

PROVISIONAL

E/2006/SR.39

15 August 2006

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Substantive session of 2006

General segment

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 39th MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Wednesday, 26 July 2006, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. ČEKUOLIS (Lithuania)
(Vice-President)

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GE.06-63115 (E) 280706 150806

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In the absence of Mr. Hachani (Tunisia), Mr. Čekuolis (Lithuania), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (continued) (E/2006/L.27)

Introduction of draft resolution E/2006/L.27, entitled “Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations”

Mr. BENÍTEZ VERSÓN (Cuba), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors, said that China and Belize had joined the list of sponsors. The resolution dealt with a topic of great importance, referring as it did to peoples living in territories with fragile economies who were vulnerable to natural disasters and faced huge development challenges which they could not overcome without help from the organizations of the United Nations system. The draft resolution recognized the invaluable assistance rendered by the specialized agencies, especially the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and regional organizations. Among other things, it recommended that States step up their efforts to ensure effective implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and requested that the administering Powers facilitate the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations.

COORDINATION, PROGRAMME AND OTHER QUESTIONS (continued)

- (d) LONG-TERM PROGRAMME OF SUPPORT FOR HAITI (E/2006/69 and Corr.1, E/2006/88 and E/2006/L.11)
- (g) AD HOC ADVISORY GROUPS ON AFRICAN COUNTRIES EMERGING FROM CONFLICT (E/2006/8, E/2006/53, E/2006/64 and E/2006/L.19, L.20 and L.21)

Report of the Economic and Social Council Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti (E/2006/69)

Mr. CORMIER (Canada), introducing the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti (E/2006/69), said that the situation there had changed considerably since the

presentation of the previous report. The new Government of President Préval was determined to ensure that Haitians took their future into their own hands, its priorities being reform of the security and justice systems, institutional strengthening, decentralization and local development, and the promotion of private investment. The representation of the six main political parties in the Cabinet demonstrated the President's wish for political reconciliation, and the Prime Minister had committed himself to ensuring that legislative, municipal and communal elections took place as soon as possible.

Between September and December 2005, the Ad Hoc Advisory Group had met in New York to discuss the situation, and especially the preparations for the elections, in Haiti. In response to Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/52, which referred to the need to avoid overlap and duplication with existing mechanisms, the Advisory Group had met early in 2006 with development actors in Haiti, including representatives of the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and UNDP. In March 2006, the Advisory Group had met with the Haitian Minister of Planning and External Cooperation to define the strategies for the country's long-term development, and had discussed the major obstacles to the provision of international assistance to Haiti.

At an international conference in Port-au-Prince the previous day, international donors had pledged to disburse US\$ 750 million for the Government's development priorities under the extended Interim Cooperation Framework. The Government had set out its priorities for the next five years in a document submitted to donors at the conference. The participants had commended the leadership shown by the Government and its determination to carry out its reconstruction programme. Donors had expressed their intention to deliver long-term support to Haiti, which had reached a historic turning point.

While the international community had reaffirmed its commitment to support the Haitian people in their development efforts, it was the Advisory Group's view that all Haitians must join forces to build a better future for their country. The draft resolution before the Council was being submitted in response to the Prime Minister's request for the renewal of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group. He hoped that it would meet with the support of all members of the Council.

Ms. SALORANTA (Observer for Finland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, the acceding countries (Bulgaria and Romania), the candidate countries (Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey), the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia) and, in addition, Iceland, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, commended the Government of Haiti on the successful holding of elections and said that the European Union was committed to assisting it in achieving political, economic and social stability, which would pave the way to national reconciliation, strengthened democratic institutions, security and economic recovery. Immediate attention should be paid to reform of the justice system, the police and the army. The European Union welcomed the extension of the Interim Cooperation Framework and supported the extension of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group until the substantive session of the Council in 2007.

Draft resolution on the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti (E/2006/L.11)

Ms. BROWN (Canada), speaking on behalf of the members of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, introduced the draft resolution. The adoption of the resolution would be an important indication of the Economic and Social Council's continued support for the Government and the people of Haiti.

Ms. PLINER (Secretary of the Council), recalled that pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/46, support to be provided to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti would consist of travel, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses for four members of the Group and one staff member of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to undertake a mission to Haiti in April 2006. The resource requirements to undertake the mission had been estimated at US\$ 13,500, funds which had not been provided for in the proposed programme budget for 2006-2007. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in considering the request of the Secretary-General for any additional appropriation to meet that and other funding requirements arising from Economic and Social decisions and resolutions, in paragraph 5 of its report (A/60/7/Add.5), had concluded that in view of the relatively minor amount involved, an additional appropriation might not be necessary. It had therefore recommended that any amount required be reported in the first performance report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007. Since the mission provided for

in the resolution of 2005 had not yet been undertaken, and given the opinion of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, it had been concluded that no additional appropriation would be required should the Council adopt the resolution.

The PRESIDENT announced that Belize and Guyana had become sponsors of draft resolution E/2006/L.11.

Draft resolution E/2006/L.11 was adopted.

Mr. MÉRORÈS (Haiti) welcomed the extension of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti as a sign of the commitment of the United Nations system and other international partners to peacebuilding and socio-economic development in Haiti, a commitment reaffirmed at the recent international conference organized by the Government of Haiti for development partners in Port-au-Prince. He welcomed the willingness of the international community to work with his Government to achieve its objectives because international support was vital for institutional reform aimed at strengthening the rule of law, promoting economic development and meeting the aspirations of the population.

Renewal of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group would facilitate further progress towards reconstruction and the implementation of a long-term plan for the country's development. The establishment at the end of 2005 of a strategic think tank under the authority of the Prime Minister to act as liaison with the Advisory Group reflected his Government's desire to assume responsibility for the country's development and show itself to be worthy of the confidence of the international community.

Mr. RESENDE (Brazil) welcomed the extension of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, which played an important role in coordinating long-term assistance to Haiti. The international community must remain engaged in efforts to promote economic and social recovery and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals in Haiti. His Government would continue to provide all possible assistance to the people and Government of that country.

Report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau (E/2006/8)

Mr. RAUBENHEIMER (South Africa) introduced the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau (E/2006/8). Since the preparation of the report, the Advisory Group had reacted quickly to the economic and humanitarian crisis caused by military operations along Guinea-Bissau's border with Senegal. It had applied for support from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF); as a result, US\$ 1.3 million in humanitarian assistance had been approved for disbursement. The United Nations country team had also supported a flash appeal for Guinea-Bissau, launched on 15 May 2006; the representative of South Africa to the United Nations in New York, on behalf of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group, had circulated a letter urging Member States to make a contribution.

The Ad Hoc Advisory Group was aware that donors remained concerned about Guinea-Bissau's political stability but he stressed that the new Government had pledged to continue the economic recovery and reform programmes of the previous Government. Furthermore, there had been some positive developments. The IMF had successfully completed consultations pursuant to article IV of its Articles of Agreement at the end of March 2006. The IMF mission, citing inter alia improved tax administration and a significant reduction in the overall budget deficit, had concluded that Guinea-Bissau had taken important steps towards addressing the major political and economic problems of recent years. Performance over the past 12 months had been encouraging and the outlook was favourable; Guinea-Bissau appeared to be on track to meet the targets of the IMF programme adopted in March 2006.

Since the preparation of the report, the Advisory Group had been informed that the Government of Guinea-Bissau was preparing a new investment code in an effort to improve the business environment and encourage foreign investment by simplifying the process for registering new enterprises and reducing bureaucracy and costs. The new investment code, along with the decision to join the World Bank's Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency marked an important milestone in improving the regulatory environment for enterprise development. The Ad Hoc Advisory Group associated itself with the call made by the President of Guinea-Bissau on 13 July 2006 for massive investment in the country. Measures currently being put in place by the Government of Guinea-Bissau should significantly increase foreign direct investment, which had amounted to just US\$ 5 million in 2004.

The Ad Hoc Advisory Group paid tribute to the European Union for providing €6 million in direct budget support to the Government of Guinea-Bissau and praised the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and other subregional organizations for their support in finding creative ways to assist the Government of Guinea-Bissau. It also welcomed the recent offer by Nigeria and the ECOWAS secretariat to provide an emergency financial package of US\$ 4 million to the Government of Guinea-Bissau to help with the payment of salary arrears. A flexible and responsive approach was essential in identifying ways to contribute to the promotion of peace and stability in countries emerging from conflict, such as Guinea-Bissau.

The international community must consider various short- and long-term options to help the country deal with its current debt crisis, which was aggravated by the practice of resorting to commercial loans to pay the salaries of civil servants. The Ad Hoc Advisory Group therefore looked forward to a high turnout at the donor round table to be held from 7 to 8 November 2006 to mobilize resources for addressing the Government's long-term priorities, including those outlined in its poverty reduction strategy paper, and for the implementation of IMF emergency post-conflict assistance.

The political and economic situation in Guinea-Bissau remained fragile. The consolidation of peace and democracy - prerequisites for sustainable development - would require the commitment of the people, the political will of the authorities and the support of the international community. The Advisory Group welcomed the election of President Vieira as President of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries, which had provided support to Guinea-Bissau and stressed that the Government of Guinea-Bissau, assisted by its partners, must address the structural causes of conflict in order to achieve peace and stability and implement the Millennium Development Goals.

Mr. BALIMA (United Nations Resident Coordinator in Guinea-Bissau) said that, under the new Government of Guinea-Bissau, significant efforts had been made to set the country on the path to stability and reconciliation. The strong commitment of civil society to constructive dialogue and reconciliation was reflected in the "States General" initiative, which sought to build a consensus on the causes of instability and on development priorities. Areas of

intervention had been identified for incorporation in a national strategy for reform of the security sector, which was a precondition for securing lasting peace, advancing the development agenda and improving public finances.

A humanitarian crisis had arisen in March-April 2006 as a result of armed confrontations with rebels on Guinea-Bissau's eastern border with Senegal. The Government's response to the immediate needs of a large number of displaced persons had relied heavily on assistance by United Nations agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental partners. Longer-term needs, including those of communities affected by demining activities that impeded farmers' access to fields, were being met in part with a US\$ 1.3 million contribution from the Central Emergency Response Fund.

The Government was obliged to rely on loans and grants from partners and donors to cover the large gap in the national budget. The structural budget deficit was such that it was unable to finance the minimum functioning of the State, much less pay the country's debts. The political impasse in 2005, combined with a cholera epidemic in the second half of the year, had led to further deterioration in the country's financial situation. The amount of its internal and external debt currently stood at over US\$ 1 billion, and most of its external debt payments were in arrears. There could be no way out of a situation in which annual debt service payments amounted to over half of annual revenue except through the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative.

Economic activity in key sectors such as industry and tourism had suffered from a lack of basic facilities such as electricity. Significant funding was required to create the initial conditions for economic growth: welcome support in the pipeline included funding from the European Union for road repairs, assistance from the World Bank for repairs to the electricity grid and other infrastructure, and contributions from Portugal, Brazil, Italy and France to the Emergency Economic Management Fund created by UNDP in 2003 on the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau. Major investments were still needed to provide basic social services, repair public infrastructure and strengthen the human resource base.

In the health sector, the Government was seeking support from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and from the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization

for the introduction of yellow fever and hepatitis B vaccines into the childhood vaccination programme. Measures had been taken to strengthen disease surveillance and prepare for outbreaks of cholera. A measles vaccination campaign had been organized with assistance from the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other partners. The Government had also requested assistance from the international community to prepare a national census to make good the deficit in population data.

Guinea-Bissau was confronted with a chronic deficit in agricultural production, which was normally met by rice imports (75 per cent) and food aid (25 per cent). The marketing of the cashew harvest in 2006 had been affected by the high reference price established by the Government. The delays caused by buyers waiting for prices to drop had jeopardized the food security of some population groups and had prompted the Government to appeal for a response to a food crisis in the south of the country. The World Food Programme had intervened with a food-for-work scheme involving the rehabilitation of infrastructure, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations would shortly begin distributing seeds to affected farmers.

A country-level coordination forum for bilateral, multilateral, regional and financial organizations and United Nations agencies had been established to ensure concerted international assistance to Guinea-Bissau. The Government's poverty reduction strategy paper for 2006-2009, which it was about to submit to the World Bank and the IMF, had four main pillars: strengthening governance, modernizing the administration and enhancing macroeconomic stability; promoting economic growth and job creation; improving access to basic services; and improving living conditions for vulnerable groups. Donor assistance would be sought at the round table planned for November 2006. The Government was appealing to the international community for support in addressing its problems, which could only be solved durably through structural reforms and investment over the medium term.

Mr. CABRAL (Guinea-Bissau) thanked the international community for its sustained support of his country and the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau for helping to mobilize and focus international assistance. While it was in the nature of its mission to be provisional, he was grateful to those that had supported the extension of the Advisory Group's mandate up to the Council's next substantive session in 2007, by which time the situation in

Guinea-Bissau might have been included in the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission. His country had already begun to take responsibility for the process of national reconciliation, which was the precondition for genuine political stability founded on democratic participation. It was encouraging in that regard to see the important role being played by civil society in the reforms on which his country was resolutely embarked, not least the reform of the security forces. However, international assistance would be essential to overcome the very serious structural difficulties that his country was facing. He wished in that connection to express his appreciation for the help it had received from its close neighbours Guinea and Senegal, from other countries of the subregion and from the Portuguese-speaking community, as well as from the international community at large.

Ms. SALORANTA (Observer for Finland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, the acceding countries (Bulgaria and Romania), the candidate countries (Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey), the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia) and, in addition, Iceland, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, said the European Union agreed with the overall assessment of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group: peace and stability in Guinea-Bissau remained fragile. The limited progress in consolidating peace and stability, the slow pace of national reconciliation, the lack of a constructive dialogue among national actors, and social and economic hardship were all causes for concern, but she welcomed the progress made on economic reform, public-sector administration, accountability and overall transparency. The European Union had reaffirmed its commitment to helping Guinea-Bissau with increased assistance to security-sector reform and budgetary support. It was ready to participate actively in the forthcoming round table for donors, since the country needed the continued commitment of all key national and international actors if it was to overcome its short- and long-term challenges. While the European Union believed that the ad hoc advisory groups should have a limited duration, the mandate of the Guinea-Bissau Advisory Group should be extended for a further year and be subsequently reassessed.

Ms. LIU Zhongxin (China) welcomed the progress made by Guinea-Bissau along the path towards democracy, economic development and peace and stability. She believed that the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau should be extended and said she

hoped that the international community would continue to support post-conflict reconstruction and development in the country. Her Government would continue to provide Guinea-Bissau with political, economic and technical support to help it achieve social stability and sustainable development.

Draft resolution on the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau (E/2006/L.21)

Draft resolution E/2006/L.21 was adopted.

Mr. DUQUE ESTRADA MEYER (Brazil) welcomed the extension of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau and urged the international community to remain engaged with the country so as to ensure the creation of an enabling environment for the promotion of sustainable development. His Government would continue to cooperate with Guinea-Bissau to the maximum extent possible.

Mr. KERFALI (Observer for Morocco) commended the efforts of the Government of Guinea-Bissau to restore stability to the country, urged the international community to support those efforts and welcomed the extension of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau.

Report of the Economic and Social Council Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Burundi (E/2006/53)

Mr. RAUBENHEIMER (South Africa), introducing the report of the Economic and Social Council Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Burundi (E/2006/53), said that since the report had been issued, negotiations had been ongoing between the Government and the Forces Nationales de Libération (FNL), the only political force that had remained outside the peace process. The need for humanitarian assistance in Burundi was still quite high, and a mid-term consolidated inter-agency appeal had been prepared, which included a revised requirement of some \$123 million. About 25 per cent of the requested funds had been committed so far. Given the extreme vulnerability of the population, the Ad Hoc Advisory Group urged all donors to leverage their financial contributions to cover the activities anticipated in that appeal.

The Burundian economy was expected to grow by about 6 per cent between 2006 and 2008. The country's poverty reduction strategy paper was well advanced and was being

drawn up with the support of the World Bank and the United Nations system and on the basis of broad consultations. Once the full poverty reduction strategy paper was finalized, a donor round table would be held.

The United Nations and the Government were developing a common vision for the consolidation of peace following the phasing out, at the Government's request, of the United Nations Operation in Burundi (ONUB) at the end of 2006. The Secretary-General had recommended the establishment of a United Nations integrated office in Burundi in order to ensure that adequate support was maintained and to assist the Government in its ongoing peace consolidation efforts. The report noted that in the current situation, consideration of further international cooperation would be best dealt with by a permanent body, such as the newly established Peacebuilding Commission rather than an ad hoc body. The Peacebuilding Commission had recently decided to include Burundi on its agenda, and had held a first briefing on the situation in that country. Clearly, Burundi deserved every possible support from the Commission. Because of the vulnerability of its economy and population growth, it would require broad-based international assistance for decades to come.

Mr. NKUNDWANABAKE (Observer for Burundi) expressed his Government's deep gratitude for the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Burundi. The report mentioned the elections held in 2005, including the referendum on the Constitution, which had been adopted by a large majority. The success in rebuilding the country's democratic institutions was attributable to the determination of political actors and the Burundian nation, which had enjoyed the support of the Regional Initiative for Burundi, the United Nations, the African Union and the international community, for which his country was very grateful. The new institutions, in particular the newly elected President, had carried out important reforms to assist the population, for example by making basic education free of charge for all Burundian children and by providing free health care for all children under 5 years of age and for women during childbirth.

Ms. SALORANTA (Observer for Finland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, the acceding countries (Bulgaria and Romania), the candidate countries (Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey), the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia) and, in addition, Iceland, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, said the reports of

the ad hoc advisory groups on Burundi and Guinea-Bissau, together with the report on the assessment of the ad hoc advisory groups of the Economic and Social Council on African countries emerging from conflict (E/2006/86), had provided a valuable update of the situation in those countries and had highlighted the importance of the groups' advocacy role. The groups had continued to promote a comprehensive approach to peace and development, while integrating relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts. She commended the progress made in the three countries and the supportive manner in which the ad hoc advisory groups had carried out their mandates.

The European Union welcomed the progress made by the Burundian Government since the end of the transition. It hoped that a final ceasefire would soon be signed between the Government and the last remaining major rebel faction so as further to improve the security situation and that the authorities would continue the Tanzanian-hosted talks. However, Burundi still faced enormous challenges on the economic, political and humanitarian fronts. The European Union welcomed the Government's efforts to improve governance and its finalization of the poverty reduction strategy paper, which was a sound basis for long-term donor support, in particular within the framework of the United Nations 2006 consolidated appeal process. It also welcomed Burundi's request for inclusion in the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission and the latter's positive response, which opened the way for support for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery. With the end of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group, it was important that the Peacebuilding Commission should take on board the lessons learned in the course of that mandate.

Ms. LIU Zhongxin (China) welcomed the progress made by Burundi along the path towards democracy, economic development and peace and stability, and urged the international community to continue to support post-conflict reconstruction and development in the country. She, too, welcomed the inclusion of the question of Burundi on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission. She hoped that the Peacebuilding Commission, working closely with the organizations of the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions, would draw on the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group and adopt a coordinated approach to relief, rehabilitation and development operations in Burundi. Her Government would continue to provide Burundi with political, economic and technical support to help it achieve social stability and sustainable development.

Draft resolution on the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Burundi (E/2006/L.19)

Draft resolution E/2006/L.19 was adopted.

Mr. MÉRORÈS (Haiti) said that his country, which prided itself on its African heritage and its links with African countries, could easily relate to the situations of Guinea-Bissau and Burundi, and welcomed the renewal of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau.

Report on the assessment of the ad hoc advisory groups of the Economic and Social Council on African countries emerging from conflict (E/2006/64)

Mr. CIVILI (Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs), introducing the report, said that it presented the lessons learned and the best practices employed by the ad hoc advisory groups on Guinea-Bissau and Burundi. The mobilization of support by those groups had undoubtedly been their main contribution. Both had facilitated communications with donors and had helped to secure their support for specific programmes in the two countries in question. As the international community became increasingly conscious of the fragility of peace processes and of the need for broad and sustained assistance for countries emerging from conflict, the report's conclusions would gain still more importance. The historic decision to establish the Peacebuilding Commission testified to a renewed commitment to support the transition from conflict to a stable political order.

Mr. DIALLO (Guinea) said that the presidential and legislative elections that had taken place in Haiti, Guinea-Bissau and Burundi indicated that they were on the right track for national reconciliation. His delegation supported the extension of the mandates of the ad hoc advisory groups for Haiti and Guinea-Bissau, and welcomed the fact that Burundi no longer required such an advisory group.

Draft resolution on the assessment of the ad hoc advisory groups of the Economic and Social Council on African countries emerging from conflict (E/2006/L.20)

Draft resolution E/2006/L.20 was adopted.

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS (continued)

(1) WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT (continued) (E/2006/27)

The PRESIDENT said that a number of delegations had asked to express their positions on draft resolution II, contained in the report of the fiftieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/2006/27, chap. 1, sect. B), entitled "Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women". The draft resolution had been adopted by a vote the previous day.

Mr. MNATSAKIANIAN (Armenia), Mr. DUQUE ESTRADA MEYER (Brazil), Mr. MUSHY (United Republic of Tanzania) and Mr. DIALLO (Guinea) said that their delegations had been absent during the vote, and asked that it be placed on the record that if they had been present, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

Ms. BROWN (Canada) said that her delegation had been absent during the vote, and asked that it be placed on the record that if it had been present, it would have voted against the draft resolution.

The meeting rose at 12.25 p.m.