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SECOND COMMITTEE.

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AGENDA ITEMS 12, 29 AND 74

Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters II (sections 1, 11 and 111 A, except paragraphs 189-198), 111, IV and VII (section I and paragraph 645)) (A/4415) (continued)

Economic development of under-developed countries (continued):

- (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) (continued)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.2/ L.472/REV.1) (continued)*

- 1. U HLA MAUNG (Burma), introducing the revised draft resolution on a United Nations capital development fund (A/C.2/L.472/Rev.1), saidthat the sponsors had made efforts to produce a text which would make it possible both to maintain their fundamental position and to accommodate other points of view. They had accordingly adopted in toto, with one minor addition, the wording of paragraphs 2 and 3 informally suggested by the sponsors of the four-Power amendments (A/C.2/L.514). The words "including the draft legislation" in paragraph 3 had been added purely for the sake of clarity. The sponsors hoped that their adoption of those suggestions would indicate how far they had been prepared to go in meeting the wishes of other delegations without sacrificing the essence of the draft resolution.
- 2. They regretted that it had proved impossible to reach agreement with the sponsors of the amendments on the basic issue involved. All forty-four sponsors of the draft resolution were agreed that the time had come for the United Nations to give a clear answer to the question of whether or not a United Nations capital development fund was to be established. They believed that the urgency of the problem and the growing discontent in the under-developed countries with the lack of action by the United Nations made further delay impossible. The sponsors of the amendments had suggested that paragraph 1 should read: "Decides that a United Nations Capital Development Fund should be established". The sponsors of the draft resolution had agreed to that wording except for the substitution of the word "shall" for the word "should". It was on the word "shall" that the remaining disagreement hinged. The sponsors of the amendments had felt that approval of the paragraph in that form would involve a commitment to which they could not yet subscribe, and that the Committee could go no further than to say that a

^{*}Resumed from the 693rd meeting.

capital development fund should be established. The sponsors of the draft resolution, however, had felt that the wording they proposed was essential to the purpose of the draft resolution, which was to provide an affirmative, clear and unequivocal answer to the question he had mentioned, while in no way implying that action should be taken prematurely or with undue haste. It was clear that the establishment of the fund would require extensive preparatory work. The sponsors were convinced that, provided agreement in principle was reached on the establishment of the fund, all concerned would have enough time to make any arrangements needed for the co-ordination of the fund's work with that of all other agencies and bodies in the same field. The sponsors therefore felt that the word "should" was unnecessary if the object was merely to establish the principle that enough time should be allowed for settling such practical details, and was unacceptable if it meant that a decision on the issue should be indefinitely postponed.

- 3. The revised text of the draft resolution represented the sponsors' final position; in view of the pressure of time, they considered that they owed it to the Committee to put that position before it.
- 4. Mrs. WRIGHT (Denmark) felt that because of the great importance of the subject matter of the draft resolution the Committee should be given more time to consider it, particularly in view of the Burmese representative's statement that the only question at issue was whether the Committee wished in principle to establish a United Nations capital development fund and that the remaining disagreement hinged on a single word.
- 5. After a short procedural discussion, the CHAIR-MAN suggested that the Committee should resume discussion of the draft resolution on the following Monday.

It was so decided.

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) (continued)

Programmes of technical assistance:

- (a) Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/4415) (continued);
- (b) United Nations assistance in public administration: report of the Secretary-General (A/4589, E/3370 and Corr.1) (continued)

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) (continued)

Question of assistance to Libya: report of the Secretary-General (A/4575, A/4576) (<u>continued</u>)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C,2/L,509/REV,1 AND ADD,1-2) (continued)

6. Mr. GREEN (New Zealand) said that his delegation supported the general ideas embodied in the draft resolution. It had joined in sponsoring the amendments in document A/C.2/L.527. It felt that consideration

should be given to countries emerging into independence, such as Samoa, which was administered by New Zealand and was expected to reach independence in 1961. And reference in the operative part of the draft should be made to the Secretary-General's report on opportunities for international co-operation on behalf of former Trust Territories and other newly independent States (A/4585), while leaving a decision on the financial question involved to the Fifth Committee. The third amendment in document A/C.2/L.527 was of a constitutional character; the Economic and Social Council was not normally regarded as the body intended to initiate programmes of assistance, and it therefore seemed more appropriate to recommend that it encourage and facilitate rather than initiate the work referred to in paragraph 3.

- 7. His delegation would also suggest that paragraph 2 would be more accurate and more acceptable if reworded to read: "Urges Member States and particularly the economically advanced countries to continue to render ..."
- 8. Mr. ALI (Pakistan) said that his delegation fully supported the draft resolution because it was convinced that assistance must be given to the African States on an urgent basis if the gross disparity between living standards there and in other countries was not to create conditions that might seriously threaten world peace. However, that did not mean that the efforts now being made to assist other under-developed countries should in any way be reduced. His delegation did not believe that those two propositions were inconsistent or that the sponsors of the draft resolution envisaged any curtailment of aid to other regions. In order to achieve both goals, the resources available for assistance must, however, be increased and his delegation therefore supported the United States amendment (A/C.2/L.525). He would also suggest that, in order to carry the idea introduced in that amendment to its logical conclusion, a new operative paragraph 3 should be added, reading "Urges Member States accordingly to increase their contributions to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund."
- 9. His delegation believed that the initiative in matters of development must be left entirely to the countries concerned and accordingly preferred the wording of the third amendment in document A/C.2/L.527 to paragraph 3 of the draft, for the former made it clear that the role of United Nations bodies was to encourage and facilitate rather than to initiate the work referred to. His delegation also agreed that it would be for the Fifth Committee to take a decision on the Secretary-General's proposals and thought that it would be preferable simply to note the proposals with approval in the draft resolution.
- 10. Mr. KAKITSUBO (Japan) said that the importance and urgency of extending aid to the new nations of Africa hardly required emphasizing. The need had been recognized in resolutions of both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, and the Executive Chairman of TAB and the Secretary-General had ably responded to the requests for increased assistance made in Economic and Social Council resolution 768 (XXX). The share of assistance going to African countries under the Expanded Programme would be considerably increased in 1961-1962, and further contingency allocations would probably add to the total. It was gratifying that those increases would

be made without any cut in aid to other areas, and that many countries had responded to the appeal for increased contributions to the technical assistance programmes.

11. His delegation considered that in general the draft resolution was in accordance with Council resolution 768 (XXX); but as document E/3387 and Add.1 had been prepared before the adoption of Council resolution 768 (XXX), the recent increase in the contributions to the Expanded Programme and the Special Fund, and the decision of TAC to increase the assistance to the newly independent States, the third preambular paragraph should be deleted. It also considered that some recognition should be given to the recently increased contributions of many States, and therefore submitted an amendment (A/C.2/L.533) to insert a final preambular paragraph to read:

"Welcoming the results of the recent United Nations Pledging Conference, which indicate a substantial increase in the resources of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund for 1961, and the decision of the Technical Assistance Committee to increase substantially the assistance to the newly independent and emerging States."

- 12. It was his delegation's understanding that paragraph 1 was intended as a reaffirmation of Council resolution 768 (XXX), and an endorsement in principle of the proposals in the Secretary-General's report (A/4585), although of course the necessary budgetary decision would have to be taken by the Fifth Committee. His delegation would also express the hope that paragraph 3 (c) would be so implemented as to avoid duplication with United Nations activities under the OPEX programme.
- 13. Mr. BERNARDO (Argentina) said that the draft resolution had political implications with regard to which his delegation had serious misgivings. Firstly, the idea that special assistance should be given to former Trust Territories and other newly independent States implied a criticism of the colonial Powers which had formerly administered the countries concerned and reopened one of the most controversial issues before the Assembly session. Secondly, the affirmation, in the fourth preambular paragraph, of the urgent necessity to take measures to strengthen and consolidate the economic and political independence of the new States was somewhat arbitrary; it might be asked whether those States in question accepted that view. Thirdly, the singling out of one particular continent for special aid constituted a dangerous precedent. The underlying principle of the technical assistance programmes was that aid should be given on an equitable geographical basis and many of the Latin American countries, although not newly independent, faced problems as serious as those of the emergent African
- 14. His delegation also had doubts concerning the method of financing the additional aid recommended in the Secretary-General's reports. It would be far better to raise the extra funds by voluntary contributions so that the countries most able to pay could assume the largest share. To meet those objections, he submitted amendments (A/C.2/L.534) for the deletion of the third, fourth and fifth preambular paragraphs as well as the words "with approval" in the final preambular paragraph, because Council resolution 768 (XXX) contained

- a reference to the OPEX programme, to which his delegation was opposed.
- 15. His delegation would be able to accept operative paragraph 1 if the amendment of which it was a cosponsor with Brazil and Chile (A/C.2/L.526) was incorporated. It should be made clear that all countries requiring technical and financial assistance, whether newly independent or not, should receive it. The criteria should be economic rather than political. His delegation sympathized with the United States amendment (A/C.2/L.525) but felt that an appeal for voluntary contributions would be preferable to an increase in the regular budget.
- 16. Mr. TEIXEIRA PINTO (Portugal) said that his delegation viewed the draft resolution with the greatest sympathy, although it did not consider that it advocated the best method of assisting the newly independent States. The under-developed countries were becoming increasingly aware of the importance of the economic aspects of independence and it was natural that the emerging countries of Africa should request technical and financial assistance. However, while their request should be met as far as possible, United Nations resources were limited and the demands of the new African States inevitably competed with those of other under-developed countries, some of which were in even greater need of assistance. The question was therefore whether aid should be granted merely on the grounds of independence or in the light of real needs. His delegation shared the view expressed by the Afghan representative at the Economic and Social Council's thirtieth session (1127th meeting) that the criterion of recent independence was not economically sound.
- 17. It was argued that the newly independent African countries had arrived late on the scene and therefore deserved a larger measure of assistance. That argument was only partly valid, because many of them had received United Nations aid before attaining independence. It was also pointed out that the African countries' economic needs had increased with independence and that they were receiving less bilateral aid, while there had been no expansion of multilateral resources to match the increase in the number of countries requiring aid. Moreover, regional programmes in Africa had not yet attained the same dimensions as, for example, Operation Pan America or the Colombo Plan. Those problems could be solved by making additional resources available to the United Nations on the basis of voluntary contributions, by increasing bilateral assistance, and by envisaging the possibility of a programme for Africa similar to the Colombo Plan.
- 18. During the first session of ECA in 1958, his Government had suggested a positive approach to the problem in a draft resolution, which had been adopted by the Commission, expressing the hope that members and associate members would voluntarily make available technical assistance facilities to further the work of the Commission and also that means of increasing technical and economic assistance would be examined by Member States.!/ His Government considered that the problem could best be solved by action along those lines and had itself taken steps to increase the technical assistance facilities available for Africans.

U Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 10, resolution 2 C (1), page 6.

- 19. Mr. ABDALLAH (Ghana) said that his delegation was somewhat perplexed by the United States representative's objections to paragraph 3 (698th meeting). Under Articles 62 and 66 of the Charter the Council was clearly able to initiate action of the type described in that paragraph and under paragraph 1 of its terms of reference (Council resolution 671 A (XXV)) ECA was to initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic development of Africa. Similarly, in adopting the draft resolution on decentralization (A/C.2/L.470/Rev.3) the Committee had recognized that the regional economic commissions were not limited under their terms of reference to studies and deliberations and were actually performing various operational functions through their secretariats. The regional economic commissions were therefore perfectly entitled to undertake the tasks listed in paragraph 3.
- 20. With regard to the fourth preambular paragraph, his delegation, whose position on the independence of colonial countries was clear, considered that economic emancipation was as important as political freedom. The sponsors would, however, give due attention to the misgivings of some of the Latin American delegations in order that the draft resolution might be adopted unanimously.
- 21. Mr. HASSAN (Sudan) assured the Argentine representative that the draft resolution was intended to increase assistance to the newly independent African States without reducing the share of other countries. Nor was the draft resolution attempting to establish a political criterion for the granting of assistance. Aid was requested to meet the real and urgent economic needs of the new countries. Council resolution 768 (XXX) had already requested the Secretary-General to submit detailed programmes for meeting the additional needs of newly independent and emerging States and the Executive Chairman of TAB had urged that the resources of the Expanded Programme and the Special Fund should be enlarged for that purpose.
- 22. His delegation endorsed the recommendations in the Secretary-General's report and would support the new paragraph 2 proposed in the three-Power amendment (A/C.2/L.527). He hoped that the Argentine representative's misgivings concerning the OPEX Programme would be dispelled by the reports to be submitted by Governments receiving assistance under that programme.
- 23. Mr. OMAR (Afghanistan) congratulated the sponsors on the spirit and substance of their draft resolution. Afghanistan had always supported the cause of the newly independent States in their struggle for political independence and certainly supported them now in their struggle for economic and social development. Afghanistan had voted in favour of General Assembly resolutions 1414 (XIV) and 1415 (XIV) and Council resolution 768 (XXX). The Economic Commission for Africa was playing a significant role in the economic development of the continent and it was gratifying that the Commission was specifically mentioned in paragraph 3.
- 24. It was the responsibility of the Member States and especially of those Governments which had administered former Trust Territories to assist them in their hour of need. It was also proper for the United Nations to take specific measures to furnish them with aid, without prejudice to the requirements of other under-developed countries. In that respect, his

- delegation would support the amendment to paragraph 1 in document A/C.2/L.526. It was important to remember that many countries which had long been independent still had an exceedingly low per caput income and, as his delegation had stated at the Council's thirtieth session, the per caput income should be one of the basic criteria, among others, for allocating assistance to ensure equitable distribution.
- 25. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution, but felt that the question of financial resources should be left to the Fifth Committee, which should decide whether contributions should be voluntary or compulsory.
- 26. Mr. SILVA SUCRE (Venezuela) supported the amendment in document A/C.2/L.526 and was glad that it had been taken into consideration by the sponsors.
- 27. Mr. ABDEL-GHANI (United Arab Republic), speaking as a sponsor, expressed the hope that the joint draft resolution would receive the approval of the Committee after the necessary amendments had been made.
- 28. Mr. FILALI (Tunisia) said that his country attached great importance to the United Nations technical assistance programmes as a means of promoting economic development throughout the world and welcomed the draft resolution, which rightly gave special attention to the technical assistance needs of newly independent African countries. The needs of other under-developed countries should not of course be lost sight of, and he was certain that the sponsors had no intention of furthering the interests of the new African countries at the expense of assistance to other under-developed areas.
- 29. The Executive Chairman of TAB had referred to the serious shortage of qualified experts available to the Board and the danger that programmes might be slowed down as a result of that shortage, despite the increase in financial resources. The danger was a real one, and there was in addition a serious lack of qualified personnel with special knowledge of the specific problems of the under-developed countries. Although some problems were common to many countries, the circumstances in which they arose varied greatly from country to country. The United Nations should therefore study ways both of increasing the number of experts and also of providing experts with qualifications more specifically suited to the practical needs of the developing countries. Attention had already been drawn to the special problems arising in newly independent African countries as a result of the departure of expatriate administrative and technical personnel. His delegation believed that TAB should, in consultation with Member Governments, undertake an expanded training programme in order to provide more and better qualified experts to meet the growing diversity of needs. He was sure that recipient countries would be prepared to collaborate in such a programme and provide suitable personnel for training, thus making a modest contribution to the technical assistance programmes. His own Government would actively support such an undertaking. The third preambular paragraph of the draft resolution referred only to the inadequacy of technical assistance and he thought that some mention should also be made of the need to adapt the training of experts to the specific problems of the developing countries.

- 30. Mr. ROA KOURI (Cuba) said that his delegation attached special importance to the draft resolution because it believed that the emergency of the newly independent African States was one of the most significant factors in the process of transformation through which modern society was passing. The overthrow of colonialism was an incontrovertible fact but the hardwon independence of the new States should not be undermined by economic penetration by former colonial Powers reluctant to relinquish their erstwhile domination. For that reason, all economic assistance should be channelled through the United Nations.
- 31. The draft resolution recognized the urgent need to strengthen the economic and political independence of the new States. Action to that end was vital, because the new States might otherwise, like Cuba between 1902 and 1959, be transformed into mere caricatures of republics, whose only attributes of independence were a coat of arms, a flag and a national anthem. Such a danger existed and the United Nations should exert every effort to assist the newly independent countries.
- 32. His delegation agreed that aid to newly independent countries should not prejudice that given to other under-developed countries. The suggestion that the under-developed countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America were fighting amongst themselves for economic assistance was a typically imperialist notion aimed at maintaining the under-developed countries in a state of division. The Revolutionary Government of Cuba was resolutely on the side of the poorer peoples of the world in their fight against the colonialists. It would willingly have sponsored the joint draft resolution and would vote in its favour.
- 33. Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines) said that his Government recognized the urgency of the special needs of newly independent countries and would continue to contribute as much as it could to the Expanded Programme and Special Fund. He was largely in agreement with the Argentine representative's arguments in favour of the amendment in document A/C.2/L.526. He hoped that it would be made clear that delegations supporting the draft resolution were not committing their Governments to make increased contributions.
- 34. Mr. RAKOTOMALALA (Madagascar) noted that the draft resolution seemed to have general support in the Committee. With regard to the proposed amendments, he felt that the amendment in document A/C.2/L.526 might be misconstrued. New African States received only about 5 per cent of all United Nations technical and financial assistance and the amendment, if adopted in its present form, might be taken to imply that assistance to those countries should be limited to that unfair proportion. He hoped that the amendment would be reworded to make it clear that such was not its intention.
- 35. Mr. JAMBOR (Czechoslovakia) said that the main purpose of the draft resolution was to outline practical measures to assist the economic development of underdeveloped countries. The amendment submitted by the Netherlands, New Zealand and the United Kingdom (A/C.2/L.527), however, sought to introduce a new paragraph approving the proposals in the report of the Secretary-General, which were not, he believed, fully acceptable to all delegations, particularly in view of their financial implications. His own delegation could not subscribe to such an expression of approval, be-

- cause of the financial consequences and also because it believed that the increased funds should be contributed on a voluntary basis and not from the regular budget of the United Nations. Recipient countries would have greater freedom in disposing of such assistance than if it was dispensed by the Secretary-General. He agreed with the United Arab Republic representative that it would be better if the substance of that amendment were embodied in a separate draft resolution. He whole-heartedly approved of the United States amendment (A/C.2/L.525), with the exception of the proposed sub-paragraph (b), which involved an increase in the regular budget of the United Nations and was therefore within the province of the Fifth Committee.
- 36. Mr. GURINOVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said his delegation fully supported the text of the draft resolution, which correctly stated the problem and provided for practical measures to deal with it. If the colonial Powers had faithfully discharged their responsibilities towards Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories, as laid down in Articles 73 and 76 of the Charter, the problem would not have arisen and the new countries would not be in need of assistance. He did not agree with the second amendment in document A/C.2/L.527, since he believed that the supplementary assistance should be based on voluntary contributions and not provided from the regular budget of the United Nations, to which all Members were compelled to subscribe. Of the \$5 million requested by the Secretary-General for that purpose, the United Kingdom, France and Italy, the former administrators of the countries concerned, would contribute about \$800,000 on the basis of the scale of assessment. The remainder of the cost would have to be borne by other Members, many of which were themselves underdeveloped countries. The USSR had, moreover, offered to contribute 5 million roubles-about a quarter of the total sum required and twice as much as the three former colonial Powers would contribute through the regular budget-provided that the funds were raised on the basis of voluntary contributions. The type of assistance proposed by the Secretary-General for the new countries could not be furnished under General Assembly resolutions 200 (III), 418 (V), 723 (VIII) or 1256 (XIII); it could be provided only under the Expanded Programme and the Special Fund, His delegation did not approve of the manner in which the Secretariat disposed of the funds allocated for the regular technical assistance programmes without prior consultation with Governments. Furthermore, the Secretary-General did not indicate how the additional funds he was requesting would be used.
- 37. Mr. PENTEADO (Brazil) appreciated the objection of the representative of Madagascar to the amendment in document A/C.2/L.526 and thought it could be met by replacing the words "nor be deprived of the normal increase" by the words "nor be altogether deprived of the eventual increase".
- 38. Mr. DUDLEY (United Kingdom) said that, in view of the statement made in the fifth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution, the sponsors of the amendments in document A/C.2/L.527 had assumed that favourable consideration had already been given by the sponsors of the draft resolution to the Secretary-General's report and that it would be natural to add an operative endorsement of that preambular paragraph. He assured the Byelorussian representative that the proposed new operative paragraph 2 was not a

device to enable his country to make a smaller contribution to the assistance programme proposed by the Secretary-General, and that if necessary a contribution could be made to a voluntary fund as well as to the budget. He hoped that the USSR's promise of 5 million roubles would be implemented. There seemed to be a tendency on the part of some Governments to withhold contributions from undertakings they did not approve of.

- 39. Mr. FINGER (United States of America) saidthat the United States amendment was intended to ensure that the resolution would be more than an empty statement. If the resolution was to be implemented. the countries supporting it should indicate their willingness to make the necessary contributions. To make the amendment more acceptable to other delegations, he proposed to replace the word "increase" in (b) by "provision", Paragraphs 22 and 23 of the Secretary-General's report (A/4585) and the statement made by the Commissioner for Technical Assistance (694th meeting) showed that the proposed assistance could not be furnished without financial provision under the budget. With regard to the objections that had been made to assistance under the regular programmes, he would point out that funds made available under the budget could be used anywhere in the world and that the recipient country was free to choose the source of its assistance, whereas voluntary contributions were often tied to a specified source. His own country, which had never possessed colonies in Africa and could not be considered to be making an act of penitence or atonement, contributed one-third of the total budget of the United Nations and would contribute a similar proportion of the proposed additional funds.
- 40. Mr. HEURTEMATTE (Commissioner for Technical Assistance) explained that the method proposed by the Secretary-General in his report would ensure greater flexibility in the use of the new funds for urgent programmes of assistance to newly independent countries. The cost of meeting the urgent needs of those countries had been estimated at about \$10 million, although the Secretary-General felt that the initial programme might be carried out in 1961 and 1962 if \$5 million was made available immediately. The procedure under the Expanded Programme would be slower and would not permit requests to be met adequately. The United Nations share of the supplementary programme for Africa to be financed from Expanded Programme funds for 1961 would amount to only \$1,600,000 and the Secretary-General had therefore proposed that the additional funds be made available from the regular budget of the United Nations.
- 41. Mr. SULE (Nigeria) welcomed the interest shown in the draft resolution by members of the Committee. The sponsors would consider the suggestions and amendments put forward and would submit a revised draft at the following meeting.

- 42. Mr. MAKEEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation was convinced that it would be unwise to rely on the regular budget to finance assistance to newly independent countries. The United States clearly preferred that the additional funds made available should be under the Secretary-General's control, because it feared that under the Expanded Programme contributions might be tied to certain sources. His delegation was opposed to that procedure and believed that assistance under the regular technical assistance programme should be administered by TAC, which was in a better position to serve the interests of the under-developed countries. It should also be borne in mind that the contributions of many countries to the Expanded Programme had not yet been used. His own country was one of the main contributors and had doubled its contribution for 1961.
- 43. Mr. FINGER (United States of America) pointed out that the Soviet Union's contribution to the Expanded Programme and Special Fund was under 4 per cent of the total. He recalled that the Soviet Union had recently supported a draft resolution (A/C.2/L.465/Rev.2) which recommended all Member States to avoid extensive reliance on the practices of restricting economic aid to particular sources of supply or to particular projects. However, the Soviet Union had always restricted the use of its economic assistance to Soviet sources. Was the USSR in balance of payments difficulties? If not, why did it tie its contributions to Soviet sources? He reminded the Soviet representative that the nature of a technical assistance programme determined whether it was carried out by the Secretary-General through the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations, regardless of whether it was financed from the regular budget or by voluntary contributions. Consequently any reference to the Secretary-General was irrelevant in that connexion.
- 44. Mr. MAKEEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) replied that the Soviet Union had no balance of payments difficulties, since its economy was strong and expanding. He admitted that the Soviet contribution to the Expanded Programme was less than that of some other countries, but the USSR was proud to be able to contribute to the development of new nations out of resources it had itself created by great efforts. He would point out that half of the United Kingdom's contribution, for instance, was spent on its own colonies and much of the remainder was used to pay for the services of United Kingdom experts.
- 45. Mr. GURINOVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) pointed out that, although all countries contributed to the regular technical assistance programmes, very few were used as sources of technical assistance.

The meeting rose at 6.5 p.m.