



## Economic and Social Council

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Resumed organizational session for 1998

### PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 5th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Thursday, 7 May 1998, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. SOMAVIA (Chile)

#### CONTENTS

BRIEFING BY THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS ON THE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

SOCIAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

ELECTIONS, NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS (continued)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (continued)

REPORTS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES: HUMAN RIGHTS  
QUESTIONS

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

BRIEFING BY THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS ON THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

Mr. DESAI (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) began by welcoming the new Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, Mr. Patrizio Civili, to his first meeting of the Economic and Social Council. Mr. Civili, as Secretary of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC), would also head an office of inter-agency affairs to be established within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The office, whose staff would be assigned from the various agencies, would serve as a secretariat to ACC.

He welcomed the initiatives launched by the President of the Council with a view to strengthening inter-agency coordination, including the High-Level Meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods Institutions, held on 18 April - which demonstrated the contribution that the Council could make to the global discussion of economic issues and the value of merging the themes of financial management and long-term development - and the Session of the Economic and Social Council on the Integrated and Coordinated Follow-up of Major United Nations Conferences and Summits, to be held the following week.

The first regular session of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, held in Geneva on 27 and 28 March, had focused on poverty eradication - a commitment undertaken at the World Summit for Social Development - and, in particular, on the coordination of various United Nations poverty eradication activities at the country level. ACC had had before it a joint note on the subject prepared by the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and had adopted a statement of commitment for action to eradicate poverty, embodying the coordinated and coherent position of all the relevant United Nations bodies. The statement reflected initiatives taken by agency secretariats and the concerns expressed by members of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies. He hoped that it would form the basis for enhanced

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coordination of United Nations poverty eradication activities, particularly at the field level.

During the session, ACC had begun to consider the interaction of the various reform processes under way in the United Nations and in most of the specialized agencies and their overall impact on the coherence and effectiveness of the United Nations system. As part of that initiative, ACC would identify future measures to be taken at both the agency level and system-wide; certain proposals and ideas had already been presented by the Secretary-General in that connection. ACC members had expressed their commitment to the renewal and reform of the United Nations system. Their assessment would focus on core competencies and common priorities with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of activities in response to changing realities. Mr. Civili, as Secretary of ACC and in his new post as Assistant Secretary-General, would provide support to and information on inter-agency coordination.

Mr. GOODERHAM (United Kingdom) wondered whether the ACC statement of commitment for action to eradicate poverty would be made available to Council members and in what format. It would also be interesting to know the general sentiment of ACC with regard to the United Nations Development Group and the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) initiated by the Secretary-General within the context of the reform of the Organization.

Mr. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh) said that the two questions posed by the representative of the United Kingdom were also of interest to his delegation, particularly the linkage between United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and country strategy notes. In general, the Council's discussions of ACC sessions would be facilitated by announcements of scheduled briefings in the Journal and advance distribution to Council members of the decisions taken by ACC.

Mr. DESAI (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs), responding to the representative of the United Kingdom, said that the ACC statement of commitment for action to eradicate poverty would be issued to the Council shortly. The United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) had not been considered under a separate agenda item during the session but rather in the context of the reform exercise. ACC had always viewed UNDAFs as an instrument for the implementation of the country strategy notes; the special

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agencies had expressed interest in it and acknowledged its potential for promoting joint activities.

In response to the representative of Bangladesh, he said that every effort would be made to provide all possible information to the Council prior to briefings on ACC sessions.

Mr. CIVILI (Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs) agreed that the relationship between the Council and ACC was crucial to the effectiveness of both. In his new post, he would strive to improve the quality of the substantive support provided to the Council by the Secretariat and the dialogue between the Council and ACC. The relationship between UNDAFs and country strategy notes and the feeling of the specialized agencies with regard to UNDAFs, had indeed been discussed during the session but only in very general terms in the context of system-wide reform. However, it would be a major topic of discussion at the meeting of the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (CCPOQ) and would be covered extensively in the ACC report to be submitted to the Council in December in the context of the triennial policy review of operational activities for development. The specialized agencies were extremely interested in contributing to the UNDAF process, one of the most practical and immediate means of coordinating reform efforts system-wide. In response to the representative of Bangladesh, he proposed reviewing the time-table for the submission of ACC reports to the Council. Under the current system, the information contained in the reports, which went first to the Committee for Programme and Coordination, was outdated by the time it reached the Council.

SOCIAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Draft resolution E/1998/L.8

The PRESIDENT drew attention to draft resolution E/1998/L.8, entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action". The draft resolution had been adopted without a vote by the Commission on the Status of Women, which had recommended its adoption by the Economic and Social Council and, subsequently, by the General Assembly. He took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution and to recommend that the General Assembly should take action on it at its resumed fifty-second session.

It was so decided.

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ELECTIONS, NOMINATIONS, CONFIRMATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS (continued)

Elections

Commission on Population and Development (E/1998/L.1/Add.3)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect eight members of the Commission on Population and Development for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the candidacies of Burundi and Guinea had been endorsed by the Group of African States; the Islamic Republic of Iran and Yemen, by the Group of Asian States; Croatia, by the Group of Eastern European States; Chile and Haiti, by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Italy, by the Group of Western European and other States.

The PRESIDENT said that, as the number of candidates in each group was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled from that group, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed. Moreover, he took it that the Council wished to postpone, once again, the previously postponed elections to fill three vacancies for the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, two of which were for terms expiring on 31 December 2000 and one of which was for a term expiring on 31 December 2001. Lastly, he took it that the Council wished to postpone to a later stage the elections to fill the remaining vacancies for terms beginning on 1 January 1999.

It was so decided.

Burundi, Chile, Croatia, Guinea, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy and Yemen were elected members of the Commission on Population and Development.  
Commission for Social Development (E/1998/L.1/Add.3)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 14 members of the Commission for Social Development for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the candidacy of Algeria had been endorsed by the Group of African States; the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Thailand, by the Group of Asian States; Croatia, by the Group of Eastern European States; Argentina, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Turkey, by the Group of Western European and other States.

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Mr. GOODERHAM (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States, said that the Group had also endorsed the candidacies of Spain and Sweden.

The PRESIDENT said that, as the number of candidates in each group was equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled from that group, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed, and to postpone to a later stage the elections to fill the remaining vacancies.

It was so decided.

Algeria, Argentina, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Spain, Sweden, Thailand and Turkey were elected members of the Commission for Social Development.  
Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.1/Add.3)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 14 members of the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the candidacies of Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritius and the Niger had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Pakistan, Qatar and the Republic of Korea, by the Group of Asian States; Colombia and Mexico, by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and France, Norway and the United States of America, by the Group of Western European and other States. Hungary, Latvia, Romania and Slovakia were non-endorsed candidates from the Group of Eastern European States.

The PRESIDENT said that, as the number of candidates in each group except the Group of Eastern European States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled from that group, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed.

It was so decided.

Colombia, France, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mexico, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Korea and United States of America were elected members of the Commission on Human Rights.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot two members from the Group of Eastern European States.

At the invitation of the President, Ms. González Posse (Argentina) and Mr. Ralitsele (Lesotho) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	54
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	54
<u>Required majority:</u>	28
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Romania .....	41
Latvia .....	32
Hungary .....	19
Slovakia .....	13

Having obtained the required majority, Latvia and Romania were elected members of the Commission on Human Rights.

Commission on the Status of Women (E/1998/L.1/Add.3)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 11 members of the Commission on the Status of Women for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the candidacies of Burundi, Egypt and Senegal had been endorsed by the Group of African States; the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Mongolia, by the Group of Asian States; Mexico, by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Belgium, Italy and Turkey, by the Group of Western European and other States. Bulgaria, Lithuania and the Russian Federation were non-endorsed candidates from the Group of Eastern European States.

The PRESIDENT said that, as the number of candidates in each group except the Group of Eastern European States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled from that group, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed, and to postpone to a later stage the elections to fill the remaining vacancies.

It was so decided.

Belgium, Burundi, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Italy, Mexico, Mongolia, Senegal and Turkey were elected members of the Commission on the Status of Women.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot two members from the Group of Eastern European States.

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At the invitation of the President, Ms. Yuan Xiaoying (China) and Ms. Martínez (Ecuador) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Number of valid ballots: 54

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Russian Federation ..... 41

Lithuania ..... 39

Bulgaria ..... 27

Having obtained the required majority, Lithuania and the Russian Federation were elected members of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Commission on Sustainable Development (E/1998/L.1/Add.3)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 20 members of the Commission on Sustainable Development for a three-year term beginning immediately after the Commission's seventh session, in 1999, and expiring at the close of its session in 2002.

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the candidacies of Angola, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mozambique and Tunisia had been endorsed by the Group of African States; the Russian Federation and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, by the Group of Eastern European States; Cuba, Colombia, Guyana and Paraguay, by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands, by the Group of Western European and other States. China, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of Korea and Thailand were non-endorsed candidates from the Group of Asian States.

The PRESIDENT said that, as the number of candidates in each group except the Group of Asian States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled from that group, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed, and to postpone to a later stage the elections to fill the remaining vacancies.

It was so decided.

Angola, Belgium, Cameroon, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Germany, Guyana, Italy, Mozambique, Netherlands, Paraguay,

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Russian Federation, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Tunisia were elected members of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot two members from the Group of Asian States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Nemoytine (Russian Federation) and Ms. Hewer (United Kingdom) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	54
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	54
<u>Required majority:</u>	28
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Republic of Korea .....	46
China .....	41
Lebanon .....	41
Kazakhstan .....	40
Thailand .....	31
Papua New Guinea .....	12

Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, China, Kazakhstan, Lebanon and Republic of Korea were elected members of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Commission on Human Settlements (E/1998/L.1/Add.5)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 20 members of the Commission on Human Settlements for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the candidacies of Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon and Mali had been endorsed by the Group of African States; the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Pakistan and Viet Nam, by the Group of Asian States; Lithuania and the Russian Federation, by the Group of Eastern European States; Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Chile, by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Finland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, by the Group of Western European and other States.

The PRESIDENT said that, as the number of candidates in each group was equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled from that group, he

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took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed, and to postpone to a later stage the elections to fill the remaining vacancies.

It was so decided.

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Finland, Gabon, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Lithuania, Mali, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America and Viet Nam were elected members of the Commission on Human Settlements.

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/L.1/Add.9)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 19 members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the candidacy of Algeria had been endorsed by the Group of African States; China, India, Lebanon and Pakistan, by the Group of Asian States; Romania and the Russian Federation, by the Group of Eastern European States; Bolivia, Chile, Colombia and Cuba, by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and France, Ireland, Turkey and the United States of America, by the Group of Western European and other States.

Mr. WAN CHAT KWONG (Mauritius), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, said that the Group had also endorsed the candidacies of Ethiopia, the Sudan and Tunisia.

The PRESIDENT said that, as the number of candidates in each group was equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled from that group, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed, and to postpone to a later stage the elections to fill the remaining vacancies.

It was so decided.

Algeria, Bolivia, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, France, India, Ireland, Lebanon, Pakistan, Romania, Russian Federation, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey and United States of America were elected members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/1998/L.1/Add.1, Add.14 and Add.16)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect nine experts as members of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999. The names of the candidates nominated by each

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group of States, together with their biographical information, were contained in documents E/1998/L.1/Add.1, Add.14 and Add.16. In accordance with Council resolution 1985/17, he invited the Council to elect the nine experts by secret ballot.

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that Mercedes Pulido de Briceño (Venezuela) had withdrawn her candidacy.

Mr. NAGY (Hungary), speaking on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States, said that the Group had endorsed the candidacy of Valeri I. Kouznetsov (Russian Federation).

The PRESIDENT said that, as the number of candidates in the Group of Eastern European States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled from that group, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidate proposed.

It was so decided.

Valeri I. Kouznetsov (Russian Federation) was elected a member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Tapia (Chile) and Ms. Duda (Poland) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Group of Asian States

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	54
<u>Abstentions:</u>	1
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	53
<u>Required majority:</u>	27
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Virginia Bonoan-Dandan (Philippines)	36
Nutan Thapalia (Nepal)	31
Sami Glaiel (Syria)	23
Luvsandanzan Ider (Mongolia)	16

Having obtained the required majority, Virginia Bonoan-Dandan (Philippines) and Nutan Thapalia (Nepal) were elected members of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Group of Western European and other States

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	54
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	54
<u>Required majority:</u>	28
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Paul Hunt (New Zealand)	40
Mario Michele Alessi (Italy)	33
Eibe Riedel (Germany)	33

Having obtained the required majority: Paul Hunt (New Zealand) was elected a member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Group of African States

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	54
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	54
<u>Required majority:</u>	28
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Clement Atangana (Cameroon)	31
Mahmoud Samir Ahmed (Egypt)	26
El Ghali Benhima (Morocco)	22
Bharat Patel (Zimbabwe)	17
Mohamed Lamine Fofana (Guinea)	12

Having obtained the required majority, Clement Atangana (Cameroon) was elected a member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The PRESIDENT said that since only one candidate from the Group of Western European and other States and only one candidate from the Group of African States had received the required majority, a second vote would be taken by secret ballot restricted to the two candidates from the Group of African States who had obtained the largest number of votes and the two candidates from the Group of Western European and other States who had received the same number of ballots.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Tapia (Chile) and Ms. Duda (Poland) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

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Group of African States

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Invalid ballots:</u>	1
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	53
<u>Abstentions:</u>	1
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	52
<u>Required majority:</u>	27
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Mahmoud Samir Ahmed (Egypt)	28
El Ghali Benhima (Morocco)	24

Having obtained the required majority, Mahmoud Samir Ahmed (Egypt) was elected a member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Zebrakovsky (Czech Republic) and Ms. Yoo (Republic of Korea) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Group of Western European and other States

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	54
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	54
<u>Required majority:</u>	28
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Eibe Riedel (Germany)	28
Mario Michele Alessi (Italy)	26

Having obtained the required majority, Eibe Riedel (Germany) was elected a member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (E/1998/L.1/Add.7)

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the Group of African States had endorsed the candidacy of Zimbabwe; the Group of Asian States had endorsed the candidacies of China and Pakistan; the Group of Eastern European States had endorsed the Russian Federation and Ukraine; the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States had endorsed Guyana and Paraguay; and the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed Canada, Denmark, France and Switzerland.

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The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the number of candidates in all groups was equal to the number of vacancies, those candidates should be elected by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Canada, China, Denmark, France, Guyana, Pakistan, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Ukraine and Zimbabwe were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund.

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund (E/1998/L.1/Add.2)

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the Group of African States had endorsed the candidacy of Ethiopia, the Group of Asian States had endorsed India and Kyrgyzstan and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States had endorsed Cuba and Guatemala for seats on the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund. The candidates from the Group of Eastern European States were Belarus, Latvia and Ukraine.

Mr. GOODERHAM (United Kingdom) said that the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed the candidacies of Canada, Italy, Switzerland and the United States of America. In addition, through a system of rotation within the Group, Germany would replace France and Sweden would replace Norway on 1 January 1999.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the number of candidates in the Group of African States, the Group of Asian States, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of Western European and other States was equal to the number of vacancies, those candidates should be elected by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Canada, Cuba, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Switzerland and United States of America were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot two members from the Group of Eastern European States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Londoño (Colombia) and Mr. Winnick (United States of America) acted as tellers.

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A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	54
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	54
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	54
<u>Required majority:</u>	28
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Belarus	46
Ukraine	32
Latvia	29

Having obtained the required majority and the highest number of votes, Belarus and Ukraine were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund.

Executive Board of the World Food Programme (E/1998/L.1/Add.4)

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that Morocco was the endorsed candidate in List A (Group of African States), Yemen in List B (Group of Asian States) and Haiti in List C (Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

Mr. WAN CHAT KWONG (Mauritius) said that the Group of African States had also endorsed the candidacy of the Republic of the Congo.

Mr. GOODERHAM (United Kingdom) said that the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed the candidacies of Denmark and Sweden. In addition, in accordance with the system of rotation within the group, the United Kingdom would replace Norway on 1 January 1999.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the number of candidates on all the lists was equal to the number of vacancies, those candidates should be elected by acclamation.

Congo, Denmark, Haiti, Morocco, Sweden and Yemen were elected members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme for a three-year term beginning 1 January 1999.

Programme Coordination Board of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) (E/1998/L.1/Add.8)

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States had endorsed the candidacy of Brazil and the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed Spain for a three-year term

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beginning on 1 January 1999. In addition, beginning on 1 January 1999, Finland would serve the remainder of the term of Denmark.

Mr. GOODERHAM (United Kingdom) said that the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed Germany as a candidate for its second vacancy.

Mr. NAGY (Observer for Hungary) said that the Group of Eastern European States had endorsed the candidacy of the Russian Federation.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the number of candidates from the Group of Eastern European States, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of Western European and other States was equal to the number of vacancies, the candidates from those Groups should be elected by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Brazil, Germany, Russian Federation and Spain were elected members of the Programme Coordination Board of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS.

The PRESIDENT said that he would take it that the Council agreed to postpone the elections for the vacancies from the Group of African States and the Group of Asian States to a later stage.

It was so decided.

#### Nominations

Committee for Programme and Coordination (E/1998/L.1/Add.6)

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that the Group of African States had endorsed the nominations of Benin and Egypt, the Group of Asian States had endorsed China, Japan and the Republic of Korea and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States had endorsed Uruguay for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the number of candidates in those groups was equal to or less than the number of vacancies, the Council should nominate those candidates.

It was so decided.

Benin, China, Egypt, Japan, Republic of Korea and Uruguay were nominated for membership in the Committee for Programme and Coordination.

The PRESIDENT said that he would take it that the Council wished to postpone the remaining nominations for one member from the Group of Western

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European and other States for a term expiring on 31 December 1999 and one member from the Group of African States.

It was so decided.

Confirmations (E/1998/L.2/Add.2)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to document E/1998/L.2/Add.2, containing the names of representatives of the functional commissions which had been submitted for confirmation by the Council since the close of the organizational session for 1998. He took it that the Council wished to confirm the nominations contained in that document.

It was so decided.

Appointments

Committee for Development Planning (E/1998/L.1/Add.11)

The PRESIDENT said that the note by the Secretary-General contained in document E/1998/L.1/Add.11 proposed that the appointment of 24 experts to the Committee for Development Planning should be deferred pending a decision on the future of the Committee subsequent to the consultations being conducted on General Assembly resolution 50/227. He took it that the Council therefore agreed to defer the appointment of those nominees.

It was so decided.

Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (E/1998/L.1/Add.10 and Add.15)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to appoint three members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women for a three-year term beginning on 1 July 1998.

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Council) said that for the African States the nominees were Jacob Félicien Andriampanjava (Madagascar), Aminata Ayeva-Traore (Togo), Sheila Bunwaree-Ramharai (Mauritius), Neddy Rita Matshalaga (Zimbabwe) and Mamosebi Theresia Pholo (Lesotho). For the Latin American and Caribbean States, the nominee was Esther María Ashton (Bolivia). For the Western European and other States, there was only one nominee, Cecilia Valcárcel Alcázar (Spain), since the candidacy of the nominee from Portugal had been withdrawn. One member was to be appointed from each Group.

The PRESIDENT said that, since there was one candidate endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and one candidate endorsed by the

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Group of Western European and other States, he took it that the Council wished to appoint by acclamation the two candidates proposed.

It was so decided.

Esther María Ashton (Bolivia) and Cecilia Valcárcel Alcázar (Spain) were appointed members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of nominees from the Group of African States was greater than the number of vacancies, a vote would be taken by secret ballot to elect one of those candidates.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Gubarevich (Belarus) and Ms. Fatima (Bangladesh) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Invalid ballots: 1

Number of valid ballots: 53

Number of members voting: 53

Required majority: 27

Number of votes obtained:

Mamosebi Theresia Pholo (Lesotho) 20

Sheila Bunwaree-Ramharai (Mauritius) 18

Aminata Ayeva-Traore (Togo) 6

Neddy Rita Matshalaga (Zimbabwe) 5

Jacob Félicien Andriampanjava (Madagascar) 4

The PRESIDENT said that since none of the candidates had received the required majority, a second vote would be taken by secret ballot to elect a candidate from the two States that had received the largest number of votes: Lesotho and Mauritius.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Gubarevich (Belarus) and Ms. Fatima (Bangladesh) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Number of valid ballots: 54

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Mamosebi Theresia Pholo (Lesotho)	31
Sheila Bunwaree-Ramharai (Mauritius)	23

Having obtained the required majority, Mamosebi Theresia Pholo (Lesotho) was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

Elections postponed from previous sessions  
Commission on Science and Technology for Development

The PRESIDENT said that the Council was to elect eight members from the Group of Asian States, one member from the Group of Eastern European States and six members from the Group of Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election. India and the Republic of Korea had been nominated to fill vacancies for the Group of Asian States; and Slovakia had been nominated to fill the vacancy for the Group of the Eastern European States.

Mr. GOODERHAM (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States, said that the Group had endorsed Portugal to fill one of its six vacant seats on the Commission.

The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from the Group of Asian States, the Group of Eastern European States and the Group of Western European and other States was equal to or less than the number of vacancies for the respective groups, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

It was so decided.

India, Portugal, the Republic of Korea and Slovakia were elected members of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.

The PRESIDENT said that since there was not a full slate of candidates for the Group of Asian States or the Group of Western European and other States, the drawing of lots to determine the terms of office of the members from those two Groups would be postponed to a future session.

In accordance with Council decision 1995/312, he drew lots for the members of the Commission from the Group of Eastern European States to determine their terms of office. Of the six Eastern European members elected, the Russian Federation, Slovakia and Ukraine would serve for terms expiring on 31 December 2001; and Belarus, Bulgaria and Romania would serve for terms expiring on 31 December 1999.

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Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

The PRESIDENT said that the Council was to elect one member from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and one member from the Group of Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election. He had been informed that Portugal had been nominated to fill the vacancy for the Group of Western European and other States. In the absence of other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect Portugal by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

It was so decided.

Portugal was elected a member of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting.

The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of a candidate to fill the remaining vacancy for the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election for that vacancy.

It was so decided.

Committee on Natural Resources (E/1998/L.1/Add.13)

The PRESIDENT said that the Council was to elect one expert from the Group of Asian States, one expert from the Group of Eastern European States and two experts from the Group of Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot. The Council had received nominations from the Governments of Portugal, the Philippines and Spain to fill three of the vacancies. In accordance with its decision 1996/222, the Council had also received nominations from the Governments of Ghana, Malawi and the Netherlands.

Mr. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh) said that, in accordance with its decisions, the Council was reviewing the composition and regional representation of some of its subsidiary bodies, including the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. In light of the subsequent decisions to be taken in that regard, it might be necessary to reconsider the representation of countries in those bodies.

The PRESIDENT said that the Council had taken note of the statement by Bangladesh. In the absence of other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect the candidate that he had referred to by acclamation.

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It was so decided.

Manuel Carlos Serrano Pinto (Portugal), Carlos G. Tomboc (Philippines), Jesús Martínez Frías (Spain), Eddy Kofi Smith (Ghana), Owen MacDonald Kankhulungo (Malawi) and Hendrik Martinus Oudshoorn (Netherlands) were elected members of the Committee on Natural Resources.

The PRESIDENT said that, since there was not a full slate of candidates for the Committee on Natural Resources, the drawing of lots to determine the terms of office of the members would be postponed to a future session.

Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development (E/1998/L.1/Add.12 and Add.17)

The PRESIDENT said that the Council was to elect six experts from the Group of African States, one expert from the Group of Asian States, and two experts from the Group of Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election. He had been informed that Johannes Tonderayi Chigwada (Zimbabwe) had been nominated to fill one of the vacancies. In accordance with its decision 1996/222, the Council had also received the nomination of Wilhelmus Turkenburg from the Government of the Netherlands. In the absence of other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election.

It was so decided.

Johannes Tonderayi Chigwada (Zimbabwe) and Wilhelmus Turkenburg (Netherlands) were elected members of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development.  
Committee for the United Nations Population Award

Ms. NEWELL (Secretary of the Committee) said that there were four members to be elected to the Committee for the United Nations Population Award for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000. Grenada had been endorsed as the member to be elected by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

Mr. WAN CHAT KWONG (Mauritius), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, said that the Group had endorsed the candidacies of Cape Verde and Lesotho to fill two of the three seats in question.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Council wished to elect Grenada, Cape Verde and Lesotho by acclamation.

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It was so decided.

Cape Verde, Grenada and Lesotho were elected members of the Committee for the United Nations Population Award.

The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of a candidate to fill the remaining vacancy for the Group of African States, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election for that vacancy.

It was so decided.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (E/1998/L.7)

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft decision on enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/1998/L.7) and recommend it to the General Assembly for action.

It was so decided.

REPORTS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS (E/1997/L.23 and Add.2, E/1998/L.4)

The PRESIDENT said that, in its decision 1998/210, the Committee had decided to postpone consideration of the four draft decisions contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session (E/1997/L.23 and Add.2) and the programme budget implications of those decisions (E/1998/L.4). Document E/1997/L.23/Add.2 contained the decision of the Committee entitled "Extraordinary additional session of the pre-sessional working group of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (20-24 April 1998)". It had not been possible for the Council to take action on that draft decision. It was his understanding that the Council was not yet in a position to take action on the three remaining draft decisions in document E/1997/L.23. Accordingly, he took it that the Council wished to postpone consideration of those three draft decisions to a future session.

It was so decided.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

The PRESIDENT declared the resumed organizational session of the Council for 1998 closed.

The meeting rose at 1.30 p.m.