



President: Mr. Jorge E. ILLUECA (Panama).

AGENDA ITEM 38

Launching of global negotiations on international economic co-operation for development

1. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): As members will recall, the General Assembly, on 20 December 1982, adopted decision 37/438, entitled "Launching of global negotiations on international economic co-operation for development". In that decision, adopted on the proposal of the President, the Assembly decided to keep the agenda item open in order to allow for the continuation of informal consultations after the suspension of the session.
2. The subject has been under consideration since the thirty-fourth session, when the General Assembly, in resolution 34/138 of 14 December 1979, decided to launch, at its eleventh special session, in 1980, a round of global and sustained negotiations on international economic co-operation for development, which would include major issues in the field of raw materials, energy, trade, development, money and finance. The Assembly's decision was a response to the profound concern of the international community, and particularly of the developing countries, at the lack of real progress towards the establishment of a new international economic order.
3. Today the situation is serious. A series of international meetings and conferences has failed to achieve significant progress in the efforts of the international community to help the countries of the third world in the promotion of their development. The grave economic crisis which has afflicted the world for the last two years has had a severe impact on the great majority of the developing countries, as was pointed out in the Buenos Aires Platform, adopted at the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, held from 28 March to 9 April 1983.¹ Stagnation of the gross domestic product, indebtedness, deterioration of the terms of trade, the impossibility of obtaining financial resources on soft terms, the ravages caused by mounting protectionism and the inadequacy of international liquidity have led many of the developing countries into a profound economic and social depression.
4. If we add to this picture the difficult situation of the poorest countries, with problems of unemployment, hunger, malnutrition and ill-health, I think I can safely say that if such conditions continue the social repercussions of the economic crisis may drag many of these countries into incalculable political disasters which could have harmful effects on international peace and security.
5. I believe that it is a fundamental duty of the General Assembly, as the most representative organ of the international community, to take prompt decisions designed to alleviate the short-term problems and, at the same time, to lead to negotiations with a high political content which

will make it possible to ensure a just and balanced development of the international economy as a whole, and of the economy of the developing countries in particular and, to that end, to introduce the necessary changes in international economic relations.

6. There has been unanimous recognition of the interdependence of the economies of the developed and developing countries. I am convinced that the economic growth of each country and of groups of countries largely depends on the conditions of growth and stability in other nations. The improvement of the economic and social conditions in the countries of the South will doubtless have a favourable impact on the recovery of the economies of the North, and that is a factor which we cannot overlook and which we should encourage.
7. The efforts which have been made to move ahead with global negotiations cannot be halted. On the contrary, the General Assembly must revitalize them and direct them in a way which will enable all the parties concerned to reach long-term agreements. There are some who feel that the United Nations now lacks the capacity to do something constructive in the field of global negotiations at a time of acute political conflicts and mounting international tensions. In fact, it is disquieting to note that just a few weeks before the end of the third year of this decade, no progress has been made towards the goals of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.
8. I acknowledge that it is difficult in the General Assembly to arrive at definitive agreements, but it is equally true that an open and flexible political attitude on the part of all concerned can lead to the commencement of a process of broad and interrelated negotiations. Let us combine our efforts to show those who believe that the time is not ripe to make decisive progress that the Assembly can at least send out a signal of hope which will indicate that here in the United Nations a start is being made on a new process of co-operation in the economic sphere. Let us recall that this session will end on 20 December and that we have little left of the precious time allotted to us to make constructive progress.
9. The important thing in reaching an agreement on the launching of global negotiations is to abandon certain dogmatic approaches or attitudes of distrust which in the past have impeded consultations among various groups of countries.
10. As President of the General Assembly, I cordially invite you to co-operate in this common endeavour for the good of mankind; and I would remind you that if we are to create the climate of mutual trust which is indispensable at this difficult crossroads, we must try not to engage in mutual recriminations which very often destroy positive progress. I am prepared to do my utmost to ensure that the Assembly, with the help of all Member States and of the Secretary-General, will arrive at a wise and constructive decision that will enable us to begin global negotiations at the earliest possible date.
11. I now call on the representative of Mexico, who will speak as Chairman of the Group of 77.

12. Mr. MUÑOZ LEDO (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Mr. President, I wish to convey to you the pleasure of the Group of 77 in seeing you so ably and firmly guiding the work of the General Assembly. Your vast political and diplomatic experience, your well-proved loyalty to the causes of the United Nations and your militancy in favour of the new international economic order are of particular importance at this time.

13. We understand your decision to convene the present meeting as a clear demonstration of the interest you attach to this agenda item of fundamental importance for the coexistence of States and for the strengthening of collective security. We also appreciate this timely initiative as representing a widely-held recognition of the fact that we are coming close to the moment for a firm political decision on this item. Moreover, we take this as a clear indication that you will use your authority to encourage the consultations necessary to ensure the launching of global negotiations during this session of the Assembly. The Group of 77 is prepared, as always, to enter into a dialogue and, as its spokesman, I offer you our broadest co-operation.

14. The prolonged and unjustified delay in initiating the negotiations cannot in any way be attributed to the developing countries. We proposed the idea, we have invariably given it our support, and we have demonstrated, in all circumstances, our readiness to enter into dialogue and achieve an understanding.

15. My predecessor as Chairman of the Group of 77 set out the views of the Group a few weeks ago at this very rostrum. He recalled that the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 7 to 12 March 1983, and the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, held at Buenos Aires from 28 March to 9 April 1983, agreed to a new approach, a flexible, constructive approach, to tackling the crisis. The two-phase approach was conceived bearing in mind the realities of our time and the concerns expressed by various countries and groups of countries which so far have prevented the launching of the negotiations. We continue to offer solutions in keeping with our principles, which take account, at the same time, of the need for immediate decisions which will alleviate the burden of the present crisis, and of the urgency of initiating a negotiating process aimed at transforming the prevailing economic order and, in particular, monetary and financial relations.

16. The Group of 77 reaffirms once again its commitment to the launching of global negotiations and its call for serious and lasting solutions to the fundamental problems which we all face: high interest rates, inflation, external balance deficits, unemployment, problems of liquidity and the phenomena that lead to these problems—that is, the increasing deterioration in the terms of trade, intensified protectionism, and the anomalous use of economic power to promote the arms race.

17. The Foreign Ministers of the Group of 77, in the declaration adopted at their seventh annual meeting, held at United Nations Headquarters on 6, 7 and 10 October 1983 [see A/38/494 and Corr.1, annex], reiterated their commitment to General Assembly resolution 34/138 of 14 December 1979. We maintain our conviction that a coherent, simultaneous and comprehensive approach to the crisis is essential. We have none the less opened up a new political possibility since the New Delhi Conference which we hope will be fully understood. We hope that we can interpret the statements made in the Assembly as manifestations of a sincere desire to negotiate. We are prepared to compare our ideas and positions with those of other groups and countries in the most constructive

manner possible. In order to re-establish dialogue there must be real responses, concrete proposals and a spirit of compromise. There must be no further delaying tactics.

18. Let us seek together rational and equitable solutions which will be to the advantage of all peoples. The Assembly may rest assured that the Group of 77 will contribute in the most honest and active manner possible to the efforts now being undertaken. Let us begin these consultations as soon as possible. Let us undertake the task in a responsible manner and, above all, let us avoid new frustrations, which this time may be irreparable.

19. Mr. EXARCHOS (Greece): Mr. President, on behalf of the European Economic Community and its member States, I should first like to thank you for calling this meeting in the interest of bringing about early agreement on the launching of global negotiations. We share your hope of seeing this issue move forward. The Community is, as it always has been, interested in an open dialogue concerning the best possible approach to this issue.

20. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this important issue at this session, and we are ready to enter into consultations on the way forward. We have a number of proposals and suggestions under consideration—including those of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, and of the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77—which we are prepared to examine with an open mind and in a positive spirit. We are confident that this spirit is shared by others.

21. Mr. PESHKOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) (*interpretation from Russian*): I am speaking on behalf of the delegations of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic.

22. The consistent support of the socialist countries for the earliest possible initiation, within the framework of the United Nations, of global negotiations, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 34/138, is well known and was confirmed at the highest political level at Prague on 5 January 1983 in the Political Declaration of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty [A/38/67 and Corr.1, annex].

23. This position of fundamental principle is also the basis of our support for the initiative of the developing countries concerning the convening of a United Nations conference on global negotiations referred to in the joint statement of the delegations of the socialist countries [A/38/479]. This is the constructive response of the socialist countries to the proposals which were made by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Group of 77 to all Members of the United Nations. Our delegations also agree with the concrete proposals of the Chairman of the Group of 77 for the organization of the practical work of the General Assembly in its consideration of the question of global negotiations.

24. The success of these endeavours, as in the past, will depend entirely on the political will of all States. Our delegations are prepared to do their utmost to help the General Assembly at the current session to make a start on the implementation of the decisions which it has itself adopted.

25. As emphasized in the communiqué of the thirty-seventh session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance [CMEA] of 20 October 1983 [see A/38/537, annex I], after a meeting held at Berlin at the level of

heads of Government, the members of the CMEA support the progressive demands of the developing countries for the restructuring of international economic relations on an equitable and democratic basis and the establishment of a just international economic order, including a prompt start in the United Nations of global negotiations on the most pressing international economic problems, in accordance with General Assembly decisions.

26. Mr. LUNDBERG (Sweden): I have the honour of speaking on behalf of the five Nordic countries—Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and my own country, Sweden. We, the Nordic countries, have had many occasions to reaffirm our support for the concept of global negotiations. We firmly believe that such negotiations are desirable, and we welcome the inclusion of this item in the Assembly's agenda. We regret that, due to the complexities of the interests involved, it has not yet been possible to reach agreement to start negotiations.

27. As we pointed out in our statement in the general debate in the Second Committee [*11th meeting*], the two-phase approach suggested by the Group of 77 merits our careful consideration. That approach, even if it has yet to be defined in detail, has the advantage of giving priority to what seems to be feasible rather than to goals which, however desirable they may be, have to remain distant. If the necessary conditions for the initiation of global negotiations should continue to remain elusive, it is in our view perhaps even more important that we pursue the North-South dialogue in all its priority areas in the forums that are available to us today. We must ask ourselves how we can best work towards achieving our goals within the existing framework. We must not let the best become the enemy of the good.

28. We share the hopes which you, Mr. President, have just expressed. We would like to assure you of our future constructive co-operation in this matter. It is our hope that during the present session of the General Assembly it will be possible to make progress on a practical basis.

29. Mr. MI Guojun (China) (*interpretation from Chinese*): First of all please allow me, Mr. President, like those who have preceded me, to extend to you on behalf of the Chinese delegation our appreciation and gratitude for your initiative in convening the present meeting. We are sure that under your excellent leadership our work here will make realistic progress.

30. The present economic crisis and its adverse effects on international economic relations indicate that it is high time to resume immediately the North-South dialogue. The launching of global negotiations on the basis of the economic interdependence of developed and developing countries and a combination of short- and long-term measures could help in finding common solutions to urgent and fundamental issues. At present, this is extremely necessary and urgent and brooks no further delay. Therefore, we also agree with the proposal of the Chairman of the Group of 77 that we immediately begin consultations on the launching of the global negotiations.

31. We fully support the proposal of the Group of 77 that the global negotiations should be conducted in two phases, proceeding from less complex issues to more complex ones. We feel that this proposal contains considerable flexibility and could serve as a basis for the launching of global negotiations at the present session of the General Assembly.

32. We have also noted the expressions of interest and sympathy on the part of certain developed countries in this regard. We hope that in further consultations those countries will show further response to this proposal and

put forward their own views and suggestions, thus engaging in a genuine and constructive dialogue, leading to a consensus decision. The Chinese delegation will, as always, participate actively in the consultations and then make its contribution to the launching of global negotiations at the present session of the General Assembly.

33. Mr. KEYES (United States of America): I appreciate this opportunity to address a question which is of great concern to all of us. The question before us this morning, the launching of global negotiations, is not, as everyone well knows, a new one—perhaps I should say unfortunately not a new one, for it is, among other things, symbolic of our difficulties in dealing here with some of the most important issues facing the United Nations; yet our inability so far to reach agreement on the launching of global negotiations should be cause not entirely for dismay but rather for a new commitment to persist in efforts to achieve some form of accommodation, one with which all of us can feel comfortable.

34. I might also say that our lack of agreement so far certainly has absolutely nothing to do with the capable efforts of diligent individuals like Mr. Otunnu, and others like Mr. Naik and Mr. Muñoz Ledo who have preceded him, and who have worked so hard to bring all parties together. Clearly, it is a difficult task. We all know that. The problems are complicated and the issues have far-reaching consequences. Perhaps it is not surprising that we are still short of our goal, although we have indeed come a very long way since the question of global negotiations was first introduced. I need not detail here the positive movement achieved, for example, at the International Meeting on Co-operation and Development, held at Cancun on 22 and 23 October 1981, and the Economic Summit of Industrialized Countries, held at Versailles from 4 to 6 June 1982. I think one can say, too, that the very fact of this long and serious dialogue in which we have been engaged is itself a positive factor, one that keeps the attention of both developed and developing countries focused on the need to work out sensible ways of dealing with the many difficult economic problems facing all of us and, in particular, the developing countries.

35. Towards the end of the Assembly's thirty-seventh session, many of us had occasion to offer comments on the status of global negotiations. Too little time has passed since then for any further movement to have occurred beyond reiteration by the Ministers of the Group of 77 of their strong interest in launching global negotiations. We have read their communiqué with interest. We understand and share many of their concerns about world economic problems, though we may differ over the best ways of dealing with some of those problems. As we have said many times before, we remain open to serious discussion on how to proceed in meeting these problems. Whether the "two-track" approach to launching global negotiations, suggested by the Group of 77, or some other approach, is most likely to succeed, we continue ready to engage in the dialogue and to be fully co-operative in participating in any reasonable mechanism which may be established to continue our collective efforts.

36. We very much hope that the time remaining before adjournment of the current session of the General Assembly will be well spent. If we should somehow still remain short of our goal, it should not be for want of a serious effort from all parties to find an approach that all can heartily endorse as a realistic, sensible and promising means of taking up the problems that to one degree or another affect people everywhere on earth.

37. Mr. ZOLLER (Australia): Australia has been a strong supporter of the principle of a global round of negotiations on key economic issues since the concept was

first developed in the United Nations. In the ensuing years, we have sought to translate that principle into practice by participating actively and constructively in the various groups established to examine ways in which the global round could be launched. We have made our own contributions to those efforts, and these have included some proposals which we have presented and discussed with other delegations.

38. The Australian Government continues to regard an early launching of global negotiations as an important element of the dialogue on international economic relations. We firmly believe that the interdependence of the economies of all countries makes such negotiations desirable if the United Nations is to be effective in its responsibilities as a forum for discussing the economic problems that we all currently face and, in particular, the developing countries.

39. My delegation accordingly continues to study all possible relevant developments with a mind to seeking ways to overcome the remaining obstacles to a successful launching. We shall also continue to give the closest and most sympathetic consideration to the details of other proposals which offer ways of overcoming those obstacles. You can be assured, Mr. President, of our keen desire to be actively involved in the further consideration of this subject during the current session of the General Assembly, and of our full co-operation in your endeavours.

40. Mr. KOBAYASHI (Japan) (*interpretation from French*): Mr. President, my delegation would like to express its appreciation of your initiative in convening this meeting on global negotiations, which gives all Member States once again an important occasion to exchange views and to review recent developments concerning the launching of global negotiations.

41. I should like to take this opportunity to emphasize once again that our main task is to seek ways and means of achieving a sustained and non-inflationary growth of the world economy as a whole, as well as to redouble our efforts to revitalize the real economic and social development of the developing countries, many of which still suffer the adverse effects of a prolonged world recession in spite of an ever more encouraging recovery. We believe that we can better achieve progress through intensified international co-operation, in order to achieve our common goals. Thus, we can expect that the global negotiations will enable us to make progress in our search for satisfactory solutions through co-operation between all countries involved, in a spirit of mutual accommodation and understanding.

42. My delegation will take part actively in any constructive discussion aimed at strengthening the links of co-operation with the developing countries in their efforts to give practical effect to their aspirations. That is why we sincerely hope that all the necessary arrangements for the launching of global negotiations can be completed in the near future.

43. This agenda item is a very important one and at the same time a very complex one. For this reason, my delegation believes that the best way of tackling the item would be first of all to set up a small informal group. Such a group could play a meaningful role in promoting a North-South dialogue by facilitating the discussions which we have started here at this meeting.

44. Mr. President, you can be assured of the full co-operation of our delegation in the work to be undertaken.

45. Mr. FISCHER (Austria): This is the fifth year during which the Assembly has been seized of the question

of global negotiations on international economic co-operation for development. Despite intensive efforts to reach agreement on the launching of such negotiations, and despite repeated pronouncements at the highest levels, this objective has not as yet been achieved. At the same time, we are witnessing a growing consensus on the need to strengthen international co-operation for development in order to meet more effectively the challenges of a critical global economic situation.

46. From the very outset, Austria has approached the idea of global negotiations in a positive and constructive manner and has repeatedly stated its readiness to embark on such an exercise in the framework of the United Nations system. My delegation also appreciates the resolve of the non-aligned countries, as manifested at the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, to impart a fresh political impetus to global negotiations by proposing a two-phase approach [A/38/132 and Corr.1 and 2, annex, sect. III, para. 39]. We feel that that proposal merits careful consideration, and we would welcome an opportunity to learn more about this approach and its implications.

47. It is in this sense that my delegation has taken note with great interest of your statement, Mr. President, and that of the Chairman of the Group of 77 and is prepared to participate at the current session of the General Assembly in further consultations on the question of global negotiations.

48. Mr. PELLETIER (Canada): My delegation welcomes this opportunity to begin once more discussions on a subject to which Canada continues to attach considerable importance, as we have repeatedly made clear in meetings of the General Assembly, in the deliberations and outcome of Western summit gatherings, and in other gatherings, such as that organized here a few weeks ago by the Prime Minister of India.

49. We understand that the purpose of today's meeting is to provide a starting-point for a series of consultations, possibly quite informal in nature, in which we could assess how we might make progress towards launching global negotiations and, more generally, ways in which we could lend momentum and substance to North-South discussions.

50. Thus, my comments today address the procedures by which we might advance these consultations. I am sure it is not necessary to reiterate our well-known commitment to the launching of these negotiations on the basis of consensus.

51. Canada considers that flexibility in our consultations will be the most critical element in ensuring their ultimate success. We therefore very much welcome the statement made by Mr. Muñoz Ledo on behalf of the Group of 77 a few minutes ago, reconfirming his Group's willingness to embark on these consultations in a flexible and co-operative fashion. In this same spirit, we would hope that he and his colleagues in the Group of 77 and in the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries will clarify more precisely what they have in mind in terms of a two-phase approach to global negotiations. What priorities, for example, does the Group of 77 have in mind for each phase of the process? How would the negotiations be conducted?

52. There are, of course, several possible avenues which merit exploration to see which one or ones offer the best prospect of success in today's circumstances. Some have been alluded to in remarks here and in the Second Committee. We hope that each possibility will be given careful and thoughtful consideration by all parties. Whatever the process, our common objective should remain to engage all parties in substantive discussions on key issues of

mutual concern, centring on how we can improve and better manage the functioning of the international economy and how we can reinvigorate the development process of developing countries.

53. Canada very much welcomes the commitment and interest that you personally, Mr. President, indicated in your opening remarks on furthering our discussions here. I wish to assure you of our support in the efforts you make and in the consultations you may hold with interested parties, and of our readiness to play an active part in the consultative process.

54. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): After listening to the important statements that have been made, it is my impression that the Assembly would wish to continue its consideration of the item on the launching of global negotiations on international economic co-operation for development. I have discerned some positive elements in what has been said. I would like to reflect on the discussion, but I would venture to say now that I would like to consult with the delegations and groups concerned on the scope of the ideas put forward. The question is too important for me to draw any immediate conclusions. As I said earlier, I am prepared to make every effort to arrive at a constructive agreement. To that end, I wish to assure the Assembly that I will endeavour to define more precisely the import of some of the ideas which have been expressed, and I propose, as part of the process of arriving at a consensus, to begin consultations early next week with a view to presenting to the Assembly in due course negotiated proposals acceptable to all parties concerned.

55. I propose, too, that agenda item 38 remain open so that informal consultations can be held and so that the Assembly can continue its consideration of the item later in this session.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations

56. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Assembly has before it a note by the Secretary-General, contained in document A/38/438. May I take it that the Assembly decides to take note of that document?

It was so decided (decision 38/404).

AGENDA ITEM 22

Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference: report of the Secretary-General

57. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I call on the representative of the Niger, who wishes to introduce the draft resolution contained in document A/38/L.3/Rev.1.

58. Mr. OUMAROU (Niger) (*interpretation from French*): Since this is the first time I have spoken from this rostrum since your election, Sir, to the presidency of the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly, I should like to tell you what a pleasure it is for us to see you guiding our work. Your detailed knowledge of the United Nations, its rules and its Charter, and your vast diplomatic and political experience guarantee that our discussions here will be fruitful and useful.

59. It is a great privilege for me to introduce draft resolution A/38/L.3/Rev.1, on behalf of the States

members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and in my capacity as current Chairman of the group of Islamic States in the United Nations.

60. The main purpose of the draft resolution is to strengthen the already fruitful co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference. That organization, as the Assembly knows, consists of 43 States and represents more than 1 billion persons.

61. Since its inception, the Organization of the Islamic Conference has had as its main task contributing to, among other things, the carrying out of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. In fact, since 1969, the Organization of the Islamic Conference has been playing a dynamic role in defending fundamental human rights and has been contributing to the establishment of conditions favourable to international peace and security. In that respect, we are convinced that increased co-operation with the United Nations would be mutually advantageous and would greatly contribute to the attainment of the goals of economic, cultural, social and humanitarian progress—goals shared by the two organizations.

62. The States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference view its role as falling within the overall framework of the Charter of the United Nations. That is why their dedication to the Charter of the United Nations and to fundamental human rights is clearly stated in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. It need not be recalled that that Charter emphasizes the determination of the Islamic States to contribute to the improvement of the human condition and to the achievement of progress, freedom and justice throughout the world. With that outlook, they express once again their resolve to contribute to world peace—the prerequisite for security, freedom and justice for all peoples. Indeed, among the principles set out in the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, pride of place is given to the elimination of segregation and racial discrimination, the eradication of colonialism in all its forms, and support for the struggle of all peoples to throw off the yoke of oppression and injustice, and particularly support for the Namibian and Palestinian peoples to assist them to regain their rights and liberate their territory, including the Holy City of Al-Quds.

63. There has been very active co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference over the past few years, co-operation that has increased in all fields. Since 1975, when the Organization of the Islamic Conference was granted observer status under General Assembly resolution 3369 (XXX), the United Nations has been represented each year at the organization's ministerial conference by a special representative of the Secretary-General, and the Secretary-General himself took part in the Third Islamic Summit Conference held at Mecca-Taif from 25 to 28 January 1981, at which he presented a very eloquent message expressing the interest of the United Nations in broad co-operation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

64. Particularly since 1980, following the unanimous adoption by the General Assembly of various resolutions, the Organization of the Islamic Conference has been developing constructive co-operation in many spheres with the Secretariat and with specialized agencies of the United Nations. Proof of this is to be found in the co-operation agreements with UNESCO, WHO, UNICEF, UNHCR, FAO, UNDP, UNFPA and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.

65. In its summit conferences, as well as its annual ministerial meetings, the Organization of the Islamic

Conference has adopted many resolutions on such questions as international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, human rights and the establishment of a new international economic order. In that respect, our organization's efforts complement those of the United Nations on these important questions.

66. Furthermore, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, faithful to the Charter of the United Nations and to its own charter, has taken many initiatives within and outside the framework of the United Nations with a view to serving the cause of international peace and security. Our organization's untiring efforts are particularly striking in regard to questions concerning Palestine and Al-Quds al-Sharif. Our efforts to find a political settlement of the Afghanistan crisis and a settlement of the unfortunate conflict between our brother countries of Iran and Iraq are universally recognized.

67. Throughout the past years, the Organization of the Islamic Conference has taken clear positions on a whole range of economic problems in the international sphere, as well as in regard to economic co-operation among its members. It has expressed its concern regarding the unprecedented gap that is becoming more and more evident between the industrialized countries and the developing countries and regarding the absence of progress in the establishment of the new international economic order.

68. The Organization of the Islamic Conference has also urged its members to exert concerted efforts, with the other developing countries, for the launching of global negotiations, in the United Nations, with the developed countries, and has called on the developed countries to demonstrate the political will necessary to get the North-South dialogue out of the present impasse.

69. The States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference have committed themselves to promoting collective autonomy among the developing countries. The Thirteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Niamey from 22 to 26 August 1982, endorsed all the recommendations of the Group of 77 to that end. Thus, our organization acts to promote the cause of all the developing countries by contributing effectively to the safeguarding of their interests, for the organization includes some of the richest, although still developing, countries of the world side by side with the poorest countries of the world. That is why its efforts cannot but serve, here too, the general interest of the international community, over and beyond specific differences. In that spirit, the Organization of the Islamic Conference has very close relations with the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the Organization of African Unity [OAU], the League of Arab States—whose members are also members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference—and other organizations.

70. The activities of the Organization of the Islamic Conference that I have just briefly described are carried out over a vast range of political, economic, cultural, humanitarian and social relations. Our organization's active participation in the work of the United Nations in various spheres, with a view to defending our collective interests and promoting our shared objectives, reflects our loyalty to the aspirations of all the peoples of the world to peace, justice and progress. Thus, the States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference greatly desire the development of co-operation in many spheres with the United Nations.

71. In this perspective, the report of the Secretary-General on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference [A/38/500] has been well received. However, we earnestly hope that

the Secretariat's administrative unit called upon to act as a liaison office for co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference will be rapidly developed and given the material and human resources to enable it effectively to serve the mutual interests of both organizations.

72. We wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Secretary-General for his far-sightedness and initiative, which today enable us to open up new avenues and to suggest co-ordination measures that are pragmatic and realistic and that will no doubt prove to be effective within the framework of the active co-operation which, happily, is now developing between our two organizations.

73. In this spirit, the meeting held at Geneva on 15 July 1983, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/4, between the secretariats of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of the United Nations represents a new phase in the development of both realistic and fruitful co-operation. As is noted in the Secretary-General's report, five priority areas were selected and discussed at Geneva within the framework of the Mecca-Taif Plan of Action: food security and agriculture; development of science and technology; mechanisms for investments and joint ventures; eradication of illiteracy; and assistance to refugees.

74. After a detailed discussion of the various working papers and a full exploration of all the ways and means to strengthen co-operation, the meeting adopted all the major options proposed and decided that it was necessary to establish a liaison centre in the various organizations involved in these priority areas which should at the same time ensure their follow-up.

75. Moreover, for the agencies of the United Nations, the meeting served as an opportunity to explore new avenues of co-operation with their counterpart agencies in the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Thus, this broad meeting served as a bench-mark for the creation of a reliable network of co-operation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations system.

76. In draft resolution A/38/L.3/Rev.1, which I have the honour of introducing today, the General Assembly takes note of the desire of both organizations to co-operate more closely in their common search for solutions to global problems in various fields. It also takes note with satisfaction of the Secretary-General's report and endorses the proposals contained therein.

77. In the operative part, the Assembly requests the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations system with a view to further intensifying co-operation between the United Nations and the United Nations system, on the one hand, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, on the other.

78. I am convinced that this draft resolution, which has been prepared by the group of Islamic States in the United Nations, after having taken into consideration all the suggestions and recommendations from various groups, will receive the unanimous approval of the members of the Assembly.

79. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The General Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/38/L.3/Rev.1. The adoption of this draft resolution would not entail administrative and financial implications, since the activities referred to in it would be carried out using funds in the existing programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. May I take it that the General Assembly adopts the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 38/4).

80. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I now call on those representatives wishing to explain their position.

81. Mr. MENDAYE (Ethiopia) (*interpretation from French*): I will be very brief because successive Ethiopian delegations have in the past drawn the Assembly's attention to repeated acts of interference by the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the internal affairs of Member States, in flagrant violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

82. Moreover, my country at previous sessions has had occasion to state its grave reservations with regard to the item entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference". As those reservations are contained in the verbatim records of the General Assembly, in particular in the statement of the Ethiopian delegation at the 41st meeting of the thirty-seventh session, I do not wish to revert to this matter. However, my delegation would like to draw the Assembly's attention to the fact that any co-operation between the two organizations should henceforth be in keeping with the principles of the Charter and the decisions of the United Nations.

83. Had the draft resolution been put to the vote, my delegation would have voted against it.

84. Mr. MORENO SALCEDO (Philippines): The Philippines delegation has taken note of the report of the Secretary-General [A/38/506] within the context of the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, particularly Article 2. However, if the draft resolution had been put to the vote, the Philippine delegation would have been constrained to abstain from voting on it because of its implications which cannot be foreseen at this stage.

85. Mr. VERMA (India): My delegation had occasion to express its views on the subject of co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference when the item was introduced at the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly [63rd meeting] and when it was considered during the thirty-sixth session [49th meeting] and thirty-seventh session [41st meeting].

86. Although India ranks among the countries with the largest population of Muslims in the world, the people of India—including the Muslims—have chosen for themselves a secular State where different religions flourish in harmony and contribute to the enrichment of the composite culture of the country. Our ties with the world of Islam have also been close and multifarious. Our own approach to some of the issues of crucial importance to international peace and security, such as those relating to Palestine, West Asia and Africa, as well as on the wide range of economic, social and humanitarian questions, coincide to a large extent with those of the Islamic countries.

87. We have always sought to discourage a narrow sectarian or denominational approach in dealing with political, economic, social, cultural or humanitarian questions or the use of religious sentiments for promoting narrow or sectarian interests. The teachings of all religions subserve the same end and should unite rather than divide peoples. Groupings of nations on the basis of religious sentiments or beliefs will have to be particularly mindful of these considerations.

88. We view the increasing co-operation between the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations as an indication of the readiness of the Islamic Conference to accept the Charter of the United Nations as the chief repository of the ideals and principles that should promote the progress of mankind. We believe that, like

other bodies which have such co-operation, the Organization of the Islamic Conference will strive for a progressive, tolerant and just society and for a world order based on freedom, equality, justice and brotherhood.

89. We have taken note of the fact that the proposals contained in the Secretary-General's report are aimed at increasing the interaction between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference. As India is not a member of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, we shall not be in a position to judge the extent and value of such interaction. We would, however, stress that the co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference should be along the lines of and on terms of complete equality with other observer organizations represented in the United Nations.

90. We find that the draft resolution just adopted by consensus has certain elements the objectives and implications of which are not clear to us. For these reasons, my delegation would have abstained if the draft resolution had been put to the vote.

91. Mr. BLUM (Israel): My delegation wishes to place on record that, had the resolution just adopted by consensus been put to the vote, Israel would not have voted for it. I should like briefly to explain our position.

92. We clearly distinguish between the Islamic faith and the Muslim peoples, on the one hand, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, on the other. The Government of Israel and Israel's citizens, many of whom are themselves Muslims, have the highest respect for the Islamic religion, as indeed for all religions. The State of Israel whole-heartedly seeks mutual understanding, peace and co-operation with Muslim nations. In glaring contrast, the Organization of the Islamic Conference has by its actions often sought to undermine these goals and has consequently acted also against many of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

93. Moreover, we have reservations about attempts to institutionalize differentiation among Member States on the basis of religious affiliation. Such differentiation is not conducive to the generation and promotion of goodwill between peoples of different faiths and is likely to exacerbate international tensions, especially when the grouping in question seeks to serve partisan political objectives.

94. Mr. JAMAL (Qatar) (*interpretation from Arabic*): With reference to the draft resolution just adopted, concerning co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, it is clear that greater efforts are needed in all areas if that co-operation is to be effectively strengthened. That is what my delegation understands from paragraph 6 of the resolution. So far, co-operation between the two organizations and the possibility of widening that co-operation has not been adequately ensured by the small unit entrusted with the efforts concerning co-operation and co-ordination, particularly since that unit has other tasks that absorb most of its time. We believe that the unit entrusted with this task should be reinforced so that it may better fulfil its responsibilities.

AGENDA ITEM 26

Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity: report of the Secretary-General

95. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I call on the representative of Senegal, who will introduce draft resolution A/38/L.5 and Corr.1.

96. Mr. SARRÉ (Senegal) (*interpretation from French*): Co-operation between the United Nations and the OAU is becoming stronger with each passing day, to the benefit of both organizations, the final objective of which, as everyone knows, is the establishment of an era of peace, justice, co-operation and stability in the world. It was within this framework that, on 21 and 22 April 1983, a joint meeting was held at Addis Ababa which made it possible for the two organizations to study ways of strengthening co-operation between them.

97. As the report of the Secretary-General [A/38/307 *and Add.1*] points out, the international community, through its agencies and institutions, has been sensitive to the political, economic, social and cultural difficulties of Africa and has done what it could to help remedy them. Africa appreciates those efforts, although they fall short of meeting the needs. Africa hopes that ways can be found of strengthening assistance so as to enable it to overcome its difficulties.

98. We wish to pay a tribute to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his efforts to organize and implement special programmes of economic assistance to the African countries which are facing severe difficulties. We also take this opportunity to thank all States, organizations and agencies which have helped in the implementation of those programmes.

99. On the basis of the results achieved in the past year in the area of co-operation between the United Nations and the OAU, the Group of African States has seen fit, this year again, to introduce a draft resolution [A/38/L.5 *and Corr.1*.] In the draft resolution, the General Assembly notes with satisfaction the report of the Secretary-General on co-operation between the United Nations and the OAU in the year under review and emphasizes the need for continued close links of co-operation between the two organizations. It reaffirms the willingness of the OAU to contribute to the implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions. It also reaffirms the need for implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, which, as everyone knows, is of capital importance for the development of the African continent. The draft resolution calls upon States Members of the United Nations and all the organizations and bodies of the United Nations to increase their assistance to Africa. Finally, it invites Member States to attend the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, scheduled to be held in June 1984.

100. That, in summary, is the content of the draft resolution. Africa is always prepared to co-operate within the concert of the United Nations in order to make its voice heard, so that the world, which is now passing through one of the most serious crises in its history, can take a leap forward to international reconciliation and bring together all elements of the international community regardless of ideology, race or religion, in order that we may all jointly promote the advancement of mankind. I am convinced that the draft resolution we are submitting is inspired by the ideas I have outlined and that the General Assembly, faithful to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, will find that the draft contributes to its ideals. I am also quite sure that the draft resolution will be adopted without objection by the Assembly.

101. Mr. MANOLATOS (Greece): I am pleased to speak on behalf of the 10 member States of the European Community. The inclusion of this item in the agenda gives the Ten the opportunity to review co-operation between the United Nations and the OAU. The Ten wish to emphasize the importance of that co-operation, which can help to provide solutions to the problems facing the

African continent. The report of the Secretary-General has greatly facilitated our task. It affords useful information and recommendations on the nature of this co-operation in the fields of economic and social development, as well as information with regard to the situation in southern Africa. The 10 member States of the European Community have always supported regional approaches. They believe that the countries most directly affected by a given political conflict or concerned with certain economic, social and environmental problems should be encouraged by the United Nations to find solutions to those problems by co-operating above all among themselves.

102. The African continent has been particularly affected by the current international economic crisis and today is facing many other serious and complex problems, such as inadequate agricultural production, persistent drought and the swelling number of refugees. The way in which African countries continue to work together to overcome these problems deserves the support of the United Nations. The Ten wish to co-operate to the fullest extent possible with all African countries in finding ways to cope with their economic and social problems. They also support various organizations in the economic and social sector in mobilizing resources for development in Africa and in helping to raise the living standard of its peoples.

103. The Ten reaffirm their support for the work of the OAU in consolidating the national independence of its member States in the economic and political spheres. They believe that the Lomé Convention, which links the European Community with many countries in Africa, in the Caribbean and in the Pacific, plays an important role in achieving this objective. The member States of the European Community remain firmly convinced that the problems envisaged by Africa can best be solved by Africans themselves so that African countries may be able freely to determine their own future within the framework of the OAU, without outside interference.

104. For the 10 member States of the European Community, the OAU is an important regional organization and a partner, both in matters concerning the African continent and with regard to wider international problems. They fully appreciate the role that the OAU is called upon to play in achieving the goals and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

105. Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*interpretation from Russian*): The OAU and the African countries that belong to it make a valuable contribution to the struggle for peace and the prevention of nuclear war and against the arms race. The organization's activities aimed at consolidating world peace and security and the independence and sovereignty of the African States and at mobilizing their efforts to secure the full liberation of the African continent from racism and imperialism and against imperialist aggression are of great significance. The Soviet Union, together with other progressive countries and all true friends of the freedom and independence of Africa, supports its activities in these directions.

106. Over the past two decades, under the blows of the national liberation movements on African soil, one after another the colonial régimes have collapsed, and the sphere of the rule of imperialism, colonialism and racism has grown smaller. On the ruins of these colonial empires, a new life has been built. New States have come into being, and their sovereignty and independence have been strengthened, having rid themselves of the imperialist yoke.

107. Many countries of Africa—not yet all—have secured the withdrawal of foreign troops from their territories and the elimination of foreign military bases. Namibia's hour

of liberation is irresistibly drawing closer. That is the last country on the continent under the colonial racist yoke.

108. The progress of the African peoples in all aspects of life could have been considerably greater had they not had to overcome, in addition to the harsh vestiges of colonial rule, the rabid resistance of the forces of imperialism and colonialism. Running counter to all the accepted norms of international coexistence and international law, the imperialist circles have unceremoniously declared whole areas of the continent their own spheres of influence and interest and have extended to the territories of sovereign States the activities of their military structures. They have stepped up threats, blackmail and outright military pressure against the countries that oppose them. The neo-colonialists are trying to bind Africa in new chains and deny it its new freedom. They are trying to strengthen the opportunities for their monopolies to continue to obtain maximum profits by looting the countries of Africa and exploiting the African peoples. In order to achieve their aims against the independence of Africa, they are sowing discord and conflict and doing their best to undermine and, if possible, bring about the collapse of the OAU, this highly important instrument of the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist struggle.

109. The Soviet Union is convinced that if the African countries stand with a united front solidly in defence of their rights, and if they can count on the solidarity and support of all the other anti-imperialist forces at the present time, they will prove able to repel the imperialist and Zionist intrusions on their national interests and sovereignty. That will help them to solve successfully the problems besetting their own continent. The Soviet Union is decisively against Africa's being used as an arena for political confrontation. We support the desire of the African people to make their continent a nuclear-weapon-free zone and to rid it of foreign military bases.

110. The Soviet Union is convinced that the continuation of co-operation between the OAU and the United Nations is in keeping with the interests of the struggle to rid Africa of the vestiges of imperialism, colonialism and *apartheid* and the struggle to maintain world peace.

111. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/38/L.5 and Corr.1. Adoption of the draft resolution would have no financial or administrative implications. The activities that would result from the resolution would be covered by the programme budget for the two-year period 1984-1985. May I take it that the Assembly adopts the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 38/5).

112. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I now call on those representatives who wish to explain their position.

113. Mr. SCHROETER (German Democratic Republic): The delegation of the German Democratic Republic would like to emphasize that it fully agrees with the resolution that has just been adopted. Fruitful co-operation between the United Nations and the OAU serves their high aims and purposes regarding peace and international security and the final abolition of colonialism, racism and *apartheid*.

114. During the 20 years of the existence of the OAU, the largest regional organization in the world, the international prestige and influence on world affairs of the African peoples has clearly been increasing; the authority of the liberated African States has become an important factor in the world arena. In view of the worsening of the international situation as a consequence of the confrontational course of imperialism's most aggressive

circles, the increasing contribution of the OAU and its member States to strengthening world peace and to arms limitation, disarmament and equitable international co-operation is gaining more and more importance. The joint efforts of the United Nations and the OAU finally to abolish racism, colonialism and *apartheid* are fully supported by my country, which, as a member of the Special Committee against *Apartheid*, feels especially committed to those objectives.

115. The solidarity extended by the people of the German Democratic Republic to the national liberation struggle in Africa, to the struggle of the African peoples to achieve political and economic independence, is well known. In accordance with the demands of the resolution just adopted, our support is especially given to the national liberation movements in southern Africa, the legitimate representatives of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa.

116. In the history of the OAU there is no lack of imperialist attempts to split the organization and to impede its unity in the international arena. Such attempts can increasingly be noticed in recent times. The unity of the African States in the struggle against colonialism, *apartheid* and racism is a thorn in the side of certain forces which regard an independent Africa as a threat to their economic, political and military ends.

117. My delegation expresses its hope that the resolution will contribute to strengthening the ability of the African States to stand together against imperialist intervention. It is of great value that the authoritative power of the United Nations helps the African States to strengthen their unity and consolidate their organization.

AGENDA ITEM 27

Co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States: report of the Secretary-General

118. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I call on the representative of Tunisia, who will introduce draft resolution A/38/L.6/Rev.1.

119. Mr. MUSTAPHA (Tunisia) (*interpretation from Arabic*): On behalf of the Group of Arab States, I have the honour to introduce draft resolution A/38/L.6/Rev.1, on co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States, for adoption by the Assembly.

120. This co-operation stems from the deep conviction of each of the organizations of the usefulness of broadening the dialogue between them and of organizing methods of co-operation and co-ordination in their common efforts in the service of the noble goals for which the two organizations were established and to which the whole of humanity aspires.

121. It is not mere coincidence that this relationship has existed since the first years of the establishment of the two organizations, because the General Assembly, at its fifth session, through resolution 477 (V) of 1 November 1950, in fact invited the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States to attend all its sessions as an observer. These contacts and relations have grown closer each year for 30 years, during which time the League of Arab States has closely followed the progress of the United Nations and contributed to and collaborated with it with a view to seeing the hopes of mankind for freedom, progress and justice triumph.

122. Co-operation between the two organizations was given a new impetus after the headquarters of the League of Arab States was moved to Tunis and when, for the first time, the item on co-operation between the United

Nations and the League of Arab States was included in the agenda of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, in 1981.

123. The General Assembly endorsed this arrangement by its resolution 36/24 of 9 November 1981, in which it noted with satisfaction the co-operation between the two organizations and emphasized the importance of strengthening that co-operation and deepening it in all fields.

124. That resolution was the starting-point for co-operation between the two organizations, and that co-operation has grown and widened in scope in the political, social, economic and other fields, especially since the notable event this year in relations between the two organizations, the joint meeting of the League of Arab States and the United Nations at Tunis from 28 June to 1 July 1983. That meeting produced important results that, if they are put into effect, augur well for joint action and co-operation between the two organizations in all fields. At the political level, the Tunis meeting adopted a series of measures that would strengthen co-operation between the two organizations in the interest of the maintenance of a just peace and of security in the world. Is it necessary for the Arab nations to recall their unstinting efforts to bring about the just and equitable peace for which their peoples have yearned for many decades? The Arab States that put forward last autumn the Fez peace plan² reaffirmed their desire to co-ordinate their efforts, within the framework of the League of Arab States, with those of the international organizations and to exchange views with them on ways of removing the obstacles to the restoration of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security.

125. As for the economic and social fields, I shall confine myself to referring to the plan for co-operation adopted at Tunis, which is based on a selection of priority areas that respond to the wishes of the Arab States, in close co-operation with the organs and agencies of the United Nations, to seek their help and benefit from their experience, in order jointly to carry out projects, as well as to achieve the goals adopted at the Ninth Arab Summit Conference, held at Baghdad in 1978, and contribute to the promotion of international and regional co-operation in the effort of the world community to establish a new international economic order.

126. In draft resolution A/38/L.6/Rev.1, the General Assembly expresses appreciation for the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States in organizing and working for the success of the Tunis meeting. It requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts towards the implementation of United Nations resolutions relevant to the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East. It requests the two secretariats to intensify their co-operation towards the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the elimination of all forms of racism and racial discrimination.

127. In paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General is requested to strengthen co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations. The remaining paragraphs deal with certain arrangements for the organization of work and various projects and contacts between the two secretariats for consultations on follow-up policies and projects. Finally, the Secretary-General is requested to submit a progress report on the

implementation of the draft resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

128. We hope that the General Assembly will adopt this draft resolution unanimously and without a vote, as it has adopted similar resolutions in the past.

129. I wish to confirm here the support of the Arab nations, within the framework of the League of Arab States, for the United Nations and its unstinted efforts to strengthen its authority and its effectiveness. I also confirm the resolve of the Arab States to reinforce co-operation between the two organizations, so that the noble goals to which we all aspire may be achieved and a new world may emerge, a world governed by law, in which justice and co-operation among nations will prevail.

130. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): In accordance with General Assembly resolution 477 (V) of 1 November 1950, I now call on the Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States.

131. Mr. MAKSOUD (League of Arab States) (*interpretation from Arabic*): Mr. President, it gives me pleasure to express, in the name of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, our warmest congratulations on your election to the presidency of the General Assembly's thirty-eighth session. I am confident that your wide experience in diplomacy and in international relations and your wisdom as a statesman will guide the proceedings and deliberations of this session to the achievement of the noble goals to which the peoples of the international community aspire.

132. We also wish to pay tribute to the efforts and skill of your predecessor, Mr. Imre Hollai, of Hungary, who shouldered his responsibilities in a praiseworthy manner.

133. I also wish to express the appreciation of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States for the great efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen the role of the United Nations and to enhance its credibility in order to guarantee international peace and security, and for world progress. These efforts are reflected in his report on the work of the Organization [A/38/I], through which he seeks to remove the obstacles facing the United Nations. That report has been received with keen interest in the Arab States and in many other sectors of world public opinion.

134. The Arab nation has repeatedly affirmed its commitment to the resolutions of the United Nations and to the purposes and principles of its Charter in order to facilitate just solutions to difficult international problems, especially those of the Middle East and of southern Africa, where the people of Namibia and South Africa languish under an invidious racist system which has lasted all too long, and to remove all other forms of racial discrimination. We also wish to reaffirm our support for all the peoples that so far have not acceded to independence in their efforts to exercise their right to self-determination and to build international relations on the basis of trust between peoples. This support accords with the Arab nation's desire for international peace and security. That is why the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference, held at Fez, affirmed on 9 September 1982 that the Security Council was responsible for guaranteeing peace among all States of the region, including an independent Palestinian State. This means that the Council, through its permanent members, must guarantee the implementation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

135. The difficulty of achieving international order is not a shortcoming of the United Nations or of its Charter, but of the international community itself, which should

fully implement the Charter but still lacks strength and unity, although its members feel the need for co-operation and co-ordination in order to protect their common interests. But there is no hope of solving human problems without achieving international solidarity. There are some so-called States that have joined the United Nations but do not adhere to or implement its Charter and resolutions. Israel, for example, since its inception 30 years ago, has been ignoring all the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, defying the international community and its organizations through its continuing terrorism against the Palestinian people, the usurpation of its property, the annexation by force of its territory, and its failure to withdraw from the Arab territories occupied since 1967. There is also its invasion of Lebanon and the consequent destruction, massacres, murders and carnage in Sabra and Shatila and elsewhere. All this makes it incumbent upon United Nations Members, especially the super-Powers, fully to shoulder their responsibilities by acting within the framework of international law and respecting the Charter and resolutions of the United Nations concerning the rights of a people which, like all others in the world, longs for freedom, dignity and a peaceful life on its land. The people of Palestine should be given its right to self-determination and the opportunity to build its own independent State, thus allowing the Middle East to rid itself of danger, and the League of Arab States to apply itself to the task of development.

136. The League of Arab States is also deeply concerned by the protracted Iran-Iraq war. It appeals to Iran to implement the relevant resolutions of the United Nations by accepting the good offices of the non-aligned countries and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, as well as by responding to the appeals of the international community to end all military operations and to achieve a just and durable settlement of the conflict, thus putting an end to its destructive consequences for the social and economic life of the area.

137. The League of Arab States, which is considered one of the oldest established regional and international organizations in modern history, has spared no effort to preserve peace and security, both internationally and in the area of the Middle East. Since its inception before the end of the Second World War, it has sought to achieve integration and stability in an area whose peoples are linked by one language and culture, common goals and a common history, standing firm despite all the turmoil in the area.

138. Since its inception, the League of Arab States has always been willing to co-operate with international organizations to preserve peace and security, in order to establish social and economic relations in accordance with chapter 3 of its charter. For this reason, its General Secretary was invited by the General Assembly, in resolution 477 (V) of 1 November 1950, to attend the sessions of the Assembly as an observer. Then procedures were developed in order that co-operation could be established between the two organizations through mutual consultations and the exchange of information, documents, representation and communications. This co-operation crystallized and now covers the different specialized agencies of the two organizations in planning and implementing all common projects throughout the Arab world. The United Nations confirmed its desire for success in this field and has worked tirelessly to ensure that the results are commensurate with the lofty purposes and principles of the United Nations.

139. In its resolution 36/24, adopted on 9 November 1981, the General Assembly recognized the importance

of continued close association between the United Nations and the League of Arab States in order to promote political, economic, cultural and social development. Under resolution 37/17 of 16 November 1982, the General Assembly welcomed the planned convening of a wider conference at Tunis in 1983. Those efforts led to a joint meeting held at League headquarters in Tunis from 28 June to 1 July 1983. That meeting has been described by the General Secretary of the League as an historic one, the fruit of the work of four decades in relations which have grown ever closer and a starting-point for effective co-ordination of efforts between the two organizations. Direct contacts between officials of the two organizations will contribute to a better understanding of areas of work and responsibility for both parties and to increased co-operation in matters of mutual interest.

140. The results of that meeting were of paramount importance to the Arab world in all political, economic, developmental, social and cultural areas. They will guarantee the attainment of many of the common economic goals at the regional and international levels, especially the implementation of the principles of the new international order in the context of the economic decisions adopted by the Eleventh Arab Summit Conference, held at Amman from 25 to 27 November 1980, to co-ordinate the development of the Arab nations and achieve their integration within the Strategy for Joint Arab Economic Action, which defines the bases for development to the end of this century. This was reinforced by the Charter of National Economic Action [*see A/38/114*] to organize economic relations and determine the amounts to be spent over 10 years on the least developed Arab countries.

141. The Strategy for Joint Arab Economic Action rested on the premise that it was to the Arab person that socio-economic development was directed, based on the following principles: unity and not fragmentation of work, socio-economic development and not backwardness, complete liberation as opposed to colonial settlements and occupation, and the stressing of the Arab legacy as part of the legacy of mankind, as well as an effective contribution to its development.

142. We are also pleased to pay a tribute to the United Nations Secretariat for its efforts and especially to the Secretary-General for his attendance and support of the joint meeting of the League of Arab States and the United Nations, and also for his report [*A/38/299 and Corr. 1*] prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/17 of 16 November 1982.

143. That report gives full information on the historical background of the co-ordination and co-operation between the two organizations since 1950, and includes the statements made by the Secretaries-General of the two organizations at the Tunis meeting and the recommendations agreed upon, the most important of which concern the maintenance of international peace and security, economic, financial and technological co-operation for development, social development, manpower, human resources, cultural affairs, information and communications.

144. In addition, proposals were presented by the League of Arab States concerning the principles of co-ordination and co-operation between the League and the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

145. We hope that these recommendations and proposals will be unanimously accepted and adopted by all Members. The draft resolution before the Assembly [*A/38/L.6/Rev.1*] envisages a qualitative breakthrough in co-ordination and co-operation between the two organizations. Therefore, we are sure that it will be adopted unanimously.

146. We wish to reaffirm the desire of the League of Arab States for systematic co-operation and continuous, developing co-ordination in fulfilling our commitment to the Charter of the United Nations and its principles, in order to strengthen this important Organization. This, in turn, strengthens us in facing violations of rights and threats to peace and in striving to carry out development projects and spread justice.

147. The readiness of the Arabs to accept this commitment is sincere and authentic and confirms the credibility and authority of the United Nations and its resolutions.

148. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): We shall now vote on draft resolution A/38/L.6/Rev.1. This draft resolution would not have any administrative or financial implications. The activities referred to in the draft resolution would be carried out under the credits provided for in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

149. A separate, recorded vote has been requested on paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire.

Paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/38/L.6/Rev.1 was adopted by 90 votes to 2, with 23 abstentions.³

150. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft resolution as a whole?

The draft resolution, as a whole, was adopted (resolution 38/6).

151. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I shall now call on those representatives who wish to explain their vote.

152. Mr. MANOLATOS (Greece): The 10 member States of the European Community joined in the consensus on the resolution just adopted.

153. We wish, however, to take this opportunity to make a few remarks of a general nature. Over the last few years, the General Assembly has been faced with a growing number of resolutions of increasing complexity on co-operation between the United Nations and various organizations with observer status. The Ten are well

aware of the benefits of such co-operation and have been happy to join in unanimous expressions of support and encouragement for the further development of such co-operation within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations.

154. The 10 member States of the European Community believe it would be better if resolutions of this kind addressed themselves to questions of co-operation in terms which avoided the introduction of divisive elements. Such resolutions should also avoid placing further burdens on the United Nations budget. Such an approach would appear advisable in order to maintain the status of these resolutions, which depends very much on the unanimous support of the whole international community. In particular, the Ten draw attention, in connection with paragraph 4 of the resolution just adopted, to the need not to prejudice the role of the Secretary-General and to the fact that the Ten have not supported all the resolutions to which this paragraph refers.

Mr. Malinga (Swaziland), Vice-President, took the Chair.

155. Mr. ELMER (Sweden): I have the honour to speak for the five Nordic delegations: those of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

156. The Nordic countries participated in the consensus on the draft resolution, on the understanding that the elements with political implications are not relevant to the issue and, obviously, cannot prejudice the positions of the Nordic countries on the substantive matter referred to. In accordance with that understanding, our delegations abstained in the separate vote taken on paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.

157. Mr. DAVIS (United States of America): I have been asked to speak in order to explain the reason why the United States requested a separate vote on paragraph 4 of the resolution just adopted.

158. The United States regrets the inclusion of this paragraph, as it refers to political matters on which there has been a great deal of disagreement in the General Assembly. It interjects an element of partisan politics into a resolution on co-operation which has been, and which ought to be, apolitical and acceptable to all Member States. Some of the General Assembly resolutions to which this paragraph refers were opposed by the United States and by other countries. Therefore, the United States wished to register its opposition to the inclusion of this paragraph.

159. While we regret that the Assembly has voted to maintain this paragraph, nevertheless the United States has joined in the consensus supporting co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States, as we believe that this co-operation can have many beneficial results.

160. We also joined the consensus in the light of the announcement by the President that adoption of the draft resolution would not give rise to administrative or financial implications and that the activities envisaged in the draft resolution would be implemented within the provisions of the proposed programme budget.

161. Mr. BLUM (Israel): My delegation voted against paragraph 4 of the resolution just adopted. I now wish to state that my country rejects the resolution in its entirety and, had a vote been taken on the resolution as a whole, Israel would have voted against it. By endorsing, in effect, the activities and policies of the League of Arab States, the resolution has completely ignored the fact that the League of Arab States has, in its hostility to my country, consistently and deliberately violated the Charter of the United Nations. The policies of the League of Arab States

have certainly not furthered the cause of peace in our region but, on the contrary, have impeded it. As a result, the League of Arab States has clearly emerged as an instrument of warmongering, committed to policies that run counter to everything that the United Nations is supposed to stand for under its Charter.

162. Mr. KERGIN (Canada): My delegation joins in the consensus on the resolution pertaining to co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States. We warmly welcome this co-operation between the United Nations and the long-established and well-respected League. However, we wish to explain our abstention on paragraph 4 of the resolution. It is a matter of record that my delegation, along with others, has not supported all of the many United Nations resolutions relating to the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East. We therefore find it questionable to include political elements within this text. The paragraph also places a very heavy burden on the Secretary-General in an area of high political sensitivity.

163. The PRESIDENT: The Observer of the League of Arab States has asked to be allowed to make a statement. I call on him in accordance with General Assembly resolution 477 (V) of 1 November 1950.

164. Mr. MAKSOUUD (League of Arab States): I should like to express the appreciation of the League of Arab States for the consensus that has emerged. We regret that Canada, some of the countries in the European Community, and others, with which we have very close friendly relations, have thought fit to abstain on paragraph 4 of the resolution just adopted.

165. The call for the intensification of efforts resulted from the fact that many of the resolutions of the General Assembly have remained unimplemented; thus we see in paragraph 4 an enhancement of the credibility of those resolutions and of the seriousness of United Nations deliberations; it underlines the fact that those resolutions need to be implemented, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts. The fact that they are of a politically sensitive nature does not warrant any attempt to dilute the effectiveness of what the large majority of the Assembly has always decided in terms of defining the rights of the Palestinians and the modalities of a just, durable and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. As for Israel's attempt to call us warmongers and to reject the resolution in its entirety, this is a habit of which, apparently, the Israeli representative cannot rid himself. We would not dignify his statement about the League of Arab States with any response.

The meeting rose at 1.30 p.m.

NOTES

¹ See *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Sixth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.II.D.6), annex VI.

² *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1982*, document S/15510, annex.

³ The delegations of Colombia and Ethiopia subsequently informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour of paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.