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GENERAL DEBATE (continued)

1. Mr. WEIDINGER (Austria) said that the Secretary-General's report on proposed measures in connexion with the United Nations Development Decade (E/3613) clearly indicated that the time for action had come and that the best possible use should be made of the existing machinery, improving and supplementing it as necessary. In that connexion, the *ad hoc* Committee, created by resolution 851 (XXXII) of the Economic and Social Council, and the Special Committee on co-ordination with particular emphasis on the United Nations Development Decade, established by Council resolution 920 (XXXIV), could play an increasingly greater role. Austria knew from experience as a recipient of Marshall Plan aid how important it was to keep as compact as possible the administrative machinery between donor and recipient countries.

2. For the same reason, Austria, having objectively considered the feasibility of holding an international conference on trade problems, endorsed the compromise reached at the thirty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Council. The complexity of the problems involved made the thorough preparation of the conference an indispensable condition for its success. Concerning the conference's scope, his delegation agreed with the view already expressed that the confer-

ence should be a supplement to, and not a substitute for, GATT and other already existing organizations. Indeed, a tribute should be paid to GATT for its fruitful work, which had found striking expression, in November 1961, in the Declaration on Promotion of the Trade of Less-developed Countries.^{1/} The Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, created by the terms of Council resolution 917 (XXXIV), should avoid any duplication of the work already accomplished. The topic of the Conference—the interrelationship between trade and development—was one of the crucial problems facing the developing countries in view of the deterioration of the terms of trade and the fluctuation of primary commodity prices. The latter problem was not a new one and it should not be impossible to remove that burden of uncertainty from the developing countries.

3. Another problem which should not be lost sight of was the mobilization of human resources. As the Secretary-General had stated in section III of his report on proposed measures the unutilized talents of their people constitute the chief present waste, and the chief future hope, of the developing countries. The importance of education and training in the development process could therefore hardly be overestimated. Austria was already making a real contribution in that sector: 6,000 students from developing countries were studying in Austria; Austrian youth organizations were providing more than \$600,000 yearly for fellowships, training programmes and schools in developing countries; Austrian industry had, in 1961, accepted about 500 technicians from developing countries who wished to have special training in Austria; another Austrian youth organization was establishing a training centre for community development workers in Tanganyika; and the Ministry of Education had founded and was directing a technical college at Teheran. Those training programmes were mainly intended to develop manpower at the intermediate level, which was of great importance for well-balanced economic development, as had very recently been pointed out at an international conference held at Puerto Rico. Nevertheless, such educational and training programmes could bear full fruit only after a relatively long period of time, and practical short-term measures had to be employed to overcome the present shortage of experts in the developing countries. Through its advisory services, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development could be of great help in that respect.

4. As regards development financing, the Special Fund had in the space of three years become an indispensable instrument and one of the corner-stones of the multilateral development machinery. The Austrian Government had accordingly decided to increase by about 16 per cent its contribution to the Special Fund and to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. But the developing countries also needed capital at low interest rates, and it was necessary to contemplate in that respect, as recommended by the Secretary-General, an expansion of IDA, particularly since the resources necessary for a United Nations capital development fund were not yet available.

5. While the recognition of another division of the world was implicit in the discussion of developed and

under-developed countries, sight should not be lost of the more unifying aspect of the development process—the interdependence of the economies of the various countries, regions and continents. That applied also to regional and sub-regional economic groupings, which clearly strengthened the economies of the member countries while at the same time enabling them to participate to a greater extent in the development programmes of other countries. It was in that vein that the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs had stated (795th meeting), that the maintenance on re-establishment of high rates of growth within the framework of concerted action is certainly the greatest contribution which the industrial countries can make to the success of a long-term international effort on behalf of the under-developed countries. Such effort, by ensuring the economic development of the developing countries, would certainly convert an enormous demand for goods into purchasing power, lay the basis for a new era of economic relations between industrial and developing countries and demonstrate that development aid was not a one-way road but a partnership bringing benefits to all.

6. Mr. CULLEN (Ireland) said that the Secretary-General's proposed measures (E/3613) provided a broad outline of the action which could be taken during the United Nations Development Decade. The proposals were especially commendable for the detailed attention which they gave to investment needs in social and educational development, an aspect which had sometimes been neglected because of purely economic preoccupations. The Irish delegation also wished to stress the necessity for machinery for reviewing progress in the attainment of the Decade's goals, a suggestion which had already been made by the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs in his statement before the Committee. Progress would not be easy and it could be said that without definite stepping-stones, there could be no guarantee of the success of the enterprise. Furthermore, machinery for measuring the efforts made by the developing countries, the developed countries and the international community would entail studies and comparisons that would be of particular value in resolving the development problems which would arise during the Decade.

7. However, the basic economic problem, namely, the trading difficulties which hampered the raising of living levels in the developing countries, must not be overlooked. The fall in prices of primary products, the rise in prices of capital goods and the deterioration in the terms of trade slowed down economic expansion and threatened to keep the economic growth of the developing countries at a very low level. For those countries, the flow of capital and international aid undoubtedly constituted a valuable contribution, but their own national resources were a vital source of finance for their development, as was their ability to pay for the bulk of their imports from their export earnings. If that ability was threatened, the rate of their economic development would inevitably suffer. Furthermore, deterioration in the terms of trade nullified the effects of capital inflows and added to the burden of servicing foreign debts. Finally, a corollary of diversification of production was the need to find outlets for manufactured goods. The developed countries must therefore liberalize their trade policies with a view to eliminating the protection enjoyed by their own

^{1/} General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, Basic Instruments and Selected Documents, Tenth Supplement (Geneva, 1962), p. 28.

producers of primary goods and to opening up their domestic markets to the manufactured goods of the developing countries.

8. Despite the attention given in recent years to problems of international trade, there had been no improvement in the trade prospects of the developing countries in that respect. The proposal to hold a United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was therefore of great significance. The delegation of Ireland laid particular stress on the need for the preparatory committee to be able to devote all the care and time to its work which it deserved, and it urged that the work done by GATT, the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems and the Commission on International Commodity Trade should be taken into account. The weakness in the prices of primary commodities and their sensitivity to fluctuations emphasized the necessity for maintaining a high level of economic activity in the advanced countries. The progress resulting from regional economic integration was enabling them to liberalize their trading policy, an aspect of the question of regional economic groupings which the developing countries would be wrong to overlook.

9. In addition, an increase in the flow of capital to the developing countries was necessary if an annual rate of increase of 5 per cent in national income was to be achieved by the end of the Development Decade. The value of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and of the Special Fund as a source of pre-investment assistance was out of all proportion to the relatively modest sums put at their disposal. In capital development financing, priority should be given to the replenishment of the resources of IDA.

10. It was important not to neglect the role played by private capital. It brought to the countries in which it was invested not only very necessary funds but also the technical know-how and foreign contacts which could open up outlets for the products of the new manufacturing industries. The association of foreign private capital with local capital also helped to channel savings in the developing countries into productive outlets. The Irish delegation therefore welcomed the series of reports prepared by the Secretariat on ways of increasing the international flow of private capital.

11. Two aspects of development policy were perhaps worthy of special emphasis. In the first place, it was necessary not to overlook the importance of the agricultural sector. A backward agriculture immobilized manpower which could be used in industry, perpetuated the disparity between urban and rural incomes and made it necessary to use precious foreign exchange for imports of food that could have been produced domestically. Failure by the developing countries to ensure agricultural progress would lead to a slowing-down of their general economic development. In that connexion, the Irish Government welcomed the objectives of the FAO Freedom from Hunger Campaign and of the World Food Programme. Secondly, the need for sound development planning and for a wise allocation of resources within the developing countries could not be overstressed. There the Economic Projections and Programming Centre and the proposed regional sub-centres would have an important role to play. The Industrial Development Centre would also be able to provide much needed advice and technical assist-

ance, and the Irish delegation attached great importance to the current study of means of strengthening its activities. However, it would be premature to establish a separate technical assistance agency for industrial development.

12. The Irish delegation remained confident that, if the available resources were used to the best advantage, it would be possible, with the co-operation of all Member States, to achieve by 1970 the objectives set for the Development Decade.

13. Mr. WINIEWICZ (Poland) said that the current session was of particular importance since the Committee, for the first time for many years, proposed to pass from interesting but somewhat general recommendations to practical and specific action. In doing so, it should be guided by two basic considerations. In the first place, the world was divided economically into three groups, namely, the developed capitalist countries, the socialist countries and the less economically developed States, and the situation of the last group was steadily deteriorating. Secondly, in international economic relations, particularly within the group of developed capitalist countries, changes were visible which might deepen existing divisions and hamper the world's economic development, particularly that of the less developed countries. The United Nations, in which all three groups were represented, could not watch such events impassively. It had to mount a counter-offensive against phenomena harmful to the development of the world economy.

14. Contrary to all the optimistic assurances emanating from the capitalist countries, the world economic situation continued to deteriorate. The gap in the growth of production between the highly industrialized capitalist countries and the economically less developed countries was constantly widening. Furthermore, many industrialized capitalist countries were unable to use their productive forces to the full and suffered from unemployment. However, their difficulties could not be compared with those of the economically underdeveloped countries, whose annual rate of economic growth was only 3 to 3.5 per cent. On the other hand, there was regular and sustained economic growth in the group of socialist countries. National income was increasing at the rate of 7 per cent, mainly because of an annual rise in industrial production of 9 to 11 per cent; in 1960, the share of the socialist countries in world industrial production had exceeded 33 per cent.

15. For many years the developed capitalist countries had maintained that international measures were more or less ineffectual and that the world economic situation depended upon the level of activity in the highly industrialized countries. That argument was no longer tenable. Economic expansion in the community of socialist States was continuing, while the economic growth of the main industrialized countries was relatively restricted; the current stagnation of the economically less developed countries was largely due to the fact that the vaunted "market trends", which should influence their development, had failed completely. It was thus the economically less developed countries, in which 40 per cent of the world's population lived, which suffered most from the current economic situation. That was why the representatives of the developing countries were demanding a change in the present state of affairs, a change to be effected with the participation of the United Nations.

16. The division of the world economy into three groups was evident in trade. International trade based on the capitalist thesis of the international division of labour was a phenomenon of the past. Now that the capitalist countries could no longer exercise a decisive influence over the world economy, a new division of labour was needed. It was international trade linked to a new division of labour which could improve the economic situation of the whole world and above all that of the developing countries. It was, indeed, trade which would enable those countries to acquire the means indispensable to their development. Without a change in the current system of economic relations, the developing countries would inevitably see their share of world trade decrease year by year. From 1956 to 1960, the share of those countries in world exports had fallen from 24.2 to 21.5 per cent and their import capabilities had been constantly limited by the unfavourable terms of trade. Their imports had risen by less than 15 per cent, whereas those of the highly industrialized countries had risen by 24 per cent and those of the socialist countries by 57 per cent.

17. Such figures showed the importance of the socialist market for the development of international trade. The socialist countries had overcome the difficulties resulting from the destruction caused by the war—destruction far greater than that suffered by the Western countries—and had embarked upon the road of rapid independent economic growth. Their co-operation in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON) had substantially accelerated that process. That Council was neither an autarkic nor a monopolistic organization. The socialist States did not wish to restrict their trade with the rest of the world. On the contrary, they intended to expand their trade with the developing States and were also in favour of steadily increasing it with the highly developed capitalist countries.

18. Poland had considerably expanded its trade with countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America, North America and Australia, and its participation as an associate member of GATT testified to its policy of extensive trade relations with the rest of the world. Some representatives had tried to belittle the role of the socialist States in world trade; but, according to the *Statistical Yearbook, 1961*,^{2/} the imports of the socialist countries had increased in value almost ninefold between 1938 and 1960 and their imports from the less developed countries had grown more than twelve times during the same period. The imports of the well-developed capitalist countries, on the other hand, had within the span of over twenty years expanded only fivefold and their imports from less developed countries only threefold. That illustrated the dynamism of the socialist countries.

19. The tendency to conclude regional economic agreements resulted from the disintegration of the old system of the international division of labour. A new pattern of economic relations was taking shape, based upon the coexistence of different systems and different levels of economic development. No criticism could be levelled against the development of regional co-operation and specialization, if it aimed at lowering costs and increasing the volume of production, increasing exports, expanding international trade and raising levels of living. It was, however, essential

that the creation of associations on a regional or sub-regional level should not be directed against the interests of third parties, serve political objectives, interfere with peaceful international co-operation, retard the economic growth of other countries or aggravate the already unfavourable conditions for their development.

20. For that reason, it was inappropriate to compare, as the representatives of the United Kingdom and France had done, the European Economic Community with other regional organizations. One could not liken the integration process of developing States to the integration arrangements of States with a strong concentration of capital and highly developed industry. The Community did not conform to those principles, as was proved by the severe criticism it had drawn. His delegation fully shared the views on that subject expressed by the representatives of Ghana, Tunisia, Nigeria, Tanganyika and other delegations. The creation of the European Common Market had been closely linked with ideas upon which the Western military alliance had been based, and that characteristic feature remained. In view of the growing role of the Federal Republic of Germany and the dominations of the member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in the European Common Market, it was difficult to accept the soothing assurances of its spokesmen. Words were not enough to dispel the misgivings that had been aroused. Reservations concerning the political foundations of the European Economic Community should be taken seriously into consideration by those neutral States which were considering their own attitude towards that group.

21. In 1960, the European Economic Community had received over 23 per cent of the entire world's food exports, almost 29 per cent of the world's raw material exports and over 23 per cent of the total exports of fuel. As could be seen from its future plans, the Community intended to limit its imports of primary commodities to the extent to which its own protected production could not satisfy the demand, a measure which would be reflected first of all in the restriction of imports from the temperate zone. Moreover, some countries would have a privileged status while others would not be able to sell to members countries of the Community because of high tariffs walls. The former countries would be strongly tied to the metropolitan countries of the European Common Market, a system which had been described as neo-colonialism. The logic of such an accusation could not be denied, since the European Common Market would in many cases reflect, under a new guise, the colonial dependence of producers of cheap raw materials on the suppliers of costly industrial products, barring the possibility for their further development. The other countries would face an "iron curtain" of tariffs. It was a case of obvious discrimination.

22. Discrimination had also been applied by certain capitalist countries to the socialist countries; that was in fact a practice of embargo, usually applied against an adversary with whom one was at war. Such methods did not, however, lead to the intended results. They had not stopped the development of the socialist countries. In fact, they had made it more difficult for some industries in capitalist countries to maintain profitable trade relations with socialist markets. It was contrary to international law in time of peace to hamper free navigation as a

^{2/} United Nations publication, Sales No.: 62, XVII.1.

means of economic pressure or to impede the access of merchant ships to foreign ports. the "right to commerce" had already been recognized in the nineteenth century, and that rule of international law had been increasingly strictly applied as forms of international co-operation developed. History had confirmed that all attempts at subordination of individual countries or groups of States by a great Power or by a group of economically powerful countries had, in the long run, failed to yield the expected results. On the contrary, they only poisoned the international atmosphere.

23. Although in certain circumstances countries were fully justified in forming economic groups, it was important that that should not be done at the expense of other countries. With regard to the European Economic Community, a group composed of powerful States, its unilateral decisions should not be forced on the rest of the world as accomplished facts.

24. The task of creating proper conditions for the uniform and speedy development of international trade was not an easy one. Political difficulties arose and certain groups representing monopolistic interests opposed any change in the existing system of economic relations. The Soviet Union and the socialist States had long advocated the convening of a conference on international trade. At its thirty-fourth session, the Economic and Social Council had adopted resolution 917 (XXXIV) on that subject. The Cairo Conference on the Problems of Economic Development had reached important conclusions. There was also the Soviet Union proposal concerning the convening of an international trade conference (A/C.2/L.645). Thus, the basis had been laid for the preparation and convening of such an international conference, which should be held promptly and should be well prepared. There was no contradiction in that. Questions of international trade had for years been discussed in United Nations organs and the current debate was concerned with principles and solutions which had long been analysed. The preparatory committee provided for in resolution 917 (XXXIV) could speedily complete its task. In view of the necessity of anticipating some moves which might confront the conference with a "fait accompli" and which would be advantageous only to highly developed capitalist countries, it was important that that conference should be convened as promptly as possible.

25. The main items to which the international conference should turn its attention were the following. First, the only common market which mankind required was a world-wide common market, open to all countries without inequalities or discrimination. Secondly, only such a market could avoid deepening the economic split in the world and promote maximum utilization of existing resources for the benefit of all; both the developed and the developing countries—the latter in order not to be tied completely to a highly restricted market—needed to exchange their products with those of the socialist countries, which for their part strongly desired to trade with all countries, regardless of political systems. Thirdly, it was important to work out principles by means of which the under-developed countries might gain through trade sufficient income to meet their requirements: those countries must be assured of free access to all markets for their exports, until they were able to expand and diversify their production through transformation of their production structure;

they must also be assured of prices more or less proportional to those which they had to pay for imported goods and services; the problem of the inequality of trade was in fact too well known to call for further emphasis. Fourthly, it was necessary to establish an international trade organization within which agreement could be reached on all questions of world trade and on all the measures to be taken for its maximum development. Such an organization should also be responsible for the planning of trade development, since the need for long-term planning in all economic fields had now been accepted not only by the socialist States but by all States, as was demonstrated by the adoption of General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI).

26. Confidence and understanding among all peoples would be strengthened if international economic relations were based on the principles of equality, mutual advantage and non-interference in the domestic affairs of States. Unfortunately, the West had so far not fully grasped the great ideas which had been emphasized for years by the socialist States, namely, that war was not inevitable and that nations ought to coexist peacefully. Those were not empty phrases or propaganda slogans, but principles which had enormous potential scope. To coexist did not mean to stagnate or vegetate together, but to compete to make life richer and happier.

27. To stress the importance of trade was not to underestimate the importance of assistance. It had been recognized that the growth of the less developed countries should be based chiefly on the development of their own resources, but in view of the present unequal distribution of world production, international assistance would continue to be necessary for many years to come. Such assistance should be free of any political ties and conditions; it should be solely related to the specific economic needs of the recipient countries and should therefore be closely linked with the chief element of their economy, that is, with the export of their products and the import of goods and services. In that way, there would be a flow of wealth from countries with a high national product to those whose national product was low, which would help to restore the balance of the world economy. The techniques for effecting such a transfer, of course, raised a number of problems, the greatest of which was to decide which resources should be transferred.

28. The report of the group of expert consultants (E/3593/Rev.1) which the Committee would shortly be considering in more detail had already shown that the necessary resources existed and that all that was needed was sufficiently early preparation for linking the material means released as a result of disarmament with the whole question of assistance to the under-developed countries. Hitherto, the investment programmes of the less developed countries had not been treated from the logical standpoint of their needs, but solely from that of their limited financial resources or of the risks involved for the capitalist nations and their institutions. In consequence, no one knew what the actual needs of the under-developed countries would be in the years to come. That was why the study of the investment needs of the less developed countries proposed by the Soviet delegation would be most valuable. The study would probably show that the growth rate of 5 per cent per annum envisaged for the national income of the under-developed countries was too low in relation both to actual needs and to the vast resources that

might be released through general and complete disarmament.

29. The basic decisions to be taken at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly coincided with the institution of the United Nations Development Decade. If the institution of the Decade was to be something more than a propaganda gesture, the activities of the different bodies should be centrally organized on the basis of a well-defined order of priorities, so that dispersal of effort and purely routine moves could be avoided. The orderly planning of the numerous tasks could best be done in connexion with the consideration of the directives to be given to the forthcoming conference on trade and development. In taking those decisions, the Committee should always keep the following four principles in mind: the existing split in the world economy was widening and was prejudicial mainly to the less developed countries; the development of the globe did not depend exclusively on the expansion of the capitalist countries but on co-operation between the three existing groups of States, namely, the developed capitalist countries, the socialist countries and the developing countries; any action under United Nations auspices should aim at introducing reforms in the most important field, that of trade; all organs of the United Nations, particularly the regional economic commissions, should be restored to their proper role in the sphere of international economic relations. If the Committee based its work on those principles, the current session might become the starting point of an era of international economic co-operation which would improve the lot of all mankind.

30. Mr. AGOLLI (Albania) said that economic instability had continued in many countries during 1961. For instance, the economic recovery in the major capitalist countries had not been as rapid as had been expected and their rate of industrial growth had been only 3 per cent, as compared with 13 per cent in the socialist countries. The production of armaments resulting from the imperialist war-mongering policy entailed enormous military expenditure, amounting to \$51,200 million in the United States for the financial year 1961-1962, and was increasingly harmful to the economic position of the capitalist countries. The immediate results of such a policy had been inflation, an increase in the prices of consumer goods, a rise in the cost of living and hence a reduction in the purchasing power of the people. In addition, the balance of payments of the highly developed capitalist countries had been disrupted by their heavy expenditure on the maintenance and equipment of hundreds of military bases in foreign territory surrounding the socialist countries. The domestic market of the capitalist countries was also unable to absorb surplus production, with the result that competition abroad was being intensified. According to the weekly paper *Perspectives économiques*, in its issue of 3 January 1962, export had become the essential condition of the economic, financial, monetary and social and political well-being of the Western countries. The emergence of closed economic groups such as the European Economic Community and the rivalries between them, reflected the profound contradictions of the capitalist system and were only another aspect of the eternal struggle of the monopolies to secure markets.

31. The situation was quite different in the socialist countries, in which crises, fluctuations and unemployment were unknown and which were making

uninterrupted progress. Industrial production, which had become the principal source of income in almost all those countries, was growing at an increasingly rapid rate; its share of total world production had risen from 27 per cent in 1955 to 37 per cent in 1961, and should be more than 50 per cent by 1965. The People's Republic of Albania, which had been considered only recently as one of the most backward countries in Europe, had made extraordinary progress, thanks to its political and social system. In 1965, at the end of its third five-year plan, industry would be a larger sector of the economy than agriculture. In 1955, Albania had produced 25.7 times more industrial goods than in 1938; Tirana alone now produced five times more than all of Albania had produced before the war. Between 1960 and 1965, industrial output, more than half of it consisting of capital goods, would increase at an average rate of 8.7 per cent a year and public investment would equal the total of all investment over the last ten years. Appreciable progress had been made in prospecting for and mining copper, chromium and nickel ore, coal and petroleum. At the same time, agriculture was being modernized following the adoption, immediately after the liberation, of land reforms under which land had been given to the peasants, while the State guaranteed supplies of seed and the provision of credit. The area of arable land had risen from 9 to 15 per cent as a result of the improvement of uncultivated land, the drainage of swamps and the clearing of forests. In addition, progress was being made with the mechanization of farming, the number of tractors having risen from about thirty in 1938 to 4,950 in 1961. Lastly, the collectivization of agriculture, which had been in effect since 1959, had been an important development both from the economic and from the political and social points of view. Thanks to the implementation of the plan in 1961, it had been possible to raise the material and cultural level of living of the population, as was proved by the increase of 5 per cent in retail sales. There had also been a further reduction in the prices of consumer goods in October 1961.

32. At the international level, important changes had taken place during the past few years as a result of the achievement of independence by many peoples formerly subjected to the imperialist and colonial system. By laying the bases for sound national economies, those countries could be sure of a bright future. Their development was, however, linked to the development of their natural resources, industrialization, the modernization of their agriculture and the raising of the material and cultural standards of their peoples. They would also have to export their primary commodities: the stabilization of international markets and the prevention of fluctuations in the prices of their export products would certainly promote their development, as would be the elimination of protectionist and discriminatory policies. Unfortunately, they were still facing a great many obstacles erected by the capitalist countries. During the preceding year, the prices of primary commodities had continued to decline while those of the manufactured products they had to import had continued to rise; those two trends were the fundamental cause of the present imbalance between supply and demand for many primary commodities. In spite of all the resolutions which the General Assembly had adopted on international trade, the capitalist countries were still opposing just solutions because it was in their

interest, if they wished to retain their present privileges, to prevent any change in the existing structure of the under-developed countries. It was important to recognize the right of the under-developed countries, whose per caput income was at present only one-twentieth of that of the capitalist countries, to develop their own resources and to receive assistance without any political, military or economic strings attached.

33. The example of Cuba, which had undertaken reforms aimed at promoting the expansion of its economy despite economic blockade, acts of provocation and interference by the United States imperialists, attested to the successes which could be achieved by a country that managed to build up its industry. A people which was master of its own destiny could thwart any plots against it. Enjoying the sympathy of all peace-loving peoples, it was invincible. The United Nations Development Decade would only produce disillusionment if the aid furnished to the under-developed countries was in reality nothing but the point of departure for new penetrations by the capitalist Powers in those countries. In addressing the Senate on 5 June 1961, the United States Secretary of the Treasury had personally acknowledged that the programme of aid to foreign countries was one of the

pillars of the security and well-being of the United States. President Kennedy, for his part, had stated in his message to Congress in March 1962 that the programme was of vital importance to the interests of the United States and had insisted that such aid should be granted only to Governments which would use it to oppose social changes in their countries and to combat communism. Such so-called economic assistance would scarcely meet the needs of the under-developed countries, for the only means of ensuring their economic growth would be to put an end to the systematic pillaging by the foreign monopolies and to abolish discrimination in trade.

34. Albania was in favour of the development of trade on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, for trade should constitute a means of bringing peoples closer together. It hoped that an international conference on problems of trade would be convened and it approved the date and the agenda proposed by the delegation of the Soviet Union in its draft resolution (A/C.2/L.645). It supported all measures intended to strengthen international economic co-operation and thus to consolidate peace.

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.