

task for Governments to accomplish without the support of their peoples.

Organization of work

61. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Committee) announced that the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolutions of the World Food Conference would be an oral report and would be presented by the Executive Director of the World Food Council himself.

62. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) suggested that it would be desirable for the Committee to acquaint itself with the nature of the work of the World Food Council before

having a theoretical discussion on it. The report should be made available prior to the discussion on the subject.

63. The CHAIRMAN stated that the Executive Director would present his oral report on Wednesday of the following week, and that his statement would probably be distributed. The Committee could then decide how to deal with agenda item 60, relating to food problems.

64. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) said that it was regrettable that there should be only an oral report. In his opinion, the General Assembly should give instructions to all organs to prepare the reports requested of them.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

1660th meeting

Monday, 6 October 1975, at 3.10 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Olof RYDBECK (Sweden).

A/C.2/SR.1660

GENERAL DEBATE (*concluded*)

1. Mr. KUDRYAVTSEV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) reiterated his country's view that international peace and security were a prerequisite for economic development, as was recognized in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX)). Considerable positive results had been achieved recently in that respect, notably at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, at Helsinki, which had created additional underpinnings for *détente* and peaceful coexistence between States with different social systems.

2. The question of development financing had been raised at recent sessions of the General Assembly, and especially at the seventh special session. In that connexion, he stressed that a reduction of military budgets would generate sizable resources for the development of all countries. In order for that to be achieved, it would be necessary for the United Nations to put into effect the proposals submitted by the Soviet Union concerning diminution of the armaments race, with a view to general and complete disarmament, and the reduction of the military budgets of states permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent. Implementation of resolution 3093 (XXVIII) would release \$2 billion which could be used for the benefit of developing countries.

3. The fact that the goals established in the International Development Strategy had not been fully achieved was due to the continued exploitation of developing countries by the colonialist and neo-colonialist countries. The growing disparity in levels of development was closely related to defects in the capitalist economies, the situation being particularly aggravated by the fact that an international division of labour was imposed on developing countries which increased their role as economic adjuncts to the economies of other countries, and also by the effects on

those countries of the activities of transnational corporations, which, as events in Chile had shown, openly encroached on their sovereignty. Inflation and the monetary crisis in the capitalist world had a direct impact on the developing countries, because they absorbed nearly all the "assistance" provided by the developed countries.

4. In order to put an end to the social and economic backwardness in which so many developing countries were mired, it was essential to implement the anti-imperialist provisions contained in the documents formulated by the General Assembly at its sixth and seventh special sessions, as well as the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States. It was essential to implement fully the principle of sovereignty over natural resources, including the right to nationalize and exercise control over foreign capital.

5. The socialist countries had always provided and would continue to provide assistance to developing countries so that they could strengthen their economies. They did not believe that the provision of assistance could be based on a one-dimensional approach that failed to take account of the responsibility of colonialist and neo-colonialist countries for the difficult situation in which developing countries found themselves.

6. The developing countries that had made the most progress were those which developed the public sector, adjusted State planning, and directed the activities of foreign investment and the private sector towards the implementation of their national economies and social development plans.

7. During the post-war period, the Byelorussian SSR had achieved remarkable success in the development of its economy and of the material and spiritual life of its people. He need only mention that what the Byelorussian SSR currently produced in 20 days was equal to its total production for the year 1940. Such positive results were

apparent in all areas of economic activity. For instance, industrial production in the Byelorussian SSR in 1974 had increased 16 times compared with 1950 and 92 times compared with 1965, and great progress was to be seen in agricultural production. Record harvests and record levels of food production had been achieved. Great importance was attached to the social aspect of development. Public funds were used to finance education, health and other essential services which were provided free of charge to the population.

8. Lastly, he stressed that the Committee should take full advantage of the prevailing climate of détente in order to promote mutually advantageous, equitable international co-operation for the benefit of all countries.

9. Mr. TARZI (Afghanistan) said that the seventh special session had been a positive step towards the attainment of balanced and equitable growth in international trade and economic development based on the principles of a new international economic order as set forth in the Declaration of the Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly (resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI)). The seventh special session had proved that, although it was not possible to achieve all the goals that had been set or to come to a complete understanding of the entire spectrum of problems, solutions could be found for the most divergent and complex developmental problems through a conciliatory and co-operative approach based on concerted effort and a realistic confrontation of those problems. The final resolution adopted at the seventh special session (resolution 3362 (S-VII)) had covered a broad range of points such as stabilization of export earnings, the external debt problem of the developing and least developed countries, development finance, improvement in third-world access to developed-world markets, transfer of resources for industrialization, and a greater voice for the least developed of the developing countries in international monetary and trade policy. The importance of immediate operational measures for compensating the adverse effects of the geographical position of the land-locked developing countries on their economy and development efforts had also been emphasized. His delegation hoped that the decision adopted by the seventh special session concerning the immediate establishment of a special fund to subsidize the additional transport costs of the land-locked developing countries, which constituted one third of the world, would be given top priority by the Second Committee.

10. Agenda item 65 was also of paramount importance for the Committee's deliberations. The performance record of the International Development Strategy was not very encouraging, and many targets had not been achieved. It was not always possible to formulate quantitative indicators to measure the degree of achievement of the targets set in the Strategy, but it was of utmost importance to obtain complete information for that purpose. In order to establish the reasons for success or failures, what was needed was the formulation of analytical and qualitative indicators, selected by reference to main problems and outstanding developments at the time of a particular review. Confining oneself to numerical or quantitative descriptions could result in a failure to realize that even the attainment of the numerical targets would not necessarily rectify or even alleviate the problems of the developing countries. To

illustrate that point, he referred to the 1 per cent and 0.7 per cent transfer of real resources, which in the opinion of his delegation was one of the most important targets of the International Development Strategy. The 0.7 per cent ODA target was important not only because official flows of financial resources were under the direct control of Governments but because they were virtually the only resources supplied for the purpose of development on concessional terms. Only a few countries had accepted that target without reservation, and perhaps only one would achieve it by the middle of the Decade. But an analysis of the target itself would show that the net flows of financial resources to developing countries were calculated net of amortization of capital, but not of interest, dividends and profits. The significance of that point was emphasized by the UNCTAD secretariat study entitled "The outflow of financial resources from developing countries"¹ which showed that as far back as 1969, when the aid flow had been stronger, there had been a large reverse flow of resources from the developing and least developed countries to the developed countries in the form of interest, amortization payments and profits. The inflation of recent years, which had taken a big toll of the scant savings of the developing world, coupled with the resulting increase in prices of goods and services and a return to unfavourable terms of trade for primary products of the developing countries, had alarmingly decreased the net transfer of real resources to perhaps less than 0.4 per cent of GNP. By 1975 official development assistance had declined to a meagre 0.3 per cent.

11. That decline in the net transfer of resources at constant prices was particularly disturbing when account was taken of the fact that its catastrophic effects on the balance of payments and the external debt problem had been worst in least developed countries of the third world and those with the lowest *per capita* income. In that connexion, one of the main reasons for the failure to fulfil the ODA targets was probably the voluntary factor.

12. Projects executed through external financing could exert very serious pressure on the balance of payments of the developing and least developed countries long before their effects on the over-all capacity of the economy to generate export earnings or import savings began to be felt. Moreover, it was not the size of the debt or even the rate of debt service that was most important, but the proportion of the developing countries' foreign exchange reserves which it absorbed. Failure to realize those facts would intensify the flow of scarce, hard-earned resources from developing to developed countries, make the 0.7 per cent and 1 per cent targets for the transfer of resources, at current and constant prices, inadequate and add to the burden of external debt on the economies of developing countries. Accordingly, in addition to partial, palliative measures, such as the negotiation of external debt or moratoria, more effective forms of debt relief should be studied and formulated. One very helpful step to that end would be to bring the transfer of capital into line with the productivity of investment and the capacity of the countries concerned to transform it into an increase in foreign exchange.

¹ *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Third Session*, vol. III, *Financing and Invisibles* (United Nations publication, Sales No. F.73.II.D.6), document ID/118/Supp.5.

13. The hope that a link might be established between SDRs and development finance had not been fulfilled. Ever since the annual meeting of IMF at Copenhagen in 1970 the influence on liquidity of that vital link had been recognized and groups of experts on international monetary issues had been discussing it. Nevertheless, over five years had elapsed without any positive action being taken in that connexion. His delegation hoped that, in view of its extreme importance, constructive practical steps would be taken to establish the link, which was included in both the International Development Strategy and the Programme of Action as a further financial facility for the least developed countries. A further disappointment was that, of the \$9 billion of SDRs created, \$2.5 billion had been allocated to the developing countries, whereas the developed countries had received 72 per cent.

14. He drew attention to the importance of expanding vocational and technical training services, in the form of seminars and fellowships, relating to the generalized system of preferences, so as to enable the developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to derive maximum benefit from the various schemes.

15. Afghanistan, as one of the least developed countries and a land-locked country, attached great importance to invisibles, including shipping. The liner conferences were still charging more or less arbitrary freight rates, thus reducing the developing countries' export revenues and increasing the cost of their imports, a situation which, together with the rising cost of insurance premiums, worked to the detriment of the least developed countries. A scheme of concessional freight rates, based on the generalized system of preferences, for the import and export trade of land-locked countries would go a long way towards alleviating the excessive freight burden of those countries. Moreover, the objectives of the Strategy with regard to reducing the cost of insurance and reinsurance, which affected the balance of payments of the developing and least developed countries so seriously, had not been implemented. The investment of the technical reserves of insurance concerns in those countries would be a valuable means of offsetting their invisible imports and implementing the recommendations of the Strategy in that respect.

16. Little had been achieved concerning access to markets in the first half of the Decade. The generalized system of preferences was a useful scheme for the liberalization of trade and market access for the products of the developing and least developed countries, and it was reassuring to note that some countries had adopted it, but its limitations and its restrictions in the matter of food-stuffs had not been rectified and tariff barriers had not been removed, despite the recommendations in the Programme of Action adopted at the sixth special session.

17. Current trade patterns were such that approximately 50 per cent of the developing countries' exports to developed countries were admitted free of duty and almost two thirds of them were outside the generalized system of preferences. His delegation accordingly proposed that access to markets should be qualified by an increase in the export share of the market in question, and it hoped that that point would be given due consideration by the Committee.

18. It was gratifying that one part of the Strategy related specifically to agricultural development. It was well known that agricultural production constituted, directly or indirectly, a major part of the developing world's economic activities. It was therefore rather disheartening that the record in that sphere had not been too bright. At the World Food Conference, in November 1974, practical proposals had been made, most of them dealing with long-term strategies for increasing food production, and a detailed analysis had been made of related topics.² The Conference had set a goal of 10 million tons a year of food aid to developing countries and had established an International Fund for Agricultural Development, which might prove more attractive for donors than existing institutions. It had made provision for national food reserves, when they could be created, to be internationally-co-ordinated. It had instituted a global information and early warning system for food and agriculture with a view to better forecasting of deficits and the identification of areas of surplus. It had established a World Food Council to co-ordinate all efforts to fulfil the objectives of the Conference. As in the case of early meetings, however, that important international Conference had shown that global strategies and action plans remained mere declarations of intent until they were given substance by the political will of Governments. Nevertheless, despite its limited practical results, it had been one of the most successful conferences of its kind, mainly because, for the first time, world attention had been focused on that vital problem and a willingness to confront the years of food shortage together had been expressed. That in itself was a very useful step in the direction of a new relationship among nations.

19. His delegation believed that, in spite of its shortcomings, the International Development Strategy was a useful programme for development which needed only to be adjusted or amended to take into account the requirements of the new international economic order.

20. Access to technology on reasonable terms was one of the key elements in accelerating the pace of economic and social development in the less advanced countries. The main problems arising in that sphere were the high cost of technology, especially with regard to intermediate products, hidden costs and over-pricing. Accordingly, as a first step towards achieving the goals of the Strategy, a relationship should be established between the transmission of high-priced technology and the financial capacity of the least developed countries. Institutional arrangements for the transfer of technology were another important aspect. He hoped that UNCTAD would take appropriate action in both respects.

21. Over the years technical assistance had experienced a conceptual and administrative evolution, and its history was perhaps one of gradual involvement of what had formerly been called substantive participation. Nevertheless, experience and close analysis showed that so far multilateral technical assistance to the developing countries had been governed by quantitative rather than qualitative principles. Moreover, the curricula vitae of United Nations experts had not always been informative enough to allow the recipient countries to exercise sound judgement in approving the

² The report of the Conference was circulated as document E/CONF.65/20 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3).

appointment. Accordingly, the United Nations should periodically evaluate the actual performance of its experts; an evaluation committee or similar body might be set up for that purpose.

22. Afghanistan whole-heartedly supported the establishment of the United Nations Special Fund, proposed at the sixth special session of the General Assembly (resolution 3202 (S-VI)), which could be a major break-through as an entity for the provision of financial assistance for the development programmes and projects of the less developed countries and would be a step in the direction of positive interdependence between nations. It therefore proposed that the Fund should become operational as soon as possible. It also attached great importance to the new United Nations structure proposed in the report of the Group of Experts.³ Changing world events and the growing importance and interrelation of economic and social aspects made the restructuring pertinent, timely and necessary. In addition, he hoped that full attention would be given to the possible establishment of a United Nations development bureau, with appropriate regional offices and responsible for dealing specifically with the problems of the land-locked countries.

23. His delegation was confident that those changes in the structure of the United Nations system would enable the Organization to deal with problems of international economic co-operation in a comprehensive and effective manner.

24. Mr. OCHIRBAL (Mongolia) said that the mid-term review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, coincided, symbolically, with the thirtieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War—a circumstance which should help to highlight the need for international peace and security and emphasize the importance of efforts to avoid a new catastrophe. The commemoration of that victory, to which the people of the Soviet Union had contributed so much, should be reflected in the decisions adopted at the current session of the General Assembly. Also, parallel with that commemoration, the Assembly should celebrate the victory of the peoples of Cambodia, Viet-Nam and Laos and the holding of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, in which Canada and the United States had also participated, so that the scope of that Conference had extended beyond the frontiers of Europe and the documents produced by it would be a useful guide for the work of the Committee.

25. It was thus clear that, despite the efforts of those who sought to prevent it, détente was uppermost in everyone's mind. However, the changes which had led to that new situation had not come about automatically. Many years of continuing effort had been necessary on the part of the USSR, the socialist countries and the forces of progress. Everyone shared the task of ensuring that the process was irreversible.

26. The crucial problems of the moment, therefore, were international peace and security and economic development. Indeed, development and peace were closely

connected. Détente opened up new prospects in the field of technological exchange and trade relations. Hence the extreme importance of the proposals by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for a 10 per cent reduction in the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council, so that the funds thus saved could be devoted to assistance to the developing countries, and for a ban on all nuclear testing and the prohibition of the manufacture of new weapons of mass destruction.

27. With regard to the International Development Strategy it should be noted that, despite the efforts of the third world and some isolated achievements, the main objectives had not been achieved. It was therefore extremely important that careful consideration should be given to the abnormal state of stagnation in the light of the UNCTAD documents, the reports of the Secretary-General on the mid-term review and appraisal and the instruments adopted at the sixth special session and the twenty-ninth regular session of the General Assembly, namely, the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, setting forth rules and principles which were prerequisites for equitable economic relations. There was no need to stress the vital necessity of applying those principles, with due respect for the sovereignty and independence of all countries and without any interference in their domestic affairs. It should be added that the attempts of the monopolist countries to bypass those principles were doomed to failure and would only increase the difficulties and result in loss of time and energy. Conversely, a radical restructuring of economic relations would be of benefit to all.

28. As to the quantitative goals and targets of the Strategy, his delegation, in the light of Mongolia's own experience, considered that the solution lay in radical socio-economic reform. There could be no economic progress without a unified approach to planning, without national sovereignty over national resources, without control over foreign capital or without scientific planning. That called for an adequate government structure as had already been pointed out by the Secretary-General in his report on the role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries (E/5690), which was before the Committee under agenda item 65. Indeed, public management of certain economic institutions, such as banking and financing agencies, reduced costs, made it possible to create optimum conditions and afforded protection against outside interference. The same could be said of the participation of the public sector in agriculture, a sector in which such participation opened up great possibilities and solved the problem of unemployment. Lastly, experience showed that participation by the public sector in economic activity was an important factor in qualitative social change. The socialist countries were a case in point. In reviewing and appraising the progress made in development, that factor should be taken into account.

29. Mr. STANBURY (Canada) said that his country had high hopes that the seventh special session of the General Assembly had ushered in an era of co-operation between all countries with a view to narrowing the gap between developed and developing countries through the adoption of effective measures. The impetus of that special session

³ E/AC.62/9 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.7).

should be maintained in the deliberations of all the international bodies which were considering the central issues on which direction had been given by General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII). It would be noted that, in the weeks ahead, those issues would be considered in the multilateral trade negotiations taking place under GATT, in the UNCTAD Committee on Commodities and in UNIDO, among other bodies, which would be dealing with such important topics as buffer stock financing, stabilization of commodity prices, access to markets and trade liberalization as a whole, and development assistance.

30. The spirit of co-operation and determination which had prevailed at the special session should be maintained in international consultations on economic co-operation, as in government measures and decisions and in bilateral talks between the developed and the developing countries. He noted that Canada was carrying on consultations with developing countries on a wide range of issues relating to economic development.

31. In Canada's view, the Second Committee had an important role to play in realizing the aims of resolution 3362 (S-VII). In particular, the Committee must identify those areas in which it should take action and monitor the over-all efforts to put the resolution into effect.

32. Apart from those major objectives, two precise issues were likely to come up in the course of the current session of the General Assembly, namely, industrial development and the restructuring of the United Nations system. Canada considered that industrial development was a key element in lessening the disparities between rich and poor countries, and therefore approved of the decision concerning the restructuring of UNIDO to enable it to make a more effective contribution to that process. In the report of the Commonwealth Group of Experts,⁴ submitted to the seventh special session of the General Assembly, it was suggested that the elaboration of a model bilateral industrial co-operation agreement might help to encourage and define the parameters of industrial co-operation.

33. With regard to the restructuring of the United Nations system, his delegation had noted with interest the remarks made to the Committee by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs (1655th meeting) about the need to take the results of the seventh special session into account in the work of restructuring United Nations institutions; it thought that the Committee could play a productive role in that connexion, even before receiving the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System, established under resolution 3362 (S-VII).

34. Lastly, he emphasized that the seventh special session had pointed the way for the whole United Nations system towards effective and co-operative action. Canada was fully committed to the pursuit of a new international economic order based on the principles embodied in resolution 3362 (S-VII), and would be working in the Committee and elsewhere to achieve those common development objectives.

35. Mr. RABETAFIKA (Madagascar) said that it was not possible to conduct a review and appraisal of the Strategy without taking into account the important events in which the United Nations had participated in recent years. That had been acknowledged by a large number of delegations whose sense of realism and co-operation had finally prevailed over the determination to defend at all costs a system of values and relations which responded neither to the current requirements of the world nor even to the promotion of the interests of countries accustomed until then to having a fairly exclusive say in the determination of the economic future of the world.

36. The position of the Group of 77 concerning the review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the Strategy was well known to all. It was reflected in a working paper which had been submitted to the Committee on Review and Appraisal on 4 June 1975 and was based on the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order which had been adopted at the sixth special session of the General Assembly. For the Group of 77, the Strategy remained a working instrument and a frame of reference whose significance and usefulness depended upon an ability to adapt it to decisions taken and to prevailing conditions. However, the quantitative targets of the Strategy were important, whether it was the annual rate of growth of the gross product of the developing countries or the level of resources transferred to those countries compared to the gross national product of the developed countries.

37. The Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States were the pillars on which the new international economic order would rest. That order should be based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, permanent sovereignty over resources, common interest and joint action by all States without discrimination, together with co-operation among developing countries, with a view to the promotion of international social justice and collective security. In the opinion of his delegation, international action should be concentrated on the priority development of the underprivileged countries that were the victims of injustices imposed by circumstances no less reprehensible for being historical. International co-operation must therefore be redefined and applied more decisively to the problems caused by disparate levels of development, and new meaning must be given to the concept of interdependence. Each State and each organization should define the responsibilities devolving upon it in the search for a solution to the development crisis.

38. The development crisis could not be blamed purely and simply on the economic crisis—although his delegation recognized that the recession might be advanced as an argument to justify non-participation in critical international development efforts—and the countries of the third world should not always be the victims of exported inflation, which stemmed from the preservation of unsuitable and obsolete socio-economic structures. Furthermore, the recession, which was not a spontaneous phenomenon, had been going on for some time in the industrialized countries, because they had not known how to convert their economies, which were based principally on

⁴ See A/AC.176/5.

profits derived from post-war uncertainty and insecurity and on energy and raw materials bought at ridiculously low prices. The blame could not be attached to the countries of the third world, which, in all fairness, had decided to increase the price of their raw materials in order to promote the development of their own and other countries, particularly those most disadvantaged and most severely affected by the crisis.

39. It would be wrong to assign a privileged place to the expansion of the world economy; that would be tantamount to defending the old economic order and its harmful manifestations. A unanimous desire to establish a new order existed and, to that end, efforts had been made at the two most recent special sessions to draw up the rules which would govern international economic relations and to usher in a transition period in which the inevitability of a genuine transformation of those relations would be accepted.

40. It was evident that the tasks that would devolve on the United Nations in the context of the establishment of a new economic order could not be defined until the *Ad Hoc* Committee established under resolution 3362 (S-VII) had submitted its conclusions concerning the means to be made available to the Organization and the priorities that the Organization should respect. But, in any event, those means should be adapted to the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, the corresponding Programme of Action and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, as well as to resolution 3362 (S-VII), which had been unanimously adopted at the seventh special session.

41. The functions of the regional commissions and the specialized agencies should be strengthened and the effectiveness and continuity of their action should be increased. The United Nations must however retain its central role at all costs.

42. In defining the new tasks and structures of the Secretariat, one should not lose sight of the need to strengthen the Economic and Social Council, which must become a genuine decision-making body, and to place the Charter of the United Nations at the service of development

and the new international economic order; nor should it be forgotten that the objective of the new order was to increase the capacity of the developing countries. The United Nations was required to assume its responsibilities and to overcome its limitations. It should display real imagination when studying ways of undertaking immediate and global action and should realize the urgency of establishing a new international economic order instead of taking refuge in gradualism; the very term evoked past reminiscences. The United Nations should, of course, be receptive to ideas, but its receptiveness should be oriented towards the interests of the developing countries and it should not seek to impose ideas left over from the old order. That was true also of the recruitment and training of United Nations staff.

43. It was essential to bear in mind that, in the new balance of strength and the new ethics that would in future govern international economic relations, the development of one part of the world must not be dependent upon the development of another part, and that in the necessary co-operation among different groups, and between those groups and the United Nations, account must be taken both of the unanimity marking the adoption of resolution 3202 (S-VI) at the sixth special session—the corner-stone of the new edifice—and of the deep-seated changes in the world and the increasingly important role of the third world.

44. It should be stressed that the fields of activity mutually agreed upon since the sixth special session, namely, international trade, the transfer of resources, industrialization, science and technology, food and agriculture, and so forth, formed a whole. It would be dangerous to select one or two components to justify some predetermined action that would distort the meaning of the decisions adopted at the sixth special session.

45. Madagascar was prepared to co-operate to the utmost and would expect of others the same degree of stringency in the implementation of programmes and the search for ways of attaining the desired objectives.

The meeting rose at 4.55 p.m.

1661st meeting

Tuesday, 7 October 1975, at 3.15 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Olof RYDBECK (Sweden).

A/C.2/SR.1661

AGENDA ITEM 57

United Nations Institute for Training and Research: report of the Executive Director (A/10014)

1. Mr. NICOL (Executive Director, United Nations Institute for Training and Research), introducing the annual report of UNITAR (A/10014), said that the Board of Trustees of UNITAR had held its fourteenth annual session from 22 to 25 September and approved the programme of

work for 1976. UNITAR had followed the seventh special session of the General Assembly closely and would take its conclusions into account when putting its programme of work into effect.

2. Speaking of the activities of the previous year, he drew attention to the expansion of the courses for delegates and members of permanent missions in Geneva and New York and to the holding of regional seminars, courses in international law and training programmes on topical issues;