



Chairman: Mr. Walter GUEVARA ARZE (Bolivia).

AGENDA ITEM 37

**United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:
report of the Trade and Development Board (concluded)
(A/8003/Add.1, chap. I; A/8015, A/C.2/L.1130/Rev.2)**

1. Mr. RUTTEN (Netherlands) said that his delegation regretted that it had not been possible to reach complete agreement on draft resolution A/C.2/L.1130/Rev.2. It was important because it dealt with the preparation of the third session of UNCTAD, which should give new emphasis to the work of that organization, in particular to its activities related to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV)). His delegation nevertheless hoped that the constructive spirit which had been apparent in the informal negotiations would prove a good omen for further preparatory work for the third session of the Conference.

2. If a separate vote was taken on operative paragraph 6, his delegation would vote for the paragraph, because it agreed that the Trade and Development Board and the third session of UNCTAD should, in accordance with paragraph 30 of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), review the institutional arrangements of UNCTAD with a view to recommending such changes and improvements as might be necessary. That vote should not be interpreted as prejudging his delegation's position regarding the outcome of any such review; his delegation would consider the questions involved within the framework of Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), and on the basis of further studies and discussions. Its vote for the draft resolution as a whole should be interpreted in a similar manner.

3. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that, although his delegation appreciated the efforts of the sponsors to accommodate those delegations which had difficulty accepting certain provisions of the draft resolution, it would have to abstain in the vote. His delegation could not accept the sponsors' explanation of the intent of operative paragraph 4, which appeared to attempt to prescribe the agenda for the third session of UNCTAD. Operative paragraph 5 was unacceptable, for there was no logical or practical connexion between the nature of UNCTAD's institutional machinery and the ability of any country to accept certain provisions of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, or between the nature of the machinery and the extent to which a country contributed to the achievement of the objectives of the Decade.

4. He rejected the implication in operative paragraph 6 that General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) required amendment; moreover, in accordance with paragraph 32 of that resolution, as well as decision 45 (VII) of the Trade and Development Board, any review of the institutional arrangements was in the first instance the task of the Board.

5. His delegation supported the remaining operative paragraphs, particularly operative paragraph 2.

6. Mr. CUBILLOS (Chile), speaking on behalf of the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1130/Rev.2, said he wished to comment on certain remarks relating thereto. Referring to the Japanese representative's objections (1364th meeting) to operative paragraph 4 (a), he said that the words "policy measures as agreed upon" should not present any difficulty, since the International Development Strategy had now been adopted and the words "as agreed upon" did not imply a legal commitment. Operative paragraphs 4 (b) and (c) were not repetitious, for the former summed up work already accomplished and the latter sought to open up new areas of agreement. A dynamic approach to economic development and trade required the adoption of new principles to attain the desired goals.

7. The purpose of operative paragraph 5 was to establish a forum for dialogue within UNCTAD to enable the developing countries to hold fruitful negotiations with the developed countries. There was no other multilateral forum for negotiations with the socialist countries. He therefore disagreed with the representative of Japan that discussions within UNCTAD of new institutional machinery could not go beyond the exploratory stage. The Australian representative's (*ibid.*) fear that discussion of institutional machinery at the third session of UNCTAD would divert the Conference from important substantive matters was unfounded, for substantial progress had been made on a number of specific questions at the first and second sessions of the Conference. The United Kingdom representative had failed to note the link established in paragraph 6 of decision 45 (VII) of the Trade and Development Board between the terms of reference of UNCTAD and the review of its institutional machinery in the light of recent developments and long-term trends. Operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution stressed that link by calling for a review of the institutional machinery in the context of the International Development Strategy.

8. Operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution did not, as maintained by the representatives of Poland and Japan (*ibid.*), prejudice the proposals which might be made. The sponsors interpreted paragraph 32 of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) as meaning that the General Assem-

bly should take the initiative in requesting changes in institutional arrangements; the Trade and Development Board and UNCTAD should consider relevant proposals for submission in due course to the General Assembly. Specific proposals should be made by the Board, not by the Second Committee, and operative paragraph 6 made no attempt to usurp the Board's role.

9. Mr. SPENCER (Canada) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution as a whole as a sign of its strong support for the aims and objectives of the third session of UNCTAD and because the sponsors had made a number of welcome changes. Operative paragraphs 4, 5 and 6, however, were somewhat superfluous and his delegation would abstain if operative paragraphs 5 and 6 were voted on separately. He saw no connexion between the need for improvements in the institutional machinery of UNCTAD and the difficulties which some countries had in accepting certain provisions of the International Development Strategy, for those difficulties stemmed from their national policies. Operative paragraph 6 prejudged the need for fundamental reforms of UNCTAD's structure. Less extensive reforms might be more satisfactory.

10. Mr. RUIZ MORALES (Spain) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution as a whole and attached particular importance to the eighth preambular paragraph. It had some misgivings, however, about operative paragraph 6. General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) must be respected, and it was inappropriate for the General Assembly to consider changing UNCTAD's machinery at the present stage.

11. Mr. KAHILUOTO (Finland), speaking on behalf of the delegations of Denmark, Norway and Sweden as well as his own, said that UNCTAD had a vital role to play in furthering the goals and objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade in the field of trade and development; the third session of UNCTAD should accordingly be carefully prepared. The four delegations would therefore vote for the draft resolution as a whole, to express their support for the decision to convene the third session of UNCTAD and to indicate the positive attitude with which they would attend it.

12. However, they would not be able to support operative paragraph 6 if it was put to a separate vote. The question of institutional reforms was presented with a certain lack of clarity, and decision 45 (VII) of the Trade and Development Board and resolution 1995 (XIX) of the General Assembly still formed an adequate basis for the continuous review of institutional machinery. More important than discussion of institutional changes was the need for the same political will which had led to the adoption of the International Development Strategy. The Nordic countries wished UNCTAD to enter the Second Development Decade in an open, realistic and co-operative frame of mind, as an opinion-maker within its field of competence and as an instrument for carrying out the recommendations of the International Development Strategy.

13. Mr. ZAKHAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said his delegation fully shared the views expressed by the representative of Poland at the 1364th meeting. The draft resolution was in clear contradiction to paragraphs 30

to 32 of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) dealing with future institutional arrangements, and his delegation would therefore abstain in the vote.

14. Mr. KOEHRING (United States of America) said that his delegation's comments at the 1364th meeting should be taken as its explanation of vote. He requested a separate vote on operative paragraph 5.

15. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) requested a separate vote on operative paragraph 6.

16. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to vote separately on operative paragraphs 5 and 6 and then on draft resolution A/C.2/L.1130/Rev.2 as a whole.

Operative paragraph 5 was adopted by 59 votes to 6, with 13 abstentions.

At the request of the Brazilian representative, the vote on operative paragraph 6 was taken by roll-call.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo, having been drawn by lot by the Chairman, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Congo (Democratic Republic of), El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Algeria, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia.

Against: Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Japan, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Abstaining: Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada.

Operative paragraph 6 was adopted by 50 votes to 12, with 18 abstentions.

At the request of the Chilean representative, the vote on the draft resolution as a whole was taken by roll-call.

Belgium, having been drawn by lot by the Chairman, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone,

Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Japan, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 68 votes to none, with 12 abstentions.

17. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) said that his delegation had abstained in the vote on operative paragraphs 5 and 6 because it found that the wording of the former was confused and its final objective was not clear. A change in the institutional structure of UNCTAD would not affect the views of those delegations which had difficulties in accepting certain specific provisions in the policy measures of the International Development Strategy. Operative paragraph 6 made no specific reference to the structural changes which the co-sponsors apparently had in mind, but which they had never explained. If his delegation had known what changes were referred to, it might have been able to support the paragraph, but, without instructions from its Government, had been unable to accept the form in which the paragraph was drafted. His delegation's support for operative paragraph 4 was conditional on the understanding that the activities of the Trade and Development Board referred

to in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) would be undertaken within the exclusive competence of UNCTAD. His delegation had voted for the draft resolution as a whole because of its interest in the success of the third session of UNCTAD, and wished to congratulate the sponsors on making their draft resolution general in scope.

18. Mr. GUPTA (India) said that his delegation, as a co-sponsor of the draft resolution, would, had it been present during the voting, have voted for operative paragraphs 5 and 6 and for the draft resolution as a whole.

19. Mr. CARANICAS (Greece) said that his delegation had been unable to vote for operative paragraph 6, since it found the wording vague and had regretted the absence of a specific reference to the type of structural changes which were needed. However, it appreciated the efforts of the sponsors and, while abstaining on that paragraph, had voted for the draft resolution as a whole.

20. The CHAIRMAN said that, in the absence of any objection, he would authorize the Rapporteur to submit his report on agenda item 37 direct to the General Assembly.

It was so agreed.

Completion of the Committee's work

21. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the CHAIRMAN declared that the Committee had completed its work.

The meeting rose at 10.45 p.m.

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