

PROVISIONAL

E/2001/SR.43
29 August 2001

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Substantive session of 2001

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 43rd MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Thursday, 26 July 2001, at 3 p.m.

<u>President:</u>	Mr. ŠIMONVIČ (Vice-President)	(Croatia)
later:	Mr. BELINGA-EBOUTOU (President)	(Cameroon)

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GE.01-63868 (E)

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SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

In the absence of Mr. Belinga-Eboutou (Cameroon), Mr. Šimonović (Croatia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 7.15 p.m.

The PRESIDENT apologized for the delay in calling the meeting to order which had been due to the need for additional time for informal consultations.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS
(agenda item 1) (continued) (E/2001/L.38 and L.44)

Draft decision on themes for the high-level and coordination segments of the substantive session of 2002 of the Economic and Social Council (E/2001/L.44)

The draft decision was adopted.

Mr. HIRATA (Japan), speaking also on behalf of Andorra, Australia, Canada, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Switzerland and the United States of America, said he welcomed the themes chosen. It was regrettable, however, that a number of delegations had not been permitted to participate in all the negotiations on the draft decision (despite expressing an interest in doing so) and that certain groups of countries - without any legal basis - had been granted privileges in respect of the order of speaking. The Bureau should reflect seriously on such issues in order to ensure the transparency of the Council's work.

Draft decision on the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (E/2001/L.38)

The draft decision was adopted.

INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION OF AND FOLLOW-UP TO MAJOR UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS (agenda item 6) (continued) (E/2001/L.41; E/2001/91)

Draft resolution on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits (E/2001/L.41)

The draft resolution was adopted.

Draft resolution on coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda

The PRESIDENT submitted the following text to the Council, which he had prepared on the basis of informal consultations:

“The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of agreed conclusions 1 of 2000 of the coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda (E/2001/62),

Welcoming the actions taken by the Secretary-General in response to the agreed conclusions 1 of 2000, including the appointment of a full-time Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT),

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/77 C of 5 December 1980,

1. *Reiterates* once again the need for HABITAT as United Nations focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda to participate in all aspects of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its subsidiary machinery;
2. *Looks forward* to the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and that status, role and function of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT), in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and decisions of the Habitat II Conference;
3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to implement, within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and in accordance with paragraph 66 of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium adopted by the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly, the establishment of the Habitat Agenda Task Manager System to allow better monitoring and mutual reinforcement of actions taken by international agencies in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;
4. *Invites also* the Secretary-General to submit a report to its substantive session in 2002 on the implementation of the present resolution.”

The draft resolution was adopted.

Mr. AARDAL (Norway) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus on the draft resolution, although it would have preferred a stronger message from the Council regarding the need for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) and its Executive Director to be fully involved in all aspects of the work of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC). It was to be hoped that the report of the Secretary-General would stress that point, as well as the importance of General Assembly resolution 35/77 C of 5 December 1980, with a view to strengthening the work of the Centre and facilitating the task of ACC in furthering the Habitat Agenda, in particular paragraph 220.

Mr. MIRAFZAL (Islamic Republic of Iran), said that the draft resolution, particularly paragraph 2, implied that the Secretary-General would report on the participation of the Centre in ACC meetings.

The PRESIDENT said that the Council might wish to take note of the Secretary-General's progress report on the implementation of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Council (E/2001/91).

It was so decided.

COORDINATION, PROGRAMME AND OTHER QUESTIONS (agenda item 7) (continued)

(a) REPORTS OF COORDINATION BODIES (continued) (E/2001/L.43)

Draft decision on the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (E/2001/L.43)

The draft decision was adopted.

(c) JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS/ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (UNAIDS) (continued) (E/2001/L.28)

Draft resolution on the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS) (E/2001/L.28)

Ms. MELO E CASTRO (Portugal), President of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board, introduced the draft resolution on behalf of its sponsors, who had been joined by the representative of Suriname.

The draft resolution was adopted.

(e) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATICS (continued) (E/2001/L.39)

Draft resolution on the need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States (E/2001/L.39)

Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Council) said that the Controller of the United Nations had requested that the attention of the Council be drawn to General Assembly resolution 45/248, part B VI, in which the General Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters.

The draft resolution was adopted.

- (f) LONG-TERM PROGRAMME OF SUPPORT FOR HAITI (continued)
(E/2001/L.35)

Draft resolution on the long-term programme of support for Haiti (E/2001/L.35)

The draft resolution was adopted.

- (g) MALARIA AND DIARRHOEAL DISEASES, IN PARTICULAR CHOLERA
(continued) (E/2001/L.34; E/2001/80; A/56/16)

Draft resolution on the implementation of the plan of action for the eradication of tsetse flies from Africa (E/2001/L.34)

The draft resolution was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said that the Council might wish to take note of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its forty-first session (A/56/16) and the report of the Secretary-General on the Rollback Malaria Partnership, preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera (E/2001/80).

It was so decided.

IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 50/227 AND 52/12 B
(agenda item 8) (continued) (E/2001/L.36 and /L.40; E/2001/72)

Draft decision on the confidentiality of the 1503 (confidential communications) procedures (E/2001/L.36)

The PRESIDENT submitted the following revised text to the Council, which he had prepared on the basis of informal consultations:

“The Economic and Social Council, in accordance with its resolution 2000/3, paragraph 9, reaffirms the principle of confidentiality as set out in the 1503 procedure, takes note of the deep concerns of some Member States regarding the practice of forwarding confidential monthly lists from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Division for the Advancement of Women, requests the Commission on Human Rights to consider this issue at its fifty-eighth session in the light of the 1503 procedure of the Economic and Social Council and other information pertaining to the 1503 procedure and to provide concrete recommendations to the Council, and decides to consider this issue at its next substantive session.”

The draft decision submitted by the President was adopted.

Draft decision E/2001/L.36 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

Draft resolution on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B: improving the working methods of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/2001/L.40)

The draft resolution was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said that the Council might wish to take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions held on 1 May 2001 (E/2001/72).

It was so decided.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (agenda item 9) (continued) (E/2001/L.22)

Draft resolution on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (E/2001/L.22)

The PRESIDENT, having mentioned that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications, said that the representatives of Angola, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic and Uganda and the observers for Algeria, Namibia and the United Republic of Tanzania had joined the sponsors.

Mr. DAVISON (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that his delegation recognized the responsibilities of the specialized agencies and other United Nations organs in non-self-governing territories throughout the world. However, those bodies did not require guidance beyond that provided in their respective mandates. Furthermore, it was inappropriate and unnecessary to link their work to the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

His delegation wished to reaffirm that the move towards independence for non-self-governing territories was a process to be negotiated between the territories and their administrative Powers. It thus wished to request a roll-call vote on the draft resolution, in which it would abstain.

Mr. PAYOT (Observer for Belgium), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the draft resolution concerned issues that were not within the competence of the Council. European Union countries would thus abstain.

Ms. MAC INTOSH (United Kingdom) said that her delegation wished to associate itself with the statement made by the previous speaker. In addition, it affirmed the right of non-self-governing territories to participate in the Council and other United Nations and international bodies and world conferences on the basis of equality and non-discrimination.

Mr. CHULKOV (Russian Federation) said that his delegation's position on decolonization was well known. Consideration of such a political issue distracted the Council from performing its main functions.

At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a vote was taken by roll-call on the draft resolution.

Mexico, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Venezuela.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Andorra, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The draft resolution was adopted by 30 votes to none, with 19 abstentions.

Mr. HIRATA (Japan) said that his delegation had abstained since the draft resolution failed to mention the major progress achieved with respect to decolonization and was thus unbalanced. In order to avoid duplication, the Council should refrain from considering an issue that was essentially political in nature.

REGIONAL COOPERATION (agenda item 10) (continued) (E/2001/L.15/Rev.1)

Draft resolution on a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar (E/2001/L.15/Rev.1)

Mr. TIJANI (Morocco), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of its sponsors, said that, following a joint feasibility study carried out by the Governments of Morocco and Spain in 1981, the construction of a railway tunnel through the Strait of Gibraltar had been selected as the best option for responding to the projected future increase in traffic between the

two countries. The permanent link would also be a symbol of the technological, economic and human rapprochement of Europe and Africa. The Council's adoption of the draft resolution by consensus would give a fresh impetus to the project.

The draft resolution was adopted.

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS (agenda item 13) (continued)

(b) SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)
(E/2001/31; A/56/96-E/2001/87)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its fifth session (E/2001/31). Chapter I, section A, contained three draft resolutions recommended for adoption by the Council. As he understood it, the Council wished to adopt draft resolutions I and II and to defer, for consideration at its next substantive session, draft resolution III, the programme budget implications of which were set out in document E/2001/L.23.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT said that chapter I, section B, contained two draft decisions. He took it that the Council wished to adopt them.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the coordinating role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in support of efforts by developing countries to benefit from science and technology (A/56/96-E/2001/87).

It was so decided.

(d) HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (continued) (A/56/8)

Mr. CHULKOV (Russian Federation) said that the resolution on the subject of human settlements, adopted at the previous session, while rightly outlining the international community's role in providing assistance to a considerable group of countries, involved certain financial restrictions which violated the principle of universality in United Nations activity and ran counter to the principle of United Nations cooperation with countries whose economies were in transition - a principle reflected in a number of recent General Assembly resolutions and embodied in dozens of resolutions and decisions taken by other bodies, organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system. Based on the outcome of the

General Assembly's special session on the five-yearly review of implementation of the decisions of the Istanbul Conference, his delegation would seek a review of the matter at the forthcoming nineteenth session of the Commission on Human Settlements.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Council wished to defer consideration of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements (A/56/8) to its resumed substantive session.

It was so decided.

(e) ENVIRONMENT (continued) (E/2001/L.37)

Draft resolution on protection against products harmful to health and the environment
(E/2001/L.23)

The draft resolution was adopted.

(g) TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS (continued) (E/2001/L.30)

Draft resolution on the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (E/2001/L.30)

Mr. MIRAFZAL (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the sponsors had agreed to withdraw the draft resolution and to propose, for adoption by the Council, a completely revised text which he read out:

“The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals¹ during the biennium 1999-2000,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals;

2. *Decides* to approve the programme of work of the Committee for the biennium 2001-2002 as contained in paragraph 31 of the Report of the Secretary-General;

¹ E/2001/44.

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General to publish the eleventh revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations* in Arabic, as well as the third revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Manual of Tests and Criteria* in Arabic, French and Spanish without delay;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate the new and amended recommendations² to the Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international organizations concerned;

(b) To publish a twelfth revised version³ of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations*, and amendments to the third revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Manual of Tests and Criteria*⁴ in all the official languages of the United Nations, in the most cost-effective manner, not later than the end of 2001;

(c) To give further consideration to the possibility of publishing the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods* on CD-ROM if possible as a navigable version, for example, by commercial arrangement with external contractors;

5. *Decides* to defer further consideration of the report of the Secretary-General to the resumed substantive session for 2001.”

² ST/SG/AC.10/27/Add.1 and -/Add.2.

³ ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.12.

⁴ ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.3, amendment 1.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Council wished to adopt the revised text that had just been read out.

It was so decided.

(h) INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION (continued) (E/2001/L.19/Rev.1; A/56/68-E/2001/63 and Corr.1)

Draft resolution on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (E/2001/L.19/Rev.1)

Mr. PAYOT (Observer for Belgium), introducing the draft resolution, drew attention to a number of minor editorial corrections that had been referred to the Secretariat.

The PRESIDENT said that the representative of the Russian Federation had become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/56/68-E/2001/63 and Corr.1) on implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

It was so decided.

- (j) ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)
(E/2001/L.31)

Draft decision on the report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development on its second session (E/2001/L.31)

Mr. MIRAFZAL (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that, as a result of consultations, the sponsors of the draft decision had decided to add a second paragraph, to read:

“Decides to defer approval of the provisional agenda for the third session of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development to its next resumed session, bearing in mind the fact that the third session of the Committee is to take place from 8-20 December 2002.”

The draft decision, as orally revised, was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said that, in view of the adoption of that draft decision, it would seem that the decision taken by the Council at a previous meeting to adopt the draft decision contained in chapter I, section B, of the report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development on its second session (E/2001/32) would have to be cancelled. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to decide, pursuant to rule 57 of its rules of procedure, on that course of action.

It was so decided.

- (m) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN TAX MATTERS (continued)

The PRESIDENT said that the Council, by its decision 2001/208, had approved the holding of the tenth meeting of the ad hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation on Tax Matters, in Geneva, on 10-14 September 2001. He took it that the Council would consider the relevant report at its resumed session.

It was so decided.

- (o) ASSISTANCE TO THIRD STATES AFFECTED BY THE APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS (continued) (E/2001/90)

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the note by the Secretary-General (E/2001/90) on the subject.

It was so decided.

- (p) GLOBAL CODE OF ETHICS FOR TOURISM (continued) (E/2001/L.32)

Draft resolution on the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism (E/2001/L.32)

Mr. SHRESTHA (Nepal) said that his delegation could agree to the adoption of the draft resolution by consensus only on the understanding that the words “*Takes note*” in paragraph 1 would not be so interpreted as to signify approval. He wished to record that point because of the Legal Counsel’s view that the words in question could possibly be so interpreted.

Ms. BETTON (Observer for Jamaica) said that her delegation strongly supported the draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted.

SOCIAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS (agenda item 14) (continued)

- (a) ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (continued) (E/2001/L.25 and L.29; E/2001/27 and 78)

Draft resolution on the revitalization and strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (E/2001/L.25)

Ms. VADZATI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that the sponsors had agreed to revise the draft resolution completely; the text of the revised version would read:

“The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2000/24 of 28 July 2000 which, *inter alia*, expressed grave concern that the level of contributions had not adequately increased to a level to enable in particular the full implementation of Gender Awareness Information and Networking System nor the operational viability of the Institute beyond 31 December 2000, and reiterates the importance of supporting traditional methods of information, dissemination, research and training,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 55/219 deciding to provide the Institute with financial assistance on a non-recurrent basis, enabling the Institute to continue its activities throughout 2001,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/24;

2. *Appreciates* the support of Member States in approving an advance to the Institute of up to US\$ 800,000 for 2001, pending receipt of voluntary contributions, on a one-time, exceptional and emergency basis;¹

3. *Takes notes* of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for Advancement of Women on its twenty-first session and the recommendations and decisions contained therein;

4. *Expresses appreciation* to the Director of the Institute for her efforts to revitalize the Institute through the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System vision and methodology and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that a new Director is appointed immediately in order to ensure continuity in leadership and direction of the Institute;

5. *Commends* the Institute for the implementation of successive Phases I-II of the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System;

6. *Expresses appreciation* for the efforts made by the Director of the Institute as well as the Board of Trustees in developing a fund-raising strategy for the Institute and urges that it be implemented as soon as possible;

7. *Expresses concerns* that, due to the insufficient reserves in the Institute's Trust Fund at the current time, the Institute may be unable to continue its operation beyond 2001;

8. *Takes into account* that the Institute cannot anticipate the level of contributions that will be received during the course of 2001;

9. *Recommends* to the General Assembly to consider to transfer any balance remaining of \$800,000 advanced for 2001 by the General Assembly to the Institute as a reserve for the year 2002, and invites the General Assembly to consider requesting the Joint Inspection Unit to conduct a review of the Institute Trust Fund and an urgent evaluation of the activities of the Institute, including options for the Institute's future;

10. *Invites* the Institute to further intensify its campaign to raise funds and attract support from, *inter alia*, private sector foundations and corporations for its activities;

¹ General Assembly decision 55/457.

11. *Decides* to amend Article V (5) of the Statute of the Institute, with regard to the approval of Focal Points, so as to read:

‘Correspondents and focal points in countries or regions may be used by the Institute to assist in maintaining contact with national or regional institutions and in carrying out or advising on studies and research.’

12. *Urges* the Secretary-General to:

(a) *Continue to encourage* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the Institute so that it can continue to operate at an adequate level during 2002;

(b) *Continue to encourage* other relevant sources of funding within the United Nations, including the United Nations Foundation, to contribute to the restructuring of the Institute;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2002 as well as the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.”

The PRESIDENT said he took it, in the absence of any objection or observations, that the Council wished to adopt the revised text.

It was so decided.

Ms. STEVENS (Observer for Belgium), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the Union had long played an important role in the advancement of women. At the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Union had recognized the financial difficulties faced by the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and had welcomed the consensus agreement to seek, on an exceptional basis, financial assistance amounting to US\$ 800,000.

Despite the clear terms of General Assembly decision 55/457, the Union was not opposed to the supplementary request contained in paragraph 9 of the text just adopted, but it remained firmly of the opinion that voluntary contributions, not the United Nations regular budget, must constitute the only source of financing for the Institute. It strongly recommended, therefore, that the Institute should intensify its efforts to broaden its basis of voluntary contributions, and that the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) should evaluate the Institute’s efforts and advise it on financial reforms.

Ms. SAKAI (Japan) said that, while her delegation was able to join the consensus, it felt that the Institute's financing should come not from the United Nations regular budget but from efforts to improve efficiency and expand the donor base. Her Government, which was one of the major donors, hoped that such efforts would succeed.

Draft resolution on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (E/2001/L.29)

The PRESIDENT said that the representatives of Argentina, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Fiji, Italy, Portugal, Suriname, Uganda and the United States of America, and the observer for Ireland had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said that the Council might wish to take note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-fifth session (E/2001/27) and the report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (E/2001/78).

It was so decided.

(b) SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (continued) (E/2001/L.42)

Draft resolution on the global campaign for poverty eradication (E/2001/L.42)

The draft resolution was adopted.

(e) UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (continued) (E/2001/46)

The PRESIDENT said that the Council might wish to take note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/2001/46).

It was so decided.

(f) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE THIRD DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (continued) (E/2001/74)

The PRESIDENT said that the Council might wish to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and preparatory process for the World Conference (E/2001/74).

It was so decided.

- (g) HUMAN RIGHTS (continued) (E/2001/L.33; E/2001/22 and 23, parts I, II and III, and 64)

Draft resolution on human rights education (E/2001/L.33)

Ms. TOBING-KLEIN (Suriname) said that the text of the draft resolution had been much revised. In the first preambular paragraph, the words “resolution 1993/53” should be replaced by the words “resolutions 1993/56 of 9 march 1993 and 2001/61 of 25 April 2001. At the end of the second preambular paragraph, the following words “in accordance with the eighth preambular paragraph of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/61,” should be added. The words “*Recognizing* the importance” in the third preambular paragraph should be replaced by the words “*Taking note* with appreciation” and the words “the report of the High Commissioner” at the end of the sentence should be replaced by “its report (A/55/360),”.

In paragraph 1, the words from “*Calls upon* ... to ... effective” should be replaced by “*Invites* all Governments to promote the development of national strategies for human rights education,”. In paragraph 2, the word “*also*” should be added after the word “*Invites*”, the words “intergovernmental organizations,” in the first line should be replaced by “agencies, especially” and the words “adopt a system-wide” should become “develop a wide”.

Paragraph 3 should be modified to read: “*Invites also* regional and national human rights organizations, agencies and networks (such as those of women, the media and trade unions) to develop ...” and, at the end of the third line, the word “wider” should be replaced by “a wide”. In paragraph 4, second line, the words “in fulfilling their obligation” should be replaced by “upon request”, the words “into all levels of education for children, youth and adults,” in the third line should be deleted and the words “monitor these strategies” in the third and fourth lines should be replaced by “in the assessment of those strategies”.

Her delegation hoped that the revised draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

The draft resolution, as orally revised, was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said that the Council might wish to take note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (E/2001/64), the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its twenty-second, twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions (E/2001/22) and the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-seventh session (E/2001/23, parts I, II and III).

It was so decided.

- (h) DISCRIMINATION AND GENETIC PRIVACY (continued)
(E/2001/L.24/Rev.1)

Draft resolution on genetic privacy and non-discrimination (E/2001/L.24/Rev.1)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft resolution of which the representatives of Brazil and Suriname had become sponsors.

The draft resolution was adopted.

- (i) PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES (continued) (E/2001/L.27)

Draft decision on the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (E/2001/L.27)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft resolution of which the representatives of Suriname and the United States of America and the observer for Sweden had become sponsors.

Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Council) said that, if the draft resolution was adopted, the first annual session of the Forum would be held at Headquarters in New York. In the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003, however, it had been assumed that the Forum would meet in Geneva, and an allocation of US\$ 101,450 had been indicated under section 22 for the travel and daily subsistence allowance of the Forum's 16 members, plus that of two staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The cost of travel to New York for the same people would amount to an estimated US\$ 156,300, an additional cost of US\$ 54,850, which could not be included in the provisions of section 22 and would thus be a charge against the Contingency Fund, a matter requiring action by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

The draft resolution was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said that chairing the general segment had been an honour, a challenge and an unforgettable experience. He thanked all delegations for their commitment and cooperation, and his own delegation, whose moral support had been invaluable. He was particularly grateful to the Secretariat, whose performance had gone beyond the call of duty.

Mr. Belinga-Eboutou (Cameroon) took the Chair.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

Mr. CIVILI (Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs) said that, while it was too early to make a full assessment of the session, the key achievements had been admirably outlined and the Secretariat had learned several important lessons from the debate.

The first, emanating from both the high-level and the operational activities segments, was the developing countries' resounding reaffirmation of ownership and leadership of their own development, a lesson that would inform the forthcoming recommendations to the General Assembly for the triennial policy review of operational activities. The distinction and breadth of participation in the high-level segment, following as it did fast on the heels of the OAU Summit, had firmly established the Council as the rallying point for the international community's promise of sustained support for building the new African Union launched in Lusaka. The Secretary-General's address and report strongly reaffirmed the commitment of the entire United Nations system to consolidate its work in Africa in support of those new endeavours, a clear guide for which was contained in the Millennium Declaration.

The second lesson concerned the forging of development partnerships. During the coordination segment in particular, encouragement had been expressed for stronger partnerships not only within the United Nations, but also with all the actors in development, as a key means to realizing the Millennium Summit goals. The Council's authoritative guidance would contribute to the forthcoming General Assembly debate on partnerships and would also serve to orient various aspects of the United Nations system's work, and encourage the thrust of the Secretary-General's initiatives on, for instance, ICT for development.

The third lesson was the crucial contribution that the Council could make to harmonious and sustained implementation of United Nations conferences and summits, focusing its reviews on cross-cutting issues to maximize the impact of follow-up activities. The Council's measures for operationalizing the special session agreements on AIDS, for intensifying the anti-malaria campaign and for stepping up gender-mainstreaming efforts were all key, albeit specific, aspects of follow-up to the Millennium Declaration, which would be further strengthened by the choice of theme for the 2002 coordination segment.

The fourth lesson was the consolidation of the Council's role as the most broad-based forum for international debate within the system, with the unprecedented participation of civil society and heads of United Nations organizations, during which the entire development community had rallied together to maintain the focus on development goals against the backdrop of globalization. That dialogue would be reinforced by the choice of human resources development as the theme of the 2002 high-level segment. However, it was important to ensure not only year-round inter-agency and intergovernmental interaction, but the integrated involvement of delegations in Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, as well as those in New York.

In conclusion, he thanked the President for his leadership and commitment, and the vice-presidents for their skilful, dedicated guidance of the various segments.

The PRESIDENT, remarking on the particularly fruitful outcome of the session, thanked the four vice-presidents for their competence and devotion. The session had reaffirmed the Council's role as a dynamic international forum open to new ideas and as a catalyst of continued dialogue and partnership among all development actors. The high-level segment, the highlight of the session and of particular interest to him as a son of Africa, had significantly enhanced the Council's aura, so eminently established by his last two predecessors. The choice of its theme had been felicitous, permitting the Council to reinforce the spirit of the Millennium Summit, to place the New African Initiative at the centre of its concerns and to rally the United Nations and the international community as a whole round that Initiative, in accordance with the clear guidelines set forth in the Millennium Declaration.

He was particularly pleased at the numbers and the quality of the participants in the high-level segment, who had included Heads of Government and of United Nations organizations, and other eminent persons, and the Secretary-General, who had also participated in the African Forum for Investment Promotion. The first such meeting organized by the Council, the Forum had been characterized by informal dialogue among the widest possible variety of interlocutors, and the Council had called upon the United Nations system to provide systematic follow-up to its recommendations.

Two ministerial working breakfasts with heads of some United Nations agencies had covered topics linked to the Millennium Summit, and had been accompanied by two panel discussions on the link between peace and development and on the new African Public Service Charter, thereby strengthening links between the private and public sectors and international organizations.

The Ministerial Declaration underscored the appeal by the African Heads of State for a special session of the General Assembly on the financing and implementation of the New African Initiative and the request to the Secretary-General to consider establishing a subregional peacekeeping mechanism and an ad hoc advisory group on countries emerging from armed conflict. It also welcomed the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS and called for expeditious funding of the new Global AIDS and Health Fund, emphasizing public/private-sector partnership and commending the dialogue between the G-8 countries and African representatives. The major challenge was to seize the opportunity offered

by the implementation of the Millennium Summit decisions and the General Assembly's 2002 debate on the United Nations New Agenda for Africa (UN-NADAF) final review to provide appropriate follow-up.

The coordination activities segment on the United Nations system's role in promoting development, especially in the field of ICT, had produced agreements on two important issues that would guide the Organization's work: the potential of ICTs in sustaining development, and partnerships with the private sector, both matters that should play a vital role in development promotion and were subjects of innovative initiatives by the Secretary-General, auguring well for the General Assembly discussion of the agenda item entitled "Towards global partnerships". He urged the Council to support the Secretary-General's prospective ICT working group.

Much time during the operational activities for development segment had been devoted to preparation of the triennial review of operations that was on the agenda for the forthcoming session of the General Assembly. The exchange of views with the executive heads of funds and programmes and the presentation made by teams of the United Nations agencies in Tanzania and China had furnished guidelines for the preparation of the next triennial review.

As for the humanitarian affairs segment, the Council hoped that the resources mobilized for coordination of the Organization's excellent quality of humanitarian assistance would be strengthened, and that development would continue to be financed.

The general segment had confirmed the Council's coordination and guidance role, with special attention to the follow-up to the Millennium Declaration and major conferences and to the effective functioning of the subsidiary bodies. The informal consultations held alongside the official session had contributed to consensus on many resolutions. A number of discrete agenda items needed to be integrated into a coherent approach, hence the discussion under that segment of the follow-up to the HIV/AIDS special session and to major conferences, as well as new areas such as confidentiality and non-discrimination in the field of genetics. The Council was determined that the segment's guidelines should be followed throughout the system.

The Millennium Summit had confirmed the Council's mandate to address an increasing number of important issues, for which purpose he counted on its continued contribution to finding appropriate solutions. As the session drew to a close, he particularly welcomed the promising scenario of a new development model for Africa, in answer to the appeal from the very depths of that continent for freedom from fear, freedom from hunger and freedom from want.

Mr. KAMIAB (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, expressed his appreciation to the President and the Bureau for the success of the 2001 substantive session. Under the President's capable guidance, the Council had achieved important results and significant consensus on many highly relevant issues. The high-level segment in particular had shown that the international community, including the United Nations system, was deeply committed to supporting the African countries' national efforts. It was to be hoped that the various conclusions reached would be expeditiously and effectively implemented, and the opportunity seized to reverse the situation prevailing in those countries, particularly through poverty eradication.

He expressed appreciation of the work of the Secretariat and local staff, seen and unseen, without whose efficient support services, in very rushed conditions, the Council could not have accomplished its task. The Group of 77 and China looked forward to the resolution of outstanding issues at the resumed session.

Mr. GOFFIN (Observer for Belgium), speaking on behalf of the European Union, applauded the choice of the generic theme and that of the high-level segment and urged the United Nations system to strengthen African countries' ownership of their development, considering the New African Initiative to be an excellent foundation on which genuine partnerships might be built.

With regard to the coordination segment, public-private partnerships were important for the pursuance of United Nations objectives, hence the Union's appreciation of the Secretariat's organization of panel discussions. It was also pleased with the general tenor of the development operational activities segment. Having taken stock of the situation, it was essential for operational conclusions to be reached on whether the funds and programmes could adapt their strategies to meet the challenges identified by the Heads of State at the Millennium Summit.

Turning to the humanitarian affairs segment, he said that, in 2001, the tenth anniversary of resolution 46/182, the need for greater coordination of efforts to respond to natural disasters and complex crises must be reaffirmed. In that regard, he considered the President's summary at the end of the humanitarian affairs debate to be an extremely valuable one, and applauded the fact that the Council had taken note of the Secretary-General's report presented during the segment.

The Union also welcomed the fact that, after lengthy negotiations, the Council had reached a positive consensus on the request by ILO to discuss Myanmar's observance of ILO Convention No. 29 on forced labour at the general human rights segment, and was pleased to have been able to negotiate a consensual resolution on integrated follow-up to major United Nations conferences and on the working methods of the functional commissions. It was satisfied that a decision had been reached on the high-level and coordination segment themes for 2002 and at the adoption of a resolution on confidentiality and non-discrimination in genetics.

He called attention to the tardy submission of many reports to the Council in the working languages, which precluded their detailed study by several delegations. He thanked the Group of 77 which, in a spirit of partnership, had been willing to compromise in the interest of consensus. The Union was firmly attached to bolstering the Council's coordinating role - as set out in its Charter and reiterated in the Millennium Declaration - a worthy theme selected for the 2002 coordination segment.

Mr. HART (Nigeria), having endorsed the statement made on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the session had been an outstanding one, in respect of all the segments, and not just the high-level segment, the outcome of which had been highly satisfactory. His delegation was proud that a distinguished son of Africa had steered the session in a manner that had endeared him to all the Member States, bringing the entire gamut of his rich experience, which spanned more than three decades, to bear on the deliberations. He thanked the members of the Bureau for their exemplary conduct of the deliberations of the various segments, and commended all the partners and country groupings on their spirit of compromise.

After an exchange of courtesies, the PRESIDENT declared the session suspended.

The meeting rose at 9.30 p.m.