpetrated violence.

13. The conferences and special sessions regularly convened by the United Nations on critical social and economic issues of the day gave impetus to the search for possible solutions. The United Nations should ensure better coordination among its various agencies in the field of science and technology and promote more fruitful cooperation among countries in different stages of development. Information and communication technology was indispensable in helping the international community cope with globalization; the digital divide between developed and developing countries must therefore be eliminated. Information technology should serve as a tool for knowledge-sharing and development. Inter-agency cooperation and partnerships between public and private sectors would facilitate the transfer and absorption of new technologies, while innovative networking would create a system-wide community of information technology experts and users. Women should have equal access to scientific and technological training, resources, research and technology transfer.

14. His Government would be giving top priority in the coming four years to creating an information society based on science and new technologies, by, inter alia, introducing computer education for students, teachers and civil servants, and using computer networks to centralize access to government services; developing a long-term science and technology strategy; promoting electronic business; and using an integrated communications network to fight organized crime, drug-dealing and illegal immigration.

15. Lithuania would be an active participant in the World Summit on Sustainable Development. On the domestic front, his Government had sought to improve the legal and economic instruments of environmental management and to promote a sustainable development by giving priority to investment in pollution prevention and various progressive environmental technologies; and it would be working to improve the efficiency of the energy sector after accurately assessing the costs involved. In order to participate fully in the processes

of globalization through the use of new technologies and innovations, the Central and Eastern European countries in general had to follow a three-pronged approach to development — economic, social and environmental — based on their specific domestic conditions.

16. The International Conference on Financing for Development should result in a strategy for integrating countries at different stages of development into the world economy. While external financial flows were important, a country's domestic resources were still the primary means of financing its development activities; and States should be helped to develop their own strategies for poverty-reduction and for the best use of their own resources. Also essential to economic and social development was improved market access for developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

17. **Mr. Effah-Apenteng** (Ghana) said that the Committee had tended to ascribe the solutions to global economic challenges to domestic economic governance, ignoring the real need for action at the international level to address recurring financial crises. Attempts to address problems in a comprehensive manner had been repeatedly rebuffed. That had been particularly evident during negotiations on the agenda for the forthcoming World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference, for, despite high-level pronouncements that trade should promote development, the negotiations had revolved around the need to secure additional benefits for developed countries as a precondition for discussing issues that were critical to the development of most developing countries.

18. In view of the failure of the global community to harness the benefits of globalization, as evidenced by increasing poverty and marginalization, it was legitimate to ask whether the best interests of the global community were served in a world of short-term profit-taking subject to acute cyclical reverses, where the biggest segment of the market remained undeveloped. In fact, that question had already been answered at the Millennium Summit: those interests would best be served through inter alia support for a framework that promoted poverty eradication, human rights and good governance. The creation of enlarged, effective markets and the maintenance of stability in international financial markets were clearly

prerequisites for global wealth generation and must be discussed as ends in themselves.

19. Consensus should be sought on critical issues, including the need to: secure long-term financing for development (inter alia by forging partnerships with the private sector, international financial institutions and regional development banks); increase the use of multilateral funds for building infrastructure supportive of private sector investment; enhance the effectiveness of official development assistance (ODA) in line with national poverty eradication strategies; achieve secure funding for the integrated and coordinated follow-up to major world conferences; and identify global priorities, such as environmental degradation, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, to be funded from assessed contributions; and enhance the participation of developing countries and in international decision-making. The standard must always be that which brought the greatest good to the majority of humanity: namely the poor and the marginalized.

20. Principles of equity, social justice and solidarity must be seen to permeate debate on global economic outcomes. Particularly in light of the recent attacks and of the violence at anti-globalization protests, delegations should make a special effort to be open-minded.

21. **Mr. Doryan** (World Bank) said that the issues addressed by the Committee were also the core concerns of the World Bank as it worked to empower people to move from "ill-being" to well-being. With an additional 40,000 children under the age of five estimated to die and 10 million more people condemned to poverty as a result of the recent terrorist attacks, that common task had been rendered all the more urgent. For the global fight against poverty to be sustained following those attacks, it was crucial to: boost and better target foreign aid; complement strong reform efforts; reduce trade barriers; ensure that the WTO Ministerial Conference was motivated by the desire to use trade as a tool for poverty reduction and development; and build social consensus for ongoing reforms. Since most countries were unable to counteract imported shocks, reforms should be accelerated.

22. Effective development strategies and economic and social sustainability depended on enhanced national capacity to operate within a comprehensive framework that reflected the interdependence of

macroeconomic and financial issues with structural, social and human concerns, including environment and health. The international community should also address the need to harmonize multilateral and bilateral donor policies, the use of trade as a tool to redress imbalances, and the issue of foreign indebtedness.

23. Domestic policies and governance played a crucial role in the mobilization of international resources. Multilateral action must be strengthened on the basis of partnership, coordination and efficient use of resources. In the current context of urgency and possibility, the World Bank and United Nations must move from rhetoric to implementation, always ensuring that the poor were kept at the forefront.

24. **Mr. Robinson** (Observer for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)) said that the expertise of IUCN on matters of ecology, natural resources, and sustainable development had been made available inter alia in the Forum on Forests and the Commission on Sustainable Development. IUCN had also participated in the work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), including in the preparation of the group of experts to develop the programme for the development of environmental law ("Montevideo Programme III").

25. Peace and sustainable development depended on safeguarding environments and habitats from terrorist acts. IUCN recognized that sustainable development required stronger cooperation between States and societies in order to build genuine environmental security and hoped to cooperate with the United Nations to that end.

26. **Mr. Slade** (Samoa), speaking on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) said that the devastating repercussions of the terrorist attacks served to underscore the urgency of the Committee's work. Members of the Alliance were concerned that the commitment to sustainable development of developed countries and donor organizations would be diminished in the wake of the attacks. They were also keen to ensure that the special vulnerabilities of small island developing States should be taken fully into account.

27. AOSIS was pleased that the Secretary-General, had identified implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action as one of the recommended strategies for implementation of the Millennium Declaration.

28. It strongly supported the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and considered that there was a need for greater cooperation to address the vulnerability of small islands to natural disasters. Its members appreciated the willingness of States parties to move forward with the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, for, to them, climate change was a priority issue. The agreement reached in Bonn represented a significant achievement, paving the way for agreement on the many complex arrangements established under the Protocol.

29. **Mr. Clodumar** (Nauru), speaking on behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum Group, said that the reorganization of five items on the current session's agenda must not lead to the marginalization of the issues of special concern to developing States.

30. The upcoming fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization and the International Conference on Financing for Development were vital to addressing the trade and financing needs of the developing world. The World Summit on Sustainable Development would provide an occasion to highlight the direct relationship between economic activities, the environment and societies, especially the societies of the small island developing States. He hoped that the Committee's discussions would lead to recognition of the many constraints on the Pacific Islands Forum Group countries and result in ways to improve their socio-economic status.

31. **Mr. Enkhsaikhan** (Mongolia) welcomed the integrated and comprehensive approach suggested by the Secretary-General in his report (A/56/326). To achieve the objectives set out in the Millennium Declaration, the Mongolian Government had adopted a good governance for human security programme as a means of meeting the goals set out in the Declaration. The programme put considerable emphasis on inter alia poverty reduction, income redistribution and job creation.

32. Turning to financing for development, he noted that official development assistance (ODA) remained vital to the least developed, landlocked and small island developing countries. The International Conference on Financing for Development should address all aspects of development and development financing; while at the same time, highlighting the role of ODA in economic growth, social progress and equity and environmental protection. Special

consideration should also be given at the next round of trade negotiations, to the circumstances and interests of the least developed landlocked countries. In that regard, he welcomed the attention given in the Secretary-General's report (A/56/326) to the special circumstances and needs of landlocked developing countries and expressed the hope that the United Nations would continue to support the efforts of the landlocked and transit developing countries to enhance their transit transportation.

33. The objectives of the Rio Summit held particular significance for Mongolia since land deterioration and desertification were increasingly threatening economic and social structures. His Government had launched a sustainable development agenda for the twenty-first century designed to address those challenges but was having difficulties in implementing it due to financial and human resource constraints.

34. His delegation welcomed the progress achieved at the resumed session of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and underlined the need for continued efforts to combat desertification. The World Summit on Sustainable Development should undertake a comprehensive and critical review of the achievements and shortcomings of Agenda 21. While States had agreed that the funding for implementation of Agenda 21 should come from countries' own public and private sources, there was still a need to mobilize new financial resources to meet targets for poverty reduction, environmental protection and economic growth.

35. **Mr. Ben Mellouk** (Morocco) said that one of the main obstacles facing developing countries in their efforts to become integrated into the world economy was a lack of resources for financing development activities. The forthcoming international conference on the subject would afford an opportunity for discussing measures to deal with that situation. It could, inter alia, discuss measures to promote investment and should give priority, in that regard, to establishing partnerships between the private and public sectors.

36. While the primary responsibility for development lay with the countries concerned, measures were also needed at the international level. As the international community prepared for the Fourth Ministerial Conference of WTO, it should recognize that the future of the multilateral trading system depended on the

integration of the developing countries into the world economy and on addressing their specific problems.

37. The need to strengthen international cooperation was becoming extremely urgent. International and regional financial institutions had an essential role to play in guaranteeing financial resources for the financing of economic reform programmes and for sustainable development activities.

38. The digital divide was another hurdle facing many developing countries. Information technologies were of strategic importance for economic and social development. The international community must reflect on measures to facilitate the access of developing countries to such technologies and help them to develop national strategies based on new technologies. One possibility would be for Governments to use incentives to facilitate the transfer of new technologies to developing countries. The international community must also consider ways to adapt regimes of intellectual property law so as to facilitate and encourage the transfer of technologies to developing countries on preferential terms.

39. **Mr. Manalo** (Philippines) said that the preparations for the International Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development would constitute an unprecedented opportunity for tackling the manifold problems faced by developing countries. Given the substantial improvement in economic and political governance in nearly all developing countries, new and additional debt relief would be a good investment for the international financial community.

40. At the international level, more effort was required to give developing countries access to investment opportunities and open access to markets in developed countries. The European Union's "Everything but Arms" initiative was a good start, but its limited application was a serious drawback. Liberalized trade would be meaningful only if developing countries were able to expand their export capacities. The rules of trade and WTO itself should be made more responsive to the needs, concerns and priorities of developing countries.

41. His delegation would like to see the institutional capacity of WTO enhanced in extending technical assistance to developing countries, and to ensure in particular that developing countries enjoyed full and fair facility in using the WTO dispute settlement

mechanisms. His Government supported a more formalized relationship between the United Nations and WTO. A regular dialogue patterned after the dialogue between the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions should therefore be considered.

42. The international community should also strive to foster a more stable international financial system. Various aspects should be examined, including the role of the private sector in fostering international financial stability. Multilateral surveillance of economic and financial policies should be accepted as a global public good and the level of funding for such goods should exceed the level of funding for ODA. Such a balance was critical to the success of the World Summit for Sustainable Development. His delegation therefore emphasized the need for adequate funding for the implementation of Agenda 21.

43. **Mr. Jimenez** (Ecuador) said that given the current international climate, the United Nations should play an essential role in tackling problems from a global and multidimensional standpoint. Millions of human beings lived in abject poverty, deprived not only of material goods but of opportunity. That posed a serious challenge for the United Nations system. At the political level, those problems and their possible solutions were well known, and the United Nations merely had to confront them more effectively. It was important to start from facts rather than from theories. The fact was that there were a number of structurally different economies; it was also a fact that the external environment of those economies was a decisive element in the success or failure of internal policies; therefore, solving the problems was not the exclusive responsibility of those directly concerned, especially in the case of countries with marginal involvement in international markets. These facts must be borne in mind in order to come up with effective solutions.

44. The external debt continued to be one of the most serious constraints on development; large debt servicing payments left little money with which to implement social programmes or improve the infrastructure that would support economic development. The benefits gained by the developing countries from their participation in international trade were as yet unsatisfactory: liberalization and transparency did not extend to all sectors, and unfair practices, such as subsidies, persisted, drastically distorting international trade. The impossibility of

entering the more dynamic markets further frustrated the economic development of the developing countries, by hindering their strengths and capacities. Those problems further exacerbated internal problems.

45. The Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development would, however, provide an opportunity to establish the foundations for an equitable and supportive international community.

46. **Mr. Fall** (Senegal) said that Africa would not achieve its objective of reducing poverty by half by 2015 if current trends continued. Those trends were characterized by three striking phenomena: firstly, the economic growth of the continent had levelled off during the last decade to only 2.1 per cent yearly, while Official Development Assistance (ODA) had declined; the external debt remained intolerable. Second, Africa was suffering from environmental problems as well as from deterioration of the forests and desertification, all of which was having a disastrous impact on agriculture. Third, HIV/AIDS was taking a heavy toll among young adults, dangerously mortgaging the future of Africa.

47. During the 1990s, Africa had made unprecedented efforts to achieve macroeconomic stability, market liberalization and privatization and its efforts had been supported, however inadequately, by the international community. However, one of the economic and social recovery programmes had proved successful and it was now clear that lack of leadership and inadequate participation by Africans in various common efforts had contributed in no small measure to that relative failure. That was the reason for the great interest in the New African Initiative, a joint initiative of all the African heads of State, which had just been adopted by the 37th Summit of the Organization of African Unity. The object of that initiative was to create the conditions for good governance and for the appropriation of new information and communications technologies, with a view to eradicating poverty through strong, healthy and sustainable development. It identified infrastructure, agriculture, education and health as priority sectors calling for immediate action.

48. Implementing this initiative would present an immense challenge and would require the support of the international community. He therefore appealed to all delegations to pay particular attention to the need for productive and urgent action.

49. **Mr. Manele** (Solomon Islands) agreed that the Millennium Declaration should provide the framework for the work of the Committee, and that the fight against poverty should be the main objective. The prevalence of dire poverty in a world of unprecedented wealth was an affront to the moral basis of civilization. Since many current problems, including war and violations of human rights, were rooted in underdevelopment and poverty, there was an irrefutable common interest in addressing those issues. The Programme of Action 2001-2010, adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, must be translated into action, and ODA resources must be invested to support development efforts. Donor countries and lending institutions must also ensure that they did not give with one hand and take away with the other.

50. Development cooperation should go beyond humanitarian needs and be linked to peace-building initiatives. In an increasingly interdependent world, the policies of donor countries on investment and trade, and other matters should help promote development for the poorest populations. Otherwise the benefits of globalization would continue to elude the majority. The Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to be held in Doha in November 2001 should extensively debate those matters.

51. Consensus must be achieved on the mobilization of resources for the attainment of international development targets; the Conference on Financing for Development was a valuable opportunity to do so. In addition, the World Summit on Sustainable Development must agree on ways and means to ensure wider and productive implementation of Agenda 21, and should explore measures for the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action.

52. Climate change and rising sea levels threatened the very survival of small island developing states; the international community, in particular the States that were the biggest emitters of greenhouse gases, must seek to understand the unique circumstances of those States. Efforts to resolve the outstanding differences over the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change must therefore be the focus of the Seventh Conference of the Parties to that instrument.

53. **Mr. Salazar Cosio** (Peru) said that the latest economic recovery had largely been confined to the

strongest economies and had not led to a clear redistribution of wealth, either among or within countries. Several of the countries with the highest levels of social inequality were located in his region.

54. On the international level, it had coincided with the emergence of a new class of countries marginalized by the inability to use technology to strengthen their economies. Current growth projections for the European Union, Japan and the United States were far less rosy; the outlook for the weaker economies was even less encouraging. During the 1990s, efforts had been made to reform economic structures. Those reforms had at first had dynamic results, bringing about growth and the mobilization of private capital resources within the emerging markets and the search for greater profits. While capital had flowed in, it had sometimes suddenly fled, provoking great instability. The so-called bubble effect offered an illusion of growth but raised doubts about the feasibility of the reform.

55. That Darwinian selection process had affected the terms of trade for commodities. The so-called new economy gave precedence to other products which were gradually supplanting primary products. The Fourth Ministerial Conference of WTO in Doha would be an opportunity for the international community to provide greater levels of access to markets for such labour-intensive products as textiles and agricultural products.

56. At its recent Summit, the Rio Group had emphasized the need to strengthen the multilateral trade system and reaffirmed its commitment to continue to work towards achieving the necessary consensus for the success of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of WTO. It had requested that the agenda for that Conference should adequately address the concerns of the developing countries with respect to the implementation of the Uruguay Round.

57. The current situation of insecurity could well precipitate new disturbances and increase energy costs; that would have a negative effect on most developing countries. Important and unprecedented decisions would have to be made. No one would deny the need for a new architecture for the international financial system and for greater liberalization of trade recognizing the principle of special and differential treatment.



58. **Mr. Coşkun** (Turkey) said that his delegation regarded the Millennium Declaration as the framework for the Committee's work. Although globalization and technological innovations brought benefits to the world, they were also fraught with danger. The gap between the haves and the have nots was growing and geographical distance could no longer insulate anyone from global problems. Suffering inflicted on people anywhere in the world must be relevant to all others elsewhere. The Committee should therefore approach its work with a constructive attitude, and a sense of partnership and unified will power.

59. While development was primarily the responsibility of each country, sustainable development required international cooperation, for it was through such cooperation that peace and stability could best be ensured. His delegation therefore hoped that the Conference on Financing for Development would take a unified approach towards closing the gap between developed and developing countries and that the World Summit on Sustainable Development would likewise have fruitful results.

60. **Mr. Al Atrash** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) thanked Under-Secretary-General Desai for calling attention to the concerns of the African continent, in particular those relating to development and the eradication of poverty, and said that the time had come to support developing countries by reducing or eliminating their indebtedness and increasing development financing. He noted the Secretary-General's recommendation that Governments should be urged to take steps to prepare a transparent, stable and predictable framework for investment and for building institutional infrastructures and that multilateral and bilateral donors should be encouraged to adopt suitable measures to permit faster and more extensive debt relief for poor countries. His delegation supported the proposal for the creation of a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication noting that in the creation of the fund, attention must be paid to General Assembly resolution 55/210.

61. No sustainable improvement in individual income was possible without macroeconomic development. Development must be sustainable, equitable and human and must put an end to all discrimination. The international community must therefore accord priority to development programmes for developing countries and must adopt decisive measures to overcome the obstacles that stood in their way. Such measures should include creating a new global order that would bring an

equitable distribution of wealth both nationally and globally; striving to create solutions that would guarantee effective North-South partnership in decision-making and within development institutions; encouraging developed countries to facilitate the transfer of technology and encouraging developed countries to provide developing countries with technical capacities and resources to enable them to participate in the preservation of the environment. Those issues had been stressed at the Group of 77 South Summit. His delegation believed that implementation of the Havana Programme of Action and of the Millennium Declaration would enable globalization to become a positive force for all peoples.

62. Like many other countries the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya continued to be the target of coercive economic measures although the sanctions unjustly imposed on it by the Security Council had been temporarily suspended. Moreover, the United States still used coercive economic measures such as the freezing of assets, the withholding of technology and other trade-restrictive practices. He called upon the international community to oppose the unilateral use of such measures and to seek to lift definitively all the sanctions imposed on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, so that it might play a greater part in international efforts towards development and more effective integration into the global economy.

63. He reiterated his country's condemnation of all forms of terrorism, particularly the recent terrorist acts of 11 September 2001 in which innocent civilians had been killed. Such acts were prohibited by the revealed religions and considered crimes under positive law. His delegation stressed the need to pool international efforts to fight terrorism in all its forms within the framework of the United Nations.

64. **Mr. Le Hoai Trung** (Viet Nam) said that globalization must not benefit only the rich countries and leave behind the poor countries. The commitments made at the Millennium Summit should be taken seriously, and cooperation between north and south should be strengthened. In that connection he stressed the need for an open, equitable, predictable, non-discriminatory and rule-based multilateral trading system and expressed the hope that the forthcoming International Conference on Financing for Development would achieve a new consensus model that took into account the needs and priorities of the developing world.

65. His delegation supported the launching of the new round of negotiations within WTO; indeed his country hoped to become a member of that organization in the near future. Fifteen years earlier, Viet Nam had undertaken a comprehensive reform which had brought about major changes, from economic restructuring to administrative reforms. It hoped that the external environment would be improved so as to provide support for the endeavours of all developing countries.

*The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.*