



**Economic and Social  
Council**

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Resumed organizational session for 1995

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 10th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Thursday, 1 June 1995, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. KAMAL (Pakistan)

CONTENTS

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECENT EARTHQUAKE IN THE RUSSIAN  
FEDERATION AND THE DEATH OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL

ELECTIONS, NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

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The meeting was called to order at 11.15 a.m.

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECENT EARTHQUAKE IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE DEATH OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The PRESIDENT, on behalf of all the members of the Economic and Social Council, expressed sympathy to the Government of the Russian Federation in connection with the recent earthquake on Sakhalin Island. He also extended the condolences of the Council to the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina on the recent death of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Mr. RAMOUL (Observer for Algeria) and Mr. ELDEEB (Egypt) assured the Government and people of the Russian Federation and of Bosnia-Herzegovina of the sympathy and solidarity of the international community.

Mr. KUDRYAVTSEV (Russian Federation) thanked the President and the Council for the expression of sympathy.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (E/1995/77)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to a letter from the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women to the President of the Council (E/1995/77), to which was annexed a draft decision asking the Council to authorize the Chairperson to conduct open-ended informal consultations from 31 July to 4 August 1995 to consider further the draft Platform of Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, noting that the consultations would have no financial implications.

The draft decision contained in the annex to document E/1995/77 was adopted.

BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL (E/1995/72 and Add.1)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the note by the secretariat entitled "Establishment of an open-ended ad hoc intergovernmental panel on forests" and to the statement of programme budget implications, saying that he would take it that the Council approved the establishment of such a panel.

It was so decided.

Mr. DELACROIX (France), speaking on behalf of the European Union, proposed, since it was important that the panel should begin work as soon as

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possible, that the Bureau, in consultation with the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development, should set a date for a preparatory meeting, at the level of Permanent Representatives, to elect the Co-Chairmen of the panel and to establish a date and location for its first session.

Mr. SINGH (India) said that it was the understanding of his delegation that the Co-Chairmen would be elected at the first session, as described in E/1995/72, paragraph IV.3. The Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development should discuss the matter, then make recommendations to the Bureau of the Council.

Mrs. REBONG (Philippines), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that it was their understanding that the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development would be meeting to make recommendations to the Council, which could then set a date for the preliminary meeting.

The PRESIDENT said that he took it that the Council, based on the recommendations of the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development, wished to authorize the holding of a brief organizational meeting of the panel in New York.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should invite the Director-General of the new World Trade Organization to participate in the one-day policy dialogue on important developments in the world economy and international economic cooperation during the high-level segment of its substantive session.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, because of a scheduling conflict, the schedule for the substantive session should be amended by reversing the programmes for 10 and 12 July.

It was so decided.

ELECTIONS, NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS (E/1995/60, E/1995/L.18\*)

Programme Coordination Board of the Joint and Co-Sponsored Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates for all groups was equal to or less than the number of vacancies, he would take it that the Council wished to elect the candidates by acclamation, and to postpone the election of one member from the Group of Asian States.

Algeria, Australia, Barbados, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, France, India, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Paraguay, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America were elected members of the Programme Coordination Board of the Joint and Co-Sponsored Programme on HIV/AIDS.

The PRESIDENT said that, in accordance with document E/1995/60, in order to provide continuity on the Board, following the first election there should be a drawing of lots to stagger the initial terms of office. It was the customary practice, however, that drawing lots should take place only once all vacancies in a body had been filled. Since one vacancy remained, he suggested that the Council should postpone the drawing of lots until its substantive session.

It was so decided.

Mr. PIOT (Executive Director, Joint and Co-Sponsored United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS) drew attention to the urgent need for substantive discussion of the Programme report, adding that it was essential that the Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) should meet before the end of July 1995 so that the administrative measures necessary for the Programme's operational start-up could be taken.

Mr. BUTLER (Australia) said that he hoped to be able to inform the Council soon of the date of the informal consultations in connection with both the report of the Committee on Co-Sponsoring Organizations (CCO) and the representation of non-governmental organizations on the Programme Coordinating Board. He also expressed his deep appreciation for the willingness of the Group of 77 to take part in those informal consultations despite the possibility that the CCO report might not be available in all languages at the outset, but assured the Council that the report would indeed be available in all languages in time for the formal consultations.

Mr. AGONA (Uganda) reiterated that adequate funding was required for the Programme to be effective, and called for broad support of the Programme by the private and non-governmental sectors, among others.

Mr. GERVAIS (Côte d'Ivoire) reminded the Council of the existence in Côte d'Ivoire of a regional HIV/AIDS research centre which was coordinating its work with other centres in Europe and the United States. Côte d'Ivoire's participation in the Programme would take place on a purely scientific basis.

Mrs. REBONG (Philippines) said that the Group of 77 and China recognized the importance of the Joint and Co-Sponsored United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and looked forward to participating in both informal and substantive consultations of the Programme.

Mr. DELACROIX (France) expressed his delegation's deep regret that timely discussion of the CCO report had not been possible, due to the delay in translation.

The PRESIDENT said that he had been assured by the Secretariat that the document would be available in all languages in time for the Board's first formal meeting.

Mr. GERVAIS (Côte d'Ivoire), supported by Mr. MONGBE (Benin), expressed concern about the continued inability of missions to gain access to the data network of the United Nations.

The PRESIDENT took it that the Council wished him to write a letter to the Secretary-General expressing the intense concerns of the members regarding that issue.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 12.10 p.m.