



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 40th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MWANGAGUHUNGA (Uganda)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 69: TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

AGENDA ITEM 67: OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF CO-ORDINATOR: REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 60: UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 62: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

\* This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be incorporated in a copy of the record and should be sent *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, room A-3550.

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

The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 69: TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (A/CONF.79/13/Rev.1)

1. Mr. MORSE (Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries) introduced the report of the Conference (A/CONF.79/13/Rev.1) and urged the Committee to approve it, together with the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries and the four resolutions in the report.
2. The Conference was generally held to have been a major success and reference was already being made to "the spirit of Buenos Aires". Although TCDC had not been a new idea, it had been still at the formulation stage when the preparations for the Conference had begun, but, thanks to the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and its officers, the 20 months of preparatory work had made it possible to evolve a complete range of objectives and to determine the place of TCDC in over-all international co-operation for development. The Conference's success was primarily due, however, to the fact that all types of developing countries had been represented at Buenos Aires. If TCDC was correctly perceived as a process of exchanging knowledge and experience, every developing country, regardless of size or capital product, was both a beneficiary and a contributor; the Conference had therefore had to take account of the interests of all developing countries and to represent the complete spectrum of their needs and experiences. It had brought together 700 representatives of 138 States, and representatives of national liberation movements, of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and of the entire United Nations development system. It had also had the collaboration of very high-level government officials and of hundreds of specialists in development planning, science and technology, finance and trade. That high level of participation had enabled the Conference not only to settle all the main technical issues before it, but to break down psychological barriers and agree on the need for national and collective self-reliance. The general debate (chap. V of the report) had clearly shown that TCDC could promote improved internal development by means of self-reliance and also lay the foundations for strengthening all forms of co-operation among developing countries and for restructuring international relations for the benefit of the entire world community. That debate had dispelled any doubts about the role and meaning of TCDC. There had been consensus that TCDC was not an end in itself and was not to be confused with economic co-operation among developing countries, which remained the ultimate goal and which TCDC should help to bring about. All co-operation between two or more countries always began at the technical level, and TCDC as such had existed for a long time.
3. It would be noted that the Plan of Action itself called for increased flows of resources and for exploration of additional sources of finance but did not propose the creation of new bureaucratic machinery within the United Nations development system: instead of treating TCDC as a new sector or a separate activity, it stressed the mobilization of additional resources through all

(Mr. Morse)

existing institutions and agencies and at all levels. The spirit of TCDC should permeate the entire United Nations development system, and all agencies of the system should orient their own policies and procedures in order to respond adequately to the principles and objectives of TCDC and to make maximum use of their existing resources for that purpose. Since UNDP was the principal agency in the development system, the Plan called for the strengthening of its capacity for promoting TCDC and specifically for the strengthening of the TCDC Special Unit in UNDP, which would have to help the Administrator to meet the Programme's new responsibilities. What was most important, however, was to improve the coherence of the entire system, and that could be accomplished by close collaboration with the regional commissions and among the headquarters and field offices of other agencies and institutions of the United Nations development system.

4. The Plan also recommended that developing countries should make maximum use of their own resources and strengthen their capacity for TCDC. It stressed the importance of the role of intergovernmental organizations of developing countries in promoting co-operation and the fact that it was the sovereign Governments of developing countries that were responsible for decisions in that sphere. The Plan of Action also recognized, however, that TCDC was not a substitute for resource flows from developed countries and recommended that those countries should provide additional financial support on a voluntary basis for TCDC projects and activities. The Plan also defined the nine objectives for TCDC, the common denominator of which was the collective self-reliance of developing countries. TCDC, however, also had other valuable goals: it should break down attitudinal barriers and induce in every developing country a heightened awareness of its own capacities, competences and experience and those of other developing countries, and should lead them no longer to turn automatically to developed countries without even investigating whether the necessary human and technical resources might be found in another developing country. In the past there had been a tendency automatically to turn to experts from developed countries and to neglect the human resources of developing countries. That applied also to technology packages, which were almost always obtained from developed countries and which, imported hastily, were not always adapted to the country where they were to be used and were often too costly.

5. Although it was extremely important to break down psychological barriers of that type, there was also a critical need to strengthen or establish communications of all kinds among the developing countries, to construct "bridges across the south", and the Plan accordingly provided for information, communications and transport programmes in order to build the infrastructure necessary to make TCDC an important instrument for development. Because of the complexity of the debate on restructuring international relations, the wording of recommendation 37 (intergovernmental review arrangements) had given rise to some difficulties, but Governments themselves had insisted that an intergovernmental follow-up mechanism for TCDC within the framework of the United Nations system should be established in the Plan of Action itself. In accordance with that recommendation, the review would be entrusted by the General Assembly to high-level meetings open to all States participating in UNDP, to be convened by the Administrator of UNDP in 1980 and in 1981, and thereafter biennially. The first

/...

(Mr. Morse)

meeting might take place in 1980 at Geneva prior to the special session of the General Assembly and might be serviced by the UNDP Special TCDC Unit. The Buenos Aires Plan of Action clearly showed that TCDC could make a very significant contribution to improving the future of the planet by calling upon the latent creativity of all mankind, and thus ending poverty and inequality and establishing a new international economic order.

#### ORGANIZATION OF WORK

6. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the list of speakers on item 69 should be closed on Monday, 20 November, at noon and that the deadline for the submission of draft proposals on item 69 should be Monday, 20 November, at 6 p.m.

7. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 67: OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF CO-ORDINATOR: REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/33/3, 82, 195; A/C.2/33/L.25)

#### Draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.25

8. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should proceed to decide on draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.25, entitled "Assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Ethiopia", as orally revised at the preceding meeting by the representative of Kenya. Burundi, Cyprus and Djibouti had asked to become sponsors of the draft resolution.

9. Mr. OSVALD (Sweden) said that his delegation wished to be a sponsor of that document.

10. Mr. EVDOKEYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation supported the draft resolution under consideration and believed that assistance should be rendered to countries stricken by natural disasters. The Soviet Union itself aided those countries on a bilateral basis. In recent years it had provided them with substantial amounts of foodstuffs, medicines, equipment and so on. Ethiopia, in particular, with which the Soviet Union maintained relations of friendly co-operation, received a wide variety of Soviet assistance, including assistance for school construction and industrial projects.

11. Mr. LIEBCHEN (German Democratic Republic) said that his delegation supported the draft resolution under discussion and wished to become one of its sponsors, since the proposal dealt with a relief project for a country which not only had been stricken by natural disasters but had suffered greatly because of the heritage of the past. His delegation was already engaged in implementing on a bilateral basis in Ethiopia the objectives of the draft resolution under consideration and would continue to do so.

12. The CHAIRMAN said that if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to approve draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.25, as orally revised, without a vote.

13. It was so decided.

14. Mr. ADUGNA (Ethiopia) thanked the sponsors of the draft resolution, and the Committee, which had approved it unanimously. He was particularly grateful to the representative of Kenya for his clear description of the situation in Ethiopia, and expressed his Government's gratitude for his valuable assistance. The aid which would be provided in pursuance of the draft resolution just approved would enable a veritable disaster to be prevented in Ethiopia.

15. Mr. MALINGUR (Somalia) stated that his country had associated itself with the consensus on the draft resolution just approved and that it had always supported all efforts to supply humanitarian assistance to victims of natural disasters. He drew attention to paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, in which the General Assembly "calls upon all concerned to ensure that the international assistance provided be used for the sole purpose of relief and rehabilitation" and expressed the hope that care would be taken to ensure that such would indeed be the case.

AGENDA ITEM 60: UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (continued)  
(A/C.2/33/L.6, L.7, L.8, L.12, L.16, L.17, L.19 and Corr.1 and L.24)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/33/L.19 and Corr.1 and A/C.2/33/L.24

16. Mr. MULLER (Secretary of the Committee) said that a correction should be made in the French text of the annex to draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.19 and Corr.1. In the wording of agenda item 5 (g), the words "à l'exclusion de" should be replaced by "y compris".

17. Mr. KINSMAN (Canada) said that he was pleased that it had become apparent during the consultations that the draft resolutions under consideration could be approved by consensus when they were submitted to the Committee. In that connexion, he paid a tribute to the co-ordinator of the Group of 77 in particular. He pointed out that certain drafting amendments should be made to the French text of agenda item 5 (g) in the annex to draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.19 and Corr.1. The paragraph in question should be worded as follows: "Rôle des investissements étrangers, y compris ceux effectués par l'entremise des sociétés transnationales, dans la promotion de la croissance industrielle en conformité avec les objectifs nationaux de développement économique et social, at réglementations et autres conditions applicables à ces investissements". Moreover, in the French text of the final preambular paragraph, in order to ensure that the meaning in French was identical with that in English, the words "conformément à" should be replaced by the words "telles qu'elles ont été adoptées dans". Furthermore, the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.24 wanted, in order to avoid ambiguity, to replace the existing text of the ninth preambular paragraph by: "Convinced of the need for the United Nations system to use the resources available to it for industrial development in an effective manner,".

18. He observed that the sponsors of the draft resolutions under consideration had originally submitted three draft resolutions: documents A/C.2/33/L.6, L.7 and L.8. It had been decided during the consultations that consideration of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.8 would be postponed until members were in a position to take a decision on the date and venue of a plenipotentiary conference on the conversion of UNIDO into a specialized agency. The draft resolution in question

(Mr. Kinsman, Canada)

was likely to be approved by consensus when it was submitted to the Committee. He therefore believed that members could already welcome the fact that at the current session all the discussions on proposals relating to UNIDO had had a successful outcome.

19. The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Kinsman for the efforts which he had made to achieve that result. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee agreed to the withdrawal of draft resolutions A/C.2/33/L.6 and L.7, which had been introduced by the delegation of Tunisia on behalf of the members of the Group of 77, and was prepared to approve without a vote draft resolutions A/C.2/33/L.19 and Corr.1 and A/C.2/33/L.24, as orally revised.

20. It was so decided.

21. Mr. ZVEZDIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that it was regrettable that the Committee should have approved the draft resolutions so hastily, whereas there were sometimes lengthy pauses in its work. His delegation had wanted to put a question to the Secretariat before the approval by consensus of the draft resolutions in question. Draft resolutions A/C.2/33/L.19 and Corr.1 and A/C.2/33/L.24 had replaced draft resolutions A/C.2/33/L.6 and L.7. However, while the Committee did have before it the statement of the administrative and financial implications of the original draft resolutions, it did not have that information for those which had eventually been approved. He asked specifically which document was available to the Committee for draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.24.

22. Mr. MULLER (Secretary of the Committee) said that the Budget Division had informed him that the financial implications applicable to the two original documents were equally applicable to the two documents which had been submitted to the Committee for approval.

23. Mr. RIEMER (United States of America) said that his delegation had been pleased to join in the consensus approval of draft resolutions A/C.2/33/L.19 and Corr.1 and A/C.2/33/L.24, but that it had reservations with regard to the reference made in them to the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action, since his Government's position on that subject remained unchanged. Furthermore, with regard to item 5 (d) of the provisional agenda reproduced in the annex to the draft resolution on the third General Conference of UNIDO which the Committee had just approved, the redeployment of industries should, in the opinion of his Government, be the result of the evolution of economies rather than of international negotiations; government policy could facilitate such redeployment, but it had to take account of the economic structures of both home and host countries and of their economic, social and security goals. As to agenda items 5 (b) (iii) and 5 (g), his Government considered that UNIDO's work on the transfer of technology and investment should complement the activities under way in those fields within UNCTAD and the Economic and Social Council's Commission on Transnational Corporations. With regard to paragraphs 1 and 2 of section I of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.24, he said that his Government's position on the question of direct contributions to UNIDO had been explained earlier.

24. Mr. DALTON (United Kingdom) reaffirmed the point of view expressed by his delegation in the General Assembly at the time of the adoption of paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 32/9 E.
25. Mr. FREYBREG (Poland), referring to draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.24, which had just been approved, reaffirmed, on behalf of his own delegation and the delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR, that they could not accept the principle of setting a specific target for a fund made up of voluntary contributions. The aforementioned delegations likewise confirmed their position regarding General Assembly resolution 31/163, entitled "Industrial redeployment in favour of developing countries".
26. Miss COURSON (France) said that her delegation was very happy to have been able to join in the consensus on the two draft resolutions which had just been approved. However, it wished to point out that its position concerning paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.19 had not changed, and therefore renewed its reservations. She found it regrettable that the French translation of the two documents in question should have been so carelessly performed. Moreover, she drew the attention of the Secretariat to the fact that the text of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.24 also contained a number of errors which she would specify in due course. Her delegation therefore hoped that the two draft resolutions would be revised as soon as possible.
27. Mr. ZVEZDIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation was not satisfied with the explanation given by the Secretary of the Committee regarding the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.24. The statement which had been issued as document A/C.2/33/L.17 had been prepared for draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.7, the text of one paragraph of which differed from that of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.24. He therefore requested the Secretariat to prepare a new document reflecting the financial implications of the later draft resolution.
28. Count YORK (Federal Republic of Germany) said that he wished to make it clear that, with regard to the reference to resolution 32/9 E in paragraph 3 (d) of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.19, his delegation's position had not changed; he hoped, however, that Namibia would be represented as an independent State at the third General Conference of UNIDO.
- Draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.12
29. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should approve the draft resolution without a vote.
30. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 62: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.22

31. Mrs. OGATA (Japan) said that, as a result of an amendment proposed by Sweden, the sponsors had decided to add to the operative part of the draft resolution the following new paragraph: "3. Urges all Governments, especially those that are not contributing at a level commensurate with their capacity, to increase as rapidly as possible their contributions to the United Nations Children's Fund." She pointed out that the fourth preambular paragraph differed from the original English text submitted to the Secretariat, which read as follows: "Affirming the need for intensified international co-operation for sustained activities on behalf of children in response to the International Year of the Child". Lastly, she was pleased to announce that Denmark, Iceland, Finland and Sweden had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.