

United Nations  
**GENERAL  
 ASSEMBLY**

FIFTEENTH SESSION  
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**SECOND COMMITTEE, 714th  
 MEETING**  
 (Closing meeting)

Wednesday, 14 December 1960,  
 at 3.10 p.m.

**NEW YORK**

**CONTENTS**

	Page
<i>Agenda items 12, 29 and 74:</i>	
<i>Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters II (sections I, II and III A, except paragraphs 189-198), III, IV and VII (section I and paragraph 645)) (concluded)</i>	
<i>Economic development of under-developed countries (concluded):</i>	
<i>(a) International flow of private capital: report of the Secretary-General and recommendations thereon by the Economic and Social Council;</i>	
<i>(b) Question of the establishment of a United Nations capital development fund: report of the Secretary-General;</i>	
<i>(c) Methods and techniques for carrying out a study of world economic development: report of the Secretary-General and comments thereon by the Economic and Social Council;</i>	
<i>(d) Promotion of wider trade co-operation among States: report of the Secretary-General</i>	
<i>Land reform (concluded)</i>	
<i>Adoption of the draft report of the Committee</i>	429
<i>Agenda items 28, 30, 31 and 32:</i>	
<i>Progress and operations of the Special Fund (concluded)</i>	
<i>Programmes of technical assistance:</i>	
<i>(a) Report of the Economic and Social Council (concluded);</i>	
<i>(b) United Nations assistance in public administration: report of the Secretary-General (concluded);</i>	
<i>(c) Confirmation of the allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (concluded)</i>	
<i>Opportunities for international co-operation on behalf of former Trust Territories and other newly independent States: reports of the Economic and Social Council and of the Secretary-General (concluded)</i>	
<i>Question of assistance to Libya: report of the Secretary-General (concluded)</i>	
<i>Adoption of the draft report of the Committee</i>	430
<i>Completion of the Committee's work. . . . .</i>	430

Chairman: Mr. Janez STANOVNIK (Yugoslavia).

**AGENDA ITEMS 12, 29 AND 74**

Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters II (sections I, II and III A, except paragraphs 189-198), III, IV and VII (section I and paragraph 645)) (A/4415) (concluded)

**Economic development of under-developed countries (concluded):**

- (a) International flow of private capital: report of the Secretary-General and recommendations thereon by the Economic and Social Council (A/4487, E/3325 and Corr.1-3);
- (b) Question of the establishment of a United Nations capital development fund: report of the Secretary-General (A/4488, E/3393, E/3393/Add.1-4);
- (c) Methods and techniques for carrying out a study of world economic development: report of the Secretary-General and comments thereon by the Economic and Social Council (A/4489 and Add.1, E/3379, E/3379/Add.1-7);
- (d) Promotion of wider trade co-operation among States: report of the Secretary-General (A/4490, E/3389)

**Land reform (A/4439) (concluded)**

**ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE (A/C.2/L.537)**

1. Mr. AHMAD (Pakistan) (Rapporteur) introduced the Committee's draft report on agenda items 12, 29 and 74 (A/C.2/L.537), indicating a number of drafting changes to be made in the text.

2. Mr. CARANICAS (Greece) submitted a new text of paragraph 113 which, he felt, more accurately reflected the course of the discussion on the draft resolution on the establishment of a United Nations capital development fund (A/C.2/L.472/Rev.1).

3. U HLA MAUNG (Burma) stated that his delegation would have no objection to the inclusion in the report of the new wording proposed by the Greek representative. The new text gave an accurate account of what the Greek and Burmese representatives had said at the 705th meeting.

*The revised text of paragraph 113 proposed by the Greek representative was unanimously adopted.*

4. Mr. SAMUEL (India) requested that the reservations which he had expressed at the 695th meeting in connexion with the draft resolution on projections (A/C.2/L.492) should be included in the Committee's report.

5. Mr. AHMAD (Pakistan) replied that the Committee's report should be read in conjunction with the summary records; while specific reservations were recorded in the latter, it was not the normal practice to include them in the former.

6. Mr. DUDLEY (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had also had reservations on certain draft resolutions and sympathized with the Indian representative's request. However, as it was not the Committee's practice to include such reservations in its

report, he wondered whether Mr. Samuel wished to maintain his request.

7. Mr. SAMUEL (India) said that he would withdraw his request in view of the Rapporteur's statement that the Committee's report was designed to be read in conjunction with the summary records.

*The draft report was adopted unanimously.*

#### AGENDA ITEMS 28, 30, 31 AND 32

Progress and operations of the Special Fund (A/4415, A/4491, E/3398, E/3401 and Corr.1, SF/L.24 and Corr.1) (concluded)

Programmes of technical assistance:

(a) Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/4415) (concluded);

(b) United Nations assistance in public administration: report of the Secretary-General (A/4589, E/3370 and Corr.1) (concluded)

(c) Confirmation of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (concluded)

Opportunities for international co-operation on behalf of former Trust Territories and other newly independent States: reports of the Economic and Social Council and of the Secretary-General (A/4415, A/4585) (concluded)

Question of assistance to Libya: report of the Secretary-General (A/4575, A/4576) (concluded)

#### ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE (A/C.2/L.542)

8. Mr. AHMAD (Pakistan) (Rapporteur) introduced the Committee's draft report on agenda items 28, 30, 31 and 32 (A/C.2/L.542), indicating a number of drafting changes to be made in the text.

9. Mr. RODRIGUEZ (Chile) and Mr. SIRIWARDENE (Ceylon) requested that the names of their countries should be included in paragraph 44 among those recorded as voting in favour of the OPEX programme draft resolution (A/C.2/L.460/Rev.1).

10. The CHAIRMAN explained that as the two representatives had been absent during the vote it had been impossible to include them in the roll-call. Once the result of the vote had been announced, it could not, according to the rules of procedure, be changed. However, their desire to vote in favour of the draft resolution had been recorded in the summary record of the 711th meeting and if the resolution was voted on at a plenary session of the General Assembly they would have a further opportunity of casting an affirmative vote.

*The draft report was adopted unanimously.*

#### Completion of the Committee's work

11. The CHAIRMAN<sup>1/</sup> thanked the members and officers of the Committee and the staff of the Secretariat for their co-operation. In his view, the Committee had accomplished a great deal during its

<sup>1/</sup> The complete text of the statement made by the Chairman of the Second Committee was subsequently circulated as document A/C.2/L.547.

current session, not only in terms of the number of draft resolutions on vital questions of international economic co-operation which it had adopted and the scope of the problems discussed, but also, most importantly, in terms of the character of the decisions themselves.

12. The general debate had made clear that there was no greater world economic problem than that of accelerating the economic development of under-developed countries. The newly independent African countries which had recently joined the Organization had underscored the importance and complexity of the problem, which was not merely economic, but one of the burning political issues of modern times. The Committee's awareness of the problem had been clearly expressed in the draft resolution on concerted action for the economic development of economically less developed countries.

13. He had, moreover, been encouraged by the fact that it had been found possible to achieve practical unanimity in decisions on that problem, which was in the background of many political disputes. All but one of the twenty draft resolutions approved had been adopted unanimously, and only four votes had been cast in open opposition to that one. What was more, that unanimity had been achieved with regard to a programme of bold and far-reaching action. In his view, the decision of principle on the establishment of SUNFED, which had crowned ten years of effort in the Second Committee, was the most important step taken at the current Assembly. Those who had participated in earlier discussions of the question would be best able to appraise the true value of the draft resolution adopted, which unambiguously stated the General Assembly's decision in principle that a United Nations capital development fund was to be established. While the decision was, of course, one of principle, he hoped that the huge majority of votes cast in its favour would convince those who might still harbour misgivings that what was involved was not only a demand for increased financing but an assertion of the principles of equal rights and sovereignty upon which the Organization was based and which should therefore also guide international economic relations. The basic emphasis of SUNFED was not on how much assistance there should be but on how that assistance should be given.

14. The resolution on the accelerated flow of capital and technical assistance to the under-developed countries constituted a significant step towards the same end of strengthening international solidarity, as did the decision raising the target for the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance from the current \$100 million to \$150 million. An important place must also be given to the resolution on increased assistance to former Trust Territories and other newly independent States. By that decision, the Assembly had not only shown its special concern for the newly independent countries but had declared itself in favour of having those countries play an increasingly important role, within the respective regional economic commissions, in the distribution and administration of that assistance.

15. The Committee had also made a number of decisions which would have far-reaching consequences for the future of the United Nations. In that respect, the most important draft resolution adopted had probably been that on decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the

regional economic commissions. The Committee had also given proof of its far-sightedness by adopting the draft resolutions on the economic consequences of disarmament and on projections. He hoped that the Secretariat's studies of those subjects would open new vistas for United Nations action to solve the basic problem of the world economy, the problem of under-developed countries.

16. The draft resolutions on land reform, industrial development and the distribution of food surpluses represented an effort to raise to an international level certain activities which had often been considered exclusively national concerns. Today all agreed that in many countries there could be no economic progress without radical land reform, or without economic diversification or industrialization. The Organization's interest in all those fields of activity had been increased by the decisions taken at the current session.

17. The Committee's discussions of international trade had again shown that the effect of such trade on the position of the under-developed countries was the aspect of the matter which caused it most concern. Not only were the terms of trade of those countries deteriorating but their increased indebtedness created a constantly growing pressure on their balances of payments, owing to increasing service payments which reduced their import capacity. The Commission on International Commodity Trade was faced, in that respect, with great and important tasks.

18. The future would show to what extent his appraisal of the Committee's work was justified. However, he had been impressed throughout the session by a sense of maturing awareness of the overwhelming importance of the problem of accelerating economic development, of a crystallization of views concerning the practical steps to be taken by the Organization in that field, and of a readiness to undertake bolder and more determined action within the United Nations. He hoped that the future would demonstrate the accuracy of that impression. In any case, there could be no doubt of the determination to co-operate which had been revealed in the Committee's work. That determination was a manifestation of the awareness of all Members that the progress and prosperity of each were conditioned by the progress and prosperity of all. It had been shown in the Committee that lasting solutions could not be achieved by force or pressure, but it had also been shown that the search for a compromise did

not necessarily lead to a paralysis of action. In his view, the Committee's work provided an example of how the proceedings of the General Assembly should be conducted. It had carried out its tremendous task because there had been a readiness in the Committee to reach solutions to problems which vitally affected everyday life. Without the co-operation, readiness for work and tolerance that the Committee had displayed, that task could never have been completed.

19. He thanked the members of the Committee for the understanding they had shown and congratulated them on the results achieved.

20. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) expressed satisfaction at the useful work accomplished by the Committee, which had adopted a number of most important draft resolutions. He had been glad to note the favourable reception given to the Soviet draft declaration on international economic co-operation, whose underlying principles should guide the policies of the United Nations and of all countries in that field, and he hoped that the document would be given due consideration by the General Assembly at its sixteenth session and by the Economic and Social Council. He paid a tribute to the Chairman's energetic and impartial conduct of the Committee's proceedings and to the excellent work of the Vice-Chairman, the Rapporteur, the Secretary of the Committee and members of the Secretariat.

21. U HLA MAUNG (Burma), on behalf of the Asian and African delegations, Mr. CARANICAS (Greece), on behalf of his delegation and the delegations of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom, Mr. ASIODU (Nigeria), on behalf of the Commonwealth delegations, Mr. SMID (Czechoslovakia), on behalf of the socialist countries, Mr. MARIZ (Brazil), on behalf of the Latin American delegations, Mr. RAKOTOMALALA (Madagascar), on behalf of the twelve French-speaking African delegations, Mr. PAYNE (United States of America) and Miss HARELI (Israel) paid tributes to the Chairman on his skilful and impartial conduct of the Committee's proceedings, and to the Vice-Chairman, the Rapporteur, and all members of the Secretariat, who had so ably contributed to the success of the Committee's work.

The meeting rose at 4.35 p.m.