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AGENDA ITEMS 30 AND 12

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Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters II, III, IV and V) (continued)

(A/4143, A/4211, A/4220 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2, A/C.2/L.434, A/C.2/L.438, A/C.2/L.439 and Add.1-4, A/C.2/L.441, A/C.2/L.442 and Corr.1)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.2/L.439 AND ADD.1-4) (continued)

1. Mr. Gopala MENON (India) said that he had voted for the draft resolution on industrial development banks and corporations (A/C.2/L.438) because his delegation considered that banks and corporations specialized in industrial development could play an important part in the development of economically under-developed countries. As early as 1948, India had established an Industrial Finance Corporation, mainly with the object of helping medium-scale industries. In 1955 the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation had been set up, with a capital of about \$52 million subscribed by

private banks in the United States and the United Kingdom, and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, as well as the Government of India. The resources were being expanded. In addition, each State had its own State Finance Corporation.

2. India hoped that those institutions would continue to grow, for their operations were particularly important because the private sector represented nearly 90 per cent of India's economy.

3. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to take up the draft resolution on world economic development (A/C.2/L.439 and Add.1, 2 and 4), which had been introduced on behalf of its thirty-eight sponsors by the Indian representative at the 627th meeting.

4. Mr. Gopala MENON (India) wished to propose certain changes of wording which would improve the draft resolution. In the first preambular paragraph, the words "on the widest possible basis" would be deleted and the words "the widest" could be added after the words "calling for". In the second preambular paragraph, the words "and the" would be replaced by the words "and its" and the words "of all peoples" would be deleted. Lastly, the word "entire" in the fifth preambular paragraph should be deleted. He hoped that those changes would be accepted by the other sponsors of the draft resolution and by the Committee as a whole.

5. Mr. DE SEYNES (Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs) explained how the Secretariat proposed to carry out the task assigned to it under the draft resolution. He had already had occasion to give some information on the matter to the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-eighth session, during the discussion of resolution 741 (XXVIII).

6. It was undeniable that for several reasons, in particular demographic changes, rapid technological changes and the enormous scale of industrial investment, Governments, irrespective of their national economic system, were more and more feeling the need to evaluate long-term trends in order to set their economic policies within the broader framework of over-all evolution. Whether such planning was carried out for theoretical or for operative purposes, the methods used were often similar and comparable. Long-term trends were particularly hard to define in that they depended on factors beyond the control of individual countries, particularly countries that were producers of primary commodities, the income from which depended on the development of demand in the industrial countries. It was therefore natural that the United Nations should go into that international problem and should attempt to define the long-term international trend on the basis of which Governments should make their decisions at the national level. Clearly, such a task of long-term projection was extremely difficult, and the results should be treated with caution, at least in the light of present knowledge. Governments must form a clear idea of the possibilities and limitations

of economic forecasting techniques and know the proper value to attach to the instruments available to them.

7. The idea underlying the draft resolution was that the task he had outlined demanded co-operation, and that the progressive definition of long-term trends would be possible only if Governments and the Secretariat set to work under a co-ordinated programme. It was no longer a question of the Secretariat's merely summarizing the various projections already carried out, at the same time drawing attention to the methodological problems involved, as had been its intention in applying Economic and Social Council resolution 741 (XXVIII). It would have to go further; after evaluating the results so far obtained it would have to try to decide what measures should be taken by Governments and international bodies, within the framework of their research and assistance programmes, with a view to multiplying efforts and harmonizing methods, in order to assemble a body of data which could serve some day as a solid foundation for national plans. The Secretariat would report the results of its work to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and to specialized organs such as the Population Commission and the Statistical Commission, or indeed the regional economic commissions; for such organs could give useful help to Governments in developing the desired instruments of analysis, which, it was to be hoped, would become instruments of economic co-operation. A more ambitious programme could be undertaken after the results of the first year of research—which would doubtless be fairly modest—had been evaluated.

8. Mr. WOULBROUN (Belgium) agreed with the Indian representative that it was important to study the problem of the world's needs and natural and energy resources as a whole. Current difficulties should not be an excuse for discouragement, for science and technology should make it possible to absorb increases in population and to ensure the steady progress of the human race. Many pessimistic forecasts made in the past had not come true; for instance the change from a war economy to a peace economy had not caused the crisis that had been feared, new resources had been found and agriculture was developing continuously. The expansion of industry and international trade in the fields of chemicals, plastics, electronics, aeronautics, atomic energy and automation had created new products and unanticipated employment opportunities. However, the problems far transcended national frontiers, and the need for international collaboration was more and more evident. The proposed study was particularly difficult, and the Belgian delegation was aware of the problems it would involve for the Secretariat. It none the less hoped that the methodological study proposed would encourage research, stimulate new ideas and promote international co-operation in the use of the natural and energy resources of the world.

9. Mr. WAHLUND (Sweden) said the draft resolution showed that mankind's fears for the world's economic future, fears which persisted in spite of amazing scientific and technological progress, were to be attributed to many interrelated factors, in particular to the growing needs of a rapidly expanding world population, to economic and social imbalances and to the many and various needs of the under-developed countries. He wished to devote especial attention to the first factor, the importance of which had perhaps not been sufficiently stressed in the discussion.

10. In 1957, it had been thought that the world population would increase from 2,800 million to 5,000 million in a space of forty years. Today, all the evidence seemed to show that that figure was too low. Basing the calculation on the present trend alone, and without allowing for the increase in the rate of population growth, it could now be anticipated that by the year 2000 the world would have 6,000 million inhabitants. The population would thus have doubled in forty years—which meant 50 million more people each year to be fed, clothed and housed. The problem was further complicated by the fact that the growth rate varied according to region. A century ago, his country had been on the verge of catastrophe and had been saved only by mass transatlantic emigration; since then it had been careful to avoid over-population. But the population of many under-developed countries continued to increase rapidly. Their annual rate of population growth was 2 per cent, sometimes 3 per cent, as against an average world rate of 1.7 per cent. Those countries thus had to invest constantly increasing funds for social services and employment. The question arose whether an under-developed country could simultaneously increase its production sufficiently to offset a constant 2 or 3 per cent population increase, and raise the per caput standard of living. The answer to that question would vary from country to country; but, in any event, demographic trends must be borne in mind in formulating plans of economic and social development.

11. Thanks to medical progress and the development of hygiene, there had been a decline in the death-rate, while the birth-rate had remained steady; but too often efforts to prevent the resultant over-population, under-employment and poverty had been vain. The draft resolution's sponsors had not touched in their text upon the problem of birth control or planned parenthood, which was highly controversial; he, however, could not but find it absurd that in many parts of the world millions of children suffered hunger because there were too many of them to share the limited food resources.

12. Mr. STANOVNIK (Yugoslavia) agreed, as a co-sponsor of the draft resolution, to the deletion of the word "entire" in the fifth preambular paragraph, since it was clear that a study of economic problems as a whole must of necessity cover the entire world. The deletion of the word must not be taken to imply the recognition of certain strange ideas of political geography. He agreed with the approach to the Secretariat's task which had been outlined by the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs. The proposed investigation would but mark the beginning of a great undertaking whose outcome would be the formulation by the United Nations of a long-term policy along the broad lines so admirably described by the representatives of India during the general debate (614th meeting) and on the presentation of the draft resolution (627th meeting).

13. Replying to the representative of Sweden, he pointed out that the reason why children in many regions suffered hunger was not that there were too many of them, but that the inhabitants of other regions were lacking in humanity. The problem resulted not from a shortage of food resources, but from inadequate investment in agriculture; experts had calculated that with the \$120,000 million today devoted to armament expenditures, agricultural production could be

doubled and, consequently, the problem of population growth could be overcome.

14. Mr. PENTEADO (Brazil) thought that operative paragraph 1 would be better treated as the last paragraph of the preamble, since the General Assembly, in that paragraph, would simply express an opinion, and would not decide on any measures.

15. Mr. GREEN (New Zealand) said that although his delegation had not been a sponsor of the draft resolution, it had nevertheless studied the text with great interest and expressed appreciation that several of its informal proposals for changes to the text had been accepted. It would vote in favour of the draft resolution for it rightly stressed the importance of assessing future trends for the purpose of facilitating decisions at the national and international governmental level. There was a need to make estimates of population trends, to assess natural resources, and to attempt to take account of changes in technology. His own Government had used long-term projections in fields of major investment such as those required in electric power generation and planning of future educational needs, but experience had shown that human behaviour was not, with current techniques, amenable to accurate forecasting, while innovations frequently upset the best forecasts within a relatively short space of time.

16. For those reasons his delegation believed the emphasis in the draft resolution on examining the techniques and methods to be used in making long-term projections was a realistic point at which to begin the tasks the sponsors of the resolution had in mind. It was necessary to use whatever techniques were available even though, for the purpose of making substantive decisions, the information provided by those techniques might at best be only rough approximations. His delegation's attitude toward the use by the United Nations of long-term projections could be described as one of "hopeful scepticism". It was hoped the techniques could be gradually improved but, because they were frequently subject to a wide margin of error, their results should be viewed with some scepticism. While it was necessary, then, to use long-term projections as a basis for long-term policy decisions, that should be done in full realization of their limitations.

17. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that his delegation had taken an active part in drawing up Economic and Social Council resolution 741 (XXVIII), and would support the draft resolution under discussion, which, as the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs had explained, went somewhat further than the Council resolution. Operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution spoke of the "methods and techniques to be employed in carrying out such a study", while the Council resolution referred to the techniques of long-term economic projections which had been developed, including those currently used in the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies. Moreover, the draft resolution did not request the Secretariat to make the preliminary investigation in consultation with the specialized agencies and other competent organizations, as did the Council resolution. The Under-Secretary had said that the work envisaged could bring about some standardization of methods and an improvement in the techniques of economic projection. Many bodies, both outside and within the United Nations, had already carried out important studies in that field which should not be ignored. In supporting the draft resolution, he

expressed the hope that it would encourage the specialized agencies and the regional economic commissions, in particular, to unite their efforts with those of the Secretariat. The United Nations should try to benefit by the interesting results already obtained by ECLA and to make full use of the considerable facilities of ECE. It was extremely important that the task of co-ordination which had been undertaken several years ago by various competent organizations should now be carried out under the auspices of the United Nations, whose Secretariat appeared to be the body peculiarly suited for bringing about such co-ordination.

18. Mr. MENDOZA LOPEZ (Bolivia), explaining why his delegation had co-sponsored the draft resolution, recalled the Economic Conference held at Geneva in 1929, at which representatives of labour, employers and Governments had for the first time considered the possibility of making a comprehensive survey of the world economy with a view to ensuring effective regulation of the economic world, a world which was man's creation but whose frequent crises were beyond his control. Governments and economists had thought that economic trends could be influenced, especially since the development of the economy had reached a stage at which cyclical movements could no longer give rise to the flows of capital which had formerly been produced under the stimulus of competition, and had contributed to the development of the North American and other countries. Nevertheless, economic expansion had not rendered crises less frequent, and, when the advanced countries—the nuclear Powers—sought to re-establish their own economic position by all possible means it was always the primary producing countries which suffered the repercussions, since they were compelled to adjust their production and their very economies to the fluctuations in world demand and were often reduced to selling their products at a loss.

19. That was not the only phenomenon affecting the under-developed countries: in view of the enormous increase in the world population, they also had to make rational use of their living space, to settle all the regions of their country and to regulate population movements so as to be able to turn their economic and demographic resources to the best possible account.

20. It was therefore essential, both for the under-developed and for the advanced countries, to draw up a balance-sheet of the world's economic potential in order to permit the formulation of plans for world economic development. That was the objective of the draft resolution, which opened up vast prospects for mankind.

21. Mr. Gopala MENON (India), replying to the Brazilian representative, said that the sponsors still felt that operative paragraph 1 should remain in the operative part of the draft resolution since that was the paragraph in which they had expressed their basic idea. The word "believes" had often been used in the operative part of resolutions.

22. Mr. ABDEL-GHANI (United Arab Republic) said that the under-developed countries were at present having to cope with more serious difficulties than those which had faced the economically advanced countries in the past, when their economies had as yet been relatively undeveloped. The problem of population growth, for example, was more complex

for the under-developed countries of today than it had been for the less developed countries in the last century, since the ratio between population and resources was now more unfavourable. During the last century, the over-populated countries had resorted to emigration; they had also had capital made available to them by the European banks, and had thus been able to finance their projects not only at home but also abroad. Moreover, levels of living in the under-developed countries of today were in most cases lower than those which had obtained in the less developed countries of the last century; and the less developed countries of the past had been able to find sources of raw materials and outlets for their industrial products in the backward countries. The under-developed countries of today were in a more difficult situation in every respect.

23. For those reasons, new approaches must be found to the economic development of the under-developed countries. It was not enough to say that those countries simply had to travel the path which the advanced countries had travelled during the last century or that they had inherited the latter's methods and techniques; what was needed was to devise new economic approaches better adapted to the present situation of the under-developed countries.

24. The United Nations Secretariat should therefore plan its studies along those lines; it should attempt to find new methods and techniques appropriate to the economic conditions currently prevailing in all countries, whether developed, developing, or under-developed. That was what the sponsors of the thirty-eight-Power draft resolution were calling for.

25. Mr. ENCINAS (Peru) said that his delegation had always been interested in the methodological problems of economic development, and would vote for the thirty-eight-Power draft resolution. He wished to point out, however, that the main idea in the minds of most delegations was the economic development of the under-developed countries. That idea was not expressed with sufficient clarity in the text as it stood. Operative paragraph 1, which contained the draft resolution's basic idea, referred to the necessity for a study "of the above problems"—the problems touched on in the preamble. In the preamble, however, the word "problems" occurred only in the first paragraph, which applied to all countries, including the highly advanced ones. The desired objective should accordingly be clarified by insisting in the first preambular paragraph, after the words "in all stages of development", the words "and particularly the under-developed countries".

26. Mr. ROA KOURI (Cuba) said he was glad that attempts were being made internationally to resolve the problems facing a large part of the world's population, for the only way to avoid war was to improve economic conditions. Total disarmament was only one phase in a process that should lead to fairer conditions of life. The defective structure of a society in which a small number of nations enjoyed all the economic, social and cultural advantages, while others lived in poverty and were at the mercy of economic conditions over which they had no control, must be corrected.

27. What was needed was not so much to control population growth as to ensure full utilization of resources with a view to accelerating the rate of development. Multilateral action, expanded trade, increased co-operation among the under-developed countries, the

awakening of national consciousness and the growth of liberation movements would create the favourable conditions necessary for development.

28. Mr. ARKADEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) observed that the thirty-eight-Power draft resolution raised questions of great interest and noted that the task entrusted to the Secretary-General would be a difficult one.

29. The problem had to be considered in the broadest terms. It was necessary first to ascertain the facts and then to examine long-term projections, since the object of the exercise was to determine the measures that should be taken at the international level. It was therefore appropriate to consider what ought to be included in the study, as various courses could be adopted.

30. The central question was that of the resources available to the under-developed countries, and in that connexion it was impossible to disregard disarmament, which would open up immense possibilities for the under-developed countries.

31. In the interests of objectivity the Secretary-General would have to take into consideration the experience and achievements of the socialist as well as the capitalist countries. The socialist countries had made remarkable advances in all branches of economic activity and had succeeded in developing their relations with other countries along lines which were highly advantageous to the under-developed countries.

32. In considering the problem of under-development the members of the Committee adopted different approaches. The Swedish representative, for instance, considered that the solution was to be found in the reduction of birth rates. Others, including his own delegation, believed that in an age of rapid scientific advances everything possible should be done to enable the under-developed countries to make use of the new technical knowledge so that they could increase their production in all branches of economic activity and feed their people. The economic policy of the socialist countries was founded on that principle, which should be taken into account in the proposed study.

33. The position of the under-developed countries was not the same as that of the developed countries a hundred years earlier. They were developing their economies in an age in which science and technology had reached a very high level, and they should be enabled to make use of present and future discoveries to promote the welfare of their people. The United Nations should assist them to obtain such knowledge and to find the resources and means for their development.

34. His delegation would therefore support the draft resolution.

35. Mr. PENTEADO (Brazil) said he would not press his suggestion concerning operative paragraph 1, although he had not found the Indian representative's arguments entirely convincing. He would nevertheless vote for the draft resolution, which was, in his opinion, a constructive proposal.

36. Mr. KAUFMANN (Netherlands) said that because of war devastation and population growth, his country had had to make short- and long-term projections and to formulate guiding principles. The guiding principles had had to be altered frequently and the long-term

projections had proved to be inaccurate. Projections should in fact be highly flexible. The Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs had mentioned the differences between the thirty-eight-Power draft resolution and Economic and Social Council resolution 741 (XXVIII). That resolution dealt only with long-term economic projections. It would be desirable also to study the techniques of short- and medium-term projections.

37. He felt that the Swedish representative had been right in drawing attention to the effects of population growth on economic development. The problem of over-population would not be solved merely by the transfer of capital to agriculture. The number of persons employed in agriculture could not be increased indefinitely. Employment opportunities had to be created in industry and large investments were necessary for industrial development. In the Netherlands it had been calculated that an investment of some \$6,500 was required to create one new job in industry.

38. Mr. DUDLEY (United Kingdom) remarked that the draft resolution responded to the statement of the Indian representative in the general debate: the preamble summed up that statement and the operative paragraphs set about the task of examining future prospects. The Economic and Social Council at its twenty-eighth session had already made a start to the work of examining long-term projections and might be thought to have covered the ground dealt with by the present draft. The draft seemed, however, to carry the Council's work a little further by, for example, calling for an examination of the work being done in individual countries. Such an examination would be useful and he was glad to hear the representative of the Soviet Union say that his Government would co-operate with the Secretary-General in studying the effects of its policies on the world economy. Without accepting the language the Soviet Union representative had used—he himself would prefer to describe the two main economic systems now existing in the world as "rigid" and "flexible"—he was convinced that the centrally planned economies, by their very rigidity, had a profound influence on world development and that should certainly be studied. His own Government would, of course, also co-operate fully in the important enterprise under consideration.

39. Mr. CARRILLO (El Salvador) felt that the draft resolution was of great importance from the standpoint of the future development of the world economy. Attention was drawn in the draft to the vitally important question of population growth, to which the Swedish representative had also referred. In the report on its tenth session^{1/} the Population Commission had called the Council's attention to the accelerating growth of population and had referred to the Secretariat's population projections which indicated that the world population would increase from about 2,800 million to 6,900 million by the year 2000.

40. The thirty-eight-Power draft resolution envisaged a comprehensive, co-ordinated and continuing study of the problems referred to in the preamble. In that connexion he considered that the Brazilian representative's suggestion had some justification. Alternatively, it would seem more logical to redraft the provisions of operative paragraph 1 to form a

second part of paragraph 2. That was, however, a mere question of detail and his delegation would support the draft resolution.

41. Mr. CARDENAS (Ecuador) remarked that the draft resolution was one of the most important submitted to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session, since it envisaged the problem of world economic development as a whole. It referred, however, only to a preliminary stage, the study of techniques that could be used to translate ideas of world development into reality.

42. He regretted that the draft resolution did not place sufficient emphasis on a number of problems that had to be taken into account in considering the question from a global point of view. In view of the needs of the under-developed countries and the necessity of correcting imbalances in world economic development, the reference in the fourth preambular paragraph to the question of the demand for and supply of raw materials was clearly inadequate. As his delegation had pointed out in the general debate (613th meeting), the adverse effect of fluctuations in economic activity were not confined to the countries directly concerned but were felt throughout the world. It was essential to find means of preventing any decline in employment and in the rate of economic growth in the advanced countries. The development of the under-developed countries might provide a solution to those problems and permit the steady and uninterrupted expansion of the world economy. The sponsors of the draft resolution might perhaps be willing to include a reference in the third preambular paragraph to the need to eliminate fluctuations in economic activity and to the idea that world economic development should be continuous.

43. It was clearly not enough to envisage world economic development as a homogeneous process, for conditions in the individual countries and regions had also to be taken into account, particularly in considering the rate of population growth, which determined the rate of economic growth and raised a whole series of problems in relation to both demand and supply. The solution advocated by the Swedish representative might suit some countries, but it was not the one that would be selected by the Ecuadorian Government, which regarded orderly and steady economic development as the only means of solving the population problem. It was not enough to feed the new additions to the populations. They had also to be provided with jobs and absorbed into the country's economy, which would call for planning at the national level. As the problem was on a world scale, there would also have to be planning at the international level, as the head of the Indian delegation had already pointed out, and new approaches would be necessary, particularly in the matter of the organization of international trade. With those considerations in mind, Latin America was working towards a common market, which would facilitate its development, and enable it to utilize its human resources fully and satisfy its aspirations.

44. Some of the economic projections made in the past had been unduly optimistic and disregarded the fact that the improvement of agricultural productivity could not remove all problems and that the under-developed countries must industrialize. It was important to remember that demand played an important role in the under-developed, as well as in advanced, countries.

^{1/}Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3.

45. It was impossible to over-emphasize the need for the study of such problems within the framework of the United Nations and the sponsors had, he thought, been right to refer to that need in the first paragraph of the operative part. An addition might usefully be made to the preamble indicating that the Secretary-General should request the assistance of the specialized agencies and of the regional economic commissions and make full use of all their resources in undertaking the intended study. He also thought that a reference should in fairness be made in the sixth preambular paragraph to the substantial efforts that were being made by the under-developed countries themselves.

46. Mr. RITTER AISLAN (Panama) observed that the draft resolution did not offer a panacea or magic formula; it merely outlined a problem that faced the entire world. It did no more than suggest a realistic approach to the problem and reaffirmed the hope that mankind would, if all countries pooled their efforts, be able to solve the tremendous problem that was a subject of universal concern.

47. He agreed with the New Zealand representative that economic projections could be dangerous if they were not based on a study in depth of the situation as a whole.

48. With regard to the increase in world population, he believed that there would be sufficient food and shelter for all, if mankind was prepared to think in terms of the pooling of all the earth's resources and to regard the world as a vast, interdependent whole.

49. Mr. SYLLA (Guinea) said that he wished to draw the Committee's attention to the African continent, where economic development was extremely slow because the African economy was essentially colonial in character and had been designed to meet the needs and serve the interests of metropolitan economies, as was evident from the inadequacy of communications facilities, which were merely routes for strategic penetration or roads and railways built to permit the export of the products of particular regions. The colonial Powers had devoted their attention to undertakings of that kind and to the development of ports and the cultivation of coffee, cocoa and other commodities, and had prevented the industrialization of their colonies by treating them as exclusive markets for their own manufactured goods. For example, the large flour mills at Dakar, which could meet the requirements of the whole of West Africa, were not intended to supply the population with cheaper flour than could be imported from France, but to feed the army of the colonial Power, if the need arose. Similarly, cement from the Cap Vert cement works had to be sold at the same price as imported cement. It was clear that the African economy was wholly subordinated to the economic and political policies of the colonial Powers, and that the large-scale investment of capital in Africa would be without real significance so long as the continent remained under colonial domination.

50. Africa was a whole. It had its own problems and aspirations and should not be considered in terms of its present colonial status, with its artificial frontiers and spheres of foreign influence. Africa believed that its economic development should be related to its political objectives, and would therefore have to define the nature of the investments it needed. It would re-

quire capital to permit the more rational utilization of its agricultural and forest resources and the development and local processing of its mineral wealth. In order to promote the economic development of Africa, it was therefore necessary first to assist it to obtain its political freedom.

51. His own country had set up co-operatives and a national foreign trade agency in an effort to break the mercantilist pattern of trade which had hampered the development of its commercial activities. It was not until it had become independent that it had been able to export its goods freely and on better terms, to import what it needed, and to refrain from making unnecessary imports. Guinea was now in a position to develop its national economy in the country's interests, and it hoped that before June 1960 it would be able to solve the problems arising from its three-year development plan, which provided for the allocation of investments to productive activities (50 per cent), social equipment (30 per cent) and the administrative infrastructure (20 per cent). Guinea's economy and its markets were open to the world, and it was to the world that it turned for support to permit its continued development.

52. In supporting the draft resolution, he expressed the hope that the proposed global study would take into account the interests of Africa, which formed a single entity.

53. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that he had no information at hand concerning the Dakar flour mills and the Cap Vert cement works and pointed out that neither example was relevant to the question before the Committee.

54. Mr. Gopala MENON (India) expressed satisfaction at the interest aroused by the draft resolution, which, as the Panamanian representative had said, merely outlined the problems and suggested that they should be the subject of a comprehensive, co-ordinated and continuing study as a basis for possible international action, but made no proposal for a solution at the present stage.

55. He thanked the Brazilian representative for withdrawing his suggestion. He was also grateful to the Peruvian representative for not pressing his proposal; as the draft resolution considered world economic development from a global standpoint, the proposed study would cover the economic development of the under-developed countries. The Ecuadorian representative had made some valuable suggestions, but the sponsors were unable to take them into account at the present late stage in the discussion. The examination of fluctuations in economic activity would clearly form a part of the study of problems of resources. He thanked the Salvadorian delegation for not pressing its suggestion at the present stage of the debate. He had not consulted the other sponsors of the draft resolution, but he believed that he was expressing their views in saying that it would have been very difficult at the present stage to make any change in the text, which was not only important but the result of a compromise.

56. Mr. DE SEYNES (Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs) said that he wished to assure those representatives who had raised the point that the intended study would be undertaken in close association with the specialized agencies, the regional economic commissions and the competent organs of the United Nations. He had not referred to the need for such co-ordination because he had felt that it was self-evident.

57. The CHAIRMAN put the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.439 and Add.1, 2 and 4), as amended by the Indian representative, to the vote.

The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.