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Economic and Social Council

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Provisional summary record of the 46th meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 20 December 2001, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. Belinga-Eboutou (Cameroon)

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The meeting was called to order at 5.20 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

- 1. **The President** said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that it was the wish of the Council to change the date of its organizational session for 2002 from 12 February to 15 February.
- 2. It was so decided.

Elections, nominations and confirmations (continued)

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (E/2001/L.2/Add.14-19)

- 3. **The President** invited the Council to elect eight members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, a new body, for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2002. In accordance with Council decision 2000/22, elected members would serve in their personal capacity as independent experts.
- 4. Since the number of candidates in the Group of African States, the Group of Asian States and the Group of Eastern European States was equal to or less than the number of vacancies, he took it that the Council wished to elect Njuma Ekundanayo (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Yuji Iwasawa (Japan) and Yuri Boitchenko (Russian Federation) by acclamation.
- 5. It was so decided.
- 6. **The President** invited the Council to elect by secret ballot two members from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and two members from the Group of Western European and other States.
- 7. At the invitation of the President, Mr. Plut (Austria), Mr. Oubida (Burkina Faso), Ms. Cadenbach (Germany) and Mr. Sabbagh (Syrian Arab Republic) acted as tellers.
- 8. A vote was taken by secret ballot:

Group of Western European and other States:

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	53
Required majority:	27

Number of votes obtained:

Wayne Lord (Canada)	49
Ida Nicolaisen (Denmark)	36
María Noguerol Álvarez (Spain)	20

9. Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Wayne Lord (Canada) and Ms. Ida Nicolaisen (Denmark) were elected members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Group of Latin American and Caribbean States:

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28
Number of votes obtained:	
Otilia Lux García de Cotí (Guatemala) 39	
Marcos Matías Alonso (Mexico)	30
Ronald Karwofodi (Suriname)	19
María Fernanda Espinosa (Ecuador)	

- 10. Having obtained the required majority, Ms. Otilia Lux García de Cotí (Guatemala) and Mr. Marcos Matías Alonso (Mexico) were elected members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
- 11. **The President** said that, with regard to the outstanding vacancy, he took it that the Council agreed to postpone to a later stage the election of one member from the Group of Asian States.
- 12. It was so decided.
- 13. The President said that the following indigenous-nominated experts would be appointed to the Forum: Mr. Antonio Jacanamijoy (Colombia), Mr. Ayitegau Kouevi (Togo), Mr. Willie Littlechild (Canada), Mr. Ole Henrik Magga (Norway), Ms. Zinaida Strogalschikova (Russian Federation), Mr. Parshuram Tamang (Nepal), Ms. Mililani Trask (United States of America) and Mr. Fortunato Turpo Choquehuanca (Peru).
- 14. **Mr. Rahmtalla** (Sudan) said that there was a need for democratization and equality in the Council. The names of the eight members appointed by the President should have been announced in advance, as Member States might have wished to take that information into account when choosing candidates or when voting. He expressed the hope that such a procedure would be adopted in the future.
- 15. **Mrs. Loemban Tobing-Klein** (Suriname) endorsed the previous speakers' comments and

expressed the hope that there would be equitable geographical representation in the Forum in future, and in particular that the Caribbean area would be fairly represented.

16. **The President** agreed that improvements would need to be made.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

- 17. **The President** said that South Africa had been endorsed by the Group of African States to fill the vacancy for that Group. He took it that the Council wished to elect South Africa by acclamation for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2002.
- 18. It was so decided.

Commission on Science and Technology for Development

- 19. **The President** said that the Philippines had been endorsed by the Group of Asian States to fill one of the outstanding vacancies for the Group. He took it that the Council wished to elect the Philippines by acclamation for a term beginning on that day and expiring on 31 December 2004.
- 20. It was so decided.
- 21. **The President** said he took it that the Council agreed to further postpone the election of one member from the Group of Asian States and one member from the Group of Western European and other States.
- 22. It was so decided.

Executive Board of the World Food Programme

- 23. **The President** said that Australia and the United Kingdom had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States to fill the two outstanding vacancies for that Group. He took it that the Council wished to elect Australia and the United Kingdom by acclamation for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2002.
- 24. It was so decided.

Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund

25. **The President** said that the Council had been advised that Bolivia would relinquish its seat on the Board, effective 1 January 2002, and that Trinidad and Tobago was a candidate for the vacancy. He took it that

the Council wished to elect Trinidad and Tobago to the Board, effective 1 January 2002, to complete Bolivia's term, which would expire on 31 December 2002.

26. It was so decided.

Economic and environmental questions (continued)

- (b) Science and technology for development (continued) (E/2001/31 and Corr.1)
- 27. **Ms. Kelley** (Secretary of the Council) read out the oral decision to be adopted, whereby the Council would agree to take up the matter in May on a date to be determined.
- 28. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to adopt the oral decision read out by the Secretary.
- 29. It was so decided.
- (g) Transport of dangerous goods (continued) (E/2001/L.52)

Draft resolution E/2001/L.52

- 30. **The President** said that draft resolution E/2001/L.52 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 had been introduced during informal consultations, and noted that certain editorial changes were to be made to the French version of the text.
- 31. Draft resolution E/2001/L.52 was adopted.
- (j) Energy and natural resources for development (continued) (E/2000/32-E/C.14/2000/11)
- 32. **Ms. Kelley** (Secretary of the Council) said that the oral decision to be adopted read as follows: "The Council decides to defer to its session in May 2002 consideration of the draft decision contained in chapter I, section B, of the report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development at its second session (E/2000/32-E/C.14/2000/11), entitled 'Report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development on its second session and provisional agenda for the third session of the Committee'".

- 33. **The President** said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt the oral decision read out by the Secretary.
- 34. It was so decided.
- 35. **Mr. Rahmtalla** (Sudan) asked whether he was correct in thinking that the report would not be submitted to the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2002.
- 36. **Ms. Kelley** (Secretary of the Committee) said that, according to a Council decision adopted in July, the report was to be submitted to the Commission in 2002; that decision had not been reversed.

(k) Public administration and development (continued) (E/2001/L.46/Rev.2)

Draft resolution E/2001/L.46/Rev.2

- 37. **Mr. Mirafzal** (Islamic Republic of Iran), introducing draft resolution E/2001/L.46/Rev.2 on restructuring and revitalization of the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance, said that the word "policy" in paragraph 4 of the annex should be deleted.
- 38. **Ms. Kelley** (Secretary of the Council) said that the Czech Republic, Mexico and Ukraine had joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution. She noted that the phrase "for Development" had been deleted from paragraph 3 of the draft resolution and paragraph 1 of the annex and that the Secretariat had been asked to ensure that all the other language versions corresponded to the English text.
- 39. Draft resolution E/2001/L.46/Rev.2, as orally revised, was adopted.

(m) International cooperation in tax matters

- 40. **The President** recalled that the tenth meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters had taken place on 10 September 2001. Since, for technical reasons, it was not possible to proceed with that item, he proposed that consideration of the report of the meeting be deferred to the substantive session of 2002.
- 41. It was so decided.

Social and human rights questions (continued)

(a) Advancement of women (continued) (E/2001/L.51)

Draft decision E/2001/L.51

- 42. **Ms. Simonović** (Croatia), introducing draft decision E/2001/L.51 on the proposed system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 2002-2005, said that Senegal had joined the list of sponsors of the draft decision, all of whom were represented in the Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women. She drew attention to a couple of editorial changes and expressed the hope that the draft decision would be adopted by consensus.
- 43. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.
- 44. Draft decision E/2001/L.51, as orally revised, was adopted.

(b) Social development (E/2001/71/Add.1)

- 45. **The President** proposed that the Council take note of the report of the Commission for Social Development acting as the preparatory committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing on its resumed first session (E/2001/71/Add.1).
- 46. It was so decided.

(c) Crime prevention and criminal justice (continued) (E/2001/30/Rev.1-E/CN.15/2001/13/Rev.1)

- 47. **The President** said that the revised version of the report on the tenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, document E/2001/30/Rev.1, contained two new draft resolutions which the Commission had considered at a resumed session held in September and was recommending for approval by the Council.
- 48. He took it that the Committee wished to approve draft resolution I, entitled "Terms of reference for the negotiation of an international legal instrument against corruption", which had been adopted by the Commission without a vote, and to recommend it to the General Assembly for adoption.
- 49. It was so decided.

- 50. **The President** said he took it that the Committee wished to approve draft resolution II, entitled "Plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century", and to recommend it to the General Assembly for adoption.
- 51. It was so decided.

Closure of the session

52. **The President** congratulated the members of the Council on the work accomplished during the session and declared the session closed.

The meeting rose at 6.20 p.m.