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Chairman: Mr. S. Amjad ALI (Pakistan).

Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter IV, sections I to V) (A/2172, A/C.3/L.319)

[Item 11]*

GENERAL DEBATE

1. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the wide range of subjects dealt with in the five sections of chapter IV of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/2172) which were before the Committee. He suggested that each speaker in the general debate should try to cover all the questions in one statement, in order to speed up the Committee's work.

2. In reply to a question by the representative of of YUGOSLAVIA, the CHAIRMAN explained that he had merely made a suggestion which representatives were not bound to follow.

3. Mr. MORALES (Argentina) said that he would deal only with the *Preliminary Report on the World Social Situation with Special Reference to Standards of Living* (E/CN.5/267/Rev.1) prepared by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in collaboration with the specialized agencies. The document was one of the most important ever published by the Organization. Although the subject was being dealt with for the first time and although many difficulties of definition had arisen, the report attained a remarkable degree of scientific objectivity and provided an invaluable conspectus of the varied and complex factors involved. The fact that the essential information was in some cases not readily available had added to the difficulty of preparing the report.

4. The first chapter of the report was concerned with world population and population trends. Stress was usually laid in that connexion on population density in relation to the total area of the country concerned. Although that was an important factor, it did not in

itself always provide a reliable indication of the real demographic position of a country. Regional differences might be considerable. In Argentina, for example, where the general density of population had been 5.7 inhabitants per square kilometre in 1947, the Buenos Aires district had a population of 7 million, with a density of 150 inhabitants per square kilometre. There was no direct relation between population density and economic development. High population densities might occur in a country where the level of development was relatively low; on the other hand, a high level implied a marked concentration of population. From the point of view of economic development the most significant factor was the density of the urban population. The industrial development which Europe had undergone in the nineteenth century and which other parts of the world were currently undergoing caused a marked influx of population into the urban centres. Factories required more and more workers, which resulted in the formation of increasingly dense urban concentrations, and the process was accentuated by the mechanization of agriculture, which substantially increased the available labour force. Urban populations currently represented one-third of the total world population. Nevertheless, three-fifths of the world population was still engaged in agriculture, and that state of affairs would no doubt persist for several decades. The growing concentration of population was nevertheless a characteristic feature of the modern world and had to be reckoned with. The movement, which was a direct result of technical progress, could not be halted; the main point was to ensure that it did not lower the standard of living of the people, as had unfortunately been the case at the beginning of the industrial revolution in Europe. A number of problems were still unsolved and had been made more acute by wars. It was nevertheless true that technical progress had, on the whole, helped to raise the standard of living of mankind. It was essential that effective measures should be devised to avoid the dislocation which might accompany over-rapid industrialization and to increase the well-being of the inhabitants of

* Indicates the item number on the agenda of the General Assembly.

urban or rural centres, whose current expansion was inevitably leading to increased population density.

5. The report then dealt with birth and death rates which controlled the growth of the world population and with the repercussions of changes in those rates on social well-being. In that connexion, the Argentine delegation disputed the validity of the passage of the report (page 18) in which a high percentage of children in the total population was interpreted as one of the obstacles to economic development. Arguments of that kind could only lead to neo-Malthusianism. It was true that in countries where economic conditions were unsatisfactory, large families were in a specially difficult and even desperate position, but a reduction in the number of children would not eliminate poverty or improve living conditions. That could be achieved only by economic development under which production and wages would increase proportionately and appropriately. The report clearly showed that the world was witnessing unprecedented demographic changes. The industrial revolution, which had begun in Europe in the nineteenth century, was gradually spreading in successive waves to the farthest corners of the inhabited world. The rate of progress was not always uniform. Technical progress did not always go hand-in-hand with demographic progress although it was by means of technical progress that social problems could be solved. No artificial means could halt the demographic changes; practical and effective measures had to be taken to prevent them from impairing the welfare of the people and to ensure that standards of living rose as the population increased.

6. Chapter III of the report was devoted to health conditions. Medical techniques had shared in the general technical progress and had resulted in a radical change in the attitude towards biological problems. In the past, medicine had been passive and had been concerned only with preventing or curing diseases. Modern medicine was essentially active and positive and was based on the concept of health, or complete physical, mental and social well-being. Modern health programmes were characterized by the scope of their objectives and by their increasingly institutional character. As the Argentine Minister of Public Health had pointed out, modern medicine had a threefold function: it was concerned with therapeutic measures to combat disease, sanitary measures to improve the physical environment of the population and social measures to improve the lot of mankind. At the same time, medicine was increasingly being practised in collective forms; hospitals, health centres and organizations of various kinds were to an increasing extent taking the place of the individual practitioner. As the report said, considerable progress had been made in regard to public health. Nevertheless, much remained to be done, and the vicious circle of disease, poverty, under-production and malnutrition was not always easy to break. In the developed countries, the problem could be solved at the national level, as was the case in Argentina. In other countries funds and physical facilities were lacking and the problem assumed international importance because of the interrelation between health conditions and economic development. Some diseases could be controlled irrespective of the level of development of the country concerned and their control tended to promote economic advancement by improving the living conditions of the inhabitants. Malaria was one such disease and DDT had made it

possible to conduct spectacular campaigns against it. There were, however, other diseases, such as tuberculosis, children's diseases and trachoma, which were fundamentally caused by the low standard of living of the population. X-ray campaigns were not sufficient to eliminate tuberculosis; unhealthy housing, malnutrition and the ignorance of the people concerned had also to be dealt with and in the under-developed countries money was often lacking to finance the necessary action. In short, the problem of health was bound up with that of economic progress, and the specialized agencies, in particular the World Health Organization, must study questions of public health within the framework of economic and social development.

7. As regards food and nutrition, the main question was obviously that of food production, which was still below the pre-war level. As the figures supplied by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and quoted in the report showed, under-consumption had grown worse. The Second Committee was currently studying the question of the expansion of food production, but that was only one aspect of the problem. The question of distribution was equally important. Consumers must be able to acquire the food-stuffs they needed, which, as the report stated, necessitated measures in regard to prices and transport and the appropriate organization of the country's general economy. There again the problem of economic development arose. The purchasing power of the inhabitants of under-developed areas was completely inadequate. The problem had to be dealt with as a whole. The Argentine delegation believed that the best solution was diversified economic development.

8. Housing was also vitally important to social well-being. The problem could not be solved merely by increasing the number of dwellings. Modern life, whether in urban or in rural centres, required a complex system of collective services. Those requirements could be met by town planning, which provided the framework within which the housing problem should be solved. If there was no sound, general plan, difficulties which might assume serious proportions were likely to arise. Housing policy was the concern of governments and local authorities. Housing authorities might well base their policies on social considerations similar to those which underlay the Argentine Government's programme to enable every family to own its dwelling.

9. Plainly much remained to be done in the educational field, but the problem was a delicate one. Every country had its own customs, traditions and usages, which could not be disrupted. Although international co-operation with regard to methods and techniques might produce good results, it should not be pushed too far and the authority of the government of the country concerned should be respected. He drew attention to the table of female school enrolment (chap. VI, table II). The enrolment of girls in secondary schools in Argentina in 1946 was given as 29 per cent. The 1947 census had, however, shown that the real figure was 50.8 per cent. The figure was particularly significant. The Argentine Government fully appreciated the social importance of education and was conducting a methodical and continuous campaign against illiteracy. One thousand schools had been built under the five-year plan for 1946-1951. The policy had already produced substantial

results. The table given in appendix A to chapter VI of the report, showed that in Argentina in 1946, 83.4 per cent of the population fourteen years of age and over was able to read. The figure for 1947 was 86 per cent, an increase of nearly 3 per cent in one year, and the percentage had probably increased since then.

10. In the case of conditions of work and employment, the controlling factor was the degree of economic development. In the under-developed countries, wages were inadequate and the vulnerability of the economy caused instability of employment, whereas the developed countries enjoyed high wages and security of employment. Economic and social conditions were closely related, but that did not mean that social matters should be governed by economic considerations; on the contrary, the economy must be placed in the service of social justice. It was for that reason that the Argentine delegation had always emphasized that high wage levels were necessary to promote the economic progress of the under-developed countries.

11. The figures relating to per capita income in the various regions given in table I in chapter IX of the report, on general levels of income and welfare, were highly significant. They showed that the countries of the world were divided into two groups between which a great gulf was fixed. One group was rich; the other lacked everything. That situation was a permanent challenge to the social idea on which the Charter of the United Nations was based. The United Nations was in duty bound to do its utmost to remedy that crying injustice.

12. Because of its importance, he had analysed the *Preliminary Report on the World Social Situation* in detail. The report had been submitted to the Economic and Social Council and the Social Commission, which must consider what practical measures should be taken in the light of the facts reported. The examination of the report by the Third Committee would assist the Economic and Social Council in its work.

13. The Argentine delegation approved of the report in general, subject to the reservations he had mentioned. There was one point, however, which he wished to emphasize. The report gave the impression that the vicious circle affected the under-developed countries only; in his view the whole world was affected. It was necessary for all countries and all governments, particularly those in a privileged position, to decide to take measures to promote co-ordinated and integrated economic development, to eliminate the instability which was such a serious threat to peace and which would continue to exist while so many of the world's inhabitants were condemned to abject poverty. The vicious circle could be broken only by a policy founded on justice and human solidarity.

14. His delegation was submitting a draft resolution (A/C.3/L.319) based on those considerations. Its adoption would contribute to the economic and social development of the peoples and thus advance the cause of world peace.

15. Mr. HESSEL (France) said that General Assembly debates on the report of the Economic and Social Council were usually interesting but inconclusive; they produced either resolutions which in some cases duplicated those adopted by the Council, or a decision to "take note" of the report. They might create

the unfortunate impression that the General Assembly was not interested in social activities or was concerned in them only through the Fifth Committee, which was guided by considerations of economy.

16. In order to remedy that state of affairs, the French delegation had submitted, at the sixth session of the General Assembly, a draft resolution calling for the examination, at the current session, of a programme of concerted action in the social field. That draft resolution had been adopted by the General Assembly. The Economic and Social Council had however decided, by its resolution 434 A (XIV), that more time was needed and had prudently decided that the programme, which was to be prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the specialized agencies, should be examined in 1953 by the Social Commission and the Council itself before it was submitted to the General Assembly at its eighth session.

17. For the time being, the Third Committee had before it the *Preliminary Report on the World Social Situation*. His delegation welcomed the publication of that first impartial survey, and approved of the Council's decision requesting the publication in alternate years of reports on the world social situation and on national and international measures to improve social conditions. The report would enable the Assembly to form a clearer idea of the problems and to solve them more successfully. One lesson which should be drawn from the report was the difficulty of comparing data and figures on, for example, standards of living in different regions.

18. His delegation was certain that the group of experts who were to report on the most satisfactory methods of defining and measuring standards of living (A/2172, paras. 430 and 432) would be of the greatest value, and hoped that the Fifth Committee would approve the sum requested for it. The study undertaken by the group would add to the data which the United Nations and the specialized agencies could use in analysing the world situation. A similar function would be served by the World Population Conference (A/2172, paras. 520 to 524) whose work should not be jeopardized by excessive economy. The preparations for the conference suggested that it would be scientific and concerned with concrete problems, which would overcome public scepticism concerning international gatherings.

19. Similar considerations applied to the international conference to be convened for the purpose of adopting a protocol relating to the limitation of the production of opium (A/2172, paras. 493 and 495), which marked an important step forward. In that field, his delegation thought that it was better to attempt to obtain tangible results gradually than to try to proceed too quickly. France had always taken an active part in the Economic and Social Council's work on narcotic drugs. In that connexion, he wished to congratulate the Secretary of the Committee, Mr. Gilbert Yates, who had been appointed Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs. He drew the attention of committee members to the *Bulletin on Narcotics* and the interesting articles which appeared in it.

20. Direct action programmes such as UNICEF and the technical assistance programme in the social field made the greatest appeal to public opinion. France

had always encouraged the work of UNICEF and noted with satisfaction that in addition to emergency programmes, it was giving increasing attention to international campaigns such as those which had been organized in North Africa, and the training of personnel at such centres as the International Children's Centre in Paris. His delegation believed that activities of that kind should be extended to all parts of the world.

21. With reference to technical assistance, his delegation stressed the importance of the human factor in economic development. The report on the world social situation showed that the shortage of trained social workers was a major obstacle to economic development. The work of the specialized agencies such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, which were concerned with social activities, was of fundamental importance.

22. The Committee should not overlook an activity related to technical assistance and dependent on resolution 58 (I) of the General Assembly, the scope of which had been increased on several occasions. He referred to advisory social welfare services (A/2172, paras. 433 to 441), which were becoming increasingly effective. That programme would be even more valuable if some change were made in the methods employed by the Secretariat and if the beneficiary countries themselves could achieve better co-ordination of the services they requested. France, although not a beneficiary country, had made every effort to plan as satisfactorily as possible the services (fellowships, experts, fields of study) which it made available to the under-developed countries, and hoped that long-term efforts would be made in that direction by the beneficiary countries to ensure that the programme of advisory social welfare services produced the best results. France believed that a plan of world-wide scope, which would gradually overcome the shortage of social workers, would be an important contribution to technical assistance, and would contribute its historical and technical experience and the facilities of its training centres to the implementation of such a plan.

23. His delegation hoped that the United Nations and its specialized agencies would continue to widen their experience, to learn not to undertake too much at once and to carry out successfully what they undertook by adjusting projects to resources and resources to needs. The principal value of the debates which would be held the following year on the programme of action in the social field would be to promote such adaptation of a careful and realistic examination of methods of international action. The programme could not be successful if it covered too wide a field. It should essentially be concerned with activities within the competence of the Social Commission. The specialized agencies should make their contribution, but only in so far as their activities were directly connected with the problems within the Commission's competence. The programme should be less a survey of the fields in which the United Nations and its specialized agencies might take action than an examination of methods which would ensure the effectiveness of such action.

24. He stressed the fact that the hardest and most important task would fall to the governments themselves, because without their moral and material support no international action was possible. The purpose of international co-operation and of the United Nations was to supplement national action where it was unavoidably deficient and to seek the most practical and effective methods of placing at the disposal of those who had need of them, the technical, scientific, and educational resources possessed by other Members of the Organization.

25. France, thanks to its history, occupied a privileged position in that connexion. In the course of a century of intensive economic development, his country had been compelled to study its application, bearing in mind the principles of social progress, to populations at various stages of development, from the most primitive tribes to the most advanced communities. France had always been prepared to give other nations the benefit of its experience, particularly in the social field. He hoped that the concerted programme of action would include a comparative estimate, in each field, of methods of international action such as seminars, meetings of experts, fellowships, visits by experts, assistance of scientific institutions and training centres, multilateral conventions and agreements, and particularly, social centres. Social centres were, he thought, of special interest, because they provided communities with everything required to encourage them to improve their conditions and to enable them, within a limited field, to engage in experiments in which results were soon obtained.

26. In conclusion, he said that his delegation thought that international action in the social field should, if it was to achieve long-term results, despite the sceptics, be directed towards definite and limited goals and lead to tangible results. Those results would revive the great hopes which had been aroused by the establishment of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and which had been based on the belief that the evils from which the world was suffering could be remedied by international solidarity. France for its part would do everything in its power to prevent the destruction of that hope.

27. Mrs. ROOSEVELT (United States of America) noted with satisfaction that during the past seven years a much wider awareness of the importance of social matters in world affairs had been created, not only in various United Nations bodies but also in public opinion. There had developed a greater realization that social problems were of immense importance in building a peaceful world. Despite all the work that had been done in recent years, however, nothing in United Nations experience had contributed so much to the universal understanding of social problems as the *Preliminary Report on the World Social Situation*. A special tribute was due to the Lebanese delegation for its initiative in 1949 in requesting the preparation of such a report. It was also necessary to join with the Argentine representative in thanking the Secretariat of the United Nations and the secretariats of the specialized agencies, which had provided not only sound research but an imaginative presentation.

28. She wished to pick out two features of the document which seemed to her to be specially significant.

The first was that the report brought out the inter-relationship which had grown out of the conditions of hardship in under-developed countries, where more than 1,500 million persons lived, and where the lack of basic education and vocational training, inadequate supplies of tools and equipment, and bad working conditions resulted in low productivity and low standards of living, and consequently low consumption levels, crowded and insanitary housing and higher sickness and death rates. Those were the elements of the vicious circle which for generations had imprisoned two thirds of the people of the world.

29. The second significant point in the report was the fact that it captured the restiveness of the people who endured such conditions, compared their standard of living with existing higher standards and showed that fatalistic resignation was giving way to a demand for a better life, a demand strong enough to establish an irreversible trend in history.

30. The United States delegation hoped that the report on the world social situation would be followed up by other similar documents, because it afforded a basis for taking practical action towards the solution of social problems. It was towards that end that the General Assembly, in its resolution 535 (VI), and the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 434 (XIV), had requested that suggestions and recommendations should be made, in the light of the preliminary report, for the drawing up of a concerted international programme of practical action in the social field, which would make possible a concentration of effort and resources and would be likely to produce early and positive results, particularly in the economically under-developed countries.

31. The United States delegation recognized that the United Nations and the specialized agencies had together made substantial progress; however, in the light of over five years' experience and of the report on the world social situation, it considered that even greater progress could and should be made. Her Government had responded to the Secretary-General's request and had communicated its views on a concerted international programme of practical action to the United Nations and the specialized agencies. It looked forward with interest to the forthcoming session of the Social Commission, which was to engage in substantial consideration of the question.

32. Turning to the report of the eighth session of the Social Commission (E/2247), she stated that her Government had consistently attached great importance to the programme on advisory social welfare services, particularly because of its usefulness to countries that were economically under-developed. It urged that the benefits of that programme should be extended to the utmost within budgetary resources.

33. In the field of housing, the United States delegation joined with others in calling for greater concentration of effort on the part of regional economic commissions, the Technical Assistance Board and the United Nations itself.

34. The United States delegation supported the action of the Council leading towards an integrated programme for child welfare. The emphasis to be placed on nutritional work and the training of auxiliary per-

sonnel should be particularly beneficial to under-developed countries. Her delegation hoped that the Secretary-General's Working Group on the Long-Range Activities for Children would continue its investigations so that they might contribute to the decision which the General Assembly would have to take in 1953 on the future of UNICEF.

35. In general, the United States was satisfied with the work of the Social Commission. If, however, the Social Commission was to move more speedily towards the goals of the United Nations, Member States should send instructed representatives well versed in the problems of social welfare and development to its forthcoming session.

36. The United States delegation believed that UNICEF was doing its work well and deserved the financial support of every government. The relationship of the Children's Fund and the specialized agencies and the United Nations itself had become increasingly close. The problems of team-work were being solved by the headquarters staff of each agency and the staff engaged in field work. The shift of emphasis in UNICEF programmes to the economically under-developed countries was an appropriate development. By far the largest UNICEF allocations had gone to countries in Asia and Latin America, to the countries bordering on the Eastern Mediterranean and to countries in Africa.

37. The United States delegation hoped that the work of UNICEF could go forward in 1953 without interruption. The Congress of the United States had authorized an amount not to exceed \$US 16,481,000 for contributions to UNICEF up to 31 December 1953. Of that amount, \$US 6,666,667 had already been appropriated and was in the process of being paid over to the Children's Fund. That would bring the total contribution of the United States Government to \$US 87,416,667, amounting to over 70 per cent of the total contributions of governments to the central account of UNICEF. In order that there might be further financial support from the United States for the carrying on of UNICEF operations for the duration of the period provided for in General Assembly resolution 417 (V), the United States Executive Branch proposed again to request Congress to appropriate the remaining \$US 9,814,333. The availability of that further United States contribution would depend upon congressional action.

38. The United States delegation considered that the work of the Economic and Social Council, the Social Commission and UNICEF played a vital part in the task of improving the standards of living of two-thirds of the world's population. It was part of a co-operative process in which all countries would benefit, and which the authors of the report on the world social situation had had in mind when they had pointed out that 2,400 million people had to share together the resources of the earth, and that the general impoverishment of any area was a matter of concern to all areas.

39. Mrs. VAN DER MOLEN (Netherlands) also wished to pay a tribute to the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies—FAO, ILO, UNESCO and WHO—which had jointly submitted to the Economic and Social Council in a remarkably short time a preliminary report on the world social situation. The

Netherlands delegation would welcome any new data which might be furnished in that connexion.

40. She had been very much moved by the passage in the report which stated that "more than half the population of the world is still living at levels which deny them a reasonable freedom from preventable disease, a diet adequate to physical well-being, a dwelling that meets basic human needs, the education necessary for improvement and development, and conditions of work that are technically efficient, economically rewarding and socially satisfactory". The United Nations, which was founded on the principle of the solidarity of the international community, should at all times be fully aware of that situation. As the peoples of the world formed one large family, the sufferings of certain members of that family obviously could not remain a matter of indifference to the others and the misfortune of some necessarily meant the misfortune of the others.

41. In that connexion, it was gratifying to note that the peoples of the world were becoming increasingly conscious of their responsibilities towards one another and were beginning to concern themselves with the welfare of the international community apart from their self-interest. Those who were somewhat disappointed with the results of the work of the United Nations on political questions would doubtless derive some satisfaction from the efforts made to ensure the well-being of millions of people, for they were one of the Organization's most glorious achievements. The preliminary report, which emphasized the poverty and needs of half the world's population, could not but remind the Members of the United Nations of the duties imposed upon them by the moral concept of mutual assistance.

42. The Netherlands delegation felt that even greater publicity should be given to the social activities of the United Nations, particularly in the economically and socially privileged countries, because the spirit of solidarity was born of the understanding that a nation was co-operating in a common endeavour. That common endeavour, to raise the standard of living of the underprivileged peoples, was certainly not easy. The amount of food available had to be increased, disease had to be fought, efforts had to be made to reduce mortality rates, new industries had to be established and better working conditions instituted. Nevertheless, it should be borne in mind that it was impossible simply to "import" better living conditions and that the higher standards of living had to reflect a spontaneous and fundamental change in the way of life of the people concerned. It was a well-known fact that industrialization and technical progress did not merely mean a change in methods of production; they affected the everyday life of the individual and tended to obliterate his personality. The moral problems confronting the people of the so-called "developed" countries were evident and an effort should be made not to create the same problems in the under-developed countries. In short, the United Nations should strive to bring about not only the material, but the moral and psychological well-being of the underprivileged peoples. Economic and social development would inevitably be accompanied by a disruption of the social structure, a loss of traditions and a profound change in family life, and

ways must be found to cope with new requirements, to direct that sociological evolution properly and to prevent the emergence of new moral and social needs.

43. For that reason, the Netherlands delegation believed that, within the framework of material aid programmes, the efforts of the peoples themselves should be stimulated. In that connexion, it might be wise to promote the establishment of local groups to introduce new techniques and bring about social reforms. Moreover, those reforms should not be imposed on the people solely by government action, but should be accepted as a prerequisite for the progress of the whole community. The objective of all social activities was to make those concerned understand and assume their own responsibilities. In that connexion, she drew attention to the passage of the report stating that particular stress had been laid by the members of the Economic and Social Council on the importance of self-help techniques in promoting social and economic development, especially in the under-developed areas, and specifying that the need for efficiently organized self-help activities was perhaps the main lesson to be drawn from the report on the world social situation.

44. The Netherlands delegation attached special importance to the child welfare programme of UNICEF and had noted with interest and satisfaction the report of the Executive Director of that agency.

45. Miss BERNARDINO (Dominican Republic) said that she had read with the greatest interest chapter IV of the Economic and Social Council's report which outlined the various aspects of the social problems examined by the Council during 1951 and 1952.

46. The part of the chapter dealing with the *Preliminary Report on the World Social Situation* had struck her as especially interesting. The report described the international measures taken to eliminate the main obstacles to social progress and recorded the progress achieved in sanitation, health (in particular, the fact that in some countries mortality rates had been reduced 50 per cent), nutrition, housing, education, working and living conditions. It represented a valuable contribution to the work of the United Nations; the delegation of the Dominican Republic congratulated the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies upon it and hoped that similar reports would be prepared in future.

47. In connexion with section II of chapter IV, regarding the activities of UNICEF, she drew attention to the remarkable work accomplished by that organization which had coped so ably with emergencies and improved the welfare of millions of children since its inception. Its maternal and child welfare programmes, its training programmes for auxiliary personnel and its fight against endemic diseases of children had been highly successful and had made it possible to solve the immediate problems of child welfare. The countries of Latin America had benefited from UNICEF assistance. Since 1949, UNICEF had organized various health campaigns and drawn up long-range child-feeding programmes as well as anti-tuberculosis vaccination programmes to reduce infant mortality. She expressed her country's admiration and gratitude to Mr. Pate, Executive Director of UNICEF, who was devoting himself to guiding that great institution.

48. The Dominican Republic had always been concerned with the problems of children. It had modern, completely equipped hospitals for children and highly developed public assistance and child welfare services. In its desire to ensure the well-being of children throughout the world, the Government of the Dominican Republic had contributed more than \$US 250,000 to UNICEF, thus becoming the second highest contributor among the Latin-American nations. It intended to continue its efforts and in token of that purpose, had recently decided to send an additional contribution of \$US 50,000 to the Executive Director of UNICEF. She hoped that that example would move other countries to contribute to the fullest possible extent to the work of UNICEF.

49. She congratulated the Economic and Social Council on the report before the Committee and commended its President for the courtesy and firmness he had shown in directing the work of the Council.

50. The CHAIRMAN suggested that as no representative had asked to speak at the afternoon meeting, it should be cancelled.

51. There was little time left, however, to complete consideration of the items of the agenda before the end of the session; in the circumstances, he suggested that the Committee should meet on Saturday, 6 December. It could probably complete consideration of the item before it and take up the next item of the agenda at the beginning of the following week.

The Chairman's proposal was adopted.

52. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the time limit for the submission of draft resolutions should be 1 p.m. on Friday, 5 December, it being understood that the time limit for the submission of amendments would be fixed later.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.