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Resumed Forty-seventh Session

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(Closing meeting)

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President: Mr. Raymond SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

In the absence of the President, Mr. Maramis (Indonesia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism (*concluded*)* (E/4653 and Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1, Add.3 and 4, E/4750 and Add.1, E/L.1278/Rev.1, E/L.1287-1289)

1. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) said that he was glad that resolution XXI/5 adopted by the General Assembly of IUOTO at Dublin, as also the Secretary-General's report (E/4750), which was a broad legal study, illustrated with examples, on the question under consideration, had made it possible to prepare draft resolution E/L.1289, which embodied all the legal elements necessary for the conversion of the existing organization into an intergovernmental organization associated with the United Nations and capable of rendering effective assistance to the developing countries in carrying out their programmes for the development of tourism. He recalled the three stages of the origin of draft resolution E/L.1289: IUOTO's Executive Committee, which in accordance with a request by the General Assembly of IUOTO at its twentieth session at Tokyo in October 1967 had prepared a draft convention, had noted that there were drawbacks to drafting a convention without the participation of international organizations with more general interests. Next, the proposal to establish an intergovernmental organization had failed to win unanimous support at the Intergovernmental Conference on Tourism held at Sofia in May 1969 and at the forty-seventh session of the Council, many delegations opposing the proliferation of intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system. The sponsors of the draft resolution had therefore adopted the third alternative proposed by the Secretary-General in his report,

namely, the conversion of IUOTO, which had proved its effectiveness despite its limited resources, into an intergovernmental organization within the United Nations family of organizations.

2. Mr. DUBEY (India) said that, for the sake of consistency, "IUOTO" should be replaced by the words "the transformed IUOTO" in paragraph 5 (b) and (c) of the draft resolution. The Mexican representative having introduced the draft, he would confine himself to general comments.

3. Tourism was fast emerging as an important source of foreign exchange earnings of many developing countries. IUOTO was the principal world body through which developing countries had been seeking assistance at the international level for the development and promotion of tourism. With the increasing demand for technical and pre-investment assistance, the non-governmental character of IUOTO had been a big handicap and attempts had therefore been made to impart flexibility, authority and effectiveness to IUOTO to cope with its task. These efforts culminated in the decision taken at Sofia to work towards the establishment of an intergovernmental body for tourism within the framework of the United Nations.

4. He congratulated the Secretary-General on his excellent report (E/4750) which put the various legal issues relating to the transformation of IUOTO into an intergovernmental organization in a very clear perspective. One of the most encouraging developments was that the suggestions made in the Secretary-General's report were taken into account by the General Assembly of IUOTO at Dublin. In the Secretary-General's report, the first two alternatives, namely, the establishment of an intergovernmental tourism organization by convention or by a resolution of a United Nations organ, had not been flatly rejected, but attention had been drawn to the difficulties they would create. It was pointed out in the Secretary-General's report that because of the requirement of ratification or accession a convention might not enter into force for some time, thus delaying the establishment of the new organization, that there would be a hiatus between the dissolution of IUOTO in its present form and the creation of an intergovernmental tourism organization and that there would be a danger of duplication. These difficulties were not insurmountable. Considering the strong desire of the developing countries to have a really effective world tourist body, there would not be much delay in securing the necessary ratifications or accessions; there would be no time lag, because IUOTO in its present form would continue operation until the new body was established. Lastly, there was no danger of duplication, for the new organization would replace the existing one; it would not be additional to it. If, in spite of the foregoing, the sponsors of the draft resolution

* Resumed from the 1647th meeting.

(E/L.1289) had adopted the third alternative, it was because they wanted to take into account the views of major developed countries whose co-operation was essential on an important issue like tourism and because the sponsors had felt encouraged by the highly constructive role they had played in the Dublin Conference.

5. Moreover, the sponsors had no doubt that the resolution adopted at Dublin was designed to serve the purpose of that adopted at Sofia, i.e. the establishment of an inter-governmental body on tourism. The only difference was in the procedure being suggested for the establishment of such an organization. However, the Secretary-General's report clearly established that the difference in procedure would not militate in any way against the intergovernmental character of the transformed IUOTO. It was pointed out in paragraph 28 of the report that "if the Economic and Social Council so wished, it could recognize, by a more flexible definition, that certain intergovernmental organizations also exist which are established by agreement but without the full formalities which attend the conclusion and entry into force of a treaty". It was further pointed out in paragraph 35 that "there would not necessarily appear to be any legal differences" between organizations derived from announcements at the intergovernmental level and those developed from government participation in agencies which had initially been of a non-governmental character, but which had acquired intergovernmental characteristics. Considering the clear understanding reached in Dublin, supported by the legal opinion given in the Secretary-General's report, that the transformed IUOTO would in fact be an intergovernmental body, it was essential to ensure that the mere difference in the procedure to be followed for imparting intergovernmental characteristics to IUOTO should not cause the transformed IUOTO to suffer from any disability. This could be ensured by being as specific and clear as possible on the question of the agreement to be entered into between the United Nations and the transformed IUOTO. The draft resolution was an attempt to make specific provisions to that effect.

6. Moreover, it was pointed out in paragraph 41 that an agreement between the Council and the transformed IUOTO on the modalities for co-operation and consultations "need not necessarily be confined to those concluded under Article 63 of the Charter". It was, therefore, possible to contemplate an agreement which would go beyond the framework of that Article and would take account of subsequent developments in international relations.

7. Paragraph 111 of the report made it clear that the third alternative adopted in Dublin was "also a possible interim solution, permitting a decision, at a later date and in the light of experience, whether a new organization based on a convention, or established as a subsidiary organ of the United Nations, is an absolute necessity". If arrangements being worked out within the framework of IUOTO were not found satisfactory, the establishment of a new organization would become an absolute necessity. The last three preambular paragraphs and operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution were so worded as to imply that the question of reverting to the first two alternatives was not ruled out. His delegation, however, hoped that, given the understanding and co-operation of developed countries, that eventuality would not arise.

8. As far as relations with UNDP were concerned, the role of "participating and executing agency" was not confined to specialized agencies (see Rule 101.1 (f) of the Financial Rules and Regulations of UNDP); it also fell to UNIDO and UNCTAD. Hence IUOTO too could become a "participating and executing agency", should the occasion arise and if its new Statutes gave it a role which would enable it to become one.

9. The sponsors of the draft resolution had avoided taking a decision on IUOTO's field of competence. Whereas IUOTO's original Statutes gave it the role of assisting in the development of world tourist economy, subsequent clarifications, particularly that given in annex III to the Secretary-General's report, assigned IUOTO a more limited function. Besides, the sponsors of the draft resolution supported the activities of United Nations bodies and agencies in the same field. It was better not to try to define IUOTO's field of activities in the resolution and leave it to the working group set up in terms of the Dublin resolution to attempt a more precise definition.

10. He was concerned that preoccupation of the Council with the institutional issues might result in a slowing down of the activities of the United Nations system of organizations in the field of tourism. He requested the Secretariat to prepare a work programme on the subject of tourism and to submit it to the Council at its resumed forty-eighth session, at the latest.

11. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) informed members, in accordance with rule 34 of the rules of procedure of the Council, that the implementation of operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution E/L.1289 would entail an expenditure of approximately \$3,500 to cover the cost of travel and subsistence.

12. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) drew attention to the importance that tourism had assumed in recent years. In one way or another, it came within the competence of nearly every United Nations agency, including UNCTAD, WHO and UNESCO.

13. Draft resolution E/L.1289 gave practical form to the sponsors' efforts to institutionalize tourism. The draft resolution was a felicitous compromise; it satisfied the countries which favoured the establishment of an inter-governmental tourism organization, while at the same time reassuring the countries which had misgivings about the increase in bureaucracy and the lack of efficiency that might result. It settled the question provisionally and left time for it to be examined carefully. The Argentine delegation therefore supported the draft resolution. He pointed out that the third preambular paragraph did not state where the IUOTO General Assembly had been held.

14. Mr. SKATARETIKO (Yugoslavia) thanked all the delegations which had taken part in the work of the drafting group which had prepared draft resolution E/L.1289 and he paid a tribute to the spirit of co-operation and conciliation which had made it possible to produce a text which should normally be adopted unanimously. He himself saw no need for the words "the transformed" to be inserted before "IUOTO" in operative paragraph 5 (b) and (c), but he was prepared to support the proposal of the

Indian representative, if the latter pressed the point. He regretted that the Council had not had time to examine the Secretary-General's relevant reports, in which there were some extremely important points; he hoped that the General Assembly would be able to discuss them when the Council's recommendation on the establishment of an international tourism organization came before it.

15. Mr. IMAM (Kuwait) said that tourism was an area in which there was keen competition between developed and developing countries and in which the latter were still very backward, particularly with regard to the installation of the necessary infrastructure—electricity, road networks, transport, airports, telecommunications, etc. It was difficult to finance that sector from external resources, which, like local private investment, were more attracted to tourist facilities proper, such as hotels, nightclubs, sports and excursion facilities.

16. His delegation favoured the formulation of national tourist plans in the developing countries, believing them to be both an instrument for economic development and a source of foreign exchange which could help the countries concerned to solve their balance of payments problems and reduce their dependence on foreign financial resources. The developing countries needed assistance in the formulation and execution of such plans. The help they were at present receiving in that field from the IBRD and UNDP was far from sufficient; consequently his delegation had always advocated the establishment of an international tourism organization within the United Nations system to deal with problems of tourism and promote the tourist industry in the developing countries. His delegation had been one of the sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1277 submitted to the Council at its forty-seventh session, requesting the Secretary-General to study the guidelines for the creation of an intergovernmental tourism organization as suggested in a resolution adopted at the conference held at Sofia. His delegation fully agreed with the views set forth by the Secretary-General in his report (E/4750). It had doubts, however, about the efficacy of converting IUOTO into an international organization of an intergovernmental character merely by revising its Statutes. The Secretary-General seemed to share those doubts to some extent, for in paragraph 42 of his report he stated that that solution did not present answers as clear-cut as those to be found through the establishment by convention or by resolution of the General Assembly of an intergovernmental organization, and that it could be regarded as an interim solution, it being left for later determination, in the light of experience, whether further constitutional changes should be made to establish a tourism organization on the basis of a convention, or as a subsidiary organ of the United Nations. His delegation considered that view not only accurate but even prophetic. Kuwait was prepared to adopt the third alternative as an interim solution capable of accommodating the existing differences of view on the question, but continued to hope that it would be possible to establish a tourism organization within the United Nations system either on the basis of a convention or as a subsidiary organ of the United Nations.

17. Mr. GUELEV (Bulgaria) said that his Government's interest in the problems of tourism was well known. It was no coincidence that the Intergovernmental Conference on

Tourism had been held at Sofia; that showed the importance that the Bulgarian delegation attached to consideration of the problems of tourism by the United Nations.

18. It appeared that, on the basis of the recommendations and principles adopted at the Sofia Conference, agreement had been reached at the Dublin Conference on certain guidelines acceptable to all the countries concerned which would facilitate a study of the problems of international tourism by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

19. In recent years, the international community had devoted increasing attention to problems relating to tourism in general and to United Nations programmes and activities in that field. It had been realized that international tourism could contribute to understanding between peoples, the strengthening of peace and the raising of levels of living, particularly in developing areas, and to the economic, social and cultural advancement of peoples. The striking expansion of world tourism had led to efforts to find the best way of encouraging the contribution of tourism to the strengthening of international co-operation, and at the same time the need had been recognized to establish an international tourism organization capable of co-ordinating international activities in that field. Thanks to the documents before it, the Council was aware of the various stages in the evolution of the question. As draft resolution E/L.1289 indicated, a number of important aspects of the question were about to be clarified and better understood. In particular, it was now recognized that there was an urgent need to provide tourism with its own international instrument and that it was essential to transform IUOTO, whose constitutional character was ill-suited to the needs that organization had to meet. The Sofia Conference had reflected a unanimous wish to establish an intergovernmental agency that could meet existing needs relating to tourism and that would have the necessary authority to co-ordinate activities for the promotion of tourism and international co-operation in that field. He was therefore pleased that consultations among a number of delegations, including his own, had made it possible to prepare a single draft resolution (E/L.1289) which it should be possible for the Council to adopt unanimously and which should provide the basis for further consideration of problems relating to tourism by the Second Committee of the General Assembly.

20. He supported the proposal by the representative of India to insert the words "the transformed" before "IUOTO" in operative paragraph 5 (a) and (b), since that amendment made the text clearer.

21. Mr. ESTABLIE (France) said that the Secretary-General's report (E/4750) and the resolution adopted at the Dublin Conference were on the same lines, since the Secretary-General clearly showed a preference for a solution that would merely transform IUOTO by the revision of its Statutes, and that was exactly the formula that the Union itself advocated. The French delegation, which had also advocated that solution at Dublin, was accordingly pleased to note the course adopted by IUOTO and hoped that the United Nations would help that organization, within the limits of its resources, to pursue the desired goals. He congratulated the Secretariat on the excellent

report submitted to the Council, and commended the members of the drafting group who had succeeded in agreeing on draft resolution E/L.1289. The French delegation considered that the draft resolution would make it possible for the consideration of the question to be brought to a successful conclusion, IUOTO being left responsible for its own reforms and activities.

22. In general, the draft resolution was acceptable to the French delegation, but he wished, without making any formal amendments, to put forward some suggestions that might improve it. Firstly, in the second preambular paragraph of the draft resolution that the Council was to recommend to the General Assembly for adoption, the document symbol E/4750/Add.1 might be included. Secondly, at the end of operative paragraph 2, it might be mentioned that the President of IUOTO had also been asked to convene an extraordinary General Assembly after the circulation of the draft in question. The second clause of that paragraph would then read: "requesting the President of IUOTO, firstly . . ., and secondly to convene an extraordinary General Assembly after the circulation of the draft in question". That would make it easier to understand operative paragraph 3, which would then have to be amended by the replacement of the words "its forthcoming" before the words "extraordinary General Assembly" by the word "that". Lastly, in operative paragraph 4, a provision that had appeared in the Mexican draft resolution (E/L.1278/Rev.1) might be incorporated by the insertion of the phrase: "in accordance with their respective internal procedures" after the word "adopt".

23. Furthermore, he wondered whether it was realistic to provide that the report asked for in operative paragraph 6 should be ready in time for submission to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-ninth session; he would like to have some information from the Secretariat on that point. In the light of that information, his delegation would determine whether it was appropriate to leave the text of operative paragraph 6 as it stood.

24. With respect to operative paragraph 5 (b), while he understood the spirit in which it was meant, he considered that those provisions should not in any way prejudice whatever decisions might be taken by the UNDP Governing Council, which was the only organ empowered to take a decision on the programme submitted to it.

25. Mr. AHMED (Pakistan) paid tribute to the delegations which, together with his own, had taken part in preparing draft resolution E/L.1289. The United Nations, aware of the fact that tourism helped to strengthen understanding between peoples, had devoted considerable attention to that subject in recent years. A number of specialized agencies, together with UNDP and UNCTAD, were also concerned with the subject, as was clear from the report submitted by the Secretary-General to the Council at its summer session (E/4653 and Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1, Add.3 and 4).

26. It had been clear for some time, however, that, if there was to be any increase in the volume of aid to developing countries in the field of tourism, the time had come to establish an intergovernmental tourism organization and to establish links between that organization and the United

Nations, especially UNDP, so that the volume of aid would correspond to the needs of the countries concerned. It was with that end of view that efforts had been made during the past year to find a formula that was generally acceptable and calculated to achieve the desired aim. The draft resolution under consideration represented to some extent the culmination of those efforts, since the Council was about to recommend to the General Assembly for adoption an appropriate formula for the establishment of an intergovernmental tourism organization. In that respect, the twentieth and twenty-first sessions of IUOTO had represented two important stages in the negotiations.

27. His delegation considered that, for the moment at least, the formula suggested in draft resolution E/L.1289 could alone lead to agreement and to the Union's conversion into an organization of intergovernmental character. In opting for the solution under which the Union's Statutes would be amended, his delegation did not exclude the possibility of taking up the question again at a later date, in the light of further developments. The role entrusted to the Secretary-General under the draft resolution was most important, since he would have to prepare a report containing specific proposals on the agreement to be concluded between the United Nations and IUOTO with a view to establishing and to defining the modalities of close co-operation and relationships. Once IUOTO had been converted, it should establish relationships not only with the United Nations but with the specialized agencies and those United Nations organs which had had some relevant experience in their own particular areas of activity.

28. He would have no objection to the amendments proposed by the Argentine and Indian representatives. He could also accept the French representative's suggestions, particularly the one providing for the insertion of the clause "in accordance with their respective internal procedures" in operative paragraph 4.

29. Mr. AKSIN (Turkey) paid tribute to the sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1289. His delegation entirely shared the view that tourism was an excellent means of accelerating economic and social development and increasing understanding among peoples. There was a growing need for closer international co-operation in that sector, and his Government had therefore always been among those which had recommended IUOTO's conversion into an intergovernmental organization to enable it to play a more effective role. The proposal to convert IUOTO into an intergovernmental organization by revising its Statutes presented no difficulty for his delegation, since it would help to realize the desired objective. His delegation awaited with great interest IUOTO's conversion and the establishment of operational relations between the Union and the United Nations. It also hoped that satisfactory arrangements would be concluded with UNDP so that the converted IUOTO could help the developing countries to promote their tourist industry.

30. He would be pleased to support draft resolution E/L.1289.

31. Mr. LEGNANI (Uruguay) said that tourism was undoubtedly a sector of activity which could give new impetus to the economic social and cultural advancement

of peoples, and foster mutual understanding among nations. His delegation considered that there was merit in all the draft resolutions submitted on the item under consideration, since they all sought the same objective of establishing an intergovernmental tourism organization and relating it to the United Nations. He was pleased to note that all the delegations which had submitted draft resolutions had agreed on a single text, and he was prepared to vote in favour of the draft resolution. Among the recommendations and proposals to be submitted for the consideration of the Council under operative paragraph 5 (c), IUOTO should in particular submit proposals for assisting its members to promote international tourism and for facilitating studies and research on the various aspects of tourism.

32. Mr. O'ROURKE (Ireland) said that his delegation had not yet received instructions from its Government and would therefore have to abstain if the draft resolution were put to the vote at the current meeting. Referring to operative paragraph 5 (b), it might be useful to consult the Administrator of UNDP in that connexion. He thanked the Argentine representative for having proposed that the city of Dublin should be mentioned in the third preambular paragraph.

33. Mr. DECASTIAUX (Belgium) observed that both the report (E/4750) and the draft resolution (E/L.1289) referred sometimes to an "intergovernmental organization" and sometimes to an "organization of intergovernmental character". In the interest of consistency and to avoid any misunderstanding at the time of revision of the Statutes of IUOTO—an essentially juridical operation—he proposed that one wording or the other should be chosen. He personally preferred the term "organization of intergovernmental character", particularly in the title of the draft resolution.

34. His delegation regretted the late submission of the report, which deserved more detailed study.

35. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) thanked the sponsors of the draft resolution for having consulted his delegation. Not all the United Kingdom suggestions had been accepted, however, and he would have to abstain if the draft resolution were put to the vote.

36. He agreed with the representative of Belgium that the terms "intergovernmental organization" and "organization of intergovernmental character" had different meanings, and he hoped that the sponsors of the draft resolution would bear that in mind and make the necessary corrections.

37. In his opinion, the word "creation" in operative paragraph 4 should be replaced by the word "conversion" in line with the idea expressed in operative paragraph 3.

38. As for the conversion of IUOTO, it should be borne in mind that some countries, including the United Kingdom, were at present represented in it by non-governmental bodies, which should not be excluded from the new organization. He drew attention in that connexion to paragraph 28 of the report of the Secretary-General, where reference was made to an organization which was "essen-

tially" intergovernmental, which did not mean exclusively intergovernmental.

39. The recommendation for joint action in operative paragraph 3 did not apply to the United Kingdom, which had no national official tourist organization.

40. Referring to the French representative's observation on operative paragraph 5 (b), he said that it was the responsibility of UNDP and not of the General Assembly to decide whether IUOTO should be entitled to function as a participating and executing agency. In his opinion, the conclusions of the *Study of the Capacity of the United Nations System*¹ would usefully clarify that aspect of the question.

41. While recognizing that the establishment of an intergovernmental tourism organization should be directed particularly at assisting the developing countries, as indicated explicitly in operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, he emphasized that IUOTO was a world-wide organization and that the share of assistance given to countries other than developing countries should not be reduced.

42. Mr. ABE (Japan) said that the draft resolution deserved further study. He would therefore abstain from voting, particularly since he had so far received no instructions from his Government.

43. Mr. SULEIMAN (Libya) said that he entirely shared the opinion expressed in the Secretary-General's report (see E/4750, para. 111) that the best arrangement would be the conversion of IUOTO into an international organization of an intergovernmental character through the revision of its Statutes. As indicated in the report, that could be adopted as an interim solution, permitting a decision to be taken at a later date and in the light of experience on whether a new organization, based on a convention or established as a subsidiary organ of the United Nations, was an absolute necessity.

44. He regretted that he would have to abstain if the draft resolution were put to the vote, as his delegation had not received instructions from its Government.

45. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) welcomed the fact that consultations among the various delegations had made it possible to overcome the difficulties of precision and logic in the text and to produce a draft resolution reconciling different needs and viewpoints. He hoped that it would be adopted and would mark the beginning of dynamic and specific action which, through the prospects of development and international cultural exchanges which tourism had to offer, could bring closer the realization of the ultimate objective of the United Nations, namely the attainment of peace.

46. Mr. DUBEY (India), summing up the proposed amendments, recalled that the French representative had proposed the addition at the end of operative paragraph 2 of the clause "and to convene an extraordinary General Assembly of IUOTO to draw up and adopt the Statutes of an

¹ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.70.I.10.

intergovernmental organization". He hoped that members would support that proposal, which had been provided in draft resolution E/L.1288 submitted by India and Yugoslavia.

47. The French representative had also proposed the insertion in operative paragraph 4 of the phrase "in accordance with their respective internal procedures" after the word "adopt". He hoped that members would have no objection to that amendment. He hoped that the Yugoslav delegation would not object to the insertion of the words "the transformed" before the word "Union" in paragraph 5 (b) and (c).

48. Other suggestions had been made, but he was afraid that they would call for new negotiations that would be long and arduous. He proposed that the terms "international organization" and "organization of intergovernmental character" should be left as they were; they had been used several times in the Dublin resolution, as well as the term "establishment", to designate the conversion of IUOTO into an intergovernmental tourism organization. As for the observation made by the representative of the United Kingdom on the possibility of enabling IUOTO to function as a participating and executing agency of UNDP, he pointed out that there was no contradiction between the decision of the General Assembly and the Governing Council of UNDP on this matter. There were numerous examples of the General Assembly having designated a particular organization as a "participating and executing" agency and the Governing Council having endorsed it. Besides, paragraph 6 provided for advance consultations between the Secretary-General and the Administrator of UNDP.

49. He hoped that the delegation of Ireland would be able to vote in favour of the draft resolution when it was discussed in the General Assembly, particularly as it had voted in favour of the Dublin resolution.

50. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, while he would explain his vote at a later stage, his delegation intended to vote for draft resolution E/L.1289. He hoped that that instrument would give birth to a new and more efficient organization as a consequence of the changes in its mandate, composition and structure.

51. However, he pointed out certain inaccuracies in the wording of the Russian and English texts of the draft resolution, which he asked the Secretary of the Council to have corrected by the language services concerned.

52. Mr. DE SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) thanked the Council for its complimentary words, which he would certainly transmit to the Secretariat and especially to the General Legal Division, whose efforts had led to the preparation of the report (E/4750) which, together with the debates of the Council, was an important step likely to facilitate the development of an international institutional system. The Council had correctly noted that the decision it would take was only part of the programme for promoting tourism in the world. At present, 80 per cent of the earnings from tourism went to the industrialized countries; in order to promote that industry on a world-wide scale, very ambi-

tious programmes would have to be set up which would enable certain developing countries to catch up. The programmes would require vast sums of public as well as private capital, which should have a noticeable effect in the next ten years. Tourism was an important source of foreign exchange and a valuable source of employment because of its high labour coefficient; a higher than average return could thus be expected from well-conceived projects, provided they are included in the framework of general programming and that every aspect was carefully studied. The promotion of tourist activities obviously required the financing of the necessary infrastructure and the strictest co-ordination of the development of tourist establishments and of others more or less directly related to that industry.

53. He pointed out that the Secretariat had previously submitted to the Economic and Social Council two studies on tourism, one of which (E/4653) dealt with problems relating to international arrangements other than those which had just been discussed, while the other (E/4615 and Corr.1) was an analysis of the problems confronting any government which wished to promote tourism, following the United Nations Interregional Seminar on Tourism Development held in Berne in 1968. In view of the urgency of the questions concerning IUOTO, those two documents had been practically forgotten, but he hoped that the Council would consider them in detail at its next session.

54. He assured the French representative that the report mentioned in operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution E/L.1289 would be prepared within the prescribed time-limit.

55. Mr. OSMAN (Sudan) hoped that the future intergovernmental organization resulting from the conversion of IUOTO would, without discrimination, apply the principle of universality on which all activity in the field of tourism must be based. If it satisfied that condition, Sudan would unreservedly support it.

56. The PRESIDENT put the draft resolution to the vote.

Draft resolution E/L.1289 as orally amended was adopted by 19 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

57. The PRESIDENT said that, in view of the vote which had just been taken, draft resolutions E/L.1278/Rev.1, E/L.1287 and E/L.1288 were withdrawn.

58. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) expressed satisfaction that the Council had adopted the draft resolution. If it were applied in accordance with principles set forth at Dublin and Sofia, it would be possible to establish a universal and efficient tourism organization, open to all countries and profitable to all nations and peoples. Indeed, as had rightly been stressed, the tourist industry was developing rapidly in all countries.

59. He observed that the question of financing had not been ignored in the draft resolution that had just been adopted, and said that it had also been considered both at the Sofia and Dublin conferences.

60. Mr. MARSH (Jamaica) explained that his delegation had abstained because it wished to study the question in

greater detail. It hoped to take a more positive stand when the question was discussed by the Second Committee of the General Assembly.

AGENDA ITEM 11

Consideration of the provisional agenda for the organizational meetings of the forty-eighth session (E/L.1283)

61. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the Council had before it a note from the Secretary-General containing a number of proposals (E/L.1283). With regard to paragraph 1 of that document, the Council had decided at its 1647th meeting to adopt, on a provisional basis, the Secretary-General's proposals for amendments to the relevant rules of procedure of the Council and other organiza-

tional changes, as contained in paragraphs 4 to 8 of document E/4757 and Corr.1, and to suspend rules 2, 9 and 14 of its rules of procedure.

62. If there were no objections, he would consider that the Council had adopted the provisional agenda for the organizational meetings of the forty-eighth session as proposed in document E/L.1283.

It was so decided.

Closure of the session

63. The PRESIDENT declared the resumed forty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council closed.

The meeting rose at 1.25 p.m.