

**ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT
OF THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
AND
RESUMED FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 3A (A/9003/Add.1)



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New York, 1974

NOTE

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ABBREVIATIONS

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IDA	International Development Association
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WHO	World Health Organization

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This addendum to the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of its fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth session* is composed of two parts. Part one covers the work of the Council's second special session and part two that of its resumed fifty-fifth session.

The resolutions and decisions adopted at the second special session and at the resumed fifty-fifth session are issued in a separate volume as a supplement to the *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council*.** The summary records of the meetings of the Council are also issued as part of the Official Records of the Council. The summary records of the Economic Committee at the resumed fifty-fifth session are contained in documents E/AC.6/SR.671-674.

* *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/9003)*.

** *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Second Special Session and Resumed Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 1A (E/5400/Add.1)*.

Part one

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

REPORT ON THE SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

1. At the 1880th meeting,¹ at its second special session on 17 September 1973, the Economic and Social Council considered the question of measures to be taken following the natural disaster in Pakistan.

2. On 11 September 1973, the Permanent Representative of Pakistan addressed a letter (E/5417) to the President of the Council asking him to explore the possibility of calling a special session of the Council, under rules 4 and 5 of the rules of procedure and paragraph 2 of Article 72 of the Charter of the United Nations, to discuss the measures to be taken following the natural disaster in Pakistan. The President of the Council informed the Secretary-General, in a letter dated 12 September (E/5418), that the officers of the Council were in agreement with the proposal of Pakistan and that in accordance with rule 4 of the rules of procedure he proposed to convene the Council on 17 September 1973.

3. The Council adopted the agenda (E/5419), which is reproduced in annex I of the present report. The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/5420) which briefly described the action taken by the United Nations system in regard to the floods in Pakistan and pointed out that, in spite of generous emergency assistance from the international community and from local authorities, the need for relief was still extensive and longer term measures should be taken to further the rehabilitation of the flood victims.

4. The Under-Secretary-General in charge at Headquarters of the United Nations Relief Operations in Bangladesh stressed the interrelationship between the flood assistance needed in Pakistan and the current resettlement programmes in Pakistan, both of which humanitarian efforts were being carried out in a co-ordinated manner by various elements of the United Nations system. In addition, the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator described, beginning with the first reports of flood conditions, the activities of his office in mobilizing and co-ordinating emergency relief assistance to Pakistan. He supplied the Council with current information on both relief contributions and outstanding emergency assistance requirements. The Assistant Administrator and Director of the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Asia and the Far East called attention to the lead that had been taken by the United Nations Development Programme Resident Representative in Pakistan in locally directing international relief efforts. He further pointed out that it was the intention of UNDP to expand its assistance activities in Pakistan.

5. The Permanent Representative of Pakistan expressed the gratitude of the people of Pakistan for the Council's readiness to meet in special session regarding

the floods in his country, the worst in living memory. He pointed out that the floods had had a devastating effect on agricultural and industrial production and on economic growth in Pakistan. In the Punjab, 21 per cent of the standing crop had been destroyed and 16 per cent had been damaged. There had also been half a million houses damaged and 8 million people living in 6,500 villages had been displaced. Some one million tons of stored food grains had also been ruined. In the Province of Sind, 2 million people had been affected and some 22 per cent of the crops totally destroyed. Enormous damage had taken place in the transportation, communications, power transmission and distribution, and housing and irrigation sectors and the loss of life was high. As a result of the mobilization of national and international human and physical resources some order had been restored in Pakistan but recovery from the flood damage would require the sustained efforts of the international community.

6. The representative of Japan introduced draft resolution E/L.1569 on behalf of the delegations of Algeria, Brazil, Burundi, Finland, Haiti, Japan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, the Niger, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zaire. During the meeting, the delegations of Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Mali, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. In accordance with rule 75 of the rules of procedure, the delegations of Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, the Philippines, Sweden, Tunisia and Turkey representing Members of the United Nations not members of the Council also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. In the course of the discussion many representatives, speaking on behalf of their own delegation and on that of regional groups, stressed the urgency of the situation in Pakistan, the tragic human suffering that had been endured and the vast destruction that had resulted from the flood. Full sympathy was extended to the people of Pakistan and the need for continued support was stressed. There was broad agreement that the draft resolution (E/L.1569) should be adopted unanimously.

8. The Council unanimously adopted resolution 1828 (S-II) in which it (1) expressed its profound sympathy to the people and Government of Pakistan on the loss of human life and the ravages caused by the recent natural disaster; (2) noted with appreciation the general expression of friendship and solidarity as well as the assistance in relief operations provided by several countries and international as well as non-governmental organizations; (3) expressed its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the promptitude with which he undertook several measures of relief and rehabilitation; (4) noted with appreciation the measures

¹ E/SR.1880.

taken by the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator to ensure that the most prompt and effective assistance is provided to the Government of Pakistan for the devastated areas; (5) requested the Secretary-General to invite the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the organizations and programmes concerned, particularly the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, as well as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Or-

ganization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme and the International Labour Organisation, to provide all possible assistance, within their respective programmes, and to respond, in liaison with the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, to any requests made by the Government of Pakistan for assistance in the reconstruction work provided for in its initial emergency programme; (6) expressed its desire that the United Nations Development Programme and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development should urgently consider and respond expeditiously to any requests for assistance within their competence that the Government of Pakistan might submit in connexion with its special medium-term and long-term rehabilitation programmes.

Part two

RESUMED FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION

Chapter I

DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AND MONETARY QUESTIONS

A. Reports of the World Bank Group

1. The Council considered item 2 of the agenda for its resumed fifty-fifth session (reports of the World Bank Group) at its 1881st and 1882nd meetings.¹ It had before it a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the summaries of the annual reports for 1973 of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA) and of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) (E/5421).

2. In introducing the reports, the President of the World Bank Group observed that the Group had attained all the targets set in the five-year programme originally described to the Council in 1968.² The Group had doubled its lending world-wide. It had achieved a threefold increase in its operations in Africa. It had tripled its lending to the poorest and least developed of its member countries. It had tripled its lending for education and quadrupled its lending for agriculture.

3. The President went on to point out that besides those quantitative targets, the Group also had qualitative goals. In its effort to improve the over-all quality of its work, it had broadened and strengthened its relationship with other members of the United Nations family. The scale of operations under co-operative arrangements with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) had grown steadily since their beginnings in 1965. The co-operative programme with the World Health Organization (WHO) on water-supply and sewerage had, in its first full year of operation, proved to be fully justified. A similar co-operative programme with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in the industrial field had been approved by the Board of Governors in 1973 and would come into effect formally on 1 January 1974.

4. In addition to day-to-day operational relationships, the World Bank Group was participating in several special undertakings. It had joined with WHO, FAO and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in a campaign to bring river blindness under control in seven countries of west Africa. Preliminary estimates were that the programme would cost about \$120 million over a 20-year period. The estimated cost of the first phase, which would aim at eliminating, in designated areas, the breeding of the black fly carrier

and would extend over six years, was more than \$40 million. The Group had agreed to take the lead in mobilizing funds for the initial stage, for which WHO would be the principal executing agency. It was also co-operating in the efforts of the Special Sahelian Office of the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, which was co-ordinating medium-term and long-term assistance to the six countries in the Sudano-Sahelian region suffering from the worst drought in 50 years.

5. Its first five-year programme having been completed, the Group was moving forward with a second five-year programme. Like the former, the latter would be shaped by the requirements of the evolving development situation. As the Group saw it, most of its developing member countries were faced with three inter-related difficulties: (a) an insufficiency of foreign exchange earnings from trade; (b) an increasingly severe burden of external debt; (c) an inadequate flow of official development assistance.

6. The essence of the trade problem was that developing country exports had not expanded fast enough to pay for essential imports. Often those imports were themselves the key to greater export capability and to higher foreign exchange earnings. The problem was compounded by the delay in the dismantling of trade barriers that discriminated against the poor countries. Concerning the growing burden of external debt, the problem was not the existence of debt, nor even its size. It was, rather, that debt and debt payments were growing faster than the revenues required for debt service. The growing burden of external debt was a function, in part, of the acute shortage of official development assistance. The current flow of financial aid was only half the target of 0.7 per cent of the gross national product, which the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade had established as a target to be reached by 1975. The fundamental case for development assistance which could be justified on many grounds was a moral one: the rich and the powerful had a moral obligation to assist the poor and the weak. That was what the sense of community was all about—the community of the family, of the village, of the nation, the community of nations itself.

7. In the face of those immense problems, the Group had to seek to increase the momentum of its operations over the next five years. It planned to expand both the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association lending at a cumulative annual rate, in real terms, of

¹ E/SR.1881, 1882.

² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 3A (A/7203/Add.1)*, chap. II, sect. A.

8 per cent. For the five-year period 1974-1978, its lending should total \$22,000 million at 1973 prices for almost 1,000 projects. The total cost of those projects would approach \$55,000 million. The Group intended to place great emphasis on policies and projects which would attack directly the problem of absolute poverty and would provide assistance designed to help to raise the standards of living and the standards of productivity among the poorest 40 per cent of the people in developing countries.

8. Despite a decade of unprecedented increase in the gross national product of developing countries, the poorest segments of their populations had benefited little. The estimated income of nearly 800 million individuals was, in United States purchasing power, only 30 cents a day. In the typical developing country (among 40 for which data were available), the upper 20 per cent of the population received 55 per cent of national income, as against 5 per cent for the lowest 20 per cent.

9. The President of the World Bank Group recalled that at the resumed fifty-third session of the Council he had emphasized the need for developing countries to reorient their development policies to achieve a redistribution of the benefits of economic growth towards the poor.³ Unless Governments made serious moves in that direction, international agencies, including the Bank, could do little to achieve the objective. As a first step, Governments should define the objectives of development in more operational and socially-oriented terms, rather than exclusively in terms of the growth of the gross national product. Further, they should establish measures of progress in those same terms. The proposed reorientation of development policy would require far greater precision in identifying the main concentrations of the poorest people in a given country. Seventy per cent of the population of the developing countries and an equivalent percentage of the poor lived in the countryside. More than half the population of the developing world would continue to live in rural areas in the year 2000. If there was to be any significant progress towards solving the problems of absolute poverty in rural areas, the productivity of small-scale agriculture had to be increased. Without rapid progress in small-holder agriculture throughout the developing world, there was little hope either of achieving long-term stable economic growth or of significantly reducing the levels of absolute poverty.

10. The scope of the problem was immense. In the developing countries that were members of the World Bank Group, there were well over 100 million farm families and more than 700 million individuals were involved. The size of the average holding was small and land ownership was concentrated in the hands of a small minority. Tenancy arrangements were generally insecure and often extortionate. A feasible goal was to increase production on small farms so that by 1985 output would be growing by 5 per cent per year. Any comprehensive strategy for increasing small-holder productivity would have to make provision for: (a) accelerated land and tenancy reforms; (b) better access to credit; (c) increased availability of water; (d) expanded extension facilities backed by intensified agricultural research; (e) greater access to public service; (f) new forms of rural institutions and organizations whose function would be to foster and develop the inherent potential and productivity of the poor.

³ E/SR.1841.

11. The World Bank Group was going to make the increased productivity of small-holder agriculture a major objective. It expected to lend \$4,400 million in agriculture during its second five-year programme (1974-1978), as compared to \$3,100 million in the first five-year programme (1969-1973), and \$872 million in the 1964-1968 period. However, the principal responsibility remained with individual Governments and no amount of outside assistance could substitute for those Governments' determination to get on with the task. Political courage was thus clearly required. And if the developing nations exercised it and undertook the internal reforms necessary, then the developed nations had to respond with comparable courage by removing discriminatory trade barriers and substantially expanding official development assistance.

12. The President of the World Bank Group concluded by stating that the real question was not whether development could reduce and finally eliminate poverty, but whether it would. He stressed that he himself believed it would.

13. In the ensuing discussion, most of the representatives who spoke commended the World Bank Group for its performance during its first five-year programme (1969-1973) and endorsed the conclusions formulated by the President in his statement. Several representatives welcomed the Group's decision to make the increased productivity of small-scale agriculture a major objective during its second five-year programme (1974-1978). A representative of a developed country indicated that his Government hoped that a revitalization of the United Nations Capital Development Fund, for which it would make specific proposals during the current session of the General Assembly, would be met by the Bank with an open mind and a willingness to co-operate within the United Nations system to secure additional benefits for the least developed countries. A representative of another developed country said that his delegation endorsed the action of IBRD in discontinuing reconstruction loans to industrialized countries in order to concentrate on the developing countries. In the view of one representative of a developed country, references to the need for social and economic transformations, the redistribution of national income and agrarian reform represented a recognition of the need for democratic reforms as one of the most effective ways of overcoming economic backwardness and moving towards the full economic and political independence of the countries of the third world. A representative of a developing country pointed out that the strengthening of small property ownership in agriculture was not sufficient to ensure that a country would develop rapidly and become an equal member of the international community. A representative of another developing country observed that the developing countries were constantly urged to promote agricultural production, but were prevented from doing so by the restrictive practices of developed countries. A representative of a developing country stressed that the developed countries that were spending vast sums on weapons must recognize the potential dangers which the frustration, unrest and conflict caused by poverty could unleash.

14. Replying to the comments, the President of the World Bank Group promised to give careful consideration to the important points raised by the representatives. He reiterated that it was essential to ensure that all sectors of the population enjoyed the benefits of economic growth.

15. The representative of China stated that although the General Assembly, in its resolution 2758 (XXVI), had decided "to restore all its rights to the People's Republic of China . . . and to expel forthwith the representatives of Chiang Kai-shek from the place which they unlawfully occupy at the United Nations and in all organizations related to it", the World Bank Group had thus far allowed the representatives of Chiang Kai-shek to retain their places. On 24 September 1973, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China had sent a cable to the President of the World Bank Group drawing his attention to that anomaly.

16. The President of the World Bank Group replied that he had, as promised in the cable he had sent to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of China on 26 September 1973, brought the cable he had received from the Foreign Minister to the attention of the Executive Directors of the Group on 1 October 1973. A paper on relations between China and the World Bank had also been submitted to the Executive Directors, and he was confident that they would give the matter their early consideration.

17. At its 1882nd meeting, the Council concluded its consideration of the item by deciding to take note with appreciation of the report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association, and the report of the International Finance Corporation.

B. Report of the International Monetary Fund

18. The Council considered item 3 of the agenda for its resumed fifty-fifth session (report of the International Monetary Fund) at its 1883rd and 1884th meetings.⁴ It had before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/5422) transmitting the summary of the 1973 annual report of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The full report⁵ was available to it for information.

19. In introducing the report, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund pointed out that in the industrial countries, following a two-year period of economic slowdown, there had been an acceleration of economic activity in 1972 and during the first half of 1973; total output in those countries had risen by 5½ per cent in 1972 and at an annual rate of over 7 per cent in the first half of 1973. In the developing countries, growth had been relatively well sustained over the past several years at an average of more than 6 per cent. That strength of economic activity had been accompanied by a worsening of inflationary trends. Developed and developing countries alike were currently in the throes of what was undoubtedly the worst bout of inflation that had been experienced in over two decades. The instability of exchange rates in the past two years had complicated the task of controlling inflation.

20. That task required action at both the national and international levels. At the national level, the main responsibility naturally fell on the large industrial countries because of their dominant position in the world economy. At the international level, national monetary policies had to be co-ordinated, at least to the extent that the effect of one country's policies on

the balance of payments of others did not defeat commonly agreed objectives.

21. There was some reason to believe that the international forces feeding inflation had of late been weakening. Prices of primary commodities, which, on average, increased by some 40 per cent in the first eight months of 1973, seemed to have passed their peak. Furthermore, the far-reaching currency realignments of recent years appeared to be producing the desired improvement in the over-all structure of international payments. Recent developments in exchange markets had had their effect on the scale of the Fund's financial operations. In the first place, uncertainties about exchange rates might have deterred certain countries from incurring debt obligations in foreign currencies. More importantly, the rapid growth of global liquidity, in which most members of the Fund had shared, to some extent, had diminished the need for recourse to the Fund's facilities.

22. As a result of all those factors, the scale of the Fund's financial operations had decreased in the past year, though they were nevertheless still substantial. Members' purchases of currencies and special drawing rights had amounted to the equivalent of nearly SDR 1,200 million in the fiscal year ending 30 April 1973; half that amount had been accounted for by the purchase of developing countries. Thirteen stand-by arrangements had been concluded during the 1972/73 fiscal year, and 11 arrangements so far in the current year, all with developing countries. In addition, during the past year and a half, 13 developing countries had made use of the Fund's compensatory financing facility to cope with shortfalls in their export earnings or had drawn on the Fund's facility for financing contributions to buffer stock schemes.

23. In the past fiscal year, the Fund had held consultations with 85 countries; in those consultations the Fund had placed increasing emphasis on the international implications of members' economic and financial policies; it had also been giving particular attention to assisting them in making appropriate adaptations in their policies so as to be able to deal with imported inflation, which had been especially disruptive for smaller countries with relatively large trade sectors.

24. Turning to the reform of the international monetary system, the Managing Director observed that the system that had been established at Bretton Woods had served the world well for many years. However, it had begun to run into serious difficulties in the 1960s and had broken down with the abandonment of the convertibility of the dollar in August 1971. After being restored on a modified basis by the Smithsonian Agreement signed at Washington, D. C., in December 1971, it had finally collapsed in the widespread floating of currencies. The thoroughgoing overhaul of the international monetary system that had become necessary was seen to have two major objectives. One was to achieve a system of balance-of-payments adjustments that would be more effective and timely in its operation and that would give reserve centres the same facilities for adjustment as other countries. The second was to establish a system of settling payments imbalances which would make it possible to bring the world's supply of monetary reserves under effective international control.

25. The process of arriving at decisions in the international monetary field was currently much more representative than that which had prevailed at Bretton

⁴ E/SR.1883, 1884.

⁵ International Monetary Fund, *Annual Report of the Executive Directors for the Fiscal Year ending April 30, 1973* (Washington, D.C.).

Woods or at any previous time in world monetary history. The Bretton Woods Agreement had been arrived at among representatives of 45 nations, but discussions had proceeded on fully elaborated schemes worked out in advance by the technicians of a few countries only. However, the 20 constituencies represented on the Committee of Twenty, could speak for all 126 members of the International Monetary Fund and a consensus had to emerge as the result of a gradual process of mutual persuasion and accommodation.

26. Discussions to date had led to agreement on a number of important points of principle. It was agreed that the exchange rate system should remain based on stable but adjustable par values. However, the permissible margins of fluctuation of currencies available to all countries should be wider than those formerly applied and there should be provision for floating in particular circumstances. It was also agreed that the obligation to adjust should apply symmetrically to surplus and deficit countries. There should remain a presumption against the use of balance-of-payments controls on current transactions and capital controls should not be used for the purpose of maintaining inappropriate exchange rates. There was agreement that special drawing rights would become the primary reserve asset of the new system, while reserve currencies and gold would have a continuing but declining role. There was also general agreement that the reformed monetary system would contain arrangements to promote an increasing flow of real resources from developed to developing countries. Despite that basis of agreement, there was a formidable list of important unsettled questions.

27. In conclusion, the Managing Director emphasized that the immediate task was to bring inflation under control and to restore confidence in international currency relationships. That required unremitting efforts by all countries, particularly the major countries, to carry out responsible financial policies and to collaborate with each other, especially in the formulation of those policies that had important international consequences. The Fund stood ready to assist in the difficult process of policy formulation.

28. Most representatives who participated in the ensuing discussion commended the Managing Director on the Fund's performance during the year under re-

view. Several representatives indicated that they were disappointed that the negotiations in the Committee of Twenty had not yet yielded much progress, despite the utmost urgency of international monetary reform. Some representatives referred to the need for making the dialogue between the Council and IMF more effective. Many representatives of developing countries stressed the importance of the link between special drawing rights and development assistance.

29. In reply, the Managing Director of the Fund said that the complexity of the world monetary situation had led to a recognition of the need for reform and that there was thus an opportunity to improve the system with a view to bringing about continued growth and employment expansion and a better distribution of wealth throughout the world. Concerning the link between special drawing rights and development assistance, he observed that, while there was as yet no consensus on a specific solution to that problem, the agreement in the negotiations of the Committee of Twenty concerning the need to promote an increased flow of resources to developing countries was a major development.

30. The representative of China stated that, although the General Assembly, in its resolution 2758 (XXVI), had decided "to restore all its rights to the People's Republic of China . . . and to expel forthwith the representatives of Chiang Kai-shek from the place which they unlawfully occupy at the United Nations and in all organizations related to it", the International Monetary Fund had thus far allowed the representatives of Chiang Kai-shek to retain their places. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China had sent a cable to the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund demanding the implementation of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

31. In reply, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund stated that, in accordance with his intention communicated by cable to the Government of China, he had prepared a memorandum for the Executive Board on relations between China and the Fund, as background for a discussion which, it was hoped, the Board would begin shortly.

32. At its 1884th meeting, the Council decided to take note with appreciation of the report of the International Monetary Fund.

Chapter II

REPORT OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

33. The Council considered item 4 of the agenda for its resumed fifty-fifth session (report of the Trade and Development Board) at its 1885th meeting.⁶ It had before it the report of the Board covering the period from 26 October 1972 to 11 September 1973.⁷

34. In introducing the report, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) referred to two important meetings that had taken place since he last addressed the Council during its fifty-fifth session:⁸ the ministerial meeting held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Tokyo from 12 to 14 September 1973, at which the multilateral trade negotiations had been successfully launched and the meetings at Nairobi of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and its Committee of Twenty and the Board of Governors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). UNCTAD had been following the question of reform of the international monetary system and had taken part in the meetings of the Committee of Twenty, where it had tried to help in laying the basis for a system that would take into account the interests of developing countries as well as others. Substantial progress had been made in that Committee on the need for a link between special drawing rights and additional development finance. UNCTAD had followed the preliminary stages of the GATT multilateral trade negotiations and arrangements were being made for the representation of UNCTAD, as appropriate, on the Trade Negotiations Committee created at the meeting in Tokyo. The interdependence of problems of trade, development finance and the international monetary system was well recognized and had been the subject of various decisions of the Conference and the Board.

35. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD referred to the constructive relations that had been evolving between the Council and UNCTAD. He was sure that the enlargement of the Council would lead to a greater rationalization of its work, thereby strengthening the role of UNCTAD in the field of trade and development on the basis of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX).

36. With regard to the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade undertaken by the Trade and Development Board, opinions had differed as to the progress or lack of progress in the implementation of the Strategy in the first two years of the Decade, but all agreed that new and greater efforts

needed to be made by the mid-term review in order to achieve the goals of the Decade. It was essential for countries that had not done so to incorporate the objectives and aims of the Strategy in their own policies, in accordance with their own circumstances and resources, with a view to achieving a more rational and just international division of labour.

37. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD mentioned, in particular, certain decisions taken by the Trade and Development Board at its thirteenth session (E/5423/Add.2). He referred to resolution 97 (XIII) on intensive intergovernmental consultations on commodities, regarding which certain Governments had entered reservations. He also referred to the work of a group of governmental experts on a new conceptual approach to financial flows and development assistance targets and to a recent decision to establish a group of governmental experts to examine the debt problems of developing countries; the forthcoming UNCTAD Conference at which a code of conduct for liner conferences would be drawn up; the progress so far achieved by the Working Group on the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States; the work of UNCTAD with respect to the least developed among the developing countries, land-locked developing countries and developing island countries; consideration of several aspects of the trade between countries with different economic and social systems and bilateral consultations held within the framework of a sessional committee of the Board; the initiation of important work on restrictive business practices in respect of multinational corporations; and the development of the operational activities of UNCTAD, in particular those relating to technical assistance and the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre.

38. Representatives who participated in the discussion commented on various aspects of the work of UNCTAD. They noted that the Board had attempted a comprehensive review and appraisal exercise, within its competence, of the International Development Strategy. While it had failed to submit an agreed sectoral evaluation, the text under consideration by the General Assembly owed much to the work of the Board.

39. Reference was made, *inter alia*, to the interdependence of problems of trade, development finance and the international monetary system; the need for a link between special drawing rights and development finance; the UNCTAD role in the forthcoming GATT multilateral trade negotiations; new practical measures to promote and improve trade in the developing countries and the transfer of technology to those countries; the adoption by the Board of agreed conclusions on trade relations among countries having different economic and social systems; the slow growth of the shipping industry in developing countries; the harmful effects of increases in freight rates to the trade of

⁶ E/SR.1885.

⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/9015/Rev.1)*. The report was before the Council under cover of a note by the Secretary-General (E/5423 and Add.1 and 2).

⁸ See E/SR.1870.

developing countries; special measures for the provision of additional capital and technical assistance to the least developed and land-locked developing countries; and the preparation of a charter of the economic rights and duties of States being carried out within UNCTAD.

40. The Council, at its 1885th meeting, decided to transmit the report of the Trade and Development Board⁷ to the General Assembly and to draw the attention of the Assembly to the comments on the subject in the Council.

Chapter III

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

41. The Economic Committee considered item 5 of the agenda for the Council's resumed fifty-fifth session (United Nations University) at its 671st meeting.⁹ It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (E/5424 and Add.1) and a draft resolution sponsored by Egypt, Ghana, Japan, Kenya, Peru and the Philippines (E/AC.6/L.542).

42. The representative of Japan, on behalf of the sponsors, introduced the draft resolution. In response to a suggestion put forward orally by the representative of Brazil, the sponsors of the draft resolution agreed to delete the words "with appreciation" from the operative paragraph.

43. The draft resolution, as revised, was adopted by the Committee without objection.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

44. The Council at its 1885th meeting¹⁰ considered the report of the Economic Committee (E/5431)¹¹ and adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution recommended by the Economic Committee.

45. In resolution 1829 (LV), the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General (E/5424 and Add.1) and transmitted the report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session for its consideration.

⁹ E/AC.6/SR.671.

¹⁰ E/SR.1885.

¹¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Fifty-fifth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 5.

Chapter IV

NATURAL RESOURCES

A. Permanent sovereignty over natural resources

46. The Economic Committee considered item 6 of the agenda for the Council's resumed fifty-fifth session (permanent sovereignty over natural resources) at its 671st, 672nd and 673rd meetings.¹² It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on permanent sovereignty over natural resources (E/5425 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

47. During the discussion, several representatives stressed the importance of the question, in particular in view of rapid economic development and the consolidation of economic and political independence. It was pointed out by some representatives that, although the report by the Secretary-General provided a solid basis for discussion, nevertheless it gave an impression of imbalance. It was regrettable that it lacked any proposals for practical ways of implementing the principle of sovereignty over natural resources. In addition, although the report had recognized the intimate linkage between the issue of permanent sovereignty and the activities of multinational corporations, it gave the impression, erroneously, that the role played by multinational corporations was favourable to the host country. A more critical evaluation of their role was required.

48. At the 673rd meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs agreed to bring the report to the attention of the study group on the impact of multinational corporations on the development process and on international relations (the study group established in accordance with Council resolution 1721 (LIII)). The Under-Secretary-General also supported the request made by representatives from centrally planned economies to move beyond the mere affirmation of the principle of permanent sovereignty over natural resources and to take concrete steps in the direction of its implementation. He pointed out, however, that such an effort on the part of the Secretariat would require more co-operation from States Members of the United Nations, in particular by making available detailed information on governmental measures currently being taken or contemplated in this field.

49. Several representatives, in particular those from Latin America, had reservations regarding the section of the report dealing with the natural resources of the sea. It was felt that although this question deserved special attention, nothing should be done that could prejudice the outcome of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

50. Several representatives stated that, owing to the delay in the circulation of the report and to lack of time, they were unable to participate in the discussion usefully.

51. At the 673rd meeting, on a proposal by the representative of Peru, the Committee decided, without objection, to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General (E/5425 and Corr.1 and Add.1) and transmit it to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

52. At its 1885th meeting,¹³ the Council adopted without a vote the draft decision recommended to it by the Economic Committee (E/5433)¹⁴ whereby it took note of the report of the Secretary-General (E/5425 and Corr.1 and Add.1) and transmitted it to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session.

B. Projection of natural resources reserves—supply and demand

53. The Economic and Social Council considered item 10 of the agenda for its resumed fifty-fifth session (projection of natural resources reserves—supply and demand) at its 1885th meeting.¹⁵ The Acting Director of the Resources and Transport Division made an oral report on the implementation of Council resolution 1761 B (LIV) and recalled that prior to the adoption of that resolution the Council, at the 1857th meeting¹⁶ of its fifty-fourth session, had been informed that the Secretary-General would submit for its consideration a programme of activities along with an indication of the resources required. Noting the comprehensive character of resolution 1761 B (LIV), he stated that the problem would be dealt with stage by stage, absorbing the additional work-load required, within existing budgetary provisions as far as possible. In the first stage, a survey would be made of important points where projections were carried out both inside and outside the United Nations system, and the methodologies used would be studied and assessed. On that basis, the Secretariat would prepare a report for the Committee on Natural Resources at its fourth session and would submit a fuller programme for an effective and economical discharge of the tasks assigned to it by resolution 1761 B (LIV). That initial exercise was also expected to show where there were major gaps in geographical and substantive coverage that would have to be filled in order to develop a reliable global picture. It was hoped that the programme as envisaged would, even at the initial stages of the implementation of the resolution, contribute to a better understanding of projection making in natural resources as well as of relevant technological developments and would thus facilitate the more rapid sharing of information throughout the world.

¹³ E/SR.1885.

¹⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Fifty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 6.*

¹⁵ E/SR.1885.

¹⁶ E/SR.1857.

¹² E/AC.6/SR.671-673.

54. In the ensuing discussion, there was agreement that the implementation of Council resolution 1761 B (LIV) should be initiated by comparing methodologies and that that should be done within the imposed budgetary restraints. Furthermore, it was stressed that in undertaking that work the Secretariat should rely as much as possible on the projections already undertaken by national and regional organizations. It was also pointed out that an assessment of technologies

geared to improving the availability of resources in developing countries should be given consideration. Finally, duplication of the work undertaken by other bodies dealing with the economic aspects of the subject should be avoided.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

55. At its 1885th meeting, the Council took note of the report of the Secretariat made at that meeting.

Chapter V

SPECIAL MEASURES IN FAVOUR OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

56. The Economic Committee considered item 7 of the agenda for the Council's resumed fifty-fifth session (special measures in favour of the least developed among the developing countries) at its 673rd meeting.¹⁷ It had before it a note by the Secretary-General on institutional arrangements for the implementation of special measures in favour of the least developed among the developing countries, including the need for the creation of a special fund for these countries (E/5416).

57. The Committee adopted, without objection, a draft decision orally proposed by the representative of the Sudan.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

58. The Council, at its 1885th meeting,¹⁸ considered the report of the Economic Committee (E/5434)¹⁹ and adopted, without a vote, the draft decision recommended by the Economic Committee by which it took note of the study by the Secretary-General (E/5416) and transmitted it to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session.

¹⁷ E/AC.6/SR.673.

¹⁸ E/SR.1885.

¹⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Fifty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 7.*

Chapter VI

WORLD FOOD SITUATION

A. Report of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme—recommendation for a pledging target for the period 1975-1976

59. The Economic Committee considered item 8 of the agenda for the Council's resumed fifty-fifth session (report of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme—recommendation for a pledging target for 1975-1976) at its 673rd meeting.²⁰ At its fifty-fifth session,²¹ the Council had taken note of the eleventh annual report of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme (E/5318) and had decided to refer to its resumed fifty-fifth session the question of the adoption of a draft resolution on the pledging target for the World Food Programme for the period 1975-1976, pending the adoption of an actual target figure by the Intergovernmental Committee at its twenty-fourth session. At the resumed fifty-fifth session, the Economic Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/L.1572) containing the text of a draft resolution proposed by the Intergovernmental Committee at its twenty-third session for adoption by the Economic and Social Council and the Council of FAO. Under the terms of the draft resolution the Economic and Social Council and the Council of FAO would submit a draft resolution, for adoption by the General Assembly and the Conference of FAO, containing a target figure for voluntary contributions.

60. The Committee decided, without objection, to recommend to the Council the adoption of the draft resolution contained in document E/L.1572.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

61. The Council, at its 1885th meeting,²² considered the report of the Economic Committee (E/5435)²³ and adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution recommended by the Economic Committee.

62. In resolution 1830 (LV) entitled "Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1975-1976", the Council (1) submitted for consideration and approval of the General Assembly the draft resolution set forth below:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the provisions of its resolution 2095 (XX) of 20 December 1965 under which the World Food Programme is to be reviewed before each pledging conference,

"Recalling the provisions of paragraph 4 of its resolution 2805 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971

whereby, subject to the review mentioned above, the next pledging conference should be convened, at the latest, early in 1974, at which time Governments should be invited to pledge contributions for 1975 and 1976 with a view to reaching such a target as may then be recommended by the General Assembly and by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

"Noting that the review of the Programme was undertaken by the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme at its twenty-third session and by the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-fifth session,

"Having considered Economic and Social Council resolution 1830 (LV) of 18 October 1973, as well as the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee,

"Recognizing the value of multilateral food aid as implemented by the World Food Programme since its inception and the necessity for continuing its action both as a form of capital investment and for meeting emergency food needs,

"1. Establishes for the two years 1975 and 1976 a target for voluntary contributions to the World Food Programme of \$440 million, of which not less than one third should be in cash and/or services, and expresses the hope that such resources will be augmented by substantial additional contributions from other sources in recognition of the prospective volume of sound project requests and the capacity of the Programme to operate at a higher level;

"2. Urges States Members of the United Nations and States members or associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to make every effort to ensure the full attainment of the target;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to convene a pledging conference for this purpose at United Nations Headquarters early in 1974;

"4. Decides that, subject to the review provided for in General Assembly resolution 2095 (XX), the next pledging conference at which Governments should be invited to pledge contributions for 1977 and 1978 with a view to reaching such a target as may then be recommended by the General Assembly and by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization, should be convened, at the latest, early in 1976."

(2) urged States Members of the United Nations and States members or associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to undertake the necessary preparation for the announcement of pledges at the Sixth Pledging Conference for the World Food Programme.

²⁰ E/AC.6/SR.673.

²¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/9003), paras. 334-338.*

²² E/SR.1885.

²³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Fifty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 8.*

B. Convocation of a world food conference under the auspices of the United Nations

63. The Economic Committee considered item 11 of the agenda for the Council's resumed fifty-fifth session (convocation of a world food conference under the auspices of the United Nations) at its 672nd and 674th meetings.²⁴ It had before it a draft resolution sponsored by the United States of America (E/AC.6/L.543).

64. At the 672nd meeting, the representative of the United States of America stated that his delegation had asked for the inscription of the item on the agenda of the resumed fifty-fifth session in view of the critical shortage of food supplies in the world which constituted a serious problem requiring urgent measures.

65. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America introduced draft resolution E/AC.6/L.543 by which the Council, in the preambular part, would have noted with concern the recent diminution of world food stocks as a result of both increased consumption and natural diseases; recognized that the current situation adversely affected economic security and called for appropriate international co-operation; recognized that a broadly based international conference would bring into one central focus the consideration of the problems involved; recalled that the Council had decided to give urgent consideration to this matter; and, in the operative part, would have recommended that the General Assembly consider favourably the convening in 1974 of a world food conference under United Nations auspices to consider ways to maintain adequate food supplies, and to harness the efforts of all nations to meet the hunger and malnutrition resulting from natural disasters; invited the Conference of FAO to give priority consideration at its seventeenth session to that question and to submit its advice to the Economic and Social Council at its resumed fifty-fifth session with respect to such a conference, and to this end request the Director-General of FAO to make such arrangements as were appropriate to ensure that request be brought to the urgent attention of the member States of FAO; and decided that as soon as it had received the communications requested above, the Council would transmit to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session its final recommendations in order to assist the General Assembly in reaching conclusions on item 105 of its agenda.

66. Two representatives, while, in principle, supporting the proposal of convening a world food conference, had reservations regarding the date proposed which fell in a year in which two major conferences were already scheduled, regarding the financial implications of convening the conference and regarding the meaning of the concept of economic security mentioned in the draft resolution. The concept of collective economic security, in the opinion of the two delegations, implied an essential need for efforts to transform the international situation in such a manner that all countries could develop in conditions of peace and security without being subject to foreign economic interference. It was suggested that the expense of convening the proposed conference and of implementing its recommendations could be met from the present expenditure of \$220,000 million on armaments. With that end in

view, renewed efforts had to be made to convene a disarmament conference as soon as possible, in accordance with whatever decision the General Assembly might take on the subject at its twenty-eighth session. Part of the financial resources needed to solve the food problem could be found in adopting the draft resolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which was before the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, recommending that the States permanent members of the Security Council reduce their military budgets by 10 per cent and utilize part of the funds thus saved for development aid (A/L.701).

67. Some representatives stated that the convening of a world food conference was timely and urgent in view of the serious shortage of world food supplies. It was essential for the world community to find more effective ways of ensuring that mankind had adequate food supplies in both the short and the long term.

68. At the 672nd meeting, the representative of Pakistan proposed oral amendments to draft resolution E/AC.6/L.543 whereby (a) the third paragraph of the preamble would be replaced by a paragraph in which the Council would state its belief that a world food conference would bring into focus the totality of the problems involved; (b) the fourth paragraphs of the preamble and operative paragraph 1 would be deleted; (c) operative paragraphs 2 and 3 would be reworded. According to the new text of paragraph 2 the Council would invite the Conference of FAO to give priority consideration at its seventeenth session to that question and to submit its advice to the Economic and Social Council at its resumed fifty-fifth session, and requested the Director-General of FAO to bring that request to the urgent attention of the member States of FAO. According to the rewording of paragraph 3, the Council would decide to transmit its recommendations to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session after having received the FAO report as requested in the previous paragraph.

69. At the same meeting, the representative of Poland proposed oral amendments by which, in the second paragraph of the preamble, the word "situation" would be replaced by the word "shortages", and the words "economic security" would be replaced by the words "the situation in certain countries".

70. At the same meeting, the representative of Algeria orally proposed the addition of two paragraphs to the preamble in which it would be stated that the Council considered that the international community must proceed to adopt with extreme urgency the measures necessitated by that situation, including the establishment of food stocks and the stabilization of the prices of food products, and recalled the recent decision of the Fourth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned States at Algiers on the need to convene an FAO/UNCTAD conference at the ministerial level to draw up a programme of international co-operation. The representative of Algeria also proposed the addition of a paragraph to the operative part of the draft resolution, according to which the Council would also invite the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session a report on the different aspects of the problem which fell within its competence, particularly those concerning trade in the products to be discussed at the conference.

71. At the 674th meeting, the Chairman announced that the draft resolution (E/AC.6/L.543) and the oral

²⁴ E/AC.6/SR.672, 674.

amendments thereto had been withdrawn. He also informed the Committee that, as a result of informal consultations by members of the Committee, a draft decision—which he read out—was submitted for its consideration. The Committee adopted the draft resolution, without a vote, and authorized its Chairman to make an oral report to the Council on its consideration of the item.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

72. The Council at its 1885th meeting,²⁵ after hearing the oral report of the Chairman of the Economic Committee on the Committee's consideration of the item, adopted the draft decision recommended by the Committee (E/5436)²⁶ without objection, bearing in mind the observations contained in the report of the Economic Committee. Two representatives expressed their reservations regarding the haste with which the Committee had considered the decision, not allowing sufficient time for consultations and violating the rules of procedure regarding the submission of estimates of financial implications. In implementing the decision, the provisions of the resolutions and decisions on the rationalization and improvement of the methods of work of the Council and the General Assembly should be borne in mind.

73. In the decision adopted, the Council decided to (1) recommend to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session the convening of a world food conference in 1974 under the auspices of the United Nations; (2) invite the Secretary-General, taking into account the remarks of the competent organizations of the United Nations system, to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the convening of the world food conference; and (3) invite the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to consider that question as a matter of priority and to submit their reports to the Economic and Social Council.

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* *

74. The Council resumed its consideration of the item at its 1886th meeting.²⁷ It had before it its report on the first part of its deliberations on the item (A/9003/Add.1 (Part VI)), two notes by the Secretary-General (E/5441 and E/5442) and a report of the Secretary-General (E/5443). It also had before it a revised draft resolution sponsored by Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, New Zealand, the Niger, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, the Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zaire (E/L.1574/Rev.1), and a statement of the administrative and financial implications of the revised draft resolution (E/L.1574/Rev.1/Add.1).

75. The representative of the United States of America introduced, on behalf of the sponsors, revised

draft resolution E/L.1574/Rev.1 which, he stated, was the result of extensive consultations among interested delegations and, therefore, he hoped it would be adopted by consensus. He orally revised the fourth paragraph of the preamble of the revised draft resolution so that it would read:

"Also noting with appreciation the views of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, expressed on 20 November 1973 at the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,".

He furthermore revised the seventh paragraph of the preamble by inserting the words "production and" before the word "supplies".

76. In the draft resolution recommended for adoption by the General Assembly contained in document E/L.1574/Rev.1, the representative of the United States revised the third paragraph of the preamble by replacing the word "of" by the word "in"; and operative paragraph 1 by inserting the word "about" before the words "two weeks".

77. The representative of Italy communicated to the Council his Government's invitation for holding the Conference at Rome.

78. Many representatives expressed appreciation of the spirit of co-operation and conciliation which had led to the submission of a single draft resolution sponsored by a great number of delegations.

79. The view was also expressed that the world food problem was of concern not only to the developing countries but to all countries. Furthermore, the food problem did not fall exclusively within the agricultural sector but had assumed such large proportions that it affected other areas of international co-operation, particularly in the area of trade. The hope was expressed that both UNCTAD and FAO had special roles to play in the preparations for the Conference and in the Conference itself.

80. The representative of Pakistan stated that, after consultations with the sponsors of the revised draft resolution, it was agreed that in the third paragraph to the preamble of the draft resolution to be submitted to the General Assembly, the original text should be maintained by keeping the word "of" instead of replacing it by the word "in" as announced by the representative of the United States of America (see paragraph 76 above).

31. The representative of Poland orally proposed that the words "and international economic co-operation" be added at the end of the first paragraph of the preamble of the draft resolution to be submitted to the General Assembly.

82. The draft resolution (E/L.1574/Rev.1), as orally revised by the representatives of the United States, Pakistan and Poland, was adopted by the Council without a vote.

83. In resolution 1831 (LV) entitled "World Food Conference", the Council (1) decided, subject to the adoption by the General Assembly of the draft resolution set forth below, to establish an intergovernmental preparatory committee, open to all States Members of the United Nations, which should report to the Economic and Social Council on the progress of its work; (2) recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

²⁵ E/SR.1885.

²⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Fifty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 11.*

²⁷ E/SR.1886.

"The General Assembly,

"Recognizing that the principal task of a world food conference, on which the greatest effort should be concentrated, consists in developing ways and means whereby the international community as a whole could take specific action to resolve the world food problem within the broader context of development and international economic co-operation,

"Believing that a world food conference would provide members with a forum in which to bring about the improvement of world food security and emergency assistance,

"Recognizing that the conference should, in the first instance, place emphasis on additional measures for increasing the food production, consumption and trade of developing countries,

"Recalling that the Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, at their Fourth Conference held at Algiers from 5 to 9 September 1973, called for the convening, as a matter of urgency, of a conference on food problems at the ministerial level, sponsored jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and further recalling the proposal of the United States of America for the convocation of a world food conference under the auspices of the United Nations,²⁸

"1. Decides to convene a World Food Conference under the auspices of the United Nations for about two weeks in November 1974, at Rome;

²⁸ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 2124th meeting.

"2. Recommends that this Conference be an inter-governmental conference at the ministerial level;

"3. Entrusts the Economic and Social Council with over-all responsibility for the Conference;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General, after consultation with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to appoint as soon as possible a Secretary-General of the Conference, and to set up a small Conference secretariat drawing particularly upon the expertise and competence of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

"5. Recommends that, in preparing for the Conference, proper account be taken of the recommendations of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its seventeenth session and of the recommendations made by legislative bodies of other organizations in the United Nations system concerning the goals and objectives of the Conference, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its decision of 18 October 1973;

"6. Invites all the competent organizations of the United Nations system to collaborate closely in the organization of the World Food Conference;

"7. Accepts with appreciation the invitation of the Italian Government to act as host to the Conference at Rome."

Chapter VII

AID TO THE SUDANO-SAHELIAN POPULATIONS THREATENED WITH FAMINE

84. The Economic Committee considered item 9 of the agenda for the Council's resumed fifty-fifth session (aid to the Sudano-Sahelian populations threatened with famine) at its 672nd meeting.²⁹ It had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/9178).

85. The representative of France stated that, as a result of consultations among delegations, particularly those from the areas directly affected, his delegation would agree to a draft decision taking note of the Secretary-General's study, provided that the Secretary-General would in due time submit to the Council a report on the Sudano-Sahelian situation as requested in General Assembly resolution 3054 (XXVIII). The Committee adopted the draft decision without objection.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

86. The Council at its 1885th meeting³⁰ considered the report of the Economic Committee (E/5432)³¹ and adopted, without a vote, the draft decision recommended by the Economic Committee by which it took note of the note by the Secretary-General (A/9178).

²⁹ E/AC.6/SR.672.

³⁰ E/SR.1885.

³¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Fifty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 9.*

Chapter VIII

ELECTIONS

87. At its resumed fifty-fifth session the Council held elections to fill vacancies in a functional commission, some of its standing committees and other related bodies.

88. At its 1885th meeting,³² on 18 October 1973, the Council elected (a) Peru to the Commission on Human Rights for a term of office of three years beginning 1 January 1974; (b) the Federal Republic of Germany to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development for a term of office of three years beginning 1 January 1974; (c) the Federal Republic of Germany to the Committee on Review and Appraisal for a term of office of four years beginning 1 January 1974; (d) the Federal Republic of Germany to the Committee on Natural Resources for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring 31 December 1976.

89. At the same meeting, the Council postponed to its organizational session for 1974 the election of (a) two members from African States and one member from Western European and other States, for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring 31 December 1976; and five members from African States and one member from Western European and other States, for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring 31 December 1975, to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development; (b) two members from African States and four members from Asian States, for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring 31 December 1977, to the Committee on Review and Appraisal; (c) one member from African States, for a term of office of three years, effective as of the date of election and expiring 31 December 1976, to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination; (d) the confirmation of the members of the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East.

³² E/SR.1885.

Chapter IX

ORGANIZATION OF THE RESUMED FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION

90. The Council held its resumed fifty-fifth session on 15, 16 and 18 October and 11 December 1973 at United Nations Headquarters.

91. Following the entry into force of the amendment to Article 61 of the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly, at its 2152nd meeting on 12 October 1973, decided, as an interim arrangement which would permit the Council to hold its resumed fifty-fifth session with a full complement of 54 members, that the additional 27 members of the sessional committees of the Council already elected by the Council for the year 1973 should be empowered by the General Assembly to serve on the Council itself for a term of office beginning 12 October and ending 31 December 1973 (see annex II to the present report).

92. At its 1881st meeting, on 15 October 1973,³³ on the proposal of the representative of the United States of America, the Council decided to include in its agenda an item entitled "Convocation of a world food conference under the auspices of the United Nations". The agenda adopted by the Council for its resumed fifty-fifth session is reproduced in annex I to the present report.

³³ E/SR.1881.

ANNEXES

Annex I

AGENDA FOR THE SECOND SPECIAL SESSION AND THE RESUMED FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION

AGENDA FOR THE SECOND SPECIAL SESSION^a

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Measures to be taken following the natural disaster in Pakistan.

AGENDA FOR THE RESUMED FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION^b

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Reports of the World Bank Group.
3. Report of the International Monetary Fund.
4. Report of the Trade and Development Board.
5. United Nations University.
6. Permanent sovereignty over natural resources.
7. Special measures in favour of the least developed among the developing countries.
8. Report of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme—recommendation for a pledging target for the period 1975-1976.
9. Aid to the Sudano-Sahelian populations threatened with famine.
10. Projections of natural resources reserves—supply and demand.
11. Convocation of a world food conference under the auspices of the United Nations.
12. Elections:
 - (a) Commission on Human Rights;
 - (b) Committee on Science and Technology for Development;
 - (c) Committee on Review and Appraisal;
 - (d) Committee on Natural Resources;
 - (e) Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;
 - (f) Working Group on the preparation of a new draft instrument or instruments of international law to eliminate discrimination against women, established under resolution 5 (XXIV) of the Commission on the Status of Women;
 - (g) Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East.

^a As adopted by the Council at its 1880th meeting, held on 17 September 1973.

^b As adopted by the Council at its 1881st meeting, held on 15 October 1973.

Annex II

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY AND RELATED BODIES

Addendum

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL FROM 12 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 1973*

	<i>Term of office expires 31 December</i>
Algeria	1975
Argentina*	1973
Barbados*	1973
Belgium*	1973
Bolivia	1974
Brazil	1975
Burundi	1974
Canada*	1973
Chile	1974
China	1974
Colombia*	1973
Denmark*	1973
Egypt*	1973
Finland	1974
France	1975
Ghana*	1973
Guinea*	1973
Haiti	1973
Hungary	1973
India*	1973
Indonesia*	1973
Italy*	1973
Japan	1974
Kenya*	1973
Lebanon	1973
Madagascar	1973
Malaysia	1973
Mali	1975
Mongolia	1975
Netherlands	1975
New Zealand	1973
Niger	1973
Pakistan*	1973
Peru*	1973
Philippines*	1973
Poland	1974
Romania*	1973
Senegal*	1973
Spain	1975
Sri Lanka*	1973
Sudan*	1973
Sweden*	1973
Trinidad and Tobago	1975
Tunisia*	1973
Turkey*	1973
Uganda	1975
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic*	1973
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1974

* Following the entry into force of the amendment to Article 61 of the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly, at its 2152nd meeting on 12 October 1973, decided, as an interim arrangement which would permit the Council to hold its resumed fifty-fifth session with a full complement of 54 members, that the additional 27 members of the sessional committees of the Council already elected by the Council for the year 1973 should be empowered by the General Assembly to serve on the Council itself for a term of office beginning 12 October and ending 31 December 1973. The States whose names are indicated by an asterisk were those that were so empowered.

*Term of office
expires
31 December*

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1974
United States of America	1973
Venezuela*	1973
Yemen*	1973
Yugoslavia*	1973
Zaire	1973

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

<i>Membership 1973</i>	<i>Membership 1974</i>	<i>Term of office expires 31 December</i>
Algeria	Algeria	1976
Argentina	Argentina	1974
Australia	Australia	1974
Austria	Austria	1976
Bolivia	Bolivia	1976
Brazil	Brazil	1976
Canada	Canada	1976
Central African Republic	Central African Republic	1974
Chile	Chile	1976
Egypt	Egypt	1974
France	France	1974
Gabon	Gabon	1974
Ghana	Germany, Federal Republic of	1976
Greece	Ghana	1976
Guatemala	Greece	1974
Guinea	Guatemala	1976
Hungary	Guinea	1974
India	Hungary	1974
Indonesia	Iceland	1974
Iran	India	1976
Iraq	Indonesia	1974
Italy	Iran	1974
Jamaica	Iraq	1974
Japan	Italy	1974
Kenya	Jamaica	1976
Kuwait	Japan	1976
Libyan Arab Republic	Kenya	1974
Malawi	Kuwait	1974
Malaysia	Libyan Arab Republic	1976
Mali	Malawi	1976
Netherlands	Malaysia	1976
Norway	Mali	1976
Pakistan	Netherlands	1974
Peru	Norway	1974
Philippines	Pakistan	1974
Poland	Peru	1976
Romania	Philippines	1976
Rwanda	Poland	1974
Sri Lanka	Romania	1976
Sudan	Rwanda	1976
Sweden	Sri Lanka	1974
Syrian Arab Republic	Sudan	1974
Trinidad and Tobago	Sweden	1974
Turkey	Syrian Arab Republic	1976
Uganda	Trinidad and Tobago	1974
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	Turkey	1974
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Uganda	1976
	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	1974

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES (continued)

Membership 1973	Membership 1974	Term of office expires 31 December
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Union of Soviet Social- ist Republics	1976
Uruguay	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1976
Venezuela	Uruguay	1976
Yugoslavia	Venezuela	1976
Zaire	Yugoslavia	1974
	Zaire	1976

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Membership 1973	Membership 1974 ^a	Term of office expires 31 December
Algeria	Argentina	1976
Argentina	Belgium	1976
Australia	Brazil	1974
Austria	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	1974
Belgium	Canada	1975
Brazil	Chile	1976
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Colombia	1975
Canada	Czechoslovakia	1974
Chile	Democratic Yemen	1975
Colombia	Egypt	1974
Czechoslovakia	France	1974
Democratic Yemen	Germany, Federal Republic of	1976
Egypt	Guatemala	1974
France	India	1974
Ghana	Indonesia	1974
Guatemala	Iran	1975
India	Italy	1974
Indonesia	Jamaica	1976
Iran	Japan	1976
Italy	Jordan	1975
Jamaica	Kenya	1974
Japan	Madagascar	1976
Jordan	Mongolia	1975
Kenya	Netherlands	1975
Malawi	New Zealand	1975
Mexico	Pakistan	1974
Mongolia	Peru	1974
Netherlands	Philippines	1975
New Zealand	Poland	1974
Pakistan	Romania	1974
Peru	Sierra Leone	1976
Philippines	Spain	1975
Poland	Sri Lanka	1975
Romania	Sweden	1976
Senegal	Syrian Arab Republic	1975
Spain	Tunisia	1974
Sri Lanka	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1976
Sudan	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1974
Sweden	United Republic of Tan- zania	1976
Syrian Arab Republic	United States of America	1974
Tunisia	Uruguay	1974
Uganda		
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		

^a At its 1885th meeting, on 18 October 1973, the Council postponed to its organizational session in January 1974 the election of:

- Two members from African States and one member from Western European and other States, for a term of office of three years beginning 1 January 1974;
- Five members from African States and one member from Western European and other States, for a term of office effective as of the date of election and expiring 31 December 1975.

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Membership 1973	Membership 1974 ^a	Term of office expires 31 December
United States of America	Venezuela	1976
Uruguay	Yugoslavia	1976
Venezuela	Zaire	1976
Yugoslavia		

COMMITTEE ON REVIEW AND APPRAISAL

Membership 1973	Membership 1974 and 1975 ^b	Term of office expires 31 December
Argentina	Argentina	1975
Austria	Austria	1977
Belgium	Belgium	1977
Bolivia	Bolivia	1977
Brazil	Brazil	1975
Cameroon	Canada	1977
Canada	Chile	1975
Chile	Colombia	1977
Colombia	Czechoslovakia	1975
Czechoslovakia	Egypt	1977
Democratic Yemen	France	1977
Egypt	Germany, Federal Republic of	1977
France	Ghana	1975
Ghana	Guatemala	1977
Greece	Honduras	1977
Guatemala	Hungary	1975
Honduras	India	1975
Hungary	Indonesia	1975
India	Italy	1975
Indonesia	Japan	1975
Iraq	Madagascar	1977
Italy	Malaysia	1977
Japan	Mauritania	1975
Kenya	Mexico	1975
Lebanon	Netherlands	1977
Malaysia	Norway	1975
Mauritania	Pakistan	1975
Mexico	Peru	1975
Netherlands	Philippines	1975
Nigeria	Poland	1975
Norway	Senegal	1975
Pakistan	Spain	1975
Peru	Sri Lanka	1975
Philippines	Sweden	1975
Poland	Tunisia	1975
Senegal	Turkey	1975
Spain	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	1975
Sri Lanka	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1975
Sweden	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1977
Tunisia	United States of America	1975
Turkey	Venezuela	1977
Uganda	Yugoslavia	1975
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	Zaire	1977
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		
Venezuela		
Yemen		
Yugoslavia		

^b At its 1885th meeting, on 18 October 1973, the Council postponed to its organizational session in January 1974 the election of two members from African States and four members from Asian States for a term of office of four years beginning 1 January 1974. At its 1877th meeting, on 8 August 1973, it decided to cancel the election of five members from African States for a term of office expiring 31 December 1973.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

<i>Membership 1973</i>	<i>Membership 1974</i>	<i>Term of office expires 31 December</i>	<i>Membership 1973</i>	<i>Membership 1974</i>	<i>Term of office expires 31 December</i>
Austria	Austria	1976	Nigeria	Norway	1974
Bulgaria	Bulgaria	1975	Norway	Pakistan	1976
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	1974	Pakistan	Panama	1976
Chile	Chile	1974	Philippines	Peru	1976
Dominican Republic	Cyprus	1976	Romania	Romania	1974
Ecuador	Dominican Republic	1975	Senegal	Senegal	1974
Egypt	Ecuador	1974	Tunisia	Sierra Leone	1976
France	Egypt	1974	Turkey	Tunisia	1975
Ghana	France	1976	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Turkey	1975
India	Ghana	1975	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1976
Iran	India	1976	United Republic of Tanzania	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1975
Iraq	Iran	1974	United States of America	United Republic of Tanzania	1976
Italy	Iraq	1975	Venezuela	United States of America	1974
Lebanon	Italy	1974	Zaire	Zaire	1975
Mauritius	Lebanon	1976			
Mexico	Netherlands	1975			
Netherlands	Nicaragua	1975			
Nicaragua	Nigeria	1974			

UNITED NATIONS/FAO INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

Membership in 1973

<i>Members elected by the Economic and Social Council</i>	<i>Term of office expires 31 December</i>	<i>Members elected by by the Council of FAO</i>	<i>Term of office expires 31 December</i>
Australia	1973	Argentina	1975
Denmark	1974	Canada	1974
Hungary	1974	France	1973
Japan	1975	Germany, Federal Republic of	1973
Kenya	1973	India	1974
Norway	1975	Indonesia	1975
Pakistan	1975	Netherlands	1975
Peru	1973	New Zealand	1973
Sudan	1975	Trinidad and Tobago	1974
Togo	1974	Tunisia	1975
Turkey	1974	United States of America	1974
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1973	Uruguay	1973

Membership in 1974

<i>Members elected by the Economic and Social Council</i>	<i>Term of office expires 31 December</i>	<i>Member elected by by the Council of FAO</i>	<i>Term of office expires 31 December</i>
Chile	1976	Argentina	1975
Denmark	1974	Canada	1974
Hungary	1974	France ^c	1976
Ireland	1976	Germany, Federal Republic of ^c	1976
Japan	1975	India	1974
Malawi	1976	Indonesia	1975
Norway	1975	Netherlands	1975
Pakistan	1975	Senegal ^c	1976
Sudan	1975	Switzerland ^c	1976
Togo	1974	Trinidad and Tobago	1974
Turkey	1974	Tunisia	1975
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1976	United States of America	1974

^c Elected by the Council of FAO at its sixty-first session, in November 1973.

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