

search in world problems of human survival, development and welfare, deserved the support and co-operation of all nations. His Government, which had actively participated in the discussions of UNESCO, was pleased at the progress made.

68. Some parts of the draft Charter of the University were similar to those of an international agency. His Government felt that the University should be an academic body rather than an international agency.

69. His delegation had noted with interest that the draft Charter provided for an appropriate representation of young scholars on the University Council. In order to achieve an appropriate regional representation as well, the various institutes to be associated with the University should also be represented on the Council.

70. The procedure for appointing the Rector of the University was certainly the best possible compromise for the time being; perhaps the appointment procedure could in future be replaced by an election procedure.

71. His delegation would like to know why, in paragraph 4 (c) of article IV of the draft Charter, the word "incorporated" had been used and not "associated" as recommended by the Executive Board of UNESCO. "Associated" had the advantage of permitting more flexibility.

72. The activities of the University and UNITAR and co-operation between the two bodies should be more

clearly defined; in particular, articles VI and VII should make a clearer reference to the relationship between those two institutions.

73. His comments should be understood in the light of paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300. His delegation hoped that the draft would be adopted by consensus, and supported unreservedly the idea of locating the University Centre at Tokyo.

74. Mr. SOGLO (Dahomey) thanked all those who had worked to make the idea of the United Nations University a reality. His delegation shared the apprehensions of the representative of Singapore regarding the draft Charter in that there was a risk of duplication of effort and overlapping with UNITAR.

75. His delegation had no objection to the generous offer of the Government of Japan being accepted; however, as the representative of the Central African Republic had pointed out, the location of the research and training centres in cities which had the infrastructure required would be tantamount to perpetuating the under-development of the developing countries, whereas the express task of the University was to counter that trend. The offers of the developing countries, particularly the African countries, should therefore be given priority.

The meeting rose at 12.45 p.m.

1551st meeting

Wednesday, 7 November 1973, at 3.15 p.m.

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

A/C.2/SR.1551

AGENDA ITEM 52

United Nations University: report of the Secretary-General (concluded) (A/9003/Add.1 (part III), A/9149 and Add.1 and 2, A/C.2/L.1300)

1. Mr. CHRISTOFOROU (Cyprus) said that the chief purpose of the United Nations University would be to study the urgent problems facing humanity as a whole, problems with which the United Nations had unfortunately had little success for political reasons. It was to be hoped that the project would promote contacts between scholars from the developing and the industrialized countries and stimulate academic interest in implementing the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The University could assist many developing countries in solving problems affecting the survival and well-being of their peoples. Furthermore, it could be of substantial use in providing trained specialists and research workers for the developing countries, and in helping those countries to expand and improve their institutes of higher learning. The universality of the University would be its distinguishing feature. The decentralization and co-ordination of its units throughout the world would enable the University to contribute effectively to research of world-wide interest.

2. Some countries had expressed willingness to act as hosts to certain units (see A/9149, annex II). Since

Cyprus was at a geographical and cultural crossroads, it might be advantageous to set up a unit there—for example, an economic research centre in Nicosia. In March 1972, the Permanent Representative of Cyprus had informed the Secretary-General that the Ministry of Education was making available the Cyprus Centre for Scientific Research for programmes of comparative study on the interrelation between western and eastern cultures and civilizations. His Government would make its final commitment to establish a unit of the United Nations University after the adoption of the Charter of the University. Cyprus had already informed the Secretary-General that its contribution to the budget of the University would be commensurate with its ability to pay.

3. He expressed appreciation for the work of the Founding Committee in close collaboration with the secretariats of the United Nations, UNESCO and UNITAR, and endorsed the revised draft Charter (see A/9149/Add.2).

4. His delegation also supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300, and wished to become a sponsor.

5. Mr. TAYLOR (Sierra Leone) expressed appreciation of the co-operation of UNITAR and UNESCO in the United Nations University project. His delegation had been closely involved in the development of the

project, and was gratified that thus a major step forward had been taken in implementing the aims and objectives of the United Nations itself.

6. There seemed to be some apprehension in the Committee regarding the apparent conflict between the University and UNITAR. As clearly stated in General Assembly resolution 2951 (XXVII), the concept of the University was to be that of a system of academic institutions. The Founding Committee in its report (see A/9149, annex I) had described the University as a community of scholars combining the functions of research, training and service. That community would benefit from the interdisciplinary approach to the problems of human survival, development and welfare. UNITAR, on the other hand, was concerned with achieving a greater understanding of the United Nations system through its seminars, studies and reappraisals of existing practices. The two institutions were therefore complementary. Even if there was a need for further clarification of the role of the University vis-à-vis UNITAR, the Charter of the University was not the place to make it.

7. The basic criteria drawn up by the Founding Committee regarding the location of the University were fair and reasonable, and his delegation wished to express its deep appreciation of the generosity of the Government of Japan. It further hoped that many developed and developing countries would be able to express their support for the University in financial terms. In that respect, the summary of country contributions and offers in document A/9149 augured well for the future.

8. When the University Council came to decide on the location of research and training centres and affiliated institutions, serious consideration should be given to areas of cultural, social or political conflict. Areas of cultural and social conflict were always areas of cultural and social fusion. Furthermore, to locate some affiliated institutions in or near areas of conflict would be to pursue one of the objectives laid down in paragraph 3 of article I of the revised draft Charter, namely, coexistence between peoples having different cultures, and would provide possibilities for mutual cultural assimilation.

9. In conclusion, he supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300.

10. Mr. MAGHUR (Libyan Arab Republic) said that the University could make a significant contribution to technical and scientific progress for the international community and, through its research on problems affecting all mankind, serve to promote the ideals of the Charter of the United Nations. Complete academic freedom was essential for the University, so that it should be absolutely free of political pressures. He was glad to see that his view was shared by the Founding Committee. The relationship between the University and UNITAR should be made clear; the Executive Director of UNITAR should continue the valuable work of the Institute, seek to avoid any duplication of effort with the University and help to promote the activities of the latter.

11. His delegation was sure that the attitude of the government of most Member States towards financial and other support for the University would be positive, and that the need to secure finances for the University would not jeopardize the funding of UNITAR. It had

been generally agreed that the resources of the University must consist of voluntary contributions, but the recommendation of the Founding Committee should be borne in mind concerning the need for an endowment fund of significant size in addition to commitments for annual or special contributions.

12. The task of the University should go beyond mere co-ordination, providing opportunities for exchanges of views and research findings in various fields. It should study the serious problems confronting mankind as a whole and encourage integration and mutual co-operation in culture and technology on a world-wide scale.

13. He wished to stress the need to adopt Arabic as an official language of the University, since it was used by more than 100 million people and its adoption would guarantee the universality of the University. The Arab Member States had recently requested the inclusion of Arabic among the official and working languages of the General Assembly, its committees and sub-committees.

14. His delegation endorsed the draft Charter, which reflected the primary objectives of the United Nations. He thanked the Government of Japan for its generous gesture and said that he would vote in favour of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300.

15. Mr. SEARWAR (Guyana) said that it was important in the early stages of the United Nations University not to make the range of programmes too wide. The early results might determine continuing support for the University, and the injunction that research should be action-oriented and related to pressing problems of human survival, development and welfare should be taken to mean a concern with the major problems being dealt with by the organizations of the United Nations system. The University would be truly universal and would therefore be uniquely placed to give an urgent operational perspective to the key programmes and ideas affecting the development of the international community. For example, the University could greatly advance opportunities for peace by applying the findings of the peace research being done, so that structures and situations of conflict could be identified in advance. The quiet study and reflection in the internationally oriented centres of the University would be a valuable addition to the search for new instruments and ideas to implement the new concepts on which the future of the human race might depend. One field of study should be the theory and practice of non-alignment, as urged by the Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries at Algiers (5-9 September 1973).

16. UNITAR should have a greater role to play once the University was established, being well-placed to interpret the political ideals motivating the United Nations system. The University, for its part, would be mainly concerned with the objective, patient and systematic accumulation of knowledge.

17. He understood from paragraph 4 of the draft resolution that the choice of locations for research and training centres and associated institutions would not be based solely on financial criteria. The developing countries, which might be able to offer only token financial contributions, might provide special research opportunities in terms of geographical location or

natural, human or cultural resources. The complete academic freedom and autonomy of the University would depend on the arrangements for its sustained funding, which in the long run would matter more than niceties of wording in the Charter. He expressed deep appreciation of the generous contribution of the Government of Japan.

18. Mr. HACHANI (Tunisia) said that his Government had followed all the stages of the University project's development and had been one of the sponsors of the draft resolution which had led to the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2951 (XXVII). That same sentiment had led to its offer, made at the 1548th meeting, to act as host to one of the centres affiliated to the University.

19. He expressed appreciation of the work of the Founding Committee and felt that the comments of the Executive Board of UNESCO (see A/9149/Add.1) had provided a sound basis for the Secretary-General to revise the draft Charter. He was pleased that UNESCO had been given an important role in relation to the University.

20. He welcomed the amendment procedure proposed for the draft Charter of the University particularly since, given the very recent date of the revision of the draft, he had not had time to consider it in detail. There was a need to establish the University as quickly as possible, in order for it to begin its important work. Minimal but solid institutional bases should be laid in order to guarantee the effectiveness of the University and avoid irreparable errors.

21. Among the basic principles of the University should be its universality, which should mean not only a broad geographical distribution as laid down in the draft Charter but also a just and equitable distribution taking into account the needs of the developing countries, while meeting the criterion of quality. Personnel should also be recruited on that basis and the location of the research and training centres and the specialized institutions chosen accordingly. It was important in specifying the status of academic and other personnel to avoid any possible conflict of responsibility and competence between the University and host Governments, especially with regard to personnel assigned to the affiliated centres.

22. In the light of the material limitations and needs of the developing countries which were hosts to University units, the remarks of the Founding Committee (see A/9149, annex I, appendix II) should be incorporated in the financing arrangements. External resources might well be needed to help the functioning of units in certain developing countries. For financing as a whole, the provisions of the relevant paragraph in General Assembly resolution 2951 (XXVII) should be strictly observed. The remarks of the Founding Committee regarding the official languages of the University should be included in the arrangements and he requested the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300 to take that into account when revising their text. Arabic should be used in all reports and conferences, and financial grounds should not be invoked for not using it.

23. The documents adopted should spell out the role of UNITAR, since there was concern that UNITAR should not be affected by the new undertaking, and that there should be no conflict of competence between the

two bodies. The General Assembly should participate in the decisions regarding the location of the affiliated centres and associated institutions, in order to guarantee that the University units would serve the aims and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations. At the Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries at Algiers, the latter had requested that the University should study the past, present and future role of non-alignment.

24. He supported the choice of Tokyo as the site for the University Centre because of its geographical, cultural and intellectual advantages, to which was added the generous offer of the Government of Japan which would certainly guarantee the proper development of the University and its units.

25. Mr. SOTO (Venezuela) said that his country had from the outset supported the proposal for a United Nations University, which would help to implement the aims of the Charter of the United Nations. It was extremely important for world public opinion to be better informed of the work of the United Nations and its past, present and future contribution to the solution of the common problems of mankind, especially in the developing world. The establishment of the University could serve such a purpose very well.

26. Venezuela wished to affiliate its Scientific Research Institute—a fundamental and applied research institute conferring post-graduate degrees—to the United Nations University system. He hoped that the terms and conditions of such affiliation could be established with the University Council in accordance with paragraph 2 of article III of the draft Charter.

27. In general, he endorsed draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300; he supported the idea that the University Centre should be located at Tokyo and expressed appreciation of the generous offer of the Japanese Government. However, as far as operative paragraph 1 was concerned, he said that Venezuela's approval of the Charter of the United Nations University should be interpreted according to the established Venezuelan practice that United Nations staff who were Venezuelan nationals did not enjoy privileges or immunities when they were in Venezuela.

28. He was confident that the sponsors of the draft resolution would give favourable consideration to the comments made by various representatives on the language question; those comments were endorsed by the Venezuelan delegation.

29. Mr. ELIASHIV (Israel) commended the concerted efforts made by the various United Nations organizations to draft a Charter for the United Nations University, which would promote academic and scientific research and training concerning the pressing universal problems such as human survival, development and welfare. He supported the provision in the draft Charter that the University should disseminate the knowledge gained in its activities to the United Nations system and to a broader public.

30. His Government was satisfied with the operational arrangements for the University and had submitted a proposal and offer to the Secretary-General (see A/9149, annex II). It fully supported the establishment of the University and was ready to actively participate in its joint efforts. He welcomed the proposal to locate

the University Centre at Tokyo and would support draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300.

31. Mr. REDONDO (Costa Rica) said that his delegation favoured the establishment of a United Nations University, an initiative which was consistent with Costa Rica's view of peace and reflected the ideals which had prompted university reform in his country during the 1950s. Peace depended on the ethical conviction that problems among men and nations could be solved by recourse to reason and justice and on the exercise of will to attain that goal. That conviction required spiritual and intellectual development through education based on the highest moral values, including the cultivation of freedom, the practice of tolerance, co-operation among peoples and respect for human dignity.

32. Although the United Nations had had the means to promote that objective in the minds of men, it had not had an advanced academic institution which could help to develop a new perspective among professionals leaving national universities who were seeking more universal values. His delegation fully appreciated the importance of the proposed University. Costa Rica's history was replete with humanistic accomplishments reflecting the significance attached to education.

33. His delegation welcomed the acceptance of the idea that the University should be decentralized in the interests of universality, as suggested in General Assembly resolution 2951 (XXVII). It also welcomed the broad scope of its principles and objectives, which promoted the philosophy on which the United Nations was based, and the fact that high priority had been accorded to the needs of the developing countries. The draft Charter of the University, as revised in the light of the observations of the Executive Board of UNESCO, clearly reflected General Assembly resolution 2925 (XXVII) and would substantially facilitate the training and research tasks assigned to the University. Although he agreed with the representative of Spain that it would be more appropriate to apply the word "Statute" to the legal instrument establishing the organization and structure of the University, the word "Charter" was broader in scope and more appropriate to the high quality of the proposed institution, and should therefore be retained.

34. With a view to improving the draft Charter, his delegation suggested that the words "and the importance of respect for those rights" should be inserted after the words "human rights" in paragraph 3 of article I. The maximum emphasis should be placed both on the nature of human rights and on methods and guarantees to ensure their respect. Furthermore, in paragraph 1 of article VII, the words "a certain number of" were inappropriate unless the centres in question were mentioned, and should therefore be deleted. His delegation endorsed the observations of the Indian delegation at the 1548th meeting with respect to paragraphs 2 and 5 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300 and wished to become a sponsor of that document.

35. Costa Rica pledged itself to co-operate fully with the United Nations University through its university faculties and research institutes. Both its International Institute for Human Rights and its Institute for International Price Agreements which were about to be established could form part of the University.

36. Lastly, he thanked all those who had laboured to bring the project before the Committee for a decision. The University undoubtedly would prove to be a genuine international accomplishment worthy of the auspices under which the United Nations had been established.

37. Mr. HABIB (Syrian Arab Republic) stressed the importance of scientific research for the developing countries and said that the United Nations University should provide an opportunity for improving the level of research and training in those countries, thus enabling them to apply the results of advanced science in the interests of development. The University's task should be to promote interaction among existing academic institutions in the developed and developing countries, and to help the third-world countries to bridge the scientific gap that separated them from the advanced countries. It was for those reasons that his delegation had sponsored both resolution 2951 (XXVII) and draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300.

38. It was gratifying to note that Arabic would be an official language of the University. Like other delegations, his delegation requested that specific mention be made of that fact in the revised draft Charter.

39. Mr. KLUGMAN (Australia) said that considerable progress had been made since the important decision to establish the United Nations University had been taken one year previously. However, many problems still lay ahead. It was still impossible to know precisely how and in what fields the University would function. The first year or so of the project would be experimental, as was suggested by paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300, which provided for further reflection on the Charter after the University had started to function.

40. His country, which had had conceptual difficulties with the project, had not been closely involved in the work done up to present. Some of his Government's questions were answered in the revised draft Charter. The major financial question had been partly answered by the Japanese Government's generous offer to contribute \$100 million to the University endowment fund. His delegation strongly supported the proposal to establish the University Centre in the Tokyo metropolitan area, and noted that the Japanese Government had offered to meet all the necessary capital costs.

41. The Secretariat should be given clear instructions in respect of the financial and administrative responsibilities which it would be called upon to assume until the administrative framework of the University was fully established. In particular, the formulation of policies and programmes would be a very delicate operation requiring decisions on the contending claims of many disciplines, institutions and Governments.

42. The University's research programme should be action-oriented and should give preference to subjects of special, though not exclusive, interest to the developing countries. Very worth-while offers appeared to have been made already by several developing countries, whereas some of the offers from more developed countries appeared to be less appealing.

43. Academic freedom, which could be defined as the right of a researcher to pursue his research even if the end result was contrary to the ideology of the institution, should be a cardinal principle of the University,

which should encourage a wide range of research and not shy away from work that might be critical of the way in which problems had been approached in the past. By tackling subjects such as the impact of the industrialized countries' policies on developing countries, economic growth models and the relationship between the various aspects of domestic and international economic and social policies, the University should be able to make a new and vital contribution to accelerating the pace of development and economic growth.

44. First impressions would be important, and it was therefore essential for the University to get off to a good start. To do so, it would need an effective and prestigious Council. His delegation hoped that it would be possible to maintain the combination of political realism and academic idealism apparent in the criteria laid down for the selection of Council members, and noted with satisfaction that the General Assembly would remain closely involved at least in the early stages.

45. His delegation supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300 and hoped that the revised draft Charter would be adopted at the present session of the General Assembly.

46. Mr. FOMIN (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the present text of the draft Charter, as contained in document A/9149/Add.2, had certain fundamental defects and it needed to be improved. Firstly, the subjects for the University's research programmes listed in paragraph 3 of article I were already being investigated by practically all United Nations bodies, including UNITAR. In order to avoid duplication, a more precise description should be given of those aspects of the problems with which the University would deal. That was all the more important because the as yet uncertain financial situation of the University made it impossible to cover an unlimited range of subjects. Further, the University should select subjects within the framework of the study of current problems so that its research would have practical value.

47. The provision in paragraph 2 of article II empowering the Rector to conclude agreements on behalf of the United Nations raised a complex legal question and was hardly acceptable, particularly as the article showed that the University would enjoy considerable autonomy. Furthermore, the article did not exclude the possibility that an agreement concluded by the University "to ensure academic freedom and autonomy" might be contrary to the laws and academic traditions of the country in question. It was absolutely essential that article II define the scope of the University's academic freedom and that of national jurisdiction in countries where the University was active so that both were equally protected.

48. It was not clear from article VII what would be the relationship between the new research centres and programmes to be established and existing scientific bodies, such as UNITAR. Similarly, there was no information as to what existing centres would be incorporated or how that would be done.

49. Paragraph 1 of article IX stated that the University's costs would be met from voluntary contributions, but paragraph 2 said the Rector might also accept assistance from a wide range of other bodies. It should be made perfectly clear whether such assistance

would come from the regular budgets of the United Nations and the specialized agencies or from other sources, such as UNDP. Any ambiguity as to the exclusively voluntary nature of contributions to the University must be eliminated from the final text of the Charter.

50. To ensure the smooth functioning of the University, it was particularly important that its Charter reflect the interests of all States Members of the United Nations. Accordingly, the teaching staff of the University should comprise specialists from various countries, representing different economic and social systems. Only in that way could the University avoid one-sidedness and superficiality in its study of special phenomena or economic development in the various countries of the world.

51. Mr. KRYGER (Denmark) said that his delegation supported in principle the establishment of the United Nations University as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General (A/9149 and Add.1 and 2), and appreciated the generous offer by the Japanese Government to establish the University Centre at Tokyo. It also supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300 on the understanding that paragraphs 1 and 2 did not preclude the possibility of subjecting the draft Charter to further study during the interval between the present and the thirtieth sessions of the General Assembly and, if appropriate, suggesting amendments to it.

52. Mr. PRATES (Brazil) supported the remarks by delegations from other developing countries concerning the functioning and structure of the University. A decentralized system would better reflect the need for peoples of different cultures and levels of development to contribute to the achievement of international co-operation and to participate in determining the course of international events. It would also better reflect the problems of the developing countries and make it easier for them to play an active role in the world-wide international scientific community. The establishment of channels of communication between institutions in areas with different levels of development would certainly have a symbiotic effect. Care would have to be taken to ensure that cultural manifestations originating in the developing countries were not stifled by cultural manifestations from the better-equipped developed countries. Relations between developed and developing countries should contribute to a better balance between their scientific and technological communities. The University should concentrate its research on problems and fields that presented a preponderantly asymmetrical character, such as the negative and positive links to which the coexistence of developed and underdeveloped gave rise, power relations and peace maintenance problems viewed from the disarmament angle.

53. The University must obviously enjoy academic freedom, namely, the absence of ties to existing political and economic power centres. The financing of the University must not be utilized as a means of influencing its activities. Its academic freedom would be jeopardized if its research work was directly linked to the voluntary contributions made by Governments or private institutions. It was imperative to avoid the repetition of certain developments that had taken place in the activities of UNITAR. If its structure and activities were readjusted in order to avoid overlapping with the

University, UNITAR should concentrate on the organization, procedures and activities of the United Nations. Alternatively, consideration might be given to the possibility of eventually merging the two organs.

54. The revised draft Charter was an attempt to provide a firm but flexible framework for the University and the reference to its eventual amendment in draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300 also reflected the need for flexibility, since the University would be an entirely new type of organ.

55. His delegation was prepared to support the draft resolution and had noted with appreciation the offer of the Government of Japan to establish the University Centre at Tokyo.

56. Mr. MÜEZZINOĞLU (Turkey) said that considerable progress had been made since the idea of establishing an international university had first been put forward by the former Secretary-General, U Thant. The principles laid down in the draft Charter prepared by the Founding Committee were in general acceptable to his delegation, which interpreted those basic principles to mean: first, that the University would essentially be decentralized and that the offers made by the developing countries would be taken into account when planning the geographic distribution of its units and affiliated or associated research centres; secondly, that the University would enjoy autonomy within the framework of the United Nations and academic freedom; thirdly, that the research and training programmes would give priority to the problems of the developing countries; lastly, that the programme would be oriented essentially towards applied sciences and the day-to-day problems of human beings.

57. The principle of financing through voluntary contributions was acceptable to his delegation, on condition that such contributions from non-governmental sources did not interfere with the University's programming and functioning and did not contradict the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

58. His delegation would have no difficulty in approving the draft Charter as it stood. However, the comments and suggestions made during the Committee's discussion should be taken into account by the University Council when reviewing the Charter prior to its submission to the thirtieth session of the General Assembly. Paragraph 1 of article XII envisaged that amendments to the Charter would be made by the General Assembly of the United Nations; yet, once the University had been established and granted a certain degree of autonomy, it would not be proper to amend the Charter without prior consultation with the University Council. That question was a matter of some concern to his delegation, and perhaps needed some clarification.

59. He commended the generous offer made by the Japanese Government, which had considerably facilitated the realization of the project. The Turkish Government had offered to establish an institute of environmental engineering at the Middle East Technical University, which had been established with United Nations assistance in 1956 as a regional institute for higher education.

60. His delegation supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300.

61. Mr. NICOL (Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research) said that the comments made had been both interesting and encouraging. The adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300 would mark the end of only the first stage of the project.

62. Paragraph 2 of the draft resolution dispelled some of the doubts that had arisen at the time when the draft Charter was being prepared, since it provided for further consideration of the Charter by the General Assembly. No university charter could be perfect, but several questions had been settled during the Committee's discussion. Speaking on behalf of the UNITAR Board of Trustees, he expressed the hope that the links between UNITAR and the University would be mutually beneficial. With regard to paragraph 3, he expressed the hope that many scholars would pass through the gates of the University Centre in the Tokyo metropolitan area. Paragraph 4 concerned the biggest contribution that the University could make to the developing countries. There could be no peace while malnutrition, poverty and ignorance held sway in four fifths of the world. UNITAR attached considerable importance to paragraphs 5 and 6, on which he had already commented.

63. Turning to paragraph 7, he expressed the view that fund-raising should not be a regular annual or even quinquennial exercise. The University should have a sufficiently large endowment fund and enough income from investment to leave its staff free to devote all their time to scholarship.

64. Youth, women and representatives of the third world should not be overlooked when deciding on the membership of the University Council. He had been struck by the remark by the representative of Sierra Leone that areas of social and cultural conflict were also areas of social and cultural fusion. It would be a privilege for UNITAR to contribute to that process in a measure commensurate with its resources.

65. Mr. M'BOW (Assistant Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) thanked those delegations that had expressed their appreciation of the preparatory work performed by UNESCO. Adoption of the revised draft Charter would mark not the end of a process but the beginning of fruitful action.

66. Some delegations had expressed concern regarding the academic freedom and autonomy of the University. In fact, the revised draft Charter spelt out the nature of the freedom to be enjoyed by the University and its staff, and made provision for the Rector to conclude agreements in that respect with the various Governments concerned.

67. Turning to the question of the institutions that would form part of the University, he said that the University Centre at Tokyo would be the central element. The other component parts of the University would be the research and training centres, which would be integrated in the University and financed from its funds. Under paragraph 2 of article III, the University Council could confer the status of associated institution on certain other institutions or centres, on terms and conditions decided by the Council itself. Such associated institutions would not be an integral part of the University and would retain their own ad-

ministrative and financial structure. Under paragraph 3 of article III, the University could also conclude contractual research arrangements with institutions or individuals. It would be important for institutions applying for association or affiliation to state very clearly the exact nature of the relationship they desired.

68. The problem of financing had been raised. At the outset, a certain sum would be allocated for the financing of the various research and training centres, and the University would then develop as its resources permitted. Apart from the University Centre, it might not be possible for more than a few research and training centres to be integrated in the University at the initial stage. However, it would be possible for the University to make arrangements to work in conjunction with existing institutions in Member States.

69. UNESCO would do everything within its competence to ensure the success of the University, and would take account of all the suggestions made during the Committee's discussion.

70. Mr. NARASIMHAN (Under-Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs and Co-ordination) said he would convey to the members of the Founding Committee the Committee's appreciation of their work.

71. The Secretary-General and the Secretariat wished to apologize for the fact that delegations had received the revised version of the draft Charter only a few days before the debate. The time-table had to some extent been imposed by paragraphs 5 and 6 of General Assembly resolution 2951 (XXVII), in that the Executive Board of UNESCO, which was to make comments on the draft Charter had not met until September, and the Charter and the Secretary-General's report had then had to be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, which had met in October.

72. Delegations had recognized that the Charter, although perhaps imperfect, was nevertheless perfectible; they had also recognized that it should be adopted as it stood, since even then it would be late in 1974 before the Rector could be appointed and the University could begin its work. It had been felt that a full year of activity would be required before any discussion of amendments to the Charter, and accordingly that discussion was to take place at the thirtieth session of the General Assembly. The comments of delegations on the future work of the University had been extremely important, and he would ensure that the summary records of the debate were made available to the University Council and the Rector for their guidance.

73. The apprehensions of the representatives of the Central African Republic and Dahomey that the comments of the Founding Committee concerning the location of the University Centre and other institutions and programmes might handicap the establishment of research and training centres in developing countries arose out of a misunderstanding. The Founding Committee's reference to ample possibilities for wide intellectual contacts had been in relation to the University Centre, and not to research and training centres, which were clearly intended to be set up in developing countries; the absence of those possibilities would not constitute a barrier to such action.

74. The Founding Committee had felt that the separate identity of UNITAR should be preserved, since it

would have equal status with the proposed University as an organ established by the General Assembly. In order to promote the maintenance of close co-ordination referred to in subparagraph (f) of article VI of the draft Charter, the Executive Director of UNITAR would be an *ex officio* member of the University Council. The two organs would co-operate in every possible way. While the possibility that UNITAR might in future become one of the most important units of the University was not excluded, such a step would require consultation between the University Council and the Board of Trustees of UNITAR, and also no doubt a decision by the General Assembly as the establishing organ.

75. The representative of Greece had asked whether the *ex officio* members of the University Council were included in the 24 members referred to in paragraph 1 of article IV. His understanding was that they would be additional members, bringing the total number to 28 including the Rector. The question of the quorum would be settled in the rules of procedure which the University Council would establish.

76. The problem of the brain drain which some delegations had raised had been referred to by the Secretary-General in his statement to the first session of the Founding Committee, and was also dealt with implicitly in paragraph 6 of article I. The intention was clearly that the University should operate in such way as to reverse rather than to aggravate that problem.

77. Some delegations had questioned the way in which the comments of the Executive Board of UNESCO had been combined with the earlier version of the draft Charter. Given the short time available, it was possible that some mistakes had been made, but he felt that every comment had been taken into account in one way or another in the preparation of the revised draft.

78. He wished to reassure the representative of Turkey that no amendment would be made to the Charter except at the request of the University Council or after prior consultation with it. Only the General Assembly, as the establishing organ, could amend the Charter, as was stated in paragraph 1 of article XII; but paragraph 2 of that article, as well as paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300, made it clear that consultations would be held both with the University Council and with UNESCO prior to the submission of any amendment.

79. The Founding Committee had been of the view that the personnel of the University should not form a vast international bureaucracy, and that the academic staff should be distinguished from the administrative staff, who would be international civil servants, with different rules applying to the two categories. In any case, the arrangement was only a transitional one, since it was for the University Council to consider what classes of personnel should be established, and which should be covered by the Convention on Privileges and Immunities. It should also not be forgotten that the privileges and immunities enjoyed under the terms of that Convention were less comprehensive than full diplomatic immunity.

80. It was clearly the intention that young scholars would not only work in the research and training centres and the University Centre itself, but would also be represented in the University Council. There would

be no discrimination on grounds of sex. Where representation of the third world was concerned, many offers had already been received for the establishment of parts of the University, with slightly more offers coming from developed countries. Accordingly, it had been decided to leave to the University Council the task of considering those offers and making a balanced selection, taking into account both the facilities offered and the need for representation of developing countries.

81. One delegation had asked what "periodically" meant in relation to the convening of the Conference of Directors. Although there would be financial implications, he felt that the minimum frequency for those meetings should be once a year.

82. The University would be funded purely from voluntary contributions, and not from the regular budget of the United Nations or the specialized agencies. It was on that basis that the Secretary of the Committee had stated at the 1548th meeting that there would be no financial implications for the regular budget.

83. Mr. OGISO (Japan) said that, after consultation with various delegations which had suggested amendments, the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300 had agreed on a revised version. The oral amendment to paragraph 1, proposed by France at the 1549th meeting, had not been accepted, but as a compromise it had been decided to merge paragraphs 1 and 2. The remaining paragraphs would be renumbered accordingly. At the 1548th meeting, the representative of India had suggested that the word "examine" in the original paragraph 2 should be replaced by "take into account"; as a compromise, the sponsors had accepted "consider". Accordingly, paragraph 1 would start with the words: "Adopts the Charter of the United Nations University contained in the second addendum to the report of the Secretary-General (A/9149/Add.2) and invites the University Council to consider the comments and observations made . . .". The representative of India had agreed not to insist on the deletion of the passage "in consultation . . . Economic and Social Council" from that paragraph. The sponsors had accepted the suggestion of the representative of India and others that in the original paragraph 5 the words "Expresses the hope" should be replaced by "Recommends further". They had not accepted the Netherlands suggestion at the 1550th meeting that in the original paragraph 6 the word "Authorizes" should be replaced by "Invites", since they preferred to make it clear that the Secretary-General was empowered to take the measures concerned. It had also been suggested that a reference to the Executive Director of UNITAR should be added in that paragraph. The sponsors felt that, since the original paragraph 5 already recommended that the University Council should consider the relationship between the University and UNITAR, since the Executive Director was an *ex officio* member of that Council, and since in any case the arrangement was only a temporary one pending the appointment of the Rector, such a reference was not necessary in paragraph 6.

84. A number of delegations had expressed the hope that the remarks of the Founding Committee concerning the official languages of the University, contained in section 5 of appendix II to annex I of document A/9149, would be taken into account in the Charter or

endorsed by the General Assembly. The sponsors had accordingly agreed to include in the draft resolution, after the new paragraph 4, an additional paragraph reading:

"Endorses the remarks of the Founding Committee of the United Nations University appended to the report of the Secretary-General (A/9149, annex I, appendix II, section 5)".

85. Since no other formal amendments had been submitted, the sponsors hoped that the revised draft resolution would be adopted without objection.

86. The CHAIRMAN announced that the delegations of Honduras and Kuwait had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

87. Ms. AAS (Norway), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that the text of that draft Charter had become available in document A/9149/Add.2 only a few days previously, and the competent Norwegian authorities had therefore had no opportunity to consider it. Her delegation was therefore unable to pronounce itself on the substance of the revised draft Charter, and would be obliged to abstain on paragraph 1, as revised, if it was put to a separate vote. However, her Government supported the establishment of a United Nations University, which should be oriented towards the broad and basic actual needs of peoples and guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations relating to non-discrimination on grounds of race, creed or sex. Her delegation would express its support for that concept by voting for the draft resolution as a whole. For budgetary reasons, her Government was not currently in a position to pledge any voluntary contribution to the University.

88. Mr. RANKIN (Canada) said his delegation welcomed the positive spirit evidenced during the debate. It would vote for the draft resolution, and attached particular importance to the second part of paragraph 1, permitting further examination of the Charter by the University Council, the Economic and Social Council, and ultimately the General Assembly. Such a review would be necessary in the light of the initial experience gained in the establishment of the University. His delegation attached real importance to clarifying the relationship between the University and UNITAR, since both had similar aims and purposes, and unnecessary duplication of effort in their research and training functions must be avoided. His delegation recognized the need for the Secretariat to begin planning, to establish the necessary infrastructure, and to start the financing of the University. It welcomed the generous offer of the Government of Japan to locate the University Centre in the Tokyo area.

89. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) said that the adoption of the draft resolution would be the culmination of an ideal which his delegation had supported from the outset. His delegation was grateful to those who had worked over the past four years for the gradual acceptance of the idea, and particularly welcomed the assurances given by the Executive Director of UNITAR and the Assistant Director-General of UNESCO. Prior to those explanations, his delegation had had apprehensions regarding the respective mandates of the University and UNITAR, and it was pleased to learn that the establishment of the University would not affect the mandate of UNITAR, but that the two organizations

would be complementary. His delegation also welcomed the interest which the Japanese Government had shown in the University, and particularly its offer of funds and premises.

90. His delegation's understanding was that acceptance of the new paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, referring to official languages, would not exclude the possibility that countries whose languages were not yet used in the United Nations system might achieve appropriate representation through the use of their languages in one of the centres to be established as part of the University. His delegation fully supported the draft resolution, which it hoped would be adopted unanimously.

91. Mr. MBÉDO (Central African Republic) said that his delegation's apprehensions, which were based on facts, had not been dispelled by the assurances of the Under-Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs and Co-ordination. The first sentence of section 4 in appendix II to annex I of document A/9149 referred to both the University Centre and to other institutions and programmes. It was the criteria for establishment of the latter which were of concern to his delegation. The trend in the United Nations system was towards decentralization but the practical result was that new centres were grouped in a small number of countries on the grounds that they possessed a solid infrastructure. That trend was undesirable, and should not be followed in the case of the University.

92. Mr. HACHANI (Tunisia) said that the merger of paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution guaranteed that the adoption of the draft Charter would not be an irreversible step. His delegation particularly welcomed the addition of the new paragraph 5, relating to official languages. It would not only vote for the draft resolution, but wished to become a sponsor of it.

93. Mrs. DERRÉ (France) said that her delegation interpreted the compromise accepted in response to its

amendment to the original paragraph 1 of the draft resolution as meaning that the draft Charter was not considered perfect and would be reviewed in two years' time. Her delegation saw its adoption as provisional, although that was not specifically stated in the text. Her delegation had had difficulties with the word "examine" in the original paragraph 2, but its concern was fully met by the new text.

Draft resolution A/C.2/L.1300, as revised, was adopted by 98 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

94. Mr. NARASIMHAN (Under-Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs and Co-ordination), replying to the comments of the representative of the Central African Republic, said that while the first sentence of section 4 in appendix II to annex I of document A/9149 referred to the location of the University Centre and other institutions and programmes, it went on to say that such location could not be determined without taking into account various factors, notably the nature of offers from countries to host them and the criteria which would determine such location. The Secretary-General had decided to leave consideration of those factors to the University Council, which would ensure that there was a proper balance in the distribution of the various institutions and programmes. The criteria referred to later in the same section related only to the location of the headquarters of the University, and would not affect the location of the institutions and programmes.

95. Mr. SHEMIRANI (Iran) said that his delegation wished to reserve its position with regard to subparagraph (b) of a reply received from a Member State, which appeared on page 6 of annex II of document A/9149.

96. Mr. PAUL (Haiti) said that, had his delegation been present during the voting, it would have voted for the draft resolution.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.

1552nd meeting

Thursday, 8 November 1973, at 11 a.m.

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

A/C.2/SR.1552

AGENDA ITEM 48

United Nations Industrial Development Organization
(continued)* (A/9003 and Corr.1, chap. XII, A/9016, A/9072, A/C.2/L.1293/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.1294/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.1301):

- (a) Report of the Industrial Development Board;
- (b) Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization: report of the Executive Director

1. The CHAIRMAN announced that Romania and the Upper Volta wished to join the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1293/Rev.1 which was being considered by the Committee.

* Resumed from the 1541st meeting.

2. Mr. HAMID (Sudan), introducing the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1293/Rev.1) on behalf of the sponsors, said that they had endeavoured to take into account the suggestions and proposals made to them. The revised text of the draft resolution was therefore a compromise; while it did not fully satisfy all delegations, it should nevertheless be acceptable to all.

3. The most important changes were those made to paragraphs 2 and 3. In paragraph 2, the sponsors had agreed to remove the two examples of basic problems of industrialization to be dealt with by the Second General Conference of UNIDO: the development of industrial technology in conditions more suitable to the requirements of the developing countries, and the development of basic guidelines for a new international