



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 18th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. RINGNALDA (Netherlands)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 71: TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued)

- (a) UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH: REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (A/36/14)
- (b) UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY: REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (A/36/3/Add.33; A/36/31)

Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.10

1. Mr. SHIBUYA (Japan), introducing the draft resolution, announced that Malaysia and Thailand had become sponsors. Referring to paragraph 3, he emphasized that the sponsors considered it very important for the United Nations University to collaborate with other United Nations agencies, on the one hand, and university circles and institutions on the other, so as effectively to co-ordinate their activities and avoid duplication. It should be noted with regard to paragraph 5 that it was essential to increase the financial resources of the University's Endowment Fund, since the amount of the announced contributions fell far short of the initial target of \$500 million. He expressed satisfaction at the many constructive comments made by members of the Second Committee concerning the Rector's statement and, in particular, at the general approval expressed for the future direction the Rector intended the University's activities to take, although several delegations had voiced concern over the broadness of the new approach and the risks it entailed of duplication between the work of the University and that of other United Nations organs and organizations. His delegation had suggested that priority should be given to certain of the five new themes and that the University should formulate a detailed work programme so as to be able to carry out its future activities with maximum effectiveness. He was confident that the University's new programme would be implemented with prudence and hoped that the Committee would adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.11

2. Mr. KOH (Singapore), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.11, said that Costa Rica and Ecuador had also become sponsors. With regard to the fourth preambular paragraph, he said that the General Assembly had decided, by resolution 35/53, to provide UNITAR with a grant-in-aid on an exceptional basis in order to cover its deficit for the biennium 1980-1981. Since the amount of the subsidy would have to be determined during the current session, he requested the Chairman of the Second Committee to ask the Chairman of the Fifth Committee to take the necessary steps towards that end. Paragraph 3 highlighted the steps taken by UNITAR in response to the report submitted by the Joint Inspection Unit the preceding year, in particular measures to balance its budget in 1982. In connexion with paragraph 4, he drew attention to the critical financial situation of UNITAR. If members of the Committee agreed that UNITAR was making an important contribution to the cultural life of the United Nations system and provided essential training for nationals or developing countries, they should urge their Governments to contribute more generously to the Institute's budget.

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3. The CHAIRMAN said that, in response to the request made by the representative of Singapore, he would transmit draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.11 to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee upon its adoption. The two draft resolutions just introduced would be the subject of informal consultations and he asked representatives wishing to submit draft resolutions under the item to do so as soon as possible. He announced that Egypt had become a sponsor of the two draft resolutions.

AGENDA ITEM 69: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)  
(A/36/3/Add.2, 12 and 15-18, A/36/8, 16, 19, 25, 116 and Corr.1, 141, 142, 144, 149, 233, 260 and Add.1 and 2, 333, 356, 380, 418, 421, 452, 466, 470, 475, 497, 528, 531, 566, 567, 571-573, 590 and 591)

- (a) INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE
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4. Mr. KASEMSRI (Thailand), referring to the statement by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, said that the inadequacies of the existing structure of economic relations and the inequities to which it gave rise were at the root of the world economic crisis, which had hit the developing countries particularly hard, since their economies were more vulnerable to external factors. It was for that reason that his delegation reaffirmed its commitment to the establishment of a new international economic order and to the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. It also believed that a lasting solution to the current world economic problems required a global and integrated approach based on international co-operation, as well as the launching of global negotiations on economic co-operation for development at the earliest possible date; any delay in doing so could only aggravate the crisis and exacerbate North-South tensions. His delegation therefore hoped that the forthcoming meeting at Cancún would pave the way for a global round. It also welcomed the adoption in May 1981 of the Caracas Programme of Action (A/36/333) for the intensification of economic co-operation among developing countries; such co-operation was not, however, a substitute for global economic co-operation between the developed and developing countries.

5. He emphasized the vital importance of food and agriculture to his country's economy, which was heavily dependent on the export of commodities that were

(Mr. Kasemsri, Thailand)

vulnerable to market-price fluctuations. In addition, food, which was fundamental to human survival and well-being, would feature prominently in any North-South dialogue. Agricultural and rural development and the eradication of hunger and malnutrition in the developing countries was one of the essential aims of the International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade. With the aim of promoting national and collective self-sufficiency in food, the Strategy called for considered efforts by developing countries, with the assistance of the international community, to accelerate their food and agricultural production, for which an average annual growth rate of 4 per cent had been set. Unfortunately, that target, which had also been included in the Strategy for the Second Development Decade, had not yet been attained. Nevertheless, he was encouraged by the recognition that, while the primary efforts for attaining the objectives of the Strategy had to be made by the developing countries themselves, developed countries and international organizations must also play a role in terms of financial assistance, investment, the transfer of technology, research and training, food aid programmes and the construction of storage facilities. In that connexion, he thanked the many developed countries and international organizations, such as FAO, IFAD, WFP and the World Food Council, which had provided his country with assistance during the preceding year.

6. He fully agreed with the Executive Director of the World Food Programme that co-operation among developing countries in mobilizing their material, technological and financial resources should be encouraged with a view to increasing their food production for both home consumption and export. It was also essential for many developing countries to increase their income from the export of commodities so that they could finance their over-all economic development, import the agricultural inputs and food that they could not produce themselves and develop the necessary infrastructure for the "take off" stage of industrialization. The developed countries should therefore curtail trade restrictions to enable the developing countries to increase their production, as called for by the meeting of the World Food Council held in Novi Sad in May 1981. Developed countries should also help both the low-income food surplus developing countries and the food-deficit developing countries by purchasing food from the former for shipment as food aid to the latter. Such "triangular transactions" could also be used under emergency assistance programmes of the United Nations systems to assist countries or regions suffering from famine, war, drought or an influx of refugees. In that connexion, his country was host to many Indo-Chinese refugees and had been co-operating closely for many years with United Nations agencies and the International Committee of the Red Cross to provide the refugees with medical care and emergency food assistance.

7. The development of human settlements, particularly the provision of housing, infrastructure and services for the homeless and for low-income or disadvantaged groups in urban and rural areas, was important for the attainment of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy. He believed that it should be viewed within the context of the national development plans and priorities of all countries, in particular the developing countries. For that reason, he warmly thanked the Government of Sri Lanka for its initiative and endorsed the proposal to proclaim 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

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(Mr. Kasemsri, Thailand)

In that connexion, his delegation had voted in favour of Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 A and B and hoped that the General Assembly would approve the proposal at its current session and provide the necessary impetus for the attainment of that worthy goal.

8. Mr. ESAN (Nigeria) said that he associated himself with the views of the Group of 77 on the world economic situation and the need to strengthen international co-operation for development. With regard to agenda item 69 (g), he wished to emphasize the magnitude and seriousness of food problems, especially in Africa. He believed that the food situation in the various regions of the world must be kept under constant surveillance and that the international community as a whole must give it special attention. Those food problems were related to pre-harvest and post-harvest losses and the lack of crop protection and storage facilities, as well as the unacceptable level of agricultural engineering and the food industry. To compensate for their food deficits, the African countries had to devote their scarce foreign exchange to importing food and that adversely affected their economic development. Recent official statistics of the Economic Commission for Africa showed that they were spending almost the same amount of money on food imports as on energy imports. While recognizing the importance of food aid policy, he believed that short-term measures would not be enough to avoid the malnutrition and famine which threatened many African countries. In resolution 35/69, the General Assembly had noted with concern the seriousness of the situation of food and agriculture in Africa and had called for the adoption of measures to implement the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy. His delegation appreciated the efforts of the relevant United Nations bodies, especially the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as reflected in the reports of the Secretary-General (A/36/149 and A/36/513). He was referring in particular to the FAO Action Programme for the Prevention of Food Losses, construction of storage facilities, the Food Security Assistance Scheme and the Seed Improvement and Development Programme. He regretted that those reports gave the impression that African countries did not attach enough importance or devote sufficient resources to their agricultural development, and he hoped that in future the reports published on that subject would give more recognition to the modest efforts being made either jointly or individually by the African countries, which were aware that their economic development was their primary responsibility. In that connexion, he wished to mention the "green revolution" which his Government had launched to improve the agricultural situation and, in particular, to achieve food self-sufficiency by 1985 and thereafter to be an exporter of food.

9. With respect to agenda item 69 (d), he wished to recall the statement by the Executive Director of UNIDO to the Second Committee, containing the remark that the attainment of the objectives of the International Development Strategy would be jeopardized by failure to achieve the Lima Target. Furthermore, the share of many African countries in world industrial production was insignificant, and they had not even participated in the marginal growth of the past two decades in the developing countries in general. In view of the foregoing, Africa had set the target, within the Lagos Plan of Action, of at least a 1 per cent share of world industrial production by 1985 and 1.4 per cent by 1990. It was therefore important for the international community, in particular the developed countries, to strive to achieve the aims set forth in General Assembly resolution 35/64

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(Mr. Esan, Nigeria)

concerning special measures for the social and economic development of Africa in the 1980s, the implementation of which was essential for the survival of the world economy. In that connexion, his delegation appreciated the efforts made by several United Nations bodies, including UNIDO, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and ILO, as described in documents A/36/466 and A/36/513. His delegation hoped that the proposals contained in those documents would be carried out, and noted that in future the reports on the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade in Africa would be prepared jointly by ECA and UNIDO; that underscored the need for co-ordination between those two organizations so that they could carry out their mandate for the industrialization of Africa.

10. Nigeria attached special importance to item 69 (e) concerning science and technology for development. He hoped that the international community would redouble its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for the strengthening of the endogenous scientific and technological capacities of the developing countries. In that connexion, he welcomed the approval by the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development of the operational plan for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. He regretted, however, that that Committee had not been able to adopt, at its resumed third session, the necessary recommendations to ensure that the long-term financing system would become operational by 1 January 1982. He hoped that the Second Committee would have a full discussion of that subject on the basis of the proposal of the Group of 77 concerning the transitional phase of the long-term financing system.

11. Finally, he regretted that little progress had been made by the Intergovernmental Working Group on a Code of Conduct for Transnational Corporations, the elaboration of which was of crucial importance for the achievement of the objectives of the International Development Strategy. It was encouraging to note that extra meetings of the Working Group were being scheduled and he appealed to all concerned to demonstrate the necessary political will to ensure progress in the negotiations on the code of conduct. He also wished to point out the importance of the imminent Cancún meeting and hoped that it would contribute to the launching of global negotiations.

12. Mr. SIOSTRONEK (Czechoslovakia) said that there could be no hope for a radical and rapid transformation of the current economic situation, especially in the developing countries, so long as military détente had not been achieved by limiting weapons and ending discriminatory measures such as protectionism or embargo on food exports as an instrument of political blackmail. In any case, the economic dependence of developing countries should be ended by promoting economic co-operation among them and providing them with assistance within the framework of global negotiations. He believed that the United Nations was the international organization best able to solve the complex problems involved in global negotiations on which no agreement had been reached, even concerning their opening date. While supporting the legitimate claims of the developing countries concerning the restructuring of existing inequitable relations and the establishment of conditions favourable to their economic development, his delegation believed that the problem could not be reduced to the gap between the rich North and the poor South and that an integrated approach was required which took account of interactions existing at the political, economic and social levels and of the interests of all countries.

(Mr. Siostronek, Czechoslovakia)

For example, with respect to industrial development, the creation of new industrial pockets which were not an integral part of the developing countries' economy would be inadvisable. The industrial assistance which Czechoslovakia, like the other countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, provided to developing countries was accompanied by measures to establish long-term relations between the two partners encouraging trade between them. For its part, Czechoslovakia would work for the achievement of the objectives of the third International Development Strategy, particularly by promoting the development of mutually advantageous co-operation with developing countries. It would continue consultations with them, particularly within the framework of joint intergovernmental commissions for economic, scientific and technical co-operation, whose discussions would result in the conclusion of long-term governmental agreements in those fields.

13. The process of restructuring the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system should be accomplished within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations without the establishment of new organs or posts and through maximum use of existing resources. His delegation would welcome an enhanced role for the Economic and Social Council and a broadening of its responsibilities but was opposed to the proposals for the revision of the Charter of the United Nations. It considered that the restructuring process should be accomplished by making the maximum use of the authority of the Council, which in particular should play a greater role in co-ordinating the activities of the specialized agencies. He considered that it was equally important that the Council should try to decrease the number of documents issued and to limit its total general expenses.

14. One of the basic objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women was to achieve the effective participation and integration of women in the development process, particularly in the developing countries, which had not been in a position to deal with the problem during the colonial period. His delegation was convinced that it was only the socialist countries which had been able to solve the main problems concerning the participation of women in development and he welcomed the fact that the World Congress of Women, held recently in Prague, had made it possible for women to examine the means for strengthening their role in the attainment of the objectives of the Decade.

15. Mr. BALASUBRAMANIAM (Sri Lanka), after stressing the importance of economic co-operation among developing countries, proceeded to discuss subitem 69 (k) dealing with human settlements. He reminded the Committee that, on the proposal of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, the General Assembly, during its thirty-fifth session, had adopted resolution 35/76 which had envisaged the declaration of an international year devoted to the problems of homeless people. That proposal had been supported by a number of organs, in particular by the Economic and Social Council which, in its resolution 81/69 B, had recommended to the General Assembly the year 1987 as an appropriate year for the holding of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, provided that the arrangements necessary for its financing had been made, which should be based on voluntary contributions. His delegation was concerned that the proclamation of the international year should have been made conditional on finalization of the financial arrangements and considered that it would be more appropriate for the General Assembly to proclaim the international year and to state that its financing should in principle be based on voluntary contributions. He

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(Mr. Balasubramaniam, Sri Lanka)

appealed to the members of the Second Committee to take a decision at the current session to declare 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless; he recommended that the General Assembly should take certain consequential steps, for example, by designating the Commission on Human Settlements as the body responsible for organizing the international year and by appealing to all member countries and the specialized agencies to afford every assistance in connexion with the preparatory work for the international year. The Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements had pointed out in his introductory statement that the Commission had recommended 1986, rather than 1987, as more appropriate for holding the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in view of the fact that the tenth anniversary of the Vancouver Conference would fall in 1986. His delegation appreciated the reasons behind the decision of the Economic and Social Council and did not wish to reopen the question of the international year's timing.

16. In regard to subitem 69 (d) concerning industrialization, he appealed to the international community to spare no effort to achieve the target of 25 per cent of the world industrial output by the developing countries by the end of the century.

17. His delegation was gratified to note the establishment of a definite programme of sectoral and global consultations for the biennium 1982-1983. On the question of the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, he appealed to all States and, in particular, the developed countries, to take urgent steps to increase their contributions to the Fund, which was far below the agreed desirable level of \$50 million. He hoped that, at its sixteenth session, the Permanent Committee would reach definite decisions on the proposal to establish an international bank for industrial development. He was happy to announce that Sri Lanka had ratified the Constitution of UNIDO a few weeks earlier and appealed to member countries which had not yet done so to ratify it as early as possible.

18. In regard to subitem 69 (g) concerning the World Food Council, his delegation recommended that the General Assembly should endorse the decisions of the Council at its seventh ministerial session in May 1981. Such action would contribute towards strengthening the efforts of the international community in its struggle against hunger and malnutrition during the current decade.

19. He then recalled the record of the United Nations Special Fund, which had been established by the General Assembly in 1974 for the main purpose of providing assistance to the developing countries then most seriously affected by the economic crisis and which had suspended its activities in 1978; in that connexion, the current situation differed little from that which had prevailed in 1974. He recalled the proposal made by the Secretary-General during the previous year to initiate an emergency operation to help the poorest developing countries and stressed the urgent need to reactivate the Special Fund in order to meet the grave difficulties faced by the least developed countries.

20. Mr. TANIGUCHI (Japan) said that his Government supported the launching of the global negotiations at the earliest possible date with the participation of all countries concerned. Notwithstanding the impasse on the issue of the global negotiations, the North-South dialogue had made progress in other areas, in



(Mr. Taniguchi, Japan)

particular during the Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, held in Nairobi, and the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris.

21. On the question of international trade activities, his Government was striving to open its market and to resist protectionist sentiment; in 1981 it had decided to prolong for a further ten years the application period of the Generalized System of Preference in order to help promote the trade efforts of developing countries. Furthermore, special preferential measures had been in effect since April 1980 with respect to all products covered by the system originating from the least developed countries.

22. On the question of economic co-operation, Japan had decided in 1978 to double its official development assistance within three years. In 1980, the third year, Japan had surpassed that target. Despite its strained financial situation, the Japanese Government had decided, for the five-year period beginning in 1981, to more than double the total official development assistance disbursed between 1976 and 1980.

23. It was widely recognized that food and energy were two of the most serious problems confronting the world economy in the 1980s; attainment by the developing countries of the target figure of 4 per cent growth in agricultural production designated in the International Development Strategy was critical to the solution of their food problems. Regrettably, there was little optimism that such an objective could be achieved. On the question of co-operation in the area of agriculture, the Japanese delegation considered that it was of primary importance for each developing country to formulate concrete plans, within the context of self-help, to increase its food production in accordance with the country's over-all development scheme and to implement such plans as a priority activity. In that connexion, it was gratifying that the concept of food sector strategy propounded at the Ottawa meeting of the World Food Council in September 1979 had already been adopted by many countries and that concrete co-operative projects in line with that concept were currently being worked out. Emphasis should also be laid on the importance of developing human resources in order to ensure that the co-operation extended would best serve the interests of rural communities and farmers. In that regard, it was of the utmost importance to ensure the widest possible and most effective dissemination among farmers of the transferred agricultural technologies by organizing farmers and experts engaged in the diffusion of agricultural technologies as well as training local agrarian leaders. In regard to the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the World Food Council at its seventh ministerial session, it was his view that, whether or not those conclusions and recommendations were endorsed by the General Assembly, additional proposals which might lead to a repetition of the arguments that had taken place elsewhere should be avoided.

24. On the question of natural resources, he wished to stress that the Japanese Government was keenly interested in international co-operation for the development of resources and believed that the United Nations had an important role in facilitating such development. It attached great importance to the activities of the Committee on Natural Resources and other concerned organs and organizations

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(Mr. Taniguchi, Japan)

within the United Nations system such as the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration. The Japanese delegation welcomed the results of the Nairobi Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy. It believed that the future role of the Committee on Natural Resources should be considered by the Second Committee during its examination of the follow-up to the Nairobi Conference.

25. Mr. DON NANJIRA (Kenya) observed that the state of the world economy was continuing to deteriorate. Those hardest hit were the energy-importing developing nations such as Kenya, where the rates of economic growth were dropping sharply while the population steadily increased. The only hope in the current situation was to reach agreement, in the course of the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, on global negotiations for the establishment of a new international economic order, to replace short-term by long-term economic interests and to put an end to the crisis by finding solutions that were mutually acceptable to North and South.

26. With a view to working more rapidly and effectively, the Committee had decided, very wisely, to forgo a general debate. Such a decision was in line with the objectives of the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system and the provisions of Assembly resolution 32/197. The same concern for efficiency should lead the Committee at each session to review the General Assembly recommendations, decisions and resolutions which had not yet been implemented and to find ways of doing so. Early in each session, meetings should be held to review and appraise the implementation of decisions and recommendations adopted by the international community. The Committee would then concern itself mainly with what it had recognized as the impediments, thus replacing the usual rhetorical expressions of regret or pious wishes by concrete actions.

27. The General Assembly had adopted three particularly significant resolutions on food problems at its preceding session. In resolution 35/70 the Assembly had endorsed the unanimous decision of the Conference of FAO at its twentieth session that a World Food Day should be observed. It would be interesting to know how individual countries and organizations were planning to commemorate the Day.

28. Secondly, in resolution 35/68, the General Assembly had called on the international community as well as international organizations and other institutions, among them the World Food Council, to do everything possible to solve the food problems of developing countries, in particular by increased technical and capital assistance to their food sectors and by renewing the Food Aid Convention. Finally, in resolution 35/69, the General Assembly had urged the world community, including the World Bank, IFAD, the African Development Bank and UNDP to assist the African countries to meet their current emergency food needs. Paragraph 10 of that resolution had also requested the Secretary-General to co-operate with the Organization of African Unity in undertaking a study on the establishment of regional food trade and distribution organizations in Africa and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session. It had further requested the Secretary-General to submit to the same session a preliminary report on the progress made in the implementation of the resolution.

(Mr. Don Nanjira, Kenya)

29. The report of the World Food Council and the report requested of the Secretary-General in paragraph 14 of resolution 35/69 had been submitted to the Committee, but the study called for in paragraph 10 was not yet available. That delay was most regrettable. Similarly, while he appreciated the work done by the World Food Programme and the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes in 1980, he regretted that the Second Committee had still not been given that Committee's report on its most recent (seventh) session.

30. With regard to the reports to be prepared by the Economic Commission for Africa and the other relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system on the food and agriculture situation in Africa, they should contain concrete and practical recommendations on how to solve the problems in those areas. The United Nations bodies should, further, co-operate more closely with one another and with the African States to overcome the critical difficulties experienced in Africa. Kenya offered its fullest support, to the World Food Council in particular, and believed that assistance to agriculture in developing countries should be increased enough to make those countries self-sufficient by 1990.

31. The Programme of Action adopted by the Caracas Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries should allow the developing countries to intensify their co-operation, which was essential for their development. Kenya promised to participate actively in the implementation of that Programme. His Government, for its part, had adopted a national food policy and a national policy on livestock development which would allow it to attain self-sufficiency in its agricultural production. Kenya attached great importance to the sacred principle of collective self-reliance, which would have appreciable advantageous consequences. To help Africa help itself, the international community must, however, create a favourable environment in terms of peace and stability.

32. The Committee should study most closely the report of the Secretary-General on Africa's food and agriculture problems in the 1980s (A/36/149), endorse its recommendations and give specific and practical guidelines as to what should be done by the world community to implement the proposed measures and alleviate the critical food situation in Africa.

33. Kenya, for its part, had several proposals to make for the short, medium and long term. All countries should, first, join forces in the war against hunger, and the affluent countries of the North had a special moral obligation to assist in the solution of the food problems of Africa. Next, the concerted steps that all countries must take to solve the food problems facing developing countries must be based on strong political will on the part of States; concomitantly, co-operative efforts must be intensified among developing countries themselves, which must adopt national food strategies as a permanent feature of their development plans; increased technical and financial assistance for development was essential and joint action must be taken by all countries to improve the contribution of international trade to the solution of food problems. Action must likewise be taken to establish a world food-security network, and the world community must therefore institute a global alert system and assist the developing nations to overcome their critical food shortages. The national development plans of developing countries should strike a balance between the assessment of energy

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(Mr. Don Nanjira, Kenya)

needs and the planning of food programmes, giving priority to both. Large-scale investment programmes, with no strings attached, should be intensified to boost food and agricultural production and thus reduce the burden of the oil-import bills of developing nations. Countries experiencing serious food problems should give priority to such production. Women, especially rural women, should have the opportunity to become more involved in the process of social and economic development. Trade and technical and economic co-operation among African countries should also be intensified. Concerted efforts, finally, should be made to arrest the population explosion in the world and hold back urbanization—two extremely dangerous trends.

34. Referring to the question of industrialization, he stressed that in his country's view the primary function of UNIDO was to accelerate the promotion of the industrial development of developing countries. Kenya therefore welcomed the progress made at the fourteenth session of the Industrial Development Board in drawing up a list of priority activities. His delegation found, on the other hand, that the note of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (A/36/466) was inadequate and incomplete. It therefore called on all the concerned organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, especially UNIDO and ECA, to co-operate with OAU and with individual African countries and make proposals for implementing the objectives of the Decade.

35. Turning specifically to the issues raised in the Industrial Development Board's report on its fifteenth session, he said there was an urgent need to implement the stipulations of the Second and Third General Conferences of UNIDO as well as of the new International Development Strategy. He added that the concept of a zero-growth budget was a dangerous one and should be dropped as unrealistic. In the case of UNIDO, its budget should be increased in order to help it perform its activities satisfactorily. In that connexion, UNIDO must concentrate its energies on the priority areas selected by the Industrial Development Board at its fourteenth session. Kenya whole-heartedly endorsed the idea of establishing an international bank for industrialization as well as the proposal that UNIDO should pursue its efforts to prepare a conference on the establishment of a North-South global fund. Finally, the Constitution of UNIDO must be signed and ratified as early as possible in order to give it the status of a specialized agency. The process of ratification had already started in Kenya. Kenya's interest in UNIDO was very great and that was why it had offered to host its Fourth General Conference in Nairobi.

36. As for international co-operation in the field of human settlements, he considered that the fourth session of the Commission on Human Settlements had been a success. Some of the decisions taken at that session also deserved particular attention, especially decision 4/23 calling on the Centre for Human Settlements to contribute to the Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy. Kenya wished to commend the Centre on its most useful contribution to the preparatory stage of the Nairobi Conference. It should also be noted that the Manila Communiqué on a Human Settlements Movement (decision 4/1) had proved to be one of the most important results of the session, and deserved close examination by the Second Committee.

(Mr. Don Nanjira, Kenya)

37. Another important decision was the proposal to declare an international year of shelter for the homeless (decision 4/2). Kenya fully supported that decision and considered that the international year should be held in 1986, the tenth anniversary of the Vancouver Conference on Human Settlements. His country therefore hoped that the Second Committee of the General Assembly would adopt that decision. His Government had also already approved the Centre's medium-term plan for 1984-1989, its programme of work and programme budget for 1982-1983 and the proposed allocation of funds for the programmes, programme support, projects and the establishment of a reserve for 1982-1983, and hoped that the General Assembly would endorse the relevant decisions taken at the current session. His Government would not, therefore, agree to any proposal to merge subprogrammes 1 and 2 of the medium-term plan for 1984-1989. Particular attention should also be paid to Commission decisions 4/13 and 4/16 concerning, respectively, the role and contribution of the construction industry in human settlements, and the provision of infrastructure in slums and squatter areas in rural settlements.

38. It was important to increase and strengthen the resources of the Centre and of the Habitat Human Settlements Foundation. The decision taken by the Commission in resolution 3/8 in 1980 to integrate the Foundation's activities into the work programme of the Centre had therefore been very wise and commendable. Finally, his delegation invited all countries to continue to make voluntary financial contributions to the Centre, as would Kenya itself.

39. As to questions relating to the environment, the ninth session of the UNEP Governing Council (A/36/25) had been particularly important because it marked both the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and the beginning of a new decade in which environmental problems would grow even more acute. The target of \$120 million set for contributions to the Environment Fund in order to implement the Fund's programme for 1982-1983 appeared to have been based on a real growth rate of 5 per cent and an inflation rate of 14 per cent. His delegation also fully supported the Swedish "special window" formula for the Fund in order to help the developing countries solve their ecological problems. The Governing Council had been wise to organize a special session which would be held on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Conference on the Human Environment at the same time and in the same place as the Council's tenth regular session. That should enable Governments to deal exhaustively with all environmental problems.

40. His delegation also welcomed the fact that the UNEP Governing Council, in its decision 9/8, had called upon Governments to allocate at least 0.001 per cent of armaments spending to projects and protection of the environment. It should be recalled, in that connexion, that two thirds of the world's total armaments expenditures, which amounted to approximately \$500 billion a year, were made by the United States and the Soviet Union, that \$1.2 million were being spent for that purpose every minute and that more than 80 per cent of the world's experts and scholars were engaged in that activity. The world could no longer afford to squander such amounts. Finally, the problems of energy and environment and energy and human settlements being dealt with inter alia by UNEP and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements should continue to mobilize all efforts in the years to come.

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(Mr. Don Nanjira, Kenya)

41. In the area of national resources, his delegation assumed that the decisions taken by the Committee on Natural Resources at its seventh session (E/1981/50) would be endorsed by the Second Committee. Kenya had participated in that Committee's work since its establishment. The Committee was one of the most important bodies of the United Nations system because of the types of issues it handled, namely, mineral resources, water resources and not least, energy. The United Nations Symposium on World Coal Prospects had formulated particularly interesting conclusions in that field (E/C.7/121). It was essential to help the developing countries to identify their energy needs so that they might reflect them in their development plans and to identify the obstacles which prevented the development and utilization of coal and other sources of energy, whether in the area of information, financing, transfer of technology, education and training or research and development. Finally, a mechanism should be established for the co-ordination and implementation of activities performed at all levels in the field of energy.

42. He was sorry that the Committee on Natural Resources, at its seventh session, and the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session in 1981, had taken no decision concerning the draft resolution on energy resources submitted by Kenya and Uganda. The draft resolution had been modified considerably in order to eliminate elements which some delegations could not accept. Since the Committee on Natural Resources had already taken decisions concerning energy resources and had adopted at its seventh session resolutions concerning mineral resources and water resources, there was no longer any reason not to adopt a resolution in the energy field. His delegation was convinced that the Second Committee would adopt a resolution to that effect.

43. Mr. KAZEMBE (Zambia) said that the executive heads of most of the specialized agencies who had made statements before the Committee had stressed the international community's need to provide them with the financial resources required to accomplish their task. It was extremely disturbing that the international community was unable to meet its obligations to the development agencies and to strengthen multilateral assistance programmes, because international economic co-operation was one of the basic prerequisites for the growth of the world economy and it was essential to provide the developing countries, particularly through the United Nations system, with the necessary financial resources. There was more to be hoped from effective international co-operation than from narrow bilateralism or exploitation of the weak. The results of the Caracas High-Level Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries held in May 1981 was a positive step towards global concertation, and his delegation hoped that no efforts would be spared to implement the Declaration adopted at that meeting.

44. The United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy had thoroughly examined every aspect of the problem of energy in the developing countries. Its positive results should be followed up by establishing viable machinery to implement the Nairobi Plan of Action. He also hoped that the developed countries and the developing countries would implement the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the least developed countries which had been adopted at the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

(Mr. Kazembe, Zambia)

45. The Executive Director of the World Food Council had stressed that the most serious problem confronting developing countries had to do with their food situation. That was why his delegation endorsed the Chairman's suggestion that the Committee should take the initiative of formulating a global plan of action on food and agriculture up to the year 2000, in the preparation of which it was prepared to participate. On the other hand, it was disappointed in the report of the Secretary-General on the food and agriculture situation in Africa (A/36/149).

46. In so far as the problems of food and development were closely interrelated, the World Food Council had acted wisely at its seventh session (A/36/19) in adopting recommendations stressing, inter alia, that consumption must be improved and food production increased simultaneously, for the benefit of the smaller farmers and the poor. The agricultural base in the developing countries must be strengthened and a permanent foundation laid at the international level both to solve existing food problems and to attain and go beyond the targets set for world food reserves.

47. International co-operation was also indispensable in assisting the developing countries to industrialize, for which purpose the UNIDO System of Consultations might be given a central role in industrial programmes. It was essential to supply the United Nations Industrial Development Fund with the \$50 million required by UNIDO each year in order to carry out its activities. Furthermore, the network of industrial development field advisers must be strengthened and a serious study made of the proposal to set up an international bank for industrial development. Finally, the Constitution of UNIDO should enter into force as soon as possible.

48. Mr. OKELO (Uganda) said that the General Assembly was meeting at a particularly critical time for the world economy, which was characterized by substantial financial imbalance, stagflation, excessive protectionism and, above all, overwhelming insecurity. The problems had become much more acute since the 1980 eleventh special session of the General Assembly, devoted to development. However, the central issue was not the recognition of the problems, but the resolve to find solutions.

49. The Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the current Chairman of the Group of 77 had made a lucid analysis of the world economic situation. Since no country was immune from economic disruption, it was incumbent on the international community as a whole to attempt to solve world economic problems on a basis of equality and sovereignty. For that purpose, it was essential to carry out a comprehensive restructuring of the international system, which had become anachronistic and had outlived its usefulness. At the same time, individual countries must make the structural adjustments required in their national economies, with the help of the international community. The existing economic system was no longer compatible with the principles of peace, security and progress and must be replaced by a new world economic order effectively governed by the principle of economic interdependence. The new International Development Strategy would remain meaningless as long as no significant improvement was achieved in the development climate of the current decade in the interests of the whole of mankind. It was a challenge to all nations, particularly those in the North, to promote such an evolution by bringing the global North-South negotiations to a successful conclusion. The Ugandan delegation trusted that the meeting in Cancún would convince those who still entertained doubts about the need

(Mr. Okelo, Uganda)

for an immediate round of global negotiations, so that such negotiations could be launched during the current session of the General Assembly. Meanwhile, it would be possible to improve international economic relations reversing the trend towards bilateralism or even unilateralism and by earmarking part of the resources currently allocated to armaments for development purposes. A mere 5 per cent of the \$500 billion spent on armaments in 1981 would allow the entire new international Development Strategy to be implemented.

50. Agenda item 69 relating to development and international economic co-operation encompassed such a wide range of questions that it would be advisable in future to regroup subitems in such a way as to discuss only a few at a time. With respect to food problems, the messages exchanged on the occasion of World Food Day were far from reassuring. Millions of human beings continued to suffer from or die of malnutrition. There was a very long way to go before hunger and malnutrition could be eradicated, as envisaged by the World Food Conference and the International Development Strategy, while money was being spent hand over fist to strengthen futile militarism. The developing countries were far from attaining the target of a 4 per cent rate of growth in agricultural production set in the Second Development Decade and in the current Development Strategy. In fact, the group as a whole had experienced a growth of only slightly over 3 per cent and some were even experiencing negative growth. Such a state of affairs was all the more disturbing in that the majority of the developing countries depended on agriculture both for their survival and for earning foreign exchange. Moreover, it had not been possible to stock the International Emergency Food Reserve with the scheduled 500,000 tons of food grain a year or to attain the target of 10 million tons annually for food aid. Uganda therefore urged all those countries in a position to do so to make available additional resources for developing the agricultural and rural sectors in the developing countries. It was also to be hoped that more specific and viable proposals would be formulated with regard to the situation of food and agriculture in Africa.

51. Industrialization was another area of development that held out much promise for the third world: through the vertical integration of their essentially agricultural economies, the developing countries could increase their foreign exchange earning capacity while at the same time reducing their imports. Moreover, the terms of trade tended to favour the producers of manufactured goods to the detriment of the producers of raw materials. The Ugandan delegation trusted that General Assembly resolution 35/66 relating to the restructuring of world industrial production and the proclamation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa would be implemented. It also trusted that the Committee would be able to take a decision before the end of the year on the question of tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, left in abeyance since the preceding session.

52. Furthermore, the time had come to determine why the United Nations Special Fund, which had been established with a view to assisting the weakest economies, had not succeeded in attracting sufficient resources and to assist it in fulfilling that role. Science and technology for development was another area where promotional efforts were hamstrung by lack of resources, even though need for such activities was universally acknowledged. The fact that economic and technical co-operation

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(Mr. Okelo, Uganda)

among developing countries was an essential element of the new international economic order and should complement the North-South dialogue with a view to the establishment of a more equitable world order had already gained wide acceptance. The Ugandan delegation was convinced that such co-operation held enormous potential and trusted that the United Nations would support all programmes and activities in that field.

53. Finally, the Ugandan delegation also trusted that, despite their inadequacies, the Nairobi Programme of Action adopted at the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s adopted at the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries would both be implemented.

54. Mr. ZIADA (Iraq), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said with reference to the statement made on 15 October by the representative of the United States of America that there was no need to revert to the question of the pressure brought to bear by the United States Government on a number of countries to prevent them from providing Iraq with assistance in the area of nuclear technology. It was also known that, when it had been preparing its attack on the Iraqi nuclear installations, the Zionist entity had asked the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission for information on the damage which 2,000-ton bombs would cause to reactors of the same type as those which France had supplied to Iraq. That information had been communicated to the Zionist entity in October 1980 and the President of the United States had concluded a strategic co-operation agreement with the Prime Minister of the Zionist entity.

55. When the question of the attack on the Iraqi nuclear installations had been discussed by the Security Council, the United States had threatened to exercise its right of veto and had thus prevented the Council from adopting the necessary sanctions. However, it must be noted that the aircraft, bombs and electronic equipment used for the attack had been manufactured in the United States and had been supplied to the Zionist entity under an agreement which theoretically prohibited their use for purposes of aggression. By resolution 487 of 18 June 1981, the Security Council had condemned that act of aggression. It was therefore reasonable to wonder how the United States could claim to have been surprised by the aggression by the Zionist entity against the Iraqi nuclear installations.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/36/L.6 and L.7

57. The CHAIRMAN announced that Mozambique had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.6 and that Cuba, Hungary, Mozambique, Qatar, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.7.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.