



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Forty-second Session
OFFICIAL RECORDS

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President: Mr. Milan KLUSÁK
(Czechoslovakia).

Present:

Representatives of the following States, members of the Council: Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, France, Gabon, Guatemala, India, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela.

Observers for the following Member States: Austria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Israel, Japan, Poland, Yugoslavia.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization.

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

AGENDA ITEM 5

Application of science and technology to development:

(a) *Report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development (E/4300 and Add.1)*

1. Mr. GRESFORD (Secretariat) introduced the fourth report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development (E/4300 and Add.1). At its sixth session, the Advisory Committee had entered into a new phase of its activities. Its first three reports had contained broad studies of the problem of applying science and technology to development. The fourth report (E/4300) was a brief factual account of the activities of the Advisory Committee during the period from September 1966 to March 1967. Document E/4300/Add.1 gave a brief summary of some matters covered at the recently concluded seventh session of the Committee. The Advisory Committee had now decided to provide brief annual reports to the Council on its activities and special substantive reports from time to time containing comprehensive studies of particular subjects. The first

such substantive report would be on the supply and consumption of edible protein and would be available for the forty-third session of the Council.

2. Throughout its work, the Advisory Committee maintained continual contact with agencies in the United Nations system and consistently sought their advice and involvement. The Committee had held some of its sessions at the headquarters of specialized agencies and was doing all it could to strengthen inter-agency participation, both formally through the Sub-Committee on Science and Technology of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) and also through informal contacts. The three regional groups within the Advisory Committee also held meetings at the headquarters of the regional economic commissions to promote close co-operation on regional problems.

3. From the outset, the Advisory Committee had identified the broad problem of food as of major importance. That was why its first substantive report covered the field of protein. The Advisory Committee attached particular importance to the methodology used in the preparation of the report in order to ensure co-operation within the United Nations system. Initially, a consultant had been commissioned to prepare a detailed survey of methods of increasing the supply and consumption of edible protein. After consideration by the Advisory Committee, the survey had been referred to an ad hoc panel of three independent expert consultants chosen in consultation with the specialized agencies directly concerned. Experts from the specialized agencies directly concerned had also been attached to the Ad Hoc Panel of Experts. The report of the Ad Hoc Panel of Experts had been considered by a working group which had prepared the final report^{1/} for the adoption of the Advisory Committee.

4. The Advisory Committee's fourth report also indicated that deeper studies had begun on two more of the subjects selected from the problems proposed for concerted attack, namely, the development of natural resources and certain aspects of science education. Chapter III of the report on the Committee's sixth session described the progress made in a number of the more important items on the Committee's current work programme. While the Advisory Committee was increasingly calling upon the services of expert consultants, its work programme was growing considerably; it had therefore indicated that some strengthening of its secretariat was essential for it to carry out its work programme.


5. Mr. VILLEGAS (Mexico) noted that the Advisory Committee had decided to change its reporting procedures and that it would now be producing more specialized technical reports, the first of which it

^{1/} Document STD/7/1A/Rev.1.

expected to submit to the Council at its next session. The record of the Advisory Committee's sixth session^{2/} indicated that the Advisory Committee understood that that procedure would be acceptable to the Council. Since the Council was faced with a *de facto* situation, it would perhaps have been better to take up the question of the Advisory Committee's activities at its next session. Since the first report was to cover the field of edible protein it could be taken up under either item 9 (Increasing the production and use of edible protein) or item 13 (Multilateral food aid) of the provisional agenda. It should therefore bear in mind that, if the Advisory Committee's report on protein was not available sufficiently in advance, the debate on those items might have to be postponed or curtailed. Clearly, a report on such a technical subject had to be available to Governments sufficiently in advance so that it could be examined by the relevant governmental and private technical services. Otherwise, it could be difficult for many delegations to express their opinions on the report of the next session.

6. Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (United States of America) said that his delegation was impressed with the size and significance of the programme undertaken by the Advisory Committee. At its sixth session, the Advisory Committee had reoriented its working methods and procedures to enable it to give more detailed consideration to selected important subjects. The reporting of its activities reflected that new emphasis and set an example which could be well emulated by others within the United Nations family. The way the Advisory Committee had reoriented its activities was also of particular significance. At earlier sessions, the members of the Advisory Committee had been assigned to several functional groups which did not really have continuing functions. At its sixth session, the functional groups had been disbanded and the Committee had decided to establish for each item requiring special study an *ad hoc* working group which would collaborate with the secretariat and with consultants. As well as being more flexible, that procedure meant that those members with a particular interest in a subject would be assigned to work on it, thus ensuring greater co-operation and guidance for the secretariat. His delegation fully endorsed the new direction which the Advisory Committee's work was taking.

7. There was one pitfall which the Council should endeavour to avoid. It was perhaps an inevitable tendency that the Advisory Committee should be asked to give advice and assistance on virtually every subject; however, if that tendency was not restricted, it could jeopardize the Advisory Committee's work. He urged that the Council reserve its requests for guidance to only the most important topics. Certainly, the Council should ask the Committee for advice on such major programmes as the five-year survey programme for the development of natural resources; however it should refrain from habitually referring its agenda items to the Committee.

8. The  work programme of the Advisory Committee concerning both human and natural resources was impressive. At its next session, the Committee would consider science education and the report on the

development of natural resources. In addition, it planned to consider the draft report on pollution being prepared by the World Health Organization and a UNESCO/FAO report on the conservation and amelioration of natural environments.

9. His delegation had supported the Council's request, in its resolution 1155 (XLI), that all interested parties within the United Nations system should prepare a statement on the extent to which their current or planned activities would contribute to the fulfilment of the goals of the proposed World Plan of Action. The review and evaluation of those statements undertaken by the Advisory Committee in 1968 would help to provide a better picture of what was being done within the United Nations system and would pave the way for improved co-ordination of similar activities and the initiation of new activities where there were important gaps. Future activities must be dependent upon the review and evaluation currently being undertaken. He endorsed the objectives of the Advisory Committee and the means it had chosen to attain them.

10. Mr. ONKELINX (Belgium) said that the great hopes placed by the Council in the Advisory Committee had so far been fully justified. While its first general proposals had perhaps been too ambitious, its decision to focus attention on eight specific subjects for substantive consideration was extremely commendable. He fully agreed with the Committee's revised reporting procedure and congratulated it on completing the first of its detailed reports on specific topics. He welcomed the support being given by the Advisory Committee to the FAO Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development. Science and technology could be of great value in increasing the productivity of the agricultural and food industries of the developing countries and promoting their general over-all development. The continued strengthening of co-ordination between the Advisory Committee and the organizations in the United Nations system should help to expedite the Advisory Committee's work, make it more efficient and ensure general unanimity of view throughout the system.

11. He also thought it would be wise for the Advisory Committee to hold only one full session a year and to organize more meetings of regional and functional groups. Since the work programme of the Advisory Committee was already clearly defined, it should be sufficient for the Council, at its present session, merely to take note of the Committee's report.

12. Mr. VARELA (Panama) welcomed the new reporting procedure adopted by the Advisory Committee. The new system should afford the members of the Council, who might be considered experts in general matters, a better understanding, through the technical expertise of the Advisory Committee, of its activities and thus ensure that Governments could properly direct their political activities in specific technical fields so as to promote development to the full.

13. He was glad that the Advisory Committee intended to issue a special report in 1968 on its proposed World Plan of Action. He hoped that the Plan would give special attention to the serious problem of the transfer of technology to the developing countries and evolve realistic methods to convert its objectives into a

practical and continuous programme of action which would help to render both multilateral and bilateral co-operation more effective. He was also happy to see that the Advisory Committee was endeavouring to strengthen its co-operation with other organizations in the United Nations system and hoped that it would give some thought to developing special techniques to promote such co-ordination.

14. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) said that the fact that the Advisory Committee was still in its infancy afforded a good opportunity for the Council to seek to eliminate overlapping with the work of other bodies and to draw maximum advantage from the talents of its expert members. If its work was properly organized, the Advisory Committee could greatly assist the Council by advising it on the technical aspects of the surveys to be carried out in such fields as natural resources, transport and water desalination, for example. The technical personnel of the Secretariat might not need such advice, but it would be highly useful to the Council. He agreed with the United States representative that the Advisory Committee should not be overburdened with requests for advice. Nevertheless, it should not develop a completely independent work programme unrelated to other United Nations activities in the field of science and technology; its priorities should be the same as those set by other organs of the United Nations system. The Advisory Committee's work programme should be a part of the total work programme of the Secretariat and the specialized agencies in that field.

15. With regard to the Advisory Committee's current work programme, he asked the Secretariat whether the reports referred to in paragraph 27 of document E/4300 were to be prepared by independent consultants and whether, in preparing them, the consultants intended to draw on the experience of UNESCO, which had been concerned with all aspects of education since its establishment.

16. His delegation welcomed the proposed report on the supply and consumption of edible protein, a subject on which great advances were possible through modern technology. With regard to the Belgian representative's suggestion, he felt that the Council should take note with appreciation of the Advisory Committee's report, welcome the emphasis the Committee had placed on the need for close co-ordination, and recommend that the priorities established by the Committee in its work programme should not be at variance with the corresponding priorities established by other United Nations bodies.

17. Mr. BILLNER (Sweden) agreed that the Advisory Committee should concentrate its work on a small number of subjects. The establishment of Ad Hoc panels of experts would not only ensure that the best possible use was made of the heterogeneous body of knowledge represented by the members on the Committee, but would also prove highly useful when the Committee was renewed or enlarged. While the problem of co-ordination with other agencies and units of the Secretariat was not the Committee's specific concern, he felt that, since the Committee consisted, not of representatives of Governments, but of experts who could not be expected to be familiar

with the organization and administration of the United Nations, it should be given guidance by the secretariat of the Committee, which could therefore be correspondingly strengthened, as paragraph 9 of the report proposed.

18. Mr. HUDA (Pakistan) welcomed the Advisory Committee's decision to submit to the Council a brief annual report containing a factual account of its activities and, from time to time, special substantive reports on particular subjects within its competence. He also welcomed its decision to undertake specific studies of such diverse subjects as the supply and consumption of edible protein, the development of natural resources and certain aspects of science education, all of which were equally important. His delegation looked forward to the Committee's report on the supply and consumption of edible protein and the studies on science education.

19. The Advisory Committee's recommendation in paragraph 9 of the report on its sixth session, for "some strengthening of the secretariat" required careful consideration. It might be possible to achieve that goal by curtailing expenditure in other spheres. For example, the Advisory Committee's practice of shifting the venue of its regular meetings might be reconsidered.

20. His delegation supported the Advisory Committee's recommendation in paragraph 21 of its report that Governments should give early consideration to the FAO proposal for an international effort to increase agricultural production in developing countries.

21. Mr. SYKORA (Czechoslovakia) welcomed the indication in the report of the Advisory Committee (E/4300 and Add.1) that it was no longer attempting to cover the whole field of science and technology in its reports, which, though extensive and detailed, had lacked lucidity.

22. Of the important problems discussed by the Advisory Committee, one—the dangerous shortage of biologically valuable proteins in food products—had been on the way to solution at the Advisory Committee's recent session. In that connexion, Czechoslovak experts from the Institute of Microbiology of the Czechoslovak Academy of Science had worked out a method for the production of protein from oil.

23. With regard to the Advisory Committee's future programme of work, his delegation attached great significance to the methods of instruction that could be employed in elementary schools throughout the world to implant in coming generations a more positive attitude toward science and technology. It was also keenly interested in the campaign against ground, water and air pollution by exhalations, chemicals and radio-active waste, which not only impaired, but also endangered, all animal and vegetable life.

24. In conclusion, his delegation has no objection to make in regard to the Advisory Committee's report.

Mr. Varela (Panama), Vice-President, took the Chair.

25. Mr. CHADHA (India) welcomed the new method of work and reporting adopted by the Advisory Com-

mittee at its sixth session. Now that the Advisory Committee had acquired considerable experience in making general studies, there was great merit in its decision to concentrate on a few important subjects for detailed examination. The smaller delegations, he was sure, would be particularly gratified by the fact that its annual report was a mere nine pages.

26. The Committee's programme of work was well chosen and his delegation looked forward with interest to the results of its detailed examination of such important subjects as natural resources and the supply and consumption of edible protein. His delegation, which attached special importance to the proposed World Plan of Action, welcomed the progress made in that regard.

27. He was glad to note the importance which the Advisory Committee attached to the implementation of its past recommendations and the Council's decisions on them, and looked forward to a detailed review of that question. While he appreciated the difficulties involved in reviewing the implementation of recommendations relating to action by Governments and non-governmental organizations, he could not agree that such a review was beyond the Council's jurisdiction and hoped that the Advisory Committee would find some way of overcoming those difficulties with the co-operation of the Governments and organizations concerned.

28. His delegation was gratified to note that the Advisory Committee's collaboration with other organizations of the United Nations system had been increasing both through the formal machinery of ACC and its Sub-Committee on Science and Technology and through more informal contacts made possible because the Committee's sessions were held from time to time at the headquarters of the specialized agencies. Those informal contacts were of special significance because they helped to promote a better understanding of the work programmes of the various bodies concerned, which was the first, and perhaps most crucial, step towards achieving better co-ordination.

29. Finally, his delegation endorsed the Belgian representative's suggestion that the best method of concluding the Council's discussion of the item would be to take note, with appreciation, of the Advisory Committee's report.

30. Mr. VIAUD (France) noted that the Advisory Committee's third report^{3/} had concluded, for the time being, its series of general studies, which had been of praiseworthy quality despite some errors. The fourth report (E/4300 and Add.1), which was an introduction to the detailed memoranda the Committee would submit on priority problems, should be considered in conjunction with the record of its sixth session and the supplementary information provided on its seventh session (E/4300/Add.1).

31. Since the Advisory Committee would probably consider the World Plan of Action at its next session, or at least its methodology, he pointed out that close co-ordination of the activities of the scientific and

technical institutions of the United Nations system was a prerequisite to the success of the Plan. Such co-ordination was to a large extent dependent on an exact knowledge of their expenditures on scientific and technological subjects—in other words, on the Committee's progress in considering the problem of the measurement of expenditures which it had been requested to make in Council resolution 1155 (XLI). He commended the secretariat of the Committee on its excellent document describing the progress of that study.^{4/} His country, which, with a view to improve co-ordination and more tangible results, had recently reorganized the financial management and administration of its scientific and technical research programme, would gladly make its experience available to the *Ad Hoc* Panel of Experts of the Advisory Committee. However, such a study would clearly be of value only if it contributed towards the better preparation of the World Plan of Action by providing information on the real cost and results of the activities of Governments and international institutions and on the foreseeable possibilities and effects of their better co-ordination. He had been dismayed to learn from the report on the Committee's seventh session that the study of the problem of the measurement of expenditures would have no decisive effect on the World Plan of Action. In his view, it would be better to incur a slight delay in giving the Plan final shape rather than run the risk of basing it on inaccurate or inadequate data. Moreover, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) would be more willing to contribute to the Plan if it felt that it had been prepared with all due care. The good results achieved so far should not be jeopardized by hasty action.

32. From its bibliography, the preliminary report on the supply and consumption of edible protein, though a solid document, seemed to be based mainly on Anglo-Saxon publications and would gain by being qualified by other views. In that connexion, the Council should take note of the statement made by Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands at the recent Congress of International Chambers of Commerce held at Montreal.

33. He wondered whether the general study on the development of natural resources, which was to consist of a mere 100 pages, might not be more ambitious than judicious; even a large volume would hardly be adequate to cover so vast a subject. He hoped that the Secretariat would inform the Council, at its forty-third session, on the progress of that study, the basic concept of which might be reconsidered.

34. Since the programme of studies on natural resources had not yet been put into final form, the Advisory Committee, which was concerned with the financial and technical aspects of the programme, should continue to follow its progress with close attention.

35. His delegation welcomed the Advisory Committee's intention of studying the question of science teaching. While he was glad that docimology was one of the subjects to be considered, it would be regrettable if the Committee disregarded secondary school

^{3/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 12.

^{4/} Document STD/7/11.

teaching programmes. He welcomed the suggestion made at the seventh session of the Advisory Committee concerning the round-table discussions on science teaching to be held at UNESCO headquarters in November 1967.

36. He welcomed the imminent publication of the popular book on the application of science and technology to development; world public opinion should be made aware of the extent and scope of the Committee's task and the already considerable, though largely unknown, results it had achieved.

37. In conclusion, he wished to draw attention to the serious inadequacy of the Committee's resources and staff. While the Council's urgent and repeated requests in that regard had always met with a favourable response from the Secretary-General, no really satisfactory steps had been taken. Some slight economies in other sections of the budget would undoubtedly help the Committee to carry out its heavy programme of work, which was vital to the future of the developing countries.

38. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development had done much constructive work in considering the most important problems in that field and in making recommendations to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

39. The problem of providing the population of the world with an adequate quantity of edible protein was clearly an important one both for the United Nations and the Governments of Member States. The proposal to use for human nutrition single-cell proteins developed from unconventional sources was somewhat premature. They should not even be used extensively for animal nutrition until thorough research had been carried out into their biological validity and any possible harmful consequences of their use as food. Only after such artificial proteins had been proved safe for animal nutrition should they be used for human consumption. The main effort should therefore be directed towards an intensification of agriculture, especially increased production of food-stuffs such as meat and milk products, through the world-wide development of animal husbandry and poultry-farming, and a greater utilization of fish products and other resources of the sea. Of particular importance was the question of the loss of edible proteins during storage. The problem of developing edible proteins should be solved at the national level, mainly through the use of local resources and the development of the food industry in the developing countries, which would be of great help in developing their national economies. The problem of financing required further study and all available resources should be taken into account. That problem, too, should be solved essentially on a national basis, with the help, where necessary, of voluntary contributions and the active participation of the specialized agencies, in particular FAO and UNESCO, and of UNDP.

40. On the question of co-ordination in the study of science education, his delegation approved of the work UNESCO was doing on the improvement of the educational network, the campaign against illiteracy in adults and young people, the improvement of teaching

in schools and higher educational establishments, with special emphasis on the teaching of physics and mathematics, the training of technical personnel, and the establishment of teacher-training schools in the developing countries, and so on.

41. His delegation supported the regional activities of the Advisory Committee's regional groups. The governing organs of the United Nations had repeatedly drawn attention to the importance of the regional approach in the dissemination of science and technology, taking into account the special features of the various regions and of the various developing countries. The regional approach was also helpful in publicizing the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council, based on those of the Advisory Committee, which would make it possible to pay greater attention to the special features of the developing countries. The regional activities of the Advisory Committee should be expanded still further.

42. Any expansion of United Nations activities in the field of science and technology, as in other areas, should be carried out on the basis of existing resources, both human and financial. He supported the statement of the representative of Pakistan concerning the possibility of curtailing expenditure.

43. His delegation supported the proposal that the Council should merely take note with appreciation of the Advisory Committee's report.

44. Mr. TAYLOR (United Kingdom) endorsed the Mexican representative's remarks concerning the simultaneous consideration by the Council at its forty-third session of the two related agenda items 9 and 13, and the need for documentation to be available in time for members to study it. He hoped that the report on edible protein would be available at least six weeks before the opening of the forty-third session.

45. He agreed with the representative of Libya that the priorities in the Advisory Committee's work should be related to those of the Secretariat as a whole and he was satisfied that an attempt was being made to achieve that through ACC. He also sympathized with that representative's *cri de coeur* concerning the need for co-ordination in the study of science education. It was significant that a representative of one of the smaller developing countries should have emphasized that point and he hoped that the Advisory Committee would bear it in mind and that the Secretary-General would see to it that there was no unnecessary overlapping.

46. His delegation had always supported the work of the Advisory Committee in the belief that it could contribute valuable advice on problems of development and he welcomed the change in its method of work as described in the report. Edible protein was of great importance at a time when world famine was more than a shadow on the horizon and the question should be given the highest priority. On the question of natural resources, the continuing nature of the study was important as was the continuing role of the Advisory Committee, which should be available to give advice to the Secretary-General when necessary. He hoped that at the forty-third session the Secretary-General would

be able to inform the Council of the Advisory Committee's latest views on that item which concerned the whole Organization.

47. The main contribution of the Advisory Committee to development was rooted in its character as a body of independent experts and it was important that that character should be retained. He had been happy to note that at the Advisory Committee's seventh session the practice of only allowing high-calibre scientists to attend the meetings had been largely observed. He was somewhat cautious concerning the future work programme of the Advisory Committee. On the one hand, as the United States representative had pointed out, there was a danger of overloading it with excessive demands for advice, but on the other hand the Advisory Committee had stated that it would like to be consulted more frequently by the specialized agencies and United Nations bodies concerning specific points of a scientific nature on which advice was required. He hoped that when such specific advice was needed, there would be no hesitation in approaching the Advisory Committee, although care should be taken not to overload it.

48. With reference to paragraph 21 (4) of the Advisory Committee's report, concerning the proposal of the Director-General of FAO to increase agricultural inputs, he presumed that that referred to the Food Production Resources Programme. Although the Advisory Committee had endorsed that proposal, he wished to remind members of the Council that his Government, among others, still had reservations concerning it and he could not endorse the Advisory Committee's comments until the special study group had completed its review.

49. He endorsed the USSR representative's remarks concerning the regional activities of the Advisory Committee. He welcomed the Advisory Committee's concern for the views and needs of the regional economic commissions and was encouraged by the fact that the latter appeared to be paying more attention to the recommendations and advice of the Advisory Committee than had previously been the case. For instance, the Economic Commission for Africa had circulated a questionnaire, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, concerning a survey of existing scientific institutes.

50. He was happy to note the Committee's close collaboration within the United Nations system as a whole and endorsed the Indian representative's comments on that point. He hoped that the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) would seek the Advisory Committee's advice on specific questions of industrial development and that the Advisory Committee would examine closely the reports of the Industrial Development Board to see whether it could provide any assistance.

51. With reference to the preparation of a popular book he proposed that the matter should be considered further at the forty-third session when the report of UNESCO could be discussed by the Co-ordination Committee of the Council.

Mr. Klusák (Czechoslovakia) resumed the Chair.

52. Mr. GRESFORD (Secretariat) said that he was aware of the vital importance of ensuring that all

documents were available as early as possible. The report on edible protein was a massive and comprehensive document, but he hoped that the English text would be available on 31 May and that it would be available in the other languages a week or ten days later.

53. In reply to the Belgian representative, he said that the Advisory Committee had considered the possibility of holding only one plenary session a year in order to allow time for more regional meetings, but that had been difficult to arrange in view of the number of problems with which the Advisory Committee was now dealing. The question would be kept under review. So far it had been found that two sessions of two weeks each were required each year.

54. With reference to the Libyan representative's remarks concerning co-ordination in regard to the item of science education, he stressed that one of the main functions of the Advisory Committee was to ensure proper co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations family in science and technology and it was not accurate to say that the Advisory Committee's programme was in competition with that of the specialized agencies. Co-ordination was formally organized through the Sub-Committee on Science and Technology of ACC. Between sessions, close co-operation was maintained between the secretariats. The Advisory Committee's programme in science education was being worked out in the closest collaboration with UNESCO, as was the selection of consultants for the reports to be prepared. He wished to emphasize strongly that the Advisory Committee hoped that the programmes of UNESCO and other United Nations organizations concerned would be strengthened and better co-ordinated.

55. He assured the representative of France that his country's experience in the measurement of expenditures on science and technology would be taken into account by the Advisory Committee, as would all relevant experience of other countries. The Advisory Committee, too, was concerned that it might not be possible to keep the report on natural resources down to 100 pages.

56. He assured the United Kingdom representative that the Advisory Committee was very conscious of the need to ensure liaison with UNIDO, and he was sure that the latter agreed. During the Advisory Committee's seventh session, the Executive Director and other officials of UNIDO had discussed problems of common interest with the Advisory Committee and it was proposed to pursue such discussions in 1968 when the Advisory Committee would meet at UNIDO headquarters.

57. The PRESIDENT pointed out that it had been proposed that the Council, in its resolution, should simply note with appreciation the Advisory Committee's report and that that proposal appeared to have received general support. He asked whether the Libyan representative would be satisfied if his suggestions concerning the inclusion of a reference to the need for closer co-operation and the establishment of priorities were mentioned in the summary record.

58. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) agreed. The important thing was that the Council commended the Advisory

Committee's approach to closer co-ordination, to which attention had already been drawn. He himself found it hard to determine the exact role of the Advisory Committee in the United Nations system, but the broad issues could be discussed in Geneva when the question of co-ordination was considered.

59. The PRESIDENT read out the text of the following draft resolution for the Council's consideration:

"The Economic and Social Council

"Takes note with appreciation of the fourth report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development."

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

(b) Arrangements for the transfer of operative technology to developing countries (E/4319)

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/4377)

60. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) pointed out that paragraph 4 of the Economic Committee's report (E/4377) men-

tioned that several delegations had referred with appreciation to the work of the United International Bureaux for the Protection of Intellectual Property. He suggested either that that reference should be omitted or that references to other views expressed should also be included.

61. Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (United States of America), Mr. CHADHA (India) and Mr. GROS (France) agreed, but pointed out that the Council could not change the report of a subordinate body. What it was now considering was the draft resolution which the Economic Committee recommended for adoption. The various views expressed could be mentioned in the Council's own report on the item.

62. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution contained in paragraph 5 of the Economic Committee's report (E/4377).

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.

