



CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 47: General review of the programmes and activities in the economic, social, technical co-operation and related fields of the United Nations, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Children's Fund and all other institutions and agencies related to the United Nations system (<i>continued</i>)	355
Agenda item 41: International Education Year: report of the Secretary-General (<i>continued</i>)	361

Chairman: Mr. Costa P. CARANICAS (Greece).

AGENDA ITEM 47

General review of the programmes and activities in the economic, social, technical co-operation and related fields of the United Nations, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Children's Fund and all other institutions and agencies related to the United Nations system (*continued*) (A/7603/Add.1, chap. VII; A/7757, E/4744 (vol. I and II), E/4744/Add.1 and Corr.1, E/4748/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.1088, A/C.2/L.1090)

1. Mr. SKATARETIKO (Yugoslavia) said that the complexity of the co-ordination problem should be neither over-estimated nor over-simplified. There had to be basic agreement on the purpose of co-ordination since it involved not only technical questions but also the policy of institutions of the United Nations system. Its purpose was not to supply what the work of United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies had been unable to achieve. The legal character of those agencies made it impossible to subject them to a form of control in which work guidelines were laid down for them. Most Member States would consider unacceptable the calling into question, through the co-ordination process, of decisions adopted by sovereign organizations. Such a policy could only lead to confusion. Nevertheless, an undesirable tendency in that direction had emerged in recent years. Given that situation, the proliferation of co-ordination bodies could serve no useful purpose. Bearing in mind the limited resources available and the existing co-ordinating functions of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (ECPC), the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC), the Joint Inspection Unit and the Panel of External Auditors, the idea of appointing special rapporteurs to

travel around the world for the purpose of reviewing the work of individual organizations and of the specialized agencies was absurd. The method proposed could result only in the creation of parasite organs which would merely spend some of the already limited resources available. Those resources could more profitably be used for development.

2. Previous practical experiments in co-ordination had been over-extended and had proved so costly as to preclude further experiments. The best course was not to create new organs until the problem had been studied in depth and until Member States were in a position to base their decision on proposals emanating largely from the national institutions concerned. Experience had shown that special co-ordination bodies had not achieved satisfactory results. Accordingly, a merger of CPC and the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in a single body would not guarantee success. The time had perhaps come to enable the Economic and Social Council to perform its co-ordination functions on a more modern and efficient basis. The establishment of the Joint Inspection Unit and the procedure for the submission of its reports were examples of new perspectives open to the Economic and Social Council in co-ordination matters. Those reports, prepared by independent experts, defined co-ordination and programming problems more clearly than the reports of bodies composed of government representatives. They demonstrated, in fact, that there were other co-ordination methods and that there was no need to indulge in the proliferation of intergovernmental bodies which by their very nature, gave rise to duplication and unnecessary extra work.

3. A number of proposals had been made in informal consultations concerning the implementation of recommendation A contained in chapter III of the final report of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (E/4748/Rev.1), including proposals for setting up a seven-member expert Committee, a twelve-member Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, a sixteen-member Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, a twenty-one-member body combining CPC and ECPC, or a group of twenty-seven Member States to co-operate in the near future with the Co-ordination Committee of the Economic and Social Council. It had also been proposed that the Co-ordination Committee of the Council should continue to work during and, if necessary, between sessions. What was involved in fact, was not the institutional form of co-ordination, but the very essence of the co-ordination problem. Before the terms of reference of the proposed new organ for co-ordination and programming could be defined clearly, a great deal of time would have to be spent on a study of the many reports and documents which had been issued on the subject. Moreover, if it was a matter of

setting up a subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council, it was only logical that, as a first step, the Council should explore and study the proposal and state its position. It would not be able to do so at its two meetings scheduled for January 1970. Moreover, the Governing Council of UNDP was to hold a special session in March 1970 to consider the "Study of the Capacity of the United Nations Development System", prepared by Sir Robert Jackson. A decision on the machinery for the international strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade had not yet been taken. In the circumstances, consideration of the question by all the Governments of Member States was essential; in the meantime, if the solution was not to be prejudged before Governments had declared their position, the only correct decision the General Assembly could take would be to request the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with its mandate under the Charter of the United Nations, to examine, as a matter of urgency and in the light of past experience, the question of restructuring the inter-governmental machinery responsible for supervising the work programme of United Nations organizations in the economic, social and human rights fields.

4. Mr. CHTOUROU (Tunisia) said that his delegation had voted for the resolution (General Assembly resolution 2188 (XXI)) which had established the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. The members of that Committee should be congratulated on the useful work they had done within the limits of their terms of reference and the time available to them. The adoption of Assembly resolution 2188 (XXI) had led to the publication recently of a valuable document entitled *Assistance for Economic and Social Development Available from the United Nations: A Handbook of Criteria and Procedures*.¹ That document should be published in French at an early date. The nomenclature in annex I of the handbook was particularly useful. ECPC had also prepared, in document E/4744 (vol. I and II), "An account of the operational and research activities of the United Nations system in the field of economic and social development". That document was an extremely valuable compilation and gave a clear picture of United Nations activities. Part III (vol. II), in particular, provided an over-all view of co-ordination machinery and shed light on that complex subject. The account of operational activities had undoubtedly been helpful in the preparation of Sir Robert Jackson's Capacity Study. His delegation supported the idea of a report by the Secretary-General on the use of computers in the United Nations system, as suggested by the Enlarged Committee in recommendation B in its final report (see E/4748/Rev.1, para. 40). Recommendation C, too, was especially significant. Recommendation A related to the reconstitution of CPC. A number of delegations had already expressed serious doubts as to the need for such a decision at the present stage. The results so far achieved had not been altogether satisfactory, despite the hard work of members of CPC. Since the Economic and Social Council had not expressed its opinion, it would be premature to take a decision at a time when major changes were about to be made in the structure of United Nations bodies. A number of very important reports had been published in recent

years, including that of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, and the study of manpower utilization in the United Nations. Moreover, there would become available in the near future a document on the strategy for the Second Development Decade and Sir Robert Jackson's Capacity Study, which was bound to provoke reactions from Member States, in view of the scope of his subject and the range of the solutions he recommended. The Tunisian delegation believed that it would be in the general interest to take a breathing-space in order to review, comprehensively and thoroughly, all the recommendations made on the subject of reorganizing the United Nations bodies concerned with economic and social affairs and with administrative and budgetary matters. All the studies should be centralized at a specific level and there should be enough time for reflection before deciding to embark on new activities or to continue on the same course. His delegation did not entirely agree with recommendation A of ECPC. Most of the difficulties arose from the fact that, in most instances, the specialized agencies had been created in the image of the United Nations itself. It was not possible, however, to pass judgement on their methods of work, since they had been created by sovereign States, which alone were in a position to determine the best way to co-ordinate activities. If it was intended that those questions should be resolved, the Economic and Social Council would have to prepare a summary of all those reports.

5. Mr. VERCELES (Philippines) said that the role of ECPC was extremely important. During the three previous years, the Enlarged Committee had encountered difficulties which had at first seemed beyond solution. The machinery which it had had to study was complex, since there were some thirty governing bodies among the United Nations institutions and agencies. Effective co-ordination was consequently very hard to achieve. ECPC had been set up under General Assembly resolution 2188 (XXI) and although its final report (E/4748/Rev.1) had certain shortcomings, it should be considered in the light of the difficulties encountered by ECPC in exercising its mandate. In view of the decision taken at the previous meeting (see 1296th meeting, para. 1), his delegation wished to make some comments on draft resolution A/C.2/L.1090 before it was formally introduced. He hoped that the Committee would adopt the draft resolution, since it would be useful to have a twenty-one member reconstituted Committee, whose members could perhaps be elected by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session in January 1970. He made it clear that under the draft resolution a completely new body would not be set up, but rather the present ECPC would be replaced by a reconstituted CPC with broader terms of reference and with twenty-one members, instead of sixteen, which is the present membership of the Council's Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. He added that the reconstituted CPC would assist and advise the Council—it would not replace the Council in discharging its co-ordination functions under the Charter—and would be concerned with programme planning, and implementation and evaluation of the effectiveness of the systems co-ordination machinery.

6. It has been argued that it would be preferable to entrust that task to the Council's Co-ordination Committee. His delegation did not agree, since that Committee had neither

¹ United Nations publication, Sales No.:E.69.I.23 and corrigendum (E/AC.51/GR/21).

the time nor the experts required. The objections raised regarding the untimeliness of reconstituting CPC owing to the release recently of Sir Robert Jackson's Capacity Study and other reports, had already been taken into account in operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, which would request the Council to examine and keep under continuing review the intergovernmental machinery for co-ordination and programme review and to introduce improvements or modifications in the light of "relevant developments". He said the review of the Capacity Study by the UNDP Governing Council in March 1970, the results of which his delegation did not want to pre-judge, was one such relevant development.

7. He thought that the Handbook of Criteria and Procedures was one of the ECPC's major achievements as it would undoubtedly be useful as a reference guide to officials in developing countries and international civil servants, particularly the UNDP Resident Representatives. He considered extremely important the recommendation concerning future procedures for handling the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit as indicated in paragraphs 27 and 28 of ECPC's final report (*ibid.*). His delegation also approved the request in paragraph 9 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1090 for the Secretary-General to examine the existing machinery for providing scientific and technical advice in the United Nations system, and hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted unanimously by the Committee.

8. Mr. PATRIOTA (Brazil), introducing, on behalf of the sponsors, draft resolution A/C.2/L.1090 on the final report of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (E/4748/Rev.1), said that Ecuador, Panama and Venezuela had added their names to the list of sponsors. The draft was the result of extensive informal consultations among members of the Group of seventy-seven developing countries, the Latin American group and the Enlarged Committee. It reflected the views of the majority of the participants and endorsed recommendation A of the Enlarged Committee's final report (*ibid.*, chap. III) while making allowance for the views of some delegations which had not been entirely in agreement with the Enlarged Committee's proposals. Reviewing the relevant points of the draft, he directed particular attention to operative paragraphs 3 and 4. Paragraphs 20 to 28 of the final report of ECPC dealt with the nature of the future committee and paragraphs 29 to 34 concerned its terms of reference. The Brazilian delegation hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted unanimously.

9. Mrs. AGGREY-ORLEANS (Ghana) recalled that the General Assembly had adopted resolution 2188 (XXI) because it had been aware that expansion of United Nations activities in the economic and social fields had been rapid but disorderly. The resulting chaotic situation had prevented the Economic and Social Council from co-ordinating United Nations activities in those areas, and Member States had consequently been unable to benefit from such activities as fully as they might.

10. ECPC's work had led to the publication of a Handbook of Criteria and Procedures applicable to requests for technical assistance for economic and social development, which had been very favourably received. Another docu-

ment (E/4744 (vol. I and II) E/4744/Add.1 and Corr.1) provided a clear and comprehensive picture of the existing operational and research activities of the United Nations family. The evaluation of those activities which ECPC had been able to make appeared in the recommendations in its final report (see E/4748/Rev.1, chap. III), on which the draft resolution was based. The most important point in the draft was operative paragraph 3, in which the sponsors requested the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session in January 1970 to reconstitute its Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in accordance with recommendation A of the Enlarged Committee's report. In her delegation's opinion, the reconstituted Committee should replace the present CPC and its terms of reference would be as outlined in the ECPC's report (*ibid.*, paras. 29-34). It would take over the work which ECPC had been unable to complete. According to recommendation A, the reconstituted CPC would have twenty-one members, elected with due regard to equitable geographical distribution, continuity and the principle of rotation. The reconstituted Committee would have certain features common neither to CPC nor ECPC since it would be able to appoint Special Rapporteurs and consultants. It would also have a permanent staff of professional officers. The services of consultants would, however, be used only in exceptional cases. To avoid overlapping, the studies to be entrusted to the Special Rapporteurs would be selected in the light of the reports prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit and the specialized agencies and other bodies in the United Nations system, and with due regard to possibilities of assistance from UNITAR. ECPC had suggested that the reconstituted Committee should have a permanent staff because it felt that in the past the assistance received from the Secretariat, although given unsparingly, had not always been sufficient.

11. Since the Enlarged Committee had been set up, a number of studies, including the report of the Commission on International Development² and the Capacity Study had been prepared and surveys undertaken. The Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade had attempted to formulate an international strategy for development which together with those studies and surveys would doubtless have an effect upon the intergovernmental machinery for co-ordination and programme review. It was therefore natural that the sponsors of the draft resolution should have wished to provide for continuing review of that machinery, and for that reason operative paragraph 4 of the draft was of particular importance.

12. Mr. RANKIN (Canada) said that the Second Committee had before it the final report of ECPC (E/4748/Rev.1), a Handbook of Criteria and Procedures for requesting assistance from the United Nations and a document presenting a clear and comprehensive picture of United Nations activities in the fields of economic and social development (E/4744 (vols. I and II)). Those documents were highly praiseworthy, as were the efforts of the Enlarged Committee, the Secretariat and the representatives of the specialized agencies. None the less, his delegation had mixed feelings concerning the ECPC final report. The fundamental problem facing the United Nations

² Commission on International Development, *Partners in Development* (New York, Praeger Publishers, Inc., 1969).

family was that of a profoundly irrational system. Once programmes were launched, they were difficult to co-ordinate since they rapidly became victims of the system. ECPC had done some good work, and his delegation supported its recommendations. However, there was no doubt that the Committee had not fulfilled the mandate given to it by the General Assembly in its resolution 2188 (XXI). There was, for example, no indication in the report on the action the Enlarged Committee might and should have taken in examining a number of problems listed in annex III of its report.

13. There were several reasons why the Enlarged Committee had achieved less than had been expected of it. Firstly, the mandate might have been too wide. Secondly, as recommendation A (see E/4748/Rev.1, chap. III) aptly emphasized, short of a central planning authority and a unified budget for the entire United Nations system, it was virtually impossible to see how any type of central control could be practised. Lastly, many delegations had not whole-heartedly supported the establishment of ECPC. Moreover, the Enlarged Committee had lacked the technical resources and the authority it needed to undertake the work and investigations envisaged in General Assembly resolution 2188 (XXI). All that served to underline the fact that resolutions which did not carry the full support of all delegations were meaningless and perhaps wasteful.

14. Turning to draft resolution A/C.2/L.1090, he said that the Canadian delegation fully supported the recommendations on which it was based; they were modest proposals designed to assist Member Governments and the United Nations family to streamline the planning, programming, management and evaluation of economic and social activities. The proposal (*ibid.*, para. 21) to enlarge the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination was sensible in that the addition of five members should make it more representative. The proposal to have one-third of the Committee elected every year was also sensible in that it would provide the continuity at present lacking. His delegation therefore gave its full support to operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution.

15. The proposed terms of reference (*ibid.*, paras. 29-34) of the reconstituted CPC were broad and complex and the members of the CPC would in future have to devote more of their time to the work assigned to them. Any Governments which were interested in participating in that Committee must be willing to let their representatives devote a considerable amount of time and effort to its work, otherwise it would be better if they refrained from seeking election to the Committee.

16. Operative paragraphs 8 and 9 of the draft resolution were important because they were aimed at improving the management of organizations in the United Nations system; the documents on those questions had been submitted by the Canadian delegation. It was not yet known what the results of the studies called for in those recommendations would be, but the Canadian delegation was convinced that Governments and organizations in the United Nations system must be familiar with the problems involved in the use of computers and the measures taken with regard to scientific and technical advisory services if they wished to be able to propose rational measures.

17. The recommendation in the report of ECPC to which the Canadian delegation gave its strongest support was the proposal for expanding the terms of reference of the Committee within the general authority granted to the Economic and Social Council by the Charter. It was essential that a high level organ should co-ordinate and plan United Nations programmes. The reconstituted CPC should aim at establishing a comprehensive and integrated programme of economic and social activities based on universally accepted priorities and reflecting the most urgent needs of the developing countries. The development strategy for the 1970s would only provide broad guidelines for the effective allocation of resources. Within that global framework, the Council would have a greater number of programmes to implement and it was in that context that the expansion of the Committee's functions should be seen.

18. Mr. DE SILVA (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) pointed out that several delegations had drawn attention to the need for a dialogue with the specialized agencies. He contended that such a dialogue had been going on for the past fourteen months and that it had been frank, constructive and productive. The final report of ECPC (E/4748/Rev.1) included a large number of recommendations and ideas which would certainly be a source of information and inspiration for the Governments and agencies which were genuinely concerned with co-ordination.

19. At its eighty-third session, the Executive Board of UNESCO had adopted a resolution in which it had expressed the hope that ways would be found to avoid in future the possibility of duplication of decisions within the United Nations system with regard to education, science and culture as a result of inadequate co-ordination between the specialized organs or between the representatives of the same Member State in those different organizations.

20. The Director-General of UNESCO had made known to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-seventh session his views with regard to science and technology.³ When it had considered Council resolution 1454 (XLVII), the Programme and External Relations Commission of the Executive Board of UNESCO had drawn the Director-General's attention to the fact that it was desirable to avoid a proliferation of inter-agency organs dealing with co-ordination in the field of science and technology. UNESCO hoped that, in the report which the Secretary-General had been asked to prepare under the terms of Council resolution 1454 (XLVII), that view would be taken into account. For its part, the Secretariat of UNESCO would co-operate unreservedly in the preparation of the report.

21. On the question of marine sciences, various United Nations organs, in particular the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, had rightly appealed for co-ordination of the widespread efforts required to ensure economic and social progress. Substantial progress had been made in that direction, a fact which had been confirmed by the unanimous adoption of two draft resolutions, one on marine science under agenda item 12 (A/C.2/L.1079/Rev.1) adopted by the Second Committee (see 1287th meeting),

³ See document E/4722.

and the other on the resources of the sea-bed and ocean floor, adopted by the First Committee.⁴ As the representative of Malta had emphasized (see 1295th meeting, paras. 13-21), co-operation was essential in that area, from the exchange of information to the integration of research programmes. That was precisely the kind of co-operation which UNESCO had had in mind in establishing the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and in inviting all interested United Nations organs to participate in a common effort in that area. The expansion of IOC'S activities had enabled all participating organizations to reply more effectively to the requests made to them in General Assembly resolutions 1414 (XXIII) and 2467 (XXIII) and to submit to the General Assembly an outline of a long-term and expanded programme of oceanic exploration and research. In the draft resolution on marine science which it had adopted at its 1287th meeting, the Second Committee had asked UNESCO and its IOC to keep that programme up to date and consider its implementation in stages, in co-operation with the United Nations, FAO, WMO and IMCO. He confirmed that that was in fact what was happening. For its part, the Executive Board of UNESCO had asked the Director-General to take account of that programme and of the decisions of IOC when preparing his programme and budget for 1971-1972.

22. In the preface to its final report (E/4748/Rev.1), ECPC had expressed its gratitude to the staff of member organizations of the United Nations family for the indispensable and constructive assistance they had provided. UNESCO could perhaps have done more, but it would in future endeavour to serve the Economic and Social Council and its co-ordination organs and the General Assembly even better.

Mr. Amirmokri (Iran), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

23. Mr. WILTSHIRE (Trinidad and Tobago) pointed out that ECPC had been established in an atmosphere of controversy which still persisted, although all concerned had the same objectives.

24. It was worth pointing out that it had been Trinidad and Tobago, together with another small State, which had first considered that it was hardly possible to have an intelligent grasp of all the economic and social activities undertaken by the United Nations. It would be vain to claim that in three years the problem had been solved. With regard to the review of programmes, there was still much to be done to ensure that the activities undertaken really corresponded to the interests and concerns of all States. It could be said, however, that ECPC had made considerable efforts in that direction, efforts which had resulted in the adoption of resolution 1367 (XLV) of the Economic and Social Council. That resolution, however, had yet to be implemented.

25. In 1966, the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago had not shared the opinion of those who had thought that the terms of reference given to ECPC were too broad. It had been convinced that with the co-operation of all concerned and with an adequate staff, ECPC would be able to

discharge its mandate. It had proved otherwise: ECPC had not, at least at the outset, received the unreserved support of the specialized agencies and its members had been replaced too frequently.

26. His delegation had taken part in the work of ECPC as a member and in the work of CPC as an observer. It had been able to note that the members of those two Committees had had an adequate understanding of what they had been called upon to do to discharge their mandate. There were now, however, differences of opinion about the way in which a reconstituted CPC could most effectively discharge the mandate to be entrusted to it. Some thought that the reconstituted Committee would encroach on the functions of the Economic and Social Council. Others were of the opinion that it was for the Council itself to deal with the problem of co-ordination. Admittedly, the Council had a central role to play in that respect, but it could hardly deal with the question in all its details. Some delegations feared that the desire to ensure better co-ordination was prompted by a wish to curb the expenditure of the United Nations. Trinidad and Tobago hoped that during the Second Development Decade the United Nations would play a more important role with regard to development. It would, however, be difficult for it to do so if its resources were reduced.

27. His delegation was of the opinion that it was essential to have effective machinery for co-ordination and the review of programmes. It recognized, however, that the United Nations should take into account the results of the Capacity Study. It was for that reason that it attached particular importance to operative paragraphs 3 and 4 of the draft resolution under consideration. In operative paragraph 5, the sponsors set a time-limit for the completion of the programme review. Those paragraphs should suffice to ensure that the various points of view were taken into consideration and to allay the doubts and fears. It was to be hoped that the Second Committee would adopt the draft resolution so that the review process could start as early as possible in 1970.

28. Mr. HOVEYDA (Iran) said that draft resolution A/C.2/L.1090 placed him in some difficulty because, while he sympathized with the motives of the sponsors, he doubted whether it really solved the problems to which programme review and co-ordination gave rise.

29. The Canadian representative had expressed the view that in co-ordination matters the United Nations was a victim of the system. Perhaps the efforts to correct the defects of the system were making those defects more acute. In order to combat the proliferation of organs, a further one was proposed, and in order to reduce expenditure the sponsors were submitting a draft resolution whose financial implications were of the order of \$110,000. He wondered whether the sponsors were taking into account the provisions of paragraph 1(c) of their own draft resolution.

30. The representative of the Philippines had protested against the proliferation of documents. It should be noted that in the draft resolution there was a profusion of paragraphs which did not even relate to all the recommendations in the report of the ECPC (E/4748/Rev.1). In his

⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 32, document A/7834, para. 13.

opinion, it would have been better to take note of the report and to request that the recommendations appearing in it should be put into effect.

31. With regard to operative paragraph 2, it could be asked why the expression "clear and comprehensive picture" was put in quotation marks. Had the sponsors any doubts about the quality of the report prepared by the Secretary-General?

32. With regard to operative paragraph 3, as the Yugoslav representative had pointed out, it was difficult to see how the Economic and Social Council could undertake to reconstitute its Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its organizational session in January 1970.

33. The problem of co-ordination fell within the competence of the Economic and Social Council. If it was desired to establish a special committee to study those problems, it was legitimate to ask whether, for one reason or another, the Council was unable to perform that task. If that was so, surely it was the activities of the Council that should be reviewed.

34. His delegation was prepared to support the draft resolution but it would like to have some assurances with regard to the future. It hoped that, in the report it would submit, the reconstituted CPC would not request an extension or renewal of its mandate. If that was so, perhaps other procedures to ensure co-ordination should be considered forthwith. The UNESCO representative had drawn attention (see para. 20 above) to the decision of the UNESCO Executive Board to prevent any proliferation of the organs responsible for co-ordination in the field of science and technology. That principle should be applied in every field. He had also pointed out the lack of co-ordination between delegations of the same country in different international organizations. That was a matter which Governments should endeavour to rectify.

35. Lastly, he agreed with the Canadian representative that the persons who were appointed to the reconstituted CPC would have to devote their full time to the work. His delegation would vote in favour of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1090 on the understanding that it was the last time that a renewal of the mandate of the CPC would be proposed.

36. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that the draft resolution was an excellent document which reflected the good will of its sponsors. Nevertheless, as there were delicate and complex problems to be settled, a number of delegations still had some doubts, as the representatives of Yugoslavia, Tunisia and Iran had stated. While the need for co-ordination had been recognized by the General Assembly (see Assembly resolution 2188 (XXI)), which had decided to make the Economic and Social Council responsible for it, there was no denying that the results had been somewhat disappointing. It could be asked whether the Council had not been equal to its task, but it must be recognized that the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination had not been operating long enough to solve such complex problems. The main question seemed to be the relations

between the Council and its subsidiary organ responsible for co-ordination. It went without saying that close and harmonious working relations between the Council and the General Assembly were also essential. The Assembly should of course provide directives but should allow the Council sufficient latitude to settle the problems that the Assembly itself could not solve.

37. Analysing the text of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1090, he pointed out that the sponsors had based it on the recommendations in the final report of the Enlarged Committee (see E/4748/Rev., chap. III). Recommendation F mentioned in operative paragraph 12 did not seem very clear. It was doubtful whether it was appropriate for the General Assembly to endorse a recommendation of that sort. The procedure contemplated in operative paragraph 9 seemed somewhat complex and there again it was doubtful whether it was appropriate for the General Assembly to recommend a procedure concerning the Council without having received from the Council all the necessary details to enable it to appraise the matter. As far as the advisability of reconstituting the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination was concerned, there could be endless discussion and opinions were divided. His delegation was not opposed in principle to the reconstitution of that organ or to the setting up of a competent special organ, but at the present stage it was impossible to decide what the best solution would be. It would therefore be necessary to have time for reflexion before taking a decision on operative paragraphs 3 and 4. Furthermore, it would appear advisable to request the Council to undertake immediately the review requested in paragraph 4. In any event, the General Assembly should not run the risk of paralyzing the Council by decisions which were too rigid or too detailed. His delegation hoped that the sponsors would agree to amend their text, and in particular paragraphs 3 and 4, in order to allow the Council more latitude. In that case, it would be prepared to take part in consultations to arrive at a text which could take into account all the points of view that had been presented.

Mr. Caranicas (Greece) resumed the Chair.

38. Mr. NONOYAMA (Japan) said that his delegation supported the draft resolution in general but felt that some parts should be amended. The text was based on the final report of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (E/4748/Rev.1), some of whose recommendations would have gained by being more explicit. In particular, the studies mentioned in paragraph 23 of the report should be defined in greater detail. The questions of equitable geographical distribution of its membership and of the balance between the principle of continuity and that of rotation of the members merited a more detailed examination. Paragraph 26 was especially important in view of the need to ensure the closest possible liaison between the various organs concerned. It would therefore seem necessary to rely on the Capacity Study undertaken by Sir Robert Jackson. It was certainly important for the Council to undertake a thorough examination of the intergovernmental machinery for co-ordination, but the wording of operative paragraphs 4 and 5 should be amended to make them more flexible. If the alterations requested were made, the Japanese delegation would support the draft resolution.

AGENDA ITEM 41

International Education Year: report of the Secretary-General (continued)* (A/7603, chap. XI, sect. D; A/7668, E/4707 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1 and 2, A/C.2/L.1086)

university or the details of its operation. His delegation hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted unanimously.

43. Mr. NICOL (Sierra Leone) recalled that meetings devoted to the development of international co-operation among universities had already taken place, particularly in Africa. Whereas universities should seek to be international in the full sense of the word, many universities had until now been dominated by the concepts of Western civilization. Fortunately, the importance of other civilizations had recently gained more recognition and the exchange of students between universities in different continents was growing.

44. The establishment of the proposed university raised a certain number of problems but they were not insuperable. It would be necessary to determine the standard of qualifications necessary for admission, to decide on the languages to be used and to arrange the details of its financing. Other difficulties of a political character would have to be taken into account. The governing body would have to be truly representative and all Member States should take part in its election. Lastly, the university should have an appropriate legal status giving it all the necessary autonomy. To solve some of the problems, an establishment could first be set up for post-graduate students. It would be necessary to adopt a system that would make it possible to ensure equitable geographical representation, without, however, applying that restriction to outstanding students and research workers. The teaching staff should be recruited throughout the world and would be reinforced by lecturers serving on a temporary basis. For all those reasons, the university should enjoy the greatest autonomy. It could be established in a city where there were already some international organizations, and in any case in a country willing to grant all the necessary facilities, but branches could operate in other countries. The results of the studies and research would have to be communicated to all countries, particularly in the case of the most important branches of science. The financing should be done through United Nations funds and the university could accept donations and bequests. Moreover, the experience acquired by certain organizations such as UNITAR could serve as an example. Courses should also be provided for undergraduate students. Certain countries had already been welcoming foreign students for some years and the friendships which had been formed between future leaders had continued throughout their lives and had led to better understanding between nations. The establishment of an international baccalaureat already constituted a constructive first step and would make it possible to overcome certain difficulties. The proposed university would play an important role in preventing the brain drain and would help to form a reserve of talented men available to all. It was therefore to be hoped that draft resolution A/C.2/L.1086 would be adopted unanimously.

45. Miss ZALDIVAR (Philippines) said that the idea of establishing an international university, which had first been raised fifty years earlier in the League of Nations, was especially relevant to the needs of modern society. Although the United Nations had vividly demonstrated its capacity to generate mutual understanding and co-operation among its Members, a host of outstanding problems

39. Mr. SEN (India) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/L.1086 on behalf of the sponsors, who had now been joined by the Finnish delegation. In order to obtain the widest possible support, the sponsors would make some amendments to the original text: the second preambular paragraph would be deleted; the original operative paragraph 1 would now become the second preambular paragraph and would be reworded to read "*Welcoming* the initiative . . ."; and the two remaining operative paragraphs would be renumbered accordingly.

40. The idea of the creation of an international university had been put forward by many people, but their proposals had not so far been expressed in a positive form. For that reason, the proposal by the Secretary-General concerning the idea of an international university and contained in paragraphs 196 and 197 of the introduction to his annual report on the work of the Organization (A/7601/Add.1) appeared most timely, and had brought out a spontaneous response from many quarters. The establishment of an international university would satisfy the aspirations which were becoming apparent in all parts of the world and it would fulfil the long-felt need of laying an academic foundation in the field of international co-operation. It would also be a worthy tribute to the dedicated services of the Secretary-General for better understanding between the peoples of the world. It would also reflect the evolution brought about by scientific and technological progress, which had transformed customs and ideas in all fields. Despite frustrations, world unity had never seemed more in the grasp of mankind than at the present time, when some of the most crucial activities of mankind could not be conceived except in universal terms. That was particularly true of activities, calling for application of technology. That in turn influenced the complex whole of human life both in its individual and social aspects. Thus, modern artistic activities could no longer be conceived in a parochial spirit. Furthermore, the aspirations of mankind could no longer be fulfilled in an exclusively national context.

41. Whereas the world was increasingly becoming a single society, the exigencies of national sovereignty imposed obligations of a nationalistic character. The individual was thus caught up in the conflict between universal aspirations and his obligations towards his own country. That was why the establishment of an international university, together with other efforts made in the United Nations, seemed so opportune. As the Secretary-General had said, students from various parts of the world would be able to learn to know each other better. The establishment of the university would prove a significant milestone in the march of humanity towards a fuller humanism.

42. The sponsors were well aware of the difficulties to be overcome, and for that reason they had not tried to lay down the objectives or define the functions of the

* Resumed from the 1290th meeting.

still faced the world community. The time had perhaps come to explore the idea of establishing a new kind of institution that would produce a new kind of educated manpower imbued with a world point of view and a direct working knowledge of the world's major problems. Such a university could provide a meeting ground for the world's finest scholars and students. Its purpose would not be to produce a uniform type of graduate but rather to pool the best men from the entire world and challenge them to commit their intellect to the service of all mankind. In a sense, poets, writers, painters and musicians were essentially world citizens, for their talents transcended national barriers.

46. The so-called "student rebellion" represented a legitimate demand for a radical change in the structure and content of university learning. Modern youth was impatient and dissatisfied with institutions of learning which stood aloof from the issues of the day. An international university, with resources committed to the cause of peace and human betterment, might conceivably serve as a model for the university of the future, and the ideas developed, and the answers to world problems found, on its campus could filter down to the campuses of national universities. It was important to bear in mind that 55 per cent of the world's population was under the age of thirty and that 75 per cent of the young people lived in the developing countries.

47. Her delegation had co-sponsored the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1086) proposing the establishment of an international university and hoped that it would be adopted unanimously.

48. Mr. SKULBERG (Norway), analysing draft resolution A/C.2/L.1086, said that the study requested would be a feasibility study. Although it supported the text submitted, his delegation reserved its position until it could study the recommendations that the Secretary-General had been invited to make. The problem of financing should not be insuperable considering the role that the university would play in furthering peace and progress.

49. Mr. BILLNER (Sweden) welcomed the comprehensive study on the feasibility of an international university that the Secretary-General was invited to undertake in the draft resolution. He said that one of the aspects that deserved special attention was that of the means whereby the exchange of professors and students could be intensified. The study would have served a very useful purpose already by submitting some constructive ideas in that respect. An essential aim of the study would furthermore be to suggest how to concentrate the activities to some well-defined fields of research.

50. Mr. HOVEYDA (Iran) congratulated the Secretary-General on the initiative he had taken but regretted that he had not given more details of the proposed university. Although there seemed to be agreement on the necessity of establishing it, there was no denying the existence of a number of problems and things were not perhaps as simple as some people assumed. In particular, a decision on the choice of the host country would have to be taken. Moreover, the university could be made up of various branches or faculties installed in different countries, as was already the case with certain existing universities. That solution would make it possible to avoid duplication, particularly with regard to the scientific disciplines, and would promote the interchange of professors and students. Iran could, for example, welcome one of the proposed faculties. His delegation agreed with other delegations that it was too soon to study the project in detail. It would therefore await the report of the Secretary-General with much interest. His delegation congratulated the Indian delegation on having submitted such a flexible text.

51. The CHAIRMAN said that the following countries should be added to the list of sponsors: El Salvador, Finland, Guyana, Iceland, Jordan, Maldives, Mauritius and Uganda.

The meeting rose at 6.40 p.m.