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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 53rd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MWANGAGUHUNGA (Uganda)

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The meeting was called to order at 11.05 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 58: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)
(A/33/238; A/C.2/33/L.62, L.63, L.65 and Corr.1)

1. Ms. BOGAARDS (Netherlands), speaking on item 58 (d) (Effective mobilization of women in development), said that, although the living conditions of women varied, women throughout the world had many disadvantages in common. Their dependence on men limited their opportunity to realize their full potential and deprived human society of the important contribution women could make to development.
2. Development activities often had an adverse impact on the advancement of women. In areas such as agriculture, food production and marketing where in many countries women had traditionally played an important role, training and other vocational activities had been primarily directed towards men. As a result, men and machines had often replaced women, especially where the production of cash crops was concerned. At the same time, training and modernization had not reached the area of food crops in which women still played a vital role. If technology was to have an impact on the advancement of women, those who developed and provided it had to be aware of the requirements of urban and rural women. The long working days of rural women in developing countries showed that there was a great need for technology at the village level that lightened the burden of time-consuming household tasks. Greater awareness of women's needs could contribute to a more effective use of technology in both the economic and the social context and could also make the benefits of technological development available to both women and men. The fact that women were not only an important target group but at the same time were key participants and often initiators of development progress must be recognized. In many cases, the advancement of families and communities was contingent on the advancement of women.
3. Her delegation was therefore of the opinion that in development programmes and projects more attention should be given to the potential role of women. The formulation and implementation of programmes directed towards the integration and participation of women in development must be undertaken as a matter of urgency. The participation of women in development should also be the ongoing concern of partners in the United Nations system. For the time being, special programmes for women should be primarily directed towards acquiring specific skills in a wide variety of areas and should at the same time stimulate women to make better use of their own capabilities.
4. Her delegation noted with appreciation the report contained in document A/33/238 concerning the effective mobilization of women in development. However, further research was necessary. Her delegation hoped that a more comprehensive and action-oriented study, as suggested by the Secretary-General in his report, would be undertaken without delay. Until full participation of women in all aspects of social and economic life had been realized, efforts to improve the quality of life for all would not be successful.

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5. Mr. MAAMOURI (Tunisia), introducing on behalf of the Group of 77 three draft resolutions under agenda item 58, said that draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.62, entitled "Multilateral development assistance for the exploration of natural resources", was based mainly on the conclusions of the report submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/176 (A/33/256). In the preamble, the sponsors noted the importance of natural resources exploration and development to the economies of the developing countries. With regard to draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.63, entitled "Economic co-operation among developing countries", the sponsors felt that the request to the Secretary-General, in paragraph 7, to convene various meetings in order to promote the objectives of subregional, regional and interregional economic co-operation among developing countries was not excessive or inappropriate and was in accordance with decisions taken by the General Assembly, especially at its seventh special session. Draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.65 and Corr.1 related to protectionism, which was increasingly hindering the expansion of world trade, particularly that of the developing countries. The sponsors believed that it was time for the General Assembly to clearly express its concern in that regard. The kind of redeployment of industries called for in paragraph 3 was vital to developing countries, but also to developed countries and to world trade in general.
6. The draft resolutions submitted by the Group of 77 were very important and had been carefully formulated in an attempt to make them acceptable to all Member States. The sponsors were, of course, prepared to enter into consultations on them with all countries concerned.
7. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee would resume consideration of the draft resolutions when it had received definite information on the financial implications. It was not yet known whether there were any financial implications in the case of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.62. A statement of the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.63 would be circulated. Draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.65 and Corr.1 had no financial implications.
8. Mr. DALTON (United Kingdom) agreed with the representative of Tunisia that the draft resolutions were very important, and welcomed the opportunity for consultations on a number of aspects. He suggested that the consultations should be arranged by the Chairman or the appropriate Vice-Chairman in the normal way.
9. His delegation hoped that draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.62 could be adopted by consensus. Certain paragraphs, however, caused some difficulty. With regard to paragraph 2, his delegation noted the view expressed by the group of experts, particularly in paragraphs 14 and 47 of the Secretary-General's report (A/33/256), that there would be limits to what the proposed short-term missions could hope to achieve. Furthermore, it was important that those activities should be undertaken in conjunction with relevant exploration activities financed and organized within the United Nations system. His delegation would therefore be interested to know the financial implications as soon as possible and would appreciate a statement from the Secretariat indicating when that information could be expected. In the view of his delegation, the missions should be financed through UNDP. With regard to paragraph 7, the proposals of the group of experts with regard to the transfer

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(Mr. Dalton, United Kingdom)

of technology should be implemented as soon as possible. The General Assembly should take note of the recommendations and request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Committee on Natural Resources regarding their implementation. Further debate on those proposals should be avoided.

10. The CHAIRMAN said that the officers of the Committee would decide as soon as possible which of them should preside over the informal consultations on the draft resolutions introduced by the representative of Tunisia, according to the subitem concerned.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)
(A/C.2/33/L.59, L.64, L.66, L.67)

11. Mr. TURPIN (Senegal), introducing on behalf of the sponsors draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.66, concerning the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region, said that it was based on texts already adopted at the summer sessions of the Governing Council of UNDP and the Economic and Social Council. Paragraph 8 had been revised to end with the words "recovery and rehabilitation programme", the rest of the paragraph being deleted. The sponsors of the draft resolution hoped that it could be adopted by consensus.

12. Mr. LABBAN (Kuwait), introducing on behalf of the sponsors draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.67, concerning assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon, said that the words "in Beirut" should be inserted after the words "to establish" in paragraph 3. He announced that Australia, Bolivia, Greece, Maldives and Peru had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

13. Mr. MAAMOURI (Tunisia), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.64 on behalf of the Group of 77, said that the title of the draft resolution should read: "Sixth replenishment of the International Development Association and increase in the capital of the World Bank". The purpose of the draft resolution was to enable two agencies to which the Group of 77 attached particular importance, IDA and the World Bank, to continue their activities in behalf of the developing countries. In the view of the sponsors, it was not too early to begin urgent negotiations on the sixth replenishment of IDA, whose commitment capacity under the fifth replenishment would expire in June 1980.

14. The CHAIRMAN said that draft resolutions A/C.2/33/L.64 and A/C.2/33/L.66 had no financial implications.

15. He announced that Norway had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/33/L.59, concerning assistance to Zambia.

AGENDA ITEM 66: UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (continued) (A/C.2/33/L.44/Rev.1, A/C.2/33/L.45/Rev.1)

16. Mr. PIZA ESCALANTE (Costa Rica), introducing on behalf of the sponsors the

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(Mr. Piza Escalante, Costa Rica)

revised text of the draft resolution on the establishment of a University for Peace (A/C.2/33/L.44/Rev.1), said that it was the result of a consensus reached in informal consultations. He therefore hoped that the Committee would adopt it by consensus.

17. Mr. KOCH (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his delegation was still without instructions on the revised text, although it had accepted it ad referendum. He therefore suggested that the decision on the draft resolution should be postponed to a later meeting.

18. It was so decided.

19. Mr. DONNELLY (United Kingdom) said that, in connexion with the draft resolution on the United Nations University already adopted by the Committee (A/C.2/33/L.45/Rev.1), his delegation wished to announce a United Kingdom contribution of £5 million to that part of the Endowment Fund which was devoted to work relating to developing countries.

AGENDA ITEM 64: FOOD PROBLEMS: REPORT OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (continued)
(A/C.2/33/L.26/Rev.1)

20. Mr. BARCELÓ (Mexico) said he understood that the revised version of the draft resolution on the Mexico Declaration of the World Food Council (A/C.2/33/L.26/Rev.1) was ready for adoption by the Committee.

21. Mr. KOCH (Federal Republic of Germany) suggested that the decision on the draft resolution should be postponed to the following meeting.

22. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at noon.