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Chairman: Mr. Pierre FORTHOMME
(Belgium).

AGENDA ITEMS 40 AND 41

Activities in the field of industrial development
(continued) (A/5775 and Add.1, A/5835, A/6070/
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Add.1; A/C.2/L.794, L.805 and Add.1, L.809):

(a) Reports of the Committee for Industrial Development on its fourth and fifth sessions (E/3869, E/4065);

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The role of the United Nations in training national technical personnel for the accelerated industrialization of the developing countries: report of the Economic and Social Council (continued) (A/6093; E/3901 and Add.1 and 2; A/C.2/L.818 and Add.1 and 2)

1. Mr. HERRAN-MEDINA (Colombia) said that his delegation had refrained from participating in the general debate which it wished to have eliminated from future sessions in the interest of efficiency. Nevertheless, the importance of the matter under discussion compelled him to speak in order to appeal earnestly to the members of the Committee to strive to reach as wide agreement as possible on the decisive role which the United Nations should play in the industrialization of the developing countries, which was a sine qua non of their economic progress.

2. His delegation had already explained its views on the subject during the discussions which had led to the adoption of Council resolution 1030 (XXXVII) and recommendation A.III.1 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development^{1/} and during

^{1/} See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, volume I: Final Act and Report (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 64.II.B.11), p. 34-35.

the general debate in plenary meeting (1360th meeting). The need to establish new machinery in order to implement those recommendations was obvious from both the theoretical and the practical aspects, considering the advantages that industrialization, even during its initial stage, had already brought to countries like Colombia. That was why the Colombian and other Latin American delegations had submitted the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.805 and Add.1). His delegation was gratified that countries belonging to other groups had expressed the wish to co-sponsor the draft, thus transferring it from the purely regional plane, to the plane of the developing countries, to the wider context of fruitful co-operation between the developing and developed countries of all regions.

3. The noteworthy activities carried out by the Commissioner for Industrial Development and by the Centre for Industrial Development, to the extent that the latter's modest resources allowed, could be extended only if the Centre's resources were increased and its structure strengthened, and draft resolution A/C.2/L.809, which bore witness to the interest of the developed countries in the industrialization of the developing countries, contained some useful and constructive suggestions in that regard.

4. The Committee's debates had shown that agreement had been reached on the main point, namely, the need to strengthen industrialization activities, and that the objections to the recommendation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development had been motivated, in all probability, by the desire of the highly industrialized countries to spare the new nations costly mistakes. But the Latin American countries had already acquired at least an arduous if not long experience of the transition from an agricultural to an industrial economy in a world where they faced bitter competition on all markets. They therefore hoped that the objectives set forth in their draft resolution would be taken into consideration. That text, far from having been drafted lightheartedly, was the outcome of detailed studies which had led to the recommendations formulated by Latin America in the preparatory meetings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, then to the recommendations of the Committee for Industrial Development, the Economic and Social Council and the Conference itself.

5. Some thought that the establishment of the proposed body was premature and it had been said, with regard to the consolidation of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund, that it would be preferable to wait a few years in order to combine everything in a single development organization which would include the technical

assistance, investment and industrial development programmes. It had also been argued that industrialization could not be undertaken unless cadres of specialists, engineers and technicians were available at all levels. His delegation, on the contrary, believed that the problem should be attacked on all fronts at the same time, because skilled manpower would serve no purpose so long as the investments were not available for building factories, and the existence of the latter could only encourage the training of personnel who, while inadequate at the outset, could be supplemented by foreign technicians who, in their turn, could contribute to the instruction and in-service training of local personnel. To await the complete reorganization of the existing system would be tantamount to neutralize the efforts made so far.

6. Like the other countries of Latin America, Colombia was taking active steps to train national technical personnel, with the co-operation of friendly countries and the assistance of international organizations. But progress was too slow and it attached great importance to the intensification of United Nations activities in that connexion. It saw no reason why the integration of those activities with those concerned with investment, industrialization and patents could not take place gradually, since all those activities had the same objective.

7. The representative of a new African State had recently emphasized the importance of industrialization for countries which had recently freed themselves from the colonial yoke. The Latin American countries also suffered from an economic situation resulting from their backwardness in relation to the other independent countries and from which they were only beginning to emerge.

8. Lastly, his delegation considered that the time had come to strive to reach agreement on a subject of concern to all countries. The sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.805 were prepared to give sympathetic consideration to any amendment that was compatible with the principles just described, irrespective of the group from which it came. The draft had been prepared with due regard to the requirements of all developing countries and to the very real difficulties confronting the developed countries.

9. Mr. SITNIKOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that his delegation had listened with the greatest interest to the statements by the representatives of Ghana, Sudan, France and Uganda, which were an important contribution to the Committee's work concerning activities in the field of industrial development.

10. His delegation noted with satisfaction that, during the last few years, the social aspects of industrialization had attracted the attention of the United Nations, and, in particular, of the Centre for Industrial Development. The Interregional Seminar on Social Aspects of Industrialization, held at Minsk in August 1964, had been a landmark in that connexion.

11. The participation in the seminar of representatives of developing regions and of consultants from developed countries with different economic and social systems had enabled a detailed and objective

discussion to be held of matters bearing on social policy in the field of industrial development. It was common knowledge that industrial development was closely connected with a series of social problems, many of which the developing countries could solve through accelerated industrialization. The success of industrial development depended, in its turn, on the solution of certain social problems and, during the fifth session of the Committee for Industrial Development, the attention of the developing countries had been rightly drawn to the need to eliminate the social obstacles to industrial development, to create the social infrastructure of industrialization, and to carry out the social reforms and changes essential for industrial and social development (E/4065, para. 114).

12. The participants at the Minsk Seminar had reached the unanimous conclusion that the elimination of colonial-type economies and the progressive democratization of social, administrative and economic structures were prior conditions for accelerated social and economic transformation of whatever kind. Important among those conditions were the carrying out of democratic land reforms, the over-all and integrated planning of economic and social development, the search for various ways and means of accelerating the formation of the capital necessary for productive investment, the implementation of various procedures for the accelerated training of national cadres, and full sovereignty over national resources and their utilization for the purposes of national economic development.

13. As regards the relationship between large-scale and small-scale industry and their place in the national economy, the Seminar had reached the proper conclusion that small-scale industry, however important it might be at certain stages of development and in certain branches of the economy, could not, owing to its technological shortcomings, play a leading role in national economic development unless it was linked with the highly mechanized branches of industry. The Seminar had also stressed that an effective and viable heavy industry could ensure a high rate of economic growth and provide the resources that the modernization of the economy and social changes required.

14. On the question of planning and the role of the State in the execution of plans for accelerated industrial development, the participants had been of the opinion that planning of economic and social development by the public authorities guaranteed harmonious development of related industries, of the extractive and manufacturing industries, of agriculture, of the light and foodstuffs industries, etc.. It made it possible to co-ordinate production and consumption, consumption and accumulation, productivity and wages, rises in income and the distribution of goods. The public sector should play a determining role and should enable planning to become a powerful lever which could be used to ensure the uninterrupted growth of the national economy and the increasing welfare of the people. Only through rational planning could the developing countries use their meagre resources to develop their economies as fast as possible.

15. In that context the Seminar had also studied the problem of the internal and external financial resources needed for industrial and social development plans. Internal resources could come from the income of nationalized industrial and agricultural enterprises, banks, transport, wholesale trade, the mobilization of private and public savings, budget economies and control of production and consumption.

16. External resources came from bilateral and multilateral financial and technical assistance, regional co-operation and international trade. Most of the participants had come to the conclusion that internal resources should be the main basis for independent economic development. Due note had been taken of the exceptional role of the State in the industrialization of developing countries. In his delegation's opinion, the Seminar's conclusions on the role of the State should guide the Centre for Industrial Development in its practical activities.

17. Some delegations had rightly stated that the United Nations activities in the field of industrial development were not yet as effective as they might be. One of the basic reasons for that state of affairs was the absence of any definite policy with regard to industrialization. Such a policy could well be worked out on the basis of the Minsk Seminar. The Centre for Industrial Development, in close collaboration with the other competent organs of the United Nations, should pursue and develop the work of the Seminar which it summarized in its report,^{2/} so as to be able to provide the developing countries with practical assistance in industrialization.

18. His delegation supported draft resolutions A/C.2/L.818 and A/C.2/L.805. Regarding the latter, he drew the Committee's attention to the remarks made by the representative of Hungary. He considered that it would be more logical to entrust the task of defining the functions and drafting the statute of the specialized agency for industrial development to the Committee for Industrial Development rather than to a preparatory committee.

19. Mr. AL-NAKIB (Kuwait) supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.805. Kuwait had already declared itself in favour of establishing a specialized agency for industrial development at the fifth session of the Committee for Industrial Development. On the other hand, his delegation did not consider that the financing of special industrial services as provided for in draft resolution A/C.2/L.809 was enough.

20. At the fifth session of the Committee for Industrial Development, the Commissioner for Industrial Development, Mr. Abdel-Rahman, had stated that the Centre was at present passing through a transitional stage, during which it was necessary to balance the short-term needs of its work programme against the need to lay the foundations for a more permanent and larger structure.

21. Kuwait was convinced that the establishment of a sound industrial base was a prerequisite for any rational economic development. Although it did not require any financial help, it encountered serious difficulties in its industrial development because of

the lack of qualified technical and managerial personnel. The Government of Kuwait had decided to organize a meeting of Arab States on the subject of industrialization in 1966. The Centre for Industrial Development and other United Nations organs had been invited to take part. The replies received so far had been encouraging and his delegation hoped that the meeting would justify the hopes placed on it. It noted with satisfaction that the Centre was co-operating closely with the regional economic commissions in the organization of regional symposia. It was necessary to ensure better co-ordination of the activities of the Centre and the specialized agencies, the regional economic commissions and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. The Institute was undertaking a task of the greatest importance, for the training of qualified managerial and other personnel would meet a vital need of the developing countries.

22. In conclusion, he paid a tribute to the devotion and energy shown by the Commissioner for Industrial Development, which augured well for the future of the specialized agency for industrial development.

23. Mr. CAMEJO ARGUDIN (Cuba) expressed regret at the fact that after setting aside all political considerations and showing a spirit of co-operation which had enabled Yugoslavia to be appointed as part of the Latin American group to the Governing Council of the new United Nations Development Programme, the countries belonging to that group had not seen fit to consult the Cuban delegation on the draft resolution in which they were proposing the establishment of a specialized agency for industrial development (A/C.2/L.805) and which, because of the number of its sponsors, gave a false impression of unanimity among the group. His delegation wished therefore to make it clear that it was in no way connected with the submission of the draft resolution, which did not in any case seem to be satisfactory. The sponsors of the draft resolution had sought once again to turn themselves into a private club, forgetting the fact that they were not in Rio de Janeiro or Alta Gracia but at the United Nations, where they had to deal with questions of a technical nature which concerned the whole world. Perhaps they had been afraid of contaminating themselves by contact with the Cuban delegation or of falling from the good graces of other countries.

24. When submitting the draft resolution (988th meeting), the representative of Peru had made an earnest appeal to all countries able to help with industrialization, but the praises he had lavished on the Alliance for Progress had been in vain, because the United States had categorically refused to give its support. It would seem that the continent's industrial development depended on the goodwill of the United States. In the circumstances, the United States delegation's attitude seemed excessively uncompromising, since the measures proposed in the draft resolution were far from revolutionary. They did not provide for the new agency to be established immediately and far from implying a break with the Centre for Industrial Development, they would strengthen it and even enlarge its role for a time. The text proposed the establishment of an agency that was felt to be neces-

^{2/} United Nations publication, Sales No.: 65.IV.7.

sary but did not lay down any conditions to ensure that it functioned properly.

25. It appeared that negotiations were being held with a view to reconciling the Latin American draft with that submitted by the four Powers (A/C.2/L.809), which eliminated any possibility of establishing a specialized agency. Any discussion was useful in itself, but the negotiations should include the delegations which played an active part in the work of the Committee, and particularly those from the socialist countries, which seemed to have been ignored, despite their experience of industrialization and assistance to the under-developed countries. His delegation reserved the right to speak on any new text that came out of the negotiations.

26. Cuba was firmly in favour of a specialized agency for industrial development, on condition that it was in harmony with the spirit of the United Nations and that its work was based on the experience of all the industrialized countries without exception and served to eliminate the pressure that generally accompanied the assistance provided by certain great Powers.

27. His delegation wished to announce forthwith its candidacy for a seat on the committee envisaged in draft resolution A/C.2/L.805 and urged the other Latin American countries to support it.

28. In conclusion, he stressed that his delegation was subjected to deplorable discrimination and expressed the conviction that it would soon be able to co-sponsor draft resolutions with other new countries, such as the Republic of Puerto Rico.

29. Mr. MUZIK (Czechoslovakia) recalled that at the last session of the Economic and Social Council his delegation had voted for the six resolutions adopted in connexion with the report of the Committee for Industrial Development. His delegation attached particular importance to the definition of the functions of the Centre for Industrial Development. There could be no doubt that the Centre would play an important role if it could concentrate its activities on the industrialization of the developing countries and give them effective assistance in establishing guidelines for industrialization and selecting the industries best suited to each country's needs. By that his delegation understood technologically advanced industries, part of whose production could be exported, and whose operation would be profitable to the whole economy.

30. Such an orientation of the Centre's activities would be a step towards establishing a development programme for each developing country worked out collectively for all the specialized agencies against the background of the development plans of the Governments concerned. The Centre could thus contribute to the formulation of a United Nations development strategy.

31. Turning to draft resolution A/C.2/L.805, he noted that Czechoslovakia had always been in favour of the establishment of a United Nations agency for industrial development. It accordingly supported the draft resolution. However, it would have been better to define the agency's structure and functions before deciding on its establishment. The body which would be ap-

pointed to study the terms of reference and draft statute of the agency should have at its disposal fuller information and wider experience in the matter of industrialization before proposing a definitive solution. It could gain such experience at the regional and international symposia on industrialization planned for 1967. It seemed unnecessary to set up a new body dealing with the preparatory work, which could be entrusted to the Committee for Industrial Development at special sessions or to a subsidiary organ of that Committee. The Committee for Industrial Development had so far achieved excellent results and Czechoslovakia, which had great experience in the field of industrialization, could make a useful contribution to its work.

32. His delegation had devoted considerable attention to document A/6070/Rev.1 on organizational arrangements for industrial development and provision of additional financing on a voluntary basis for operational activities. It considered that the most practical approach would be to set up a special allocation for industrial development under the United Nations Development Programme by earmarking specific resources for that purpose. Adoption of that proposal would make possible a considerable expansion of industrial development activities in the near future.

33. He noted with satisfaction that preparations for the regional symposia and the international symposium on industrial development were developing favourably, thanks to the co-operation between the Centre for Industrial Development and the regional economic commissions.

34. At the last sessions of the Committee for Industrial Development, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, his delegation had urged the need to encourage the utilization of experience gained by the Economic Commission for Europe and the advanced countries participating in its activities. That approach had proved to be fully justified, particularly in regard to the preparation of sectoral studies on the development trends of particular industries.

35. Czechoslovakia was ready to broaden its co-operation with the Centre by making available to it experts and research institutes. The Interregional Symposium on Industrial Project Evaluation, recently held at Prague in October 1965, could serve as a solid basis for the future activities of the Centre in that field.

36. Lack of skilled personnel was one of the main obstacles to industrialization. By contrast with the developed countries, the developing countries had to launch accelerated industrialization programmes without the traditions and experience which would make possible the gradual development of skilled personnel. They could not establish the so-called traditional industries and wait for several decades until they gave rise to a skilled labour force. Sustained growth required industry on a high technological level and, by the same token, large amounts of capital and great numbers of skilled workers. That objective could be attained only through international co-operation. His delegation therefore found highly commendable the efforts of the Centre for Industrial

Development to put the knowledge of the best industrial development experts at the disposal of the developing countries by means of international symposia, seminars and group meetings, and by publishing their results. However, that knowledge must be transmitted to the many thousands of cadres in the developing countries. It would therefore be useful to follow up those symposia and seminars with workshops and training courses on particular aspects of industrial development, organized on a country or sub-regional basis. Activities of that kind would undoubtedly open the way to the eventual establishment, with the help of the Centre and of the United Nations Development Programme, of research institutes, planning agencies and other appropriate institutions. It was for that reason that his delegation had wished to co-sponsor draft resolution A/C.2/L.818.

37. Mr. PETROV (Bulgaria) said that the preceding speakers had been almost unanimous in recognizing that rapid industrialization was the indispensable condition for the acceleration of a country's economic development; industrialization facilitated the solution of other problems and above all made it possible to eliminate the aftermath of the colonial system. His delegation therefore entirely supported the opinion expressed in the second preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/L.809.

38. The problem of assistance for industrial development had three different aspects. The first concerned the need for the United Nations to undertake investment activities. He recalled that, during consideration of Agenda item 51 (Consolidation of the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance in a United Nations Development Programme), the socialist countries had submitted amendments (A/C.2/L.800/Rev.1) providing for the gradual transformation of the new Programme into a capital development fund, by using the resources currently available and appealing for further voluntary contributions. Unfortunately, those amendments had not been approved, and the draft resolution adopted (988th meeting) on the creation of a capital development fund had left the situation somewhat obscure. It was therefore to be hoped that the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and other competent bodies of the United Nations would give it their attention in the near future.

39. The institutional aspect, namely, the need to establish a specialized agency to help the developing countries industrialize, was no less important. Draft resolution A/C.2/L.809 envisaged a series of measures designed to strengthen the activities of the Centre for Industrial Development and to provide additional funds to finance "special industrial services". His delegation recognized the usefulness of such measures and supported those which had already been taken. It noted with satisfaction that the Commissioner for Industrial Development had announced his intention of recruiting more specialists from countries which were at present insufficiently represented on the staff of the Centre. He was thinking particularly of the socialist countries. However, his delegation did not grasp the sponsors' purpose in providing for the establishment of a fund financed by voluntary contributions from member Govern-

ments, in view of the numerous possibilities for making better use of available resources. The measures envisaged could only make co-ordination in that field more difficult and lead to increased duplication. It would be more rational to take draft resolution A/C.2/L.805 as a point of departure. That draft dealt with the organizational aspect and proposed solutions more radical and more in keeping with the views expressed by the Committee for Industrial Development on the necessity to create a specialized agency.

40. As to the third aspect of industrialization, namely, the training of national technical personnel, the provisions of draft resolution A/C.2/L.818, ably presented by the Ukrainian representative and co-sponsored by Bulgaria, were perfectly clear. The Kuwait representative had stressed the importance of the problem and had shown that the shortage of national technical cadres was an obstacle to economic development in many developing countries. As for the different proposals already made by certain delegations regarding document A/C.2/L.818, Governments would have an opportunity to make known their views on that subject when they transmitted their comments and suggestions to the Secretary-General, as provided in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution.

41. Mr. BLAMONT (International Labour Organisation) observed that, because of its tripartite structure, which enabled representatives of employers and labour to participate in its decisions side by side with government representatives, the ILO took a considerable interest in the question of industrial development. At a time when, on the international level, work on industrial development was still in the embryonic stage, it had given evidence of that interest by developing its activities in managerial training, in vocational training at all levels, in the development of small industries and in the improvement of labour relations. All those activities were now co-ordinated in a vast human resources development programme, which constituted one of the main activities of the ILO. The Governing Body of the ILO had consequently examined the question of industrial development on several occasions, since employers were called upon to direct that development and workers to carry it out.

42. The report of the International Organisations Committee of the ILO on industrialization, as well as an account of the debate of the Governing Body of the ILO on that report, had been communicated to the General Assembly at its nineteenth session, in a note by the Secretary-General (A/5835). Since then, the ILO had continued to expand its action to further the industrialization of the developing countries. Thus, a large number of the managerial training projects financed by the United Nations Special Fund were being carried out by the ILO in Asia (Cambodia, Korea, India, Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand), in Latin America (Argentina, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela), in Europe (Poland), in the Near and Middle East (Cyprus, Iran and Iraq), and in Africa (Morocco, Tunisia and the Sudan). Three further projects in Africa (Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania) were in the final stages of preparation. For those projects, new formulas should be adopted; for, although trading skills were not lacking in East

Africa, there was a great shortage of industrial skills. In that connexion he was glad to note that Uganda, whose representative had expressed reservations on the services provided by international assistance, had had recourse to aid from the ILO for managerial training and growth of productivity.

43. Moreover, the ILO had continued to devote more than half of its available funds to vocational training and had progressed from its efforts at the national level to the establishment of an International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training, which had just been opened at Turin with the help of the Italian Government and the financial support of many other Governments, including those of developing countries.

44. It was therefore not surprising that the Governing Body of the ILO should have considered in 1964, and recently confirmed its opinion, that the industrial development activities undertaken by all United Nations bodies should be expanded; the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination had unanimously agreed with that view, as was indicated by its thirty-first report (E/4029, chap. IX). Moreover, the Governing Body of the ILO had considered that, whatever institutional arrangements were finally made by the United Nations to deal with industrial development, those arrangements should enable existing, or latent, possibilities to be used to the full, the established fields of competence being respected.

45. The ACC had taken the same view when it had emphasized in the same report that the functions of any agency for industrial development should complement rather than duplicate the services already provided within the framework of the United Nations and the specialized agencies; in fact, in the opinion of ACC, the development of industry was closely linked with a wider action, which included, among other things, financing, planning, training and labour relations. The ACC had therefore requested that the statutes of the proposed new agency should contain provisions which would take account of those requirements and facilitate co-operation between all the organizations concerned (E/4029, paras. 43 and 44).

46. He was glad to note that the representative of the Soviet Union had supported that point of view and that the draft resolution submitted by a group of Latin American countries (A/C.2/L.805 and Add.1) made specific mention of the document containing the relevant extracts of the ACC report among the texts the preparatory committee was to take as a basis for its work.

47. On the practical level, the ILO and the Centre for Industrial Development had held detailed conversations over the past six months, which had led to a better understanding of the existing problems and to a strengthening of co-operation on matters of common interest, particularly managerial training, vocational training and the development of small industries. It could therefore be expected that, in the near future, a system of collaboration and co-operation in that field would be in regular operation. It was with that hope that the ILO, for its part, had taken the necessary measures to expand its own activities in industrial development still more, in

order to contribute to the over-all effort undertaken by the United Nations.

48. Mr. ABE (Japan), in reply to the appeal addressed to his country by the representative of Peru when the latter had introduced draft resolution A/C.2/L.805, said that his delegation was still unconvinced of the need to establish a specialized agency. However, Japan's economy had long been geared to maximum industrialization and its rapid growth in the past decade was undoubtedly due in large measure to its dynamism. Japan therefore fully understood the aspirations of the developing countries. A major share of its bilateral assistance was directed to the industrial sector of those countries, as could be seen from the financial assistance provided particularly, to Asian countries, and from the technical co-operation programmes especially under the Colombo Plan.

49. His Government was no less anxious than others to see the activities of the Centre for Industrial Development strengthened and he was glad to note, in the Secretary-General's report (A/6070/Rev.1), that the Secretariat was taking steps to increase the Centre's budgetary resources and staff. Of course, a great deal remained to be done but, contrary to the opinion of some, the slow rate of industrial development in the developing countries could not be attributed to the absence of a specialized agency or of a capital development fund. There was no positive correlation between the number of sound industrial projects and the number of competing agencies. To strengthen the role of the United Nations in the industrialization of the developing countries, efforts should be concentrated on improving the services of existing institutions, not only by increasing their resources but also by adapting, if necessary, their regulations and procedures to the actual needs.

50. Draft resolution A/C.2/L.805 certainly represented a serious attempt on the part of the sponsors to reconcile different views and reach a compromise, but a number of points remained to be clarified. For example, the representative of Peru had stated that the word "agency" in operative paragraphs 1 and 2 was not a correct translation of the term used in the original Spanish text. But the meaning was still ambiguous. Moreover, as the French representative had pointed out, it was not clear why the tasks set out in operative paragraphs 2 and 3 could not be entrusted to the Centre for Industrial Development. Lastly, the fact that only some resolutions of the Economic and Social Council were mentioned in the third preambular paragraph gave the impression that the draft resolution tended to confine the work of the preparatory committee without due regard to the views expressed in other relevant resolutions.

51. In principle, his delegation was inclined to favour draft resolution A/C.2/L.809, which, because of its practical approach, was likely to produce immediate results. But it was still not convinced that it was the best of the solutions suggested by the Secretary-General in his report (A/6070/Rev.1) with a view to providing "special industrial services". There was no clear relationship between the additional voluntary contributions proposed in operative paragraph 2 and the increase in funds already available under the preparatory assistance authority of the Managing

Director of the Special Fund and under the contingency authority of the Executive Director of the Technical Assistance Board recommended in operative paragraph 6. His delegation considered that the objective sought could be achieved either by changing the existing procedures of the United Nations Development Programme or by applying them in a more flexible way, and that there was no need to set up a completely separate voluntary fund. That did not, however, prevent any Member Government from making additional voluntary contributions for special industrial services under the present financial regulations.

52. His delegation fully recognized the need for a review of the existing terms of reference of the Committee for Industrial Development, but it considered that such a review should be initiated by the Committee itself rather than by the Economic and Social Council.

53. Mr. INGRAM (Australia) thanked the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.818 for bringing the Secretary-General's report on the training of national technical personnel for accelerated industrialization of developing countries (E/3901 and Add.1 and 2) to the General Assembly's attention and proposing appropriate follow-up action.

54. Australia was aware of the importance for the developing countries of training national technical personnel in various aspects of industrialization and was devoting a large part of its expenditures under the Colombo Plan to the provision of such training both in Australia and in the countries of the region. His delegation fully shared the assessment of the quality of the Secretary-General's report expressed in paragraph 1 of the draft resolution. The cost of training for all the developing countries over a fifteen-year period was estimated in the report at some \$2,600 million, or about \$177 million per year, a sum considerably in excess of that currently being spent by the United Nations family. Those were of course only very rough estimates, but they confirmed the Australian Government's opinion that technical training was among the most urgent needs—if not indeed the most urgent—of the developing countries, and one of the most worth-while avenues for international aid.

55. Perhaps the most valuable feature of the report was that it demonstrated the usefulness of research into the various aspects of training while expressing caution concerning the availability of personnel to undertake such research in the less developed countries. Even in the developed countries the facilities for training specialist personnel in vocational training research were far from adequate.

56. Turning to the recommendations on the organization of vocational training, he remarked that the methods advocated for the development of long-term programmes of technical training were similar in many ways to those applied in Australia. In particular, his delegation found much of interest in the recommendations concerning the relationship between labour market information and educational planning.

57. His delegation was in general agreement with the individual recommendations and approved, for example, the recommendation which stressed the need for developing countries to keep under review the

financial implications of national training programmes, particularly with a view to obtaining maximum returns from the investment of scarce resources. It considered, however, that, as a whole, the recommendations were more applicable to societies in which the basic structure of vocational training and technical education had already been established than to those in which they were at an early stage of development.

58. The report also drew attention to the placement of trainees from the developing countries in industrial establishments in the developed countries, and noted that it had been found very difficult in practice. Although group training was being encouraged both by participants and by host Governments, it was not always suitable for senior officers or specialized personnel. A number of training institutions established by international organizations already existed in the developed countries and the United Nations had held seminars in industrially developed countries which had been attended by technical personnel from both developed and developing countries. Over the past three or four years Australia had made proposals aimed at increasing the exchange of trainees between countries of the Colombo Plan region and strengthening in-plant training facilities. It considered that training in industrial technology within a regional framework had many advantages over training outside the region and had strongly supported efforts to establish regional in-plant training facilities in selected developing countries.

59. His delegation was in general agreement with the provisions of the draft resolution, as it agreed that it was necessary to strengthen the activities of the Centre for Industrial Development for the training of national technical personnel. It also considered that the Economic and Social Council would be able to give serious consideration to that question at its forty-third session. The Council would then have before it the report requested in paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, the recommendations of the Committee for Industrial Development and proposals for new initiatives which would surely emerge from the regional and international symposia on industrialization.

60. He proposed that, in operative paragraph 2, the words "the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency" should be added after "United Nations Centre for Industrial Development", as the activities of those bodies were mutually complementary. In the same paragraph, the words "in co-operation with" should be replaced by "within the framework of", for purely stylistic reasons. The sequence of paragraphs 3 and 4 should be reversed, as the activities referred to in paragraph 4 were listed in paragraph 2. Paragraph 4 would then become paragraph 3. Lastly, in paragraph 4 of the present text, the words "in co-ordination with" should be replaced by the words "and to co-ordinate them with the related activities of", in order to make the meaning of the paragraph clear.

61. Mr. MEGDICHE (Tunisia) said that the debate on United Nations action in the field of industrial development was of special importance to the developing countries. Industrialization was a pre-

requisite for economic and social progress, as it was the best way to bring about a substantial increase in the national product and per capita income, diversify the economy, create new jobs, and improve the trade balance and therefore the balance of payments and foreign exchange earnings. Industrial development was therefore fundamental to a country's harmonious and balanced development.

62. The consensus being reached by the developed and the developing countries might well result in a spirit of solidarity which would enable the United Nations greatly to expand its action for industrial development.

63. His delegation therefore noted with satisfaction that the Committee for Industrial Development had at last recognized the need to increase those activities of the United Nations and to recommend a substantial increase in the resources of the Centre for Industrial Development. Nevertheless, the action undertaken was still fragmentary and the services and assistance provided to the developing countries remained limited in nature and scope.

64. The United Nations should take a direct interest in industrial development and should work out an over-all programme corresponding to the real needs

of the developing countries and the goals of the United Nations Development Decade. If it was to do so a number of conditions would have to be met: the United Nations would need sufficient authority, an adequate budget and a competent staff, and it would have to ensure co-ordination of all industrial development activities.

65. It was in that spirit that his delegation supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.805. Pending the establishment of new machinery, it was important to continue and intensify the current activities of the Centre for Industrial Development and to carry out the recommendations made by the Committee for Industrial Development at its last session. His delegation wished to thank the Commissioner for Industrial Development for the praiseworthy efforts he had made in that direction. The action proposed in draft resolution A/C.2/L.809 would help to further the transition from the present timid activities of the United Nations to the effective programme which it should undertake. The provisions of the draft resolution in fact supplemented those of draft resolution A/C.2/L.805, as they provided for action to meet the needs of the next few years.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.