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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 41st MEETING

Chairman: Mr. VERCELES (Philippines)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 69: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.2/35/L.72

- 1. Mr. OJA (Benin), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.72 on behalf of the countries members of the African Group, said that the title in the French text should read "Centres multinationaux de programmation et d'exécution de projets" and not "Centres de programmation multinationale et d'opérations". He pointed out that the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa in his recent statement to the Committee had stressed the situation of the multinational centres, with particular reference to the financing of their activities. The survival of the centres might be jeopardized unless adequate funds were made available regularly to the Economic Commission for Africa for their operation.
- 2. Accordingly, having in the preamble recalled earlier measures taken by the international community and the leading African authorities to strengthen the role and structure of ECA as a centre for activities and for the economic and social development of the African continent, the draft resolution called upon the Secretary-General to provide additional and adequate human and financial resources to enable the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres to carry out their work programme in the field of general programming, reserach, studies and the organization of meetings. It was his hope that the draft resolution could be adopted by consensus.

Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.75

- 3. Mrs. WALDER-BRUNDIN (Sweden), introducing, on behalf of the delegations of India, Pakistan and Sweden, draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.75, on interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development, said that it was a follow-up to General Assembly resolution 35/74 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/51 and was based largely on the note by the Secretary-General in document A/36/571.
- 4. She summarized the content of paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution and expressed the sponsors' hope that the draft resolution could be adopted by consensus.

Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.25/Rev.1

5. Mrs. EL TELAWY (Egypt) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.26/Rev.1 on behalf of the sponsors, to the list of which Belgium, Bolivia, France, Mali, Netherlands, Peru and Singapore should be added. The draft resolution related to the comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development, and the original text had been revised to take account of the opinions expressed by a number of delegations during consultations. The effect of those changes was to add to new preambular paragraphs referring to the major United Nations documents

(Mrs. El Telawy, Egypt)

and resolutions concerning the world economic situation. With a view to avoiding repetition, a reference to the new international economic order, which was mentioned in the first of the new preambular paragraphs, had been deleted from paragraph 2. The phrase "as well as national institutions having expertise on this subject" had been added in paragraph 6 in pursuance of views expressed during the consultations.

- 6. The sponsors hoped that the revised draft resolution could be adopted by consensus by the Committee.
- 7. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the draft resolution under consideration recognized the importance and timeliness of a multisectoral, interdisciplinary study of the role of women in development in the context of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace. He pointed out that the Soviet delegation had supported the proclamation of the Decade and had participated in the activities undertaken in pursuance of the report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women. That report had a direct bearing on the problems that were to be the subject of the proposed survey, and he accordingly proposed that a new preambular paragraph should be added after the second preambular paragraph of the draft resolution, which would read "Recalling the relevant provisions of the report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women adopted at the Copenhagen Conference, particularly the provisions relating to the need to ensure the full participation of women in development".
- 8. Mrs. EL TELAWY (Egypt) said that her delegation and the delegation of Ecuador, which were sponsors of the draft resolution, had objected during the consultations to the addition of the proposed paragraph. It was not that they had anything against the report of the World Conference or the Convention mentioned in the proposed paragraph, but they wanted the Second Committee to take a new approach to the question of the participation of women in development, by stressing the problems facing women in their everyday lives rather than the issues of equality and non-discrimination, which were a matter for the Third Committee. She hoped that the representative of the Soviet Union would understand the reasons why she was opposed to his amendment.
- 9. The CHAIRMAN asked the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.26/Rev.1 and the Soviet delegation to haveinformal consultations on the point in dispute before the draft resolution was put to the vote.

AGENDA ITEM 72: SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE (continued)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/36/L.73 and L.74

10. Mr. OJA BOUTOU BOUTOU (Benin) said that the delegations of Bangladesh and Benin had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.73 concerning assistance to Lesotho. The delegations of Benin, Central African Republic,

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(Mr. Oja Boutou Boutou, Benin)

Ecuador, France, Ghana and Madagascar had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.74 concerning assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Gambia. Introducing those two draft resolutions on behalf of the African Group, he noted that Lesotho and the Gambia were two developing countries which had faced severe difficulties because of natural disasters and the increasingly difficult international situation. Lesotho was a land-locked country whose economy depended to a large extent on South Africa and hence was subject to pressures from the apartheid régime. On the other hand, the Gambia, besides grappling with domestic difficulties, was suffering from the serious problems shared by the countries of the Saharan region, particularly from drought. In each of the draft resolutions, the international community, the competent agencies and organs of United Nations system and other bodies were invited to provide appropriate technical and financial assistance to each of the two countries in order to promote their development and help solve their problems. The sponsors hoped that the Second Committee would adopt the two draft resolutions by consensus.

Draft resolutions A/C.2/36/L.33/Rev.1, L.39, L.47, L.48, L.52, L.53, L.56, L.57, L.58, L.59 and L.60

11. Mr. TSUI (Secretary of the Committee) announced that Mali had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.33/Rev.1 concerning assistance for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of Equatorial Guinea; Panama had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.39 concerning assistance for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of Central African Republic; the Central African Republic had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.47 concerning assistance to Sao Tome and Principe; Bangladesh had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.48 concerning assistance to Chad, Bangladesh, Brazil, Panama and the United Republic of Tanzania had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.52 concerning assistance to Cape Verde; Angola, Bangladesh and Mali had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.53 concerning assistance to the Comoros; Angola, Bangladesh, Mali and Norway had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.56 concerning assistance to Zambia; Bangladesh, Congo, Mali, Mongolia, Norway, Sierra Leone and Upper Volta had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.57 concerning assistance to Mozambique; Angola had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.58 concerning assistance to Djihouti; Bangladesh, Panama and Romania had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.59 concerning assistance to Guinea-Bissau; and Angola, Bangladesh and Mali had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.60 concerning assistance to Uganda.

AGENDA ITEM 70: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.71

12. Mr. MIHALJEVIC (Yugoslavia) introduced on behalf of the sponsors, who now included the Gambia, draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.71 concerning the United Nations Children's Fund. It was focused on the reaffirmation of the role of UNICEF as the lead agency in the United Nations system responsible for co-ordination of the follow-up activities emanating from the International Year of the Child. It also

(Mr. Mihaljevic, Yugoslavia)

concerned the goals and objectives established in the International Development Strategy with regard to the well-being of children in the developing world. In the draft resolution the General Assembly commended the Executive Director and the UNICEF secretariat for their efforts to enlarge the Fund's resources and addressed an appeal to all Governments to increase their contributions. He expressed the hope that the draft resolution could be adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.70

13. Mr. TSUI (Secretary of the Committee) announced that Mali had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.70 concerning the United Nations Capital Development Fund.

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

Draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.7/Rev.2

- 14. Mr. KHAN (Pakistan) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/36/L.7/Rev.2 concerning assistance to the Palestinian people. He read out a new paragraph, which, following unofficial consultations, it had been decided to insert between operative paragraphs 4 and 5. The new paragraph read: "Requests that the United Nations assistance to the Palestinian people in the Arab host countries should be rendered through the specialized agencies, programmes, organs and other bodies of the United Nations system, in consultation with the parties concerned and in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council". Also, in operative paragraph 2, the word "appropriate" should be replaced by the word "pertinent".
- 15. Mr. KHARMA (Lebanon) said that, in those circumstances, he would withdraw the amendment he had introduced orally.

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.