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Agenda item 67

ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Gerhard PFANZELTER (Austria)

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1976, the General Assembly included in its agenda the item entitled "Economic co-operation among developing countries: report of the Secretary-General" and allocated it to the Second Committee.
2. At its 25th meeting, on 29 October 1976, the Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman, decided to consider concurrently items 59 (Operational activities for development), 68 (Technical co-operation among developing countries) and 67 (Economic co-operation among developing countries).
3. The Second Committee considered item 67 at its 30th, 36th to 44th, 60th and 66th meetings, between 3 November and 13 December. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/31/SR.30, 36 to 44, 60 and 66).
4. For its consideration of item 67, the Committee had before it the following documents:
  - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3442 (XXX) (A/31/304 and Add.1);
  - (b) Letter dated 1 September 1976 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting documents of the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries (A/31/197);
  - (c) Letter dated 30 September 1976 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the political and economic resolutions of the Seventh Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (A/31/237);

(d) Letter dated 11 October 1976 from the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, President of the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the final report of the Conference (A/C.2/31/7 and Add.1).

5. At the 60th meeting, on 6 December, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of Seventy-seven, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.62), entitled "Economic co-operation among developing countries", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 3177 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, 3241 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, 3442 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development resolution 92 (IV) of 30 May 1976 on economic co-operation among developing countries,

"Recalling further its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation.

"Noting the Programme of Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries adopted at the Third Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Seventy-seven at Manila in February 1976,

"Noting also the decisions of the Non-Aligned Movement on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries and in particular the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation and other relevant resolutions adopted at the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo in August 1976,

"Noting further the measures set out in the report of the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Mexico City in September 1976,

"Considering that the developing countries have set in motion an irreversible trend towards the consolidation of their unity and mutual co-operation and noting their desire to maintain their efforts to further strengthen such co-operation and solidarity,

"Recognizing that the achievement of the goal of greater co-operation and collective self-reliance espoused by the developing countries will not only promote their economic development but will also facilitate effective and meaningful negotiations with the developed countries to establish the New International Economic Order,

"Stressing that the restructuring of the existing international economic relations on the basis of equity and justice is a prerequisite for an enduring solution to the world economic problems so essential for the promotion of international peace and security,

"Reaffirming that the efforts towards mutual co-operation by the developing countries do not diminish the responsibilities of the developed countries for establishing just and equitable economic relations between them and the developing countries and for contributing to the development of the developing countries,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 1/

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary steps in order to give full co-operation and support in the realization of the measures of economic co-operation among developing countries, especially those set out in the Programme of Action adopted at the Third Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Seventy-seven and the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation adopted at the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and the report of the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Mexico City, and to ensure the proper co-ordination of such support activities within the United Nations system;

"3. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue to include in the medium-term plan of the United Nations an intersectoral presentation of the activities envisaged to implement the relevant United Nations resolutions on economic co-operation among developing countries and, in co-operation with the organizations of the United Nations system, to secure the same kind of intersectoral presentation on a system-wide basis;

"4. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to support measures of economic co-operation among developing countries, including, as and when requested, the continued provision of the necessary Secretariat support services and other suitable arrangements to facilitate the holding of meetings by the developing countries in pursuance of the objectives of economic co-operation among developing countries;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, while taking all the necessary measures requested in Trade and Development Board resolution 142 (XVI) of 23 October 1976, to assist developing countries, at their request, in carrying out studies on specific issues relating to trade and development and especially those relating to the promotion of trade and financial co-operation among developing countries;

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1/ A/31/304 and Add.1.

"6. Urges developed countries to provide the support, as and when requested from them by the developing countries, for the implementation of all the measures of economic co-operation among developing countries;

"7. Invites the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session on all measures taken by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in support of measures of economic co-operation among developing countries."

6. At the 66th meeting, on 13 December, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of Seventy-seven, introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.62/Rev.1) which incorporated the following changes to draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.62:

(a) The replacement, in the sixth preambular paragraph, of the word "Considering" by the word "Noting";

(b) The revision of the seventh, eighth and ninth preambular paragraphs to read as follows:

"Recognizing that in the context of global economic co-operation the achievement of the goal of greater co-operation and collective self-reliance espoused by the developing countries will not only promote their economic development but will also facilitate effective and meaningful negotiations with the developed countries on the establishment of a new international economic order,

"Stressing that fundamental structural changes in existing international economic relations on the basis of equity and justice are important in providing an enduring solution to the world economic problems so essential for the promotion of international peace and security,

"Reaffirming that the efforts towards mutual co-operation by the developing countries do not diminish responsibilities of all other countries for establishing just and equitable economic relations between them and the developing countries and for contributing to the development of the developing countries";

(c) The revision of operative paragraph 2 to read as follows:

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to study the relevant decisions on economic co-operation among developing countries, including the Programme of Action adopted at the Third Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Seventy-seven, the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation adopted at the Fifth Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and the report of the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held in Mexico City, with a view to formulating appropriate support measures for the realization of the objectives of economic co-operation among developing countries, and to submit a report thereon,

together with the organizational and financial implications, to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council";

(d) The insertion, in operative paragraph 4, of the words "in accordance with their established procedures and practices" after the words "the United Nations system";

(e) The addition of a new operative paragraph 5 to read as follows:

"5. Welcomes the establishment by the Trade and Development Board at its sixteenth session of the Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries as an open-ended main committee of the Board to consider and recommend measures to provide, in the field of competence of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as and when requested, support and assistance to developing countries in strengthening and enlarging their mutual co-operation at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations";

(f) The insertion, in former operative paragraph 5 (new operative paragraph 6), of the words "and after consideration and appropriate action by the Committee on Economic Co-operation Among Developing Countries" after the words "at their request" and the addition of the words "and to make those studies available to all delegations" at the end of the paragraph;

(g) The revision of former operative paragraph 6 (new operative paragraph 7) to read as follows:

"7. Urges developed countries to provide appropriate support, as and when requested from them by developing countries, for the implementation of measures of economic co-operation among developing countries";

(h) The replacement, in former operative paragraph 7 (new operative paragraph 8), of the words "Invites the Secretary-General" by the words "Requests the Secretary-General".

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the revised draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.62/Rev.1) without a vote (see para. 9 below).

8. Following the adoption of the revised draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Bulgaria (also on behalf of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Czechoslovakia), Australia and the United States of America.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Economic co-operation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3177 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, 3241 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, 3442 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development resolution 92 (IV) of 30 May 1976 on measures of support by developed countries and international organizations for the programme of economic co-operation among developing countries, 1/

Recalling also its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Noting the programme of economic co-operation among developing countries, adopted at the Third Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Seventy-seven at Manila in February 1976,

Noting also the decisions of the Non-Aligned Movement on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries and, in particular, the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation and other relevant resolutions adopted at the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo in August 1976, 2/

Noting further the measures set out in the report of the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, held at Mexico City in September 1976, 3/

Noting that the developing countries have set in motion an irreversible trend towards the consolidation of their unity and mutual co-operation and noting their desire to maintain their efforts to strengthen further such co-operation and solidarity,

Recognizing that, in the context of global economic co-operation, the achievement of the goal of greater co-operation and collective self-reliance espoused by the developing countries will not only promote their economic development, but also facilitate effective and meaningful negotiations with the developed countries on the establishment of a new international economic order,

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1/ TD/195, annex I, resolution 1.

2/ See A/31/197 and Add.1.

3/ A/C.2/31/7, part one, sect. A.

Stressing that fundamental structural changes in existing international economic relations on the basis of equity and justice are important in providing an enduring solution to the world economic problems so essential for the promotion of international peace and security,

Reaffirming that the efforts towards mutual co-operation by the developing countries do not diminish responsibilities of all other countries for establishing just and equitable economic relations between them and the developing countries and for contributing to the development of the developing countries,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Economic co-operation among developing countries"; 4/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to study the relevant decisions on economic co-operation among developing countries, including the Programme of Action, 5/ adopted at the Third Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Seventy-seven, the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation, 6/ adopted at the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, and the report of the Conference on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, 7/ with a view to formulating appropriate support measures for the realization of the objectives of economic co-operation among developing countries, and to submit a report thereon, together with the organizational and financial implications, to the General Assembly, at its thirty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council;

3. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue to include in the medium-term plan of the United Nations an intersectoral presentation of the activities envisaged to implement the relevant United Nations resolutions on economic co-operation among developing countries and, in co-operation with the organizations of the United Nations system, to secure the same kind of intersectoral presentation on a system-wide basis;

4. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with their established procedures and practices, to support measures of economic co-operation among developing countries, including, as and when requested, the continued provision of the necessary secretariat support services and other suitable arrangements to facilitate the holding of meetings by the developing countries in pursuance of the objectives of economic co-operation among developing countries;

5. Welcomes the establishment, by the Trade and Development Board at its sixteenth session, of the Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing

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4/ A/31/304 and Add.1.

5/ TD/195.

6/ A/31/197, annex III.

7/ A/C.2/31/7 and Add.1.

Countries <sup>8/</sup> as an open-ended main committee of the Board to consider and recommend measures to provide, in the field of competence of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as and when requested, support and assistance to developing countries in strengthening and enlarging their mutual co-operation at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

6. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, while taking all the necessary measures requested by the Trade and Development Board in its resolution 142 (XVI) of 23 October 1976, to assist developing countries, at their request and after consideration and appropriate action by the Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, in carrying out studies on specific issues relating to trade and development, especially those relating to the promotion of trade and financial co-operation among developing countries, and to make those studies available to all delegations;

7. Urges developed countries to provide appropriate support, as and when requested from them by developing countries, for the implementation of measures of economic co-operation among developing countries;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the General Assembly, at its thirty-second session, on all measures taken by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in support of measures of economic co-operation among developing countries.

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<sup>8/</sup> See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/31/15), vol. II, annex I, decision 142 (XVI).