

natural resources. In his delegation's view, strenuous endeavours should be made in the direction of food self-sufficiency and the development of employment in agriculture-associated industries.

62. The search for a solution to the complex and fundamental problem of the widening gap between the rich and poor was a tortuous one. The efforts being made to evolve a more equitable global society required that the international community should utilize the machinery available to maximum advantage. Some progress had been achieved in efforts to make the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system more efficient. However, much more remained to be done. The transfer of "political" matters to the Economic and Social Council and, more importantly, to the General Assembly for consideration would give the subsidiary and associated organs greater scope for concentrating on their fields of specialization. Consideration should also be given to the problem of the finances of the United Nations, which were at present

limiting the capacity of the system in the development, peace-keeping and other fields.

63. It was important to make the most of the opportunities provided by the economic recovery which now seemed to be under way. In drawing upon the results of the fourth session of UNCTAD, the Paris Conference on International Economic Co-operation and the multilateral trade negotiations, it would be necessary to consider how the benefits of the growth in the world's economy might be spread more equitably among and within nations. The International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade had identified goals for certain key sectors of the economies of developing countries. In contemplating the revision of that strategy, members must strive for the realization of a global society based upon equity, justice and universal respect for human rights.

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.

2010th meeting

Friday, 2 July 1976, at 11 a.m.

President: Mr. S. AKÉ (Ivory Coast)

E/SR.2010

In the absence of the President, Mr. R. Rivas (Colombia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 3

General discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments (continued) (E/5790 and Add.1, E/5806, E/5808, E/5823, E/5825/Rev.1, E/5827, E/5834)

1. Mr. SRIVASTAVA (Secretary-General of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization) recalled that when IMCO had come into being in 1959 it had been composed largely of countries which had a substantial interest in international shipping operations. By bringing together their expertise, those countries had contributed much to improving maritime safety in its widest sense: safety of seafarers, safety of ships and safety of cargoes. IMCO's membership had subsequently increased, more especially as during the past few years the developing countries had become keenly aware of the role maritime transport could play in the growth of their economies. Of IMCO's present 97 member States, considerably more than two-thirds were developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Moreover, during the previous two years, the Convention establishing IMCO had been amended to increase the membership of its Council from 18 to 24, the additional members to be drawn largely from the developing world. The membership of the Maritime Safety Committee, which was the highest technical body of the Organization, would become open to all. It should be noted that that change in the structure of the Organization had

been decided upon unanimously by the IMCO Assembly, namely, by both developed and developing countries.

2. After referring to the objectives of IMCO, which was the only specialized agency whose functions related exclusively to maritime matters, he stressed the importance of maritime safety. Currently, at any given time, over 2 million seafarers were serving on board 60,000 vessels which plied the oceans of the world. Furthermore, there was the dangerous nature of many types of cargo. IMCO's Conventions aimed at ensuring the world-wide implementation of rigorous safety standards relating to the construction and equipment of vessels, the loading of cargoes and navigation proper, which had to conform to internationally accepted regulations for the preventing of collisions. As shipping technology was making rapid progress, there was need for a continuous review of those safety requirements. IMCO was no longer content with merely laying down standards or adopting regulations; its intergovernmental bodies had recently adopted a new scheme providing for the inspection of vessels in port to eliminate the hazard which sub-standard vessels could represent.

3. Turning to the establishment of an international maritime satellite system, he said that the Diplomatic Conference convened for the purpose would probably adopt the necessary international instruments during its final session at the beginning of September 1976.

4. IMCO was also deeply conscious of the perils of marine pollution from ships and was giving attention to various aspects of that problem. The International Convention of

1973 aimed at preventing the pollution of sea water by oil, noxious chemical substances and other matters discharged by ships. IMCO was trying to secure the co-operation of all Governments to obtain worldwide observance of its requirements in that field. IMCO's adviser on marine pollution problems visited member countries from time to time to help them develop national machinery for dealing with pollution problems. In that connexion, IMCO supported co-operation in every possible way. The Organization had also set up an Intergovernmental Marine Environment Protection Committee which had drawn up a comprehensive plan of action and which was supervising IMCO's activities relating to the prevention of marine pollution from ships and to combating such pollution. IMCO's responsibilities had recently been extended further in that field, since it had been asked to perform the necessary administrative and secretariat functions connected with the implementation of the London Convention (1972) on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and other Matter. As a matter of principle, IMCO considered that the best way of dealing with pollution from ships was to prevent it from the outset. If ships were built and loaded in accordance with strict safety standards and if the crews were properly trained, accidents could be avoided to the greatest extent possible. As problems of marine safety and pollution from ships were clearly closely linked, IMCO tried to deal with them together.

5. As an Organization with years of experience and unrivalled access to various sources of expertise in its field, IMCO could contribute to the global process of development by helping developing countries that wished to establish national merchant marines and the necessary modern shore maritime administrations. The developing countries, in fact, needed to develop their national merchant marines in order to promote their maritime trade and to help their balance of payments by saving the foreign exchange that they currently spent on non-national shipping services. The developing countries suffered from a number of handicaps, the most serious of which was the extreme shortage of specialists and trained personnel in the maritime transport sector. Training facilities were sadly lacking in many developing countries, and when they were established they would have to conform to international standards. IMCO was urging developing countries to give the highest priority to the establishment of appropriate training institutions on a national or regional level and had been associated with such projects in several regions of the third world. The last Ministerial Conference of West African countries, held at Douala in 1976, had adopted a resolution providing for the establishment of two regional maritime academies in West Africa, one at Abidjan for the French-speaking countries and the other at Accra for the English-speaking countries. IMCO fully supported the plans that had been drawn up and the site selected for the Abidjan academy. Assistance would be required from the United Nations system only in respect of training equipment and the services of experts who would be needed initially to provide training. IMCO would soon submit appropriate proposals for financial support to UNDP.

6. He wished to take the opportunity to thank UNDP for the help it gave to IMCO's activities in the field, specially in regard to maritime training. Thanks to UNDP, it had been

possible for IMCO to appoint its first regional maritime adviser in Africa in 1974. IMCO was also active among the developing countries in Latin America, a subject to which he would revert later on.

7. Since the seventh special session of the General Assembly, IMCO had been studying ways in which it could contribute as effectively as possible to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII), which requested the United Nations and the specialized agencies to set in motion the machinery for implementing the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order. IMCO had been represented at the first session of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System and also on the interagency task force on the implementation of the decisions of the seventh special session of the General Assembly. On that occasion IMCO had underlined the importance of the full utilization of the resources and expertise of the specialized agencies not only in standard-setting, but also in standards implementation. That approach was particularly relevant in the shipping and maritime areas where available resources and expertise were in rather short supply and where IMCO considered that it was able to provide guidance and assistance.

8. In conclusion, he drew attention to the fact that IMCO co-operated effectively with other organizations, particularly with the ILO, UNCTAD and UNEP under whose auspices the Barcelona Conference on the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea, prepared in collaboration with IMCO, had been organized. IMCO had also been entrusted with responsibility for the establishment of the regional oil-combating centre in Malta.

9. Mr. SHIOZAKI (Japan) expressed the hope that the spirit of dialogue and international co-operation which had marked the seventh special session of the General Assembly and, subsequently, the fourth session of UNCTAD at Nairobi would also guide the deliberations of the sixty-first session of the Council. It was encouraging to see that the economic situation was improving, and the noticeable recovery in the world economy was creating a climate favourable to the expansion of international co-operation. The world-wide recession of recent years, which had greatly slowed down the implementation of development programmes, had shown clearly that all countries were closely independent and, consequently, that international co-operation was needed to complement the efforts of the developing countries.

10. The significant role played by commodities in development was well known. Japan appreciated the need to stabilize markets and also to increase the export earnings of the developing countries but, as a major importer of commodities, it considered that, when seeking viable solutions, the interests of the commodity-importing countries, many of which were developing countries, should be taken fully into account. Japan also placed great hopes in the negotiations which would take place within UNCTAD on the Integrated Programme for commodities.

11. Despite some signs of a recovery in the economic activity of the developing countries as a whole, the

widening gap between the levels of development of those countries was an issue of continuing concern, and domestic and international efforts should be concentrated increasingly on assisting the poorest segments of their populations. Progress in the area of agricultural production had also been slow, and if the success of the International Development Strategy was to be ensured by the end of the Second United Nations Development Decade, increased efforts were required in that sector, particularly in the developing countries. In that context, Japan intended to contribute \$52 million to the new IFAD.

12. Recognizing the importance of development aid, Japan had substantially expanded the volume of its assistance. Since 1971, Japan's official development assistance had increased at an annual rate of approximately 30 per cent, and it was determined to attain the target of 0.7 per cent of the GNP set in the International Development Strategy at the earliest possible date. At the same time, Japan considered that an effort should be made to use the resources made available to the developing countries as effectively as possible, and that special attention should be given to the pressing needs of the least developed among them.

13. The Council would also be required to consider the International Development Strategy. Most of the targets had been achieved, thanks mainly to the efforts of the developing countries themselves. For its part, Japan would continue its efforts in that direction and, in particular, towards the attainment of the target of 4 per cent for agricultural production. It considered that the existing targets should not be revised too hastily, since there was still much to be done before the end of the Decade to make the Strategy a success.

14. His delegation felt that the reform of the United Nations system should be geared to the following three objectives: to enhance the effectiveness of decisions, to improve the over-all co-ordination of United Nations activities, and to respond more effectively to the needs of the developing countries. With regard to regional co-operation, it was important to delegate more administrative and decision-making powers to the regional commissions, to enable them to take initiatives so that regional needs might be taken into consideration in the global activities of the United Nations. On their side, the regional commissions should improve their fact-finding capabilities, in order to be able to expand their operational activities.

15. The issue of transnational corporations, which was also on the agenda, was giving rise to growing concern. However, it should be recognized that those corporations had contributed to the economic development of the developing countries by, for instance, creating jobs and transferring technology. His delegation would support the initiative which had been taken to explore ways and means of regulating the activities of transnational corporations and bringing their corrupt practices to an end, and felt it would be a good idea to establish a special preparatory committee of the Council for that purpose.

16. Mr. NESTERENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the convening of the first part of the Council's session at Abidjan attested to the growing role

which Africa wished to play in international affairs and its efforts, after freeing itself from the colonial yoke, to achieve genuine independence. There was no doubt that the African countries would still have many obstacles to overcome on that road, and President Houphouët-Boigny had very rightly noted that fact in a statement (2006th meeting) to which his delegation had listened with particular interest because it had specified the tasks to which the Council should address itself. His delegation had also noted that President Houphouët-Boigny had welcomed the countries which, although they had not established relations with Ivory Coast, were nevertheless represented at Abidjan in their capacity as members of the Council.

17. The Council's agenda contained a whole range of issues (establishment of a New International Economic Order, implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, the role of transnational corporations, for instance) which should be studied as a matter of priority since they had a profound impact on international relations, and their solution required a common effort by all States and effective action by the United Nations. The position of the USSR on those issues was based on the analysis of international developments which had been made at the twenty-fifth Congress of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. At that Congress, the general outlines of its foreign relations had also been laid down, namely, to work for peace and security and to bring the arms race to an end. In that spirit, it was planned to do everything possible to normalize international relations even further and to encourage détente among all States, whatever their political system and their level of economic development. It was of primary importance to work for peace and security because that was the only reasonable policy. However, there were those who would like the Soviet Union to abandon that policy and its unswerving attitude on occasion still gave rise to a certain irritation. However, irritation was no substitute for wisdom. In the final analysis, only a policy which would save the world from nuclear war could be accepted by all. Fortified by that conviction, the USSR noted with satisfaction that, since the Council's fifty-ninth session, the international political climate had improved and the trend towards détente and co-operation had become more marked. Those successes were undoubtedly due to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, which had achieved very considerable progress on the road to peaceful co-existence between States with different economic and social systems. It was to be hoped that the principles laid down at Helsinki would become a hard and fast rule in daily international affairs for all States, and not only for those which had participated in the Conference. In order to give tangible expression to its desire for détente, the USSR had proposed several meetings (on the environment, energy, etc.) which, in its opinion, could make a useful contribution to the solution of certain fundamental problems confronted by mankind as a whole. Moreover, since the USSR also considered that it was essential for military détente to accompany political détente, it had proposed a ban on new nuclear weapons and a complete halt of nuclear tests. The treaty it had signed on 28 May 1976 with the United States of America on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes was a new and welcome step towards the total prohibition of nuclear tests.

18. On that firm basis, it was becoming possible to contemplate the extension of international economic co-operation in the interests of all States, and an in-depth consideration of the items on the Council's agenda. The common denominator of all those issues was the need to restructure international economic relations in such a way that, in the future, they were given democratic foundations and that all the benefits of the international division of labour might be exploited. Those new democratic foundations would lighten the heavy burden imposed on the workers of all countries by an unprecedented crisis. The crisis was persisting and was accompanied by a steady drop in production and foreign trade, as well as by a steady rise in prices and unemployment. It was persisting because the world had still not been able to find a remedy for dangerous recurring convulsions in the monetary and financial system and in the situation as regards oil and production.

19. An end must definitely be made to the inflated military budgets of the Western European States since that continued militarization was a cause of deep-rooted disorders; an end must also be made of the anarchy caused by inflation and by its harmful consequences. However, what was most deplorable were the negative effects of the crisis on the developing countries all of whose difficulties were attributable to the rules of the capitalist market-economy system. It was estimated that, between 1973 and 1975, the developing countries had lost more than \$20 billion in export earnings. The representatives of all developing countries were therefore right to draw attention to a situation which seemed to be particularly unfair to them, particularly in Africa where 28 of the 45 States in the world most seriously affected by the crisis were situated. Between 1971 and 1975, the growth rate in the developing countries had declined steadily and stood at 4 per cent, whereas the International Development Strategy had set a minimal target of 6 per cent. As the United Nations itself recognized in the *World Economic Survey, 1975* it did not seem possible to prevent the gap between rich and poor countries from widening.

20. The growing trend among the developing countries towards collective action to overthrow the old international order which kept them in a state of dependence and prevented them from advancing in a normal way was therefore not surprising. Nor was it surprising that they objected increasingly to the dictates of the forces of imperialism, that they refused to be invariably on the losing side in the price war and to allow the monopolies to pillage their natural wealth, that they wished to loosen the hold of the forces of colonialism and neo-colonialism and to combat economic backwardness with determination.

21. In that historic struggle, the developing countries must mobilize all their resources, but they also needed external assistance. The Soviet Union, which, as a matter of principle, had always struggled against discrimination and against artificial barriers to international trade offered them its unswerving support. In 1964, it had been one of the first countries to bring about the victory of the principles on which UNCTAD had been founded. It also subscribed unreservedly to the decisions adopted by the General

Assembly at its sixth and seventh special sessions and to the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States.

22. Faithful to that policy from which it had never deviated, and convinced, as the twenty-fifth Congress of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union had reaffirmed, that a continuing struggle was necessary to overcome all the barriers to international trade, the Soviet Union postulated the principle that the interests of the socialist countries and those of the developing countries, far from being in conflict with each other, were in fact very similar. It considered that international economic relationships, in their present form, could not advance the interests of the peoples of the developed capitalist countries, who were experiencing many difficulties due to economic errors and who had nothing to gain from a policy of *diktat* and exploitation of the developing countries. The socialist countries had succeeded in establishing with the developing countries a new kind of relationship in conformity with the principles of equal rights and mutual advantage.

23. Between 1970 and 1975, the Soviet Union had more than doubled the volume of its trade with the developing countries, to which it supplied a considerable quantity of products essential for the creation of an independent economy and transferred advanced technology (the factories and installations it constructed becoming the property of those countries), and for which it trained hundreds of thousands of indigenous technicians. At the Fourth Session of UNCTAD, held recently at Nairobi, his delegation had submitted a new programme of action designed to bring about a considerable expansion of its co-operation with the developing countries. It would make special efforts to improve the existing machinery for co-operation, promote the development of the natural resources of those countries, whose sovereignty over those resources it would, of course, respect, and increase the volume of its technical assistance, particularly in connexion with large-scale projects, the creation of an infrastructure, and scientific training and instruction.

24. The socialist countries were in a position to contemplate increasing their efforts to assist the developing countries because their growth was not slowing down; quite the contrary. United Nations reports revealed that the integration of the CMEA member countries was a resounding success. The Soviet Union's ninth five-year plan had been brought to a successful conclusion in 1975, despite the difficulties caused by two years of drought and poor harvests, and industrial production had reached record levels. The tenth five-year plan made provision for even more rapid growth as well as a whole series of measures designed to improve further the economic, social and cultural conditions of workers. The design would not be complete, however, if it was not accompanied by an equally significant expansion in relations with foreign countries, and if no provision were made to develop economic, scientific and technical co-operation with the fraternal socialist countries, the developing countries and the Western capitalist countries themselves. The Soviet Union intended very specifically to make that collaboration tangible and intensive by laying stress on long-term co-operation agreements which, from the political viewpoint, were

the most suitable for strengthening peace and security. However, the success of such a policy also obviously depended on the willingness of its partners to co-operate.

25. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the sixty-first session of the Council would show that it was possible to restructure international economic relations in a democratic fashion. On several occasions in the past, the Soviet Union had requested that the Council should play a more active role in the promotion of social and economic progress. That appeal had lost nothing of its relevancy. For its part, the Soviet Union would spare no effort in the quest for solutions to the vital problems which the Council was called upon by the United Nations Charter to resolve.

26. Mr. MAINA (Kenya) said that the session of the Council provided a good opportunity for highlighting the situation in Africa. It was a matter of great concern to his delegation that 18 out of the 29 least developed countries were in Africa, which indicated that the marginal economies of many of the countries of the continent were unable to absorb economic shocks of the type that had been experienced in the past few years.

27. Foreign trade was an important factor in that context. Export earnings represented a very large share of the GNP of most African countries, and fluctuations in export earnings therefore were strongly felt through the whole economy. Unfortunately, such fluctuations tended to be very large owing to the composition of Africa's exports: 20 commodities, of which each country produced only a few, accounted for 80 per cent of total export earnings. As the prices of those commodities had fallen sharply, the balance-of-payments situation of those countries, which was already in deficit as a result of the increase in oil prices and world inflation, was now very serious. That painful development had forced most African Governments to modify or shelve development plans and revise growth targets downwards, causing a levelling-off and often even a decline in standards of living. In contrast with what had been hoped for at the beginning of the decade, the gap between the levels of *per capita* income in the developed and the developing countries was widening even more rapidly.

28. The Governments of the African countries had made it quite clear on numerous occasions that they accepted full responsibility for their economic development and for improving the well-being of their peoples. Since their accession to independence, they had spared no effort and had made many sacrifices to that end. However, there was a limit to the number of obstacles which a country could hope to overcome, particularly when those obstacles were created by events elsewhere in the world.

29. The developing countries had gone to Nairobi to ask in one voice, the voice of the Manila Declaration, for a chance to solve for themselves their problems of economic underdevelopment. The time had come for the translation into concrete measures of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth and seventh special sessions.

30. It was from that perspective that the Kenyan delegation had greatly welcomed the positive statement made

by the Netherlands representative at the fourth session of UNCTAD on behalf of the 16 Western European countries.¹ It hoped that other industrialized countries would soon adopt a similar attitude and act accordingly with regard not only to commodities, but also to trade in manufactured goods, industrialization, agriculture, science and technology, money and finance and the restructuring of the United Nations system.

31. At Nairobi, the developing countries had gone out of their way to convince the industrialized countries of the need to give up traditional approaches, isolated corrective measures and temporary patching-up. New frontiers had to be crossed, which was what the Manila Declaration was all about. Despite the lack of results achieved at the fourth session of UNCTAD, Kenya continued to hope that the dialogue initiated at the sixth and seventh special sessions and which had been substantially advanced at Nairobi would soon produce results which would be acceptable and beneficial to the world community as a whole.

32. A serious problem which had completely disrupted the economies of many African countries was drought. In 1975, the Conference of Ministers of ECA had taken steps to draw up and implement programmes designed to restore the ecological balance in the affected regions and to check the southward advance of the Sahara desert. Being fully conscious of the inadequacy of its means, ECA had also urged the international community to redouble its efforts to solve that problem. His delegation was therefore very gratified to learn of the nature and stage of preparation of the two conferences on water and on desertification which were to take place in 1977.

33. With regard to the United Nations Conference on Desertification, he welcomed the very generous financial contributions announced by UNEP, UNDP and UNFPA, the four sectoral reviews which were to be carried out by UNEP, the six case studies which were being undertaken with UNDP assistance under the auspices of UNESCO, and the draft plan of action to combat desertification. While welcoming the global approach of those activities, he stressed the need to give the Sudano-Sahelian zone priority. With regard to the United Nations Water Conference, Africa eagerly awaited the policy options which would emerge and which would provide indications on how water policies and institutions could best be adapted to local geographical and economic conditions. His delegation fully supported decision 73 (IV) of the Governing Council of UNEP (E/5836, annex I) and the two draft resolutions adopted by the Committee on Natural Resources (E/5778, pp. 2-3) on the preparations for the two conferences.

34. Mrs. MONZE (Zambia) said that there was an urgent need to find international solutions for the world's economic and social problems, and that all agreed that there should be some form of interdependence which respected the institutions of each country. Those convictions were expressed in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of

¹ See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fourth Session*, vol. II, *Summaries of Statements by Heads of Delegation and Summary Records of Plenary Meetings* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.11), Part Two, 145th meeting.

States. It now remained to formulate specific guidelines to be applied universally, and it was up to the Council to try to work out proposals for consideration by the General Assembly.

35. The world economic situation was not what it should be, and that was why the world community had seen fit to draw up a Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order. The Council should accordingly review the International Development Strategy in the light of what had been agreed upon by the General Assembly at its sixth and seventh special sessions.

36. The Government of Zambia attached great importance to international co-operation, but in its opinion priority should be given to development programmes which were directly relevant to the national economy and the improvement of the standard of living of Zambians. To that end it utilized to the full the financial, material and human resources available in the country; when those resources proved inadequate, it sought assistance from outside. In that connexion, Zambia appreciated all the assistance it was receiving from multilateral and bilateral sources. Zambia was a land-locked country sharing common borders with eight other countries, and its infrastructure had to be complementary to that of its neighbours. It was therefore convinced that the United Nations system should now emphasize regional co-operation, and had noted with satisfaction that that had been done by the United Nations Secretary-General in his statement (2006th meeting) and several other delegations. However his Government regretted that the Lusaka-based UNDAT, which was meant to serve the countries of eastern and southern Africa, had not received the support it should have had. For two years UNDAT had struggled to get off the ground and it was only when it was grinding to a halt that UNDP had come to its rescue; even with that intervention, its future was still uncertain. UNDAT was the best possible instrument for regional co-operation, and she urged the Council to give serious consideration to the continuation of that project.

37. The Zambian Government also considered that the United Nations system needed to be restructured in such a way as to enable the specialized agencies to carry out their work in conformity with the wishes of each Government. As things were at present, most Governments, especially those of the developing countries, had very little say in the functions and operations of the United Nations specialized agencies. Although those agencies were often technically and scientifically oriented, even then they should take account of the wishes and programmes of Governments.

38. With regard to science and technology, Zambia considered that only the type of science and technology which could be directly applied for the benefit of the masses of its people was desirable. Africa and the rest of the developing countries were undergoing a revolution –

industrial, economic and, in some cases, political – which called for new methods and strategies so that they could meet the challenge before them, and for that purpose they needed the support and sympathy of the developed countries.

39. The dramatic events which had affected the world economy in recent years had had a serious impact on the economy of Zambia, whose geo-political situation made it even more vulnerable. Several factors were aggravating Zambia's economic situation, the main ones being the fall in copper prices and the consequent decline in foreign exchange earnings; the increase in the prices of some major inputs in the mining industry, including oil, machinery and spare parts; the high transport costs of exports and imports; and the deteriorating situation in southern Africa. All those problems had forced Zambia to curtail its development programmes seriously, and it was for that reason that it was again requesting the international community to come to its assistance without delay. It was going even further and asking to be placed in the category of the most seriously affected countries. The fact that its case was still on the Council's agenda was indicative of the seriousness of the situation. She appreciated the sympathy expressed by various delegations concerning the plight of the economies of Mozambique and Zambia.

40. However, the countries of southern Africa were determined to see to it that the black people of Southern Rhodesia, Namibia and South Africa recovered their rights to freedom and justice. The Zambian delegation appreciated the concern expressed by many delegations about recent events in South Africa, especially the recent massacre of over 100 defenceless and innocent black people by South African troops. The situation in the region was a threat to international peace and an impediment to human social and economic development. For that reason, Zambia appealed to those who were still in a position to influence that part of Africa to bring pressure to bear on the minority and illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia to hand over power to the majority, and on the racist Government of South Africa to end *apartheid*. For its part, Zambia had exhausted all efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement. Consequently, it wanted the international community to have a clear understanding of its case. In supporting a policy of negotiation, Zambia had compromised its development, especially when it had had at the same time to apply the sanctions agreed upon by the United Nations. The dialogue had failed, the citizens of Maputo and Lusaka were subjected to threats of war by the racists to the south. The international community should not be surprised, therefore, that the independent countries of the region had opted for an intensification of the armed struggle by the nationalist forces, together with all that it implied.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.