

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Twenty-second Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

951st (adjourning) meeting

Thursday, 9 August 1956 at 10.30 a.m.

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

CONTENTS	_
Agenda item 16: Calendar of conferences for 1957	Page 239
Agenda item 2: World economic situation (resumed from the 941st meeting and concluded) (a) Survey of the world economic situation, including the questions of full employment and of the expansion of world trade (resumed from the 939th meeting and concluded)	239
Agenda item 6: International commodity problems	240
Agenda item 20: Elections	241
Agenda item 3: General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and specialized agencies as a whole (resumed from the 945th meeting and concluded)	242
Agenda item 17: Financial implications of actions of the Council (resumed from the 926th meeting and concluded)	242
Agenda item 9: Technical assistance	242
Agenda item 5: Financing of economic development (concluded)	244
Agenda item 18: Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly	246 246

President: Mr. ENGEN (Norway).

Present:

The representatives of the following countries: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Greece, Indonesia, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Observers from the following countries: Bulgaria, Colombia, Finland, Italy, Poland, Romania, Spain, Venezuela.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, World Health

Organization, World Meteorological Organization, Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization.

AGENDA ITEM 16

Calendar of conferences for 1957

REPORT OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMME OF CONFERENCES (E/2920)

- 1. The PRESIDENT called on the Chairman of the Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences to present the Committee's report (E/2920).
- 2. Mr. BROWN (United Kingdom), speaking as Chairman of the Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences, explained that the report and the proposals it contained had had to be framed in the absence of any certain indication of the dates on which the General Assembly would meet. The coming session of the General Assembly would be later than usual, and the Committee's recommendations had been based on the assumption that the Assembly would reconvene after Christmas between 14 January and 22 February 1957. If that assumption proved to be incorrect, the Committee might have to hold a further meeting to make some changes in the programme. The Committee regretted that, because of the special situation which would prevail at Headquarters in the early months of 1957 as a result of the postponement of the eleventh session of the General Assembly, it had not been possible to accede to the request of the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to hold a four-week session in 1957: it had only been possible to arrange a session of three weeks and two days, but the Committee wished to stress that it was fully mindful of the importance of the Sub-Commission's work.

The report of the Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences (E|2920) was approved.

AGENDA ITEM 2

World economic situation

(resumed from the 941st meeting and concluded):

(a) Survey of the world economic situation, including the question of full employment and of the expansion of world trade (resumed from the 939th meeting and concluded)

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/2918 and Corr.1)

3. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote separately on resolutions A to D contained in the report of the Economic Committee (E/2918 and Corr.1).

- A—MEASURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE CO-OPERATION
 - Draft resolution A was adopted unanimously.
- B—TRADE AND PRODUCTION POLICIES IN RELATION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
 - Draft resolution B was adopted unanimously.
- C—RESOURCES AND REQUIREMENT SURVEYS

 Draft resolution C was adopted unanimously.
- D—Surveys of the world economic situation Draft resolution D was adopted unanimously.
- 4. Mr. BAKER (United States of America), explaining his vote on resolution A, said that the resolution invited Member Governments "to submit at an early date to the Secretary-General comments concerning the international machinery for trade co-operation", in order that he might make a further report on that matter for consideration at the twenty-fourth session. His delegation had felt that, given existing and projected organizations in that field, no further action was necessary, but since some delegations considered that a further examination of the matter was desirable, it had agreed that it would be helpful for the Council to have the considered observations of Member Governments. He wished to emphasize that in his Government's view Member Governments had in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) an effective instrument of international co-operation in the trade field, an instrument that had been evolved through years of international negotiation and experience and which now provided the principal machinery for enabling countries accounting for a very large proportion of international trade to consider problems of mutual interest.
- 5. Mr. PAVLIC (Czechoslovakia) said his delegation had voted for resolution A because it was convinced that the growing development of trade relations between States belonging to different economic systems, as well as with the under-developed countries, helped to strengthen international co-operation. The Czechoslovak delegation, however, adhered to the view it had expressed in supporting the draft resolution submitted on that subject by the delegation of the USSR at the 938th meeting (E/L.734). It believed that the establishment of an international organization for trade co-operation within the United Nations would help to develop economic and trade relations throughout the world.
- 6. Mr. CHISTYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said his delegation had voted for resolution A, although it went less far than the draft resolution it had itself submitted. It had however voted for the former resolution to meet the wishes expressed by the representatives of other countries and in the hope that steps would be taken within the framework of the United Nations to establish an international trade organization in the near future.
- 7. Mr. EL TANAMLI (Egypt), explaining his delegation's vote on resolution B, recalled that the Egyptian delegation had submitted a draft resolution (E/AC.6/

- L.153) urging that the financing of economic development could be adequately ensured only by means of international trade. With that end in view, it had asked the industrial countries, *inter alia*, to "review their trade and production policies with a view to promoting free movement of the products of the under-developed countries".
- 8. The resolution which had been adopted represented a compromise, and he expressed the hope that the developed countries would do all they could to translate it into action.
- 9. Mr. SAID HASAN (Pakistan), speaking as Chairman of the Economic Committee, said that the draft resolutions had been prepared in a spirit of compromise and had been the result of many hours of arduous work by small informal working groups; in every case all concerned had shown understanding of the different points of view.

AGENDA ITEM 6

International commodity problems

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/2922)

- 10. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote on the draft resolution contained in paragraph 6 of the Economic Committee's report (E/2922).
- 11. Sir Alec RANDALL (United Kingdom) said it was with regret and only after the most careful consideration that his delegation had decided to vote against the draft resolution. It had been clear, as soon as the Economic Committee had begun its discussion of item 6 of the Council's agenda, that the majority of delegations wished to maintain the status quo among the three United Nations bodies mainly concerned with commodity problems-namely, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Interim Co-ordinating Committee on International Commodity Arrangements (ICCICA) and the Commission on International Commodity Trade. Nevertheless, one of the principal features of the draft resolution was the recommendation that action should be set on foot which might well lead to considerable reorganization: in his delegation's view such was the intention behind the resolution. If its purpose had been merely to prevent overlapping among the three bodies concerned, the United Kingdom could have supported it warmly. Unfortunately, there was no such clear intention: quite the contrary.
- 12. An essential feature of the status quo had been that the Council had specifically recognized that proposals on commodity problems at present being discussed by the Contracting Parties to GATT were likely to have an important bearing on the future of the Council's own bodies concerned with commodity problems. Her Majesty's Government attached the highest importance to maintaining that understanding, since it had enabled it to explore, with other governments, the possibility of linking their general trade and commercial policies in an international instrument (GATT's draft Special Agreement on Commodity Arrangements). That instrument included carefully drafted provisions for links with United Nations organs. Since discussions on it were

only in an intermediary stage, the Economic Committee had not, of course, been able to study in detail the possible effect of that development upon the status quo. That was why his delegation had felt that the general understanding on what, although a limited matter, was nevertheless a vital one, should not be tacitly undermined by reason of any wording in the resolution. There appeared to be some danger of such a development in the words contained in operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, which sought to ensure the co-ordination of the functions of FAO, the Commission on International Commodity Trade and ICCICA "within the framework of the United Nations". ICCICA had adopted the commodity-by-commodity approach which was embodied in the draft agreement that was being developed by the Contracting Parties to GATT. Therefore, any suggestion that ICCICA could not appropriately undertake functions outside the United Nations challenged the whole basis of the understanding upon which the status quo rested. He felt that the words "within the framework of the United Nations" were ambiguous and supererogatory. They struck a new note in the Council's approach to the organizational question, and he had been unable to obtain from the sponsors any assurance that the damaging implication which he had drawn from them was incorrect. In those circumstances his delegation had no option but to oppose the draft resolution. He need hardly add that that did not imply any indifference on the part of the United Kingdom to any and all well-conceived actions directed to minimizing excessive fluctuations in commodity trade.

- 13. Mr. STANOVNIK (Yugoslavia) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution because its underlying purpose was the maintenance of the *status quo* among the bodies concerned with international commodity problems. ICCICA was a body of experts set up by the United Nations and responsible to the Secretary-General; it was an interim body, but any alteration in its functions would affect the *status quo*.
- 14. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution in paragraph 6 of the Economic Committee's report on international commodity problems (E/2922).

The draft resolution was adopted by 16 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

AGENDA ITEM 20

Elections (E/2913 and Add.1 and 2)

- 15. Mr. BAKER (United States of America) called attention to footnote 5 in the note by the Secretary-General (E/2913), which explained that his Government was not seeking re-election to the Commission on International Commodity Trade. The views of his Government had not altered, and he expressed the hope that some other country would be elected to the Commission in place of the United States.
- 16. Sir Alec RANDALL (United Kingdom) wished to explain, before the ballot, why the United Kingdom was not seeking re-election. He recalled that at the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Council his delegation had expressed its conviction that a commodity-by-commodity approach was the only known and

tested technique in dealing with the important and intricate problems of international commodity trade. Accordingly, it could not see why the Council should attempt either to supersede or to supplement the work of ICCICA; in particular, it doubted the practicability of any multilateral approach to the problem. Nevertheless, his Government had felt that, if other governments wished to examine alternative techniques, it would be prepared to consider them, and it still preserved an open mind if constructive and practicable proposals could be put forward. Her Majesty's Government had felt some doubt whether the mere creation of new machinery was likely to bring governments any nearer to effective and comprehensive action such as that offered by the commodity-by-commodity approach; in particular, it did not believe that machinery set up independently of GATT which covered four-fifths of the world's trade—would come near enough to the realities of international trade. In its view, it would have been preferable at least to await the outcome of the discussions among the Contracting Parties to GATT.

17. The Council had nevertheless decided to set up the Commission on International Commodity Trade and the United Kingdom had been elected as one of its initial members. Her Majesty's Government had tried to play a constructive part and to assist the work of the Commission in every possible way. The United Kingdom was vitally interested in promoting the effective action of any body established to reduce excessive fluctuations in commodity trade, for it was the second largest importer of primary commodities and the prosperity of the sterling area depended upon a high and stable level of trade in primary products. His delegation had always felt that it must suspend judgment as to whether the Commission could in fact play an effective part in that respect; in any case it was convinced that the work undertaken under the auspices of GATT might well have a bearing on the future both of the Commission's activities and of the interim work of ICCICA. In his view the resolution just adopted under item 6 of the Council's agenda (E/2922) had destroyed that premiss, and his Government had therefore regretfully concluded that its further participation in the Commission's activities would not be helpful. In standing aside, in order to allow some other governments which might have constructive ideas of their own to take its place, his Government did not feel that either the work of the Commission or the close interest which his country had in commodity problems would be jeopardized. If those governments which were convinced that a new approach to commodity problems was feasible had particular schemes in mind, Her Majesty's Government would always be prepared to examine them. His delegation felt that the United Kingdom's continuing concern for the satisfactory solution of commodity problems was sufficiently demonstrated by its active membership of various international commodity study groups and councils, as well as by the leading part it had played in the work developed under the auspices of the Contracting Parties to GATT.

18. The PRESIDENT said that the election would be held by secret ballot, and invited Mr. Tettamanti (Argentina) and Mr. van Braam Houckgeest (Netherlands) to act as tellers.

Αı	vote was taken by secret ba	lloi	t.						
1	Number of ballot papers .								18
1	Invalid ballots								0
1	Number of valid ballots .								18
P	Abstentions								0
1	Number of members voting								18
	Required majority								10
1	Number of votes obtained:								
	Brazil								17
	Indonesia								14
	Poland								14
	Uruguay								12
	Greece								10
	Canada								9
	Italy								9
	Dominican Republic								8
	Spain								5
	Austria								3
	United Kingdom of Gre	eat	В	rit	ai	n	ar	nd	2
	Northern Ireland								3
	United States of America							٠	2
	Yugoslavia	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	•	٠	1

Having obtained the required majority, Brazil, Indonesia, Poland, Uruguay, and Greece were elected members of the Commission.

In accordance with rule 69 (paragraph 2) of the Council's rules of procedure, a further vote by secret ballot was taken to decide whether Canada or Italy should fill the remaining place on the Commission.

Number of ballot papers .								18
Invalid ballots								
Number of valid ballots .								18
Abstentions								0
Number of members voting	g.							18
Required majority								10
Number of votes obtained:								
Canada								14

Having obtained the required majority, Canada was elected a member of the Commission.

AGENDA ITEM 3

General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole (resumed from the 945th meeting and concluded)

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (E/2925 and Corr.1)

- 19. The PRESIDENT invited the Committee to consider the report of the Co-ordination Committee (E/2925 and Corr.1) and draft resolutions A to E annexed thereto.
- 20. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that his delegation supported the report and the draft resolutions. He did, however, wish to ask two questions before they were formally approved. Was his delegation

correct in assuming that paragraphs 15 to 21 of the report, to which it attached great importance and which had been voted upon in the Committee, would be included textually in the *Annex* to the *Official Records* of the current session relating to the agenda item in question; and secondly, that the attention of the General Assembly, the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the specialized agencies and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs where appropriate would be drawn by the Secretary-General to the Committee's recommendations?

21. The PRESIDENT said that both assumptions were correct. On that understanding he would put the draft resolutions A to E to the vote, one by one.

Draft resolution A I was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution A II was adopted by 15 votes to none with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution B was adopted by 15 votes to none with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution C was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution D was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution E was adopted by 15 votes to none with 3 abstentions.

22. Mr. ASMAUN (Indonesia) explained that he had been unable to vote in favour of resolution A II, because his delegation considered that co-ordination at the national level in respect of matters concerning the United Nations, its bodies and the specialized agencies was the continuing responsibility of governments and that they could discharge that responsibility without assistance at the international level. As, however, the resolution had been adopted by a large majority, he would add that his delegation shared the expectations of the majority with regards to the benefits that might be reaped from the proposed survey and it looked forward to the eventual improvement of co-ordination at the national level.

AGENDA ITEM 17

Financial implications of actions of the Council (resumed from the 926th meeting and concluded)

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (E/2926)

23. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution on the financial implications of actions of the Council contained in the report of the Co-ordination Committee (E/2926).

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Technical assistance

REPORTS OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE (E/2810 and Corr. 1, E/2923)

24. The PRESIDENT invited the Chairman of the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC) to introduce that Committee's reports.

- 25. Mr. BANNIER (Netherlands), speaking as Chairman of the Technical Assistance Committee, explained that the report in document E/2810 and Corr. 1 was that of the TAC session held in November 1955. In accordance with Council resolution 542 B II (XVIII), TAC held a session each year in November for the purpose of reviewing and approving the Expanded Programme for the following year and authorizing the allocation of funds to the participating organizations. As the question of technical assistance was included on the agenda of the Council's summer session only, the report had not been considered at the twenty-first session. The Council could, he suggested, simply take note of the report, as it dealt mainly with the Expanded Programme for 1956, which was already in operation.
- 26. The report of the TAC session that had just closed appeared in document E/2923. He would draw the Council's attention not only to the five resolutions in the two annexes to the report but also to one particular resolution adopted by the Committee itself, which did not need the Council's confirmation: the resolution on the evaluation of the Expanded Programme, reproduced in paragraph 34 of the report. Operative paragraph 6 of that resolution contained certain recommendations to the Council; he would therefore suggest that when the Council approved the report, it should do so on the understanding that it endorsed those recommendations.

The Council took note of the first report of the Technical Assistance Committee (E/2810 and Corr. 1).

- 27. The PRESIDENT then asked the Council to consider draft resolutions A to C contained in annex I to document E/2923 and draft resolutions A and B in annex II.
- 28. Mr. ASMAUN (Indonesia), referring to draft resolution A in annex I, in which the Council took note with appreciation of the eighth report submitted by the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) to TAC (E/2842), protested against the consistent use in that report of the name "Netherlands New Guinea" for the territory which was an integral part of the Republic of Indonesia under the name of West Irian. The territory in question was a disputed area and the United Nations was supposed to be completely impartial in the matter.
- 29. Mr. SCHURMANN (Netherlands) said that all were aware of the claims of Indonesia to that territory, but it was common knowledge that Netherlands New Guinea was a sovereign part of the Netherlands and that the use of that name was perfectly correct.
- 30. The PRESIDENT then put to the vote draft resolutions A to C in annex I and A and B in annex II of document E/2923.
- A (annex I)—Report of the Technical Assistance Board to the Technical Assistance Committee Draft resolution A was adopted unanimously.
- B (annex I)—Working Capital and Reserve Fund Draft resolution B was adopted unanimously.

C (annex I)—CURRENCY UTILIZATION

Draft resolution C was adopted by 14 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions.

A (annex II)—REGULAR UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Draft resolution A was adopted unanimously.

B (annex II)—Technical assistance in public administration

Draft resolution B was adopted by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The Council approved the report of the Technical Assistance Committee (E|2923), endorsing the recommendations in paragraph 6 of the resolution on evaluation of the Expanded Programme.

- 31. Mr. CHISTYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) explained that his delegation had voted against resolution C in annex I, since there appeared to be no specific difficulty about the utilization of non-convertible currencies for technical assistance and it therefore saw no reason for the resolution. On the contrary, as the resolution urged governments to make that portion of their contribution exceeding the equivalent of \$500,000 in the form of readily usable currencies, it might have a serious effect on the future of technical assistance funds, since it might well prevent governments from increasing their contributions over \$500,000. Moreover, in view of TAC's almost unanimous recognition that an increase in technical assistance funds was needed to meet the increasing needs of the under-developed countries, the Secretary-General's decision to reject the contribution offered by the German Democratic Republic (E/2923, paragraph 17) was unjustifiable and should be reversed.
- 32. Mr. SVEC (Czechoslovakia) said that his delegation had always considered that the Technical Assistance Programme, which had been conceived as a means of pooling technical experience and skill in order to assist the economic development of the under-developed countries, deserved full support. Resolution C in annex I introduced a concept of convertibility of currency which was not in keeping with the fundamental principles of the Programme. It was essential that the Programme should grow, in order to keep pace with the growing needs of the under-developed countries, and the Czechoslovak delegation was opposed to any measure that would discourage such growth. Furthermore, it deprecated the negative attitude adopted by the Secretary-General with regard to the contribution offered by the German Democratic Republic and expected the matter to be reconsidered.
- 33. Mr. BAKER (United States of America) said that his delegation had voted in favour of resolution C in annex I. It was regrettable that certain delegations had reopened the question of the Secretary-General's rejection of the German Democratic Republic's offer to participate in the Expanded Programme. As his delegation had made clear in TAC, the United States supported the Secretary-General's action in the matter and considered that he had made a wise and proper decision.

AGENDA ITEM 5

Financing of economic development (concluded)

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/2924)

- 34. Mr. BORIS (France) recalled that in a statement he had made at the 949th meeting, the text of which had been circulated and reproduced in Press Release ECOSOC/941, the Egyptian representative had said that 120,000 Egyptian workers had died during the digging of the Suez Canal. The French delegation was aware that when the canal had been cut the Egyptian authorities had stipulated that four-fifths of the labour employed should be of Egyptian nationality, but, so far as it knew. the total number of workers had never been so high as the number which the Egyptian representative quoted as having died. It was also aware that at that time, as throughout the nineteenth century, a cholera epidemic had carried off many persons throughout Egypt, including workers engaged in digging the Canal; but for that epidemic the Canal Company could hardly be held responsible.
- 35. The French delegation had been amazed by the figure mentioned by the Egyptian representative and had tried to find its source. It had learned that the figure did not appear in any official document, but had been quoted in a sensational speech some days previously and reproduced in a French newspaper, an organ of the Communist Party. He had found an explanation of it, however, in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. It was there stated that one of the Pharaons had begun to dig a canal in 609 B.C.; the canal had not been finished, but, according to Herodotus, 120,000 workers had died in the attempt. It would be regrettable if the Egyptian representative's statement misled persons who had listened to him in good faith and did anything to fan dangerous passions.
- 36. The Suez Canal enterprise had been conceived by socialists, followers of Saint-Simon, far-sighted men who had carried out a feat designed to serve the general interest and peaceful purposes.
- 37. Mr. EL TANAMLI (Egypt) recalled that he had already stated at the 949th meeting that the colonialist Powers were trying to use the Council as a propaganda tool for the defence of their own interests. The French representative's statement strengthened that conviction.
- 38. The French representative had consulted documents emanating from a colonialist Power and had failed to look up the statements of the Chairman of the Company which, although biased, did not deny that an epidemic had broken out in the Suez Canal Zone during the digging of the Canal, an epidemic due to the fact that the workers lived under deplorable conditions.
- 39. They had received no wages until the Egyptian Government had made a claim on their behalf; the claim had been submitted to Napoleon III for arbitration, and Egypt had been compelled to pay out 30 million francs to make up the balance. No socialist principles had been involved in the Canal project, as the French representative asserted, but rather colonialist principles. With regard to the French representative's reference to a Communist

Party newspaper, he was sure that the French workers did not endorse the French representative's statements and realized that the defence of colonialist principles by the French Government would lead to war.

- 40. The PRESIDENT said that consideration of that point was now closed. The statements of the French and Egyptian representatives would appear in the summary record.
- 41. He asked the Council to vote on draft resolutions A to C contained in the annex to the Economic Committee's report (E/2924).
- A—QUESTION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution A was adopted unanimously.

B-International flow of private capital

Draft resolution B was adopted by 14 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

C—INTERNATIONAL TAXATION PROBLEMS

Draft resolution C was adopted unanimously.

- 42. Mr. BAKER (United States of America) explained that, owing to developments in the Economic Committee with which all delegations were familiar, it had become impossible for the United States delegation to support resolution A, on the establishment of a special United Nations fund for economic development, when it had been put to the vote in that Committee. Thanks mainly to the efforts of the Canadian delegation and the general desire of the Council to reach unanimity, the difficulties in the way of United States support of the resolution had been resolved to a degree which had made it possible for the United States delegation to vote in favour of it. In so doing, it wished the Council to understand the significance it attached to operative paragraph 4.
- 43. The United States delegation assumed that the kind of special United Nations fund contemplated by the resolution was one which would be truly international and would include the United States as a contributor. Hence the steps which would help to promote the establishment of such a fund were steps which would bring nearer the day when the United States might find it possible to participate in its financial support. The circumstances in which its support might be forthcoming had been defined many times in the Council. That definition was embodied in General Assembly resolution 724 A (VIII). It was well known to the Council and had not changed. His delegation hoped that the action which that resolution envisaged would lead to what it would regard as realistic and useful conclusions.
- 44. Mr. EL TANAMLI (Egypt) recalled that his delegation had proposed an amendment to operative paragraph 4 of resolution A. It had felt, like other delegations, that in order to further the ideal of the Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development (SUNFED) and eventually to get it established it was necessary to prepare draft statutes. The amendment had not been accepted and, in the interests of unanimity in the Council, his delegation had agreed to withdraw it, asking

however that it should be mentioned in the report. Subsequently his delegation had withdrawn that request and had supported the text appearing in the report of the Economic Committee. It still, however, felt that the General Assembly ought to convene a committee of experts to prepare draft statutes for SUNFED.

- 45. With regard to resolution B, on the international flow of private capital, the Egyptian delegation had considered the text proposed by the Brazilian and United States delegations (E/AC.6/L.172) to be unacceptable. However, after the amendment proposed by the Indonesian delegation—by virtue of which reference would be made not only to the obligations of capital-importing countries but also to those of capital-exporting countries—and the four Egyptian amendments had been accepted, his delegation had felt in a position to vote for the draft resolution (E/AC.6/L.172/Rev.1) in the Economic Committee. It had not altered its attitude in the plenary meeting, despite the regrettable incident which had occurred there.
- 46. There were other reasons, of a substantive nature, why his delegation had eventually voted in favour of resolution B, notwithstanding the fact that it considered it to be inadequate. Its reasons had been, first, that the resolution emphasized the obligations of capital-exporting countries, in accordance with the principle of the Charter which proclaimed the sovereignty of peoples and indicated peaceful means of settling disputes arising between Member States; and, secondly, that the resolution explicitly referred to Council resolution 368 (XIII), which recognized the undeniable right of capital-importing countries to take any appropriate safeguards necessary to ensure that foreign investment was not used as a basis for interference in their internal affairs or national policies.
- 47. Mr. CARDIN (Canada), explaining his vote in favour of resolution A, said that, as he had already pointed out, Canada's chief contribution to the financing of the economic development of under-developed countries had so far been made on a bilateral basis, under the Colombo Plan. From the Canadian point of view, the bilateral approach had seemed useful and constructive.
- 48. The Canadian Government had recently noted a growing desire that international aid should take on a more multilateral character. With that in mind it had participated actively in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee whose report (E/2896) had been before the Council.
- 49. His Government, however, had not yet made a final decision regarding the proposed special fund. Its decision in due course would be based on its financial position at the time, with particular regard to the continuing high level of defence expenditure. Its decision would also depend on the administrative and organizational arrangements of the proposed fund and on whether the fund would command adequate financial support.
- 50. Mr. BORIS (France) said that by voting in favour of resolution A, the French delegation had sought both to mark its approval of the concept of international cooperation in the field of economic development by means of a fund-in-aid, to which the French Government was ready to contribute, and to endeavour to further the idea of SUNFED by gradually inducing public opinion to accept it.

- 51. He thought that resolution B was an excellent one and did credit to its sponsors. The French delegation was particularly glad that that resolution referred expressly to resolution 368 (XIII), in the drafting of which it had played a large part. That resolution made it clear, in fact, that countries seeking to attract foreign capital should provide adequate assurances with respect to the treatment to be accorded to foreign investors in the protection of their persons and property. To the French delegation that reference had seemed particularly opportune.
- 52. Mr. SCHURMANN (Netherlands) said that his delegation did not think that the adoption of resolution A had done anything to advance the establishment of SUNFED; indeed, the resolution did little more than take note of the Ad Hoc Committee's interim report and the Council's deliberations. His delegation had voted in favour of the resolution because it felt that in the political circumstances it would not prejudice the establishment of the fund. It hoped to find in the General Assembly a better atmosphere for further action and it would do its utmost there to promote a decision to establish SUNFED.
- 53. Sir Alec RANDALL (United Kingdom) said that, for reasons that had already been sufficiently explained, his delegation had abstained in the vote on resolution A in the Economic Committee but had felt able to vote in favour of it in plenary. The views of the United Kingdom Government with regard to operative paragraph 4 of the resolution were already on record in the summary record of the 214th meeting of the Economic Committee; they had been repeatedly made clear in various meetings of the Council and the General Assembly and he could only say that his delegation stood by them completely.
- 54. He was grateful to the representative of France for his statement on resolution B and associated himself fully with all his comments.
- 55. Mr. STANOVNIK (Yugoslavia) said that his delegation had voted in favour of resolution A, although it was not satisfied with the results achieved. He fully agreed with the Netherlands representative that the resolution did not represent a step forward.
- 56. His delegation had abstained in the vote on resolution B, for reasons which it had already explained at the 215th meeting of the Economic Committee.
- 57. Mr. EUSTATHIADES (Greece) said that he had been one of the sponsors of draft resolution A. He and his co-sponsors had felt that the wording of operative paragraph 4 did not adequately express the urgency of the problem, but it represented the maximum acceptable to certain delegations and the minimum acceptable to others.
- 58. The General Assembly would no doubt have a full discussion of the question and he hoped that at that time more understanding would be shown and practical steps taken.
- 59. Mr. CHISTYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had abstained in the vote on resolution B, because it considered that private

capital should be the basis for mutual advantages and not used in accordance with political or military requirements.

AGENDA ITEM 18

Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly (E/L.725)

60. The PRESIDENT drew attention to paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Secretary-General's note (E/L.725) and asked the Council if it authorized him to prepare its report to the General Assembly, in consultation with the two Vice-Presidents and the Secretariat.

The Council approved the contents of the Secretary-General's note and authorized the President to prepare its report to the General Assembly.

Adjournment of the twenty-second session

- 61. The PRESIDENT said that, as usual at the Council's summer sessions, the emphasis during the present session had been on economic matters. While it was gratifying to note the extraordinary advances in world production and trade, in employment and levels of productivity, in increased consumption and investment, it was disappointing that so large a share of output had had to be set aside as the cost of world dissension; while it was encouraging that the under-developed countries had, in many cases, laid foundations for more rapid development, it was a matter for universal dissatisfaction that their share in the world's economic growth had not been greater. Although the grave problems of internal and external disequilibrium which had arisen in the early post-war years had been overcome, milder forms of those problems still remained; and although the resources of the developed countries had been stabilized to a far greater degree than had seemed feasible before the Second World War, those of the under-developed countries continued to suffer from serious instability in commodity markets. Yet even in those areas where progress had been least visible, there had been a considerable advance beneath the surface. Progress was not to be measured in physical and statistical terms alone. It also lay in the less tangible but surely no less significant social sphere of learning to live together in mutual understanding as member nations of a world community.
- 62. The increasing gap between the standards of living in the developed and under-developed countries had led the Council to pay greater attention than ever before to the problems concerning natural resources and industrialization, and to questions of the financing of economic development. Although the decision taken in the latter respect did not go as far as many delegations would have wished, or as far as the debate itself seemed to justify, that was perhaps partly due to the feeling that the Council should await a more conclusive expression of views by governments in response to the request made to them. One important step forward, however, had been the recent establishment of the International Finance Corporation. He felt it his duty to express the Council's appreciation to all countries which, in one way or another, had helped to bring the Corporation into existence.

- 63. TAC had had a particularly busy session. As a result of its work a resolution had emerged which, in the Council's view, should safeguard the multilateral character of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and ensure full assimilation of all contributions made in currencies in which funds were at present being made available. The Expanded Programme was perhaps the Council's most important practical achievement, and it was not without significance that, after considering the experience so far acquired and the future prospects of the Programme as set out by TAB in its "Forward Look" study (E/2885), the Committee had unanimously reaffirmed its confidence in the Programme "as an effective instrument for promoting the economic development of the less developed countries and strengthening the foundations of a prosperous and peaceful world".
- 64. The Council also appeared to be fairly satisfied with the progress made in the social field, especially on such programmes as that for the eradication of mass diseases. It had agreed that the United Nations and specialized agencies should continue to render joint assistance in connexion with the new national community development programmes, and it had by unanimous decision at its 947th meeting requested the Secretary-General to present to it at its twenty-fourth session a long-range plan of action in that field. It should then be possible to hold a more comprehensive discussion on such related questions as urbanization and the balance of social and economic factors in national development planning.
- 65. It was his earnest hope that governments would respond generously to the Council's appeal to them (resolution E/L. 729) to support the United Nations' work on behalf of refugees in the spirit in which it had been carried forward by the late High Commissioner before his untimely death.
- 66. Much credit was due to the Co-ordination Committee for the fact that the discussions on co-ordination had been more fruitful and concrete than ever before. He thanked the representatives of the specialized agencies for the contributions they had made, and was sure they would agree that such discussions on matters of common concern were of benefit to their agencies as well as to the governments represented on the Council.
- 67. Although in certain important respects the present session had perhaps been characterized by pausing and reflection rather than by decisive action, a pause of that kind was sometimes a prerequisite to further progress. To the extent that factors of an internal, organizational nature acted as a brake on the Council's activities, however, every effort must clearly be made to remedy them and so enable the Council to develop into an ever more useful and efficient instrument for international co-operation in the conomic and social field. It would indeed be surprising if, after only ten years' existence, the Council had found the perfect method of discharging its duties. He, for his part, did not believe that its procedures and methods could not be improved.
- 68. In conclusion, he expressed his gratitude to all members of the Council and the secretariat for helping to bring the session to a successful conclusion. In particular he thanked the two Vice-Presidents and the

- Chairmen of the various committees for the invaluable services they had rendered him and the Council as a whole.
- 69. Mr. SAID HASAN (Pakistan), speaking on behalf of the three members of the British Commonwealth who were represented on the Council, thanked the President and the Committee Chairmen for their able conduct of the Council's proceedings, and all members of the secretariat for the way in which they had helped in the Council's work.
- 70. Mr. EL TANAMLI (Egypt) and Mr. SCHUR-MANN (Netherlands) associated themselves with the previous speaker's remarks.
- 71. Mr. TRUJILLO (Ecuador), on behalf of all the Latin American delegations, associated himself with the tributes paid to the President, the other officers of the Council, the Committee Chairmen and the secretariat.
- 72. The United Nations was growing, and every day the work of the specialized agencies and the regional commissions became more fruitful as a result of better co-ordination. Although very serious problems continued to arise, the friendship and cordiality to be observed in the conference rooms showed that the United Nations was a means of establishing justice and enthroning truth.
- 73. Mr. CHISTYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) endorsed the congratulations to the President on his success in guiding the Council's discussions. He fully shared the President's opinion that the session had been devoted to reflection rather than action but that there was no need for pessimism, since the discussions had been animated by a magnificent spirit of international co-operation. Furthermore, the ideas and suggestions made during the session would enable the Council to take more practical decisions in the future for resolving important international economic and social problems.
- 74. Mr. EUSTATHIADES (Greece), on behalf of his own country and also on behalf of Yugoslavia, which was linked with Greece by a long tradition of friendship and co-operation, warmly thanked the President for the admirable way in which he had directed the discussions. He also thanked the Committee Chairmen and all members of the secretariat for the great contribution they had made to the success of the session.
- 75. Mr. BAKER (United States of America) said that the twenty-second session of the Council might be described as a quiet session, but it had reached some important basic decisions which would bear fruit in the years ahead.

- 76. Perhaps the most important progress that had been made was in the matter of working together. The Council had learned how to ask the right questions and it was coming nearer to solving the problems with which all countries were faced.
- 77. All members of his delegation were grateful to the President, the two Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the various Committees for the judicious way in which they had exercised their functions. The Council had indeed been fortunate in having such an outstanding President at its twenty-second session.
- 78. Mr. PAVLIK (Czechoslovakia), after associating himself with the tributes paid to the President, the Committee Chairmen and the secretariat, said the present session clearly showed that international co-operation was possible. The discussions had taken place in an atmosphere of understanding, and positive efforts had been made to extend mutual help. On a number of matters decisions had been adopted unanimously. He believed that the results obtained made it possible to say that there were no problems that could not be solved by intelligent and sincere co-operation. Some questions still remained to be settled, but what had been achieved, and in particular the very special attention which had been given to the problem of the under-developed countries, showed that the Council was advancing towards the goal it had set itself in the economic and social fields.
- 79. Mr. BORIS (France) congratulated the President on the skill and fairness he had displayed in the performance of his duties. He thanked him more particularly for not having followed the customary practice of saying, at the end of the session that "everything is for the best in the best of all possible worlds," but for having tactfully warned the Council of the risk of stagnation. The problems which had to be solved were very difficult and very complex. It was not enough to define and explore them; action was also required.
- 80. He also thanked the two Vice-Presidents, the Chairmen of the Committees and the members of the secretariat, whose skill and devotion had never been found lacking.
- 81. Mr. ASMAUN (Indonesia) praised the able leadership of the President, and joined with him in expressing gratitude to all those who had contributed to the success of the session.
- 82. The PRESIDENT thanked the Council for its expressions of appreciation and declared the twenty-second session of the Council adjourned.

The meeting rose at 1.50 p.m.