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PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 4th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 5 February 1999, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. FULCI (Italy)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1999-2000 (continued) (E/1999/L.7)

Draft decision E/1999/L.7

Mr. HIDAYAT (Indonesia) introduced draft decision E/1999/L.7 entitled "Theme of the humanitarian affairs segment", which had been prepared on the basis of extensive informal consultations. The theme selected, "International cooperation and coordinated responses to the humanitarian emergencies, in particular, in the transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development", would enable the Council to focus on its work at the current session and place it in context so as to be able to take decisions. He hoped that the Council would adopt the draft decision.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision contained in document E/1999/L.7.

Draft decision E/1999/L.7 was adopted.

High-level segment of the Economic and Social Council for 1999

The PRESIDENT, referring to the high-level segment of the Council to be held in Geneva on the theme of the elimination of poverty and empowerment of women, said that he had taken the initiative, in consultation with the Bureau, to launch preparations so that the Council could put forward specific proposals in support of the overarching objective of alleviating and then eradicating poverty. Poverty was a multidimensional phenomenon. It was caused by and affected many aspects of economic and social life. In order to better understand and better explain those phenomena, a brief preliminary "Economic and Social Council manifesto" had been prepared on the theme "Working together to eradicate poverty". Its aim was to identify 10 priority areas for immediate action at the beginning of the new millennium.

In order to develop specific ideas and make proposals on the basis of that list of priorities, five panels of eminent experts and policy makers would be established in the course of the coming months, including one in New York, one in Turin and another in Geneva. He looked forward to receiving comments and suggestions from members of the Council so that they could work together to

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advance the Council's most ambitious goal, namely, the elimination of poverty.
REVIEW OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS IN THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (E/1998/L.51)

The PRESIDENT said that, unfortunately, the Council had been unable to agree on that issue and required additional time. He suggested that the consideration of the item should be deferred to the Council's resumed organizational session.

It was so decided.

Draft resolution E/1999/L.8

WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY (E/1999/4 and E/1999/L.8)

Mr. HIDAYAT (Indonesia), introducing draft resolution E/1999/L.8 entitled "Work programme for the Committee for Development Policy", said that, during the informal consultations, representatives had agreed to request the Committee to complete its work on the vulnerability index during its forthcoming session. In accordance with Council resolution 1998/46, it was up to the Council to propose the themes for the Committee's work. The resolution therefore contained the theme selected for the next session of the Committee. He hoped that the Council would adopt the draft resolution.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution contained in document E/1999/L.8.

Draft resolution E/1999/L.8 was adopted.

ELECTIONS, NOMINATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS (E/1999/L.1 and Add.1, Add.3 to 5; and E/1999/L.5)

Elections postponed from previous sessions

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the vacancies in subsidiary bodies which were listed in document E/1999/L.1/Add.1.

Commission on Population and Development

The PRESIDENT announced that in order to fill the vacant seats reserved for the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, the Council was to elect two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000, and one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

El Salvador had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States to fill the vacant seat reserved for that Group for the term expiring on 31 December 2001.

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In the absence of any other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect El Salvador by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

El Salvador was elected by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Council wished to postpone the elections of the two other members for the vacant seats reserved for the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000 to a further session.

It was so decided.

Commission for Social Development

The PRESIDENT announced that in order to fill the vacant seats reserved for the Group of African States, the Council had to elect three members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002.

Guinea, Morocco and Swaziland had been endorsed by the Group of African States to fill the vacant seats reserved for that Group.

In the absence of any other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect Guinea, Morocco and Swaziland by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002.

Guinea, Morocco and Swaziland were elected by acclamation.

Commission on Science and Technology for Development

The PRESIDENT announced that, in order to fill the vacancies, the Council had to elect seven members from the Group of African States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by the drawing of lots, and two members from the Group of Asian-States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

Angola, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania had been endorsed by the Group of African States to fill the vacant seats reserved for that Group.

Since the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed for a term beginning on the date of election.

Angola, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania were elected by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT announced that Sri Lanka had been endorsed by the Group of Asian States to fill one of the vacant seats reserved for that Group. In the

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absence of any other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect Sri Lanka by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

Sri Lanka was elected by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT, referring to the remaining vacant seat reserved for the Group of Asian States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000, said he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election to a future session.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT said that, in accordance with Council resolution 1998/47, he would draw lots to determine the terms of office of the newly elected members of the Commission from the Group of African States.

The Council decided by the drawing of lots that Angola, Ethiopia and Uganda would serve for a four-year term and that Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea and the United Republic of Tanzania would serve for a two-year term.

Commission on Human Settlements

The PRESIDENT announced that, in order to fill the vacant seats reserved for the Group of African States, the Council must elect two members for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002.

The Gambia had been endorsed by the Group of African States to fill one of those seats.

In the absence of any other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect the Gambia by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002.

The Gambia was elected by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT, referring to the vacant post reserved for the Group of African States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002, said he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election until a future session.

It was so decided.

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

The PRESIDENT announced that Senegal had been nominated by the Group of African States to fill the seat reserved for that Group for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002.

In the absence of any other candidates, he took it that the Council wished

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to elect Senegal by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002.

Senegal was elected a member of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations by acclamation.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development

The PRESIDENT announced that, in order to fill the vacant seats, the Council must elect three experts from African States and one from Asian States for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002.

Mr. Messaoud Moumaour (Algeria), Mr. Wafik Meshref (Egypt) and Mr. Adam Edow Adawa (Kenya) had been nominated by their respective Governments.

Biographical information on the candidates was contained in documents E/1999/L.1/Add.3 and Add.4.

He suggested that, since the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacant seats, the three candidates should be elected by acclamation.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT, referring to the remaining vacant seat reserved for the Group of Asian States for a mandate beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002, said he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election until a future session.

It was so decided.

Committee for the United Nations Population Award

The PRESIDENT announced that Burundi had been nominated by the Group of African States to fill the seat reserved for that Group for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

In the absence of any other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect Burundi by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

Burundi was elected a member of the Committee for the United Nations Population Award by acclamation.

Programme Coordination Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

The PRESIDENT announced that the Philippines had been nominated by the Group of Asian States to fill the seat reserved for that Group for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

In the absence of any other candidates, he took it that the Council wished

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to elect the Philippines by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

The Philippines was elected by acclamation.

Committee for Programme and Coordination

The PRESIDENT announced that, in order to fill the vacant seats, the Council must elect one member of the Group of Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999 and one member of the Group of African States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

The Comoros had been endorsed by the Group of African States to fill the seat reserved for it.

In the absence of any other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect the Comoros by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

The Comoros was elected a member of the Committee for Programme and Coordination by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT, referring to the vacant seat reserved for the Group of Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999, said he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election until a future session.

It was so decided.

Commission on Sustainable Development

The PRESIDENT said that the Chairman of the Group of Western European and other States had informed the Council that Denmark would be unable to take up its seat on the Commission for a term beginning on 1 May 1999 and expiring at the close of the Commission's session in 2002.

As a result, the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed the candidature of Finland to complete Denmark's term of office.

He took it that the Council wished to elect Finland by acclamation for a term beginning on 1 May 1999 and expiring at the close of the Commission's session in 2002.

Finland was elected a member of the Commission on Sustainable Development by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT recalled that there were a number of vacancies in the subsidiary bodies which remained to be filled. He requested the Chairman of the

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Group of Latin American and Caribbean States to endeavour to nominate two candidates for election to the Commission on Population and Development for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000. He invited the Chairman of the Group of Asian States to endeavour likewise to nominate a candidate for election to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000. He asked the Chairman of the Group of African States to nominate a candidate for election to the Commission on Human Settlements for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002. He recalled that the Latin American and Caribbean States must nominate a candidate for election to the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999. The Asian States must nominate a candidate for election to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002, and the Western European and Other States must nominate one member for election to the Committee for Programme and Coordination for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

He said that an informal paper listing the vacancies to be filled had been distributed to the members of the Council. He drew attention to document E/1999/L.5 containing the name of a representative of the Statistical Commission which had been submitted to the Council for confirmation since the close of the substantive session of 1998. He took it that the Council wished to confirm the representative whose name was listed in document E/1999/L.5.

It was so decided.

The meeting was suspended at 10.50 a.m. and resumed at 10.55 a.m.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to proceed to the election of one member of the International Narcotics Control Board in order to fill the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Mr. Alfonso Gómez Méndez (Colombia).

Documents E/1999/L.1 and E/1999/L.1/Add.5 contained biographical information on the candidates nominated by their Governments; as stated in document E/1999/L.1/Add.5, the candidate proposed by the Government of Bulgaria had been withdrawn. He therefore invited the Council to elect, by secret ballot one member from among the two remaining candidates, namely, Mr. Thomas Barankitse (Burundi) and Mr. Sergio Uribe Ramírez (Colombia).

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The term of the candidate would begin on the date of election and expire on 1 March 2002.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Özügergin (Turkey) and Ms. Herasati (Indonesia) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot. During the voting, the meeting was suspended at 11.05 a.m. and resumed at 11.15 a.m.

Number of ballot papers:	52
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	52
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	52
Required majority:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Sergio Uribe Ramírez:	47
Mr. Thomas Barankitse:	5

Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Sergio Uribe Ramírez was elected a member of the International Narcotics Control Board.

The meeting rose at 11.20 a.m.