

coordinate the activities of United Nations organizations so as to intensify their cooperation with and assistance to Yemen, with a view to assisting Yemen in the mobilization of its own resources”.

39. Mr. MONGBE (Benin), Ms. RAMLI (Malaysia) and Mr. KOUYATE (Guinea) said that their delegations wished to join the sponsors of the draft resolution.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF LEBANON

40. Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco), introducing a draft resolution entitled “Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon” (E/1993/L.40), announced that the Czech Republic and Poland had joined the sponsors. He further indicated that, in the French text of the third preambular paragraph, the word “catastrophique” should be replaced by the word “sévère”. The sponsors drew the international community’s attention to the very bad situation in Lebanon, whose infrastructure had been destroyed and whose rate of inflation was particularly high, in support of the country’s claim to increased assistance from the entire United Nations system. He very much hoped that the draft resolution would be the subject of an active consensus.

AGENDA ITEM 13

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (*continued**)

41. Mr. LOS ARCOS (Spain) introduced the draft decision entitled “Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees” (E/1993/L.39). As a country which, in recent years, had taken an increasingly active interest in refugees and displaced persons within the framework of the activities of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Spain wished to become a member of the Executive Committee of the UNHCR Programme and had sent the Secretary-General a note verbale to that effect (E/1993/88). Spain had already done much to seek lasting solutions to the refugee problem, setting out at the national level to formulate legislation which promoted, in particular, the right of asylum and temporary protection, and considered it useful to be able to pursue its efforts within the Executive Committee itself. It therefore proposed that the Council should recommend that the General Assembly should enlarge the membership of the Executive Committee.

The meeting rose at 12.15 p.m.

* Resumed from the 42nd meeting.

45th meeting

Thursday, 29 July 1993, at 10.35 a.m.

President: Mr. Juan SOMAVÍA (Chile)

E/1993/SR.45

AGENDA ITEM 15

Development and international economic cooperation

- (a) Trade and development
- (b) Food and agricultural development
- (c) Natural resources

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/1993/110)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the two draft decisions recommended to it for adoption

by the Economic Committee in paragraphs 10 and 48 of its report.

The draft decisions were adopted [decisions 1993/301 and 1993/302].

2. Mr. PORTOCARERO (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, said that the text concerning the future work of the Committee on Natural Resources which the Council had just adopted in accordance with the recommendation contained in paragraph 48 in the report of the Economic Committee had been the subject of lengthy negotiations

on the Committee's first report and the documentation for its future sessions.

3. The Community recognized the importance of the Committee's work and considered that the current formula was the best. As far as possible, the Committee should endeavour to avoid duplication in documentation. It should also place its work in the context of Agenda 21. Efficient coordination with the Commission on Sustainable Development was indispensable in that regard. With that in mind, the member States of the Community had approved the Committee's new calendar of meetings and the provisional agenda for its second session.

(d) Transnational corporations

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/1993/111)

4. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft resolution entitled "Strengthening of the role of the Commission on Transnational Corporations" and draft decisions I, II and III entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the twentieth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations", "Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as related to transnational corporations" and "Report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its nineteenth session", recommended to it for adoption by the Economic Committee in paragraphs 22 and 23 of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 1993/49].

Draft decisions I, II and III were adopted [decisions 1993/304 to 1993/306].

5. Mrs. KELLY (Australia), referring to draft decision I, welcomed the fact that negotiations on the draft code of conduct for transnational corporations had been set aside. Australia supported the solution afforded by the guidelines for global business. However, in view of the World Bank guidelines on the treatment of foreign investment, Australia did not believe that the proposed guidelines for global business needed to concern themselves with foreign direct investment or related issues. Any future participation by Australia as an observer at the twentieth session of the Commission would be largely confined to issues not concerned with foreign direct investment.

(j) Transport of dangerous goods

6. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft resolution entitled "Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods" recommended to it for adoption by the Economic Committee in paragraph 27 of its report.

7. Mr. GABILONDO (Argentina) said that his country, which had observer status with the Committee of Experts, intended to request full membership and hoped that its application would be favourably received.

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 1993/50].

(l) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

8. The President invited the Council to consider the draft decision entitled "Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries" recommended to it for adoption by the Economic Committee on paragraph 29 of its report.

The draft decision was adopted [decision 1993/307].

(k) Effective mobilization and integration of women in development

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/1993/113)

9. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft decision entitled "Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of effective mobilization and integration of women in development" recommended to it for adoption by the Economic Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

The draft decision was adopted [decision 1993/308].

(m) Prevention and control of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)

10. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft resolution entitled "Coordination of United Nations activities related to HIV/AIDS" recommended to it for adoption by the Economic Committee in paragraph 14 of its report.

11. Mr. ORLIANGE (France) supported the proposed text but said that his delegation, as it had already had occasion to explain in the World Health Assembly, could not agree to WHO being deprived of its role as leader in the fight against AIDS.

12. Mr. PETROV (Russian Federation) said that his delegation fully shared the position of the French delegation.

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 1993/51].

13. Mr. BARNETT (United Kingdom) noted that the Council had just adopted a number of draft decisions and resolutions which had programme budget implications

for the 1994-1995 biennium. Unfortunately, many of the statements on the financial implications submitted by the Secretariat did not give an estimate of the likely costs. That made the Council's task most difficult, as it was approving texts which had unknown budgetary implications.

14. His delegation would therefore have to reserve its position on all resolutions having programme budget implications for the 1994-1995 biennium, until consideration of that matter at the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly. His delegation would also make specific statements on certain of those resolutions.

(g) Human settlements

(h) Environment

(i) Desertification and drought

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
(E/1993/112)

15. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the four draft decisions contained in paragraphs 24 (draft decisions I and II), 29 and 34 of the report of the Economic Committee.

The draft decisions were adopted [decisions 1993/309 to 1993/312].

AGENDA ITEM 16

Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories.

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
(E/1993/114)

16. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft resolution entitled 'Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan' recommended to it for adoption by the Economic Committee in paragraph 9 of its report. The text had been approved by the Economic Committee in a roll-call vote by 24 votes to 4, with 14 abstentions. He understood that the Council wished to proceed in a similar manner.

17. Mr. MARRERO (United States) considered that the proposed text was political in nature and inflammatory and that it could only compromise the peace process initiated. The Economic and Social Council was not the appropriate body to settle political questions. The parties involved were already engaged in negotiations and the Council should support their efforts instead of endeavouring to compete with that initiative. The draft resolution made no useful contribution to the alleviation of tension.

A vote was taken by roll-call.

Malaysia, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, France, Germany, Guinea, India, Italy, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Japan, Poland, Russian Federation.

The draft resolution was adopted by 41 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions [resolution 1993/52].

18. Mr. MARTÍNEZ (Spain) and Mrs. KIRNBAUER (Austria) said that if their delegations had been present during the vote, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

19. Mrs. NIKIFOROVA (Russian Federation) said that her delegation had abstained since an effort to achieve a settlement had already been initiated between the parties directly concerned, i.e. between Israel and the Palestinians and between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic. The Russian Federation, which was sponsoring the peace talks, had no wish to jeopardize their progress.

20. Mr. PORTOCARERO (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, explained that the latter had voted in favour of the draft resolution, welcoming the fact that the Council had by means of its decision reasserted the importance of the peace process in the Middle East for the social and economic development of the region. He was referring in particular to the settlement policy in the occupied territories, which the Community and its member States had always condemned, since it had direct repercussions on the peace process and on development prospects. In that context, the moderation of settlement activities during 1993 had been a first encouraging step.

21. The Council was nevertheless not the appropriate body to conduct substantive negotiations on highly political questions. It should concentrate on the socio-economic aspects of the issues and leave the political debate to the competent bodies.

22. Mr. HIRAISHI (Japan) said that his delegation had abstained, considering that the peace talks initiated between the parties constituted a historic opportunity that must not be missed. Japan had already stated its position very clearly with regard to the establishment of settlements in the occupied territories, which it considered to be contrary to international law and therefore unacceptable. However, Article 62 of the Charter of the United Nations, which defined the functions and powers of the

Economic and Social Council, did not confer on it any competence in political matters. His delegation had therefore abstained in order to avoid politicization of its work.

23. Mr. MANCZYK (Poland) said that his delegation had abstained in accordance with a position which his Government had already had occasion to explain to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session. It was the Assembly that was the competent body to consider that type of question, which was in fact included in its agenda.

24. Mr. KHOURY (Syrian Arab Republic) thanked those delegations which had voted in favour of the draft resolution. He regretted that some countries had changed their position since the General Assembly's most recent deliberations on the question.

25. Mrs. KELLY (Australia) explained that her delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution on the understanding that it concerned only the territories occupied by Israel since 1967. In her opinion, that interpretation was valid for all the texts adopted on the same subject.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance (*concluded*):

(a) Special programme of economic assistance (*concluded*)

26. Mrs. KELLEY (Secretary of the Council) stated that, as several delegations had pointed out, the draft resolution entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people" (E/1993/L.43) should have been submitted under item 4 (b) of the agenda.

27. Mrs. FEROUKHI (Observer for Algeria), introducing the draft resolution, said that Pakistan should be added to the list of sponsors. Following informal consultations, it had been decided to insert after paragraph 3 the following new paragraph:

"Urges the Government of Israel to accept de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to all territories occupied by Israel since 1967 and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of that Convention."

28. Mr. SLIPTCHENKO (Vice-President) said that paragraphs 1-4 of the draft resolution entitled "Assistance to Yemen" (E/1993/L.38) should be amended to read:

"1. Encourages the international community to respond actively to the needs of Yemen and requests donor States to continue to provide assistance on bilateral and multilateral bases, with a view to enabling

the Republic of Yemen to address the emergency situation;

"2. Calls upon Member States and all organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations and the financial institutions to provide assistance to the Government of Yemen in its reconstruction and development efforts;

"3. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts and requests him to continue to coordinate the activities of the United Nations organizations to intensify their cooperation with and assistance to Yemen, with a view to assisting Yemen in the mobilization of its own resources;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its regular session in 1994 a written report on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution."

29. Mrs. KELLEY (Secretary of the Council) announced that the following countries had asked to join the sponsors of draft resolution E/1993/L.38: Benin, France, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Japan and Malaysia.

The draft resolution, as orally amended, was adopted [resolution 1993/58].

30. Mr. SLIPTCHENKO (Vice-President) said that in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution entitled "Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon", the words "Lebanon and to take" should be replaced by "Lebanon and invites them to take".

The draft resolution, as orally amended, was adopted [resolution 1993/59].

31. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had thus completed consideration of agenda item 6.

AGENDA ITEM 7

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (*continued**)

32. Mr. SHIBATA (Japan), introducing the draft decision entitled "World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction" (E/1993/L.42), reminded the Council that Japan had announced its intention of hosting the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, to be held in May 1994. His delegation had worked in close collaboration with other delegations in order to submit a draft decision which could contribute to the success of that Conference. Since the text of the draft decision was quite explicit and simple, it was to be hoped that it would receive unanimous support, particularly from the Group of 77.

* Resumed from the 40th meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Operational activities for development (*continued**)

33. The PRESIDENT announced that the Netherlands should be added to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution entitled "Fourth replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development" (E/1993/L.27).

34. Mr. SLIPTCHENKO (Vice-President) said that, following informal consultations, three amendments had been made to the draft resolution. In the footnote on the first page, the words "African Group" should be replaced by "African States". In the fourth preambular paragraph, in the first line, the words "Recalling further" should be replaced by the words "Bearing also in mind". Lastly, paragraph 2 should be replaced by the following text: "Appeals to all member States of the Fund, members belonging to OECD, members belonging to OPEC and other developing countries to continue to make every possible effort in the negotiating process in order to achieve the fourth replenishment of IFAD, so that it can be completed expeditiously, at the highest possible level, before the end of 1993."

35. Mr. MONGBE (Benin) announced that Chile should also be added to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution.

The draft resolution, as orally amended, was adopted [resolution 1993/53].

AGENDA ITEM 4

Coordination questions (*continued***)

36. The PRESIDENT announced that Germany should be added to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution entitled "Promotion of press freedom in the world" (E/1993/L.30).

37. Mr. MANCZYK (Poland) and Mrs. ASHIPALA (Observer for Namibia) said that their countries wished to join the sponsors of the draft resolution.

38. Mr. SLIPTCHENKO (Vice-President) said that, following informal consultations on the draft resolution, it had been agreed to delete the fourth preambular paragraph.

The draft resolution, as orally amended, was adopted [resolution 1993/54].

* Resumed from the 40th meeting.

** Resumed from the 43rd meeting.

(a) Reports of the coordination bodies (*continued**)

39. Mr. SLIPTCHENKO (Vice-President) said that, following informal consultations, two amendments had been made to the draft decision entitled "Reports of the coordination bodies considered by the Economic and Social Council" (E/1993/L.35). In the English version of the document, the second footnote on the first page should read: "E/1993/81". At the end of the text, the following new paragraph should be added:

"(f) Endorses the comments expressed by the Committee on Programme and Coordination concerning the availability and the quality of documentation for its meetings."

The draft decision, as orally amended, was adopted [decision 1993/313].

(b) Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (*continued***)

40. Mr. MONGBE (Benin) said that Angola and China should be added to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations" (E/1993/L.37).

41. Mr. SLIPTCHENKO (Vice-President) said that the informal consultations had not enabled a consensus to be achieved on the draft resolution.

42. The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of a consensus, he would take it that the Council wished to hold a roll-call vote.

Mexico, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Guinea, India, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago.

Against: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Romania, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belarus, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine.

* Resumed from the 42nd meeting.

** Resumed from the 43rd meeting.

The draft resolution was adopted by 28 votes to 12 with 8 abstentions [resolution 1993/55].

43. Mr. HOWARTH (Australia) said he wished to place it on record that his delegation had abstained in the vote on draft resolution E/1993/L.37 since it considered that the resolution should have reflected the language adopted by the Security Council in its resolution 765 (1992). It was also of the view that, given the role of the Special Committee on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and of the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council should not be addressing issues relating to decolonization.

44. Mr. PORTOCARERO (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, said that they wholeheartedly upheld the right of peoples to self-determination and supported the activities of the specialized agencies in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. However, they had been unable to support draft resolution E/1993/L.37 because they considered that the reference to the problems of apartheid had no place in a resolution on decolonization and that the autonomy of the specialized agencies must be respected. They also contested the need to introduce a new category of "small island Non-Self-Governing Territories", which would be regarded as unable to advance towards sustainable development without the assistance of United Nations bodies. Those reservations in no way constituted a modification of the well-known position of the European Community and its member States on the subject of apartheid and political development in South Africa.

45. Mr. ANDREASSEN (Norway) said that he unreservedly supported all efforts, in the context of the Charter of the United Nations, to eliminate colonialism and remained strongly committed to the right of self-determination of the peoples of territories which remained non-self-governing. He considered, however, that the reference to South Africa had no place in a resolution on decolonization. The text adopted did not reflect the positive developments in South Africa and did not take into consideration the need to respect the autonomy of the various specialized agencies.

46. Norway had been unable to support the draft resolution because of its objections of principle and not because of any shift in its policy on decolonization.

(c) International cooperation in the field of informatics (concluded*)

47. Mr. BALOCH (Observer for Pakistan) announced that the following countries had asked to join the sponsors of the draft resolution entitled "The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimum utilization and accessibility by all States"

(E/1993/L.33): Belgium, Bénin, Botswana, Bulgaria, Denmark, El Salvador, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Qatar, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America.

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 1993/56].

48. Mr. BALOCH (Observer for Pakistan) said he hoped that that resolution, which had been sponsored by an exceptional number of countries representing all regions, would be rapidly and efficiently implemented.

(d) Question of a United Nations year for tolerance (continued)**

49. The PRESIDENT informed the Council that Germany was not among the sponsors of the draft resolution entitled "Question of a United Nations year for tolerance" (E/1993/L.31).

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 1993/57].

50. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had thus completed consideration of agenda item 4.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Sustainable development (concluded***)

51. The PRESIDENT said that the programme-budget implications of the draft decision entitled "Sustainable development" (E/1993/L.36/Rev.1) were contained in document E/1993/25/Add.2.

The draft decision was adopted [decision 1993/314].

52. Mr. BISHARA (Kuwait) said that while his delegation generally supported the text which had just been adopted, it had a reservation concerning the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the work of its first session (E/1993/25/Add.1). According to paragraph 46 (c) of that report, Governments were urged to implement an appropriate mix of economic instruments and normative measures to encourage support of the investment and infrastructure required to promote access to environmentally sound technologies. However, there was a danger that that provision might be interpreted in an abusive and discriminatory manner, particularly with regard to oil products. It would therefore have been better to approach the question of normative measures by taking into account, for example, the considerations set out in paragraph 57 of the report.

* Resumed from the 41st meeting.

** Resumed from the 32nd meeting.

*** Resumed from the 43rd meeting.

53. Mr. PORTOCARERO (Belgium) said that the European Community and its member States had supported the resolution which had just been adopted, welcoming the fact that the Council respected to the full the decisions and recommendations carefully negotiated by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its first session. However, the decision taken in no way prejudiced the budgetary aspects or the organization of the inter-sessional work of the Commission.

54. The Secretariat had submitted the financial implications of the provision of conference services for the Commission's two working groups (technology transfer and financial questions). In that connection, it was not desirable that the working groups should become full subsidiary bodies of the Commission; their more flexible status should be maintained. Lastly, in the choice of dates and venues for meetings of the working groups, account should be taken of meetings already scheduled on similar subjects, so as to mobilize all available resources within the Secretariat.

55. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had thus completed consideration of agenda item 9.

AGENDA ITEM 13

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (*continued*)

56. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft decision entitled "Enlargement of the Execu-

tive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees" (E/1993/L.39).

The draft decision was adopted [decision 1993/315].

AGENDA ITEM 22

Elections

57. The PRESIDENT recalled that, at its 34th meeting, the Council had decided, at the request of Canada, to include in its agenda the item "Elections", in accordance with rule 15 of its rules of procedure. At the same meeting, the Council had elected Canada by acclamation to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.

58. On 27 July, the Secretariat had been informed by the Organization of African Unity that the African Group supported Tunisia's candidature for membership of the Commission on the Status of Women for a four-year mandate as from 1 January 1994.

59. If there were no other candidatures, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Tunisia by acclamation to the Commission on the Status of Women.

It was so decided [decision 1993/230].

60. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had thus completed consideration of agenda item 22.

The meeting rose at 12.25 p.m.

46th meeting

Friday, 30 July 1993, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. Juan SOMAVÍA (Chile)

AGENDA ITEM 14

Regional cooperation

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
(E/1993/109)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider draft resolutions I to IX, which the Committee recommended for adoption in paragraph 42 of its report.

Draft resolutions I to IX were adopted [resolutions 1993/60 to 1993/68].

2. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider decisions I to IV, which the Committee recommended for adoption in paragraph 43 of its report.

Draft decisions I to IV were adopted [decisions 1993/316 to 1993/319].

3. Mr. PETROV (Russian Federation) said that the Russian Federation had not wanted to oppose the adop-

E/1993/SR.46