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

**AGENDA ITEM 41**

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

1. The CHAIRMAN said that in accordance with the decision taken at the 1299th meeting, the explanation of vote on the draft resolution would now take place. He would first invite the Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs to address the Committee.

2. Mr. HILL (Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs) said that the Secretary-General was gratified by the positive response given by the Committee to his suggestion in the introduction to his annual report on the work of the Organization (see A/7601/Add.1, paras. 196-197) regarding the founding of an international university. He would interpret the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1086/Rev.1), adopted at the 1299th meeting, as giving him wide latitude in all aspects of his mandate. Although he hoped that the expert study could be completed early in the International Education Year, that might not be possible. Furthermore, he would not wish in any way to prejudge the recommendations that might emerge from the study regarding the form an international university might take.

3. While the Secretary-General attached importance to the discretion left to him by the draft resolution regarding consultations with any agency or organization he deemed necessary, he was keenly aware of the very special responsibilities of UNESCO, as paragraph 197 of the introduction to his annual report made abundantly clear. From the outset he would rely heavily on UNESCO's active assistance.

4. Mr. DE SILVA (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) said that the Director-General of

UNESCO would co-operate with the Secretary-General in the study called for in the draft resolution. The Director-General's first reaction was that the proposal was interesting and deserved considerable reflection and elucidation. The many ideas expressed during the debate would, of course, have to be taken into account in determining the scope of the study. In order to be meaningful, the proposal would have to be studied thoroughly and the degree of thoroughness with which it was studied would depend on the time and resources available. It might not be realistic to expect a useful study by the beginning of the following year.

5. Mr. AMADO DE FREITAS (Portugal) said that it would not be possible to form a clear idea of the full implications of the proposal until the study called for had been completed. The financial implications would depend on whether a centralized or decentralized university was established. It was astonishing that, to judge from the third sentence of paragraph 197 of the introduction to his annual report (A/7601/Add.1), the Secretary-General seemed to have taken a decision on that matter already. That sentence should not compromise consideration of the possibility of a decentralized university.

6. Mr. ASTAFYEN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had no objection to draft resolution A/C.2/L.1086/Rev.1. It would express its opinion on the establishment of the university at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly and the next session of the Economic and Social Council when more would be known about the proposal.

**AGENDA ITEM 12**

**Reports of the Economic and Social Council (A/7603, chapters I to VII, X, XI (sections C, D, F, G, H and J) and XIII; A/7203, paragraphs 764 to 770) (*continued*) (A/C.2/L.1083/Rev.1, A/C.2/L.1087, A/C.2/L.1092 and Add.1)**

CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ENTITLED "PROMOTING EFFECTIVE MEASURES FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MARINE POLLUTION" (*concluded*) (A/C.2/L.1083/Rev.1) AND "MOBILIZATION OF PUBLIC OPINION" (A/C.2/L.1092 and Add.1)

7. Mr. RABEARIVELO (Madagascar) requested that Madagascar should be included among the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1083/Rev.1. Being an island, Madagascar could not remain indifferent to the promotion of effective measures for the prevention and control of marine pollution.

8. Mr. MAMADOU (Mauritania) requested that Mauritania should be added to the list of sponsors.

9. Mr. HILLEL (Israel) said that Israel, which had suffered damage caused by marine pollution, whole-heartedly supported the revised draft resolution. The reviews and consultations called for in operative paragraph 1 should be undertaken and data collected for examination at the forthcoming United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

10. Mr. PLEHN MEJIA (Mexico) said that Mexico would support the revised draft resolution.

11. Mr. SULEIMAN (Libya) said that the time had come to adopt international measures against marine pollution. High priority should be given to the promotion of international co-operation in the prevention and control of pollution resulting from activities on the sea-bed and ocean floor. Particular attention should be paid to the conservation of the living resources of the marine environment, the preservation of the biological, chemical and physical balance of the ocean and the control of pollution from radio-active materials and underwater pipelines and drilling. Many aspects of marine pollution were not governed by international agreements. The beneficial results of technological progress in the marine environment could not be denied but, unless appropriate international agreements were adopted, it would lead to pollution and the contamination of the sea. Fortunately, more attention was now being paid to marine pollution, and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's "Comprehensive outline of the scope of the long-term and expanded programme of oceanic exploration and research" (see A/7750, annex), of which the International Decade of Ocean Exploration would be an important element, would help to identify methods for controlling pollution.

12. As a sponsor of the revised draft resolution, he hoped that it would be adopted unanimously.

13. Mr. BILLNER (Sweden) said that his delegation welcomed the revised draft resolution. The studies called for in it would help to solve the problem of marine pollution, particularly if taken in conjunction with those being prepared for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in 1972, the proposed preparatory committee for which was expected to take up the question of marine pollution early in its work programme. Sweden's understanding of operative paragraph 2 of the draft was that the Secretary-General would report in such a way as to ensure that all marine pollution activities undertaken within the United Nations were closely co-ordinated and came within the general context of the Conference.

14. Mr. PRAGUE (France) said that his delegation would be happy to support the revised draft resolution. It must point out, however, that the financial implications, as set out in document A/C.2/L.1087, seemed excessive. France would, therefore, have to reserve its position on that point. It hoped that, since the problem was one affecting the human environment, the appropriations necessary for the studies requested would not be added to those provided for the preparation of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

15. Referring to operative paragraph 2, he suggested that it was inappropriate to request the Secretary-General to report to a committee which had not yet been established. Some such words as "about to be set up" should be inserted after the word "committee".

16. Mr. HOVEYDA (Iran) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the revised draft resolution. He pointed out, however, that the financial implications (A/C.2/L.1087) did not correspond to the scope of the study to be made. Why, for instance, was it necessary to provide for the travel and subsistence of staff when the study would consist merely of the reviews mentioned in operative paragraph 1? The views of Member States on the desirability and feasibility of an international treaty or treaties on the subject could be obtained by means of a circular letter. Would it not be possible for the Secretary-General to co-ordinate the study called for in the draft resolution with those to be made for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and thus reduce the financial implications of the draft resolution?

17. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) said that, as was indicated in draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1083/Rev.1), many aspects were already being studied by various specialized bodies. There were, however, residual aspects which should be taken into account, and all the work being done had to be presented, particularly at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, in a co-ordinated fashion. His delegation therefore warmly supported the draft resolution. Nevertheless, it was surprised at the magnitude of the financial implications (A/C.2/L.1087). The expertise in the matter was largely concentrated in the specialized agencies and IAEA and should be tapped to the full. The idea that, every time a resolution was adopted requiring consultations with the specialized agencies, consultants and temporary staff had to be hired and provision made for their travel and subsistence, was one his delegation could not accept in either the Second or the Fifth Committee.

18. Mr. POTRUBATCH (Director and Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) said that the Secretariat presumed that the activities to be undertaken in response to the draft resolution would be co-ordinated with the preparatory work for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. However, the scope of the study requested in the revised draft resolution was wider than that of those being prepared for the Conference.

19. Replying to the question raised by the Iranian representative, he said that it would be necessary for the consultant preparing the report to consult the joint group of experts on the scientific aspects of marine pollution, which met in London, to participate in the FAO conference mentioned in the fifth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution and to contact those specialized agencies and organizations concerned with the matter. That was why the Secretariat had made provision for the travel and subsistence of staff (see A/C.2/L.1087, para. 2).

20. Miss DARLING (United Kingdom) said that her delegation supported the revised draft resolution. It wished, however, to make two comments on the work to be undertaken in response to the draft resolution: first, in

co-ordinating the activities under way in marine pollution, care should be taken not to impede the practical work already being done; and, secondly, in his report the Secretary-General should not confine himself to pollution caused by ships because there was also a need to control pollution from land-based sources.

21. Mr. HOVEYDA (Iran) said that the mounting cost of the studies requested by delegations was a cause for concern. If those costs continued to rise, it would be necessary either to cease requesting studies or to increase Members' annual contributions. He appealed to the Secretariat, therefore, to make every endeavour to reduce the costs of studies requested.

22. Mr. ASTAFYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation would support the revised draft resolution. Nevertheless, it had misgivings about the extent of its financial implications (A/C.2/L.1087). Many of the matters suggested by the sponsors for study would be examined during the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. His delegation would have thought, therefore, that the appropriations made for that Conference would have been sufficient to cover the cost of the study requested. In the Fifth Committee, the Soviet delegation would oppose any increase in the budget occasioned by the draft resolution.

23. Mr. KROYER (Iceland) thanked those members who had supported the revised draft resolution and particularly those who had joined the sponsors.

24. The difficulty to which the French representative had drawn attention (see para. 15 above) would be met if the word "proposed" were inserted before the word "Preparatory" in operative paragraph 2. In the English text of that paragraph, a comma should be inserted after the word "Council" and the comma after the word "appropriate" should be deleted. In operative paragraph 1 (a), the words "health and his" were inserted before the word "economic".

25. Iceland was also concerned about the financial implications of the draft resolution and hoped that the Secretariat would make every effort to co-ordinate activities undertaken in response to the draft resolution with those undertaken in preparing for the Conference on the Human Environment and keep to the minimum the direct costs involved in preparing the study requested.

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

26. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should adopt by acclamation the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1083/Rev.1), as orally amended by the sponsors.

*It was so decided.*

27. Mr. SPENCER (Canada) said that he would introduce the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.1092 and Add.1) on mobilization of public opinion, on behalf of its thirty-four sponsors. Madagascar had indicated that it wished to become a sponsor also.

28. First of all, he wished to say a few words as the representative of Canada. Although Canada had not raised

the question of the mobilization of public opinion in the General Assembly, that did not indicate any lack of concern with the subject, about which it felt strongly; that was why it had taken the initiative in putting forward the initial draft of the resolution. Canada had not spoken on the subject in the Committee because its position had been fully explained at the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade.<sup>1</sup>

29. Speaking on behalf of the sponsors, he said he hoped that the Second Committee would find the draft resolution non-controversial. The sponsors represented a broad range of countries with differing domestic situations and problems relating to the mobilization of public opinion. The draft resolution was a compromise which reflected those different needs and views. An effort had also been made to take account of the views of delegations that were not included among the sponsors. All the sponsors, and he hoped all the members of the Committee, were concerned that the leaders and people in both the developed and developing countries fully understood the complex and universal nature of the world development problem, which had now assumed critical proportions. There must be a proper understanding of the problem if the necessary support was to be obtained for those which were required to resolve the problem. The draft resolution was being put forward because the need to mobilize public opinion was immediate and could not wait. No doubt specific proposals could be made subsequently concerning the Second Development Decade, but there was a good case for taking general action now on mobilizing public opinion, to permit an effective presentation of the goals of the Second Development Decade at a later stage.

30. He had some comments to make which in certain cases reflected the particular concern of some of the sponsors. The first preambular paragraph drew attention to the related Economic and Social Council resolution 1357 (XLV). The second preambular paragraph emphasized that public opinion must be mobilized in both developed and developing countries, and that it was not a problem confined to only one of those groups. That was a prerequisite for the support of the international development strategy which, it was hoped, would be put forward at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly. The third preambular paragraph emphasized that in the more advanced countries, including Canada, it was necessary to deepen public understanding of the interdependent nature of the development efforts. One part of the world could not ignore the problems existing elsewhere. Action by the developed countries was not expected to replace the efforts required in the developing countries, but only to assist those efforts. The paragraph went on to point out that it was also important to make people in the developing countries aware why they were required to make sacrifices for development, and how those sacrifices would fit into the general development picture and eventually help those who had made them. The last preambular paragraph pointed out that present methods of mobilizing public opinion for development were not always successful and should be improved in view of the public and parliamentary support needed for all global development efforts. Some of the sponsors did not interpret that paragraph to mean that

<sup>1</sup> See document A/AC.141/SR.40.

such support for development efforts was necessary prior to the adoption by Governments of the policy measures required for the international development strategy.

31. Operative paragraph 1 endorsed some of the main concepts suggested in the report prepared by the Centre for Economic and Social Information of the United Nations Office of Public Information (A/AC.141/L.11). One difficulty in dealing with the mobilization of public opinion in the past had been a lack of reports and information on the subject. The sponsors had selected some concepts from the report for particular endorsement. Operative paragraph 1 (a) indicated that in many cases present information programmes were not satisfactory. The aim was to enable people to understand that the problem of development was relevant to everybody, but that it was a complex problem which required some effort to grasp. It must be made clear that the longer it remained unsolved, the more difficult it would be to solve, and that no quick solution was possible because it was a long-term problem. Operative paragraph 1 (b) should be read in connexion with sub-paragraph (d); since the mobilization of public opinion was mainly the responsibility of the national bodies concerned, international organizations could not initiate that task and could only assist, in particular, by providing material for use by national information media. He wished to point out that it remained the prerogative of Governments to allow or prevent international organizations from participating in the mobilization of public opinion within their national boundaries. Operative paragraph 1 (c) was also related to sub-paragraph (b); the competent authorities could assist by identifying concrete development aims; vague appeals were less effective than appeals to support a specific aim or goal. Operative paragraph 1 (e) emphasized, as did the report of the Centre for Economic and Social Information, that it was important to develop the sense of global partnership in development.

32. Operative paragraphs 3 and 4 made specific requests of the Secretary-General; operative paragraph 3 related to the desirability of co-ordinating and focusing the activities of United Nations bodies to make them more effective in mobilizing public opinion, and operative paragraph 4 concerned the need to bring in non-governmental organizations, which would have an important and perhaps vital role to play in the programme for the Second Development Decade. Some delegations wished it to be noted that operative paragraph 4 was not to be regarded as a blanket endorsement of all activities of all non-governmental organizations. With respect to the expression "appropriate non-governmental organizations" in operative paragraph 4, the sponsors expected that the Secretary-General would concentrate on dealing with non-governmental organizations of the following four categories: business and industrial groups; technical and professional groups, church groups; and youth groups.

33. Operative paragraph 5, unlike those that preceded it, was a request or exhortation to Governments, not necessarily to take specific action, but to reflect on whether there was a need for specific action, in terms of the establishment of new national bodies, or the strengthening of those that existed, in mobilizing public opinion in the light of their individual circumstances. Some Governments might feel that any such action was unnecessary, but all

Governments should give the matter thought. The paragraph also suggested that increased attention to development problems in educational curricula throughout the world might be an important factor in helping to mobilize public opinion. The children of today would become the leaders of tomorrow, and if they became more aware of the development crisis now, they would be better prepared to help to resolve it in the future.

34. He had been assured by the Secretariat that the draft resolution had no direct financial implications. He hoped that the indirect financial implications would be extensive, because the successful mobilization of public opinion would have a profound and favourable influence on world development efforts.

35. He commended the draft resolution to the Committee and earnestly hoped that no amendments would be put forward. There were three reasons for that hope: first, the draft resolution was the result of compromise and the wording had been most carefully worked out. Secondly, with so many sponsors, it would be difficult to obtain the agreement of all of them even to small changes. Lastly, although it was a tradition to urge that draft resolutions should be adopted unanimously, he wished to enter a strong plea in the present case; since the draft resolution itself was designed to mobilize public opinion in some small way, it would be more effective if it received unanimous support in the Committee.

*Mr. Caranicas (Greece) resumed the Chair.*

36. The CHAIRMAN said that Barbados and Chad wished to co-sponsor the draft resolution. The number of sponsors had therefore increased to thirty-seven.

37. Mr. FRANZI (Italy) said that the fact that the draft resolution was sponsored by thirty-seven States, representing nearly all regional groups, spoke for itself. Italy itself had become a sponsor, a step it did not often take because it preferred to be free to speak out on the various subjects dealt with by the Committee. But, as the representative of Canada had said, the problem of mobilizing public opinion was urgent. Italy had spoken on the matter at some length at the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade<sup>2</sup> in relation to the report of the Centre for Economic and Social Information (A/AC.141/L.11). He hoped that the Office of Public Information would take the views expressed by Italy on that occasion into account. Italy's position had been reflected in the draft resolution. The main responsibility for mobilizing public opinion must rest with national organs and the United Nations could only assist by providing material.

38. The reference in operative paragraph 3 to "appropriate consultations at the technical level" were considered by Italy to include consultations with journalists, who were well qualified to indicate to the Office of Public Information and the United Nations Information Centres what would be appropriate and how public opinion could be mobilized. With respect to the reference to national bodies in operative paragraph 5, he hoped that when Governments

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

established new bodies they would be committees of experts rather than of officials.

39. Italy deeply appreciated the useful work already done by the Centre for Economic and Social Information, which was expected to play a great part in helping to mobilize public opinion. He suggested to the Office of Public Information that perhaps it was time to reconvene the expert group, which had not met for two years.

40. Mr. VERCELES (Philippines) said that his country was happy to sponsor draft resolution A/C.2/L.1092 and Add.1, because it attached great importance to the mobilization of public opinion in support of the policies and objectives of the Second Development Decade. Its views had been expressed at the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade.<sup>3</sup> But he emphasized that the mobilization of public opinion was the one way that could really help to create the necessary political will in the developing countries to marshal their own resources, make the public aware of the sacrifices and benefits involved in the development process, and make people in the rich countries realize the need to help the poor countries. Without political will nothing much could be achieved.

41. He welcomed operative paragraph 1, endorsing the imaginative approach to the mobilization of public opinion suggested by the Centre for Economic and Social Information in its report (A/AC.141/L.11). The Centre had already done good work, and could contribute more in the future. However, there was room for improvement in the organization of the Office of Public Information and in its preparation and dissemination of information on economic and social development. He regretted that the report on the survey of and recommendations on the internal organization of the Office of Public Information, which was to have been submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session, had not yet appeared, and hoped that, once the manpower utilization survey was ready, the report would be issued promptly. However, his delegation would not press for the release of the report, if it felt sure that that Office was geared to the challenge of the Second Development Decade. Neither the Philippines nor any other developing country could face the thought of a Second Development Decade doomed to failure. He hoped that the statements by his own and other delegations would stir the Office of Public Information into action.

42. His delegation agreed that measures to mobilize public opinion should begin at once. The campaign should take place both before and during the Decade and he hoped that proposals to that effect would be submitted to the Preparatory Committee at its fifth session. He hoped the draft resolution would be adopted unanimously.

43. Mr. CORREA (Chile) said that his delegation was well aware of the importance of mobilizing public opinion and had expressed its view on a number of occasions in the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade. It welcomed the fact that the draft resolution took into account the view that the most difficult and important task was to make public opinion in the developed countries aware of the interdependent nature

of development efforts and of the need for them to assist the developing countries to accelerate their economic and social progress.

44. The mobilization of public opinion in the developing countries themselves had been going on for a number of years, with the result that both the leaders and the people were aware of the need for development, which must take place under a strategy agreed upon by the developed and developing. If public opinion was not mobilized in the developed countries, the aim of the United Nations to achieve a suitable level of living for the whole of mankind would not be fulfilled, and the result would be a threat to industrialized centres, social unrest and loss of the opportunity to live in democracy and liberty. There was an urgent need to mobilize opinion in parliaments, which frequently disagreed with or hindered the efforts to promote development undertaken by their own Governments. His delegation therefore agreed that priority should be given to mobilizing public opinion in order to formulate an international development strategy which would bring all countries together.

45. Mr. HOVEYDA (Iran) thanked the Canadian representative, who had taken the initiative in connexion with the draft resolution. So far, information had been treated rather as a poor relation in United Nations efforts to promote development and he therefore welcomed the comprehensiveness of the draft resolution.

46. Even though his delegation was a sponsor, he felt obliged to make one or two rather disillusioned remarks. Remembering the many resolutions in the past that had called for the "mobilization of public opinion" in favour of so many different causes, the very words seemed slightly embarrassing. Speaking as a member of the long-suffering public, he considered that, if attempts were made to mobilize public opinion for so many purposes, the final result would be to serve no purpose at all, however noble. The Committee should at least be modest enough not to seek to mobilize world public opinion—an impossible task—but rather to seek to catch the attention of some sectors of public opinion, particularly in certain countries.

47. The third preambular paragraph stressed that the aim of the information campaign in the developed countries must be to underline the need to help the developing countries. Everyone agreed that the main effort must come from the developing countries themselves, but the success of the Second Development Decade depended largely on the volume of resources that would be made available for the rapid development of the less-favoured countries. It was therefore more important to convince public opinion in the developed countries than in the developing. There must be action to help public opinion in the developed countries to understand the problem.

48. Operative sub-paragraph 1 (*d*) should be understood in that sense. The various main offices of the United Nations system were usually in the towns of countries with mass information media, and advantage should be taken of that fact to establish close contacts with the authorities of the media in support of the campaign.

49. Turning to operative paragraph 5, he said that several speakers in the general debate had suggested that national

<sup>3</sup> See document A/AC.141/SR.41.

committees for the Second Development Decade should be established in each country. He believed that the present consensus in the Committee was rather that co-ordinating committees should be set up at the governmental level, and that appeared the right course to take in relation to the content of the programme for the Second Development Decade. But with respect to information, it would be a mistake to forget that many information media were in the private sector and, if national committees were set up, they could establish contacts with the key people in those information media.

50. Operative paragraph 1 referred to new approaches, but the only new approach in the report of the Centre for Economic and Social Information (A/AC.141/L.11) was that, for the first time, all information problems had been assembled in a single document. The time had come to declare a state of crisis in the development process, in the hope of stirring public opinion from its torpor concerning long-term aid for the large segment of mankind that was being left behind in the march of progress. He was sceptical about the possibility of mobilizing world public opinion, when it had proved impossible to persuade 125 delegations to adopt the 1 per cent target for development aid. Nevertheless he hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by acclamation.

51. Mr. DUBEY (India) welcomed the fact that the draft resolution took into account almost all the views expressed on the question; he was sure that it would be adopted unanimously. The fact that the draft was submitted under agenda item 12 was significant, since it showed that the General Assembly and other United Nations organs attached due importance to public opinion in regard to development as such, and not necessarily in relation to the strategy for the Second Development Decade. Even before formulation of the strategy for the Second Development Decade had begun, the Economic and Social Council and UNCTAD had adopted resolutions on the subject, and the Secretariat's awareness of its importance was shown by the organizational changes made. For the most effective results to be obtained, there must be full co-ordination and utilization of available expertise in all fields both within and outside the Secretariat.

52. Mr. JACKMAN (Barbados) agreed with the representative of Iran (see para.47 above) that the third preambular paragraph was of particular importance. There was no question that real progress in the development effort would depend on the attitude of the more advanced countries and that a major attempt must therefore be made to mobilize public opinion in them, since they had both the money needed for development and the means to spread the message of the interdependent nature of the development effort.

53. That the Secretariat fully realized the importance of the use of modern techniques referred to in operative paragraph 1 (a) was shown by the establishment of the Centre for Economic and Social Information; it was to be hoped that unanimous adoption of the draft resolution would give the Centre the moral impetus to continue and extend its activities.

54. Operative paragraph 5 appropriately referred to the individual circumstances of Governments, which should be

taken into account in the extremely desirable establishment of new national bodies or strengthening of existing ones.

55. He appealed to delegations to lend their unanimous support to the draft resolution as a first step towards the mobilization of public opinion.

56. Mr. RUTTEN (Netherlands) said that the draft resolution made three important points. It stressed that information, and hence the mobilization of public opinion, were extremely important and sometimes essential in order to enable Governments to take measures for the implementation of the international development strategy. He agreed with the representative of Iran that it was not practical to mobilize world public opinion as a whole; what was needed was to inform and rally to the cause of the Second Development Decade those influential centres of public opinion which influenced decisions taken by national parliaments and Governments. The report of the Centre for Economic and Social Information (A/AC.141/L.11) also rightly stressed the primary responsibility of national bodies, and recognized the important role of international organizations both in providing assistance to Governments and in giving them the necessary inspiration to take effective measures. The United Nations had already made a useful start in that respect and the Centre was carrying out an active and imaginative policy which, it was to be hoped, would acquire greater efficiency and impact in the future. By adopting the draft resolution, the General Assembly would provide Governments with inspiration for their task, and his delegation therefore hoped that it would be unanimously adopted and subsequently implemented both nationally and internationally.

57. Mr. OSMAN (Sudan) said that, as a sponsor, his delegation had little to add to the remarks of the representative of Canada, except to make clear its understanding that the public and parliamentary support referred to in the fourth preambular paragraph was not a prerequisite but an essential element of the measures for implementing the international development strategy. It was also the understanding of his delegation, as well as that of Syria, that in his consultations with non-governmental organizations, referred to in operative paragraph 4, the Secretary-General would not consult any such organization known to adhere to policies hostile to the Arab States.

58. Mr. MAMADOU (Mauritania) said that the mobilization of public opinion was among the most important problems facing the international community; it was to be hoped that the draft resolution would usher in a new era of international co-operation and assistance to the underdeveloped areas and his delegation would vote for it.

59. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said his delegation was honoured to be a sponsor of a draft resolution whose central premise was that the Second Development Decade was a matter of concern to both developed and developing countries, of benefit to all and requiring effort on the part of all. That his Government recognized the interdependence of the world community was shown by a recent statement made by the Minister of Overseas Development, which he would shortly be in a position to distribute to the Committee. It was difficult to say whether the mobilization of public opinion was more important in the developed or

the developing countries; in his view it was essential in both, and indeed could not succeed in one unless it was also successful in the other.

60. During the meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade, his delegation had welcomed the report of the Centre for Economic and Social Information (A/AC.141/L.11); he was therefore glad to see that a number of the recommendations it contained were incorporated in the draft resolution.

61. His delegation attached considerable importance to operative paragraph 4 of the draft, dealing with consultations with non-governmental organizations. His late arrival at the meeting had been caused by a telephone call from a non-controversial non-governmental organization which was anxious to be sure that it could play a useful part in the preparations for the Second Development Decade.

62. Mr. DERESSA (Ethiopia) said that the urgent need to mobilize public opinion in support of the objectives and policies of the Second Development Decade could not be over-emphasized. His delegation had frequently stressed the need for a concerted effort by the United Nations to ensure that public opinion in the developed countries realized that the efforts of developing countries to overcome their backwardness affected all mankind and depended on the necessary political will to enter into and follow up commitments. His delegation commended the draft resolution for unanimous adoption.

63. Mr. PARDO (Malta) said that, while all the points raised in operative paragraph 1 were important, particular emphasis should be placed on sub-paragraph (e). A sense of world co-operation and interdependence was essential if there was to be any hope of achieving the objectives of the Second Development Decade. He hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted unanimously.

64. Mr. KHALIL (United Arab Republic) said his delegation fully supported the draft resolution and hoped it would be adopted by acclamation. It was his understanding that the sacrifices referred to in the third preambular paragraph were those of the developing countries, which undoubtedly had to make the greatest sacrifices in the interest of economic development. Although the mobilization of public opinion would play an important part in the Second Development Decade, it should not be regarded as a prerequisite of its success; the importance of the Decade was such that it should succeed on its own merits.

65. He supported the view of the representative of Sudan that the Secretary-General should not consult non-governmental organizations whose concerns were political and opposed to the interests of the Arab States.

66. The information activity undertaken by the Secretariat was commendable, and he believed that the Secretariat was fully competent to deal with its own internal organization in that respect.

67. Mr. DE SOTO (Peru) agreed with the representative of Malta that operative paragraph 1 (e) embodied the essential

philosophy of the Second Development Decade. As a sponsor of the draft resolution, his delegation fully endorsed the remarks made by the representative of Canada in introducing it.

68. Mr. PLEHN MEJIA (Mexico) said that his delegation had been a sponsor of Economic and Social Council resolution 1357 (XLV), and was also a sponsor of the draft before the Committee, which he hoped would be adopted unanimously.

69. Mr. BAKOTO (Cameroon) said that as a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1092 and Add.1, his delegation nevertheless did not believe that the Second Development Decade should be merely a decade of the mobilization of public opinion, and hoped that the adoption of the draft resolution would not give rise to a situation in which donor countries were able to state that, since their public opinion had not responded, they were unable to provide assistance. His delegation would vote for the draft resolution in the interests of international co-operation.

70. Mr. PRAGUE (France) said that the mobilization of public opinion was essential to the success of the Second Development Decade. The various national needs and priorities could be made known to Governments through normal channels, but the needs of the world as a whole ran the risk of remaining abstract and distant unless public opinion was mobilized. Recent action in France and elsewhere showed that the task of making public opinion aware of the problems of development was not difficult, and it thus appeared that the measures recommended in the draft resolution, which his delegation hoped would be unanimously adopted, stood a good chance of success.

71. Mr. ASTAFYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation would abstain in the vote on the draft resolution, since it believed the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1357 (XLV) with regard to the mobilization of public opinion to be quite sufficient.

72. The CHAIRMAN put draft resolution A/C.2/L.1092 and Add.1 to the vote.

*The draft resolution was adopted by 77 votes to none, with 9 abstentions.*

73. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the Secretary-General's reference, in his note (A/7675), to a progress report on a World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development,<sup>4</sup> and, in his note (A/7706), to the summary of the fifth report on progress on land reform<sup>5</sup> and suggested that the Committee should take note of those two reports.

*It was so decided.*

*The meeting rose at 1.5 p.m.*

<sup>4</sup> Document E/4644.

<sup>5</sup> Document E/4617 and Corr.1 and 2.