



# Economic and Social Council

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## Substantive session of 2009

Coordination segment

### Provisional summary record of the 18th meeting

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Friday, 10 July 2009, at 3 p.m.

*President:* Mr. Soborun (Vice President) . . . . . (Mauritius)

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*In the absence of Ms. Lucas (Luxembourg), Mr. Soborun (Mauritius), Vice-President, took the Chair*

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

**The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2008 of the Economic and Social Council (agenda item 4)**

1. **The President**, opening the coordination segment, said that the 2008 ministerial declaration entitled "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development" (E/2008/L.10) had stressed that the international implementation of the globally agreed framework for action had been threatened by multiple and interrelated challenges, ranging from financial instability to a global economic slowdown, rising food and fuel prices, and the impact of environmental degradation and climate change. The current global financial and economic crisis had made it obvious that the existing growth paths were neither sustainable nor conducive to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals.

2. It was necessary to adopt a new approach that would reconcile short-term sectoral policies and objectives with the long-term goal of sustainable development. That approach would require a more balanced pursuit of social, economic and environmental objectives. The Declaration had called for urgent and concerted measures in a number of areas related to sustainable development, such as agriculture, rural development, water management, energy, urbanization, institutional development and social equality. The United Nations system could play an important role in promoting the integration of those dimensions into national development strategies. The 2009 coordination segment offered the Council an opportunity to assess the role of the United Nations system in supporting national efforts to pursue sustainable development.

3. The coordination segment would also focus on the Council's role in the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up reserved to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits. The internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), had increasingly forged a shared vision of development, based on an integrated and holistic

approach to the economic, social and environmental dimensions. Although the Council had made significant progress in enhancing coherence and coordination among the follow-up activities and institutions concerned, major challenges remained because national Governments and the United Nations bodies entrusted with such follow-up continued to operate along sectoral lines.

4. The new mechanisms of the Council - the Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) and the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) - constituted an important step towards the development of a more comprehensive framework for all follow-up activities carried out by various national and United Nations entities. The coordination segment provided the Council with an opportunity to consider ways to enhance follow-up policy coherence through those two mechanisms.

5. **Mr. Stelzer** (Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs), presenting the Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2008/09 (E/2009/67), said that the report described the main developments in inter-agency cooperation within the framework of the Chief Executives Board (CEB) during the period covering its October 2008 and April 2009 sessions.

6. Building on intergovernmental and the important internal reforms carried out earlier, CEB had responded in a timely and integrated manner to multiple demands placed on the United Nations system. The three pillars of CEB - the High Level Committee on Policies (HLCP, formerly High Level Committee on Programmes), the High Level Committee on Management (HLCM) and the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) - worked closely together to strengthen coordination on programmatic, administrative and operational issues across the system.

7. In view the many-sided crisis, CEB had tasked the HLCP Chair to lead a detailed review of the challenges facing the international community and of possible United Nations system responses, with a view to developing a comprehensive and coherent strategy. Two important principles had emerged. First, the responses to the crisis should be coordinated at the international level. Second, they should address the fundamental imbalances which had characterized the global economy before the crisis. CEB had endorsed nine initiatives, which had been recommended to it by

HLCP and concerned the following areas: Additional financing for the most vulnerable; food security; trade; green economy; a global jobs pact; a social protection floor; humanitarian action, security and social stability; technology and innovation; and monitoring and analysis.

8. Every one of those initiatives was led by one or more CEB member organizations having the appropriate competence. At a recent meeting, the leaders of the nine initiatives had presented initial frameworks for action, highlighting the steps to be taken on an urgent basis at the global level in view of the respective national needs and priorities. The frameworks clearly distinguished between those steps from measures aimed at sustained human security over the long run. That meeting had served to chart out a common framework for implementing the initiatives, in particular at the operational level, and to agree on an uncomplicated reporting system to keep track of progress made and to ensure unity of purpose across the initiatives. All those initiatives would require support and the necessary resources.

9. Under the leadership of the Secretary-General, efforts launched by CEB and HLCP in early 2007 in response to the global challenge of climate change had taken more concrete shape during the reporting period. Once the initial programmatic work had been completed at Headquarters, emphasis had shifted to obtaining results at the regional and country levels. In addition, CEB had reviewed the progress made towards mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in the policies and strategies of the United Nations system. Given the regional dimension of that issue and of other global challenges, HLCP had focused on how best to articulate the linkage between its own policy analysis function and the analogous function of the regional coordination mechanisms, convened by the regional commissions.

10. With regard to operational activities, CEB had endorsed the management and accountability framework of the United Nations development and resident coordinator system, including a functional firewall for the resident coordinator system. Moreover, the focus of the “Delivering as One” pilot projects carried out in eight countries had shifted to achieving tangible results.

11. In an increasingly difficult operating environment, CEB had expressed serious concerns over

the increased risks faced by United Nations personnel in many parts of the world. At the request of the Secretary-General, a process of preparing actionable recommendations and options for more effective system-wide security management had been initiated.

12. CEB had actively pursued the development of a plan of action for the harmonization of business practices in the United Nations system. The plan covered all major management functions of the system’s organizations and would be implemented on extrabudgetary funding. A first contribution of approximately US\$270,000 had been generously made by the Government of New Zealand.

13. HLCM had identified a common conceptual framework for introducing capital budgeting into the organizations of the system. A joint United Nations system staff directory was currently being developed. Progress in the area of human resources had included the finalization of a policy statement on staff with disabilities, the introduction of a questionnaire for the exit interviews of staff leaving an organization and the launch of a review of the mandatory age of retirement. The Procurement Network set up by HLCM aimed at harmonizing purchasing processes and practices in field offices, particularly in countries where the “Delivering as One” pilot projects were being implemented. Substantial improvements had also been made to the United Nations Global Marketplace website, used by more than 2,500 United Nations procurement practitioners and hosting information on approximately 13,000 potential suppliers.

14. Lastly, cooperation between CEB and the Joint Inspection Unit had become closer during the reporting period

*The meeting was suspended at 3.40 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.*

*Panel discussion on “The role of the United Nations system in promoting sustainable development in the context of current challenges”*

15. **The President** said that, despite the broad international consensus supporting it, the comprehensive sustainable development framework established by the United Nations system was still inadequately implemented and progress towards sustainable development had been limited. In addition, successive recent crises - the financial and economic

crisis and the food and energy crises - had clearly shown that current paths to growth were unsustainable. The challenge faced by the United Nations system was to lend more effective support to countries taking steps to implement the sustainable development agenda.

16. The panel discussion provided an opportunity for the Council to understand the short- and long-term impact of current challenges on sustainable development, to identify ways in which those challenges could be addressed, and to recommend measures designed to enable the United Nations system, by strengthening its role, to support national efforts more effectively. The Council could explore ways for CEB and HLCP to promote greater coherence and cooperation within the system in order to facilitate synergies between programmes and activities related to sustainable development, and for the functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies to enhance policy coherence among the various system interventions.

17. **Mr. Stelzer** (Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs), speaking as moderator, said that the efforts undertaken so far had aimed at striking a balance between the three components of sustainable development: economic growth, social development and environmental protection. Although the current crisis required pursuing vigorous economic growth, there was awareness of the need to reduce the adverse environmental impact of such growth as much as possible. Social development should be a priority and all strategies employed should focus on job creation and decent employment for all. Over and above considering the short- or long-term impact of the crises experienced and how to mitigate their effects, the panel discussion offered an opportunity to review the initiatives launched by the United Nations system and to look into ways of strengthening them. That task was particularly important in view of the system's determination to translate the rich normative framework on sustainable development into policies and practical measures supporting national development strategies.

18. **Mr. Jarraud** (Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)), accompanying his statement with a computerized slide presentation, said that he would address the issues on which his organization, in cooperation with its United Nations partners, could take action that made a difference. In

the last 25 years, natural disasters - related to climate, water or extreme weather conditions - had affected all countries to various degrees. With climate change, those phenomena were becoming more frequent, more intense and probably more devastating in various parts of the world. It was therefore vital to integrate prevention into the sustainable development process and to bear in mind that developing countries were the ones most gravely affected. In fact, as a proportion of GDP, the economic impact of such phenomena on sustainable development amounted to 12-25 per cent among the poorest countries compared to 2-3 per cent among the wealthiest. In the last 50 years, economic losses due to meteorological disasters had increased by a factor of 50, while losses in human lives had decreased by a factor of 10 thanks to the preventive measures taken and to early warning system improvements.

19. In the case of geophysical disasters (earthquakes and volcanic eruptions), the situation was different. As the current state of knowledge did not yet allow developing early warning systems, the number of human lives lost had not decreased and investment in relevant research should be considerably reinforced. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) regularly prepared reports on relevant accumulated knowledge, drawing on contributions made by all United Nations bodies and programmes under the leadership of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and WMO. Moreover, the United Nations had made significant progress in cooperation and coordination of action related to climate change, and seemed determined to pursue that effort up to and beyond the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The action taken was based on two complementary pillars: mitigation of climate change effects and adaptation to such change. Adaptation entailed measures which varied considerably among sectors, for instance between health and agriculture, and therefore should be pursued on a sectoral basis in cooperation with the respective specialized United Nations agencies or programmes.

20. United Nations joint action on climate change focused on five key areas, namely emission reduction, technology transfer, funding (for mitigation and adaptation measures), capacity-building and adaptation; and four intersectoral areas, namely

knowledge assessment (under the aegis of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and WMO), support for action undertaken at the national, regional and world levels, public awareness raising and communication, and the climate-neutral United Nations initiative. Strengthening the observation network in developing countries and all related databases and risk reduction activities was a crucial task, which WMO addressed through various initiatives (meetings on climate issues) and training programmes. Water was another area in which the United Nations cooperated closely with various organizations, particularly within the framework of the UN-Water mechanism, which coordinated the action of 26 bodies and programmes.

21. Convinced of the need to provide links between the various actors, such as Governments, the private sector, private individuals and farmers, and data suppliers and researchers in order to ensure that the decisions taken were based on the information available, the WMO Secretary-General encouraged all heads of State and Government to participate in the Third World Climate Conference (WCC-3) to be held in early September 2009.

22. **Ms. Söder** (Assistant Director-General at the Office of United Nations Coordination and Millennium Development Goals Follow-up of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)) said that cooperation among the components of the United Nations system, particularly in the area of climate change, was considerably more active than might be thought. For instance, in parallel with her duties in FAO, she was a member of UNDG and that double capacity facilitated coordination between the activities of those two bodies.

23. According to FAO estimates, the number of persons suffering from malnutrition was expected to exceed one billion by 2009, while enormous challenges remained to be met in order to ensure access to food, water and land and to deal with the effects of climate change. The world population was expected to attain 9.2 billion persons by 2050. To nourish them, the global food production should double. With water and land resources more limited than in the past, more efficient agricultural methods should be adopted. The main challenge consisted in boosting agricultural output while limiting its environmental effects. It was therefore urgent to adopt sustainable production methods. Agriculture and livestock practices should be

adapted in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from those activities.

24. Against that backdrop, the recent G8 commitment to mobilizing US\$20 billion in order to ensure food security and to help developing countries to achieve self-sustenance was particularly encouraging. That decision had been the outcome of more than a year's efforts by the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis and of close cooperation among the relevant bodies, including the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and FAO.

25. The High-Level Conference on World Food Security organized in Rome in 2008 by FAO had led to the adoption of a declaration, in which the participants had pledged to cooperate closely in order to meet current challenges related to climate change and bioenergy. Although they had failed to reach a consensus on biofuel, they had made a commitment to resuming consideration of that issue and to adopting a joint position at future international meetings on sustainable development, agriculture and biofuel.

26. At country level, FAO developed programmes aimed at mitigating the effects of climate change and helping States to adapt to it and to introduce ecosystem-friendly agricultural production methods. Such programmes were almost always developed in cooperation with other United Nations bodies. An example in point was the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme), jointly implemented by FAO, UNDP and UNEP.

27. Lastly, UNDG was actively preparing to participate in the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, to be held in Copenhagen in December 2009. Within the framework of the development partnerships which it had formed, UNDG endeavoured to promote synergies, eliminate duplication and encourage the developing countries to own the development programmes designed for their benefit.

28. **Mr. Bouvier** (Regional Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for Europe (ROE)) said that the panel discussion was taking place at a strategic time, namely in the wake of two significant events: the first meeting of the

Consultative Group of Ministers or High-level Representatives on International Environmental Governance, held in Belgrade, Serbia on 27-28 June 2009, and the Global Environmental Governance Forum, held at Glion, Switzerland on 29 June 2009. As an outcome of that forum, participants had underscored the need for radical change in economic thinking and in social attitudes towards the environment.

29. In view of the economic and financial crisis, initiatives such as the Global Green New Deal were of particular significance insofar as they mobilized the capabilities of the various participating United Nations bodies towards a common goal, namely preventing the adoption of unsustainable development models by developing countries and transition economies in a bid to overcome the crisis. Those models mortgaged the future of the environment. Actually, the crisis provided an opportunity to invest in such sectors as energy-efficient technologies, renewable energy, public transport, ecologically sustainable agriculture and sustainable management of natural resources.

30. As the date of the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC neared and the transition of the global economy to low carbon-emission and energy-consumption activities was under way, the pace of that change was still an open question, as the transition largely depended on the political will of global leaders.

31. **Mr. Stelzer** (moderator) observed that the panellists had described not only the activities of their respective organizations, but also how those bodies identified comprehensive and coordinated solutions through the United Nations system. That new attitude had been noticeable for a few years. For instance, the term "climate change" had been coined in the 1990s. Yet only when the Member States had demanded concerted measures had CEB, for the first time, adopted a common position, which the United Nations Secretary-General had then presented at the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (Bali, December 2007) as the point of view of the United Nations system as a whole, lending it additional weight during the negotiations.

32. A second example related to the 2008 food crisis. Food shortages problem had by no means been a new problem. In fact, various summits had already been held and a number of strategies had been adopted on that issue but those strategies had never been

implemented. In 2008, however, hunger riots had broken out in 22 countries within one week, turning the food crisis into a security issue and a United Nations emergency. CEB, whose 2008 session had coincided with the riots, had held a small informal discussion with the United Nations Secretary-General who, a few hours later, had issued a brief communiqué specifying measures to be taken by every United Nations body concerned in order to find a concerted solution to the crisis. The High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, set up subsequent to that meeting, had become functional within a short time. In six weeks, it had drawn up the Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA). The Economic and Social Council had played a significant role in that process, holding, for the first time, an emergency session on the food crisis. The Security Council President's unprecedented attendance at one of the meetings of the Economic and Social Council had highlighted the relation between economic and social problems on one hand and global security on the other.

33. The food crisis was not due to scarcity of foodstuffs but to inequalities in the distribution of such products among regions. Theoretically, global food production could meet mankind's food needs. Hopefully, the resources necessary for implementing the strategies coordinated by the United Nations, and in particular the CFA drawn up by the High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, would become available thanks to the recent G8 commitments. Lastly, he invited the participants to engage in dialogue with the panellists.

34. **Mr. Oldham** (Canada), noting that the panellists had largely referred to broad and abstract principles, such as coordination and partnership, asked whether the bodies which they represented took steps to ensure that those principles were applied when programmes were implemented in the countries concerned and that the persons entrusted with such implementation had sufficiently assimilated those principles.

35. **Mr. Mbuende** (Namibia) asked whether WMO offered training programmes to ensure that its staff members who participated in intergovernmental negotiations on climate change were adequately qualified for that task and able to share the knowledge they had in their area of competence. Noting that the scale of the climate change adaptation projects referred to was too modest to allow any noticeable impact, he

wondered whether more ambitious strategies could be developed in that area.

36. With regard to the mitigation of climate change effects, setting the percentage of reduction in greenhouse gas emissions was less crucial than determining the extent to which non-emitting developing countries suffering the consequences of such emissions could absorb those effects. That question was almost never discussed and no one sought the views of those mainly concerned. Lastly, since transition to an ecologically sustainable economy was too costly for developing countries in the short term and they therefore needed technology transfer to engage effectively in such a process, the developed countries should form partnerships with countries aspiring to environment-friendly industrialization. Accordingly, he would be glad to know how the United Nations planned to ensure that the developed countries honoured their commitments in that regard.

37. **Mr. Khan** (Pakistan), observing that the issues of sustainable development and the economic and financial crisis fell under the purview of various bodies and CEB mainly ensured operational coherence, said that it would be appropriate to address also the issue of coherence among the various standard-setting activities undertaken. He would welcome information on how the United Nations bodies could contribute to ensuring such coherence.

38. **Mr. Bonamigo** (Brazil) said that Brazil followed with great interest the debate currently taking place in FAO with regard to food security, the relation between food and energy and the controversial issue of biofuel. He wished to stress that those matters called for concerted action by the international community and for the establishment of close partnerships.

39. **Mr. Stelzer** (moderator) requested the panellists to use specific examples to illustrate the points made in their replies. The main question was how to integrate the various activities, especially standard-setting action, at the global, regional and national levels. In the framework of CEB, the Secretary-General met with the 28 heads of the organizations of the United Nations system twice a year. CEB was based on three pillars. HLCP performed normative functions; it examined the policies and decisions submitted for adoption. HLCM dealt with issues related to administrative practice and security within the system. UNDG ensured linkage at country level and was tasked with implementing

decisions made in the framework of CEB. The issue of measures to be taken for adapting national programmes to the situation caused by the crisis was currently under discussion. Thus, the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (EC ESA) was convening at the same time as the current meeting to discuss, in particular, ways of making the system's macroeconomic expertise available to the countries.

40. **Mr. Jarraud** (Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)), referring to the link between high-level coordination and action on the ground, stressed that the United Nations system included resident and non-resident organizations and programmes. Some non-resident organizations worked on the ground through national bodies. For instance, WMO called on national meteorological units, was such an example. It was therefore necessary to synchronize action and to ensure that the national bodies concerned established contact with the non-resident organizations' units on the ground. Accordingly, WMO requested national meteorological units to maintain liaison with the local UNEP office or other resident organizations, for instance FAO or WFP with regard to food security.

41. As a specific example of inter-agency coordination on the ground, he referred to a pilot project carried out in Ethiopia with a view to forestalling the effects of drought and introducing financial tools for responding to that phenomenon in a timely manner. WFP, FAO, the World Bank and various other partners participated in the project and WMO provided support. The role of WMO consisted in pre-defining objective indicators for determining quickly, at any given time, whether or not drought was at hand, thereby obviating the need for lengthy discussions. Another example was the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), a framework project whose participants included all organizations of the United Nations system and some non-system bodies, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the World Bank. The tsunami which had struck South Asia in December 2004 had highlighted how difficult it was to set up a functional national mechanism for addressing rare situations. To that end, it was necessary to adopt a multi-hazard approach, as the United Nations had been doing through ISDR. That way, in Bangladesh, recourse to the same infrastructure - alarm systems, telecommunications and media - was possible in case of a tsunami, tidal wave or storm.

42. He admitted that the United Nations had failed in a number of cases because it had been impossible to pool the resources needed but assured the participants that the system sought to draw the right lessons from those failures. The difficulties encountered in achieving coordination at the international level were of same nature as those faced by countries in ensuring national coordination. Overcoming those difficulties required concerted action.

43. The role of WMO in the UNFCCC process consisted in providing necessary information, particularly through IPCC, whose report formed the basis for all discussions on adapting to climate change and mitigating its effects. Such discussions included deliberations on the required funding, which should be viewed from a long-term (50- or 100-year) perspective. The work of WCC-3 was expected to make a positive contribution to the UNFCCC process. The outcome of that conference, particularly regarding assistance to developing countries and capacity transfer, would be crucial to the implementation of decisions to be made at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in 2009.

44. **Ms. Söder** (Assistant Director-General at the Office of United Nations Coordination and Millennium Development Goals Follow-up of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)) said that the “Delivering as One” pilot projects carried out in eight countries were specifically aimed at sustainable development and showed how policies could translate into tangible measures and how a certain coherence could be ensured among operations on the ground. Thus, in Vietnam, the Government had constructed an environment-friendly building which would house all United Nations organizations present in the country. The slowness of the process was partly due to competition among the various organizations, which vied for resources as they all sought progress on the ground. Actually, the more they would succeed in arranging joint project funding and partnerships, such as the “Delivering as One” initiative, the more they would manage to pool their efforts and resources. The work of UNDG was increasingly guided by that approach with a view to setting up a joint results-based system.

45. The work carried out as part of the UNFCCC process for implementing development plans was another example of coordination efforts at country level. The difficulty lay in distinguishing between tasks

aimed at development and steps designed purely to ensure adaptation to climate change, the two aspects being interrelated. Yet promoting sustainable development by using the system’s accumulated knowledge amounted to facilitating adaptation. In that connection, it was to be hoped that, subsequent to the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, both the developing and the donor countries would make use of that knowledge.

46. She recalled that, under the Charter of the United Nations, one of the functions of the Economic and Social Council consisted in coordinating the various organizations of the United Nations system. The meeting held early in the week to consider ways in which the United Nations system could contribute to solving the economic crisis constituted a recent example of efforts to enhance coordination between activities in order to obtain better results.

47. **Mr. Bouvier** (Regional Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for Europe (ROE)) referred to a series of specific examples of cooperation among the organizations of the United Nations system. A project jointly implemented by UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in a dozen countries, including Haiti, Rwanda and Tajikistan, aimed at setting up national centres for reducing pollution generated by production. A joint UNDP-UNEP programme addressed the relationship between poverty and environmental issues. UNDP, UNEP, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Regional Environment Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) participated in the Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC), set up in the Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asia with a view to implementing, in cooperation with national bodies, 53 specific projects designed to ensure that sustainable development and the environment were taken into consideration in addressing security issues. UNDP and UNEP had launched the “Territorial Approach to Climate Change” initiative in partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). That initiative promoted capacity-building at the national and sub-national levels with a view to developing projects related to climate change, which could be implemented after the



Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC. In fact, a major difficulty expected to arise in the wake of that Conference, especially if it was successful, would be the implementation of the mechanisms which would have been adopted.

48. Those examples attested to genuine cooperation on the ground. Such cooperation, building on earlier contacts established by the various organizations with the national authorities, was conducive to comprehensive action and helped to combine certain partners' national view of environmental issues with a more international or regional approach specific to those organizations. Referring to the issue of standard-setting action and coherence, he suggested seeking guidance in the Report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2008 and programme of work for 2009 (A/63/34), which indicated that the Global Ministerial Environment Forum should not address itself solely to UNEP but to the system as a whole, thereby promoting coherence at both the normative and the financial levels.

49. **Mr. Stelzer** (moderator) noted that the issues dealt with had not been exhausted and could elicit further responses as part of the process for enhancing coherence across the United Nations system.

*The meeting rose at 6 p.m.*