



Chairman: Mr. Narciso G. REYES (Philippines).

AGENDA ITEM 44

Operational activities for development: reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (continued) (A/8399, A/8403, chap. VIII (sects. A to D); E/4954 and Corr.1, E/5043/Rev.1):

- (a) United Nations Development Programme (A/C.2/L.1146);
- (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund;
- (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General;
- (d) United Nations Volunteers programme (E/5028; A/C.2/L.1145)

1. The CHAIRMAN announced that the delegation of the United States of America wished to join in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/L.1145 and that the Democratic Republic of the Congo wished to join in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146.

2. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) drew the Committee's attention to those measures that had been envisaged or adopted to benefit the least developed among the developing countries by different United Nations organs.

3. At its ninth session, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) had recommended a special United Nations programme for the least developed among the developing countries. The joint ECA/OAU meeting which followed had recommended that the Secretary-General of the United Nations should take effective action on behalf of those countries in the context of the Second Development Decade and the recommendation had been endorsed by the Council of Foreign Ministers of OAU at its thirteenth session in resolution CM/RES.196 (XIII). At its Ministerial Conference in Tunis in February 1971, ECA had adopted resolution 218 (X) which identified special problems of the least developed among the developing countries and the landlocked and island countries. It also recommended, *inter alia*, that studies to identify the main barriers to the rapid economic development of those countries should be undertaken and that special measures to assist them should be implemented.

4. The first session of UNCTAD had given particular attention to the requirements of the least developed among the developing countries. At its second session, UNCTAD had recognized the need to identify the least developed among the developing countries and establish appropriate and effective aid programmes for them. At the second part of its ninth session the Trade and Development Board

adopted resolution 63 (IX) which invited the General Assembly to consider urgently how other organs of the United Nations system could, within their respective fields of competence, carry out a comprehensive examination of the problems of the least developed among the developing countries and contribute to a solution of those problems by devising effective measures to enable those countries to benefit from the Second United Nations Development Decade.

5. While the Committee for Development Planning had recognized that the least developed countries had themselves to make a major effort in order to eliminate obstacles to their economic and social development it had also concluded that, in view of their limited material resources and skilled manpower and the difficulties inherent in their national development, the international community had a special duty to supplement national efforts by supplying financial and technical assistance at favourable rates to increase their absorptive capacity. In view of their limited capacity to benefit fully from the general measures designed for developing countries, failure to grant them special advantages would be tantamount to discrimination against them.

6. The Deputy Administrator of UNDP had recognized that special attention should be given to the problems of the least developed among the developing countries but noted the difficulties encountered by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in establishing a definitive list of such countries. However his delegation agreed with the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs that there was no reason to wait to launch programmes until analyses and arguments had completely solved the problem of the definition inherent in any categorization. Technical assistance raised no particular delicate political problems and it should be a simple matter to adapt it to the needs of the least developed countries. However, his delegation hoped that UNDP could begin to take effective action to benefit those countries which had already been identified. It hoped that during its current session the General Assembly would approve the list submitted by the Committee for Development Planning and that in the meantime all international bodies would begin to implement the measures they had envisaged.

7. At the twelfth session of the Governing Council of UNDP, a number of representatives had stated that it would be highly desirable to review indicative planning figures, particularly those of developing countries, to enable them to benefit fully from UNDP assistance. His delegation welcomed the programme reserve established to finance projects in those countries whose indicative planning figures were too low for them to undertake projects which would

have a substantial impact on their development. However, his delegation believed that the reserve was insufficient in view of the number of countries which needed special and urgent action. The indicative planning figures of those countries needed to be reviewed and an increased proportion of UNDP funds allocated to them until their situation had improved sufficiently to warrant the termination of the arrangement. The Administrator of UNDP should bear in mind the special situation of landlocked countries when reviewing criteria for calculating indicative planning figures.

8. Special attention should be given to the problems of four or five western African countries, including Upper Volta, which in addition to being among the least developed countries, were also handicapped by their geographical situation. Paragraph (59) of the International Development Strategy had drawn attention to the particular needs of such countries and his delegation noted with interest that UNDP, the regional economic commissions and specialized agencies were giving greater attention to multinational projects of benefit to landlocked countries.

9. His delegation had noted that a number of projects to benefit the least developed among developing countries would be included in the regular programme from 1972 onwards. It felt that UNDP might help the least developed countries to formulate the planning, financing and execution of projects and programmes. In addition, it might strengthen the regional advisory services envisaged under the regular programme, give more attention to the utilization of human resources in those countries and devote a larger proportion of resources to pilot projects. To fill the gap between the completion of pre-investment studies and actual investment, UNDP should provide the finance needed to ensure that the projects carried out with its assistance continued or began to have their due effect.

10. His delegation also noted that certain studies which were of considerable importance continued to remain a dead letter because of the lack of interest of financial institutions. However, developing countries, particularly landlocked ones, desperately needed an infrastructure to integrate certain parts of their national territory with the national economic circuit and to bring the regional economy into line with the national economy. The costs of projects of that kind would not be prohibitive and UNDP should make a greater effort to ensure their implementation. UNDP should also consider exempting the least developed among the developing countries from payment of the counterpart contribution for local expenses and alternatively it might request the country in question to increase its voluntary contribution in accordance with its possibilities. The international community was becoming increasingly aware of the special needs of the least developed among the developing countries and his delegation wished to reiterate the appeal to member States to increase their contributions in order to attain UNDP's objective of \$500 million by 1975.

11. In conclusion, his delegation supported the enlargement of the Council in principle but felt that further consultations should be held in order to devise a formula acceptable to all.

12. Mrs. AUGUSTE (Trinidad and Tobago) said that her delegation had particularly noted the emphasis which the

Administrator of UNDP had placed on the current problems faced by the developing countries and the deeper insight into the development process acquired since the United Nations undertook its first efforts in that field. UNDP, which had been conceived and established as an agency for pre-investment assistance, had not limited itself to a rigid and narrow interpretation of pre-investment and her delegation welcomed the increasing volume of UNDP resources allocated to training and research programmes.

13. Her delegation hoped that UNDP assistance would be forthcoming in the very near future in the area of marine science and technology. The resources of the sea-bed and ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction were a potential source of great wealth to all countries and in particular developing countries. However, the benefits to be derived by developing countries from that source would largely depend on the existence in those countries of personnel trained in marine science technology and the development of a national technological capability. Her country had repeatedly urged the United Nations and its specialized agencies to expedite and intensify training and research programmes for developing countries in marine science and technology. It hoped that within the next year regional oceanographic institutions would be established in some developing countries with UNDP assistance, and Trinidad and Tobago was prepared to provide a site for one of those institutions in the Chaguaramas peninsula.

14. 1970 had been an important and decisive year for UNDP. The adoption of the Consensus by the General Assembly (see General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV), annex) had marked a decision to introduce comprehensive and far-reaching changes for granting UNDP assistance and in the administration of the Programme.

15. UNDP should concentrate its resources on programmes of direct relevance to developing countries in response to the needs and priorities of individual countries and regions as determined by the developing countries themselves. Its administrative structure should be reorganized and its methods of operation revised. Moreover, UNDP needed to be able to deliver aid effectively and steadily at a level of \$500 million by 1975.

16. The implementation of the country programming system would go a long way towards meeting the needs of the developing countries. Her delegation considered that the main aim of the country programme system was to adjust the UNDP system and, gradually, perhaps the entire United Nations system of development assistance activities, in order to give each country the kind of assistance it required, rather than the kind of assistance which happened to be available. United Nations development assistance had been criticized on the grounds that the initiative came from an agency and not from the country itself. In view of the unplanned and somewhat diffuse way that development assistance activities of the United Nations system had grown and expanded over the years, there seemed to be little possibility of national priorities having a forceful or decisive impact on international development programmes. Furthermore, there was no machinery to enable the priorities and over-all needs of each country to be brought systematically to the attention of the international development agencies responsible for formulating programmes and

allocating resources, and the country programming system provided that much needed machinery.

17. Her delegation was pleased to note that the first set of country programmes would be considered by the Governing Council in January 1972 and that it was hoped to complete presentation of all country programmes to the Council by June 1974 at the latest.

18. With regard to indicative planning figures, her delegation felt that it was understandable that the first set of figures for the period 1972-1976 had been somewhat crudely calculated, but believed that in time a more refined and satisfactory method of calculating them would be devised.

19. Her delegation shared the views expressed in the Governing Council by many delegations about the importance of the Consensus provisions regarding the maximum decentralization of the administration of the Programme and the delegation of authority to resident representatives, and it was pleased to note that the regional bureaux had been established and were functioning. Her delegation hoped that the Director of the Regional Bureau for Latin America would be able to visit Trinidad and Tobago before the end of 1971.

20. Her delegation was pleased to note that the Governing Council was also trying to put its own house in order. It had viewed with a certain dismay the fact that at its eleventh session the Governing Council, having spent all its time discussing and modifying the Administrator's new organizational proposals, had hardly any time left for a careful examination of the Administrator's 1971 budget estimates, which were largely based on the very organizational proposals which had given rise to such lengthy debates. It felt that the decision taken at the Governing Council's twelfth session to establish the Budgetary and Finance Committee would improve the Council's performance.

21. Two specific points included in the Consensus were of particular interest to her country. The first one, in paragraph 41 of the Consensus, recommended that every effort should be made to use national firms, national institutions and national personnel in recipient countries for the execution of UNDP projects. Her delegation firmly believed that development assistance meant not only assistance in the form of money, equipment and know-how to the recipient country, but also assistance to those countries in building up the institutions and training personnel to carry on projects.

22. Second, her delegation attached great importance to the provisions of the Consensus concerning regional and subregional projects. Her Government was committed to a policy of regional integration. As a first step, the Caribbean Free Trade Association had been established. The Caribbean Development Bank was playing a major role in the effort towards integration, and member Governments of the Caribbean Free Trade Association were studying the feasibility of adopting a common external tariff, harmonizing fiscal incentives to industry, and taking further measures to improve the position of the less developed countries of the region.

23. Turning to the proposal to enlarge the membership of the Governing Council of UNDP, she said that her country fully supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146. In view of the paramount importance of UNDP to the developing countries which now numbered over 90, more than 19 of those countries should be given the opportunity to sit on the Governing Council at any one time. Her delegation believed that proposal was both modest and reasonable and that it would heighten the effectiveness of the Governing Council. The proposal also adhered to the principle that there should be an equitable and balanced distribution of the economically more developed countries, on the one hand, having due regard to their contributions to UNDP, and of the developing countries, on the other hand, taking into account the need for suitable regional representation among the latter members.

24. Mr. ČABRIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that his delegation wished to express its sincere gratitude to the Administrator of UNDP for his untiring efforts on behalf of the developing countries.

25. Turning to the problem of the volume of financial resources needed in order to implement the over-all programme of UNDP, he said that in 1970 the foundation had been laid for a new structure, method and style of work for UNDP. One of the reasons for a thorough restructuring of UNDP had been the expectation that UNDP resources would continue to increase and that by 1975 they would amount to \$500 million. The introductory statement by the Administrator of UNDP indicated that there was little likelihood that the anticipated volume of resources would be attained if they only continued to expand at their current rate. On the other hand, the administrative structure of UNDP had been expanded to deal with the anticipated additional resources. It seemed likely that most if not all of the supplementary financing would be utilized for the new overhead costs. Member States must do their utmost to help UNDP find a way out of the present impasse so that it could complete work already initiated on country programmes. In that connexion, his delegation wholeheartedly endorsed Economic and Social Council resolution 1615 (LI).

26. It was commendable to allocate greater resources for second and third generation projects since they had proved to be useful for the development of the beneficiary countries. However, UNDP should also introduce special regulations designed to meet the actual needs for the least developed among the developing countries. As a first step, the Administrator of UNDP could exempt the least developed countries from paying local costs and he could be authorized to ensure that those costs would be reimbursed by UNDP. Naturally, the costs of programmes for the least developed among developing countries should in no circumstances be deducted from the resources earmarked for other developing countries. On the contrary, the resources needed should be acquired through supplementary financing.

27. UNCTAD and UNIDO should be used to a greater extent as executing agencies and his delegation had noted with satisfaction that first steps had been taken to that end. It had noted with disappointment the low level of contributions to the United Nations Capital Development

Fund and would like to propose that the activities of the Fund should be extended until the end of 1972, and that in the meantime, steps might be taken to revise its activities.

28. His delegation wished to express its support for the United Nations technical co-operation activities and the United Nations Volunteers programme. It expected that the programme would offer opportunities for young people from developing countries to receive training abroad.

29. In conclusion, his delegation hoped that the draft resolution on the enlargement of the Council of which his country was a sponsor, would meet with the approval of the Committee.

30. Mr. MIHAI (Romania) expressed his delegation's appreciation to the Administrator of UNDP for his tireless dedication to the cause of the economic and social progress of all nations.

31. The debate during the past two weeks in the Committee had emphasized the need to increase international co-operation in all fields, as well as the special role which the United Nations system must play to achieve that end. The Organization's capacity to support through its technical co-operation programmes the efforts of countries to attain economic and social development was being increasingly confirmed by concrete actions. The reports of the Governing Council on its eleventh and twelfth sessions contained useful recommendations which his delegation, as a member of that body, had helped to formulate.

32. His delegation considered UNDP a vigorous member of the United Nations machinery for economic co-operation and had followed its reorganization with considerable interest. The Consensus on the capacity of the United Nations development system rightly accorded UNDP a major role in the formulation and attainment of the objectives of Member States. His delegation also welcomed the fact that the action taken by the Governing Council reflected the guidelines established in the Consensus.

33. Over the years his country had taken part in the technical co-operation activities of the United Nations in various fields and was thus in a position to affirm that UNDP had developed increasingly good relations with its partner countries. One significant factor was that UNDP projects reflected the objectives and priorities established by the authorities of the countries concerned. Country programming would further strengthen the dialogue between recipient countries and UNDP, as would the establishment of four regional offices and the introduction of direct UNDP representation in an increasing number of those countries.

34. The practice of adapting the nature and volume of UNDP assistance to the priorities of country programmes by ensuring the participation of all countries interested in taking part in the Programme as recipients, would ensure appropriate flexibility regarding the distribution of UNDP's financial resources. Such flexibility was also required in the selection of the criteria to be followed in calculating indicative planning figures. In that connexion, his delegation had approved the note by the Administrator¹ at the twelfth session of the Governing Council.

35. His delegation had endorsed the reorganization of the UNDP secretariat because it was convinced that the activities of the Programme could develop even further and meet countries' expectations more effectively and because it recognized the importance of a unified and co-ordinated system. The Bureau for Programme Co-ordination and the Bureau for Programme Analysis and Policy Planning would prove very valuable in attaining those objectives.

36. An increasing number of projects were being allocated each year in such fields as industry, the application of science and technology to development, and the training of management specialists; that was a positive trend which should be developed further.

37. The financial resources of the Programme must be increased if its activities were to increase in volume and yield better results. Romania had raised its contribution to UNDP over the past nine years by 10 per cent annually, a rate which corresponded to the annual rate of growth of the Romanian economy. A further increase would be announced at the forthcoming Pledging Conference. Romania welcomed the co-operation it had established with UNDP, as manifested in projects already carried out or under way there.

38. United Nations technical co-operation activities should be carried out with the participation of all States on an equal basis. Experts should be selected from an increasing number of countries and a larger number of firms should be awarded subcontracts. His delegation's support for the universality of UNDP was based on its belief that contemporary realities must be taken into account in order to ensure the success of development programmes through greater international co-operation, the ultimate goal being the maintenance and consolidation of world peace.

39. Mr. RUTTEN (Netherlands) paid a tribute to the long-standing dedication of the outgoing Administrator of UNDP to the cause of development.

40. Three phases were discernible in the development of UNDP over the preceding three years. The first had begun with the Capacity Study in 1969, which had led to the Consensus on the reorientation and restructuring of the Programme adopted by the Governing Council in June 1970 and subsequently ratified by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. The second phase, completed during 1971, had seen the translation of the Consensus into practical measures relating primarily to the reorganization of UNDP headquarters and the working methods and procedures of the Governing Council and to the preparation of country programming. The third stage, during which the Consensus would gradually be fully implemented, was now getting under way. Although country programming was to start in January 1972, it would take several years before experience would show whether the decisions taken in 1970 and 1971 would have the expected impact. His delegation was confident that the results would vindicate the strenuous efforts which had been and remained to be made.

41. The Netherlands Government had decided, in consultation with the Governments of recipient countries, to co-ordinate its bilateral aid programmes with country

¹ DP/L.179.

programmes sponsored by UNDP, in the hope that such co-ordination would lead to a more efficient use of available resources based on the priorities established by the developing countries themselves. Recognizing that decisions to restructure the Programme and measures to implement them must be accompanied by a steady growth of available resources, his Government planned to increase its contribution to UNDP steadily during the coming four years.

42. UNDP was but one of many multilateral agencies active in the field of development which were justifiably clamouring for additional resources. When determining their contributions, Governments had to take all such claims into account, and thus decisions regarding the allocation of available national resources might not always enable each agency to attain the financial target it had set for itself. Although his delegation agreed that it was important to set a high goal in order to encourage Governments it did not believe that UNDP, in setting a target of \$500 million by 1975, could claim absolute priority. Similarly, a shortfall in reaching that goal could not automatically be interpreted as proof that contributing countries had failed in their duty towards the developing world. The over-all efforts of individual countries must first be considered. Nevertheless, his delegation fully agreed that Governments should endeavour substantially to increase their contributions to UNDP.

43. His delegation understood the desire of the developing countries for greater representation in the Governing Council, which had motivated the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146 to propose an increase in the membership of that body from 37 to 48. However, the Governing Council's main task, as a true governing body, was to take decisions essential to the smooth functioning of the Programme. Efficiency and speed, which were much more important in the case of the Governing Council than in deliberative organs in the United Nations system, would be compromised by too large an increase in its membership.

44. Furthermore, his delegation had reservations regarding the proposed abandonment of the principle of parity between the seats allocated to recipient countries, on the one hand, and to donor countries on the other hand. For reason of principle, it had abstained in the vote on the relevant paragraphs of General Assembly resolution 2029 (XX) which consolidated the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, for that resolution had abandoned the principle while at the same time maintaining a precarious balance between the two groups. The present proposal to shift the balance so conspicuously in favour of recipient countries was not conducive to maintaining confidence between the participating countries in an organization which depended on voluntary contributions. His delegation hoped that further discussions would lead to an agreement on the matter.

45. He expressed deep appreciation for the valuable work being carried out by the office of the Commissioner for Technical Co-operation and welcomed in particular the growing emphasis on the problems of the least developed among the developing countries. His delegation also appreciated the work done by the United Nations Volunteers programme and expected to present a concrete proposal regarding the participation of Netherlands volunteers. His

Government was still considering whether it would be in a position to make a financial contribution to the Special Voluntary Fund.

46. With regard to operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution on the Volunteers programme (A/C.2/L.1145), although it was reasonable that United Nations agencies preferably should use United Nations Volunteers, the Volunteers programme would have a limited capacity during its formative years. The use of volunteers under bilateral arrangements in United Nations activities should therefore not be excluded.

47. Lastly, he pledged that his Government would continue to give UNDP and all United Nations operational activities for development its full and constructive co-operation.

48. Mr. ZAGORIN (United States of America) said that the twelfth session of the Governing Council of UNDP had been held during a period of significant change in the Programme's organization. Basic questions regarding the implementation and further evolution of the Consensus on the reform of UNDP had been considered. The session had also reflected a state of incompleteness on a number of important matters. He welcomed the establishment of a Budgetary and Finance Committee which would contribute substantially to the further improvement of UNDP operations. His delegation also attached considerable importance to the continuing revision of the criteria for establishing indicative planning figures.

49. His delegation supported UNDP's intensified work on follow-up investment and believed that the facts clearly showed its special interest in the least developed countries. However, UNDP could accomplish considerably more if it adopted a flexible, enlarged concept of pre-investment in the least developed countries by filling the gap between the completion of pre-investment work, as currently performed, and actual investment. Sufficient technical personnel should also be made available to those countries to follow up pre-investment projects.

50. Turning to one delegation's criticism that certain agencies were not entrusted with sufficient UNDP projects for execution, he said that projects should be chosen only on the basis of the needs and priorities as established by the recipient countries themselves, and should be entrusted to the executing agency best able to handle the project. The recipient country must concur in that choice.

51. The Soviet representative had criticized UNDP for allocating projects to IBRD for execution. The contention that IBRD was profit-oriented and thus not really interested in the development and well-being of developing countries was a completely wrong characterization of the work of the World Bank Group.

52. The Philippine representative had tried to deal with troublesome questions in a balanced manner when introducing the draft resolution calling for the enlargement of the Governing Council (A/C.2/L.1146). Nevertheless, it would be untimely for the General Assembly to take such action at the current session.

53. He welcomed the encouraging report by the Co-ordinator of the United Nations Volunteers programme and was pleased to note that the Administrator of UNDP had made funds available beyond the indicative planning figures to finance the in-country costs of United Nations Volunteers in the least developed countries. Those Volunteers had the opportunity to mobilize the talents and idealism of young and old from all parts of the world for the cause of development. The ideal of geographical diversity would become a reality, however, only if sufficient contributions were made to the Special Voluntary Fund. The United States, which had contributed to the Fund, hoped that the number of contributing countries would continue to grow. For volunteers to be truly effective they must be carefully selected and trained. The United Nations Volunteers programme was wise to make use of the experienced organizations comprising the International Secretariat for Volunteer Services and the Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Services. Through the International Secretariat, the United States had already received requests for candidates to serve as United Nations Volunteers and was actively recruiting people with the required technical skills. It hoped that all other nations would participate as well.

54. Mr. TODOROV (Bulgaria) said his delegation wished to associate itself with the praise and good wishes expressed by other delegations to the Administrator of UNDP on the occasion of his retirement.

55. The operational activities of the United Nations were a means of enabling each country to benefit from the experience of others in various aspects of economic and social development and in technology. Their role was particularly valuable in an era when a scientific and technological revolution was taking place. Their purpose was to support national development efforts, and on the understanding that that was the case, his delegation supported UNDP's activities.

56. However, it could not support the current trend to transform the United Nations into an aid-channelling agency, concerning itself primarily with operational activities. It should not be forgotten that the task of the United Nations was to find solutions to the political problems that faced the international community in the economic, social, scientific and technological spheres. The general debate which had recently taken place in the Committee had demonstrated that there were many such problems requiring political solution, and the role of the United Nations as a political organization must therefore not be forgotten.

57. UNDP had been set up for the sole purpose of organizing and implementing the operational activities of the United Nations. There should be a division of labour between the United Nations, on the one hand, and the specialized agencies and UNDP, on the other, based on strict observation of their respective charters or statutes. To achieve such a division, the United Nations operational activities financed under the regular budget should be transferred to UNDP, thus affording the United Nations a better opportunity for studying the political problems of international co-operation in the economic, social, technological and scientific spheres. His delegation was there-

fore unable to support the recommendation contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1601 (LI) that a separate section in the United Nations regular budget should be established to make provision for a unified system of regional and subregional advisory services.

58. In recent years, the Members of the United Nations had reviewed the activities and administrative organization of the UNDP with a view to ensuring greater efficiency in the provision of United Nations assistance to developing countries. Their greatest concern had been that UNDP resources should be used in the best possible manner, and that excessive expenditure on administration should cease. The reorganization of UNDP, based on the Consensus approved by the General Assembly in resolution 2688 (XXV), which had also requested the Governing Council to prepare a draft omnibus statute for the Programme, incorporating the provisions contained in that Consensus, was now almost completed. The draft statute submitted to the Governing Council at its twelfth session had not been found satisfactory and the Administrator had been requested to complete his reports and to request the comments on them from participating States and participating and executing agencies, for submission to the Governing Council's thirteenth session. His delegation believed that the omnibus statute should confirm the rights of States to decide on the total of their contributions to the Programme and the currency in which those contributions would be made, to request or not to request UNDP assistance, to establish priorities for their projects and to undertake co-ordination of operational activities at the country level. In short, the sovereignty of States should be confirmed, as should the principle of the responsibility of the Administrator to the Governing Council. At the Administrator's recommendation, the Governing Council should be empowered to approve the projects contained in country programmes.

59. Although most States had declared their support for the principle of universality, the draft of the statute contained the standard discriminatory formulation which prevented the participation of some States which wished and were able to contribute to the programme. That formulation should be deleted. There should also be no restrictions on the currency in which contributions could be made. The Administrator should study every possibility of making use of contributions in national currency, and a report on the subject to the Governing Council would be useful. In addition, a larger number of States should be permitted to participate in the implementation of projects through subcontracts and the provision of equipment. A situation in which only four States had received more than half the orders for equipment was unacceptable and the position with regard to subcontracts was no better. UNDP should not furnish assistance to Governments whose policy was not in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter, such as those Governments pursuing policies of aggression; the point was one of principle, and was of vital importance to UNDP's authority.

60. His delegation shared the regret of other delegations that very few projects were allocated to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) as executing agency. All developing countries insisted that UNDP should give priority to projects for industrial development, and

UNIDO had already shown its ability to organize and implement such projects. In 1970, expenditure on industrial projects as a whole had been \$40.2 million and UNIDO had been responsible for the implementation of projects totalling only \$8.1 million. There was no apparent reason for that situation, and his delegation therefore welcomed Economic and Social Council resolution 1617 (LI), which had requested the Governing Council to instruct the Administrator to give special attention to requests in the field of industrial development, including requests for industrial technological and industrial pilot projects, and supported the recommendation that the Administrator should present to the Governing Council a comprehensive progress report on the preparation, approval and implementation of such projects.

61. In the new context of country programming, the role of the Inter-Agency Consultative Board (IACB) would have to be changed. Since more than 10 organizations played a part in operational activities, the need for good co-ordination was obvious. In future, the role of IACB should be to ensure the fullest possible co-ordination of operational activities throughout the United Nations system. The system's capacity to achieve results of benefit to the developing countries would thereby be enhanced. Any attempt to extend IACB's competence to the consideration of development policy would infringe upon the prerogative of Governments and of the Governing Council. His delegation could not agree that IACB should consider questions relating to UNDP policy elaboration and programme orientation. Relations between IACB and the Governing Council of UNDP should be along the lines of those between the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Economic and Social Council. Governments must be conversant with the questions considered by IACB and with the measures which it took to ensure co-ordination; they also had a right to know what difficulties were encountered in co-ordination. It was in that sense that his delegation understood the Governing Council's invitation to the Administrator to keep it informed of the activities and conclusions of the Board, which could be done by means of a periodic report.

62. Various views had been expressed at the Governing Council's twelfth session on the Development Support Information Service. It was clear that member States would welcome a clearer definition of the relationship between the Service and the Centre for Economic and Social Information. Emphasis had been placed on the need for better co-ordination of the information activities of the United Nations system at the international, regional and country levels. The point had also been made that the responsibility for information should be shared between Governments and international organizations; his delegation believed that a more complete analysis of the roles of Governments of developing countries and of UNDP should be presented to the thirteenth session of the Governing Council. Clarification was also required about the activities of UNDP in the distinct fields of public information and project support information. Pending such clarification, his delegation could not endorse the trend of expansion and the fragmentary nature of economic and social information activities undertaken by the United Nations system.

63. Mr. JURASZ (Poland) paid a tribute to the work of UNDP and its Administrator. His delegation recognized the

special role played by UNDP in the over-all United Nations effort on behalf of economic and social development, particularly that of the developing countries, and he cited figures indicative of that role. The attainment of the goals of the Second Development Decade depended substantially on the efficient functioning of UNDP. The Programme's past performance and the well-prepared reform of its methods of work convinced his delegation that it would meet the challenge successfully.

64. Turning to certain aspects of that reform and proposals incorporated in the commendable draft omnibus statute for the Programme, he welcomed the country programming approach, which should prove a useful method of co-ordinating United Nations assistance with participating countries' plans for social and economic progress. Country programming was the first phase of the United Nations Development Co-operation Cycle. The last phase, follow-up of UNDP-assisted projects, was of particular importance, for it was essential to ensure that industrial investments had a definite impact on the economic and social life of the recipient country. Successful country programming called for an improvement in planning in the developing countries, for which purpose an extension of their statistical services was needed.

65. His delegation agreed with the Governing Council that it was the role of Governments to decide what type of assistance they required. It also welcomed the strengthening of the role of the resident representative, as described in the Consensus. The structure of UNDP was rational, in view of the tasks of the Programme, for it was endowed with a strong, effective central authority and depended on decentralized operational staff at the country level.

66. He expressed the hope that the method of reaching important decisions by consensus would be continued in the Governing Council, since it facilitated co-operation and understanding among donor and recipient countries.

67. A critical review of the draft omnibus statute² and the reports of the eleventh and twelfth sessions of the Governing Council compelled his delegation to draw attention to a number of problems which should be resolved. First, it was high time that the principle of universality was accepted in so far as the Programme was concerned. At a time when UNDP planned to double its resources and activities and was mobilizing technical and scientific knowledge and resources to accelerate economic progress throughout the world, it could not afford to ignore the great potential represented by the German Democratic Republic. Universality also meant that all countries, whatever their social system or level of economic development, should be able to participate in the Programme. Recipient countries might in the future be in a position to assist less developed countries. It would therefore be advisable to broaden the terms of article X, paragraph 1, of the draft omnibus statute.

68. Secondly, the Governing Council should make a greater effort to ensure the equitable geographical selection of staff, experts and consultants. Thirdly, his delegation shared the view that the Governing Council should study in

² DP/L.177/Add.1.

greater depth the question of enlarging its membership before the matter was discussed in the Second Committee. It also had certain doubts concerning operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution on the subject (A/C.2/L.1146). In conclusion, his delegation looked forward to continued co-operation between the Polish Government and UNDP.

69. Mr. RANKIN (Canada) said that Canadian support for UNDP over the years had been substantial, not only in the form of financial resources but also in the role played by Canadian delegations in the Governing Council. Canada had supported the *Study of the Capacity of the United Nations Development System*,³ and had participated actively in working towards the agreed Consensus. With the implementation of that Consensus, UNDP had entered a phase of consolidation where management was expected to play a significant role in ensuring efficient financial control, proper personnel development policy, meaningful country programming and dynamic co-operation with executing agencies. That task constituted a challenge equal to that of ensuring a proper growth of UNDP resources. Nevertheless, his Government was considering a significant increase in its voluntary contribution in an amount higher than would result from strict application of the tentative indicative planning figures.

70. With regard to the United Nations Volunteers, his delegation was encouraged to note the progress made in placing volunteers in the field. It also noted the increasing support for the Special Voluntary Fund established to finance certain costs of volunteers from the less developed countries, and his Government was studying the possibility of contributing to that Fund. It would support draft resolution A/C.2/L.1145.

71. With regard to draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146, his delegation was prepared to consider the question of increased membership of the Governing Council in the broader context of the Council's efficiency in its policy-formulating role. However, the implications of increased membership on the Council's efficiency must be studied very carefully. At recent sessions, the Governing Council had postponed decisions on a number of issues, and its enlargement might tend to create an atmosphere even less conducive to productive discussion at a critical time when a number of outstanding issues of the Consensus remained to be implemented. In any case, his delegation felt that the Governing Council itself should give initial consideration to the proposal.

72. Mr. KUDRYAVTSEV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that UNDP played a definite role in the economic and social development of the developing countries, through the implementation of useful projects. However, there were basic faults in its activities, primarily its failure to observe the principle of universality laid down by the United Nations Charter. The German Democratic Republic was among the 10 most advanced economic Powers in the world, and made a major contribution to the strengthening of peace and the development of equitable co-operation and friendship among peoples. Nevertheless, it was not permitted to join UNDP in its task of providing

assistance to the developing countries. On the basis of the Charter, UNDP must cease its political discrimination against the German Democratic Republic. Such a decision would be in the interests of the developing countries, as well as of the prestige of UNDP as an international organization playing an essential role in the provision of assistance to those countries.

73. Paragraph 198 of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/8403), stated that "the role of the resident representative... had been enlarged as regards both project selection and monitoring performance, and valuation of results and approaches". That statement was extremely disturbing, since it came very close to infringing a basic tenet of international law, the principle of the sovereignty of States. Such an attitude might be used by monopolist circles attempting to strengthen their control over the economic life of the developing countries as a means of broadening the path for the penetration of private capital into those countries, which was one of the most dangerous methods of neo-colonialism. That was the motive underlying the attempts of a number of States to give UNDP control over the economic life of the developing countries. Their goal had been stated frankly by a theoretician of British neo-colonialism, Ronald Robinson, in his introduction to "*International Co-operation in Aid*", in the words: "We must now strengthen the supervisory and managerial role of the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the Regional Development Banks."⁴

74. United Nations assistance to the developing countries must be co-ordinated with national development plans in such a way as to provide full assurance that there would be no interference in their internal affairs. It was clear that the Governments of receiving countries must retain a primary role in that process.

75. His delegation objected to the provision of aid through UNDP to States practising policies of aggression.

76. One major shortcoming of UNDP's activities was the insufficient attention paid to industrial development projects. Of 88 Special Fund projects approved by the twelfth session of the Governing Council, only five were more or less directly related to industrial development, and of the total sum \$72,449,500 allocated for those projects, the latter five had received only \$2,008,000 which was less than 3 per cent. Industrial development was of primary importance to the developing countries, and his delegation therefore welcomed Economic and Social Council resolution 1617 (LI).

77. UNDP used the services of financing organizations in the implementation of some of its projects. Various speakers had pointed out that IBRD pursued above all the interests of capital investors in the implementation of UNDP projects. Two of the projects approved by the twelfth session of the Governing Council were to be implemented by the Inter-American Development Bank. His delegation could not accept such a practice, since finance institutions in which United States monopolies

³ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.70.I.10.

⁴ R. Robinson (ed.), *International Co-operation in Aid* (Cambridge University Overseas Studies Committee, 1966), p. 2.

played a leading role pursued only the role of self-enrichment, and could provide no assistance of real value to developing countries. The Peruvian newspaper *Expreso* had referred to the role of the Inter-American Development Bank as a partner in the exploitation of Peru, through its cessation of loans when Peru had taken over deposits owned by the International Petroleum Company. Obviously, such institutions should not be entrusted with the implementation of UNDP projects.

78. In its pre-investment assistance, UNDP paid more attention to the encouragement of foreign private capital than to the promotion of development in the developing countries. As part of the United Nations system, UNDP had no right to open up a path for the predatory interests of private capital. Pilot projects could play an effective part in UNDP activity, as a means of stimulating production in developing countries.

79. With regard to the omnibus statute of UNDP, his delegation believed that the basic problem was that of increasing the Programme's efficiency. That efficiency would depend to a large extent on the rationalization of activities and on increased capacity to promote development through the implementation of various progressive

changes. The omnibus statute must therefore be compatible with the main principles of modern international law. It should establish such basic positions as the principle of the universality of membership in UNDP, the prohibition of assistance to countries engaging or participating in aggression and the abolition of restrictions as to the currency in which voluntary contributions might be made. Above all, UNDP assistance was an auxiliary measure designed to promote the mobilization of the national resources of developing countries and to strengthen the public sector of their economies in order that they could achieve real economic independence. The efficiency of any international organization depended largely on its staff, and UNDP made insufficient use of the highly qualified specialists available in the Byelorussian SSR. It also made inadequate use of the Byelorussian SSR's contributions to the Programme. Moreover, administrative expenditures remained at an excessive level.

80. The regular programme of technical assistance often duplicated UNDP activity, leading to a waste of resources. The programme should be merged with UNDP and its financing should be placed on a voluntary basis.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.