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New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 25th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. DIETZE (German Democratic Republic)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 78: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)

(g) ENVIRONMENT (continued)

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate fascicle for each Committee

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The meeting was called to order at 10.55 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (A/38/3 (Parts I and II), 106, 132 and Corr.l and 2, 297, 325, 479, 494 and Corr.l, 537; (a) A/38/421; (b) A/38/176; (c) A/38/236; (d) A/38/207; (e) A/38/265, 282; (f) A/38/275; (g) A/38/259, 263; (h) A/38/264 and Add.l; (i) A/38/505 and Add.l;

- (k) A/38/512; E/1983/91 and Corr.1; (m) A/38/498; E/1983/71; (n) A/38/190;
- (o) A/38/182; (p) E/1983/17/Rev.l; (q) E/1983/70; (r) A/38/374)
- 1. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that after the list of speakers had been closed, the representative of Cuba and the observer for the Palestine Liberation Organization had requested to speak on the item. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee agreed that they should be allowed to speak.

2. It was so decided.

- 3. Mr. GIUSTI (World Tourism Organization), supplementing the information contained in the report of the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization on the progress made in the implementation of the Manila Declaration on World Tourism (A/38/182-E/1983/66, annex), said that it was encouraging to see that Governments were basing their tourism plans and activities on the Manila Declaration. The developing countries would find it easier than developed countries to implement the Declaration, since their tourism structures were less well established and therefore more amenable to modification.
- 4. The Declaration called for the remodelling of government tourism administrations as a matter of priority. Such administrations should be given the authority and the means to carry out their responsibilities. Those responsibilities should be exercised not only in regard to economic profitability but also and especially to ensure that nationals were able to benefit from the right to holidays with pay.
- 5. The World Tourism Meeting held in Acapulco in August 1982 had dealt with four themes: (a) the right to rest, leisure and leave with pay and the creation of the appropriate social conditions and legislative framework to facilitate access to holidays for all layers of the population; (b) preparation for travel, holidays and in-bound and out-bound tourism; (c) the role of domestic tourism in the development of present-day tourism and (d) freedom of movement.
- 6. The Acapulco Document adopted at the close of that meeting recognized that, although conditions in the industrialized countries were favourable with respect to the right of nationals to leisure-time activities, that was not yet true in the developing countries. That should be borne in mind when tourism policies were being drawn up. The Document recommended that, since domestic tourism accounted for the vast majority of tourist flows, States should increase their efforts to ensure that such tourism developed steadily and harmoniously. It concluded by recalling the need for freedom of movement of persons to be complete and appealed to all States to renounce all use of armed intervention, to strive for the

A/C.2/38/SR.25 English Page 3

(Mr. Giusti)

establishment of a lasting peace and to endeavour to bring about a better distribution of the wealth of the world.

- 7. He expressed the hope that the United Nations would support the World Tourism Organization in its efforts to implement the principles of the Manila Declaration.
- 8. Mrs. KANEKO (Japan) drew attention to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/78, in which it had been decided that cross-organizational reviews of selected major sectors should be carried out on a biennial basis. Such reviews were important for co-ordinating activities and programmes of the United Nations system. The aims should be to identify priority areas in the activities and programmes of the United Nations system, to strengthen the linkages between developing countries' policies, on the one hand and bilateral and multilateral assistance to those countries, on the other, to assess the adequacy of the activities of the organizations concerned and to identify ways of strengthening co-ordination among such organizations. The cross-organizational reviews should lead to more effective utilization of United Nations resources, enable the various organizations to make the most of their particular assets in their areas of competence and make it possible to base the identification of priority areas of United Nations activities on the needs of developing countries.
- 9. Her delegation welcomed Economic and Social Council resolutions 1983/50 and 1983/66 concerning economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. It appreciated that the developing countries were increasingly emphasizing collective self-reliance as a means of accelerating their development. However, international support could also be beneficial and every effort should be made to reach agreement by consensus on the universally acceptable modalities of United Nations involvement in such co-operation. The specialized agencies should play an active role in activities relating to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries and should co-ordinate their efforts to the maximum extent possible.
- 10. Her delegation expressed regret at the failure to complete work on the code of conduct on transnational corporations. While some progress had been made, many important questions remained unresolved. Japan was ready to participate in any future discussions and it urged all delegations to be flexible and co-operative so that a break-through might be achieved. However, delegations should seriously consider what should be done if such discussions proved unproductive. While her delegation appreciated the work carried out by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, it had strong reservations because of the failure of the Centre to analyse transnational corporations based in eastern European countries in its survey on transnational corporations in world development. The draft resolution calling for research into the activities of those transnational corporations had not been accepted by the Commission on Transnational Corporations. She hoped that it would receive favourable consideration at the Commission's next session.

(Mrs. Kaneko, Japan)

- 11. She noted with pleasure that the report on the development of the energy resources of the developing countries (A/38/512) focused on prospects for greater use of new and renewable sources of energy. Development of such sources was indispensable to the economic development of the developing countries. Accordingly there should be further reports of that nature. Her Government had given top priority to investment in new and renewable sources of energy at the international level and had contributed to development of energy resources at both the governmental and private level.
- 12. Mr. MORET (Cuba) said he had asked to speak on a matter of the utmost importance. The United States, disregarding the principles of the Charter, had launched an armed invasion of Grenada, causing serious damage to that country's economy and development activities. So barbaric an action was quite unprecedented.
- 13. In accordance with its policy of providing economic co-operation to countries which, because they had once been colonized, were particularly seriously affected by the world economic crisis, Cuba had sent the people of Grenada a contingent of specialized workers to provide technical assistance technical co-operation was, of course, the subject of the Committee's current deliberations. Most of the Cuban workers were helping to build a modern airport. Such an airport was needed to promote tourism and thus increase Grenada's revenue. Not only did the situation in Grenada relate to the item under consideration but it also constituted a threat to peace and security in Latin America; peace and security were of course necessary for development.
- 14. Accordingly, he read out the text of a communiqué from his Government stating that the International Committee of the Red Cross was having great difficulty in organizing the evacuation of dead and wounded Cubans from Grenada. It had received partial information concerning the number of dead and wounded and the number of prisoners in Grenada but it had no information concerning the number of wounded who might have been taken for treatment to United States vessels or other countries.
- 15. Mr. MILLER (United States of America), speaking on a point of order asked that the representative of Cuba be requested to confine his remarks to the item under discussion, namely the report of the Economic and Social Council.
- 16. The CHAIRMAN reminded the Committee that general discussions of international economic and social policies, including regional and sectoral developments, formed part of the report of the Economic and Social Council. The statement by the representative of Cuba was therefore quite in order.
- 17. Mr. MORET (Cuba), resuming, said that on 31 October the United States
 Ambassador to Grenada and other officials had met with the Ambassador of Cuba to
 Grenada. He had refused to answer the Cuban Ambassador's questions, merely stating
 that the Red Cross would deal with the dead and wounded and that Cuban nationals
 would be evacuated only once hostilities ceased. The United States was therefore
 holding the Cuban workers who had been in Grenada simply to provide technical
 assistance hostage in order to force a cessation of hostilities. Although

(Mr. Moret, Cuba)

contacts between Cuban and United States representatives in Grenada were to have continued, the Cuban Embassy was currently surrounded by American troops and no one was being allowed to enter or leave the premises.

- 18. After being informed that Sir Paul Scoon, the so-called Governor General of Grenada who was acting as United States puppet, had ordered all Cuban diplomatic personnel to leave Grenada within 24 hours, the Government of Cuba had sent a note to the office dealing with United States interests in Havana. The note referred to the order, which was not based on any legal authority, and stated: that such personnel had been instructed not to leave the country until all Cuban workers in Grenada, including the dead and the wounded, had left that country; that the expulsion order would have to be enforced by United States troops; that the Cuban Embassy was entirely surrounded and cut off by United States troops and that the Government of Cuba would hold the United States Government entirely responsible for whatever happened. Those facts had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the United Kingdom Government, the heads of the Spanish Government and the President of Colombia.
- 19. He then read out the text of an AFP cable reporting that United States diplomats in Central and South America had been put on a state of alert following alleged threats from Cuba. He also read out the text of a memorandum from the United States stating that it had received reports that Cuba had ordered terrorist activities against United States citizens resident abroad. The United States Government warned that the United States would not tolerate any terrorist action against United States citizens or installations and that it would not hesitate to take appropriate steps in response to such actions. The Cuban Government had replied stating that it had issued no such orders, that the threat implied in the United States memorandum was unnecessary and that, if the United States committed aggression against Cuba, it would receive the response it deserved.
- 20. He had disclosed the contents of the messages only because the United States Government had seen fit to publicize those provocative allegations. The events he had described related to the item under consideration because the Cuban workers present in Grenada had been providing technical assistance. Those workers were in danger. His delegation had felt that the Committee should be informed of that fact and of the dangerous situation facing his country.
- 21. Ms. ZHANG Zhong-an (China) said that her delegation had always considered that the drafting of a code of conduct on transnational corporations was an integral part of the establishment of the new international economic order, since those corporations generally enjoyed a certain position in international trade and had a direct impact on the world economy. However, the transnational corporations of some major developed countries resorted to all kinds of illegal means to plunder the resources of developing countries, dominate their markets, exploit their cheap labour and even interfere in their domestic affairs. If a code of conduct on transnational corporations existed to regulate their activities, the corporations could benefit, rather than hamper, the economic development of the developing countries. As for the treatment and conditions for investment demanded by the

(Ms. Zhang Zhong-an, China)

transnational corporations, as long as they respected the sovereignty and laws of the host countries, they would certainly be accorded reasonable treatment and due profits.

- 22. The drafting of a code of conduct had been under way in the United Nations for seven years, but no agreement had yet been reached. Although the text proposed by the Chairman of the special session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations consolidating the views expressed by all parties during negotiations did not completely represent the viewpoint of any country or group of countries, the developing and other countries had agreed to it. However, the text had been set aside because of the negative attitude of two or three major developed countries. It was to be hoped that those countries would pay more attention to the interests of the developing countries and the overall world economic situation and adopt a flexible stand in the negotiations. Since all parties had reached a consensus on most of the issues, the drafting of the code of conduct should not be abandoned at that stage.
- With regard to the regional development of Africa, the African countries had made great efforts to rid themselves of poverty and backwardness and develop their national economies, as reflected in the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa and the Final Act of Lagos. While Africa was a continent full of vitality, it was in an extremely difficult economic situation as a result of long colonial rule, a shortage of food, technical skills and capital, malnutrition and natural disasters. Although the social and economic development of Africa required the vigorous support of the international community and in spite of the adoption of numerous resolutions to strengthen aid to African countries, multilateral assistance had decreased in the past year. Since the economies of all countries were closely interrelated, it was not likely that a prosperous world economy could be achieved if the African economy continued to experience serious difficulties. The competent international bodies and the countries in a position to do so should therefore fulfil their commitments to provide assistance to the countries of Africa and, in particular, to the least-developed among them.
- 24. Her country, which shared a history of suffering and hardship with the African countries, had always supported them politically and economically and maintained close bilateral economic ties with a number of them. Her Government had been represented at the Fourth Biennial Pledging Conference held at Addis Ababa in May 1983 and had announced its contribution to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development.
- 25. As a result of Israel's aggressive and expansionist policies, the Palestinian people had been uprooted and displaced for many years and lived in dire misery. Her country had always supported the struggle of the Palestinian people for the restoration of their national rights. Furthermore, it had always held that Israel must withdraw from all Arab territories which it had occupied since 1967 and that a comprehensive and just settlement must be found to the Middle East question. The Arab countries and peoples were entitled to enjoy permanent sovereignty over natural and other resources in the territories occupied by Israeli expansionism.

(Ms. Zhang Zhong-an, China)

- 26. She expressed appreciation to the Secretariat for its preparatory work for the International Conference on Population. In many developing countries, a high population growth rate coupled with slow development posed serious and urgent problems. As a developing country with a large population, her country attached great importance to the 1984 Conference, which would review and assess the World Population Plan of Action and put forward recommendations concerning its further implementation. It was to be hoped that the 1984 Conference would stress practical results and concentrate on the most urgent problems, in particular the co-ordination of population growth and social development.
- 27. It was gratifying that progress had been made on the question of revitalizing the Economic and Social Council and increasing the effectiveness of the work of the Second Committee. Council decision 1983/164 contained useful specific views about the work of the Committee. The President of the Economic and Social Council, in his oral report, had put forward many interesting ideas and suggestions on how to improve the work of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system. That report could serve as a basis for further consultations, in which her delegation hoped to participate.
- 28. Mr. HAMMAMI (Tunisia) said that Africa, in spite of grave difficulties, had embarked on a course of action by mobilizing its scarce resources and establishing a plan for overall recovery, the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa. His delegation reaffirmed its support for the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the essential role it would play in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, as reflected in the Declaration of Addis Ababa adopted in April 1983 by the ECA Conference of Ministers. ECA was facing a challenge and required the human and, above all, the financial support of the international community.
- 29. The impact of transport and communications on the economic development of African countries was clear. The international community had already expressed its support for Africa in that regard by adopting General Assembly resolution 32/160, proclaiming the period 1978-1988 the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. In order to continue the implementation of that resolution, the donor countries must maintain their support and assistance to African countries by giving special attention to regional, subregional and national projects, in particular those concerning the land-locked States. Although the African countries had spared no effort in mobilizing necessary, although inadequate, resources for the Decade, they were increasingly concerned that the donor countries were showing little interest in regional and subregional projects.
- 30. Regarding interregional co-operation, his country was very interested in the activities of the regional commissions and had been able to participate in several technical seminars organized by the Economic Commission for Europe. The report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of programmes of interregional economic and technical co-operation among developing countries by the regional commissions highlighted their achievements and their future plans. The conclusions and recommendations of the report were noteworthy in that they advocated "collective

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(Mr. Hammami, Tunisia)

self-reliance", "an equitable and increasing exchange of resources and experiences" among the developing countries as well as a "selectivity of approach" to permit the regional commissions to direct their resources to development priorities.

- 31. Concerning the important question of sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, there had been a progressive incorporation of the occupied territories into the Israeli economy. The administrative and legal measures taken by the occupying Power tended to discourage the establishment of genuine Palestinian institutions. The international community had accorded some attention to that situation. For example, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 33/147 a special inter-agency team had been set up to identify the areas where projects might be established. However, that action had been hindered by the Israeli administration. Such a co-operative effort should be commended, even though the fact that most activities were essentially conducted outside the occupied territories should be deplored. His delegation supported proposals to promote both agricultural and industrial activities in the occupied territories.
- 32. Mr. ASTAFIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Economic and Social Council had achieved a number of positive results in 1983, in particular the adoption of resolutions on such questions as the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, assistance for the Palestinian Arab people and condemnation of the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia. Those resolutions were a definite contribution to implementing the International Development Strategy for the 1980s and other United Nations decisions aimed at ending the policies of colonialism, neo-colonialism, imperialism, racism and apartheid. The urgency of that task had been underlined by the action of the United States of America in attacking Grenada. Like the representative of Cuba, he called on the United States authorities to evacuate the Cuban specialists and others who had been giving internationalist assistance to the people of Grenada, to halt their aggression and to withdraw from the island.
- 33. The report of the Secretary-General in document A/38/265 contained fresh evidence of Israel's illegal activities in exploiting the human, natural and other resources of the occupied Arab territories. Under the protection of the United States of America, Israel thought it could ignore the opinion of the international community and, not surprisingly, had obstructed the United Nations mission's visit to the occupied territories. It was all the more incomprehensible, therefore, that the Secretariat should have found it possible to use uncritically in document A/38/282 data supplied by the aggressor. His country consistently advocated securing a just and stable peace in the Middle East by means of a comprehensive settlement on the basis of United Nations decisions and with the participation of all interested parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.
- 34. Council resolution 1983/61, on the role of the State sector in promoting the economic development of devoloping countries, had occupied a major place in the work of the Economic and Social Council and envisaged a continuation of the

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A/C.2/38/SR.25 English Page 9

(Mr. Astafiev, USSR)

Secretariat's work on that subject. It was essential that the documents to be prepared for the forthcoming review and evaluation of the International Development Strategy for the 1980s should bring out the significance of the State sector as one of the most important factors for achieving genuine economic and political independence. That was particularly important at a time when imperialism was increasing its attacks on the State sector in the economies of developing countries.

- 35. The report of the Secretary-General on the role of the State sector (A/38/176) was unbalanced and neglected available experience of the utilization of the State sector to develop production in a planned way, increase the employment and well-being of the population and effectively counteract the neo-colonialist practices of foreign private capital in many developing countries. The document deviated significantly from the positions adopted in relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions on the role of State sector. The Secretariat should not take such liberties with the decisions of States Members of the United Nations and his delegation hoped that that would never happen again when documents were prepared on questions concerning the State sector.
- 36. The problems of socio-economic development of the African continent were being aggravated by the policy of imperialist States and their monopolies. His country unswervingly supported the struggle of the African States for economic independence and sovereignty over their own natural resources. It also supported their efforts to implement the aim of the Monrovia Strategy and of the Lagos Plan of Action to strengthen economic independence, establish national control over natural resources, expand regional co-operation, train national cadres, and increase the role of the State and of planning in the economy.
- 37. His country had trade agreements and agreements on economic and technical co-operation with 39 African countries, providing for industrial and other projects. It had also assisted in training more than 250,000 specialists and in building more than 140 educational establishments. In 1983 alone, there had been four seminars in the USSR for specialists from African States under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa. Soviet organizations were helping to implement programmes and projects in connection with the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and training courses for river transport specialists had been organized in the USSR for ECA member countries in 1982.
- 38. His delegation believed that ECA could continue to play an important part in helping African countries to implement their national development plans. To that end, the Commission must use its available resources rationally and increase the effectiveness of its programmes and their co-ordination with the activities of other United Nations organizations in the region. With regard to the provision of additional resources from the regular budget of the United Nations, that should be done in strict conformity with General Assembly and Economic and Social Council decisions on the decentralization of socio-economic activities, through the transfer of posts and resources from central institutions to the headquarters of the regional commissions. It had to be said once again that those decisions were not being implemented. Worse still, the report of the Secretary-General in

(Mr. Astafiev, USSR)

document A/38/275 attempted to change the sense of those decisions and to pretend that decentralization meant increasing the budgets of regional commissions and creating new posts in them without corresponding reductions in the expenditures and staff of central institutions. His delegation did not agree with that approach and considered that the Secretariat must be guided by Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202. The Secretariat's blatantly inadequate attention to the implementation of decisions on decentralization had also manifested itself in the delay in preparing the Secretary-General's report on progress in implementing General Assembly resolution 37/214.

- 39. The Economic and Social Council had considered a number of questions connected with various aspects of the practices of transnational corporations. Unfortunately, the Council had been unable to make progress in formulating the code of conduct on transnational corporations intended to put their activities under the effective control of host Governments. Forces existed which were doing everything possible to prevent the adoption of such a code or to have one adopted which turned the problem upside down and made it seem that the main goal was to extend the rights of transnational corporations and guarantee their profits in developing countries. The special session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations had ended in failure through the fault of Western States, but the current session of the General Assembly should decide that preparation of the code should be resumed on the basis of the package proposal made by the Chairman of the special session. That could be done by adopting the draft resolution submitted by the Group of 77 in document E/C.1/1983/L.21 or any other decision along the same lines.
- 40. Consideration of the United Nations proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 should have been an important item on the agenda of the Economic and Social Council's summer session, but that had been prevented through the fault of the Secretariat which had not prepared the necessary documentation in time. His delegation regarded the Secretary-General's statement at the joint session of CPC and ACC on 5 July 1983 as a quarantee that such a situation would never occur again.
- 41. Not for the first time, unfortunately, one had to speak not about what the Economic and Social Council had done but about what it had not been able to do. At the 1983 sessions of the Council, resolutions aimed at overcoming obstacles to the implementation of numerous United Nations decisions on restructuring of international economic relations had not been adopted. That was a reflection of the general situation in international economic relations, where imperialist circles were delaying implementation of the legitimate demands of the Group of 77 and undermining normal trade and economic ties to serve unseemly political aims. Some were even trying to explain the lack of progress in establishing a just international economic order by the alleged ineffectiveness of existing United Nations machinery for considering economic problems. Calls to continue the interminable process of revitalizing the Economic and Social Council were becoming more insistent, and more and more new ideas for rationalizing the work of the Council and of the Second Committee of the General Assembly were being put forward. At the current session, Western countries had addressed a kind of

A/C.2/38/SR.25 English Page 11

(Mr. Astafiev, USSR)

ultimatum to the developing countries to abandon their united position in return for consideration of the possibility of concessions being made to some of them on a selective basis.

- 42. His delegation regarded such ideas as an attempt to substitute endless consideration of the artificially exaggerated problem of revitalizing the Economic and Social Council for practical steps to restructure international economic relations. The Council had taken numerous useful decisions on rationalizing its methods of work and the problem was not one of creating new machinery but of implementing decisions which had already been taken and adopting a more responsible approach to the Council's work. His delegation fully supported the views expressed to the Committee by the Chairman of the Group of 77 on 24 October 1983. The task of increasing the Economic and Social Council's role in solving the major current problems and creating the essential conditions for the economic and social development of all countries and peoples was becoming even more urgent.
- 43. Checking the arms race and averting the threat of nuclear war would be of decisive importance for creating such conditions. The arms race absolved huge human and material resources. His delegation, like others, supported the German Democratic Republic's proposal that the subject of the relationship between disarmament and development should be considered regularly by the Economic and Social Council and the Second Committee. Halting and reversing the arms race would provide the material resources to satisfy almost completely the reasonable requirements of all mankind for food, housing, education and health protection, provided that imperialism's warriors did not bomb those schools and hospitals which already existed, in the way it had done recently in Grenada.
- 44. The USSR and other socialist countries had often proposed agreement on reductions in the military budgets of countries with great military potential and the use of part of the resources thus saved to meet the development needs of developing countries. The heads of government of member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance had recently again underlined the significance of the relationship between disarmament and development and expressed satisfaction that their position on that subject coincided with the position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. They had expressed their determination to strive together with the developing countries for a halt to the arms race and a transition to disarmament, so that the resources released could be used to solve the many economic problems confronting the world.

AGENDA ITEM 78: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued) (A/38/3 (Parts I and II), 57, 68, 106, 132 and Corr.1-2, 168, 186 and Corr.1, 209, 302, 303, 324, 325, 329, 425, 479, 494, 495, 537; A/C.2/38/3, 5)

- (g) ENVIRONMENT (continued) (A/38/25, 304, 305, 383, 403, 504; A/C.2/38/L.5, L.10)
- 45. Mr. GIHANI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.10 on the remnants of war, said that his country and the other countries sponsoring the resolution had been the scene of imperialist wars or of struggles

(Mr. Gihani, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

between imperialist States, which had had serious economic and social consequences. In spite of the efforts of those countries to clear their territories of the mines and explosives remaining as a result of those wars, there were accidents every day causing death and damage.

- 46. It was impossible to eliminate that environmental terror and identify the mined areas without the co-operation of the States which had planted the mines. The sponsors were therefore calling for a study of the question and an identification of those responsible.
- 47. His delegation and the other sponsors welcomed the efforts made by the Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNDP) in that regard and drew specific attention to the resolutions and decisions referred to in the preambular part of the draft resolution as well as to the report of the Secretary-General concerning that question (A/38/383).
- 48. It was to be hoped that the States responsible would implement the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Governing Council of UNEP and would respond to the calls of the States affected to solve the problem after so many years of procrastination. He looked forward to the results which would be obtained through the good offices of the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Executive Director of UNEP and the parties concerned, and hoped that the report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session would be positive and comprehensive.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.