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IDENTIFICATION OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED  
AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Salih Mohamed OSMAN (Sudan)

1. The General Assembly, at its 1939th plenary meeting, on 25 September 1971, allocated to the Second Committee agenda item 46, entitled "Identification of the least developed among the developing countries: report of the Secretary-General".
2. The Second Committee considered this item at its 1399th to 1404th meetings, on 8 to 11 November 1971. An account of the discussions of the Committee on this item is contained in the relevant summary records. At its 1399th meeting, on 8 November, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.
3. When considering the item, the Committee had before it a report of the Secretary-General (A/8459) and the report of the Economic and Social Council.<sup>1/</sup>
4. At the 1400th meeting, on 9 November, the representative of the Sudan, now joined by Chad and Rwanda, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1168), entitled "Identification of the least developed among the developing countries" which read as follows:

<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/8403), chap. VI.

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 in which it provided a separate section in the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade on special measures in favour of the least developed among the developing countries to enhance their capacity to benefit fully and equitably from the policy measures of the Decade,

"Recalling further its resolution 2724 (XXV) of 15 December 1970 in which it affirmed the urgency of identifying the least developed among the developing countries in order to enable those countries to benefit as early as possible from the special measures in their favour adopted in the various forums,

"1. Commends the report of the Committee for Development Planning on its seventh session 2/ and that of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; 3/

"2. Takes note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1628 (LI) of 30 July 1971;

"3. Takes note also of Trade and Development Board resolution 82 (XI) of 18 September 1971;

"4. Approves the list of hard core least developed countries contained in paragraph 66 of the report of the Committee for Development Planning; 4/

"5. Requests the Economic and Social Council to instruct the Committee for Development Planning to continue, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the review of criteria now being used for the identification of the least developed countries, keeping in view the possibility of modifications in the list of those countries at the time of the mid-term review of the progress in implementing the International Development Strategy;

"6. Commends the decision of the Trade and Development Board in resolution 82 (XI) that the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development work out a detailed and comprehensive action-oriented programme, within the competence of the Conference, for the implementation of the relevant provisions of the International Development Strategy in favour of the least developed countries;

"7. Requests other organizations in the United Nations system to initiate similar action-oriented programmes, within their respective fields of competence, in favour of the least developed countries".

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2/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/4990), chap. II.

3/ TD/B/349.

4/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/4990), chap. II.

5. At the same meeting, the following amendments were introduced:

(a) The representative of Colombia proposed the addition of the following text (A/C.2/L.1169) at the end of operative paragraph 7:

"Such programmes and those referred to in paragraph 6 above should be viewed as complementary to the measures proposed to attain the general objectives of the International Development Strategy for all developing countries, and should not prejudice the development efforts of other developing countries".

(b) The representative of Ecuador, later joined by Bolivia and El Salvador (A/C.2/L.1174), proposed the insertion of the words "in their respective geographical regions" after the words "least developed countries" in operative paragraph 5;

(c) The representative of Pakistan proposed the addition of the following additional operative paragraph (A/C.2/L.1170) after operative paragraph 7:

"8. Recommends that additional resources should be made available to the United Nations and its specialized agencies in order to ensure early and effective implementation of action-oriented programmes in favour of the least developed countries".

(d) The representative of Madagascar proposed the insertion of a new operative paragraph 6 (A/C.2/L.1171), which read as follows:

"6. Further requests the Economic and Social Council, through its Committee for Development Planning, to refine the existing criteria and to establish new criteria, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, with a view to drawing up a list of countries which are relatively underprivileged in certain sectors that are vital to their economic development".

(e) The representative of Uruguay proposed the insertion, in operative paragraph 5, (A/C.2/L.1172) of the words "as well as any other criteria which may in due course be deemed appropriate" after the words "now being used".

6. At the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan, also on behalf of the sponsors, revised the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1168/Rev.1) on the basis of the oral amendments proposed by France so that:

(a) Operative paragraph 7 was reworded to read as follows:

"7. Requests other organs and programmes of the United Nations, including the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to initiate similar action-oriented programmes, within their respective fields of competence, in favour of the least developed countries".

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(b) The following new operative paragraph was added:

"8. Further requests the international organizations within the United Nations system to take fully into account the special needs of the least developed among the developing countries when formulating their programmes of activities or selecting the projects they finance".

7. Burundi, Ethiopia, France, India, Iran, Lesotho, Mali, the Niger, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

8. At the 1401st meeting, on 10 November, the Committee had before it the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1168/Rev.1).

9. At the same meeting, the representative of Kenya introduced amendments (A/C.2/L.1173) to the revised draft resolution which called for:

(a) The addition of three paragraphs after the second preambular paragraph, which read as follows:

"Considering that the criteria used so far for the identification of the 'hard core' least developed among the developing countries is far from being adequate,

"Considering further the unavailability of necessary comparative data in most developing countries,

"Mindful of the varying stages of economic development among the developing countries as a whole".

(b) The addition of a new operative paragraph 5 to read as follows:

"5. Requests the Economic and Social Council, as well as all the international organizations concerned in the United Nations system, to consider according special treatment to all developing countries, in a sliding scale, taking due account of the level of economic development of each country".

10. The representative of Guatemala also introduced an amendment (A/C.2/L.1175) to the draft resolution, which called for the insertion, in operative paragraph 4, of the word "tentative" before the word "list". He also joined in sponsoring the amendment submitted by Bolivia, Ecuador and El Salvador (A/C.2/L.1174).

11. Ceylon and Nepal joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

12. At the 1402nd meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Colombia revised the amendments (A/C.2/L.1169/Rev.1) to add two new operative paragraphs, which read as follows:

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"10. Requests that any special measure taken in favour of the least developed countries would be supplementary to the general measures applicable to all developing countries;"

"11. Requests that action on special measures taken in favour of the least developed countries must not result in injury or prejudice to the interests of other developing countries but should ensure due and equitable benefits in favour of the least developed among them".

13. The representative of Madagascar revised his amendment (A/C.2/L.1171/Rev.1) to read as follows:

"6. Further requests the Economic and Social Council, through its Committee for Development Planning, to refine the existing criteria and to establish new criteria, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, with a view to drawing up a list of countries which are relatively disadvantaged taking into account the existence of critical major economic sectors;"

14. The representative of Trinidad and Tobago introduced an amendment (A/C.2/L.1176) to replace the existing operative paragraph 5 by the following text:

"5. Requests the Economic and Social Council to instruct the Committee for Development Planning to continue, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to review the criteria now being used for the identification of the least developed countries, keeping in view the possibility of modifications in the list of those countries as early as possible, and to work on criteria for the identification of the relatively disadvantaged countries in the context of a geographic region and taking into account the existence of critical major economic sectors;"

15. Afghanistan, Egypt, Uganda and the Upper Volta joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

16. The representative of the Sudan, also on behalf of the sponsors, accepted:

(a) The amendment proposed by Uruguay (A/C.2/L.1172) to insert the words "as well as any other criteria which may in due course be deemed appropriate" after the words "now being used" in operative paragraph 5 of the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1168/Rev.1); and

(b) One of the paragraphs proposed by the representative of Kenya (A/C.2/L.1173) to be added after the second preambular paragraph, which read as follows: "Mindful of the varying stages of economic development among the

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developing countries as a whole". He orally revised the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1168/Rev.1) to include the words "as appropriate" between the words "initiate" and "similar" in the seventh operative paragraph (A/C.2/L.1168/Rev.2).

17. The representative of Kenya revised his amendments (A/C.2/L.1173/Rev.1), which called for:

(a) The addition of two paragraphs before the third preambular paragraph, to read as follows:

"Considering that the criteria used so far for the identification of the 'hard core' least developed among the developing countries is far from being adequate,

"Considering further the unavailability of necessary comparative data in most developing countries";

(b) The addition of a new operative paragraph 5 to read:

"5. Requests the Economic and Social Council, as well as all the international organizations concerned in the United Nations system, to consider according appropriate treatment to all developing countries, in a sliding scale, established on the basis of the criteria referred to in paragraph 6 below, taking due account of the level of economic development of each country".

18. At the same meeting the representative of Pakistan withdrew his amendment (A/C.2/L.1170).

19. At the 1403rd meeting, on 11 November, the representative of Ecuador, on behalf of the sponsors, also withdrew the amendment (A/C.2/L.1174).

20. Australia, Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador and Guatemala joined in sponsoring the amendment submitted by Trinidad and Tobago (A/C.2/L.1176).

21. The Committee then voted on the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1168/Rev.2) and the amendments thereto as follows:

(a) In a roll-call vote requested by the representative of Colombia, it rejected, by 35 votes to 34, with 46 abstentions, the amendments submitted by his delegation (A/C.2/L.1169/Rev.1). The voting was as follows:

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In favour: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Gabon, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire.

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bhutan, Burundi, Canada, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Guinea, India, Iran, Ivory Coast, Japan, Lesotho, Mali, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Khmer Republic, Laos, Liberia, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, People's Republic of the Congo, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

(b) In a roll-call vote requested by the representative of Madagascar, it rejected, by 39 votes to 27, with 51 abstentions, the amendment submitted by his delegation (A/C.2/L.1171/Rev.1). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Central African Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, People's Republic of the Congo, Peru, Senegal, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Zaire.

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bhutan, Burundi, Canada, Ceylon, Chad, Cuba, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Guinea, India, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, Mali, Nepal, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

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Abstaining: Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chile, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Finland, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Khmer Republic, Laos, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay.

(c) On a separate vote, requested by the representative of Senegal, taken by roll-call at the request of the representative of Kenya, it adopted paragraph 1 of the amendments submitted by his delegation (A/C.2/L.1173/Rev.1) by 37 votes to 31, with 50 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bolivia, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Nicaragua, People's Republic of the Congo, Senegal, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire.

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bhutan, Burundi, Ceylon, Chad, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Guinea, India, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, Mali, Nepal, Niger, Panama, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Abstaining: Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Hungary, Iceland, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Laos, Libyan Arab Republic, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

(d) On a separate vote, requested by the representative of Senegal, taken by roll-call at the request of the representative of Kenya, it rejected paragraph 2 of the amendments submitted by his delegation (A/C.2/L.1173/Rev.1), by 51 votes to 13, with 56 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

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In favour: Bahrain, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Laos, Malawi, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago.

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chad, Cuba, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, Mali, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, People's Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Abstaining: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chile, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Togo, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Zaire.

(e) It rejected by 37 votes to 31, with 52 abstentions, the amendment submitted by the representative of Guatemala (A/C.2/L.1175), who requested a roll-call vote. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Laos, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, People's Republic of the Congo, Peru, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela, Zaire.

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bhutan, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Guinea, India, Iran, Ivory Coast, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, Mali, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

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Abstaining: Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay.

(f) In a roll-call vote, requested by the representative of Trinidad and Tobago, it rejected, by 43 votes to 32, with 45 abstentions, the amendment submitted by his delegation (A/C.2/L.1176). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Khmer Republic, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Denmark, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Iceland, India, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Abstaining: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Gabon, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, People's Republic of the Congo, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Zaire.

(g) In a separate roll-call vote, requested by the representative of Peru, it adopted, by 120 votes to none with 1 abstention, paragraphs 1 to 4 of the joint draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1168/Rev.2). The voting was as follows:

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In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, People's Republic of the Congo, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: South Africa.

(h) In a separate roll-call vote, requested by the representative of Peru, it adopted, by 105 votes to none, with 16 abstentions, paragraphs 5 to 9 of the joint draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1168/Rev.2). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, People's Republic of the Congo, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

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Against: None.

Abstaining: Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Madagascar, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela.

(i) It adopted the revised draft resolution, as a whole, as amended, by 116 votes to none, with 4 abstentions (see paragraph 22 below).

#### RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

22. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

##### Identification of the least developed among the developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, in which it provided a separate section in the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade on special measures in favour of the least developed among the developing countries to enhance their capacity to benefit fully and equitably from the policy measures of the Decade,

Further recalling its resolution 2724 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, in which it affirmed the urgency of identifying the least developed among the developing countries in order to enable those countries to benefit as early as possible from the special measures in their favour adopted in the various forums,

Considering that the criteria used so far for the identification of the "hard core" least developed among the developing countries is far from adequate,

Further considering that there is a lack of necessary comparative data in most developing countries,

Mindful of the varying stages of economic development among the developing countries as a whole,

1. Commends the report of the Committee for Development Planning on its seventh session<sup>5/</sup> and that of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on special measures

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<sup>5/</sup> Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/4990), chap. II.

in favour of the least developed among the developing countries of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;<sup>6/</sup>

2. Takes note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1628 (LI) of 30 July 1971;

3. Takes note also of Trade and Development Board resolution 82 (XI) of 18 September 1971;<sup>7/</sup>

4. Approves the list of hard core least developed countries contained in paragraph 66 of the report of the Committee for Development Planning;<sup>8/</sup>

5. Requests the Economic and Social Council to instruct the Committee for Development Planning to continue, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the review of criteria now being used, as well as any other criteria which may in due course be deemed appropriate for the identification of the least developed countries, keeping in view the possibility of modifications in the list of those countries as early as possible;

6. Commends the request of the Trade and Development Board in resolution 82 (XI) that the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development work out a detailed and comprehensive action-oriented programme, within the competence of the Conference, for the implementation of the relevant provisions of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade in favour of the least developed countries;

7. Requests other organs and programmes of the United Nations, including the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to initiate, as appropriate, similar action-oriented programmes, within their respective fields of competence, in favour of the least developed countries;

8. Further requests the international organizations within the United Nations system to take fully into account the special needs of the least developed among the developing countries when formulating their programmes of activities or selecting the projects they finance;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to include information on the implementation of paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 above in the reports to be submitted by him under paragraph 83 of its resolution 2626 (XXV).

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<sup>6/</sup> TD/B/349.

<sup>7/</sup> A/8415 (part III), annex I.

<sup>8/</sup> Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/4990), chap. II, section B.