

directly consulting the countries concerned. His delegation found such paternalistic methods of work somewhat disquieting and hoped that the Secretariat, and in particular the Department of Economic and So-

cial Affairs, would in future alter its procedures and consult the countries concerned in advance, as it should.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.

1575th meeting

Monday, 3 December 1973, at 10.55 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Zewde GABRE-SELLASSIE (Ethiopia).

A/C.2/SR.1575

AGENDA ITEM 46

Review and appraisal of the objectives and policies of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade (continued)*
(A/9003 and Corr.1, chap. III; A/C.2/L.1287, A/C.2/L.1323, A/C.2/L.1329)

AGENDA ITEM 108

Reduction of the increasing gap between the developed countries and the developing countries (continued)*

1. The CHAIRMAN said that the report of the Working Party on Review and Appraisal (A/C.2/L.1329) had not yet been issued in all languages. Since the Committee was not yet ready to take action on either draft resolution A/C.2/L.1323, relating to item 46, or draft resolutions A/C.2/L.1322 and A/C.2/L.1328, relating to item 12, it could not proceed further with its work at the present stage, unless any delegation wished to make a statement.

2. In the absence of any comment, he would take it that the Committee wished to suspend the meeting until the report of the Working Party on Review and Appraisal became available in all languages.

It was so decided.

The meeting was suspended at 11 a.m. and resumed at 11.50 a.m.

3. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that the report of the Working Party on Review and Appraisal was not yet available in Chinese, but the Chinese delegation had indicated its willingness to proceed nevertheless with consideration of the report.

4. Mr. GATES (New Zealand), Rapporteur of the Working Party on Review and Appraisal, introducing the report of the Working Party (A/C.2/L.1329) recalled that its meetings had been open to all members of the Committee. Consequently, the report was not the work of a few delegations but embodied the views of all those that had participated in the meetings of the Working Party. Most of the paragraphs in the document recommended for adoption by the Committee and the General Assembly represented a high level of consensus.

5. The report had three parts: an introduction relating to organization of work and listing the documents before the Working Party, a short draft resolution contained in paragraph 6, and the document adopted by the

Working Party. The latter had, of necessity, been compiled rather quickly and no doubt contained some minor drafting or spelling errors. In paragraph 57 (iii), the word "agreements" should be replaced by "arrangements".

6. Mr. JAIN (India), Chairman of the Working Party, said that participation in the meetings had been active, and a constructive spirit and high level of debate had prevailed throughout. At all times, every effort had been made to explore fully the possibilities of reaching agreement on the formulation of the various ideas embodied in the report, which should be considered in the light of the discussions at the second session of the Committee on Review and Appraisal (21 May-8 June 1973)¹ and at the series of meetings of the Working Group on Review and Appraisal, established by the Economic Committee of the Economic and Social Council at the fifty-fifth session of the Council, which had led to the adoption of the working paper annexed to Council resolution 1827 (LV) (see A/C.2/L.1287). The report which had been adopted (A/C.2/L.1329) reflected the untiring efforts made by all participating delegations to reach the widest possible consensus and lay down a common basis for agreement in spite of the difficulties encountered and the divergent views held on some points.

7. The level of consensus reached in respect of the various paragraphs of the report was lower in some cases than in others. However, the Working Party had agreed to adopt the report on the clear understanding that delegations would have every opportunity in the Committee itself to express reservations or make interpretative statements regarding specific points.

8. The formulation of paragraph 48, which related to measures by developed countries and was based on paragraph 45 of the Secretary-General's note (A/C.2/L.1287), was not as satisfactory as that of other paragraphs, even though considerable efforts had been made to reach a consensus. The Working Party had, however, agreed that the kind of formulation used would enable the number of reservations expressed to be reduced to the minimum. Some delegations had indicated that they might be able to reconsider their reservations and that they were awaiting final instructions in that connexion. A higher level of consensus might therefore be achieved in due course.

9. The formulation used in paragraph 52 had been agreed upon by the Working Party on the clear understanding that changes might have to be made either by

* Resumed from the 1573rd meeting.

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 11.*

the Committee or in plenary meetings of the General Assembly in the light of recommendations or decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences, currently meeting in Geneva.

10. The Working Party had held very thorough discussions on every point in the document and had devoted as much time as possible to each paragraph and each idea. There had been no attempt to avoid discussion on any point. That statement was borne out by the fact that he had been obliged to request the Committee to extend the Working Party's mandate, and the members of the Working Party were grateful to the Committee for allowing them as much time as possible to complete their work.

11. He thanked the members of the Working Party for their co-operation and their whole-hearted efforts to reach a consensus on the first biennial over-all review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy.

12. The CHAIRMAN recalled that the Committee had agreed to begin its substantive discussion of the report of the Working Party at a subsequent meeting.

13. Mr. BRITO (Brazil) said that his Government was studying the report and his delegation would be ready to make its comments on the date set by the Committee. Until that time, however, his Government could not be considered committed to the document in any way.

14. Mr. HACHANI (Tunisia) noted that English was stated to be the original language of the report. In fact, the text had not been drawn up in English alone, and its

implementation would be facilitated if that error was corrected.

15. Mr. GATES (New Zealand), Rapporteur of the Working Party, agreed with the representative of Tunisia that it should be indicated that the text of the document had been negotiated in all the official languages. However, he could not himself undertake to check its accuracy in all the languages.

16. Mr. VERCELES (Philippines) expressed the hope that the regional groups would make use of the time available before the Committee took up the report to hold informal consultations with a view to reaching agreement on the most appropriate procedure for dealing with it.

17. Mr. VAN GORKOM (Netherlands) said that he wished to comment not on the report itself but on a related matter which had been discussed in the Working Party, namely, the possibility of drawing up a draft resolution on the preparations for the mid-term review and appraisal exercise. His delegation had drafted certain suggestions, which it had circulated informally to participants in the Working Party. It would welcome informal discussions with interested delegations on the contents of those suggestions and on the possible sponsorship of a draft resolution.

18. The CHAIRMAN expressed appreciation on behalf of the Committee for the valuable work performed by the Chairman, Rapporteur and members of the Working Party.

The meeting rose at 12.15 p.m.

1576th meeting

Tuesday, 4 December 1973, at 10.55 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Zewde GABRE-SELLASSIE (Ethiopia).

A/C.2/SR.1576

AGENDA ITEM 46

Review and appraisal of the objectives and policies of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade (*continued*)
(A/9003 and Corr.1, chap. III; A/C.2/L.1287, A/C.2/L.1323/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.1329)

AGENDA ITEM 108

Reduction of the increasing gap between the developed countries and the developing countries (*continued*)

1. Mr. SEARWAR (Guyana) introduced the revised text (A/C.2/L.1323/Rev.1) of the draft resolution on economic co-operation among developing countries. In connexion with paragraph 2, the sponsors had decided after consultations that there was no need to reopen the question of access to the sea for land-locked developing countries, which had been settled by the Committee in a recently adopted draft resolution; they had felt that it would be enough to refer to "the problems of such countries".

2. Paragraph 6 had been added after the statement made by the Argentine delegation. The sponsors, in consultation with the representative of Argentina and the secretariat of the Committee for Development Planning, had decided to add the words "including in particular scientific and technological co-operation" after the words "developing countries". At the suggestion of the secretariat of the Committee for Development Planning, the sponsors had decided to delete the words "submit a" and add the words "on this question" after the word "report". Thus the Committee would not have to submit a separate document but could deal with the question within the framework of its regular report.

3. Some delegations had expressed reservations concerning the wording of paragraphs 1 (b), 1 (d) and 1 (e). Unfortunately, the sponsors had not been able to accept the proposed amendments and those paragraphs therefore remained unchanged. However, the wording of paragraph 1 (e) did not go beyond what was generally accepted by the international community and therefore there seemed no need to change it. In addition, the text