



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 65th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MWANGAGUHUNGA (Uganda)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 58: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)

(b) RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/33/410 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1, A/33/3/Add.1 (part IV))

1. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to documents A/33/410 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1 and A/33/3/Add.1 (part IV) and said that the General Committee had met that morning in order to consider the organization of the work of the General Assembly up to the end of the current session. At that meeting, he had informed the General Committee of the situation with regard to the documents which the Second Committee had before it and of the decision taken the previous day by the Economic and Social Council (A/33/3/Add.1 (part IV), paras. 8 (a) and (b)), in which the Council had expressed the hope that the General Assembly could give full consideration to the important questions connected with the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations and particularly with the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation.

2. The General Committee had agreed to recommend to the General Assembly that the current session should be resumed on 15 January 1979 for a period of one week to 10 days. He was confident that, if the General Assembly approved that recommendation, subitem 58 (b) could be given full consideration at that time. To that end, the relevant proposals should be submitted by the second day of the resumed session at the latest, which would allow sufficient time for holding consultations on the matter, studying the relevant administrative and financial implications and concluding the work within the time allotted.

3. Mr. KAABACHI (Tunisia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that he wished categorically to reiterate its dissatisfaction with the long delay in the publication of document A/33/410/Add.1 which had been planned for March of the current year but had not occurred until 18 December. That delay had caused great difficulties for the Group of 77, which attached great importance to the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system at a time when it was necessary to be particularly active with regard to meetings on economic items. Now the delay was preventing the Committee from concluding its work on time. It was also necessitating a resumption of the current session in 1979, a year in which the schedule of meetings was already excessively heavy, creating special difficulties for small countries.

4. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Assistant Secretary-General), Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters) said that if the General Assembly held a resumed session in January 1979 it would be necessary to make important changes in the schedule of meetings. He was consulting with the units concerned so that Governments could be informed once the General Assembly had taken a decision on that matter.

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5. In reply to questions asked by Mr. BENHOCINE (Algeria), Mr. ABUAH (Nigeria) and Mr. LAZAREVIC (Yugoslavia), he said that it would not be possible to supply detailed information on the meetings which would be affected by the resumption of the current session of the General Assembly in January 1979 until the General Assembly had taken a decision on that matter, since it would be necessary to know the dates of the resumed session, what conference services would be required and other relevant data. Once that information was available, informal consultations would be held with all concerned in order to find a generally acceptable solution, which would be made known at a plenary meeting of the General Assembly or by other appropriate means.
6. The CHAIRMAN said that according to paragraph 7 of the addendum to the report of the Economic and Social Council contained in document A/33/3/Add.1 (part IV), the Council had adopted a decision recommending that the General Assembly decide that the report of the Council on the implementation of section II of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197, of 20 December 1977, should be submitted to it at its thirty-fourth session.
7. If there were no objections he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend that the General Assembly should adopt the decision recommended by the Economic and Social Council.
8. It was so decided.
9. Mr. MAKEEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he had no objections to the decision taken by the Committee, on the understanding that the report to be drawn up in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/197 would be presented to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.
10. The CHAIRMAN said that he agreed with the interpretation of the representative of the USSR.
11. The Committee had concluded its work for the thirty-third session except for consideration of subitem 58 (b), which it had not been able to complete because, owing to circumstances beyond its control, it had not had the relevant documents before it at the proper time. He felt confident that work could be completed during the resumed session if the General Assembly so decided.
12. He wished to take that occasion to express his gratitude to the regional groups and the members of the Committee, the Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteur, the précis-writers, the interpreters and in general the members of the Secretariat who had co-operated with the Committee.

The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.