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Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 27 July 2000, at 3.30 p.m.

President: Mr. Mbayu (Vice-President) (Cameroon)

Contents

Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

- (a) Reports of coordination bodies (*continued*)
- (c) Long-term programme of support for Haiti (*continued*)
- (d) Tobacco or health (*continued*)
- (e) International cooperation in the field of informatics (*continued*)

Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes:

- (a) Assessment of the progress made within the United Nations system, through the conference reviews, in the promotion of an integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;
- (b) Coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat agenda (*continued*)

Social and human rights questions (*continued*)

- (a) Advancement of women (*continued*)
- (b) Social development (*continued*)
- (c) Crime prevention and criminal justice (*continued*)
- (d) Narcotic drugs (*continued*)
- (e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (*continued*)

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In the absence of Mr. Wibisono (Indonesia), Mr. Mbayu (Cameroon), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 4.05 p.m.

Coordination, programme and other questions (continued)

(a) Reports of coordination bodies (continued) (A/55/16 (Part I))

1. **Mr. Monthe** (Chairman, Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC)), introducing the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the first part of its fortieth session (5 June-1 July 2000), contained in document A/55/16 (Part I), drew attention to chapter II of the report, entitled "Programme questions", especially to subsection II.A.1 (Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999) and section II.C (Evaluation). He also drew attention to chapter III, entitled "Coordination questions", chapter IV, concerning a report by the Joint Inspection Unit, and chapter V, which listed the items for consideration during the second part of the Committee's fortieth session, including the outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes:

(a) Assessment of the progress made within the United Nations system, through the conference reviews, in the promotion of an integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

(b) Coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat agenda (continued) (E/2000/L.10)

Draft agreed conclusions E/2000/L.10

2. **Mr. Schmidt** (Austria), introducing the draft agreed conclusions entitled "Assessment of the progress made within the United Nations system, through the conference reviews, in the promotion of an integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and

summits in the economic, social and related fields" (E/2000/L.10), said that there were a large number of "plus 5" processes from which the Council and its functional commissions could learn lessons and draw conclusions for future United Nations conferences and summits. His delegation looked forward to the report of the Secretary-General in 2001 on the outcome of discussions in the functional commissions.

3. *The draft agreed conclusions were adopted.*

4. **The President** suggested that the Council should take note of the documents it had considered in connection with the coordination segment, namely the reports of the Secretary-General contained in documents A/55/83-E/2000/62 and E/2000/57.

5. *It was so decided.*

Coordination, programme and other questions (continued)

(e) International cooperation in the field of informatics (continued) (E/2000/L.20)

6. **Mr. Mangoela** (Lesotho), introducing draft resolution E/2000/L.20, entitled "The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States" on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, said that the draft resolution had been drafted by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics and its purpose was to extend the mandate of the Working Group for a further year.

(c) Long-term programme of support for Haiti (continued) (E/2000/L.18)

7. **The President** invited the Council to take action on draft decision E/2000/L.18, entitled "Long-term programme of support for Haiti".

8. *The draft decision was adopted.*

9. **Mr. Hynes** (Canada) said that the current political situation in Haiti was such that his Government was unable to provide the same level of support for the long-term programme of support as it had done the previous year. There were possible solutions, and his delegation hoped that the Haitian authorities would implement them. It also hoped to be able to resume its collaboration with colleagues from Haiti and with the rest of the Council towards

democratic forms of political, economic and social development in that country.

10. **Mr. Thomas** (United States of America) said that his Government also hoped that more progress would be made in future on a long-term programme of support for Haiti. The international community had learned that peace must be followed by stability and long-term development, without which there would be no permanent peace.

(d) Tobacco or health (*continued*) (E/2000/L.19)

11. **The President** invited the Council to take action on draft decision E/2000/L.19, entitled "Tobacco or health".

12. *The draft decision was adopted.*

Social and human rights questions

(a) Advancement of women (*continued*) (A/54/855-E/2000/44, A/55/38 (Part I), E/2000/27, E/2000/58, E/2000/59, E/2000/77, E/2000/78, E/2000/98)

(b) Social development (*continued*) (A/54/855-E/2000/44, A/54/861-E/2000/47, A/55/139-E/2000/93, E/2000/9, E/2000/26 and Corr.1)

(c) Crime prevention and criminal justice (*continued*) (A/55/139-E/2000/93, E/2000/3 and Corr.1, E/2000/30)

(d) Narcotic drugs (*continued*) (E/2000/28, A/54/855-E/2000/44, A/55/139-E/2000/93, E/INCB/1999/1)

(e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (*continued*) (E/2000/18 and Corr.1, A/54/855-E/2000/44)

13. **Ms. Ertürk** (Director, Division for the Advancement of Women) said that the General Assembly's adoption by consensus, at its special session in 2000, of a Political Declaration reaffirming the Beijing Platform for Action had indicated that the Platform remained the reference point for the efforts of all actors, including Governments, civil society and international organizations, to achieve gender equality, development and peace. The outcome document on future actions which the Assembly had also adopted at the special session had strengthened the Platform in

some areas by further focusing the actions to be taken and identifying new issues which had emerged or had become more important in the last five years. The review processes conducted thus far had revealed the close linkages among the goals of the various global conferences and had highlighted the cross-cutting areas requiring new and innovative approaches to collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system.

14. The Secretary-General's report on the follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (E/2000/77) updated the information submitted to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in 1999 and to the Commission on the Status of Women in 2000. The report provided an integrated review of the activities of the United Nations system and the work of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination to implement the Beijing commitments. The Secretary-General's report to the Council was intended to assist the latter in its coordination function; the report to the Commission highlighted the Secretariat's efforts to mainstream a gender perspective; and the report to the General Assembly provided information on the activities of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations.

15. The Secretary-General's note on the assessment of activities undertaken by the United Nations system under the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996-2001 (E/2000/78) had been submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fourth session. Council resolution 1999/16 had invited the Secretary-General to formulate the plan for 2002-2005 in two phases: a first phase consisting of an assessment of activities undertaken, obstacles encountered and lessons learned; and a second phase consisting of a new plan that reflected the growing emphasis on action and delivery. Accordingly, the Secretary-General had submitted a note on the draft plan for 2002-2005 (E/AC.51/2000/7) to CPC at its session in June 2000. Three main processes would guide the preparation of the new plan for coordinating and monitoring the future activities of the United Nations system for the achievement of gender equality: assessment of the current plan; outcome of the conference reviews, particularly the review of the Beijing Conference; and guidance emanating from the current session of the Council.

16. The review of the Beijing Conference had reaffirmed that mainstreaming was the key strategy for promoting gender equality. Efforts were under way throughout the United Nations system to incorporate gender perspectives into the Organization's substantive work, and the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality continued to assist in the development of methodologies for gender mainstreaming. Innovative initiatives had been taken to ensure that more attention was paid to gender in budget processes, and many departments and regional commissions had incorporated a gender perspective into their medium-term plans. Continued guidance and support from the Council were needed to consolidate those efforts.

17. **Ms. Stamiris** (Director, International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)) said that the INSTRAW reports before the Council (E/2000/58 and E/2000/59) provided details on the actions taken to revitalize INSTRAW in the last year. The Institute had reached a crossroads that could lead either to a bright new future or to the end of its 20-year history; she hoped that the Council's decisions at the current session would support the first of those possible outcomes.

18. INSTRAW had painstakingly implemented all aspects of Council resolution 1999/54 and General Assembly resolution 54/140. It had not been easy for the ailing Institute to develop and implement, within one year, a new structure and working method using information and communications technologies (ICT), as mandated by the Council. The feasibility study requested by the Assembly had been carried out in January and February 2000 and had affirmed the new vision of the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System (GAINS). A GAINS prototype had been launched at the review of the Beijing Conference in June and had been demonstrated once again during the Council's high-level segment on ICT.

19. GAINS was currently in operation, and women all over the world were joining the GAINS networks of National Focal Points, Regional Nodes, researchers, trainers and ICT specialists. Two well-known international women's research networks had already submitted proposals to carry out two global collaborative research projects through GAINS as follow-up to the review of the Beijing Conference; one or both proposals would be implemented on a pilot basis in the coming months. Negotiations were under way with a leading network university in Europe on an

international online training project on gender, peace and conflict prevention and resolution. INSTRAW was also planning a pilot project consisting of five national consultations in Africa to assess research, information, training and ICT networking needs which GAINS could serve. A GAINS global database was being developed and would focus initially on specialized areas such as women and the development of businesses and micro-enterprises. The GAINS web site (www.un-instraw-gains.org) would soon be available in Spanish and, at a later date, in French.

20. The Council should take action, at the current session, to put an end to the Institute's serious financial difficulties, which were attributable to two problems: first, the lack of a budget to finance the mandated shift to a new structure and work method and the lack of reserves in the INSTRAW Trust Fund to support operations from one year to the next pending the receipt of government pledges; and second, the absence of some major donors from the most recent United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, which had resulted in insufficient pledges for INSTRAW (amounting to only about \$70,000) and had shown that that annual event could no longer serve as a realistic indicator of how much money would be made available to the Trust Fund. Those circumstances had seriously hampered the Institute's financial planning and budgeting. Currently, it had only enough funds to operate until the end of December 2000. That was an untenable position for a serious United Nations institution, particularly at a time of major restructuring.

21. She therefore recommended that the Council should establish adequate reserves, of about \$1 million, in the INSTRAW Trust Fund. In addition, Governments that intended to make contributions for 2000 and 2001 should so inform the Institute as soon as possible so that it could make financial projections beyond the year 2000. For the period from 1 January to 11 July 2000, contributions of \$159,646 had been paid and pledges of \$77,902 were still outstanding. If a substantially greater amount was not received in the next six months, INSTRAW undoubtedly would have to close its doors at the end of December 2000. If the Council was unwilling to save the Institute, it should decide immediately to close INSTRAW rather than allow it to wither away for lack of resources. However, it might wish to take decisive action to reverse the situation. If so, it must act immediately; the Institute could not

afford to wait until the General Assembly convened in October.

22. **Mr. Krassowski** (Division for Social Policy and Development) introduced document E/2000/9, which contained an extended summary of the forthcoming *2000 Report on the World Social Situation*. The report was based on information collected by the United Nations system as a whole. It attempted to highlight the interconnections among issues and to set specific issues in a broad socio-economic and institutional context. Although it sought to maintain an objective, neutral tone, the choice of topics reflected the priorities of the United Nations agenda.

23. The main theme of the 2000 report was equity at the local and global levels. The first part of the report examined global economic and population trends. The second part dealt with institutional changes and focused on intangible issues such as developments in the family, intergenerational relations, civil society, markets and the State. The third part, which concerned trends in living conditions, bore the subtitle "A mixed record of achievement" and dealt with work, food, health, shelter and access to consumer goods. It also reviewed trends in income distribution and poverty.

24. The fourth part of the report focused on the importance of technology, education and knowledge-based industries for the development of societies. The fifth part discussed the social dimensions of ills such as armed conflict, violence, discrimination, crime and corruption. Lastly, the sixth part raised questions that required continuous and informed debate, including the moral, ethical and distributive implications of five major developments: the social impact of globalization and its effect on equity; changing views on the role of government in promoting the common good; the shift to market approaches to meeting social needs; the change in the boundaries between the private and public domains; and the impact of bio-medical advances on the future shape of populations and societies.

25. **Mr. Ghodse** (President, International Narcotics Control Board) said that the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/2000/28) contained extensive comments on the findings of the Board's most recent report. One subject of debate had been the provision by some Governments of facilities in which drug abusers could inject illicit drugs, supposedly in hygienic conditions. The Board had urged Governments to

consider carefully the legal and social implications of so-called drug injection rooms, which were not in conformity with international drug control treaties because they facilitated the use of drugs for non-medical purposes. That view had been supported by many members of the Commission; he hoped that the Council would support it as well.

26. He welcomed the Commission's adoption of a resolution on enhancing assistance to drug abusers, since the issue of demand reduction had long been neglected. According to the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction adopted at the General Assembly's twentieth special session, Governments must strengthen their efforts to prevent drug abuse and to treat and rehabilitate drug abusers. Good results could only be achieved through comprehensive, long-term demand reduction programmes. So-called "harm reduction" measures to reduce the negative health and social consequences of drug abuse should be only one component of demand reduction and could not be allowed to replace programmes for drug abuse prevention, long-term treatment and rehabilitation. In implementing the Commission's resolution, Governments should bear in mind their obligation to limit the distribution, use and possession of drugs to medical and scientific purposes, in line with article 4 (c) of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.

27. In 1999, the Board had focused on the imbalances in the global availability of opiates for the treatment of severe pain. Only 10 countries accounted for 80 per cent of global analgesic morphine consumption, while more than 120 countries reported little or no opioid consumption. The unavailability of pain-relieving medicines in many parts of the world had serious consequences, inter alia, for the treatment of cancer. Of the 15 million new cancer cases per year throughout the world, two thirds occurred in developing countries. Even in some technologically advanced countries, only 10 to 30 per cent of patients suffering from severe cancer-related pain received adequate treatment.

28. One reason for the opioid shortage was the inadequacy of national drug control systems. Many Governments neglected or found it difficult to assess their opioid requirements. They should receive assistance in establishing more reliable baseline estimates and assessments of medical needs. In addition, Governments and the medical profession should review procedures, in consultation with the

World Health Organization, with a view to facilitating access to essential pain-relieving medicines without jeopardizing the proper functioning of safeguards against misuse. The Board had found that global production of opiate raw materials in 1999 was likely to exceed total consumption by about 175 tons of morphine equivalent. Thus, the unavailability of opiates for medical purposes was not related to a lack of supply, and future production should be adequate to meet the increasing medical need for such drugs.

29. The Board was concerned about the large-scale illicit cultivation of opium poppy in Afghanistan and about that country's opium production, which had reached record levels in 1999. There were indications that heroin was also manufactured in Afghanistan, meaning that chemicals such as acetic anhydride were reaching laboratories in that country. Urgent action was needed to curb cultivation and to stop chemicals from reaching the laboratories. The widespread trafficking in heroin from Afghanistan, both within the region and to destinations in Europe, had caused much suffering in the countries through which the substance was smuggled; for example, heroin abuse had soared in West Asia. That situation must be addressed at the source and in the countries of destination and transit. While heroin abuse seemed to be stagnating in areas such as Western Europe, it was on the rise in other parts of the world. The demand for cocaine was still strong, as was the demand for cannabis and synthetic drugs, which were wrongly perceived to be harmless. Government action must be strengthened if the objectives adopted at the twentieth special session were to be achieved.

30. Encouraging results had been achieved in the area of chemical control. In 1999, an initiative called "Operation Purple", which had involved a limited number of Governments, had shown that it was possible to control international transactions in potassium permanganate, a chemical frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs such as cocaine. That success had shown that close cooperation, the exchange of information in real time and cooperation with the Board could produce impressive results. In October 2000, at an international conference in Turkey, a similar initiative would be launched in relation to acetic anhydride. Countries that produced or traded in that chemical, countries through which it was smuggled and countries in which it was used for heroin

production would be invited to take part in the conference.

31. **Mr. Bwakira** (Director, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), New York Liaison Office) presented the annual report of the High Commissioner (E/2000/18 and Corr.1) and reported on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa.

32. At the beginning of 2000 there were about 22.3 million persons of concern to UNHCR, of whom 11.7 million were refugees. Forced human displacement had become a prominent feature of modern warfare, the aim being to alter the ethnic composition of entire areas to serve long-term political objectives. Internal displacement, added to refugee movements across borders, was becoming commonplace. The international community must therefore address the root causes of large population movements. It must combine efforts to solve conflicts with reconstruction programmes to meet urgent humanitarian needs and restore social and economic institutions. At the same time, there was a need to improve the management of refugee flows, while upholding basic principles, especially the right to seek and receive asylum and the right to return.

33. In Africa, the security situation remained very precarious in many regions. However, there were positive signs of peace, such as the ceasefire agreement signed in June 2000 between Ethiopia and Eritrea, the peace talks between Somali factions in Djibouti, the mediation of President Mandela of South Africa in the civil war in Burundi, and the efforts of the President of Gabon to mediate between the warring parties in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. A return to stability in those countries would permit the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced persons. The peace negotiations and accords presented windows of opportunity for the United Nations and the international community.

34. In recent months UNHCR had responded to two new emergencies in Africa: the renewed hostilities between Government forces and rebels in Sierra Leone and the border dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia. 95,000 refugees had fled to the Sudan; about 750,000 persons had been displaced in Eritrea; and in Sierra Leone, about 100,000 persons had been displaced internally, while another 4,000 had fled to Guinea. The

humanitarian agencies on the ground had redoubled their efforts to meet the most urgent needs of the uprooted people of Sierra Leone but were hampered by insecurity and lack of access. UNHCR was anxious for a ceasefire and for the reactivation of the peace process, but would remain prepared for any eventuality.

35. In the Horn of Africa, the High Commissioner had declared an emergency as refugees from Eritrea started pouring into Sudan. UNHCR and its partners had been providing food, water, shelter and health support to the refugees and had been able to provide some assistance to the internally displaced people. Following the ceasefire negotiated by the Organization of African Unity, it had continued to protect refugees in the Sudan, Yemen and Djibouti. It was preparing for their return to Eritrea as soon as peace was consolidated. A Tripartite Agreement had been signed on 14 July 2000 between Eritrea, the Sudan and UNHCR on the voluntary repatriation of Eritrean refugees.

36. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, serious setbacks to the Lusaka process had resulted in widespread internal displacement and major difficulties in gaining access to those in need. The High Commissioner had urged all leaders in the region to bear in mind the heavy human cost of the conflicts in the country. In Burundi, where a peace agreement was still awaited, increased violence was hindering the return of refugees. In Rwanda, the Government acknowledged the contribution of the international community, and especially UNHCR, in the reintegration of the refugees and the process of reconciliation.

37. In Angola, UNHCR was taking a more pro-active stance on internally displaced persons, and was the lead agency in three provinces, operating in co-ordination with other United Nations agencies to provide protection and some aid. An inter-agency appeal for assistance, reflecting the requirements of UNHCR, would soon be issued.

38. The High Commissioner thanked the donor countries and countries of asylum which had contributed to resolving the many problems of uprooted populations in Africa. She also appealed for their support in mobilizing the political will and economic resources needed to achieve sustainable solutions.

39. In the northern Caucasus region of the Russian Federation, UNHCR and its partners had continued to assist 200,000 internally displaced persons from Chechnya. The situation in Chechnya remained insecure, with some people leaving areas of renewed fighting while others returned home. Most of those in Ingushetia were unlikely to return in the near future, unless there was an effective ceasefire. UNHCR would continue to assist the national authorities to integrate internally displaced persons and provide them with documentation and access to social services and other assistance.

40. In Kosovo, despite efforts to ensure a transition from the emergency relief phase to longer-term reconstruction, intimidation of the non-Albanian population had resulted in an exodus of 200,000 ethnic Serbs and Roma to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, adding to the 500,000 refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina and from Croatia who were already there. Departures from Kosovo were still continuing.

41. In Central Asia, severe drought in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran had resulted in many people abandoning their homes, and had reduced the rate of voluntary repatriation to Afghanistan. UNHCR was working with the Pakistani authorities to relocate refugee villages and drill new wells. A United Nations emergency appeal had been launched in response to the drought.

42. In the Jaffna peninsula of Sri Lanka, the escalating armed conflict had increased the numbers of internally displaced persons to 170,000. Civilians were trapped in conflict areas, and UNHCR had been urging the parties to the conflict to enable them to move to safer areas.

43. In Croatia, about 6,000 Croatian Serb refugees had returned in organized movements and another 12,000 spontaneously, since the new Government had taken over. 12,000 returns of minority population members had taken place in Bosnia and Herzegovina during 2000. However, returns were still impeded by political, administrative and legal obstacles and by the lack of job opportunities.

44. Nepal and Bhutan had agreed to proceed with their joint verification process for the 96,000 refugees, to be facilitated and supported by UNHCR. In East Timor, UNHCR and its partners had continued to assist the 160,000 refugees who had returned home, but the pace of reconstruction was slow. Refugees in West

Timor were still being intimidated by militia groups, and UNHCR was awaiting decisive action by the authorities to deal with the problem.

45. The building of partnerships remained an important part of UNHCR's strategy. A "Brookings" Menu of Projects had been developed with the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank for Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, to support the fragile peace and enable people to resume a normal life. UNHCR was continuing to strengthen its cooperation with other United Nations agencies. Together with the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme, it had recently taken an initiative on the security of humanitarian personnel. It would continue to collaborate with other partners such as the International Organization for Migration, the International Committee for the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations, in the context of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee.

46. He concluded by thanking the Governments which had supported the work of UNHCR over a difficult period. Support to multilateral humanitarian programmes was declining, and its programmes in many parts of the world, especially in Africa, were under-funded. Ultimately, it was the refugees who suffered most from the lack of adequate resources. When UNHCR observed its fiftieth anniversary later in the year, it would remind the international community of the importance of maintaining and strengthening international protection for refugees. It was now launching a campaign called "R.E.S.P.E.C.T." for that purpose.

47. **Ms. Valkenburg** (Observer for the Netherlands) and **Mr. Fernández** (Observer for Spain) stressed the importance of revitalizing INSTRAW and announced that their Governments would contribute f. 150,000 (US\$ 66,000) and US\$ 150,000, respectively, for that purpose.

48. **Mr. Touré** (Director, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), New York) said that at the World Food Summit, held in Rome in 1996, it had been pointed out that at that time more than 800 million people, especially in developing countries, did not have enough to eat and that about 192 million children under five were malnourished. FAO attributed that situation to lack of access to land, capital, knowledge and other productive resources. One of the chief ways of reducing poverty and hunger was

to increase access by the poor to land-based resources by improved governance at the local level and a devolution of powers for conferring security of tenure to local authorities and indigenous communities. Together with stronger institutions for agricultural and rural development, those measures would enable rural producers and civil society organizations to manage natural resources in a sustainable manner. FAO was therefore committed to helping Governments to decentralize and to encourage organizations of farmers and rural people, so that they could participate in defining and implementing policies for rural development.

49. FAO could contribute to world social development in a number of ways. It could develop and adopt policies and programmes for land tenure which would facilitate access to land, ensure user rights and improve markets for land. It could devise methods for land tenure policies to improve access to land for disadvantaged groups. It could formulate policies for transactions in land and provide institutional support for them in order to improve access by the poor to sustainable uses of natural resources. It could modify and regularize systems of land tenure to promote rural development, with a view to indigenous and common property resource management. It could restructure and decentralize rural institutions, build capacity in organizations of small farmers and design institutional mechanisms to foster dialogue among different stakeholders.

50. FAO would continue to cooperate with United Nations organizations, financial institutions, donors, non-governmental organizations and private sector representatives to achieve the commitments of the "World Summit for Social Development and beyond" and other United Nations conferences, including those endorsed by the World Food Summit in 1996.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-fourth session (E/2000/27)

51. **The President** invited the Council to take action on the draft resolutions and the draft decision recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women in document E/2000/27.

52. *Draft resolution I was adopted.*

53. **The President** said that in light of the Council's decision to postpone action on draft proposals

requiring a recorded vote until a meeting could be held in a room with a voting machine, he took it that the Council wished to postpone action on draft resolution II.

54. *It was so decided.*

55. *The draft decision was adopted.*

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-eighth session (E/2000/26)

56. **The President** invited the Council to take action on draft resolution II and the draft decision recommended by the Commission for Social Development in document E/2000/26. Since draft resolution I had been adopted by the Council at its resumed organizational session in May 2000, no further action was required.

57. *Draft resolution II was adopted.*

58. **Mr. Thomas** (United States of America) said that his delegation had joined the consensus on draft resolution II, entitled "Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities". However, it could not support the language of the third preambular paragraph, which amounted to reaffirmation by the States supporting that resolution of obligations that not all of them had undertaken. However, he stressed his Government's commitment to the advancement and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.

59. *The draft decision was adopted.*

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its ninth session (E/2000/30)

60. **The President** invited the Council to take action on the draft resolutions and decision contained in chapter I, sections A, B and C, of the report. The programme budget implications were contained in annex II to the report.

Draft resolution I contained in chapter I, section A

61. **Mr. Skrybant** (Poland) read out a correction to the draft resolution: the words "the Member States of the United Nations and the other States participating at" should be added before the words "the high-level segment" in the second preambular paragraph.

62. *The draft resolution, as orally revised, was adopted.*

63. *Draft resolutions II and III contained in chapter I, section A, were adopted.*

64. *Draft resolutions I and II contained in chapter I, section B, were adopted.*

65. *The draft decision contained in chapter I, section C, was adopted.*

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-third session (E/2000/28)

66. **The President** invited the Council to take action on the draft resolutions and draft decisions recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in document E/2000/28-E/CN.7/2000/11.

67. *Draft resolutions I to III were adopted.*

68. *Draft decisions I and II were adopted.*

Draft resolution E/2000/L.23

69. **Ms. Onoh** (Observer for Nigeria) introduced the draft resolution on behalf of the original sponsors and Austria and Italy. She endorsed the statement made by the Director of INSTRAW and thanked the Governments of the Netherlands and Spain for their contributions to its revitalization.

70. **The President** said that if there was no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to postpone action on the draft resolution.

71. *It was so decided.*

Draft resolution E/2000/L.12

72. **Mr. Hirata** (Japan), introducing draft resolution E/2000/L.12, announced that Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Peru, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Kingdom had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

Non-governmental organizations (E/2000/88 (Part I and Add.1 and Part II and Corr.1 and Add.1) and E/2000/L.21 and L.22)

Draft decision E/2000/L.21

73. **Mr. Reyes Rodríguez** (Cuba), introducing the draft decision entitled “Suspension of consultative status”, said that his delegation would have preferred a broader title. Owing to the late issuance of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the first and second parts of its 2000 session (E/2000/88 (Part I and Add.1 and Part II and Corr.1 and Add.1)), the Council would be unable to take action on draft decision II contained therein. That situation was both inexplicable and unacceptable, particularly as the draft decision called, inter alia, for the three-year suspension of the special consultative status granted to the International Council of the Associations for Peace in the Continents (ASOPAZCO).

74. Since 1999, when that organization had been granted consultative status, it had been involved in various politically motivated acts, including the accreditation of terrorist groups to the United Nations and, in particular, the Commission on Human Rights. The Cuban delegation to the United Nations Office in Geneva had disseminated information on those activities at the fifty-sixth session of the Commission; in response, representatives of ASOPAZCO had destroyed the documents in question, engaged in acts of provocation and harassment and, on one occasion, physically attacked a member of the Cuban delegation.

75. The council would be able to take action on the draft decision at its resumed substantive session in October 2000; however, it was important to prevent the recurrence of such attacks during the meetings of human rights bodies to be held in Geneva in the interim. He therefore proposed that the privileges enjoyed by ASOPAZCO should be suspended pending that decision.

76. **The President** said that the Secretariat would consult with the representative of Cuba regarding a revision of the title of the draft decision. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to postpone action on the draft decision.

77. *It was so decided.*

Draft decision E/2000/22

78. **Mr. Rogov** (Russian Federation) said that his delegation shared the concern expressed by the representative of Cuba regarding the late issuance of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

79. After consultations, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had adopted by consensus an agreement on the matters raised in the draft decision, which his delegation had therefore decided to withdraw.

80. *The draft decision was withdrawn.*

The meeting rose at 6.25 p.m.