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**SECOND COMMITTEE, 1390th
MEETING**

Monday, 18 October 1971,
at 3.15 p.m.

NEW YORK

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

*In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Brito (Brazil),
Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.*

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, A/C.2/L.1150, A/C.2/L.1153);
- (b) United Nations Capital Development Fund (A/C.2/
L.1151);
- (c) Technical co-operation activities undertaken by the
Secretary-General;
- (d) United Nations Volunteers programme (E/5028; A/
C.2/L.1145)

1. Mr. HUTAGALUNG (Indonesia) welcomed the successful reform of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which had been carried out in order to improve its efficiency and its capacity to handle larger programmes in the context of the set target of doubling the Programme by 1975. The decentralization of authority, as reflected in the present regional structure, and its delegation to the maximum extent possible from headquarters to the field, were essential to the country programming exercise, the essence of which was the integration of UNDP contributions into national development activities. He congratulated the 20 States which had submitted their country programmes to the Governing Council for consideration at its forthcoming thirteenth session.

2. His delegation was gratified to note that the programme approved by the Governing Council at its eleventh session was the largest ever, in terms of both the number of projects and total programme costs. UNDP was clearly able to handle larger programmes if sufficient resources were made available. It was therefore regrettable that the financial contributions to UNDP in 1970 had not met the minimum expectations. The waste resulting from the unused capacity achieved by reorganization would make it difficult to administer the Programme efficiently and might shake the confidence which developing countries placed in the Programme. He welcomed the measures taken by the Administration to strengthen UNDP's role in promoting follow-up investment.

3. With regard to technical co-operation activities undertaken by the Secretary-General, his delegation welcomed Economic and Social Council resolution 1601 (LI) and

hoped that the Committee would recommend it to the General Assembly for endorsement.

4. His delegation commended the progress made with regard to the United Nations Volunteers programme and was encouraged to hear that the dispatch of volunteers into the field had already begun. It would support draft resolution A/C.2/L.1145.

5. He thanked the representative of Australia for his sympathetic remarks on the operations of the Fund of the United Nations for the Development of West Irian. Those operations were now concluding and would be phased out over the next two or three years. They should be followed up. His delegation hoped that the future allocation of UNDP resources to Indonesia would take account of that need. His Government was grateful to the Governments of Australia and the Netherlands for their contributions to the Fund.

6. Draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146, of which his delegation was a sponsor, was self-explanatory. There were a number of reasons for enlarging the Governing Council. Larger membership would make the Council more representative of both developed and developing countries and, as a result of the increase in United Nations membership since 1965, more developing countries wished to participate in it. Since the proposed enlargement would be meaningful only if the donor countries supported it, the draft resolution allocated two additional seats to them, in spite of the fact that they were already well represented and that there had been no increase in their number since the establishment of UNDP. The participation of a larger number of recipient countries would enhance the prestige of UNDP as a co-operative organ based on a true spirit of partnership between developed and developing countries. It would strengthen their confidence in UNDP and favourably affect the implementation of programmes at the country level. The proposed enlargement would in no way weaken the position of the donor countries in the process of decision-making. The Governing Council had always enjoyed a commendable reputation for decision-making through consensus, and his delegation relied on that tradition not being broken. The success of UNDP depended on the collective political will of all participating countries, but particularly of the donor countries. It had been argued that the proposed enlargement would reduce efficiency. He pointed out, however, that the Governing Council was a policy-making organ which would not concern itself with technical aspects. The financial and budgetary questions which arose would be taken care of by the new Budgetary and Finance Committee, and there was therefore no reason why the Council's efficiency should suffer by enlarging its membership.

7. In conclusion, his delegation wished to pay a tribute to the Administrator of UNDP on the occasion of his retirement. He had shown himself to be a dedicated international leader in the service of humanity, and Indonesia, which had benefited from UNDP activities, had special reason to regret his departure.

8. Mr. OHIAMI (Togo) commended Mr. Hoffman on his leadership of United Nations development assistance over the past 13 years; he had brought UNDP to a stage at which it would be able to continue its functions effectively even without his inspiring leadership.

9. Togo had always made a modest contribution to UNDP and would continue to increase its contribution as far as it could.

10. In principle, his delegation was in favour of increasing the membership of the Governing Council, but it was also concerned for efficiency and therefore hoped that the Committee could reach a consensus on draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146.

11. His Government was particularly interested in the United Nations Volunteers programme. Its view was expressed adequately by the Secretary-General's comment in paragraph 15 of his report (E/5028). The programme would encourage economic development and social progress through the active participation of young people and through increased participation by the general public in the development efforts of developing countries. However, it required support, especially that of the developing countries themselves. Since the programme was of particular interest to those countries, its co-ordination centre should be situated in an area within reasonable distance of the countries most in need of assistance. Contacts and activities would thus be made much more useful and effective. His delegation noted from paragraph 10 of the report that, as a general rule, recipient countries would be requested to meet the local costs for the volunteer component, but that, when circumstances did not make that possible, such costs would be defrayed from the project budgets concerned. The possibility of so doing should be borne in mind particularly where the least developed countries, which would be the most likely to call for volunteers, were concerned. The use of volunteers should not be such a burden on their finances that they could not avail themselves of the programme's services. Every care must be taken, in both recruitment and training, to ensure that the volunteers were effective and well qualified. Togo had made a symbolic contribution to the Special Voluntary Fund and was a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1145; it hoped that the draft would be adopted unanimously, and that many other countries would soon be in a position to support the United Nations Volunteers programme.

12. Mr. NUR (Somalia) said that Mr. Hoffman's leadership, devotion and administrative abilities would undoubtedly be missed.

13. The activities of UNDP were one of the few success stories of the United Nations. His delegation welcomed the Governing Council's decision to restructure the Programme's administrative operations. Country programming would enhance the effectiveness of projects. In 1970,

despite the fact that the Governing Council had been largely concerned with review problems, UNDP had implemented the largest programme in its history. The larger the organization became, the more pressing would be the need for decentralization and the greater the number and difficulty of the decisions required of the Governing Council. Further complexity was introduced into decision-making by the wide range of projects to be carried out under different conditions. Decisions must be made without the undue delays arising from centralization, delays of which Somalia had had some experience. The most effective approach would be to take local conditions fully into account in planning and implementing programmes, and he therefore welcomed the delegation of responsibility to resident representatives.

14. His delegation supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146. A number of delegations had indicated their apprehension that an enlargement of the Governing Council might decrease its efficiency. However, if the concept of country and regional programming was to be emphasized, the membership of the Governing Council must logically be increased. The view that its enlargement would give recipient countries an advantage over donor countries was incorrect. The issue should be viewed not in terms of two opposing groups, but rather as a co-operative effort on the part of all members. Enlargement of the Governing Council would enhance the activities of UNDP by allowing the expression of different views on the co-operative endeavours of member States.

15. Mr. MINIKON (Liberia) paid a tribute to Mr. Hoffman, who had made a significant contribution to the peace and understanding which were indispensable ingredients of development and progress.

16. The activities of UNDP had become an integral part of the efforts of most developing countries to plan and implement both short-term and long-term policies and projects. Its work complemented the vital and primary role of the United Nations in maintaining world peace and security.

17. Liberia benefited from a number of UNDP-assisted projects at the country, regional and interregional levels in housing, education, training and export promotion, telecommunications and agriculture. One of the most important developments was the assistance given in the establishment of the West African Rice Development Association, a regional project covering 11 African States. The first session of the Association's Governing Council had been held in Liberia in September 1971, and its headquarters was at Monrovia. The Association had received the active support of many other Governments and of international agencies.

18. His delegation hoped that more attention would be given to improving disbursement of the resources of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, since the Fund seemed to be more than sufficiently endowed for its present or planned projects. Countries with population problems should make use of the Fund, and contributions to it should therefore be encouraged. He welcomed the suggestion that UNDP should pay more attention to better utilization of regional institutions, including regional development banks, as executing agencies.

19. UNDP should not over-emphasize pre-investment activities, which appeared to place too much stress on foreign capital. Every country should have the right to determine the source of its investment capital, and UNDP's role as a catalyst for the transfer of knowledge, skills and technology should not be weakened. UNDP must help developing countries to distinguish between those kinds of investment which would help to overcome under-development and those which would not. The Administrator's study of the role of UNDP in pre-investment should include the concept of pilot projects, especially in agriculture, which would be a valuable means of stimulating production. UNDP should also help the least developed countries to acquire expertise in formulating investment projects. In country programming, recipient Governments should participate, with the assistance of the resident representatives, in decisions taken on the basis of feasibility studies. The efforts made to strengthen and restructure UNDP both at headquarters and in the field were gratifying; they called for increased resources, and therefore for the goodwill and resolution of all concerned.

20. The United Nations Volunteers programme had clearly been a response to the spread of volunteer movements throughout the world. It satisfied the intense desire of youth to accelerate the processes of change which were required in a society adapting itself to the challenge of rapidly advancing science and technology. His delegation welcomed the United Nations programme and looked forward to its growth. Its initiative in helping Governments to identify projects for which they required volunteer assistance was praiseworthy. Since volunteers were most needed in the least developed among the developing countries, local costs should be waived in their case. There should be an exchange of volunteers between developed and developing countries, which would accelerate economic and social progress and provide better understanding among peoples. A code of conduct should be drawn up for the United Nations volunteers. All volunteer organizations should be co-ordinated with the United Nations programme, and his delegation endorsed the view that the agreement between the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service and the United Nations Volunteers should be followed by other similar agreements.

21. Since the number of developing countries which were Members of the United Nations had grown substantially, there should be a corresponding increase in their membership in the Governing Council, to make it more representative and effective. His delegation therefore hoped that draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146 would gain wider support.

22. Mr. N'DIAYE (Senegal) associated his delegation with the tributes paid to the Administrator of UNDP on the occasion of his retirement. Senegal and the other members of the West African Rice Development Association were particularly grateful to Mr. Hoffman for his help in bringing the green revolution to Africa.

23. Some of the indicative planning figures for the period 1972-1976 appearing in E/4954 and Corr.1, annex III, should be immediately amended. Senegal appeared in the fifth section of that annex, among the countries with an indicative planning figure of \$10 million. The third section of the annex mentioned three countries which were at the

same level of development as Senegal, and his delegation was therefore surprised that they should have a higher figure. If population had been one of the criteria used for calculating the figures, his delegation must reject that approach, since only specifically humanitarian aid could be related to population. The current figures did not seem to reflect the United Nations policy of giving special attention to the least developed among the developing countries, without prejudice to the aid given to the more advanced among them. The criteria for defining indicative planning figures should take into account the efforts of Governments to undertake their own development activities successfully. There was no point to supporting a country whose development activities were scattered and unco-ordinated. The ability of a Government to undertake activities on a national scale without resorting to coercion was another valuable criterion, since it was a reliable indicator of the country's will to break the vicious circle of under-development.

24. UNDP should play a leading role in promoting follow-up investment. There was little point in indicating resources which could profitably be exploited unless related measures to encourage implementation of the project were also adopted. UNDP should therefore aim at achieving large-scale mobilization of capital, so that investment would no longer constitute a problem. UNDP assistance would be particularly appreciated for the financing of small-scale projects, in which, because of the small amount of investment required, investors showed little interest. Such projects were, nevertheless, often an important link in the chain of development and only an organization such as UNDP could fill the gap. His delegation noted the immediate operational steps which the Administrator intended to take to encourage follow-up investment.

25. His delegation would support draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146 concerning the enlargement of the Governing Council. The arguments that such a measure would destroy the balance of the Council were not convincing. Donor and recipient countries had an equal right to be heard, and the variety and number of countries currently receiving assistance justified an increase in the Council's membership. His delegation would also support draft resolution A/C.2/L.1145.

26. Mr. GATES (New Zealand) joined in thanking the Administrator for his statement, which bore witness to UNDP's significant growth under his guidance.

27. His Government had a particular interest in UNDP's geographical expansion and realized that one of the Administrator's major difficulties had been that of distributing resources as widely as possible without reducing the effectiveness of programmes. It was gratifying to note that the Programme had recently extended its activities in the Pacific. The communities of the Pacific, despite their small size, were often in great need of external assistance because of their isolation. Their small bureaucratic structure made it very difficult for them to spare the manpower needed to derive the maximum benefit from the United Nations development system. He hoped that the United Nations advisory and technical services would help the Governments of that area to prepare attractive presentations of their priorities and projects. His delegation welcomed the three

regional projects that UNDP was undertaking in the Pacific region and the other projects in many of the island territories. It looked forward to continued UNDP activities in the region.

28. Referring to draft resolution A/C.2/L.1150, he said that, although he shared the desire for a faster increase in the resources available to the Programme, any upward revision of the indicative planning figures should be based on performance rather than unjustified expectations. Excessively optimistic figures would disrupt the orderly process of development planning. His delegation therefore hoped that the sponsors of the draft resolution would not press for a vote and would accept the assurances of his and other Governments that they would work towards the targets of the International Development Strategy at the best possible pace in the light of the many considerations that donor Governments had to take into account when allocating resources to various programmes. In deciding what the size of its contribution would be, his Government was likely to be impressed if recipient countries and the UNDP Administration showed they were trying to extract the maximum benefit from the resources that could reasonably be expected.

29. In view of UNDP's mounting administrative overhead expenses, he hoped that the Governing Council and the Administrator would scrutinize very carefully these expenses within the whole system to see that they did not get out of line with those of other multilateral agencies or with bilateral programmes. An analysis of the overhead costs of the various kinds of UNDP activities would be useful to the Governing Council when it approved country programmes. His delegation hoped that increased use of subcontracting would enable both the agencies and UNDP to reduce administrative costs. A wider geographical spread was desirable; further efforts should be made to provide equitable opportunities for organizations in all member countries to obtain contracts.

30. His delegation kept an open mind on the question of enlarging the Governing Council. While it believed, in general, that governing bodies became less efficient as they grew larger, it recognized that it was sometimes necessary to balance the possibility of reduced efficiency against considerations of political confidence in the body concerned. If it had been possible for all regional groups to establish an equitable system of rotating seats, there might have been no need for enlargement. In general, the proliferation and expansion of United Nations bodies had reached the point where many small countries were having difficulties in finding enough representatives at high or technical levels. In some cases, equitable geographical representation was observed in form only and the real work was left largely to the same small group of countries that had been dominant when membership was smaller. While his delegation was prepared to see a vote taken on the subject at the current session of the General Assembly, it felt that the possibilities of representation should first be considered.

31. New Zealand supported the objectives of the United Nations Volunteers programme, and could make a very useful contribution to international development, particularly within the context of UNDP assistance. The

programme had made a satisfactory beginning in 1971. The shortage of qualified adult volunteers in New Zealand, which had led to a decline in the strength of its own bilateral volunteer programme, precluded any direct participation by New Zealand in the United Nations programme at present, but his country would continue to follow the programme with interest and co-operate with it to the fullest extent possible.

32. Mr. ALARCON (Cuba) paid a tribute to the Administrator of UNDP for the devotion and idealism with which he had promoted development and expressed the hope that his successor would be able to emulate his standards.

33. He recalled that it had been planned to restructure UNDP in a way which would enable it to undertake levels of activity twice as high as hitherto. It was to be regretted that the resources of the Programme had not expanded to a point which would enable that aim to be fulfilled. During the current year, the new system of country programming had gone into operation. His delegation attached the utmost importance to that system, for the complex problems of under-development could only be fully appreciated by the countries struggling to overcome them. In implementing the country programming system, great care should be exercised to respect the principle of national sovereignty so that the authorities of the countries receiving international assistance had the ultimate power of decision concerning national priorities and the kind of co-operation which they wished to receive. UNDP had been conceived as—and must continue to be—an intergovernmental exercise between sovereign and equal States in which decisions at the local level were taken by Governments participating in the Programme and over-all policy was decided by the intergovernmental organ, the Governing Council. In that connexion, he observed that the tendency to confuse the activities of the Programme with those of the World Bank or of private enterprise must be guarded against if the Programme was not to lose its essential characteristics.

34. It should be emphasized that the Governing Council had not yet concluded its consideration of all aspects of the new system and that much remained to be done. The Council would play a fundamental role in the revised system, particularly during its initial stages. It had a duty to ensure that the principles agreed to by the General Assembly were fully implemented in practice. He stressed the need to continue and strengthen the process of decentralization in the administrative machinery of the Programme. In the Governing Council, the developing countries had insisted on the importance of the resident representatives as the focus of the future administration of the Programme. Under the centralized system previously in force, there had been a lack of flexibility which had severely hampered the capacity of the Programme to grant assistance to the developing countries.

35. With regard to the allocation of resources, he hoped that ever since the Consensus had been adopted the Administration had been actively engaged in compiling provisional indicative planning figures. In the process of determining the indicative planning figures, there were two points which should be borne in mind: first, the need to take into account the requirements of the least developed among the developing countries; secondly, the need to

correct imbalances resulting from historic causes. He hoped the Administration would take full account of those considerations and of the opinions expressed by members of the Governing Council. In that connexion, he drew attention to the draft decision submitted by Cuba to the twelfth session of the Governing Council (E/5043/Rev.1, annex IV). It was of the utmost importance that the criteria applied in calculating the indicative planning figures should be based on the guidelines laid down in the Consensus and on the opinions expressed in various international forums, including the General Assembly. The Cuban proposal had been aimed at avoiding a situation in which the indicative planning figures would be calculated simply on the basis of mathematical considerations; in fact, other factors in the complex problem of under-development needed to be taken into account, *inter alia*, the efforts by developing countries to promote their own economic and social progress, the internal changes effected in such countries to enable them to take better advantage of international assistance and the differences in their historical evolution which affected their ability to participate in international co-operation.

36. Now that UNDP had reached a new and complex stage in the implementation of new programme machinery, it was more important than ever to ensure that the Programme continued to operate as an intergovernmental organ directed by a Governing Council of sovereign and equal States.

37. Mr. TEMBOURY (Spain) said that in the year that had elapsed since the Consensus, UNDP had taken important steps to put it into effect, but still more important decisions lay ahead, particularly the determination of the indicative planning figures and prompt approval of the draft omnibus statute. Those and other decisions would require the agreement of all participating States. In reviewing the indicative planning figures, his delegation felt that emphasis should be placed not only on the accomplishments and capabilities of each Government in carrying out its development policies, but on the special measures that should be taken in favour of the least developed among developing countries.

38. Codification of the regulations, in order to clear away the legislative jungle in which the UNDP Administration found itself, was also a matter of priority, and decisions on that subject should take into account both the debate in the Governing Council and the views of Governments.

39. The proposal to expand the Governing Council was interesting and deserved careful attention. UNDP's increased resources perhaps called for making the Council more representative, but care should be taken that an adequate balance was maintained and that UNDP's normal operations were not disrupted.

40. His delegation would continue its previous broad and open-minded support for the United Nations Capital Development Fund. It hoped that a solution would soon be found which would resolve the remaining differences so that the Fund could be put into operation.

41. The United Nations Volunteers programme should perhaps be more flexible in order to take into account special circumstances and should have a broader base to

make it work in practice. His delegation intended to support draft resolution A/C.2/L.1145.

42. Spain wished to express its profound gratitude to the Administrator for his work in the cause of development and hoped that he would continue to provide inspiration to the Programme.

43. Dato CHUA (Malaysia) paid a tribute to the Administrator of UNDP for his services in the cause of development. Although the volume of aid provided to Malaysia by UNDP was not large, his country attached great importance to UNDP assistance, since it represented the realization of an aspiration and the product of a dynamic and growing global co-operation. His delegation hoped that support for UNDP would continue to increase so that the Programme's potential would be better realized and the benefits of UNDP activities would be more readily accessible to low-income countries like Malaysia.

44. His delegation supported the proposal to increase the participation of member States in the Governing Council of UNDP as a move which would serve to make the Council more representative and more effective. For that reason it had co-sponsored draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146, which it hoped would meet with the Committee's approval. He had no strong objection to reconsidering the actual number of seats by which the Council was to be increased if that was the general wish of the Committee, provided that he had the opportunity to discuss any new proposal with the other co-sponsors of the draft resolution and provided such a proposal took into account the principle of the equitable geographical distribution of seats.

45. The launching of the United Nations Volunteers programme was another expression of the desire of the international community to put into practice some of the highest ideals enshrined in the United Nations Charter. If successfully implemented, the programme would make a further practical contribution to the development efforts of the low-income countries. His delegation would like to see a sustained expansion of the programme so that maximum benefit could be derived from it. He therefore wished to commend to the Committee draft resolution A/C.2/L.1145, of which his delegation was a co-sponsor.

46. Mr. PORTELA PICO (Argentina) associated his delegation with the tributes paid to the Administrator on the occasion of his retirement. He hoped that the international community would continue to benefit from Mr. Hoffman's advice in its continuation of the difficult task of enabling all countries to enjoy the benefits of civilization.

47. UNDP was among the most effective programmes in the United Nations system. Argentina had benefited from pre-investment projects aimed at encouraging both national investments and investments from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank and other sources. Specific projects had dealt with the evaluation of natural resources, training of staff, scientific and technological research, regional development and increasing production. More than 150 experts from international organizations had been active in Argentina over the past 12 months, while a still larger number of Argentine technicians was working in various countries,

particularly in Latin America, within the UNDP system. Argentina had provided facilities for 167 fellows of various nationalities, sent by international organizations, to receive technical training at various institutes.

48. If UNDP was to continue providing the necessary assistance to developing countries, contributions to it must be increased so that it could both maintain ongoing programmes and initiate the larger number of projects which were currently being studied. His delegation was confident that the developed countries would continue to provide support, and shared Mr. Hoffman's hope that by 1976 contributions to the Programme would total not less than \$500 million.

49. His delegation was concerned at the difficulties encountered by the United Nations Capital Development Fund in moving to the operational phase of its activities. The main cause of the delay was the lack of financial resources, and his delegation endorsed the measures suggested by other delegations to enable the Fund to move ahead. It was to be hoped that in future the number of countries benefiting from the Fund's activities would increase.

50. The United Nations Volunteers programme had made considerable progress in the short time since its establishment. His delegation welcomed the opportunity which the programme provided for young people to participate in the development process. It would also increase the human resources available for multilateral aid programmes.

51. His delegation also welcomed country programming, which would enable each country to implement its programmes in accordance with its most urgent needs. Country programming would enhance a large number of projects requiring long-term programming, provided that they were sufficiently flexible for adaptation in line with changing technologies.

52. His delegation hoped that the Committee would approve draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146.

53. Mr. SIRIWARDENE (Ceylon) paid tribute to the Administrator of UNDP for his long years of dedicated service and his determination and devotion in helping the developing countries.

54. Developing countries had come to rely heavily on UNDP as a very appropriate means of multilateral aid, and the Programme had become imperative to the achievement both of the targets of individual countries and the goals of the Second Development Decade.

55. His delegation supported the administrative changes that were being made in UNDP, and hoped they would result in more useful links with national Governments and better co-ordination of the activities of the specialized agencies. Country programming was not only a way of making UNDP assistance more meaningful, but of bringing about more effective use of UNDP resources. It was important that programmes should have a significant impact on the economic and social life of the country concerned. National priorities should be left largely to be determined by the countries themselves; otherwise, re-

sources could not always be used in the most efficient way. UNDP's advisory role should be made responsive to each country's particular circumstances, so that economic development would be truly beneficial.

56. The proposal to enlarge the Governing Council was very reasonable, as it was intended to make the Council more representative. It was possible, as some delegations feared, that the expansion would make the Council a less effective body and reduce prospects of increased contributions to UNDP, but his delegation had no objection in principle to the proposed enlargement and hoped that any differences of opinion on that subject could be resolved through further negotiations.

57. His delegation was glad to see that the Commissioner for Technical Co-operation had made every effort to expand the United Nations programme in the light of the important changes that had been made in UNDP. In that connexion, while the indicative planning figures showed a fair increase in UNDP support for operations in Ceylon, certain factors such as the increased cost of experts and delays in recruitment by the specialized agencies, which reduced the actual benefits to his country, had to be taken into account.

58. The developing countries eagerly looked forward to active support by donor countries for the United Nations Capital Development Fund. If successful, the Fund would sustain the momentum of individual development programmes and contribute to the success of the Second Development Decade.

59. The idea behind the United Nations Volunteers programme was very useful, and Ceylon had agreed to support it in broad terms. Some overlapping might occur between the assistance given under the programme and technical assistance that was already being provided, and his delegation therefore wished to see the plan worked out in further detail. Once that was done, Ceylon would consider contributing volunteers. However, it was still too early to indicate specifically to what extent it could participate; its participation would depend on the final form in which requests for assistance were made.

60. Despite all the efforts that UNDP had made, certain disturbing trends had to be recognized. In the past decade it had become clear that the problem of employment and income distribution could not be solved by economic growth alone, but also depended on more equitable distribution of the means of production and newly produced wealth. As the Administrator of UNDP had indicated, the increasing complexities of the development process meant that such social reforms were not only moral and political imperatives but vital incentives to productivity itself.

61. Mr. HOEUR LAY INN (Khmer Republic) paid a tribute to the Administrator of UNDP for his work in promoting development, from which his own country had benefited. The Khmer Republic shared Mr. Hoffman's desire for regional integration and for that reason had become a member of the Asian Development Bank and was presiding over the Asian Centre for Development Administration for the year 1971-1972.

62. The Prek Thnot dam, in the construction of which UNDP had participated, had been subjected to a criminal attack by the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese imperialists, who had caused extensive damage at the construction site during the night of 24/25 September 1971. The Viet-Cong—North Viet-Nameese aggressors should be roundly condemned for that act so as to induce them to refrain from such attacks on United Nations programmes in the future.

63. His delegation supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1145 since it regarded the active participation of the younger generation in all aspects of economic and social life as an important source of qualified manpower for development. The great sacrifices of Khmer youth, who had voluntarily mobilized in large numbers in defence of their country, had convinced his delegation that the objectives of the United Nations Volunteers programme would only be satisfactorily achieved with the assistance of the young.

64. His delegation shared the view expressed by delegations concerning the necessity for countries concerned to participate in the programming of UNIDO and other development projects. It was with those considerations in mind that the Khmer Republic had established a Ministry of Development which was currently directed by a member of the Khmer Cabinet. By drawing attention to that fact, he wished to dispel the misgivings which had been voiced concerning the slowness with which programmes would be implemented unless they were supervised by leading government officials.

65. Mr. KOTOBALAVU (Fiji) said that the Administrator of UNDP had rightly emphasized that the major obstacle to social and economic development in low-income countries was the under-utilization of human and natural resources. It was therefore the basic objective of UNDP to help them develop those resources more fully.

66. Fiji, recognizing that each country must assume primary responsibility for its social and economic development, was endeavouring, through its current sixth five-year development plan, to promote progress in those spheres, for which purpose it required external assistance in the form of investment capital and technological skills and knowledge. The Government and people of Fiji were most grateful for the assistance it was receiving from UNDP in such areas as rice, forestry and fisheries development, communications, social services and tourism.

67. His delegation was particularly pleased that development assistance to UNDP and other programmes was being undertaken in a spirit of partnership involving developed and developing countries. It also welcomed the system of country programming and was confident that the approach would ensure that UNDP activities truly reflected the needs and priorities of recipient countries. It noted with interest that experts were being recruited on as wide a geographical basis as possible and that approximately one third had come from the recipient countries themselves. It was vitally important that experts should have not only the necessary technical and personal qualifications but also the ability to adapt their skills to local conditions and guide the local population towards control of its own development.

68. He welcomed the regional character of a number of UNDP projects in the South Pacific region and expressed the hope that the close co-operation established between UNDP and the South Pacific Commission, as in a current survey of tourism and transport in the area, would continue.

69. In conclusion, he paid a tribute to the Administrator of UNDP for his dedication to efforts to improve social and economic conditions in developing regions.

70. Mr. ALWAN (Iraq) expressed his delegation's sincere gratitude for the wise leadership which the Administrator of UNDP had always demonstrated.

71. The cautious concern regarding development co-operation which had characterized the First Development Decade had led to the adoption by the Governing Council of a consensus on the capacity of the United Nations Development system. The shift from a project-oriented approach to the country programming approach and decentralization was bound to ensure a useful dialogue between UNDP and recipient countries.

72. Efforts to achieve a world without want were being hampered because the wealthiest nations were allocating some \$200,000 million annually for armaments and less than \$15,000 million to combat poverty and their contributions to the Programme fell far short of expectations. Moreover, they preferred to channel resources through bilateral programmes, which always had political and military overtones and were contrary to the spirit of internationalism characterizing the unique partnership which UNDP represented. Inasmuch as the basic objective of international development co-operation was the attainment of peace with justice, it was most regrettable that some organizations of the United Nations system saw fit to assist a country which was occupying the territory of three Member States and whose policies had been unequivocally condemned in many United Nations resolutions. As reported in document A/8356 it was particularly shocking that IBRD, in contravention of those resolutions, had granted a loan in July 1971 to improve the highway network of a defiant Member State to which Chapter VII of the Charter should be applied and which was inviting expulsion from the Organization.

73. Although his Government realized that the United Nations Volunteers programme was still in its infancy, it had contributed to the Special Voluntary Fund, for it was confident that the programme would develop effectively under the skilled guidance of its Co-ordinator. The location of the Co-ordinator's office within reach of the developing countries requiring the programme's services would enhance its effectiveness and cut down on travel expenses which the fund could not afford. Lastly, his delegation wholeheartedly supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1146 calling for the enlargement of the Governing Council of UNDP.

74. Mr. DIABATÉ (Guinea) paid a tribute to the dedication of the outgoing Administrator of UNDP.

75. His Government appreciated the high quality of the work accomplished by UNDP. However, genuine international co-operation and solidarity depended on the elimina-

tion of economic problems which could no longer be solved by the traditional limited concessions and isolated measures generally proposed in international forums. In accordance with the Charter of Algiers, what was required was a fundamental reorganization of the world economic structure through the concerted efforts of developed and developing countries alike.

76. His delegation supported the proposal to enlarge the Governing Council of UNDP, since the number of States Members of the United Nations had increased substantially since the establishment of UNDP in 1965; such an increase would enhance the capacity of UNDP to fulfil its important role in implementing the objectives and policy measures of the Strategy.

77. His Government attached particular importance to industrialization and hoped that industrial development projects would receive priority and that UNDP would channel a substantial part of its new resources through UNIDO.

78. He reaffirmed his delegation's support for the principles underlying the establishment of the United Nations Volunteers programme as set out in General Assembly resolution 2659 (XXV). Respect for the sovereignty of the Governments served by the Volunteers programme must be ensured.

79. At a time when the United Nations was striving for dynamic international co-operation in the economic sphere, it was a mistake to exclude from UNDP developed countries, such as the German Democratic Republic, in view of the substantial contribution they could make in that area.

80. Lastly, he expressed his delegation's appreciation for the assistance it was receiving from UNDP in collaboration with other international organizations.

81. Mr. BENCHEIKH (Algeria) paid a tribute to the admirable work accomplished by UNDP under the dedicated supervision of its Administrator.

82. Turning to the reports of the Governing Council of UNDP on its eleventh and twelfth sessions, he said that the Council should consider how the Programme's administrative expenditures, which were too high in relation to those of other United Nations bodies, could be reduced. His delegation had taken note of the steps taken by the Administrator to strengthen the general procedures of the Programme. It was essential to ensure that the Programme was endowed with the financial and human resources to enable it to double in size by 1975, for the benefit of developed and developing countries alike.

83. Algeria's national development plan for 1970-1973 provided for investments which were expected to generate a rate of growth of nearly 9 per cent a year. The industrial sector would receive 45 per cent of the appropriations for the development of Algeria's metallurgical and chemical industries. UNDP provided substantial aid to Algeria in such fields as cereal production, farming, fishing, training, and regional development. The World Food Programme was contributing to a vast rural employment programme in

eastern Algeria. UNDP was also helping to finance surveys of the water resources of the northern Sahara region. Algeria had been selected as a pilot country for a number of operational projects and was firmly committed to that type of international co-operation, which was already bearing fruit. He read out a statement by the Algerian Minister for Foreign Affairs which emphasized that commitment and he indicated that such co-operation would redound to the benefit of the entire international community.

84. Lastly, his delegation supported the draft resolution calling for the enlargement of the Governing Council of UNDP (A/C.2/L.1146).

85. Mr. TOMEH (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the Government and people of Syria wished to pay a tribute to the outgoing Administrator of UNDP for his dedication to the cause of development in all developing countries. The work which he had initiated would continue to bear fruit for the benefit of future generations.

86. Mr. PESMAZOGLU (Greece) expressed his regret at the retirement of the Administrator of UNDP. His delegation recognized the high quality of his work and was particularly grateful for his efforts on behalf of Greece.

87. Mr. HOFFMAN (Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme) said that he could not adequately convey how deeply he appreciated the kind words representatives had addressed to him. Credit for the accomplishments of UNDP was also due to his capable associates.

88. He wished to highlight two major points. First, it was imperative that States continue to strive for a steadily increasing gross national product. Secondly, he emphasized the agreement among developed and developing countries that the major goal of UNDP was more rapid development. It was that genuine partnership which had given strength to the Programme. Other problems requiring urgent attention were unemployment, under-employment, the population explosion and malnutrition. He was following with particular interest a project under way in Mexico to enhance the protein content of corn; a break-through was imminent and held promise for millions of the world's children who were condemned to physical and mental retardation because they did not receive enough protein.

89. The goal of \$500 million for UNDP was realistic if nations continued to work together and if the huge amounts of money now being wasted throughout the world were put to better use. He could not emphasize strongly enough the importance of laying an adequate foundation for investment through pre-investment activities, the success of which would require additional trained personnel and technology. A concerted effort was the best way to ensure progress.

90. Mr. NARASIMHAN (Deputy Administrator, United Nations Development Programme) said that the debate on UNDP had been one of high quality which would greatly benefit its Administration. Careful note had been taken of all the comments made, and the Administration would do its best to follow the advice given.

91. He wished to pay a tribute to the Administrator of UNDP for his commitment and dedication to the cause of development. However, the greatest tribute to Mr. Hoffman had been paid by the various participants in the debate who had announced that they would make a substantial increase in their contributions to UNDP at the forthcoming Pledging Conference.

92. Much had been said during the debate about the restructuring of UNDP. The Administration had already had several opportunities to review the working of the new system, including several meetings with representatives of the specialized agencies, and it was operating very well. There were not four different programmes of assistance but one coherent programme administered through four regional bureaux.

93. It had become clear that the country programming exercise which it had been planned to introduce in all countries by 1973 would have to be spread over a longer period in the interests of the countries concerned and of agency participation. The Administration hoped to submit to future sessions of the Governing Council information concerning the implementation of country programming.

94. On the subject of indicative planning figures, he said that the fact that no single developing country appeared fully satisfied with its proposed allocation of resources was perhaps a good indication of the Administrator's impartiality. However, he agreed that more resources were needed, particularly for the least developed among the developing countries, and he hoped that they could be found from increased resources over and above the assumed growth rate of 9.6 per cent. The Administration awaited with great interest the results of the forthcoming Pledging Conference and looked forward to receiving guidance from the Governing Council on the criteria to be applied in calculating indicative planning figures.

95. He shared the regret expressed by several delegations at the total inadequacy of the resources of the United Nations Capital Development Fund.

96. With regard to the draft omnibus statute for the Programme, he recalled that, at its twelfth session, the Governing Council had decided to request all Governments to submit their views. Very few Governments had responded, and he hoped that many more constructive suggestions would be forthcoming before the matter was reconsidered by the Governing Council.

97. Reference had also been made to the fact that some countries were excluded from participating and contributing to the Programme. The Administrator would be only too glad to receive additional contributions, but that was a matter for the appropriate intergovernmental and legislative organs to decide.

98. Several delegations had spoken of the need for an increased number of industrialization projects. The Administration would like to see more such projects and had done what it could to encourage them. However, the ultimate power of decision lay with the developing countries themselves, although the resident representatives

would certainly seek to draw the attention of Governments to the benefits of industrialization projects. The Administration's interest in the subject was reflected by the decision of the Governing Council to allot resources for Special Industrial Services and to finance senior industrial advisers in a number of developing countries. The Administrator had an understanding with the Executive Director of UNIDO in regard to a steady increase in the number of such advisers. With regard to the executing agents, paragraph 39 of the Consensus stated that the Administrator would consult the Government in each case on the selection of the agent by which Programme assistance to each project would be implemented. If there was more than one agency competent in a particular field, the Administrator was bound to respect the wishes of the Government concerned; nevertheless, the Administration had done everything possible to encourage developing countries to request the services of UNIDO in every possible case.

99. On the subject of the United Nations Volunteers programme, the Co-ordinator would make a statement on the subject after a decision had been reached on draft resolution A/C.2/L.1145. However, both he and the Co-ordinator had greatly benefited from delegations' comments on the subject. The Volunteers programme was a truly co-operative effort in which developing as well as developed countries were responsible for providing volunteers. He welcomed the request in the draft resolution that the specialized agencies and other organizations in the United Nations system should co-operate with the United Nations Volunteers programme.

100. Development was a common endeavour in which developing and developed countries, Administration and Governing Council of UNDP and donor and recipient countries alike were united. He hoped that the necessary co-operation among all concerned would be sustained in the future.

101. The CHAIRMAN recalled that each year the General Assembly adopted a resolution taking note of the reports of the Governing Council of UNDP. He suggested that the Committee might adopt the following draft resolution, which conformed with the texts of previous resolutions on the matter:

"The General Assembly,

"Takes note with appreciation of the reports of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its eleventh and twelfth sessions."

If there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt that draft resolution.

It was so decided.

102. The CHAIRMAN recalled that, at the 1386th meeting, the representative of India had proposed the inclusion of the following paragraph in the report of the Committee on agenda item 44 (a):

"On the eve of his retirement as Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, the Committee

expressed its deep appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Paul Hoffman for his untiring dedication to the cause of economic and social development throughout the world.”

If there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt that proposal by acclamation.

It was so decided.

103. The CHAIRMAN, recalling that many delegations had expressed the hope that increased resources would be made available to the United Nations Development Programme and to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, reminded members that they would have an opportunity to give practical effect to those hopes at the forthcoming UNDP Pledging Conference.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.