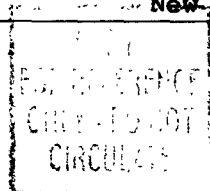




SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 56th MEETING



Chairman: Mr. DIETZE (German Democratic Republic)

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The meeting was called to order at 4.30 p.m.

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

Draft decision entitled "Role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries"

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of the public sector in promoting the economic development of developing countries (A/38/176-E/1983/50)."

2. The draft decision was adopted.

Draft decision entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation"

3. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on co-operation between the United Nations and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (A/38/236-E/1983/75)."

4. The draft decision was adopted.

Draft decision entitled "Economic Commission for Africa: regional programming, operations restructuring and decentralization issues"

5. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 37/214 (A/38/505 and Corr.1 and Add.1) and of his intention to submit a further report on the subject to the Assembly at its thirty-ninth session through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Economic and Social Council, as prescribed in paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/214."

6. The draft decision was adopted.

Draft decision entitled "World Communications Year: Development of Communications Infrastructures"

7. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the International

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(The Chairman)

Telecommunication Union on World Communications Year: Development of Communications Infrastructures (A/38/374-E/1983/95)."

8. The draft decision was adopted.

Draft decision entitled "Addis Ababa Declaration on the Occasion of the Silver Jubilee Anniversary Celebration of the Economic Commission for Africa"

9. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly decides to endorse Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/63 of 29 July 1983 and calls upon the international community to support the endeavour of the African Governments towards achieving the accelerated development and integration of their continent by making available to them the necessary moral, technical and financial assistance."

10. The draft decision was adopted.

Draft decision entitled "Promotion of interregional economic and technical co-operation among developing countries"

11. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly decides to endorse the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/66 of 29 July 1983."

12. The draft decision was adopted.

Draft decision on the organization of the work of the Second Committee

13. The CHAIRMAN said it would be recalled that the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1983/164 had submitted to the General Assembly a number of recommendations regarding the organization of the work of the Second Committee, which had been transmitted in a letter dated 22 July 1983 from the President of the Council to the President of the General Assembly (A/38/421). Informal consultations had been held on the recommendations and the following decision had been drafted:

"The General Assembly

"1. Endorses the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council regarding the organization of the work of the Second Committee of the General Assembly, as contained in its decision 1983/164 of 22 July 1983;

"2. Decides to adopt, beginning at its fortieth session, a biennial programme of work for its Second Committee, apart from its general debate;

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(The Chairman)

"3. Requests the Economic and Social Council to consider and to recommend for consideration by the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session a proposed biennial programme of work for the Second Committee, including the identification of questions for substantive consideration by the General Assembly in alternate years, taking into account the biennial programme of work of the Council and the invitation already addressed to the Council in Assembly resolution 37/442 of 20 December 1982;

"4. Recommends to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development to consider adopting, on an experimental basis, a biennial cycle of meetings, in conformity with the biennial programme of work to be established by the Second Committee;

"5. Invites the Economic and Social Council, pursuant to its resolution 1768 (LIV) of 18 May 1973, to request its subsidiary bodies which currently meet on an annual basis, to consider adopting, on an experimental basis, a biennial cycle of meetings;

"6. Requests the Trade and Development Board to consider rescheduling its second regular session so that its reports may be available in all the working languages of the General Assembly in time for consideration by the Assembly;

"7. Decides that the work of the Second Committee should be organized in such a manner as to encourage meaningful and better-focused discussions, leading to action-oriented decisions; and in that context, the general debate of the Second Committee should focus on specific major issues of international economic co-operation and development."

14. Mr. DON NANJIRA (Kenya) pointed out that his delegation had not participated in any informal consultations on the subject. Moreover, he did not think that enough time had been devoted to discussion of the important item of improving the effectiveness of the Committee's methods of work. His delegation had always had difficulty in accepting the practice of holding a general debate in the Committee. In the two years during which the Committee had officially dispensed with the general debate, delegations had none the less found a means of opening such a debate whenever the Committee took up a new item. He feared that, by institutionalizing the general debate in the draft decision before the Committee, some delegations might be encouraged to spend time discussing generalities rather than substance.

15. Accordingly, he proposed the following amendments: in paragraph 2 the concluding words "apart from its general debate" should be replaced by "and to eliminate general debates forthwith". In the penultimate line of paragraph 7 the words "if any" should be inserted after the word "Committee". In that way the draft decision would not be sanctioning the practice of holding general debates.

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16. The CHAIRMAN reminded the Committee that a Chairman's text must be adopted by consensus. Furthermore, in its decision (1983/164), the Council had recommended that a general debate should take place in the Second Committee. He hoped that the representative of Kenya would not insist on his proposal to delete wording already agreed on by the Economic and Social Council. All interested delegations had been given an opportunity to take part in reaching the informal agreement through consultations within the various regional groups and general informal consultations duly announced in the Journal.

17. Mr. KUEN (Austria) and Mr. KAABACHI (Tunisia) urged the Kenyan delegation not to insist on a formal amendment to the Chairman's text.

18. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) said that the text read out by the Chairman contained a number of very important proposals bearing on the future work of the Committee. At the same time, he sympathized with the misgivings expressed by the Kenyan delegation. He felt, however, that the decision on whether to hold a general debate could be taken on a year-to-year basis. On balance, the Chairman's text merited the support of the Committee, and he therefore joined in the appeal to the Kenyan delegation not to insist on its proposal.

19. Mr. PIRSON (Belgium) said that his delegation fully shared the views of the representative of Kenya regarding the doubtful quality of the general debate and the need to hold such a debate at all. The Chairman's text, however, did not imply that there would necessarily be a general debate every year and it would thus be open to the General Assembly to decide. With that in mind, he joined in the appeal to the Kenyan delegation not to press its amendment and to allow the Chairman's draft decision to be accepted as a consensus text.

20. Mr. DON NANJIRA (Kenya) said that the main point he had wished to make was that the Committee had not been given enough time to consider the issue fully, particularly in view of the recommendation by the Council. His delegation would have preferred a decision whereby the holding of a general debate would have been decided on an annual basis rather institutionalized as it seemed to be in the draft decision. In order not to block the consensus, however, he would withdraw his amendments.

21. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft decision without a vote.

22. The draft decision was adopted, without a vote.

AGENDA ITEM 78: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)  
(A/C.2/38/L.87, L.97, L.110/Rev.1, L.116 and L.119)

Draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.110/Rev.1

23. Mr. BOUYOUCEF (Algeria), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.110/Rev.1, entitled "Liquidation of the United Nations Emergency Operation Trust Fund and allocation of the remaining balance", said that the delegation of the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden had joined the sponsors.

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(Mr. Bouyoucef, Algeria)

24. The brief draft resolution was based on the philosophy that lay behind the original establishment of the Trust Fund: the desire of the international community to give help in emergency situations arising in the developing world. On that basis, the sponsors had felt that in allocating the balance priority should be given to problems caused by drought and famine. It was therefore proposed that 70 per cent of the balance should be allocated to that category. Recent events had re-emphasized the special difficulties faced by a number of African countries in that respect. Of the remainder, 18 per cent would go to UNRWA, for its educational programme, and 12 per cent would be channelled through UNDP to support economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. He hoped the Committee would be able to adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

25. Mr. RAHMAN (Bangladesh) said that the Committee had not been able to give the draft resolution the requisite consideration. However, the three goals mentioned in it were very worthwhile causes which his delegation had always supported. Had there been an opportunity for informal consultations his delegation would have made a number of suggestions, but in view of the need to take a decision at the current meeting, he proposed only that in the first line of the third preambular paragraph the words "the least developed and" should be inserted after the words "faced by". Alternatively, he would be prepared to discuss the matter informally.

26. Mr. BOUYOUCEF (Algeria) said that weeks of work had been spent on the draft resolution and numerous delegations had been consulted. The draft resolution was the result of prolonged negotiation and his delegation would find it difficult at the current stage to accept the Bangladesh amendment, which was not one of pure form but would upset the balance that had been achieved.

27. Mr. HEGELAN (Saudi Arabia) suggested that there should be a short suspension to enable the sponsors to discuss the proposed amendment.

The meeting was suspended at 5.53 p.m. and resumed at 6.00 p.m.

28. Mr. BOUYOUCEF (Algeria) said that, as a result of consultations between donor countries and a number of delegations including the delegation of Bangladesh, it had been agreed to replace the word "many" in the third preambular paragraph by the words "the least developed countries and by other". That had been agreed, as a compromise, in view of the shortage of time, and he hoped that the Committee could now adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

29. Mr. MALIK (India) said that he was unaware of the prolonged negotiations referred to by the representative of Bangladesh, or of any effort to consult the delegation of India on a subject that it considered very important. He was puzzled by the process of consultations that had taken place and by the manner in which the draft resolution had come into being without his delegation knowing and without it being given an opportunity to put forward its ideas on the objectives before the donor countries, particularly in the operative paragraphs. He wished to place on record that his delegation had been given no opportunity for consultations on the

(Mr. Malik, India)

draft resolution and that, while it had no quarrel with the content of paragraph 1, it was unfortunate that the paragraph was not concerned entirely with the objective now accepted by the sponsors in the third preambular paragraph.

30. If the sponsors had been able to include some of those ideas in paragraph 1, his delegation would have had no difficulty in supporting the draft resolution without comment. It was up to the good sense of the sponsors to decide whether they wished to do so. If not, he would explain his delegation's position further after the draft resolution had been adopted.

31. Mrs. NJIE (Gambia) thanked the representative of Algeria and the other sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.110/Rev.1 for having conducted the long and difficult consultations.

32. With regard to the Bangladesh amendment, although the Gambia was one of the least developed countries, the problem dealt with in the draft resolution was not that of the least developed countries, which was a long-term situation and could not be remedied by short-term measures. She agreed that the least developed countries were the most severely affected of the developing countries suffering from famine and drought, but could not agree that the purpose of the draft resolution was to express deep concern about their situation, as in the third preambular paragraph. Her delegation was therefore unable to agree to the insertion of a reference to the least developed countries, because it had been clear from the outset that the purpose of the text was not to discuss a particular category but to deal with an emergency situation affecting not only the least developed countries but the other countries suffering from drought, famine and malnutrition. At the current stage, therefore, her delegation could not support the new wording. It might at a later stage propose further consultations.

33. Mr. HOUNGAVOU (Benin) said that it was not quite true that the Indian delegation had not been consulted. The draft resolution had been discussed at great length the previous evening by the Group of 77, whose members had considered the question in all its ramifications. He wondered whether India expected to be granted a special status. As the representative of the Gambia had said, the draft resolution had nothing to do with the long-term problems of the least developed countries: it was concerned with an urgent situation which had struck a group of countries - most of them in Africa - which were all suffering from prolonged drought, the consequences of which were famine and malnutrition. That situation was the core of the donor countries' intentions in agreeing to the allocation of the remaining resources of the Fund, after liquidation, for the purposes indicated. His delegation could not support the suggestion of the Indian representative, who could have submitted an amendment to the Group of 77 but had failed to do so.

34. Mr. HAYFORD (Ghana) expressed his delegation's appreciation to the Algerian representative for his efforts to obtain a consensus. He regretted the difficulty that had arisen. The purpose of the Fund was to deal with a particular crisis situation, and his delegation understood that in seeking to liquidate the Fund the sponsors of the draft resolution were trying to keep as close as possible to the

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(Mr. Hayford, Ghana)

original intention. Everyone knew the nature of the crisis facing a large number of countries in the African region, and no one would deny that it was a serious emergency of the kind that had been in mind when the Fund had been established. It was extremely unfortunate that a problem which he had thought had been resolved should now be the subject of even greater controversy.

35. With regard to the alleged lack of consultation, discussions had been going on for a very long time and any delegation which was really interested would surely have participated. The problem could have been resolved at the previous day's consultations in the Group of 77 instead of being brought up in the Committee. He, too, had difficulties over the Bangladesh amendment.

36. Mr. QUINLAN (Australia) paid a tribute to the representative of Algeria for his exhausting role in negotiating the text of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.110/Rev.1.

37. Australia had a particular interest in the question, as one of the donors to the Trust Fund which was now to be liquidated. It had followed the three-month-long negotiations and could accept the text now before the Committee, although the draft resolution departed from the original purposes of the Fund. He supported the allocation of money for such critical purposes as the current tragic drought in parts of Africa and the plight of the Palestinian refugees, as provided in the draft resolution. He appreciated the importance of the amendment to the third preambular paragraph, and wished to state categorically that the amendment did not affect the substance or the purpose of the text. He therefore supported the amendment, although at the same time he endorsed the text as it stood.

38. At the previous meeting the spokesman for the Group of 77 had spoken eloquently of the need for a consensus. He urged the Committee to reach a speedy consensus on a matter where people's lives were at stake and where rapid disbursement of money was of paramount importance. On that basis Australia would become a sponsor.

39. Mr. BHANDARI (Bhutan) said that his delegation considered that the unspent money in the Trust Fund should be disbursed as fast as possible for the urgent purpose of promoting the development of the developing countries. His delegation supported the measures in the draft resolution because of the serious situations that existed, especially in Africa.

40. Some representatives had said that there had been every opportunity for thorough discussion. He was aware that discussions had in fact taken place, but without the participation of a number of interested delegations. His delegation had contacted some of the sponsors, and some of its views had been incorporated in the draft resolution. He was not happy with certain paragraphs, particularly paragraph 1 (a), which did not fully meet his country's concerns; however, on the understanding that the paragraph was not concerned exclusively with Africa, his delegation would join in the consensus. He was surprised, however, at the opposition to the Bangladesh amendment which, as the Australian representative had pointed out, did not affect the substance of the draft resolution. He urged members to co-operate in the speedy achievement of a consensus.

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41. Mr. ZIDOUEMBA (Upper Volta) said that, during the unofficial consultations, one of the ideas which had guided delegations was that the proposed scheme for liquidation should conform as closely as possible to the original objective of the Fund; that objective was not to respond to the needs of the least developed countries, to which his country belonged. His delegation had had the opportunity to express its opinion on the amendment during lengthy consultations at different levels and considered it inappropriate. He appealed to the representative of Bangladesh and to the sponsors to ensure that the draft resolution was adopted by consensus.

42. Mr. TRAORE (Mali) expressed thanks to all the donors for their generous response in a period of crisis. It was to deal with such crises that the Fund had been created.

43. Some delegations had complained that they had not been associated with the lengthy consultations. It was not the practice of the Group of 77 to create problems where none existed, and the spirit of compromise and solidarity which pervaded it often meant that, in the face of grave problems such as the one under discussion, solidarity took precedence over the specific considerations of individual States.

44. The Bangladesh amendment should not be allowed to prevent the adoption of the draft resolution by consensus. The amount under discussion was only some \$45 million, but it could bring hope to parts of Africa where the inhabitants were facing tragedy and could help to alleviate the plight of the Palestinian refugees. The sponsors of the draft resolution and the donors had wished to focus on those tragic situations. It was therefore regrettable that an attempt should be made under the guise of an amendment to divert the Second Committee from the adoption by consensus of a draft resolution which would show its sensitivity to those situations.

45. Mr. KITTIKHOUN (Lao People's Democratic Republic), speaking on a point of order, said that the discussion showed the need for further consultations. He therefore proposed a suspension to enable the delegations concerned to consult each other in order to find a wording acceptable to all.

46. Mr. KUMLIN (Sweden) pointed out that a compromise formula could not be completely satisfactory to everyone. His delegation had participated in the discussions preceding the drafting of the text, fully aware that the Committee's normal procedure of informal consultations had not been possible in that particular case and that, despite praiseworthy efforts to consult individual delegations as much as possible, the sponsors were taking a certain risk in introducing the draft resolution. His delegation considered that risk worth taking, because if there was no consensus at the current session the money which was so greatly needed would stay unspent for at least another year. He therefore appealed to all delegations to make an effort to reach a consensus.

47. Mr. WORKU (Ethiopia) said that, at first, the discussions on the draft resolution had been limited to the donor countries, who had to make a very crucial

(Mr. Worku, Ethiopia)

decision. After thorough consultations among them, the representative of Algeria had made a point of contacting as many delegations as possible to discover their point of view. That unique type of draft resolution had to be negotiated in a unique way.

48. He fully understood the concern felt by the representative of Bangladesh and appreciated the sincerity with which he had presented his amendment. He also understood why some delegations were slightly worried about its appropriateness. His delegation accepted the spirit in which it had been proposed but, owing to the unique nature of the problem, appealed to the representative of Bangladesh to withdraw it, acting in a spirit of co-operation and in order to preserve the unity of the Group of 77.

49. Mr. RAHMAN (Bangladesh) reiterated that when presenting his amendment he had stressed that the three goals mentioned in the draft resolution for the intended use of the residual balance were very worthwhile causes which his delegation supported. That was why he had not proposed any amendment to the operative part. The suggestion for an addition to the third preambular paragraph had been made with good faith and sincerity and, he believed, did not in any way change the substance. He had been somewhat surprised to hear the reactions provoked by his suggestion. Since his delegation fully agreed with the operative part of the draft resolution, it was not its intention to stand in the way of a consensus or to cause a decision on such an important matter to be deferred. He would therefore withdraw his amendment, even though he personally was convinced of its utility.

50. The CHAIRMAN said that, in the absence of any objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.110/Rev.1 as it stood.

51. Draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.110/Rev.1 was adopted.

52. The CHAIRMAN asked if any representatives wished to explain their positions on the draft resolution.

53. Mr. MALIK (India) said that in his earlier statement he had referred to only one technical aspect of the draft resolution on which his delegation had reservations and had not explained its position in detail. It had joined the consensus because it had nothing against the content of paragraph 1. Its reservations on the draft resolution were reservations of principle, because it felt that the text ignored a major purpose for which the Fund had been created, namely, energy-related areas of development, which were of great importance to those countries identified as most seriously affected.

54. He wished to state clearly that his delegation had not been consulted and was unaware of any detailed consultations in the Group of 77, and that it certainly had not participated in the adoption of the draft resolution within the Group of 77.

55. Mr. MATHESON (Guyana) said that he had joined the consensus because of his agreement with the provisions of the draft resolution concerning the liquidation of

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(Mr. Matheson, Guyana)

the Fund. However, with regard to the implementation of paragraph 1 (c), and in the light of the fifth preambular paragraph, he wished to draw attention to the need to ensure that economic co-operation among developing countries should respond to the priorities determined by those countries themselves. He regretted that the text did not explicitly safeguard that principle.

56. Mr. CAMARA (Guinea) expressed his country's gratitude to the donors for their response to emergency situations. He wished to reaffirm the intention of his Government to give priority to the food and agriculture sector in its development programme. It naturally expected FAO to be directly involved in their execution.

57. Mr. GOODMAN (United States of America) said that his delegation had joined the consensus on the understanding that participation in any activities in the field of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries funded under the draft resolution would be based on the principle of universality.

58. Mr. OULD HADRAMI (Mauritania) said that the text of the draft resolution was perfectly balanced and complete and he welcomed its adoption by consensus. It was a constructive approach to the tragic situation of certain drought-stricken African countries and should help them tackle their difficulties.

59. Mrs. NJIE (Gambia) said that the consensus illustrated the Committee's understanding of the grave situation of the drought-stricken African countries. Her delegation welcomed the suggestion by the representative of Guinea that FAO should be directly involved in the activities to be funded from the residual balance of the Fund, especially in view of its constructive role in the execution of priority projects in the food and agriculture sector. However, her delegation hoped that the proposal would be implemented without prejudice to the traditional principle that the donor and the recipient country should themselves decide on the best possible executing agency for each project.

60. Mr. PEREZ-GUERRERO (Venezuela) said that his delegation welcomed the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.110/Rev.1 even though some delegations, despite the extensive consultations, were not completely satisfied with the text. He hoped that the resolution would be implemented in accordance with objectives which were as far-reaching as possible but well-defined, in order to give relief to countries afflicted by the severe problems mentioned. With reference to paragraph 1 (c), the Committee could be sure that the Group of 77 would, as always, work to ensure that those funds were used to meet critical emergency situations so that the proposed economic and technical co-operation programmes would proceed in accordance with the Caracas Programme of Action.

61. Mr. SALLAM (Yemen) said that his delegation had joined the consensus in a spirit of co-operation, although it thought that the Bangladesh amendment would have produced a more balanced text.

62. Mr. BA (Senegal) said that the Secretary-General should ensure that the funds were placed at the disposal of the recipient countries as rapidly as possible. He

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(Mr. Ba, Senegal)

emphasized that it was the responsibility of those countries to submit requests to the Secretary-General, and they should do so as soon as possible.

63. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) said that he had joined the consensus because he could support the whole operative part of the draft resolution, even though the allocation of resources specified in the draft resolution was far removed from the original purposes of the Trust Fund. However, his delegation was conscious of the serious situation created by drought and other natural disasters in various developing countries, especially in Africa, and could therefore support the main purpose of the draft resolution. It was, however, disappointed at the way the matter had been handled from the very beginning and hoped that the implementation of the resolution would be effective and provide the intended relief.

64. Mr. WORKU (Ethiopia) expressed his appreciation to the Bangladesh delegation for its spirit of understanding and to the donor countries, whose efforts had made it possible to arrive at a consensus on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.110/Rev.1. His country intended to pursue its activities to increase food and agricultural production and agreed with the views expressed by the representatives of Guinea and the Gambia. Short-term projects should be implemented through appropriate organizations in the most cost-effective manner possible.

65. Mr. BOYD (United Kingdom) paid tribute to those who had worked behind the scenes on the formulation of the draft resolution. Although his delegation would have been happier if some aspects of the matter had been handled differently, it was pleased to share in the consensus on the draft resolution, which met the requirements of the original donors.

The meeting was suspended at 7.25 p.m. and resumed at 7.35 p.m.

66. Mr. BATTI (Observer, European Economic Community) said that he welcomed the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.110/Rev.1 by consensus. There had been legal difficulties in completing the liquidation of the Trust Fund but they had been overcome as a result of the agreement reached by the donors. Nevertheless, he regretted that the consultations had been carried out hastily and would have wished for more specific information on how UNDP intended to use the resources, in particular with regard to the allocation of funds, the selection of recipients and the adoption of projects.

67. Mr. BOUYOUCEF (Algeria) expressed his appreciation to the members of the Committee and especially the delegation of Bangladesh for their spirit of understanding and solidarity.

Draft resolutions A/C.2/38/L.87 and L.119

68. Mr. GIBSON (New Zealand), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, submitted draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.119, on immediate measures in favour of the developing countries, as a consensus text reached following informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.87. He said that the consensus called for further revisions to the eighth preambular paragraph, which should now read:

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(Mr. Gibson, New Zealand)

"Aware that certain economic indicators point to the recovery of some major developed market-economy countries, while the recovery of the developed market-economy countries could be potentially beneficial to the developing countries, by itself it would not be sufficient and it could be aborted unless policy measures address both the revitalization of the world economy and the reactivation of the development process in the developing world."

69. Mr. DON NANJIRA (Kenya) proposed that any explanations of position on the draft resolution should be deferred until after action had been taken on it.

70. The CHAIRMAN said that if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.119, as orally revised, by consensus.

71. Draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.119, as orally revised, was adopted by consensus.

72. The CHAIRMAN announced that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.87 had been withdrawn by its sponsors.

73. Mr. KEYES (United States of America), explaining his delegation's position on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.119, said that during the general debate he had spoken of the need for objective analysis of economic conditions and their causes and challenged the developing countries to give priority to practical economic approaches rather than political interests. The draft resolution had been an interesting test case of the ability of the Group of 77 to respond to the challenge, and he had drawn up a partial list of concepts or phrases which the Group had been unable to accept.

74. The list included statements that the Group were gravely concerned that millions of people continued to live in conditions of poverty; that Governments undertaking immediate measures faced difficult choices which could seriously tax their political will and commitment; and that the immediate problems of the world economy were interrelated. Similarly, the Group of 77 would not acknowledge that immediate measures had already been taken to improve the situation or that measures should be taken to eliminate protectionism. Nor would they accept any wider discussion of energy problems, endorsement of direct investment, or mention of the need to improve the food production capacity of developing countries. They would not accept mention of the International Monetary Fund, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade or the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Most significantly of all, they were unwilling to accept a phrase urging that developing countries continue their efforts to formulate and put into effect their own programmes for revitalization of their economies.

75. He was recalling that aspect of the negotiations not in order to detract from the consensus reached, but because he believed that much progress still had to be made. He hoped that the spirit of consensus would continue and would allow further and more fruitful results to be achieved in future years.

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76. Mr. BAŞAĞA (Turkey) said that, while his delegation welcomed the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.119, it wished to place on record its view that the classification of a country as developing could not be dependent on its membership of any particular group. The classification should be made in accordance with objective criteria, since any other procedure would be contrary to United Nations principles. There could be no doubt that his own country was a developing one. It was on the understanding that due account would be taken of its view on the matter that his delegation had joined in the consensus on the draft resolution.

77. Mr. MÜLLER (German Democratic Republic), speaking on behalf of the delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian SSR and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as well as his own, said with reference to draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.119 that they were sympathetic to the developing countries' endeavour to obtain at least some sort of speedy alleviation of their grave economic situation through the adoption of a programme of immediate measures in their favour. At the same time, the socialist countries shared the non-aligned and developing countries' opinion that the programme could not ensure a radical restructuring of international economic relations because it did not affect the foundations of the existing, inequitable relations. It was therefore important to make sure that the programme was not used to distract attention from the need to restructure and democratize international economic relations and to start global negotiations as soon as possible.

78. Mrs. MORENO (Mexico), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, stressed the importance of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.119. The text could have been improved but the Group had negotiated in good faith and had made sacrifices for the sake of consensus. She pointed out that the Group's position was covered comprehensively by the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 circulated in document A/38/494, in particular their belief that the problems of the world economy were interdependent and that an integrated, global approach was required in order to find solutions. Special responsibility rested with the developed countries for the adoption of immediate measures to alleviate the problems of those most affected by the economic crisis. The meetings of the non-aligned countries in New Delhi and of the Group of 77 in Buenos Aires had indicated the nature of the measures required and the Group of 77 would continue to strive for their implementation.

79. At the same time, immediate measures could not replace the longer-term measures needed to reform the inequitable structure of international economic relations and to establish a new international economic order. The Group of 77 believed the world economy was suffering its most serious crisis since the Great Depression. The causes of the crisis lay in the existing system of international economic relations and were aggravated by cyclical factors. Both immediate and longer-term measures were called for.

Draft decision A/C.2/38/L.116

80. Mr. MUÑOZ-LEDO (Mexico), introducing draft decision A/C.2/38/L.116, on money and finance, said that it reaffirmed the conviction of the developing countries

(Mr. Muñoz-Ledo, Mexico)

that it was necessary to convene an international conference on money and finance for development. That view had been expressed at the highest-level meetings of groups of developing countries as well as industrialized countries. The purpose of the draft decision was to give the international community an opportunity to take a stand on the scope and nature of the conference, which could be a fundamental step in reviewing and reforming the currently inadequate international monetary system. The limitations of the system were well known and included erratic exchange-rate fluctuations, high interest rates, the external indebtedness of developing countries and a lack of co-ordination and discipline in the economies of the industrialized countries. Long-term solutions must be found urgently with a view to a world economic recovery based on sustained, just and participatory development. It was the hope of the Group of 77 that, after appropriate consultations, a consensus could be reached on the draft decision.

81. The CHAIRMAN said that it was his understanding that, in compliance with the request made by the Chairman of the Group of 77, there would be a further exchange of views in due time within the possible framework of that proposal.

The meeting was suspended at 8.10 p.m. and resumed at 9.30 p.m.

(a) INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE (continued) (A/C.2/38/L.90 and L.112)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/38/L.90 and L.112

82. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.112, entitled "International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade".

83. The draft resolution was adopted.

84. The CHAIRMAN announced that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.90 had been withdrawn by its sponsors.

(b) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/38/L.3, L.85, L.86, L.88, L.113 and L.118)

Draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.113

85. Mr. ZIADA (Iraq) said that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.113, entitled "Signature and ratification of the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities", which he was submitting as Vice-Chairman, was the outcome of preliminary consultations among all the regional groups and had been agreed to by all delegations during the general informal consultations chaired by him. Its purpose was to further the ratification of the Agreement and to ensure the establishment of the Common Fund at the earliest possible date.

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86. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Committee) said that the footnote 2 to the fourth preambular paragraph, which had been omitted, should contain a reference to document A/38/487.

87. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft resolution.

88. The draft resolution was adopted.

89. Ms. DANIELSEN (Norway) said that her delegation fully supported the draft resolution just adopted. She wished to note, however, as a clarification, that the offer made by Norway at the sixth session of UNCTAD had originally been intended to meet the fixed-capital contribution of some five low-income developing countries, and not the "full capital subscriptions" referred to in the third preambular paragraph, which would seem to cover the assessed portion also.

90. Subsequently, the Norwegian Government had decided, after consultations with the secretariat of UNCTAD, to meet the cash portion of the minimum contribution of the beneficiary countries, amounting to \$500,000 per country, but not the guarantee of a further \$500,000 which, it was hoped, would never be called in. Instead, it had extended its offer to 10 developing countries from the five originally envisaged. The change had been made in order to give maximum effect to the offer. She was happy to inform the Committee that a budgetary appropriation for that purpose had recently been approved by the Norwegian Parliament.

Draft resolutions A/C.2/38/L.86 and L.118

91. Mr. ZIADA (Iraq), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.118, on the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its sixth session, as a consensus text agreed during intense informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.86. He pointed out three further revisions to the text submitted to the Committee. A new fifth preambular paragraph was to be added, to read:

"Taking note of the Economic Declaration of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 7 to 12 March 1983, as contained in document A/38/132, and the proposals contained in the Buenos Aires Platform, adopted at the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, held at Buenos Aires from 28 March to 9 April 1983, as contained in document TD/285, as well as the intensive preparations at high political level by other groups in this regard,".

92. In addition, the final preambular paragraph and the word "significant" in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution were to be deleted. He believed that, with those changes, the Committee could take action on the draft resolution by consensus.

93. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.118, as orally revised, by consensus.

94. Draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.118, as orally revised, was adopted by consensus.

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95. The CHAIRMAN announced that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.86 had been withdrawn by its sponsors.

96. Mr. BOYD (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) said he had been happy to join in the consensus on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.118, as orally revised. He pointed out that paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, which endorsed resolutions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) at its sixth session, naturally did not detract in any way from statements which might have been made by United Kingdom representatives at that session on subjects dealt with by those resolutions.

97. Mr. PAPADATOS (Greece), speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community and its member States, said he wished to comment on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (A/38/334). With reference to the section of the report dealing with the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, he stressed that the programme planning, co-ordination and evaluation functions were essential elements of the management of the United Nations system. He therefore strongly supported the conclusion of JIU that the Office should continue to operate under existing arrangements. Logically, it should be placed directly under the authority of the Secretary-General. With its current staffing arrangements, the Office had performed its functions in a more than satisfactory manner.

98. Mr. ZOLLER (Australia) said his delegation believed that the consensus reached on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.118 was one of the more significant results of the Committee's deliberations in recent weeks. At the same time, it believed that the resolutions and decisions adopted by UNCTAD at its sixth session could be implemented only to the extent that they had been accepted and agreed. The reservations registered in that respect by his country's delegation at that session remained valid.

99. Mr. HILLEL (Israel) said that his delegation supported the objectives of UNCTAD and its activities in the fields of trade, development and finance. His country had participated in the sixth session of UNCTAD and the work of the Trade and Development Board and hoped that its resolutions on development issues would be implemented. He therefore welcomed the consensus achieved on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.118. At the same time, he wished to record his objection to the introduction of politically-motivated resolutions into the work of UNCTAD, which should devote itself entirely to trade and development matters of benefit to the developing countries.

100. Mr. PLECHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to the JIU report on the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs suggested that, since some of its recommendations related to the task of simplifying and rationalizing the work of the Department, it might be taken up at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, which was due to carry out a comprehensive review of the results of restructuring the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system. However, many of the ideas in the report aroused serious doubts, since they envisaged further organizational restructuring which was not

(Mr. Plechko, USSR)

sufficiently justified. He stressed, once again that a halt should long since have been called to the restructuring process, so as to give restructured units a chance to do some work in peace. Until the results of the review envisaged by the General Assembly in decision 37/442 were known, any further steps would be premature.

101. On a different issue, he wished to reaffirm his country's position, as stated at the latest session of the Economic and Social Council and in the Fifth Committee, on the need for the Secretariat to prepare documents on the programme implications of draft resolutions being considered by the General Assembly, as required by its resolution 37/234.

102. Mr. KUMLIN (Sweden), speaking also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway, supported the statement made by the representative of Greece on behalf of the European Economic Community regarding the section of the JIU report (A/38/334) dealing with the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination. The Office had done valuable groundwork and the results achieved should be preserved and developed. The Nordic delegations believed that the Office should remain as it was unless there was evidence that an integrated approach to programme planning, co-ordination and evaluation could be achieved more efficiently by some alternative organizational structure.

103. Mr. ORLANDO (United States of America) said that his delegation wished to endorse the statement made by the representative of Greece on behalf of the European Economic Community and its member States on the subject of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination.

104. Mr. ESAN (Nigeria), speaking on a point of order, pointed out that although the JIU report raised important issues, references to it were not relevant to explanations of position on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.118.

105. Mr. ELHASSAN (Sudan), Mr. KANEKO (Japan) and Mr. LEE (Canada) said they agreed not to pursue their wish to speak on the subject of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination in view of the point of order raised by the representative of Nigeria.

Draft resolutions A/C.2/38/L.3 and L.85

106. Mrs. MORENO (Mexico) said that the Group of 77, which had submitted draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.85 on protectionism and structural adjustment and the international trading system had, in a spirit of compromise, drafted the resolution on the basis of earlier texts adopted by consensus. Unfortunately, that spirit had not been manifest in the other groups during consultations, and the Group of 77 therefore wished to withdraw that draft resolution. Thus, only the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/38/L.3 would remain.

107. The CHAIRMAN suggested that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.3 should be transmitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

108. It was so decided.

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Draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.88

109. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Committee) said that, during informal consultations, three amendments had been made to draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.88, entitled "Development aspects of the reverse transfer of technology". In paragraph 3, the words "the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development" should be inserted after the words "the World Health Organization,". At the end of paragraph 4, the word "conclusions" should be replaced by the words "relevant conclusions and recommendations". In paragraph 6, the word "consultation" should be replaced by the word "co-operation".

110. At the request of the United States representative, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.88, as orally revised.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, 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, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Greece.

111. Draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.88, as orally revised, was adopted by 109 votes to 21, with 1 abstention.

112. Mr. PAPANATOS (Greece), speaking in explanation of vote on behalf of the European Economic Community, said that, in view of the crucial lack of accurate knowledge on the extent of the reverse transfer of technology, any work in that area should begin with appropriate studies to determine whether the flows of human resources had meaningful and measurable economic consequences. Since the terms of reference of the Meeting of Governmental Experts held at Geneva did not comply with those considerations, the States of the European Economic Community had not participated in that Meeting and could not take its conclusions into account.

113. Mr. MÜLLER (German Democratic Republic), speaking on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and his own country, said that they had consistently supported the just demands of the developing countries and had therefore voted in favour of the draft resolution. The real reason for the problem of the reverse transfer of technology was the economic imbalance between the developing and the developed capitalist countries. Correcting that imbalance would constitute an essential part of the restructuring of international economic relations with a view to establishing a just new international economic order. The brain drain was one method used by international capital and corporations to sap the capabilities of the developing countries.

114. The United Nations system should take practical measures to solve the problem, including providing compensation to the developing countries for damages. It was regrettable that the developed countries had chosen to obstruct United Nations activities in that regard by boycotting the Geneva Meeting. Stopping the brain drain would help to promote the economic and social development of the developing countries through such measures as agrarian reform, industrialization and the control of foreign capital. The socialist countries in question therefore supported the draft resolution and the views expressed by the socialist countries on that issue in UNCTAD. However, steps should be taken to implement the draft resolution within existing United Nations resources.

115. Mr. KEYES (United States of America) said that his delegation had consistently opposed the draft resolution because it would lead to a waste of valuable UNCTAD resources. Human resource flows could be considered as much an asset to the development of developing countries as a liability. For example, some oil-exporting countries in the Middle East and elsewhere had benefited from the inward flow of human resources, which had enabled them to use development inputs that would have otherwise been unavailable. Moreover, working abroad enabled some nationals from developing countries to send remittances in convertible currencies to their families at home and thus contribute to the national development of their countries. Instead of studies and measures to compensate the developing countries for their alleged losses, those countries should pursue policies to help their citizens to achieve their aspirations at home and not oblige them to seek fulfilment elsewhere.

116. Mrs. MORENO (Mexico), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that the reverse transfer of technology was one of the most serious problems of the developing countries and should be given priority attention by the international

(Mrs. Moreno, Mexico)

community. There was a basic contradiction in the comments that sufficient data were not available and that studies should not be conducted. Because of its paramount importance, the question should be studied and the positive work of UNCTAD in that field should be pursued. The problems of the reverse transfer of technology were complex and entailed well-known negative consequences for the members of the Group of 77. It was to be hoped that the international community would continue its work so that future decisions on that question could be arrived at by consensus.

Draft decision on the strengthening of the technological capacity of the developing countries in the development of their energy resources

117. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the strengthening of the technological capacity of the developing countries in the development of their energy resources (A/38/363) prepared pursuant to Assembly resolution 37/251 of 21 December 1982."

118. The draft decision was adopted.

(c) INDUSTRIALIZATION (continued) (A/C.2/38/L.104 and L.105)

Explanations of position on draft resolutions A/C.2/38/L.104 and L.105 adopted by consensus at the 55th meeting

119. Mrs. MORENO (Mexico), referring to draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.104 on industrial development co-operation, said that consensus had been reached on three main points, enabling the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to continue its work in areas of particular interest to the developing countries. In that connection she noted that the senior industrial development field advisers would remain at the present level, that it would be possible to implement the activities planned in connection with the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and that the date of the Fourth Geneva Conference of UNIDO had been set. She expressed the hope that the preparatory work would be adequate and would include an interregional meeting, at Vienna, from 30 July to 1 August, immediately preceding the General Conference.

120. The fact that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.105, on the conversion of UNIDO into a specialized agency, had been adopted by consensus was very encouraging and should provide UNIDO with the climate of understanding and pluralism it would need. During the consultations referred to in paragraph 3 (b), careful account would have to be taken of the legitimate interests of all groups of countries so that the new agency could promote industrial development, particularly in the developing countries. UNIDO should retain its pluralistic and universal character and should reflect the various trends in the international community in all its activities and at all levels. The conversion should take place as soon as possible. The adoption of the draft resolution by consensus was a step in the right direction.

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121. Mr. PAPANATOS (Greece), speaking on behalf of the States members of the European Economic Community, said that although they had joined in the consensus on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.104 after lengthy negotiations, they had accepted some of its elements with reluctance and in the context of the special circumstance of the conversion of UNIDO into a specialized agency. In particular, they considered that the principle of financing the senior industrial development field advisers through voluntary contributions still held. He regretted the fact that no mention had been made of programme implications in the draft resolution, since inclusion of such implications would have assisted States in their consideration of its financial implications. It was his understanding that the activities decided under section II, paragraph 5, would be conducted with due regard to existing programmes in the area and would be financed as much as possible within existing resources.

122. The members of the European Economic Community had accepted the consensus on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.105 on the understanding that the one-day meeting referred to in paragraph 3 (a) would be convened only after the States which had deposited instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval had agreed that the financial viability of the new Organization was ensured. In that connection he pointed out that appropriate procedures had been agreed at the formal meeting held at Vienna from 16 to 20 May 1983.

123. Mr. MÜLLER (German Democratic Republic), speaking on behalf of the delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, the Ukrainian SSR and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as well as his own, said that, in view of the importance which developing countries attached to industrial development problems, they had not stood in the way of the adoption of draft resolutions A/C.2/38/L.104 and L.105 without a vote. They were counting on that co-operation and mutual understanding being maintained by all States, including the Group of 77, once the provisions of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.104 had been implemented.

124. The socialist countries provided assistance to the developing countries in a wide range of fields and would continue to do so. They favoured the use of senior industrial development field advisers; however such posts should be financed through voluntary contributions or from the regular budget of UNIDO or of the regional economic commissions. As a matter of principle the socialist countries were against expanding the activities of the system of consultations, which was designed to attract foreign private investment, under the United Nations flag to the developing countries. Since the draft resolution might have financial implications under the regular budget, the socialist countries would not have voted in favour of the draft resolution had it been put to the vote.

125. As to draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.105, the socialist countries supported paragraph 3 (b); however, it was essential to continue consultations with all interested countries to facilitate talks for ratification of the Constitution. UNIDO should play an important role in consolidating international co-operation at all levels. It could carry out its tasks successfully only if its activities were based on universality and if they took account of the interests of all States and groups of States. In particular, there should be no reservations concerning the

(Mr. Müller, German  
Democratic Republic)

equitable geographical distribution of posts in the new secretariat, especially at the highest levels. Any attempt to use the conversion to place the socialist countries in an unfavourable position vis-à-vis others was contrary to United Nations principles.

126. Countries would ratify the Constitution if they felt that the Organization respected their interests at the financial, organizational and personnel levels.

127. Mr. AKAO (Japan) pointed out that, although his delegation had joined in the consensus, it felt that the senior industrial development field advisers should be financed from voluntary contributions and that the host countries should observe the principle of cost-sharing.

(d) SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/38/L.100 and L.114)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/38/L.100 and L.114

128. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt by consensus draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.114, entitled "Long-term financial and institutional arrangements for the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development".

129. The draft resolution was adopted.

130. Mr. KAABACHI (Tunisia) paid tribute to Mr. Ziada, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, for his untiring efforts, which had made it possible to reach a consensus on the draft resolution. He requested that, in view of the specific nature of the draft resolution, the report of the Committee to the plenary Assembly should include the names of the sponsors of the original text.

131. The CHAIRMAN announced that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.100 had been withdrawn by its sponsors.

Draft decision entitled "Report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development on its first session"

132. The CHAIRMAN read out the following draft decision: "The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development on its fifth session (A/38/37)." He said that, if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft decision.

133. The draft decision was adopted.

(f) ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued)

Draft decision entitled "Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries"

134. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (A/38/39)."

135. The draft decision was adopted.

(g) ENVIRONMENT (continued)

Draft decision entitled "International conventions and protocols in the field of the environment"

136. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment (A/38/305)."

137. The draft decision was adopted.

Draft decision entitled "Environment interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development"

138. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on environment interrelationships between resources, environment, people and development (A/38/504), and decides to keep the matter under review."

139. The draft decision was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 79: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(a) OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM (continued)  
(A/C.2/38/L.101 and L.115)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/38/L.101 and L.115

140. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.115, entitled "Comprehensive policy, review of operational activities for development".

141. The draft resolution was adopted.



142. Mr. DIECKMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus on the draft resolution. He re-emphasized his Government's positive attitude towards the operational activities of the United Nations system, but noted that it continued, nevertheless, to have doubts about certain aspects of paragraph 4 of the draft resolution. It had already expressed the view that no targets should be set for contributions to United Nations funds and programmes for operational activities. In the context, therefore, it could agree only to indicative figures for forward planning purposes. His delegation also doubted whether it was appropriate in urging all countries to increase their voluntary contributions for operational activities for development, to single out one specific category, namely, the developed countries. His delegation stressed the need for all countries, developed and developing, which were in a position to do so to increase their contributions for operational activities.

143. The CHAIRMAN announced that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.101 had been withdrawn by its sponsors.

(b) UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (continued) (A/C.2/38/L.102 and L.117)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/38/L.102 and L.117

144. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Committee) said that the word "Notes" in paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.117, entitled "Situation of the financial resources of the United Nations Development Programme", should be changed to "Welcomes".

145. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.117.

146. The draft resolution was adopted.

147. Mr. PLECHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus on draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.117. He wished to reaffirm, however, his delegation's fundamental position regarding the need for consistent fidelity to the principles of universality and the voluntary nature of contributions on the part of all States participating in the activities of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as well as to the other main provisions of the Consensus of 1970 and the subsequent decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in that respect. Any violation of those fundamental principles would inevitably change the nature of UNDP and might well force the States participating in its work to reassess their attitude to the Programme itself. The reference to the tying of aid, in draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.115 on the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, was not relevant to cases where, in the course of the voluntary participation of countries in United Nations operational activities for development through the various organizations of the system, the governing bodies of those organizations created artificial and unjustified obstacles.

148. His delegation also wished to reaffirm its criticism of the strong influence exercised by the World Bank and other pro-Western credit agencies on the United Nations system of technical assistance. Such activities bore no relation to the

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(Mr. Plechko, USSR)

main purpose of that system, which was to develop economic co-operation among States. The aspiration of certain Western countries to guide the main effort of the United Nations operational activities for development, and of UNDP in particular, into pre-investment activities was, in the final analysis, directed towards facilitating the intrusion of foreign private capital, especially that of transnational corporations, into the economies of the developing countries in ways that were incompatible with the sovereign right of the recipient countries to define for themselves the aims and the course of their national development.

149. His delegation also wished to reiterate its reservations regarding the work of the Intersessional Committee of the Whole, as well as decision 83/5 of the UNDP Governing Council and the related decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular sessions of 1982 and 1983.

150. Mr. MÜLLER (German Democratic Republic) said that his delegation believed that operational activities for development should help the developing countries to overcome their dependence and to end the imbalance and exploitation that existed in the economic relations between them and the capitalist industrialized States. He reaffirmed the view expressed by his delegation during the debate on item 79 that the role of UNDP in operational activities should be based on the principles of the 1970 Consensus and of resolution 3405 (XXX) of the General Assembly on new dimensions in technical co-operation. The principles included universality, the voluntary nature of contributions, and the sovereign rights of the recipient countries in respect of the drafting and implementation of UNDP country programmes. Those principles constituted the basis for his country's past co-operation with UNDP, and it would continue its co-operation and support along those lines. He reaffirmed his delegation's previous criticism of the Intersessional Committee of the Whole and the results it had achieved.

151. During the general debate on item 79, a number of delegations had seen fit to refer to the assistance provided to the developing countries by the socialist countries. The information supplied by the socialist States, including the German Democratic Republic, clearly indicated the extent and the quality of that assistance. The delegations which had arrogated to themselves the right to judge that assistance should at least make an effort to learn the facts. The German Democratic Republic was a member of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and would remain so. It had increased its aid to the developing countries despite the prevailing difficult international economic conditions, and it would continue to provide aid and to supply the relevant information on it.

152. The CHAIRMAN announced that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.102 had been withdrawn by its sponsors.

(d) UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES (continued)

Draft decision entitled "United Nations Fund for Population Activities"

153. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities on the United Nations Population Award (A/38/410)."

154. The draft decision was adopted.

(i) TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
(continued)

155. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should take note of the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical co-operation activities in document DP/1983/18 and Add.1-2.

156. It was so decided.

COMPLETION OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK

157. The CHAIRMAN, in his concluding statement, said that the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly had taken place at a time when the international political situation had deteriorated further, the danger of nuclear world war had increased and the deepest economic crisis since the 1930s continue to afflict many parts of the world. The peoples of the world had therefore rightfully expected that decisions would be taken which would help to reduce tension, to normalize international economic relations and identify solutions for the difficult economic problems of many developing countries.

158. During the session the majority of Member States had expressed the view that super-armaments diminished security and jeopardized mutually beneficial co-operation; that international trade and economic co-operation required peace; and that the improvement of international economic relations could help to reduce tension in the extremely complicated international political situation.

159. After complicated negotiations and despite many different points of view, the Second Committee had adopted 17 resolutions and 19 decisions in almost all fields of international economic activity. That very fact was a verdict in favour of the United Nations as a forum of peaceful international co-operation; it also demonstrated that, even in a complicated international situation, a solution to all problems involving relations among States could be found through negotiations, given the necessary political will, a balanced and constructive approach and a sense of co-operation.

160. Nothing could be more conducive to the promotion of peaceful economic co-operation among States and peoples than a decrease in military confrontations.

(The Chairman)

The release of material resources currently wasted on the arms race and the liberation of the creative abilities of mankind must mark the turn of the century. There was no reasonable alternative to peaceful coexistence. The draft resolution against the use of economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion, adopted by the overwhelming majority of Member States, pointed in that direction as did the measures agreed upon for building confidence in international economic relations.

161. The draft resolutions on co-operation for industrial development and the agreements reached for converting UNIDO into a specialized agency were among the achievements of the session. The draft resolution on immediate measures was an important step but much remained to be done. Mention must also be made of activities aimed at continued assistance to the Palestinian people.

162. Many of the draft resolutions adopted concerned the more efficient use of natural resources and the promotion of regional co-operation. They covered such continuing projects as the development of the energy resources of developing countries, the development of new and renewable sources of energy, the comprehensive project of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa as well as special measures for the social and economic development of Africa in the 1980s. Draft resolutions had also been adopted on the solution of food problems and for overcoming the critical situation of food and agriculture in many developing countries, particularly in Africa, as well as on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries.

163. The Committee had reviewed United Nations operational activities for development and had also adopted draft resolutions aimed at a more effective stabilization of the economies of developing countries through those activities. In that connection, the resolution on the development aspects of the reverse transfer of technology was an important means of overcoming the brain drain. Through the resolution on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, the Committee had taken timely decisions for guiding future activities. The resolutions on international co-operation in the field of the environment as well as the decisions on assistance to countries affected by natural and other disasters were worthy of mention. Although it had not been possible to achieve agreement on substantive questions concerning the code of conduct for transnational corporations and the international code of conduct for the transfer of technology, the decisions taken by the Committee would facilitate progress in forthcoming negotiations.

164. The possibilities offered by the thirty-eighth session had not led to progress in resolving immediate and pressing economic problems, particularly those facing the developing countries, or tackling structural problems in the world economy. It would have been encouraging if, in addition to endorsing what had been achieved at the sixth session of UNCTAD, the General Assembly had taken decisions with a view to settling urgent matters concerning international trade, particularly the curbing of protectionism. At its resumed thirty-eighth session, the Assembly would have a

(The Chairman)

chance to make further efforts in that direction. Of equally fundamental significance would be a decision for a restructuring of international monetary and financial relations: he had in mind the first steps towards preparing for an international monetary and finance conference with universal participation.

165. The launching of global negotiations came within the competence of the plenary Assembly but had played a major role in the Committee's work because it concerned basic economic questions. The overwhelming majority of Member States favoured an immediate start on those negotiations. Discussions within the Committee, supplemented by informal negotiations, had prepared the basis for progress in the months to come.

166. Much remained to be done, however. The implementation of General Assembly resolutions on the establishment of a new international economic order was a task of the utmost urgency. Other important tasks lay ahead. They involved negotiations on the code of conduct for transnational corporations, the review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy, the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, the Fourth general conference of UNIDO and the world population conference.

167. In conclusion, he would like to pay a special tribute to the Group of 77 for their untiring efforts to seek action-oriented decisions for the development of international economic co-operation.

168. Mr. PLECHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), speaking on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States, said that, during the thirty-eighth session, the Second Committee had focused on key problems of the international economic situation, including analysis of the causes of the long-standing crisis in the world capitalist economy, the increasing protectionism and the deadlock in the negotiations on the restructuring of international economic relations. It was clear, both from their statements in the general debate and in a number of concrete proposals which they had presented to the Second Committee, that responsibility for that situation rested with those imperialist circles which had rejected the policy of co-operation and détente and had involved the world in a new arms-race spiral and were now trying to extend their aggressive policy into the area of international economic relations.

169. The countries of Eastern Europe noted with satisfaction that important decisions had been adopted in condemnation of the policy of economic blockade, embargo and sanctions and other unlawful measures of compulsion against sovereign States. The adoption of decisions calling for practical steps to strengthen trust in economic relations among States had established a basis which would make it possible for the United Nations to take new initiatives in the social and economic field and confirmed that the Organization was continuing to work on the tasks stipulated in the Charter for the solution of global problems and for the strengthening of peace, security and co-operation amongst all peoples.

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(Mr. Plechko, USSR)

170. The Second Committee had adopted useful recommendations on a number of issues, including confirmation of the relationship between disarmament and such aspects of development as environmental protection, the solution of the world food problem and the granting of economic assistance to the developing countries. By adopting the draft resolution on the unified approach to the analysis and planning of development, the Second Committee had again confirmed the essential link between economic and social progress. The draft resolutions adopted on UNIDO would foster co-operation in industrial development, particularly when that organization became a specialized agency.

171. The Committee had not succeeded in adopting decisions on a number of problems, including the important initiatives of the non-aligned countries and the Group of 77 taken at their conferences in New Delhi and Buenos Aires respectively. The West had continued to block decisions on the initiation of global negotiations and the reform of the international monetary and financial system as well as on the termination of trade protectionism; it had rejected responsibility for the current difficulties in the financial and economic situation of the developing countries and was even attempting to revise in its own interests the already modest results of the sixth session of UNCTAD. While paying lip service to the North-South dialogue, the West remained deaf to the needs of the developing countries. The Committee had begun the process of review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the 1980s. If those efforts were to be successful, the developing countries must strive for the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and the new international economic order.

172. Mrs. MORENO (Mexico) said the Group of 77 hoped that 1984 would provide a new opportunity for the development of political will to achieve the full implementation of the new international economic order. International economic co-operation must be reactivated and decisions expressed in practical form.

173. The progress achieved at the thirty-eighth session had not been commensurate with the needs of the developing countries. New efforts were required in order to overcome the current crisis and improve the international situation. There were many outstanding questions which required renewed efforts in the quest for possible agreements. In particular, the strategy to be pursued at the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO must be assessed.

174. The path which had been indicated by UNCTAD must be explored further and the Declaration of Belgrade should inspire efforts to reach constructive decisions, particularly in the field of protectionism.

175. The Group of 77 had tried to maintain the spirit prevailing at the Buenos Aires Meeting. It sought to achieve new and better terms in the international arena both for their own countries and for the international community as a whole.

176. Ms. ZHANG Zhong-an (China) said that many different views had been expressed during the discussions on the items on the Committee's agenda for the thirty-eighth session and, following frequent informal consultations, it had been possible to reach consensus on many controversial issues. Those results had been obtained through the efforts of many different countries, including, in particular, the members of the Group of 77. Notwithstanding the progress made, it was to be regretted that there had been no progress on issues such as protectionism, structural adjustments and the establishment of long-term financial and institutional arrangements for the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development. Results could have been more constructive if certain countries had adopted a more positive attitude. What had been achieved, particularly on the economic development of the developing countries and the restructuring of international economic relations, was not enough.

177. Following an exchange of courtesies, the CHAIRMAN declared that the Committee had completed its work for the thirty-eighth session.

The meeting rose at 11.30 p.m.