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Friday, 20 November 1970, at 3.20 p.m.

NEW YORK

Chairman: Mr. Walter GUEVARA ARZE (Bolivia).

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Peal (Liberia), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 95

The role of modern science and technology in the development of nations and the need to strengthen economic and technico-scientific co-operation among States *(continued)* (A/7995, A/C.2/L.1132, L.1134)

1. Mr. PRAGUE (France) said that on the eve of the Second United Nations Development Decade, it was important to review the relationship between the technological revolution and development. More rapid development meant that means must be found to disseminate scientific knowledge and to ensure its general and rapid application; there must be an equal place for scientific research and for technological application. Economic development presupposed a strengthening of the international scientific community, with free transfer of information; the United Nations, and in particular UNESCO, had a decisive part to play in that respect. Those aspects were emphasized in operative paragraphs 3 and 5 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1132.

2. France was convinced that the rapid use of scientific discoveries governed the ability to deal with underdevelopment. In some cases developing countries were more open to innovation because they did not have the problem of converting long-established structures. Operative paragraph 9 emphasized the key areas for the application of science of technology to development. The draft resolution placed the work asked of the Secretary-General within the context of the Second Development Decade, as indicated in particular by operative paragraph 10, with its reference to the biennial review of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV)).

3. He did not understand the general criticisms made by India at the preceding meeting. At no time had there been any intention in any part of the draft resolution to question the results achieved in the form of the International Development Strategy. Any doubts as to the real scope of the draft resolution could surely be allayed by noting the number of developing countries included among the sponsors. That did not mean that there was no justification for the comments made by India. Possibly, some changes could be made in the preamble, and he conceded that the reference to the Second United Nations Development Decade in operative paragraph 5 might not be ideal. He believed that the sponsors would be understanding in responding to suggestions for improving the draft resolution.

4. However, he could not accept the general statement that all subjects dealt with in the International Development Strategy were now forbidden ground, as if that document represented some form of new gospel. At all costs, the dynamic character of the Strategy must be preserved, and the sponsors of the draft resolution had tried to do that for one of the most important elements of the Strategy.

5. Mr. KAMAL (Pakistan) said that there were two different sets of problems relating to science and technology, arising from over-application and under-application, the first arising in the developed countries and the second in the developing countries. In one case the problems concerned damage to the environment, over-urbanization, and the development and over-production of deadly modern weapons. In the other, the problems were those of hunger, poverty, disease, overpopulation, unemployment, low *per capita* income, and lack of industries and mechanized agriculture.

6. The United Nations was committed to the task of harnessing science and technology for the purpose of development, which had been given special prominence in the International Development Strategy. Regrettably, however, the institutional machinery of the United Nations was not specifically geared to the effective direction of its resources towards the sharing of scientific and technological advances by the developed and the developing countries. There was no one body with exclusive competence in that field, and thus better institutional arrangements were needed.

7. At the sixth session of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, Pakistan had stated that an intergovernmental body with a wider membership than the Economic and Social Council should formulate policies and guidelines, review and identify priorities, initiate new activities and programmes, co-ordinate and delimit activities of various other bodies, mobilize public opinion, act as a clearing house of information, and mobilize financial, technical and advisory assistance concerning science and technology. His delegation's views had not changed on those points, or on the need for future institutional arrangements concerning the question of natural resources, and UNCTAD's competence to deal with the question of the transfer of operational technology.

8. Mr. HILLEL (Israel) said that it was necessary to develop additional scientific and technological know-how in fields of particular importance for the developing countries.

The Advisory Committee for the Application of Science and Technology to Development had defined the areas where further research was essential, but very little had been done to carry out such research under United Nations auspices. The research sponsored by FAO, WHO and IAEA was very limited in scope and volume. A more intensive effort had been made by UNESCO, but important research, such as that which had led to the green revolution, had been conducted outside the United Nations system.

9. Lack of funds was only one factor which limited United Nations research efforts. The United Nations system and the specialized agencies were not adequately organized to conduct, sponsor or initiate research projects of central importance. Proper research required a definition of the problem, including its economic and social aspects, the assignment of creative, eminent scientists, adequate facilities and long-term financing in an environment not influenced by extra-scientific considerations.

10. His delegation was not satisfied with operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1132, for it felt that concrete action, rather than a further study, was required. However, it welcomed operative paragraph 5, for it was possible within UNDP to work out local and interregional projects in which efforts would be concentrated on basic problems.

11. The principles under which UNDP operated could not always assure the success of scientific research, for the principle that a developing nation had to request sponsorship of needed research assumed, mistakenly, that it was always aware that its problems could be solved by scientific means and that sufficient priority had been given to long-range scientific research programmes. United Nations organs dealing with science and technology, particularly UNDP and the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, must focus attention on major scientific problems the solution of which could contribute directly to development. Development-oriented research activities should be encouraged in the same way as the large foundations sponsored projects, and interest in the scientific field should be strengthened through international organizations, particularly UNDP. Countries should take an active part in that global effort and should assign scientists to undertake research required. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution, since it called for action along those lines.

12. Mr. CUBILLOS (Chile) said his delegation had co-sponsored the draft resolution because of its belief that additional texts of that type would be required to ensure the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade. The two points with which it dealt, the evaluation of the implications of science and technology and suggested ways and means of enhancing international co-operation in science and technology, were closely linked, since an evaluation of how science and technology were absorbed by the developing countries was essential if their use was to be effective, equitable and suited to the needs of those countries. In the past, not all modern science and technology had been applicable to the developing countries, since some aspects were too advanced or did not fit in with local economic structures. Science and technology had not always reached the developing countries in the form most likely to prove of economic benefit to them, and what they needed was not only a supply of foreign technology, but the ability to develop their own national technology.

13. The sponsors felt that science and technology was one of the main pillars of economic and social development, even though, when the Charter had been prepared twenty-five years ago, it had not been found necessary to take it into account. Its importance was clear from the current technological gap between developed and developing countries. The draft resolution was carefully based on the International Development Strategy. It did not state explicitly that additional resources would be required if science and technology were to be applied to economic development, since paragraphs 60 to 64 of the Strategy contained specific provisions in that area. It in no way contradicted the Strategy but rather aimed at ensuring that it was put into practice.

14. The main contribution to the study to be prepared by the Secretary-General would be made by the specialized agencies and other organs within the United Nations system, and UNCTAD and UNIDO would have a particularly important role to play. It was extremely important that the presentation of the study should coincide with the first biennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy, since it would constitute one of the basic documents whereby the General Assembly could assess progress. The Secretary-General should submit his conclusions to Governments as soon as possible for their comments, and when those, together with the views of the specialized agencies, were received, a final draft of the study could be prepared. It was important that all Governments should participate in the study, which was the only way of ensuring international co-operation with regard to science and technology.

15. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) said that by their very nature science and technology were able to cross the rigid dividing-lines between different political and social systems, and served to increase international understanding both through the acceleration of development and through the breaking down of barriers in the world. Nevertheless, a distinction must be made between them in that science tended to be universal and objective, whereas technology was pragmatic, particular and culturally conditioned. Techniques applicable to one culture, social or economic system, set of circumstances and time might be completely inappropriate to others, where their use might lead to a new form of imperialism practised in the name of liberation. The distinction between science and technology must be borne in mind in the activities of the United Nations, where responsibilities for them differed in focus at different levels.

16. The only chance of narrowing the economic gap between rich and poor countries was through accelerated development, making use of rapid adaptations of science and technology rather than applying the traditional techniques involving capital and labour. Science and technology were not an unmixed blessing; that was clear in a world in which the so-called "less developed" in the technological sense were attempting to appropriate and use science and technology and the "more developed" were struggling against the unfortunate consequences of over-accelerated

scientific and technical development, against which many of their young people were in revolt. The problem was therefore an extremely urgent and complex one, and the draft resolution should take all of its aspects into account.

17. His delegation's views on the importance of science and technology were well known, as was its attitude to the efforts of the United Nations to rationalize the situation. Under the Charter and by precedent, the Economic and Social Council bore the primary co-ordinating function, and the specialized agencies were important in their various sectors. The new frontiers of science and technology, such as the oceans and outer space, offered a clear call to the United Nations system for innovation and creativity. The whole area of science and technology was of crucial importance to economic and social development.

18. Since his Government currently had bilateral co-operation agreements with fourteen other countries, covering almost the whole range of scientific endeavour, his delegation welcomed the stress which the draft resolution placed on scientific exchange and co-operation. The President of the United States had recently stressed the need for such action, and had recommended the establishment of a development institute for that purpose. His delegation had welcomed the report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development on the machinery available in the United Nations system for dealing with science and technology[1] but was aware that more remained to be done. There was an urgent need to pursue institutional arrangements and to encourage nations and United Nations organs to take action.

19. His delegation therefore welcomed the draft resolution, but would like to see a number of changes in it. For example, it did not place sufficient emphasis on the central role of the Economic and Social Council, and his delegation would suggest the insertion in operative paragraph 6, after the word "Council", of some phrase such as "that in its consideration of institutional arrangements on science and technology, and in its mandate to the . . .", replacing the words "and particularly to the . . .".

20. Since his delegation was not fully convinced that the transfer of science and technology fell fully within the competence of UNCTAD, it would welcome the insertion in operative paragraph 8, after "other competent organizations", of the phrase "within their appropriate terms of reference", which should go some way to ensuring that duplication and waste of resources were avoided.

21. Operative paragraph 5, which dealt with sources of financing, was extremely important. In the light of the consensus approved by the Governing Council of UNDP at its tenth session (see E/4884/Rev.1, para. 94), it should include a reference to country programming, and his delegation would welcome the inclusion after "priority" of the words "within respective country development plans".

22. His delegation would find the draft resolution easy to support if it contained wording along those general lines, but he did not wish to submit formal amendments at the current stage.

1 E/AC.52/L.67.

23. Mr. RINGNALDA (Netherlands) said that his Government had sought to include in its bilateral programme aid in areas identified by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development as requiring action. It had encountered difficulties, however, partly because it was not clear how assistance in the field of science and technology could be most appropriately applied to the developing countries. The International Development Strategy indicated significant measures which Governments and international organizations should adopt in that respect. He regretted that the draft resolution did not acknowledge the need for additional resources. Its success would depend on the will of Governments to act, and in recent years many had demonstrated their desire to give priority to the application of science and technology to development. Operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution should refer to the work under way in the Advisory Committee and operative paragraph 5 should reflect the consensus on country programming reached in the Governing Council of UNDP. His delegation would support the draft resolution.

24. Mr. FERNANDINI (Peru) said that Perú was a sponsor of the draft resolution, which dealt with a question of fundamental importance to the developing countries since the degree of economic development of a country was measured by its level of technology and industrial development. Technology was given an important place in the International Development Strategy. All the United Nations bodies concerned, including the regional economic commissions, were called on to work together for promoting the transfer of technology. The developed countries had reached a level of technological advance that was the result of a long process of development, but the developing countries must industrialize rapidly and so technological development was urgently needed.

25. Peru considered that every country should be able to exploit its own natural resources, and that such exploitation was an inherent part of its sovereignty and its duty to its people. For that purpose technological know-how was essential, and so was the maximum development of education and training. There must be full exchange of information between research and educational institutions. UNESCO had done valuable work in that field, and could do even more in the coming decade to promote economic, scientific and technical co-operation among countries. UNIDO had also achieved much in helping the developing countries with their industrial development, and had a key role to play in the application of technology in industry. For the developing countries, access to modern technology was just as important as access to capital and to trade markets, and funds to enable the developing countries to apply modern technology to their development problems were possibly more useful than any other form of co-operation. The draft resolution dealt with what was really a non-controversial subject, and he accordingly hoped that it could be adopted unanimously.

26. Mr. ZAKHAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that there had been great strides in science and technology over the past ten to fifteen years. His delegation was glad that workers, engineers and scientists from the socialist countries were in the forefront of the great scientific and technical achievements which had taken place.

27. His delegation fully understood the initiative taken by the delegation of Romania in submitting the draft resolution before the Committee. The most important factors in development were the forces of production, and the social structures within which they developed. Science and technology constituted the greatest force for change in the forces of production, and had played a decisive role in the history of human society. Socialist structures and economic methods opened up broad perspectives for science and technology. It was important that the purely technical question with which UNESCO was dealing should take on sociological significance.

28. The development of socialist society had confronted the capitalist world with problems of peaceful co-existence and of economic competition and co-operation. Scientific and technical progress had encouraged the capitalist monopolies to acquire new fields for exploitation and the acquisition of profit; it also involved the very existence of capitalism and its monopolies. The bourgeois States were accordingly paying much greater attention to science and technology, but had also increased their efforts to keep the latest achievements secret and, faced with the onslaught of national liberation movements, were using them to retain their privileged position both in the world capitalist economy and vis-à-vis the growing world of socialism. The importance of those processes must not be underestimated in discussing the organization of international co-operation in science and technology.

29. An unprecedented scientific and technological revolution was currently taking place, which would offer limitless possibilities of transforming nature, creating vast material wealth and strengthening the creative capacities of mankind. That revolution was having an increasing impact on the material and social conditions of human life. In his delegation's view, therefore, the discussion of the draft resolution should concentrate not on clarifying the role of science and technology in development, since that was dealt with in both national and international programmes, but on outlining the major trends in the advancement of the scientific and technological revolution and on studying its economic and social consequences for national development and international co-operation.

30. His delegation noted the complexity of problems of international co-operation in science and technology. Science and technology were a powerful force for the realization of specific development goals. However, the world contained many sovereign States with as many national objectives, and their political, economic and social structures differed widely. That situation must affect the implementation of both national and international policies in co-operation in science and technology.

31. One factor of vital importance was that the policies of the socialist and the capitalist States with regard to science and technology were quite different from each other in both their goals and their methods. Although they might co-operate with each other, that did not change their underlying approach. The socialist countries were developing their production forces on the basis of the latest technologies, in accordance with centralized plans for the whole economy. They co-operated closely with each other and established a close link between national production plans and plans for the introduction of the new achievements of science and technology, thus creating a basis for rapid development. On the basis of bilateral and multilateral agreements, they provided scientific and technical assistance to many developing countries attempting to create independent economies which could not be exploited by monopolistic capital. In determining the strategy and tactics for development, the socialist countries based their position on the fact that science and technology constituted one of the main fields of competition between the socialist and capitalist systems. They accordingly gave active support to progressive trends in the social and economic development of the developing countries.

32. The objectives of the development of science and technology in the capitalist countries were quite different. The aim was to increase the profits of monopolies, and everything from the small trading concern to the great corporations and IBRD worked towards that goal. Capitalist Governments used the latest achievements of science and technology to achieve the highest profit levels by exploiting the labour of scientists and industrial and agricultural workers, not only in their own countries but also in many developing countries which were dependent on foreign capital. The exploiters would never allow technology to reach the hands of the exploited in quantity which would allow them to free themselves from the heavy burden of exploitation. A clear indication of that fact lay in the wide economic gap between the highly developed capitalist States and the developing countries which were exploited by capitalist monopolies. The effort to perpetuate the economic dependence of the latter meant that they were kept outside the sphere of the scientific and technological revolution and that the process of transfer of scientific and technical knowledge to them was held back. In a situation where the gap in *per capita* production was becoming increasingly wider, science and technology were a powerful weapon of exploitation of the natural and human resources of the developing countries.

33. The past two decades had seen not only revolutionary achievements in science and technology, but also revolutionary changes in the situation of the peoples of the world. Many young and politically independent States had been created as a result of national liberation movements, and had established on the basis of their own resources research centres in which scientific personnel were trained. Such centres required support from their Governments not only for financing purposes, but also to protect them against the expansion of foreign capitalist monopolies which attempted to draw off such personnel to their own scientific and technological centres. The flow of trained personnel from the developing to the developed countries must be taken into account in any discussion of problems of international co-operation in science and technology.

34. In view of the difficulties involved in developing international co-operation in the exchange of science and technology, his delegation fully understood the efforts of the developing countries to ensure that they enjoyed as early as possible the fruits of the scientific and technological revolution. The Soviet Union was ready to co-operate in the solution of such problems both bilaterally and multilaterally, on the understanding that the basis for the wide use of science and technology to serve national

development must lie in the internal resources and the nature of the international policies of each country. Its awareness of its international duty towards the peoples of the developing countries meant that it was ready to undertake a considerable increase in its economic and technical co-operation with them in the forms which it had developed as a result of considerable experience, and which had been recognized by the developing countries themselves. It also recognized the desirability of scientific and technical co-operation with the industrially developed capitalist countries on the basis of equal rights and mutual interests.

35. The CHAIRMAN announced that Austria and Bulgaria had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1132.

36. Mr. LIDGARD (Sweden) said that the enormous benefits of scientific and technological research should be shared by all, with a view to increasing the productivity of the developing countries and ensuring the social progress so important to them. The International Development Strategy rightly called, in paragraph 62, for the extension of full international co-operation for the establishment, strengthening and promotion of scientific research and technological activities which had a bearing on the expansion and modernization of the economies of developing countries. It was also necessary to work out a set of specific policy decisions. The explosive pace of development made it imperative that further research be undertaken jointly on measures to prevent and combat the negative effects of accelerated industrialization.

37. Strengthened international machinery was required to ensure the application of science and technology to development. He hoped that the deliberations in the Economic and Social Council on that question would lead to a consensus. The International Development Strategy and the World Plan of Action elaborated by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development would provide the basis for the measures to be taken.

38. His delegation agreed that it was necessary to strengthen technological and scientific co-operation and would therefore support the draft resolution, which could be improved along the lines suggested by the representatives of India and Brazil at the 1346th meeting.

39. Operative paragraph 5 would be more in keeping with the consensus on country programming reached in the Governing Council of UNDP if the words "*Invites* ... Governments" were replaced by the words "*Invites* Governments of Member States to give priority in country programmes and requests to UNDP".

40. Lastly, he supported the United States representative's remarks concerning operative paragraphs 6 and 8.

41. Mr. OGISO (Japan) said that his Government, recognizing that science and technology were vital for Japan's continued economic growth, attached considerable importance to the exchange of science and technology. Operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution should not divert attention from the very valuable exchanges of science and technology on a bilateral basis and those on a multilateral basis being carried on outside the United Nations system, such as that undertaken by the International Rice Research Institute in Manila. Therefore, the United Nations should not attempt to take all activities into its hand, but should take fully into account those being undertaken outside the United Nations.

42. Significant work on policy guidance, the exchange and dissemination of scientific and technological information, and operational assistance was carried out in the specialized agencies and the regional economic commissions. The study called for in operative paragraph 9 should start first by appraising their activities with a view to determining their effectiveness. In that connexion, the words "competent organizations of the United Nations system" should be interpreted as including the regional economic commissions. On that understanding his delegation was supporting the draft resolution.

43. Mr. RODRIGUEZ (Philippines) said that the draft resolution would focus attention on and add impetus to the efforts of organizations in the United Nations system to play a greater role in the application of science and technology to development. The developing countries, particularly those of Asia, required assistance primarily in the application of science and technology to the development of agriculture and natural resources. The economically advanced countries should devote a portion of their resources to projects specifically geared to the requirements of and conditions in the developing countries and the scientific and technological institutes in the former should enlarge their facilities for training personnel from the latter. One of the most effective means of strengthening international co-operation was for the developed countries to transfer substantial financial resources to the developing countries for direct support of science and technology, as called for in the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development. UNESCO had made a particularly valuable contribution, and had sponsored a Conference on the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Asia, held in India in 1968. His Government had spent over $60 million to promote scientific research and technological development during the past ten years. Those expenditures, together with aid from private organizations, had had a significant impact on food production and had enabled the Philippines to become an exporter of rice.

44. With regard to future institutional arrangements, the Secretary-General should submit an outline of the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council, particularly regarding the terms of reference and functions of and the administrative arrangements for a high-level intergovernmental policy body on science and technology to promote co-ordinated action in the United Nations system.

45. In preparing the study and undertaking the activities called for in the draft resolution, the Secretary-General should make every effort to avoid duplication of work carried out by other United Nations bodies. Lastly, the very important item under consideration should be maintained on the agenda of the General Assembly during the coming years in order to keep attention focused on it.

46. Mr. SHRESHTHA (Nepal) said that the application of science and technology to development, particularly in the

least developed countries, should be considered in operational terms. Production techniques covered the whole range from modern mass production to primitive handicrafts, and the developing countries needed to choose a technology somewhere in the middle range to suit their own conditions of marketing and production factors, with a view to achieving maximum production efficiency at the same time. As some developing countries had small domestic markets, surplus labour, insufficient capital, and faced competitive export markets, a technology must be found that would enable even small plants to operate at a high level of efficiency. There must be a low capital input per worker and a high output per unit of capital. Only thus could industry help to raise the living standards of the people while providing maximum employment to underemployed labour.

47. Japan's industrial expansion had shown the importance of many relatively simple improvements in technology that did not depart radically from traditional methods or require large new production units. Such improvements were more easily assimilated and often gave quicker returns, and they were the target at which low-income countries at an early stage of development must aim.

48. He expressed Nepal's general support for the draft resolution but hoped that the sponsors would take into account the various suggestions that had been made, particularly concerning emphasis on the provisions of the International Development Strategy, and avoidance of duplication in the work being done in the field of science and technology.

49. Mr. ISAKSEN (Denmark) proposed that, in order to bring operative paragraph 5 of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1132 into line with the consensus on country programming reached in UNDP, the words "and, wherever appropriate, with UNDP country programmes" should be inserted after the word "Governments". His Government believed that links between research and educational institutions of countries at different levels of economic development should be financed on a bilateral basis, and therefore proposed that the words "including the financing . . . economic development" in operative paragraph 5 should be deleted.

50. Mr. GUELEV (Bulgaria) said that in the socialist countries it had been a complex problem to integrate into their development plans the latest discoveries of science and technology. Considerable effort had been needed, especially in the training of scientific and technical cadres. There had been close co-operation among the socialist countries, particularly in the co-ordination of scientific and technical work.

51. The draft resolution was well balanced, and, if adopted, would be a contribution to future work in the transfer of technology, an important element in the International Development Strategy. He did not believe there was any contradiction between the aims of the draft resolution and those of the Second Development Decade, or that there was any duplication involved in the study the Secretary-General was asked to make and those to be carried out by other United Nations bodies. No doubt the Secretary-General would bear that danger in mind. If he took into account the work already done by other bodies, he might be able to reduce the cost of his study, while providing a useful survey that might indicate the best way of harnessing scientific and technological achievements in the service of development through international co-operation. The example of the co-operation of the socialist countries deserved the attention of those who would undertake the study referred to.

52. Mr. DE SILVA (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) said that, as other speakers had pointed out, the United Nations operated at three different levels in the field of science: international co-operation in science, application to development, and political will. As the Director-General of UNESCO had stated at the Economic and Social Council,[2] UNESCO had a general competence in the field. The special role of UNESCO was recognized in the draft resolution. It did not claim any monopoly, and recognized the contribution of other bodies, and their increasing activities in recent years.

53. UNESCO's original activities had been oriented to international scientific co-operation. In 1958 the General Assembly had adopted resolution 1260 (XIII) on co-ordination of results of scientific research, on the basis of a draft resolution which had been submitted by the Third Committee. The action now being considered by the Second Committee showed what progress had been achieved in the interval at the governmental and intergovernmental level, as far as the broad aspects of science and development were concerned.

54. The statements made by the representatives of India, the Soviet Union, the United States and Sierra Leone showed that at the level of political will the problem was more complex. UNESCO and some other United Nations agencies regarded science both as an end in itself and as a means to development, and the debate had shown that to many countries the latter had greater importance. If science was to lead to progress, there must be more jointly oriented activities, with the definition of common aims.

55. Several speakers had suggested that joint international action should be discussed, with a view to achieving the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade. UNESCO was concerned with some important programmes in that field. Provision had been made for establishing a network for the exchange of scientific information by all countries, based on the use of up-to-date methods. In some cases, there was an exchange between institutions, as in oceanography; in others, the exchange was on the regional level, through meetings of Ministers concerned with science, with a view to establishing joint aims, drawing up a balance sheet, and setting priorities. The UNESCO conference referred to by the Philippines represented a landmark in Asia, where many countries were now using the modern methods that had been suggested at that conference. The Governing Council of UNESCO had adopted a number of resolutions dealing with regional activities concerning the relation of science and technology to economic development. A joint Division for the applica-

2 See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session*, 1608th meeting.

tion of science and technology to development was to be established by UNESCO and ECAFE.

56. He welcomed the suggestion by Bulgaria that the study referred to in the draft resolution should give a general view of what had been done and was being done in the field. The Director-General of UNESCO understood that the study in question would be distinct from the World Plan of Action, which was in the last stages of preparation, and also from the study entitled "Current trends in scientific research", originally published in 1961, which it was proposed to publish in 1973 in a revised form. He understood that the study would be as described in operative paragraph 9; it would not enter into detail on the substantive questions, but was intended to orient joint action in future. UNESCO would be glad to contribute its special experience in that field. He hoped that the study could be financed within existing resources.

57. Mr. DIACONESCU (Romania) said the sponsors of the draft resolution would analyse the comments made during the debate with a view to seeing what suggestions they could accept, while still maintaining a proper balance in the draft resolution.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.