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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 20th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. HARLAND (New Zealand)

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

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- (p) DEVELOPMENT OF THE ENERGY OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (A/39/420).

1. Mr. OUTCHINNIKOV (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) said that the participants in the Summit Economic Conference of CMEA member States, held in Moscow in June 1984, in their conviction that scientific and technological progress was of paramount importance, had drafted a comprehensive programme of scientific and technological progress as a basis for formulating a co-ordinated and, in some fields, uniform policy for solving the most important scientific and technological problems and applying the results thereof to production.

2. As was common knowledge, CMEA had played an active part in the preparation and proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development which had adopted the Vienna Programme of Action, designed, inter alia, to ensure more effective utilization of scientific and technological potential for solving development problems at the national, regional and world levels, particularly in the interests of developing countries, and it would continue to further the implementation of the progressive provisions of the Programme of Action.

3. Thus, in November 1983, the CMEA Committee on Scientific and Technological Co-operation had approved a programme of joint measures to be taken by its member countries for implementing the Vienna Programme of Action. Those measures included the preparation and transmittal to the developing countries of information materials, scientific studies and publications illustrating the multi-faceted scientific and technical co-operation activities carried out in the CMEA framework.

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(Mr. Outchinnikov)

4. CMEA's co-operation with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) was developing successfully, particularly with its subsidiary body of Senior Advisers to the ECE Governments on science and technology. The CMEA secretariat had submitted a number of specific proposals for strengthening co-operation between CMEA and ECE on scientific and technological matters of mutual interest, such as the determination of long-term prospects in scientific and technical policy for the European region, more active co-operation in conducting joint research on technological forecasting, utilization of new sources of energy, fuels, automation, microprocessors, robot technology and biotechnology, and the study of the impact of scientific and technological progress on economic and social development, and the identification of measures for facilitating the transfer of technology, including the transfer between East and West. CMEA had recently provided the ECE secretariat with information on the rendering of scientific and technical assistance and the transfer of technology for evening out the economic development levels of the CMEA member countries.

5. CMEA had also planned more active co-operation in science and technology with UNESCO under projects of mutual interest, such as those included in the second medium-term Programme (1984-1989), mainly concerning science and technology policy, the training and improvement of scientific cadres, the formulation of methodology for comparing statistics on science and technology, and the improvement of international specialized systems of scientific and technological information.

6. The CMEA Committee on Scientific and Technological Co-operation had recently organized a number of international seminars for CMEA member countries on topical problems relating to the development of science and technology and the training of engineers and scientific workers. Specialists from a number of developing and developed countries had taken part in those seminars, as had also representatives of UNESCO and of other international organizations.

7. CMEA, aware that most problems connected with protecting the environment against pollution by harmful substances were of a world-wide nature and could thus be solved effectively on an international basis within the CMEA framework, had been promoting large-scale scientific, technical and operational co-operation in that field since 1972. The results thereof were used in the national economies of the CMEA member countries. It had thus been possible to introduce facilities and equipment for eliminating harmful substances. Standards had been developed for determining pollutants in the environment, and environmental protection programmes had been introduced in educational establishments. The long-term co-operation of the CMEA member countries was also aimed at implementing the provisions of the Convention on Long-Distance Transboundary Air Pollution and the Declaration on Low and Non-Waste Technology, adopted at the high-level meeting in ECE, and at implementing projects under the Agreement on co-operation between CMEA and UNEP, concluded in 1979.

8. The development of CMEA co-operation with other international organizations on environmental protection also facilitated the implementation of practical measures for improving the quality of the environment and strengthening international scientific and technical ties.

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(Mr. Outchinnikov)

9. Since 1971, the CMEA member countries, under the Programme of Multilateral Scientific and Technical Co-operation between CMEA and UNEP, had been carrying out activities on the development of renewable sources of energy, such as solar, wind and geothermal energy. The basic goals were a wider utilization of sources of energy, the development of basic scientific research, and the provision of an industrial base for the wide integration of new types of energy in the power balance. The countries parties to the Agreement had gained positive experience in the direct conversion of solar into electric energy and in the utilization thereof for heating and cooling houses.

10. The CMEA countries were thus making a practical contribution towards implementing the Nairobi Programme of Action, namely, with regard to planning priority courses of action, organizing co-operation for solving fuel and energy problems, converting solar to electric energy and training skilled scientific and technical cadres for the power sector.

11. Mr. AKAKPO (Togo) observed that after noting the lack of progress in eradicating hunger and malnutrition and, what was worse, a deterioration in the situation, particularly in Africa, which was afflicted with a chronic food crisis, the World Food Council, meeting in Addis Ababa from 11 to 15 June 1984, had reaffirmed the goal of eradicating hunger and malnutrition in the world, set by the 1974 world Food Conference. In that connection, it had requested the international community to increase the flow of financial resources to developing countries in the food and agriculture sector and to seek food self-sufficiency, in particular within the framework of national strategies.

12. Having become aware at a very early stage of the need for such action, the Government of Togo had launched the "Green Revolution" in 1977 with a view to eradicating hunger and malnutrition. To that end, important steps had been taken to develop agricultural infrastructures, to improve training and the dissemination of information, and to mobilize and increase the awareness of all citizens. In December 1982, the Parti du rassemblement du peuple togolais had stressed the need to develop livestock production in order to complete the Green Revolution. The population had responded whole-heartedly to that appeal and in the following years there had been an unprecedented abundance of foodstuffs in Togo.

13. The action taken by Togo had nevertheless encountered a number of obstacles: first, the infrastructures for the storage and conservation of surpluses were inadequate. Then there were the problems of the drought and desertification. Their combined effects had been so devastating that Togo had been included in the list of countries eligible to receive assistance from the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office under the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification. At the same time, the Government of Togo had decided to strengthen the national foodcrop office, known as "Togograins", which was responsible for purchasing, storing and marketing foodstuffs, and would place food on the market at affordable prices. Furthermore, a national solidarity fund financed through voluntary contributions had been established to enlarge storage capacity and improve conservation techniques.

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(Mr. Akakpo, Togo)

14. That effort deserved the support of the international community, especially with regard to the development or transfer of techniques for the storage and conservation of foodcrops. For that reason, his delegation echoed the appeal launched by the World Food Council at its tenth session for a substantial increase in the financial resources of the international agencies providing assistance relating to agriculture, especially FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme and the United Nations Development Programme.

15. Some States and international institutions had suggested that the food crisis in Africa might be caused essentially by the absence of production incentives and that it could therefore be solved simply by increasing the prices of agricultural products. That view not only underestimated the effects of the drought and desertification, but also disregarded the interdependence of the problems involved. In fact, an increase in the prices of those products at the national level did not depend exclusively on the will of the Governments concerned. It depended primarily on the prices of agricultural and industrial products and raw materials on international markets and on the extent to which the developing countries could dispose of their products freely. If protectionist measures were strengthened and if developing countries were asked to freeze prices, incomes and wages in all sectors of domestic economic activity, it was difficult for them to raise the price of food products without disturbing their internal equilibrium and provoking revolt. That measure and other measures could only be taken within the framework of genuine international economic co-operation.

16. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries was a key element of the new international economic order. If well organized, it could help to promote the collective autonomy of the developing countries. For that reason, Togo was an active member of the Conseil de l'Entente and of the African and Malagasy Common Organization, at the subregional level. That was also the reason why it had worked for the establishment of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Lastly, it had played an important role in the formulation and adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa.

17. At the interregional and world levels, Togo welcomed the adoption of the Caracas Programme of Action for Economic Co-operation Among Developing Countries. The implementation of that programme would certainly be of great benefit, as was shown by the results of the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Co-ordination Committee held at Cartagena from 3 to 8 May 1984.

18. The international community had helped to strengthen ECDC and TCDC, notably through the United Nations, UNCTAD and the High-Level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation Among Developing Countries, and it was to be hoped that it would reaffirm its support for that form of co-operation at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

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19. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, according to his delegation's position of principle, expressed during the general debate, the solution of current economic problems called for the strengthening of peace and security, the halting of the arms race imposed by imperialism, the restructuring of international economic relations and the initiation of co-operation among all States based on the principles of equal rights and mutual benefit. Agenda item 80 should be approached in that spirit.

20. His country, like many members of the Group of 77, considered that although the Fourth General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization had adopted certain measures which, on the whole, could be considered constructive, notably with regard to the strengthening of UNIDO's capacity to transform the decisions taken into action, it had proved impossible to reach agreement on many important problems whose solution would create favourable conditions for sustained industrial development in the developing countries. Owing to the obstructive attitude of certain Western States, the documents adopted by the Conference did not envisage any effective action to remove protectionist barriers and other obstacles to trade, reduce interest rates, solve the problem of indebtedness and the outflow of capital from developing countries and attenuate the negative effects of the activities of transnational corporations on the industrial and social development of those countries. The report of the Conference did indeed indicate that peace, security, disarmament and co-operation were prerequisites for the attainment of the objectives of economic and social development, but no concrete decision had been taken regarding the future activities of UNIDO, and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 38/188 J inviting the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations to broaden further their contribution to the cause of disarmament had remained a dead letter.

21. UNIDO could help the developing countries to industrialize, provided it respected their national development plans and concentrated on the creation and strengthening of basic industries, particularly in the public sector, the training of skilled personnel, the development of progressive methods of industrial development and the preparation of studies on the social aspects of industrialization. UNIDO had already demonstrated its support of the struggle of peoples for the right to free economic development by taking decisions on assistance to the Palestinian people channelled through the PLO, its sole legitimate representative, and on assistance to the southern African national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity.

22. The industrialization of the African countries raised very difficult problems. As executing agency for the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, UNIDO should continually seek to improve its means of action by using the available resources and voluntary contributions in the most effective way. There was, however, a tendency to use UNIDO as a means of permitting intervention by foreign private capital, especially the capital of transnational corporations, in the economies of developing countries. Thus, the UNIDO secretariat was seeking systematically to increase co-operation with the World Bank, which in fact meant creating in those countries the most favourable conditions for foreign private investment. That co-operation served the interests of foreign monopolies

(Mr. Lavrov, USSR)

and not the objectives of a genuine industrialization of the States concerned. His delegation firmly protested against the attempts made to divert from their objectives the investment programme managed by the World Bank and UNIDO and the System of Consultations. It considered that UNIDO should be given the means to contribute on a universal and democratic basis to the development of mutually beneficial industrial co-operation among all States and to the industrialization of the developing countries, in the best interests of all States members of that organization. With that aim in view, his country had approved of the conclusions of the conversion of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization into a specialized agency, set out in the report of the Secretary-General (A/39/376). It hoped that, once adopted by the General Assembly, those conclusions would be fully applied, in particular so as to ensure that there was equitable geographical representation at all levels of the UNIDO secretariat and that the interests of all groups of countries were taken into account in that organization's activities.

23. With regard to the food and agricultural situation, the objective of eradicating hunger, which the World Food Conference had set 10 years previously, was far from being attained in most of the developing countries, particularly those in Africa. Indeed, food problems could be solved only in a global manner, in a climate of détente and through the development of co-operation between States, based on equal rights, non-discrimination and mutual advantage. The tenth session of the World Food Council had drawn attention to the fact that peace and disarmament were essential for the strengthening of international co-operation and had stressed the importance of implementing the provisions of resolution 38/188 J. His delegation expected the secretariat of the World Food Council to take specific steps to that end.

24. However, the Council secretariat continued to evaluate the causes of hunger in the developing countries in a unilateral and tendentious manner. It did not take into account the negative effects on the food situation produced by the arms race, by unfair international economic relations and by the use of food as a weapon. At times, it even went so far as to suggest that the public and co-operative sectors should abandon activities in the area of agriculture and that agriculture should be placed in the hands of small farmers and left to the free play of supply and demand, with the well-known consequences that would entail: price increases, de facto discrimination against the poorest segments of the population and more severe food shortages.

25. Co-operation between the Soviet Union and the countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America in the food and agricultural sectors was directed primarily towards developing their production capacity in those sectors. Assistance in the area of irrigation, land development, silo construction and fertilizer production had resulted in an increase in agricultural production of sufficient proportions to feed 40 million inhabitants of developing countries.

26. The USSR helped to solve food problems at the world level by successfully carrying out the Soviet food programme. In 1983, total agricultural production had increased 5 per cent over 1982, and crop yields had also increased. In the Soviet

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(Mr. Lavrov, USSR)

Union and in the other countries of the socialist community, no one suffered from hunger or malnutrition. The same could not be said of some of the large Western countries, even those that were the world's biggest producers of foodstuffs.

27. As to the protection of the environment, because of the interdependence of the earth's ecosystems, the activities of UNEP must acquire a universal dimension for the sake of all the countries of the world. The research conducted by UNEP on the environmental effects of the arms race was particularly relevant in that connection. The note by the Secretary-General (A/39/544) described in detail the contribution of UNEP in the field of disarmament. It was disturbing to note that, at the last session of the Economic and Social Council, some of the Western countries had attempted to reopen the debate on resolution 38/188 J, despite the grave dangers inherent in the arms race.

28. The Soviet Union was helping to solve the problems related to environmental protection and to the rational use of natural resources, as was reflected in approximately 30 projects it had executed in recent years, in co-operation with UNEP, with a view to training experts from the developing countries or improving their skills. The Soviet Union endorsed the decisions concerning the impacts of apartheid on the environment and the protection of the interests of the Palestinian people, adopted by the UNEP Governing Council at its last session. Regarding decision 12/4, his delegation had reservations about assigning operational functions to UNEP in the field of technical assistance, since that might change the orientation of its activities and oblige it to place less emphasis on world ecological problems. To increase the effectiveness of UNEP activities, planning should be improved, taking into account the available financial resources, and, on that basis, its co-ordinating role should be strengthened.

29. As to the study on the environmental perspective of the year 2000 and beyond, the work of the Special Commission should be co-ordinated by the open-ended Intergovernmental Inter-sessional Preparatory Committee, and the cost of that undertaking should not be financed by the regular budget of the United Nations.

30. At its seventh session, the Commission on Human Settlements had adopted several important resolutions and an important decision in which it had called for the elimination of obstacles to the creation of normal living conditions for all peoples. In particular, it had appealed for a halt to the arms race, had envisaged increased assistance to victims of apartheid in South Africa and had condemned the criminal acts committed by Israel in the occupied Arab territories. The report of the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories (A/39/233) provided new evidence of the high-handed practices of the Israeli authorities. In view of the fact that it was very important to strengthen the role played by the Commission in co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations system in the field of human settlements, his delegation endorsed the proposal that, at the Commission's eighth session, consideration should be given to the problem of eliminating any duplication of work in that area. By the same token, it was important to develop co-operation between UNEP and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). His delegation

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(Mr. Lavrov, USSR)

also supported the Commission's resolution in which it had decided that the special theme to be considered at its eighth session should be "Planning and management of human settlements" and, at its ninth session, "The role of community participation in human settlement work". The consideration of those questions should enable the Commission to work more effectively with a view to improving the living conditions of the inhabitants of every country.

31. A strong public sector and national sovereignty over natural resources ensured the success of the key sectors of the economy, particularly the energy sector. Therefore, that was the direction in which to guide United Nations activities in the field of new and renewable sources of energy and the development of the energy resources of developing countries. In that connection, his delegation protested against the manoeuvres of certain Western countries which, under the label of "aid", sought to use the United Nations system as a means of injecting private foreign capital into the sectors that held the most promise for the development for the energy resources of developing countries. It was difficult to understand why the United Nations Secretariat took so little exception to those manoeuvres, as was clear from the report contained in document A/39/420. The report actually placed less emphasis on the interests of the developing countries in the context of international economic co-operation than on the subordination of the development of their energy resources to the objectives of foreign monopolies. It established the needs of the developing countries in the area of investments in the energy sector, without objectively analysing their energy situation and without any concern for their long-term economic and social development. Drafted in a unilateral manner and replete with pre-conceived ideas, the report contained no reference to the contribution made by the USSR and the other socialist countries to the development of the fuel and energy sectors in the developing countries, even though the Secretariat had the relevant documentation available. The report should therefore be reconsidered, taking into account the above-mentioned elements.

32. Indeed, the Soviet Union provided considerable assistance to the developing countries with a view to enabling them to utilize and strengthen their energy potential. Moreover, in order to promote the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action, the Soviet Union planned to hold a seminar on new and renewable sources of energy for representatives from developing countries. More generally, the international co-operation that was needed in order to solve energy problems for the benefit of all countries must be based on the effective co-ordination of the United Nations energy programmes, within the limits of the regular budget.

33. A review of the economic activities carried out by the United Nations in the various sectors revealed results which, as a whole, were not very comforting, particularly for the developing countries. The main cause of that situation could be found in the fact that the global negotiations on international economic co-operation for development and the establishment of a new international economic order were at a standstill because of the obstructionist and self-centered policy pursued by the principal imperialist States. Similarly, General Assembly resolution 38/200 on immediate measures in favour of the developing countries, which had been designed to help the developing countries to overcome their serious

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(Mr. Lavrov, USSR)

economic, social and financial difficulties, had not produced the desired effects. Although the resolution did not criticize the inequality inherent in current international economic relations, it had drawn opposition in principle from the major Western Powers. The developing countries, which did not want to endorse that policy and were seeking to reduce their dependence on foreign monopolistic capital, were turning increasingly towards economic co-operation among developing countries. The Soviet Union supported them in that regard, because that type of co-operation constituted a new element of the struggle to achieve economic decolonization. If they were to be successful, the programmes for economic and technical co-operation among developing countries should be based on the industrialization of those countries, the introduction of democratic agrarian reform, the planning of economic and social activities, the development of the public sector and the limitation of the negative role played by private foreign capital, particularly that of transnational corporations. As had frequently been stressed in the documents adopted by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Group of 77, the programmes for economic co-operation among developing countries were not directed towards undermining co-operation between developing countries and other States. All the economic bodies of the United Nations could and should effectively support the programmes for economic and technical co-operation among developing countries, both in accordance with their mandate and in keeping with the principle of the rational use of available resources.

34. The multi-faceted assistance which the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries provided to the developing countries with a view to promoting their economic independence constituted an important element of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. That type of co-operation could benefit from the experience the socialist community had acquired in harmonizing levels of economic development.

35. Mr. DJIBRINE (Chad) observed that the world economic crisis had become even more serious still in 1984. Because of the imbalances and inequalities of the current system, the crisis could only be overcome by the establishment of a new economic order. The numerous developing countries afflicted by the combined effects of the international economic crisis and natural disasters expected international co-operation to provide them with the means to help their population survive, in addition to development assistance.

36. His delegation believed that in that context food problems should be emphasized. In Africa, the situation was constantly deteriorating. The food crisis was caused not only by the persistent drought which affected almost the entire continent but also by catastrophic epidemics of animal disease, runaway population growth, high energy costs, the deterioration of the terms of trade and infrastructure problems. The increase in African grain imports showed how the situation was deteriorating. For the 34 most seriously affected countries, those imports had risen from around 4 million tons in 1970 to 23 million tons in 1982, and 24 of them depended heavily on food aid because they could not pay for their imports. Growing food requirements, increased indebtedness and a drop in export earnings had aggravated the financial situation of those countries to such an

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(Mr. Djibrine, Chad)

extent that they could no longer cover the local costs of development assistance and famine control projects.

37. In Chad, in particular, the food situation was extremely disturbing. The drought which had afflicted the country for the third consecutive year had led to a sharp decline in grain production. In the Sahelian, Sudano-Sahelian and Sudeje regions, the grain deficit for the current crop year was provisionally estimated at 285,000 tons. Immediate emergency assistance needs for the period October 1984-February 1985 were estimated at 50,000 tons, whereas grain stocks provided through emergency aid had amounted only to about 5,000 tons on 30 September 1984. Furthermore, the drying up of pasture land had provoked massive cattle migrations. Animals were dying, and anthrax epidemics were being reported in many regions.

38. Food aid could have an impact only in the short term. The famine which was currently raging in a number of African countries required a new, effective form of assistance. Populations threatened by hunger must be saved, but it was also necessary to give them the opportunity to meet their own needs by providing them with agricultural equipment, seeds and vaccines to combat animal diseases. That was why it was necessary to pursue the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos in order to achieve individual and collective self-sufficiency in food. For that purpose, the African States needed the support and co-operation of the international community.

39. Mr. KANG (Observer, Republic of Korea) said that industrialization was a complex process; the developing countries must share their industrialization experiences and the advanced countries must transfer technology to the developing countries on terms acceptable to the latter.

40. It was in that spirit that the Government of the Republic of Korea endorsed UNIDO's efforts and its conversion into a specialized agency as quickly as possible. The delay in the industrial development of Africa caused by a lack of financial guarantees, was a source of particular concern; his country had made large contributions to the African Development Bank and the African Development Fund to finance industrial development projects on that continent.

41. The world food situation had deteriorated. The efforts of the developing countries to solve their food problems and modernize their agriculture had been repeatedly undermined by the protectionist policies of the developed countries and the rapid deterioration in the terms of trade. It was particularly regrettable that the major food-producing countries which had large grain reserves were cutting back production, while in the developing countries, particularly in Africa, millions of people were suffering from starvation and malnutrition.

42. While the developing countries bore the primary responsibility for increasing their own production and establishing their own food reserves, the international community should act as a co-ordinator in that field and provide financial and technical support. The developed countries must help the developing countries by reducing tariff and non-tariff barriers which restricted the access to their markets of exports from the developing countries.

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(Mr. Kang, Observer, Republic of Korea)

43. The food problem could be solved only by increasing agricultural production; that was why co-operation not only between developed and developing countries but also among developing countries was necessary in that field. His Government helped the developing countries by training technicians and providing agricultural machinery and equipment.

44. His Government believed that in order to attain regional food security, a storage system on an individual country basis would be more practicable than a collective storage system, in view of the funds required for infrastructure and the high costs of food imports. The recommendation for establishing a fund to develop regional and subregional food reserves for the least developed countries nevertheless merited further consideration.

45. With regard to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries, some progress had been made since the adoption of the Caracas Programme of Action. The Office of the Chairman of the Group of 77 had played an important role in that regard, as had the United Nations system, whose support remained essential. Only concerted action by all nations, developed and developing, to correct the structural faults of the world's economy could help to overcome the current economic crisis.

46. His country would continue to expand its co-operation with the developing countries, as it had done for the past 10 years, through both bilateral and multilateral channels.

47. Mr. AHMED (Bahrain) said that the only way to foster confidence in international economic relations was to strengthen the foundations of development and international economic co-operation by preventing the North from ignoring the plight of the South.

48. Bahrain, a small country, was aware of the importance of industry for economic and social development and the diversification of sources of revenue, and was accordingly implementing industrialization plans. It had taken part in the Fourth Conference of UNCTAD in the hopes that multilateral co-operation would facilitate the adoption of decisive resolutions promoting the industrial development of the developing countries. But the developed countries had shown very little interest in co-operation: on the contrary, they had strengthened the protectionist measures aimed at obstructing the transfer of modern technology. It was therefore necessary to adopt concrete measures for the purpose of implementing the resolutions on the restructuring of world industrial production in conformity with the principles of mutual benefit and respect for the national priorities of the various countries. In that connection, UNIDO should be given additional resources and should be converted into a specialized agency.

49. Like other food-importing countries, Bahrain had noted with concern that the international community was incapable of implementing emergency measures to meet the food needs of millions of human beings. Food security was a human right, as the World Food Council had emphasized at its tenth session. Starving people, particularly in Africa, must be provided with food by opening up world food markets

(Mr. Ahmed, Bahrain)

to a greater extent and facilitating exchanges in that field. His delegation called upon the international community, and particularly the developed countries, to provide the developing countries with the technical assistance they needed in order to expand their agricultural and food production for the purpose of meeting local demand.

50. During the general debate, his delegation had referred to his country's activities and the role of the Gulf Co-operation Council with regard to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. One of the ways to step up that co-operation would be through the elaboration of a unified strategy designed to strengthen self-sufficiency and economic integration and to eliminate the South's dependence on the North. The adoption of such a strategy would also help to promote the holding of negotiations with the developed countries on the establishment of a new international economic order, in the spirit of the 1981 Caracas Programme of Action. Similarly, harmonizing the economic policies of the developing countries, within the framework of the United Nations system, would make it possible for those countries to participate in the execution, through the agencies of the system, of the development programmes of interest to them. Nevertheless, co-operation among developing countries could not be a substitute for North-South economic co-operation.

51. With regard to the immediate measures in favour of the developing countries, his delegation requested the implementation of General Assembly resolution 38/200, and in particular the measures provided for in paragraph 2, which referred to the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, which were the most seriously affected by the world economic crisis.

52. There was no question that a healthy environment was a prerequisite for economic and social development, and his Government, aware of its responsibilities towards its citizens, had set up a high-level environmental protection board, presided over by the Minister of Health, which was responsible for establishing national policies and co-ordinating them with regional and international environmental policies. However, his country considered that the picture of environmental prospects until the year 2000 drawn in the relevant report was not complete, as the international community had not been called upon fully to assume its responsibilities in the event that a region of the world was faced with a sudden pollution threat. That had been the case in the Gulf region following the spread of an oil slick from Iranian wells, which had threatened marine life with extinction. If the Gulf States had not immediately reacted at the regional level, they would not have been able to control that pollution, as they had done, and clean up their coasts. That event underscored the need for the international community to formulate the fundamental goals to be achieved over the next 20 to 30 years and to make joint efforts to co-ordinate international environmental policies. In that connection, the Governing Council of UNEP might consider the establishment of an international mechanism to control pollution in emergency situations.

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(Mr. Ahmed, Bahrain)

53. The international community should come to the assistance of all the underprivileged by ensuring the implementation of resolution 7/2 of the Commission on Human Settlements committee and the programme of activities planned for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. It should also be concerned with the fate of the victims of desertification and drought, who currently represented 25 per cent of the world's population. As the Executive Director of UNEP had observed, more than 100 States and one third of the inhabitants of Africa were affected: it was therefore essential to implement the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification.

54. In his statement, the representative of Israel had tried to mislead public opinion by claiming that Israel was a peace-loving State, whereas in fact it continued to combat neighbouring countries and to occupy a large part of their territory. One of the members of the Knesset, Mr. Kahane, had recently reaffirmed the racist nature of his country by demanding that the Palestinians should be driven out of their homes; he had even gone so far as to deny their very existence by describing them as "Arab inhabitants" of the occupied territories. Nevertheless, the international community had frequently reaffirmed the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homes and to establish their own State in their own territory, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, in accordance with the resolutions and instruments adopted by the United Nations. By refusing to give United Nations experts access to the occupied Palestinian territories in order to prepare a report on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/166, the Israeli authorities were betraying their true intentions. The report of the Secretary-General (A/39/233) scientifically and objectively described those conditions and the inhuman Israeli practices of destroying houses, seizing property and usurping agricultural lands, all of which were practices that could not be considered civilized and were deemed unacceptable by the international community. Moreover, they had a direct impact on the land and water resources of the occupied territories, housing and public services, and were also detrimental to the economic and legal system, the local authorities, social life and religious practices. His delegation expressed its indignation at those immoral acts, which made a mockery of human dignity, and called upon the international community fully to assume its responsibilities by deploring those practices, which had been denounced by the Commission on Human Settlements in its resolution 7/2, which condemned the refusal of the Israeli authorities to give experts access to the occupied territories. The international community must also provide material and economic assistance to the Palestinian people. That had been done by the States of the European Community, as demonstrated by the statement made by the representative of Ireland.

55. At the thirty-eighth session, his Government had supported the resolution on the liquidation of the United Nations Emergency Operation Trust Fund, since it considered that the difficult economic situation of many developing countries called for the adoption of measures which would strengthen the system's capacity to bring about development in the developing countries.

(Mr. Ahmed, Bahrain)

56. The establishment of an information centre within the Unit on New and Renewable Sources of Energy would help to harmonize the efforts made internationally in seeking alternative energy sources. The centre would only be effective if Member States co-operated with it by gathering the information needed for studies and research in the domain of energy. There was no doubt that the primary objective of the Nairobi Programme of Action was the gradual and systematic development of world energy resources. To attain that objective, it was necessary to take into account national interests and the future needs of all countries. Moreover, as stated in the report of the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, the stabilization of the world energy market, in the interests of both exporting and importing countries, was a prerequisite for the accelerated search for new sources of energy. The development of energy resources was of particular importance to the economies of the developing countries: it was necessary to have access to more advanced studies and an evaluation of the scope of the developing countries' needs in order to undertake an in-depth study of the question, taking into account the national interests of all States. The development of energy sources also required a sound industrial base, and before considering the implementation of plans to develop such sources, it was essential to mobilize the necessary capital, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/251. National plans should provide for the development of the energy industry, through the transfer of technology from the developed countries, the establishment of a training programme for national personnel capable of managing the industry and the strengthening of regional co-operation among developing countries with a view to attaining self-sufficiency.

57. Mr. KURITTU (Finland), speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, welcomed the fact that UNIDO, at its Fourth General Conference, had adopted by consensus nine resolutions on important issues relating to the acceleration of industrial development in the developing countries. Those nine resolutions contained important guidelines for the future work of UNIDO and set some priorities in that area. It was encouraging that increased emphasis had been placed on such aspects as human resource development, the need to intensify UNIDO assistance to the low-income developing countries and industrial development in rural areas. Regrettably, UNIDO had been unable to reach agreement on two draft resolutions dealing with the mobilization of financial resources and industrial restructuring. It was now for the General Assembly to decide how those two draft texts should be pursued; it was to be hoped that they would again be considered and definitively adopted by the Industrial Development Board at its nineteenth session, in May 1985.

58. The outcome of the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO was a demonstration of a general wish to strengthen international economic co-operation in the field of industrialization and to avoid futile confrontation, which augured well for the future of UNIDO as a specialized agency.

59. With regard to agenda item 80 (f), a lasting solution to the problems of hunger and malnutrition could be found only by giving agriculture and rural development a higher priority in national policies. In particular, it was necessary to change agricultural production patterns by promoting domestic

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(Mr. Kurittu, Finland)

consumption-oriented production rather than export-oriented production and by encouraging domestic production instead of importing food. Those measures would help to create new employment opportunities and eliminate some of the causes of hunger in the developing countries. Increased efforts to educate women, in particular in rural areas, were also necessary, as underlined on World Food Day.

60. Although the final elimination of hunger had to be based on local production, it was essential that the international community should support efforts at the national level. Food aid remained indispensable for the time being in tackling short-term problems, especially in sub-Saharan Africa.

61. With regard to the International Emergency Food Reserve administered by the World Food Programme, it was encouraging to note that the target of 500,000 tons of cereals had been reached for the second time in 1983 and that the portion of multilaterally channelled food aid was large (89 per cent) and still increasing. The Nordic countries would continue to contribute to food aid projects implemented mainly in low-income food deficit countries.

62. The measures advocated by the International Population Conference held at Mexico City in August 1984 with a view to eradicating hunger and increasing food self-sufficiency were important not only to Governments - whose role was, of course, crucial - but also to the relevant United Nations bodies and international financial institutions. The Nordic countries were particularly concerned about the substantial decrease in the resources of IDA and IFAD. No effort should be spared to bring the second replenishment of IFAD resources to a positive conclusion, so as to enable the Fund to continue its work for the poorest population segments of the developing countries. The Nordic countries participated actively in the work of the governing bodies of FAO and WFP, but were concerned about the question of the two organizations' respective spheres of competence. They looked forward with interest to the discussion of questions related to the relationship between FAO and WFP at the forthcoming session of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes. They wanted to see if FAO and WFP work together in a spirit of co-operation, each using its resources as far as possible to help needy people in its specific area of competence.

63. The energy problem was not yet resolved and should remain high on the international community's list of priorities. The question of the development of new and renewable sources of energy was as important as ever. At the practical level, it was necessary to rationalize and co-ordinate the assistance activities existing under bilateral programmes as well as within the United Nations system and the international development financial organizations. Neither should the important role which private capital flows could play in that sector be overlooked. Consultative meetings were an important complementary mechanism for the mobilization of additional financial resources and could be used to co-ordinate national, bilateral and multilateral programmes in the field of new and renewable sources of energy.



(Mr. Kurittu, Finland)

64. The focal point in the Secretariat set up by the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy could perform its function only if it received the necessary support and input from national focal points. The country energy sector assessment reports produced by IBRD and UNDP, which the Nordic countries helped to finance, were designed to assist developing countries in improving their energy planning and setting clearer priorities and were essential contributions to the consultative meetings.

65. Attention should be given not only to energy generation but also to energy conservation, which could lead to considerable improvements in the energy supply situation of many developing countries. In that connection, he emphasized the continuing importance of fuelwood to the populations of many developing countries and the need to prevent the shortage of fuelwood from becoming even more acute.

66. The report of the Secretary-General on development of the energy resources of developing countries (A/39/420) indicated the investment needs in the energy sector until the turn of the century. The Nordic countries regarded the promotion of energy research and production in developing countries as a crucial issue. Emphasis should be placed on finding cost-effective and low-technology means of generating energy from both traditional and new energy sources. In that context, it was particularly important to promote subregional and regional co-operation with the main aim of reducing energy costs and assuring energy supplies for the developing countries.

67. In resolution 38/200, the General Assembly had defined those areas where progress was most urgently needed (food and agriculture, money and finance, transfer of resources, multilateral development activities, indebtedness, trade policies, development of the energy resources of the developing countries and implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries). It was upon those areas that the international community should concentrate its efforts. The delegations of the Nordic countries noted with satisfaction that in his report on the implementation of that resolution, the Secretary-General did not content himself with describing the problems and the efforts made but also proposed action to remedy the situation in various fields. Some of those proposals might not be acceptable to all delegations, but the Secretary-General's report had the merit of providing a global view of immediately needed measures, thus facilitating the consideration of the problem.

68. Mr. ZAPOTOCKY (Czechoslovakia) said that the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO had been an important event of 1984. As was known, the participants in the Conference had found that no progress was being made towards the attainment of the objectives of the Lima Declaration on Industrial Development and Co-operation and the New Delhi Declaration on Industrialization of Developing Countries and International Co-operation for their Industrial Development. That lack of progress was largely due to the ill effects of economic policies pursued by reactionary imperialistic and militaristic forces. High interest rates, the rise of the dollar, large budget deficits and increasingly numerous protectionist measures were destabilizing international economic relations. It was, however, the undermining

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of those relations by such practices as embargoes, discriminatory measures and economic pressure which deserved particular censure.

69. Discussions on the industrial development of developing countries had sometimes led to a simplistic analysis of the factors to which those countries' difficulties were attributable and had given the impression that those difficulties were unavoidable. What mattered was to identify those genuinely responsible for the situation. Moreover, while UNIDO had correctly defined the relationships existing between peace, security, disarmament and economic development and the role which it should play in establishing a climate of greater confidence, it would do well to adopt more specific decisions on such matters as, for example, the relationship between disarmament and development. The decisions adopted by UNIDO listed certain conditions for the process of industrialization in developing countries. But the developed capitalist countries had blocked the adoption of resolutions on world industrial restructuring and redeployment and on mobilizing of financial resources for industrial development, as well as on other priority issues such as third-world indebtedness and the reverse transfer of resources to industrialized countries.

70. The industrialization of developing countries could contribute to the recovery of the world economy, but that presupposed the right international climate and a spirit of co-operation, which at present did not exist. The developed capitalist countries were holding back the development of new States by trying to increase the penetration of private capital into those countries and to prevent the adoption and planning of national industrial strategies. Foreign investors and particularly transnational corporations were interested only in increasing their profits; they neglected the developing countries' structural needs and made their economies more vulnerable to the wayward movements of foreign capital. In that game, the developing countries were always the losers. That was why UNIDO should take full account in its activities of the structural needs of industrialization. The co-operation of the socialist countries with the developing countries, was based on mutual interest, equality and economic planning and diversification.

71. On the whole, Czechoslovakia supported and would continue to support the activities of UNIDO. However, it wished to see better co-ordination between UNIDO and other United Nations bodies. UNIDO could further improve its efficiency particularly by avoiding duplication of other activities within the system corresponding to the same objectives. His Government welcomed the results of the consultations on the conversion of UNIDO into a specialized agency, in which the socialist countries had actively participated. The General Assembly's adoption of the final document prepared on that occasion (A/39/376) was an important landmark.

72. The shortage of foodstuffs was currently one of the most serious problems. Despite the international community's efforts, the situation was still critical, particularly in Africa. Most developing countries had not yet achieved self-sufficiency in foodstuffs and were thus dependent on assistance. But assistance alone was not enough. The elimination of hunger and malnutrition required the adoption of an appropriate development strategy. It also required solutions to

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problems connected with the organization of production and international markets and arising from the policies of food-producing States. In addition, the international climate played a decisive role. The arms race prevented the world community from concentrating its efforts on important questions, in particular the problem of hunger. It had harmful effects on the economies of all countries, but in the developing countries it brought about famine and malnutrition for more than a billion people, and the deaths of hundreds of millions of others. That was why the imperialist countries, which bore responsibility for the heightening of the arms race, could not atone simply by adopting food aid programmes. It was absolutely essential to reduce international tension and limit increases in military capabilities.

73. The resolutions adopted at the twenty-second Conference of FAO and the thirty-ninth session of the World Food Council contained principles for action with respect to food. Czechoslovakia was not a food-exporting country, but it had been able to approach the goal of self-sufficiency by expanding its agricultural production in accordance with the principles of socialism. It was on that foundation that it had provided a range of assistance to developing countries to help them to strengthen their own agricultural sectors. His delegation regretted, none the less, that the resources which it had made available had not been fully used by FAO. Czechoslovakia could place a larger number of highly qualified experts at the disposal of the developing countries.

74. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic understood the difficulties of the developing countries and knew that they were frequently inherited from the colonial era and aggravated by the economic crisis in the capitalist countries. His delegation therefore reaffirmed the need to implement the recommendations contained in the basic documents which had been adopted with a view to restructuring international economic relations, such as the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.

75. Czechoslovakia would continue to provide direct bilateral aid to developing countries, drawing on the principles of the new humanitarian order. In response, those countries should strive to resolve their structural problems by taking the necessary economic and social measures.

76. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries played an important role in strengthening their infrastructures and thus their economic independence. Conversely, such co-operation could contribute to the restructuring of international economic relations on a democratic basis. When considering ECDC and TCDC, United Nations organs should also take account of other priorities and attempt to ensure the rational use of their budgetary resources.

77. Mr. TURBAY (Colombia) said it was clear that protectionist tendencies, which were one of the most unjust forms of discrimination, were holding back third-world debtor countries, and it was essential that those countries should be provided with financial resources to help them to regain their solvency and also to guarantee the dynamism of the creditor industrialized countries, whose production systems depended in part on inputs from developing countries.

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(Mr. Turbay, Colombia)

78. In view of such interdependence, it was imperative to restimulate the world economy as a whole. To that end, States Members of the United Nations should join efforts to accelerate economic growth and improve living conditions in all countries, particularly the developing countries, and should demonstrate the necessary political will to meet the challenge of creating a just and equitable world.

79. For their part, the developing countries should display courage and determination and not become resigned to living perpetually on the fringe of progress. To do that, they should rely on their common resources and initiate dynamic and fruitful South-South multilateral co-operation so as to reduce their dependence on the countries of the North.

80. The 3rd meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Co-ordination Committee recently held at Cartagena had allowed progress to be made in the global negotiation of trade preferences among developing countries. That was an important development which would not only stimulate growth but also create new trading patterns among those countries. UNDP had approved the proposal whereby UNCTAD would provide the necessary technical and financial assistance to establish a generalized system of preferences among developing countries.

81. With regard to the multisectoral information network, Colombia wished to renew its offer to organize the intergovernmental meeting of experts and to accommodate the network's headquarters at the Bogotá International Data Processing Centre. Colombia attached great importance to the network for, as the Austrian Chancellor, Mr. Kreisky had stated, peoples who wished to develop should establish modern telecommunication, information, education and training networks without delay.

82. With respect to external indebtedness, it should be borne in mind that Latin American countries could no longer rectify the disequilibriums in their balance of payments by large-scale import reductions. Only an increase in exports and the restoration of financial flows towards those countries would resolve the problem. In that regard, the United States generalized system of preferences should be extended and a new series of GATT negotiations should be held with a view to eliminating the protectionist barriers and non-tariff restrictions which were hindering the developing countries' exports.

83. To eliminate those countries' trade, budgetary and financial deficits, IMF advocated readjustment and stabilization measures. Unfortunately, when such measures were implemented, at the cost of immense sacrifices, their effects were countered by the imposition of exorbitant interest rates in debt servicing. That was why it was essential to thoroughly review the conditions for repaying external debt if the Latin American countries were to be allowed to restimulate their economies and promote their development.

84. The main aim of the World Soils Policy, as of integrated rural development plans, was to redistribute agricultural land, extend cultivated areas and improve irrigation systems in order to maximize yields, increase food production and improve

(Mr. Turbay, Colombia)

the quality of life in rural areas. Given that there was a rural exodus in agricultural countries, only the adoption of appropriate credit and price-support policies, together with the establishment of well-organized marketing and distribution networks, could encourage a return to the land and enable those countries not only to attain self-sufficiency but also to sell their agricultural surpluses on foreign markets.

85. Nevertheless, there too, the industrialized countries would have to renounce their selfish protectionist policies and moderate instability on the international markets to ensure food security and the attainment of the development objectives of all countries. Colombia had a large number of exportable products, including sugar, cotton, meat and rice, which would be competitive if the industrialized countries of the North refrained from imposing tariff restrictions and subsidizing domestic producers, since those measures had the effect of distorting international markets and lowering commodity prices.

86. Colombia reaffirmed the need to promote multilateralism, which was steadily losing ground to bilateralism. As the Colombian Minister for Foreign Affairs had stated before the Group of 77, that was a dangerous trend since bilateralism placed developing countries in a position of inferiority with respect to the developed countries and allowed the latter to impose their political will and thus obtain major economic and political advantages. In that connection, it was regrettable that major multilateral assistance bodies, such as the World Food Programme and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, lacked the necessary resources to carry out their activities.

87. With reference to the environment, he said that Colombia favoured the formulation of a Plan of Action for the Implementation of the World Soils Policy in order to achieve the goals enunciated in decision 12/13 adopted by the United Nations Environment Programme at its twelfth session. It likewise supported UNEP's decisions 12/16 B and 12/17 D concerning, respectively, the Environmental Training Network for Latin America and the Caribbean and the regional and subregional programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean.

88. His delegation stressed the need to continue giving priority to plans of action to ensure the implementation of the Regional Seas Programme and to focus efforts on the planning of human settlements with a view to avoiding over-population and excessive concentration of industries in large urban centres. Colombia also supported the strengthening of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities so as to enable it to achieve more ambitious goals within its field of competence.

89. Colombia felt that pre-school education, which was essential for the development of the child, should be free and compulsory. In so far as such education was currently reserved almost exclusively to the well-to-do, it was a factor that accentuated social inequalities. The competent international bodies should therefore make greater efforts and provide increased assistance to help the poorest countries achieve that goal. Lastly, mass vaccination campaigns should be organized, as are being done in Colombia, if the well-being of peoples was to be significantly improved.

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90. Mr. MAJALI (Jordan), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his delegation, having welcomed the efforts of the Secretariat and the team of experts in drawing up the report on living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories (A/39/233), had not intended to speak under item 80. However, the way Israel had distorted the facts in its statement at the preceding meeting compelled Jordan to exercise its right of reply. As the representative of Israel was dissatisfied with the report of the Secretary-General, and, moreover, affirmed that Israel was a country open to the world, it must be asked why it had not received the United Nations experts. The fact was that the reasons for Israel's fears were only too well known. Israel's practices since it had occupied the Arab territories in 1967 were consistently aimed at pressuring the Arab population to emigrate and thus at creating a new demographic structure which would enable Israel to strengthen its occupation of those territories. Those facts were corroborated by figures which were well known to the international community and which Israel could not deny.

91. His delegation would like briefly to remind the Committee of certain facts. First, Israel had so far established 182 settlements, covering 55 per cent of the land of the occupied West Bank. Second, Israel had appropriated 80 per cent of the water resources of the West Bank. Third, the Arab universities, established with Arab funds and by Arab efforts, were constantly being closed by the occupation authorities. Fourth, Israel was not content to establish settlements deliberately located in such a way as to disperse Arab communities and disrupt communications between them and hamper their development in order to pressure the Arab population to emigrate, but was also increasingly imposing administrative obstacles on building projects undertaken by Arabs even as it demolished or closed other premises, for reasons created by the occupying authorities themselves. Fifth, what Israel called its programme of rehabilitation of the refugees or the Ben-Porath Plan was in reality nothing but an attempt by the Israelis to drive the refugees from their homes so as to allow the settlements to spread and eliminate the status of refugee entailing international responsibility. That plan was actually aimed at resettling the refugees in an area close to Jordan in order to facilitate their later expulsion from their own country, Palestine. As an Israeli journalist had explained, the Israeli strategy for the 1980s should henceforth be aimed, as a matter of priority, at restoring the demographic and economic balance in Israel and in the territories, particularly in view of the absence of Jewish population in the mountainous areas, where the sources of Israel's water supply were to be found. That journalist had added that in order to solve the important problem posed by the inhabitants, the Jewish population should settle in the higher parts of the mountains of Judea and Samaria, for if it did not constitute the majority there it would suffer the same fate as the Crusaders, who had lost the area, which had never been theirs and where they had been outsiders until the end. Sixth, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip had had 1,300,000 inhabitants before the Israeli occupation. Taking into consideration that the rate of population increase of those territories was 3.5 per cent and that in June 1982 the size of the population had not increased, it would be seen that the occupation was responsible for the forced emigration of 700,000 Palestinians from their homeland.

(Mr. Majali, Jordan)

92. The repressive policies of Israel were well known, but his delegation would like to remind the Committee once again that the establishment of settlements was contrary to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, and that Israel's singular concept of occupation led it to regard the unification of the two banks of the Jordan in 1950 as an occupation. The Geneva Conventions applied to the occupied territories, and the arguments to the contrary advanced by the Israeli delegation were in complete contradiction to Security Council resolution 242 (1967), which reaffirmed the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war. His delegation was aware of the need to rationalize the work of the Second Committee and it therefore was in favour of leaving political questions to the committees responsible for discussing them. Nevertheless, it felt compelled to refer to two points brought up by the Israeli representative. Firstly, the development of the situation in the area confirmed that Israel did not want real peace but wanted peace and the territories at the same time. Furthermore, it was Israel that had rejected all international initiatives in favour of peace and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. Secondly, in criticizing the Committee's deliberations and the fact that some delegations spoke of the occupied territories in their statements the representative of Israel clearly revealed that he did not want the Committee to consider the economic consequences of the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories.

93. Mr. LADOR (Israel), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the statement he had made at the preceding meeting had been based on the Secretary-General's report on living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories (A/39/233). It was perfectly legitimate to consider or even to argue against the findings in that report. Accordingly, his delegation, in addition to circulating three official documents to the members of the Committee, had set forth its point of view, and it was for the representative of the Secretariat to comment if he so desired.

94. He wondered why the representative of Jordan was so irritated and whether that representative's evaluation of the situation in the territories was so completely identical with that of the representative of the Secretariat that he could speak on the latter's behalf. If that was the case, he was grateful to the representative of Jordan for providing the Committee with further evidence of the invalidity and lack of objectivity of the report.

95. In document A/39/356 which the Committee had before it his delegation had refuted the statement of the representative of Jordan. Could Jordan deny that in the period 1967-1982 the gross national product in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District had increased threefold, and that there had been a dramatic decrease in infant mortality, tremendous growth in housing construction, a sevenfold rise in the use of motor vehicles and a substantial widening of the electrical network of telecommunications and of the road system?

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(Mr. Lador, Israel)

96. With regard to the claim that Israel should permit the United Nations team of experts to enter the administered territories, he said that Israel saw no reason to grant such authorization because the resolutions adopted each year by the General Assembly prejudged the question. As a matter of logic, it must be asked why it was necessary to conduct a survey if even before the team of experts started its work it had already been established that the situation had deteriorated in the territories in question.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.