



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/32/385
29 November 1977

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-second session
Agenda item 69

LONG-TERM TRENDS IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF THE REGIONS OF THE WORLD

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ibrahim Suleiman DHARAT (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

1. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1977, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Long-term trends in the economic development of the regions of the world" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.
2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 3rd to 18th meetings between 28 September and 14 October and at its 50th and 51st meetings on 18 and 22 November, respectively. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/32/SR.3-18, 50 and 51).
3. For the consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Economic and Social Council 1/ (chap. III, sect. H).
4. At the 50th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Poland introduced a draft resolution entitled "Examination of long-term trends in economic development" (A/C.2/32/L.36), which he orally revised, sponsored by Bangladesh, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, India, Iraq, Madagascar, Nigeria, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, later joined by Finland, Mongolia, Nicaragua and Surinam.
5. The oral revisions introduced by the representative of Poland on behalf of the sponsors were the following:

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/32/3).

(a) In the second preambular paragraph, the insertion of the phrase "the establishment of the new international economic order and, in this context, to" between the words "should contribute to" and "the process of"; as well as the addition of the words "inter alia" between the words "relating" and "to trade";

(b) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the insertion of the words "as appropriate" after the phrase "in order to utilize";

(c) In operative paragraph 2, the addition of the phrase "with special emphasis up to 1990" at the end of the paragraph;

(d) In operative paragraph 3, the addition of the words "as appropriate" after the phrase "to take into account";

(e) In operative paragraph 6, the deletion of the word "positively" after the phrase "to reply" and the word "all" before the word "requests".

6. At the 51st meeting on 22 November the representative of Mexico proposed that operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution (A/C.2/32/L.36) should be amended by the addition, at the end of the paragraph, of the word "and on the problems of developing countries". The amendment was accepted by the representative of Poland on behalf of the sponsors of the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution (A/C.2/32/L.36), as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8 below). The representative of China made a statement.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Examination of long-term trends in economic development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recognizing that the United Nations activities initiated by General Assembly resolution 3508 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, entitled "Examination of long-term trends in the economic development of the regions of the world", to be continued and expanded on the basis of Economic and Social Council resolution 2090 (LXIII) of 25 July 1977, should contribute to the

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establishment of the new international economic order and, in this context, to the process of international economic negotiations relating, inter alia, to trade, primary commodities, food problems, industrialization, monetary problems and other issues of primordial importance for economic and social development on the global scale,

Bearing in mind that the regional studies involved should be so designed as to reach practical conclusions regarding the expansion of economic co-operation both on a regional and on an international scale,

Bearing also in mind the need to study long-term prospects for the social and economic development of the various regions of the world and on the global scale, inter alia, in order to utilize, as appropriate, the results achieved in the work on the new international development strategy,

Noting that studies and projections of long-term trends and their implications for development policies will be considered by the Committee for Development Planning at its fourteenth session,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on long-term trends in the economic development of the various regions of the world and their mutual relationship 2/ and studies of the regional commissions annexed thereto, 3/ prepared in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 3508 (XXX);

2. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 2090 (LXIII), and in particular paragraph 4 thereof, which contains the recommendation to start, on the basis of the regional studies under way, preparations for the elaboration of an over-all socio-economic perspective of the development of the world economy up to the year 2000 with special emphasis up to 1990 and on the problems of developing countries;

3. Reaffirms the necessity to take into account, as appropriate, regional and global long-term prospects for economic and social development during the preparatory process for and in the elaboration of the new international development strategy;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, the progress report referred to in Council resolution 2090 (LXIII);

5. Decides to consider the status of the examination of long-term economic trends at its thirty-fourth session as a separate agenda item;

6. Invites all States, as well as the concerned organizations, organs and bodies within the United Nations system, to reply to requests for information which may be made in the course of the implementation of the present resolution.

2/ E/5937 and Corr.1.

3/ E/5937/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2; E/5937/Add.2-4 and Add.4/Corr.1.