

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1977

**Summary records of the 2039th to 2044th plenary meetings, held at
Headquarters, New York, from 11 to 14 January 1977**

2039th meeting

Tuesday, 11 January 1977, at 11.15 a.m.

Temporary President: Mr. Kurt WALDHEIM (Secretary-General).

President: Mr. Ladislav ŠMÍD (Czechoslovakia).

E/SR.2039

Opening of the session

1. The SECRETARY-GENERAL declared open the organizational session of the Economic and Social Council for 1977. He warmly welcomed all the new members of the Council and wished all delegations every success at the beginning of another year of United Nations activities for international economic co-operation.

2. The main task of the Council at the current session was to formulate its annual programme of work, which would cover a very broad range of issues. The Council undoubtedly would undertake that task with both vision and realism, for that was the only way to meet successfully the dual challenge of international development and collective responsibility.

3. The session was being held against the background of a particularly intense period of negotiation within the process initiated at the sixth and seventh special sessions of the General Assembly for moving towards the establishment of a new international economic order. It was a process that had ushered in a new chapter in the history of United Nations endeavours to achieve peace, prosperity and social justice throughout the world. One notable aspect of the process was that, notwithstanding the slow and limited progress so far achieved, there was a very distinct determination on all sides to continue the dialogue. The decision of the General Assembly (decision 31/429 A of 22 December 1976) to suspend its thirty-first regular session, and to resume it in 1977, clearly attested to that determination. It would be very unfortunate indeed if the opportunity

afforded by that decision was not utilized to overcome the current impasse during the interval. The world community had managed, over the past two years, to avoid confrontation in dealing with economic and social issues. It was therefore with a sense of inspired hope that Governments should look ahead and reaffirm their commitment to pursue agreements designed to bring about concrete and practical solutions in the interests of all.

4. There was one aspect of the Council's programme of work for 1977 (see E/5900) which, in his view, had special significance; he was referring to the preparatory work which the Council would carry out for the over-all integrated assessment that the Assembly had decided to make, at its next regular session, of the implementation of the International Development Strategy, the decisions of the sixth and seventh special sessions and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States. That constituted a concrete attempt to reach agreement on a unifying and comprehensive framework of policy within which Governments would pursue the common objectives of development co-operation. The underlying intention of the Assembly had been that those texts should serve as a dynamic guideline to action, which should remain continually responsive to changing circumstances. Those documents held forth the promise of a world offering fruitful opportunities for a better life to all its inhabitants. The fulfilment of that promise would require a large degree of political will and a carefully timed and co-ordinated set of negotiations. It must involve agreement in various forums on a number of pending issues of immediate concern, and also the acceptance of a well-defined time-table for further concerted measures and multilateral action.

5. The Council was undoubtedly conscious of the importance of its own responsibilities and work in rationalizing that whole effort. Nothing would enhance more the cohesion of the United Nations system—a problem that had engaged the Council's attention for so many years—than the adoption of an integrated approach to the consideration of the crucial economic and social problems facing the world. The current situation demanded that negotiations under way should proceed with a new sense of urgency. Meanwhile, he trusted that the Council would play its own part in the development of agreed guidelines for the future work of the organizations of the United Nations system. Indeed, co-ordination—or perhaps one should say harmonization of policies and action—could and should acquire a new meaning and perspective if the Council was to perform in a more effective manner the functions and duties assigned to it. When addressing the Abidjan session,¹ he had asked whether the Council was not a body in search of a role. He firmly believed that during the current year, in fulfilling that task, the Council might well find a meaningful answer.

6. Another aspect of the efforts to formulate a new international economic order concerned the process of restructuring the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system. The *Ad Hoc* Committee established by the General Assembly at its seventh special session (see resolution 3362 (S-VII)) had felt that its work should proceed parallel to the consideration of the substantive issues identified at that session. He had followed with great interest the deliberations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee in 1976,² and on several occasions had expressed his views on various issues under discussion. He once again pledged the Secretariat's assistance to the Committee's endeavours and reaffirmed his intention to take all the necessary measures relating to matters within his authority as chief administrative officer of the Organization. He believed that restructuring was necessary and urgent so that the United Nations system of organizations could serve better the interests and objectives of the member Governments. But, since every international organization was a creation of its member Governments, restructuring also required political will and a clear understanding by Governments of the purpose and nature of each institution and organizational arrangement, of the kind and scope of the relationships that should link them, and of their respective methods of work.

7. He personally had the strong conviction that the United Nations system would continue to play a central and crucial role in all future processes of deliberation, negotiation and operational action in search of a more viable and more just international economic order. Indeed, while every available mechanism of international co-operation should be utilized fully, the United Nations remained the only universal forum in which countries with widely different political institutions and at different stages of economic and social development might harmonize views and policies, share their problems and experiences and initiate collective action.

8. Those, it seemed to him, were the highlights of an agenda embracing many items, all important in their own

contexts. He had chosen, however, on the present occasion to dwell on the over-all responsibility of the Council for general policy formulation and for guidance to the United Nations system as a whole, because so very much depended upon how effectively that responsibility was discharged.

9. He wished the members of the Council all success during a year of great expectations and high promise.

10. In conclusion, he expressed the Council's deep appreciation to its outgoing President, Mr. Aké, for his wise guidance of the Council's proceedings in 1976 and to the Government and people of the Ivory Coast for their warm hospitality at the session at Abidjan.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Election of the Bureau

11. Mr. QADRUD-DİN (Pakistan) nominated Mr. Ladislav Šmíd (Czechoslovakia) for the office of President of the Council for 1977.

Mr. Ladislav Šmíd (Czechoslovakia) was elected President by acclamation.

Mr. Šmíd (Czechoslovakia) took the Chair.

12. The PRESIDENT expressed his appreciation to the members of the Council for the honour they had bestowed on him and on his country by electing him President. In discharging his duties, he would endeavour at all times to show the greatest possible understanding of the positions of all members and to pursue the objectives of the Council, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations. He trusted that he would enjoy the traditional co-operation that members always extended to the Council's presiding officers, for it was only on the basis of co-operation that the Council would be able to accomplish its tasks in an efficient and thorough manner.

13. The Council was on the threshold of a period of intense activity. Besides its normal functions, it must in 1977 discharge a number of important responsibilities connected with the current efforts of the world community to establish a new international economic order. That very broad and comprehensive endeavour, involving every aspect of the Council's functions, would require sustained efforts on all sides to reach agreement on a wide range of highly complex issues.

14. The Council had clearly-defined responsibilities in the economic, social and human rights fields. In each of those areas, the draft basic programme of work (E/5900) listed a broad range of matters which would require careful and dedicated work, political will and a keen sense of urgency. He sincerely hoped that in the area of co-ordination the Council would achieve progress towards greater cohesion and towards the elaboration of concerted measures for solving the pressing problems facing mankind, thus contributing to the international effort for the maintenance of peace and the expansion of co-operation among nations.

15. Having been associated with the work of the Council over a number of years, he was well aware that satisfactory

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-first Session, Plenary Meetings*, 2006th meeting.

² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplements Nos. 34A and 34B (A/31/34/Add.1 and 2)*.

results depended on the determination of each delegation to spare no effort in seeking realistic solutions. Experience suggested that successful multilateral co-operation was largely based on a spirit of "give-and-take".

16. He suggested that the Council should suspend rule 18 of the rules of procedure and postpone the election of the Vice-Presidents until the following meeting.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (E/5901)

17. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said that, under agenda item 2, it would be necessary for the Council to take certain decisions at the current session concerning the negotiation of an agreement with IFAD. In the course of the discussion of the draft basic programme of work (E/5900), he would inform the Council of the developments that had taken place since the Council had decided to enter into an agreement with the Fund. A communication had been received from the Fund containing a draft of the agreement.

18. He drew attention to document E/5904 and Corr.1, which contained a letter from the President of the Council for 1976 concerning the appointment of the members of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. Should the Council agree to take up at the current session the question of the membership of the Sub-Committee, as was suggested in the letter, it might wish to consider the matter under item 2. In any case, it would be necessary for the Council to decide, under item 2, on the dates of the meetings of the Sub-Committee.

19. Mr. MAKEYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had no objection in principle to the provisional agenda (E/5901). However, it had some doubts as to the feasibility of the Council's reviewing, under agenda item 6, the rules of procedure of the functional commissions in the short time available to it at the current session. Bearing in mind that the document relating to item 6 (E/5899) had been circulated only a few days earlier, his delegation believed that it might be advisable to set aside sufficient time at the Council's spring session for the consideration of that question.

The agenda for the organizational session (E/5901) was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Basic programme of work of the Council for 1977 (E/5900, Conference Room Paper No. 1)

20. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) explained that the Secretariat had modified somewhat the format of the draft basic programme of work: instead of issuing two documents, it had prepared a single document (E/5900)

which incorporated the legislative authority adopted both prior to and during the thirty-first session of the General Assembly. Experience had shown that, owing to the major modifications introduced by the Assembly into the Council's programme of work, neither delegations nor the Council secretariat could adequately plan on the basis of a report drawn up prior to the deliberations of that organ. In the present instance, for example, the programme of work of the Council prior to the thirty-first session of the Assembly had consisted of 85 questions; the Assembly had since caused 23 new questions to be added to the programme, had taken decisions which affected drastically nine questions included in it, and had taken approximately 20 other decisions which called for various actions by the Council.

21. As was indicated in paragraph 3 of document E/5900, the Council secretariat was submitting, for the first time, a preliminary list of questions for consideration by the Council in 1978, with a view to enabling the Council to assess more fully the frequently-made suggestion that the Council should adopt a work programme covering two years, instead of one year as at present. In view of the effect that the decisions of the General Assembly had on the work of the Council, it would be advisable for the Council to consider that matter very carefully, bearing in mind that it might not be practicable to adopt a two-year programme if major changes became necessary mid-way as a result of the Assembly's deliberations. It would therefore be necessary for the Council to consider the nature of its work programme, the periodicity of the consideration of various items and, most important of all, the nature of the discussions on the items on its agenda. One possibility that had already been considered was that the Council might extend the procedure currently followed in connexion with the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to other items on its agenda, thus facilitating, and allowing additional time for, their consideration.

22. There was a need for the Council to review the approach it had adopted to various items on its agenda. For example, operational activities, as had been pointed out by a number of delegations, were at present discussed in three bodies representative or broadly representative of the whole membership of the United Nations: first, in the Governing Council of UNDP and other similar bodies, secondly in the Economic and Social Council, and lastly in the General Assembly. The Council, in its resolution 1768 (LIV), concerning the rationalization of its work, had decided that it would undertake a comprehensive policy review of operational activities in the years in which it was not engaged in the exercise of reviewing and appraising the International Development Strategy. However, the original cycle adopted for the biennial review had in practice been modified, because for the past three years the Council had in fact included in its agenda an item on the review and appraisal of the Strategy. The question therefore arose whether the Council's discussion of the question of operational activities should not every year take the form of a comprehensive policy review. A decision to that effect would have the advantage not only of saving time but also of rationalizing the Council's role in that context. Furthermore, if the Council did decide during 1977 to rationalize its work, it might explore similar possibilities pertaining to a number of other questions.

23. Paragraph 5 of document E/5900 dealt with a number of matters related to the manner in which the basic programme of work had been drawn up by the Secretariat which required a decision of the Council. Subparagraph (a) referred to the decision taken by the Council at its forty-seventh session to request the Secretary-General to report regularly to it on progress in the field of marine science. It was proposed that the Council should decide that resolution 1970 (LIX), in pursuance of which the Secretary-General would submit a study on the uses of the sea which would include a section on progress in marine science, should subsume the decision adopted at the forty-seventh session. That proposal had already been reflected in the draft programme of work.

24. It was suggested in paragraph 5 (b) that the question of new developments in the field of marine mineral resources beyond the continental shelf, which the Secretary-General had been requested by the Council in its resolution 1380 (XLV) to follow closely, might, starting in 1977, be considered in the context of the report of the Committee on Natural Resources, which had been established after the adoption of that resolution.

25. Since the Council had decided at its sixty-first session to refer the question of export promotion to UNCTAD, it was proposed in paragraph 5 (c) that the Secretary-General's report on the feasibility of establishing a United Nations export development fund should be submitted to UNCTAD, on the understanding that it would keep the Council informed of any action taken and submit recommendations on any matter requiring action by the Council or the General Assembly.

26. It was indicated in paragraph 5 (d) that the Secretary-General would be submitting to the Council at its sixty-second session only a progress report on research within the United Nations system on the role and position of women in development and on ways and means to organize and finance further research.

27. As indicated in paragraph 5 (e), the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit would be included either under the relevant agenda items or as separate agenda items when they were not related to an existing one.

28. Paragraph 5 (f) was particularly important since there was an apparent conflict between decisions taken previously by the Council with regard to the rationalization of its work and the current state of consideration of that question. Pursuant to its decision 153 (LX), the Council had transmitted to the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System a number of documents and was planning, in the light of the conclusions reached by that Committee, to review at the earliest possible date in 1977 the agreements between the United Nations and the specialized agencies and IAEA and the terms of reference of the Council's subsidiary machinery. As the *Ad Hoc* Committee had submitted only an interim report, the question arose whether the Council would actually undertake the planned reviews. However, since the *Ad Hoc* Committee and the General Assembly had decided to extend the restructuring exercise, a tentative proposal had been made to include an item on restructuring in the agenda for the sixty-second

session. It remained for the Council to decide what questions it wished to discuss in that context.

29. The process of drafting a convention on international intermodal transport was taking longer than expected and thus, as indicated in paragraph 5 (g), no report on that question would be before the Council in 1977.

30. A number of other matters had arisen after the draft basic programme of work for 1977 had been prepared.

31. With regard to the question of institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements, which would be considered at the sixty-third session under agenda item 14, the Council had established in 1966 an International Institute for Documentation on Housing, Building and Planning and a related trust fund. The Board of Auditors had recently suggested that that trust fund, which had only nominal assets, should be closed. The Council might wish to consider that question in the context of the item on institutional arrangements in the field of human settlements.

32. The report on research on the interrelationship between population, resources, environment and development would not be ready in 1977 as had been expected, and consideration of it would have to be postponed until 1978.

33. Document E/5905 contained a letter from the Director-General of UNESCO in which he informed the Council under the terms of resolution 1800 (LV) of the proposal made in that organization to proclaim an international year for science and technology. That question might be considered at the sixty-third session under agenda item 23 (International co-operation and co-ordination within the United Nations system).

34. With regard to the possibility of establishing an *ad hoc* sessional committee on institutional arrangements for human settlements, the General Assembly had recommended, in its resolution 31/116, that the Council should consider that question at the expert or highest appropriate level at the outset of its sixty-third session. In view of the customary practice of the Council to hold a general debate at its summer session, it was thought best and most practical for such a committee to meet early in July and complete its task by 12 July. After that date, the Economic Committee would be meeting and, should the *ad hoc* sessional committee require additional time to complete its work, the allocation of meetings between the two committees would have to be worked out on the basis of consultations between their chairmen.

35. The Council had decided, in its resolution 2006 (LX), to request the Preparatory Commission for the International Fund for Agricultural Development to prepare a draft agreement for the purpose of bringing the Fund into relationship with the United Nations. The initial steps taken by IFAD to that end were described in document E/5837. The Secretary-General had subsequently received a letter from the chairman of the Preparatory Commission containing the text of a draft agreement for submission to the Committee on Negotiations with Intergovernmental Organizations. In that connexion, the Council would have to consider the question of the membership of that Com.

mittee. In 1976, it had decided that, for the purpose of negotiations with IFAD, any delegation might become a member of the Committee simply by notifying the Secretary-General before 21 June 1976 of its desire to do so. However, by that date, only three countries, namely France, Italy and Japan, had complied with the procedure laid down. Accordingly, the Council might wish to extend the deadline in order to provide for a more representative membership. A decision was also required regarding the selection of a chairman of the Committee, as the chairman for 1976 considered his mandate to have expired at the end of that year. With regard to the timing of the negotiations, although it was recommended that the question be considered at the sixty-third session, it might be possible for the negotiations with IFAD to take place at the spring session by taking advantage of the conference facilities allocated to the Economic Committee of the Council, which had only three items to consider at that time. In that way, it might be possible for the Committee on Negotiations to submit its report for approval by the Council before the end of the sixty-second session.

36. The question of the membership of the Preparatory Sub-Committee for the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination remained pending. The only dates available for the meetings of the Sub-Committee in 1977 were 14 to 25 March at Geneva.

37. Finally, on page 41 of the English text of document E/5900, "resolution 31/116" should be replaced by "resolution 31/109".

38. Mr. MAKEYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted that the present agenda of the Council was larger and more complex than ever before. The basic task of the organizational session should, therefore, be to determine priorities and to allocate agenda items rationally to each of the Council sessions. Owing to the limited amount of time and resources, the Council might be forced to forgo some planned measures and the holding of meetings by some bodies. The Council should preserve its basic progressive approach aimed at restructuring international economic relations on a progressive and democratic basis and embodying those relations in specific practical measures.

39. The Soviet Union viewed sympathetically and supported the broad programme, called for by the developing and non-aligned countries, which was aimed at eliminating colonialism in the economic sphere, terminating exploitation by the industrialized Western Powers and establishing favourable conditions so that developing countries could overcome their economic backwardness. In the view of his delegation, the extent to which the Council would be successful in eliminating discrimination, barriers, inequity and exploitation in international trade would be indicative of the actual contribution which the United Nations could make to solving the problems of restructuring international economic relations. The main obstacle to a radical restructuring of those relations on a democratic basis had been and continued to be the position of the monopolistic group of capitalist States. Although those States were making certain concessions and were increasing their economic "assistance", their policy was still aimed at continuing and strengthening the exploitation of developing countries and remained essentially unchanged. The Economic and Social

Council should concern itself with such problems and develop practical measures to eliminate such practices in the future. To that end it should undertake a study of long-term economic trends, the role of the government sector in the development process, the inalienable sovereignty of developing countries over their natural resources, the integrated approach to economic development, and the curbing of the arbitrary rule of foreign capital, especially transnational corporations.

40. The Soviet Union continued to support efforts by developing countries to develop economic relations among themselves so as to strengthen their political and economic independence and raise the social, economic and cultural level of their peoples.

41. The problems of economic development were closely related to political conditions. In that connexion, his delegation stressed the importance of strengthening the process of détente, the expansion of that process to include all the regions of the world, and the continued affirmation of the principles of peaceful coexistence. The curbing of the arms race, disarmament and the strengthening of security were closely linked to the normalization of world economic relations.

42. Mr. ROUGE (France) said that his delegation was gratified by the presence of the Secretary-General at the opening of the Council's session, the level of representation of delegations and the good attendance, which reflected the renewed importance of the Council in the new circumstances prevailing in the United Nations. While 1974 had been a year of confrontation between groups of States, 1975 had marked the resumption of dialogue both in the General Assembly and in other forums, and in 1976 the international community had sought to build on dialogue based on new principles to negotiate on a broad range of issues. The *Ad Hoc* Committee on Restructuring had clearly reaffirmed the need for a central body to co-ordinate activities in the diverse forums in which negotiations were progressing and, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and in the view of the *Ad Hoc* Committee itself, that body should be the Economic and Social Council. There was also unanimous recognition of the need to prepare the work of the General Assembly and other major United Nations organs and to ensure the harmonization of their activities. Once again, the Economic and Social Council was the only forum suitable for that purpose. In that connexion, the work of the Second Committee of the General Assembly at the thirty-first session would have advanced more smoothly if more careful and thorough preparations had been made by the Council at its sixty-first session.

43. The Council was therefore embarking on a vast programme of work in 1977 in favourable circumstances. It should concentrate on asserting itself as a kind of steering committee for the United Nations and on regaining control over the calendar of conferences. In that connexion, it was unfortunate that three other bodies, namely the Population Commission, the Intergovernmental Working Group on a Code of Conduct of the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Sessional Committee on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries of UNDP, were all meeting at the same time as the Council, whereas in the

preceding week there had been relatively few meetings. Those responsible for the calendar of conferences were concerned chiefly with the economical allocation of conference facilities. However, it was necessary to bear in mind that it was virtually impossible for delegations to be represented at the meetings of all four bodies. The work of United Nations bodies must be organized in such a way as to give priority to attendance at the Council's meetings in cases of conflict with the meetings of subsidiary bodies.

44. It was also important to bear constantly in mind the general context of the Council's work. Accordingly, the work of subsidiary bodies should be discussed in the Council only when it was necessary to compare the work of a number of bodies. In that connexion, his delegation fully endorsed the suggestion put forward by the Secretary regarding the manner in which the Council might deal with the question of operational activities for development, and welcomed the fact that the Council would have an opportunity of evaluating the report of the joint meetings of CPC and ACC. One of the most important tasks of the Council in 1977 would be to prepare for the integrated assessment of the implementation of the major texts relating to the new international economic order, to which the Secretary-General had referred earlier. The Council was equipped for that task, as it was fully representative of the international community and its work was organized in such a way as to allow the active participation of observers from many States, international organizations, including the specialized agencies, and non-governmental organizations.

45. Mr. MARSHALL (United Kingdom) welcomed the fact that the Council could now benefit from the impulse given to its work by the work of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Restructuring and the General Assembly's endorsement of the activities of that Committee.

46. He welcomed the draft basic programme of work (E/5900) prepared by the Secretariat but felt that it raised certain problems. He did not see how the Council could solve the problem of timing as its proper function was to carry out General Assembly decisions and to prepare for future sessions of the General Assembly. Thus, the interdependence of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council might make it difficult to adopt some of the Secretary's suggestions. In general, he approved the format of the document, although the Council might consider whether some slight rearrangement of the information might improve its usefulness. He also found the annex dealing with the 1978 sessions very useful, although there would be problems, such as those to which he had referred, in attempting biennial programming.

47. He noted that chapter III of document E/5900 contained a suggested integrated agenda for the sixty-second and sixty-third sessions of the Council, in which agenda items from preceding chapters of the document had

been grouped into clusters. He wondered, however, whether that clustering provided a sufficiently comprehensive analysis of the Council's responsibilities. There might be gaps or overlapping, and there remained the problem of priorities whose solution would require complete clarity as to the comprehensive nature of the list of items. Furthermore, there was the problem of allocating items between the sixty-second and sixty-third sessions. He noted that the proposed agenda for the sixty-third session was immense and wondered whether there was any possibility of shifting some items to the sixty-second session. There was also the problem of allocating items to various committees during sessions of the Council, which had not been done very successfully at the sixty-first session. He also wondered what guidance the Council might have for the system as a whole when it had finished considering its organization of work. In that connexion, he agreed with the representative of France that the Council needed to work very closely with other bodies in the United Nations system. The Council should also consider whether it had any particular directives or guidance for the secretariat to help it in preparing the work of the coming sessions.

48. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) said, with reference to the allocation of agenda items between the sixty-second and sixty-third sessions, that the addition to the spring session of the question of negotiating an agreement with IFAD would restore balance between the two sessions. There was, furthermore, the problem that services at the spring session were somewhat limited. In addition, the discussion relating to the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development had been originally allocated to the spring session, but the General Assembly had decided specifically that it should be considered at the summer session. He noted, furthermore, that the question of the negotiations with IFAD was a very substantial item and would have financial implications if it were considered at the summer session.

49. Mr. HARRIMAN (Nigeria) asked whether in general those items whose consideration would derive maximum advantage from the participation of representatives of bodies based at Geneva and Vienna could not be considered at the summer session and those items for which such participation was irrelevant could not be considered at the spring session. In that connexion, he felt that the agenda items concerning assistance to Angola, Cape Verde, the Comoros, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe and Zambia should be transferred to the spring session.

50. Mr. KINSMAN (Canada) said that his delegation welcomed the draft basic programme of work (E/5900), which he hoped the Council would be able to examine very rigorously, despite the fact that delegations had received it only very recently.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.