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Fifth Committee

Summary record of the 27th meeting Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 22 December 2008, at 3 p.m.

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Agenda item 118: Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (continued)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

Agenda item 118: Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (continued) (A/C.5/63/L.9)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.9: Developmentrelated activities

1. **Mr. Ruiz Massieu** (Mexico) said that, despite the efforts of all delegations and the significant progress made in the informal consultations which he had facilitated, no consensus had so far been reached on a draft resolution on development-related activities. Discussion of the matter would continue.

2. **Mr. Hunte** (Antigua and Barbuda), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that his Group, taking into account the comments of the facilitator of the informal consultations on the issue, wished to introduce draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.9 on development-related activities, with the intention that the Committee should take action on it in accordance with its established rules and procedures.

3. **Mr. Brunel** (France), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the European Union deeply regretted the decision of some delegations to circulate a draft resolution so prematurely. Such a short-term tactic risked undermining the long-term goal of reaching consensus, which should continue to be pursued in order to preserve the tradition and practice of the Committee. In that spirit, the European Union stood ready to resume the informal consultations on the matter without delay.

4. **Mr. Plunkett** (Canada), speaking also on behalf of Australia and New Zealand, said that the introduction of the draft resolution in question was an unfortunate departure from the established procedures of the Committee. Efforts to achieve consensus should continue.

5. **The Chairman** said that action on the draft resolution in question would be taken at a future meeting of the Committee.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.