



**ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT
OF THE *AD HOC* COMMITTEE
ON THE RESTRUCTURING
OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY - FIRST SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 34B (A/31/34/Add.2)

UNITED NATIONS



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OF THE *AD HOC* COMMITTEE
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**ANNEX
SUMMARY RECORDS
OF THE THIRD AND FOURTH SESSIONS**

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UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1976

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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* In accordance with the decision of the Ad Hoc Committee at its second session, the summary records of its meetings form part of the report of the Committee to the General Assembly (Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/31/34)).

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE THIRD SESSION
(2 to 11 June 1976)

30th MEETING

Wednesday, 2 June 1976, at 3 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (A/AC.179/7)

1. The agenda was adopted.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

2. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had before it the results of the deliberations on institutional arrangements of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fourth session (A/AC.179/8) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its fourth session (A/AC.179/9). He also wished to draw attention to a note by the Secretary-General containing some personal observations on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system (A/AC.179/6).
3. He suggested that the Committee consider the questions of a possible fourth session and of its report to the General Assembly towards the end of the present session, when a better assessment of the progress of work could be made. Furthermore, in view of the fact that the Committee had only seven more working days according to its schedule of meetings, he suggested that, if necessary, the Committee should extend its session to Wednesday, 16 June. He had ascertained from the Secretariat that the necessary services would be available.
4. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee agreed to his suggestions.
5. It was so decided.
6. The CHAIRMAN said that the informal intersessional working group had met between the conclusion of the previous session and the opening of the present session and had considered a number of informal papers. During that period, delegations had also held a number of consultations, which had clarified a number of issues before the Committee. The fourth session of UNCTAD had also provided an opportunity for delegations to discuss many relevant questions affecting the future role of UNCTAD. The informal intersessional working group had not, however, reached any definite conclusion which he could formally submit to the Committee at the present time. Consequently, and taking into account the fact that the text

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(The Chairman)

of the decision on institutional arrangements adopted by UNCTAD had been circulated only that day and that delegations would wish to study it carefully, he suggested that the Committee should begin, as of the following day, a further series of informal consultations within the framework of the Informal Contact Group established at the previous session. He also suggested that the Committee hold a meeting once it had reached more definite conclusions within the Informal Contact Group. In that connexion, it was of course understood that informal consultations would be held in a smaller conference room with the greatest degree of informality and flexibility. That should not, of course, prevent any delegation from making formal statements at any time if it wished to set out its views for the record. Similarly, if during the session delegations considered it necessary to consult the executive heads of UNCTAD or UNEP for the clarification of any point contained in the texts before the Committee - or if delegations deemed it necessary to engage in consultations with any other official on any question within the competence of the Committee - the Chairman and the Bureau would arrange for such consultations to be held either formally or informally within the Contact Group.

7. If there was no objection, he would take it that those suggestions were accepted.

8. It was so decided.

9. The CHAIRMAN reminded the Committee of the decision taken at its previous session to the effect that summary records would be issued in a consolidated form. On the basis of that experience, he believed that the Committee would wish to confirm that decision in connexion with the proceedings of the present session and, if a fourth session were held, in connexion with that session as well.

10. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee agreed to that procedure.

11. It was so decided.

12. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Committee) said that, as could be seen from document A/AC.179/9, the Secretariat was not yet in a position to circulate the relevant extract from the report of UNCTAD on its fourth session. The Rapporteur of UNCTAD had informed the Secretariat that he would hold further consultations and that the report would be finalized before 15 July. The UNCTAD secretariat had informed him that the report would not contain a full account of

all the discussions but would include the statements made on the adoption of the resolutions. A summary of the statements made on the adoption of the resolution on institutional issues had been cabled to the Secretariat and read as follows:

"The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (speaking on behalf of Group D, the socialist countries of Eastern Europe) stated that any restructuring of UNCTAD should be in accordance with its main function under General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), that is, to promote international trade among developing countries and those with different economic and social systems. UNCTAD should eventually become an international trade organization with universal membership and based on progressive principles. In all United Nations bodies a main principle was the supremacy of the United Nations Charter. Consequently, Group D was against any effort to use the resolution on institutional issues in a way which would derogate from the functions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

"The representative of the United States of America, in a statement made on behalf of a large number of Group B delegations, recalled the reservations of the Group B countries to resolution 84 (III) to the effect that nothing in that resolution affected the independence of GATT or IMF or implied the setting up of new intergovernmental machinery. With reference to section I, paragraph 1 (d) of the resolution, relating to the creation of a comprehensive trade organization, Group B's interpretation was based on the actual language of paragraph 31 of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), which indicated the objectives to be sought.

"The representative of the United States of America added that his country believed that the resolution afforded an opportunity to transform UNCTAD into a more effective organization which would serve the interests of all member States within its very important mandate. He urged that the Secretary-General of UNCTAD undertake consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, pursuant to section II, paragraph 5, of the resolution, so that the results could be thoroughly considered before the first part of the sixteenth session of the Trade and Development Board."

13. The CHAIRMAN suggested that, in view of the importance of the two summaries, they should be reproduced in extenso in the record of the meeting.

14. It was so decided.

31st MEETING

Friday, 11 June 1976, at 3 p.m.

RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

1. Mr. MAHGOUR (Sudan) said that the Secretariat had a particular responsibility in assisting legislative organs to formulate timely and viable policies and must play that role of leadership effectively in the intellectual field as well as in research and analysis. The role of the Secretariat in the whole process of policy formulation, co-ordination and implementation needed to be strengthened as its responsibilities were constantly increasing. His delegation therefore believed that there was a good case for creating the proposed post of Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, since that would permit the question of development and international economic co-operation to receive the high-level, full-time and permanent attention it merited within the United Nations Secretariat. The post would give a new and special dimension to United Nations activities in the economic field, thus reflecting the priority currently attached by the international community to development and international economic co-operation. The immediate requirement of global economic stability and the long-term requirement of the progressive establishment of the new international economic order both militated in favour of the creation of such a post. The proposed office would symbolize and enhance the centralization of the management of all operational activities and the over-all co-ordination of United Nations economic and social policies.
2. His delegation did not share the fears expressed by some delegations that the creation of the post of Director-General would split the United Nations into two autonomous halves and thus endanger its unity. Far from entailing any separation of the two essential functions of the United Nations, the new post would facilitate integration. Furthermore, the Secretary-General, who could not in any case devote the necessary time and attention to all aspects of economic and social activities, would nevertheless continue to exercise ultimate authority for them; the proposal would therefore simply increase his effectiveness. The primary objective of the proposal was not to create a secretariat within the Secretariat but to raise the level of leadership in the economic and social sectors. That development not only

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Mr. Mahgoub, Sudan)

would be in keeping with the increasing importance that those sectors had assumed in international affairs but would also establish a focal point for dynamic co-ordination based on carefully defined goals.

3. Accordingly, his delegation, after consulting the other members of the Group of 77, had submitted a proposal which was designed to ensure that the proposed creation of the post of Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation would continue to be actively considered.

4. The CHAIRMAN said he would ensure that the Sudanese proposal was duly reflected in the consolidated text of proposals.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

5. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the following suggestions.

(a) The Committee should conclude its present session as scheduled;

(b) It should meet, in the context of the Contact Group, on Monday, 14 June, for a preliminary exchange of views on the consolidated text of proposals that he had prepared;

(c) It should continue consultations in Geneva during the sixty-first session of the Economic and Social Council - bearing in mind the desirability, in the interest of continuity, for Governments to have the same representation at those consultations as during the preceding stages of the Committee's work - and subsequently in New York;

(d) It should hold a fourth session from 20 September to 1 October 1976, or longer if necessary, in order to complete its work and prepare its report to the General Assembly.

6. After a procedural discussion in which Mr. HASHMI (India), Mr. SOBHY (Egypt), Mr. WILDER (Canada), Mr. QADRUD-DIN (Pakistan) and Mr. PETRONE (Italy) took part, the CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee adopted his suggestions.

7. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 4.20 p.m.

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SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE FOURTH SESSION

(24 September to 29 November 1976)

32nd MEETING

Thursday, 24 September 1976, at 3.30 p.m.

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

1. The CHAIRMAN recalled that, when the previous formal session of the Committee had been adjourned, the Committee had agreed to continue its consultations in July 1976, in Geneva, taking advantage of members' presence at the summer session of the Economic and Social Council. Since not all members were in Geneva at that time, however, it had been agreed that any understandings or common positions arrived at in those consultations would be reviewed at the following formal session. By that time, delegations would also have had ample opportunity to hold private discussions and seek governmental instructions and should therefore be prepared to move toward a consensus on the eight problem areas defined by the Committee. In the event, the consultations in Geneva had taken the form of an informal "first reading" of the consolidated text prepared by the Chairman (documents CRP/CH 1 and Add.1). They had served not only to clarify delegations' positions but also to crystallize a large number of points of convergence on six of the eight problem areas. They had also given a clearer idea of the divergences and of the political and substantive constraints which would have to be taken into account in trying to reach a consensus.

2. However, the consultations had not produced a comprehensive package of agreements which could be put to the present session simply for review and adoption. Furthermore, many of the points of convergence were of too general a nature to correspond to the General Assembly's called for "detailed action proposals". That situation was due to the fact that not all delegations had been able to refine their positions in sufficient detail, and that delegations had had to give priority to Economic and Social Council business. It had therefore been decided to defer further consultations on restructuring to the present session, on the understanding that all delegations would prepare themselves more fully for negotiations in the meantime.

3. The Committee was now entering a crucial phase in the discharge of the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly. That mandate was wider in scope than

(The Chairman)

previous reform exercises, was enormously complex and was governed by the unique conceptual framework of the New International Economic Order. The Committee had already done important work, but time was running out and it must submit its report to the current session of the General Assembly. Moreover, a number of major decisions and reorganization schemes were being adopted in parts of the United Nations system, which might pre-empt the work of the Committee. If the Committee did not conclude its work successfully in time to submit its report before the end of the year, it would be disappointing the hopes of all those who in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) regarded the restructuring of the United Nations system as vital to the establishment of the New International Economic Order.

4. He drew the attention of the Committee to the Fact-Sheet on the Operational Activities of the United Nations System (A/AC.179/L.9), which had been drawn up in response to requests for such a document made during the consultations in Geneva. He also drew attention to the reference, in the provisional agenda (A/AC.179/10), to a number of decisions which had been adopted by the Economic and Social Council since the previous session of the Committee and which were directly relevant to its work.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The agenda was adopted.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

6. The CHAIRMAN said that, in view of the situation described by him in his previous statement, he assumed that the Committee would be in favour of proceeding to informal consultations on the consolidated text (CRP/CI 1 and Add.1) the following morning, in the context of its Contact Group.

7. Mr. TREVINO GONZALEZ (Mexico) urged that no specific date should be fixed for the commencement of work in the Contact Group until the different groups had consulted together on that subject.

8. The CHAIRMAN said that he would consult with delegations as to when the Contact Group should first meet. The Committee must also, at some point,

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reach agreement as to the precise date on which the Contact Group would end its work and draw up a final text of agreed recommendations. It must likewise agree on an absolute deadline for completion of its own work and adoption of the final report to be presented to the General Assembly. He therefore proposed that informal consultations should be held in order to reach agreement on those three points.

9. It was so decided.

10. Mr. QADRUD-DIN (Pakistan) said that it would be easier for delegations to hold such consultations within their own groups and within the Contact Group if the Secretariat gave them some idea of when exactly the Committee's report would have to be presented to the General Assembly.

11. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Committee) said that it was up to the Second Committee of the General Assembly to decide upon its programme of work. In the preliminary arrangements which had been discussed with the Chairman, the item under which the Second Committee would discuss the report of the Ad Hoc Committee was expected to be dealt with at the end of October. However, the Committee must remember that the technical facilities allocated to it for daily meetings were only available until 6 October.

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.

33rd MEETING

Monday, 29 November 1976, at 8 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE (A/AC.179/L.10/Rev.1)

1. Mr. STURKLY (Australia), Rapporteur, introducing the draft report of the Committee (A/AC.179/L.10/Rev.1), said that chapter I, summarizing the work of the Committee in the past year, was designed to give the uninitiated reader an idea of the work and the working methods of the Committee. It would also serve as a useful starting-point for members of the Committee when they resumed their consideration of restructuring the following year, and might create a useful precedent for the drafting of other United Nations reports in the future.
2. Chapter II discussed the work of the Committee in greater detail. It consolidated matters referred to the Committee by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and the contributions of ACC and the Secretariat in response to questions raised by the Committee. It would thus serve both as a basis for the Committee's ongoing work and as a record of its examination of a complex subject which might be of interest to a wider audience. The work of the second session, at which the Committee had identified the eight subject areas for its further consideration, was described in paragraphs 8 to 13. At the third session, described in paragraphs 14 to 49, ideas had been advanced on the basis of which the Chairman had produced a consolidated text. The record of the general debate held during the second session formed an integral part of the Committee's report. It had already been issued as an addendum. Paragraphs 52 to 54 dealt with the work of the fourth session, which had culminated in the Chairman's revisions to the five sections of his original text.
3. In chapter III, paragraphs 55 and 56 related to the constraints under which the Committee had worked and the decision to submit a report covering its work up to the end of October 1976. In paragraph 57, the Committee recommended to the General Assembly that its mandate should be extended into 1977. The Committee had agreed, if that recommendation was accepted, to continue its work in 1977 on the bases set out in the four subparagraphs of paragraph 58. Subparagraph (a) said that the basis for the Committee's future work should be the text to be found in the annex to the report. The annex was divided into two parts: part A

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(Mr. Turkey, Australia)

contained the five subject areas which had been revised after extensive consultations, and part B contained the three subject areas of the Chairman's original consolidated text which had not been discussed in detail. Paragraph 59 had been included to express the Committee's appreciation for the assistance received from the Secretariat during 1976.

4. When the report was issued in final form, subheadings reading "Second session", "Third session" and "Fourth session" would be inserted.

5. The CHAIRMAN said that, as a result of informal consultations between the Rapporteur and the delegations concerned, there was now broad agreement on a number of changes to be made in the report.

6. In paragraph 17, the words "which are summarized in paragraphs 19 to 50 below" should be deleted and a second sentence should be added, reading: "The Committee noted that the Rapporteur, on his own responsibility, had prepared a summary report on informal consultations held during the third session". A reference to the document symbol of that summary report would then be inserted in parentheses. As a result of that amendment, paragraphs 18 to 48 would be deleted and would instead be reproduced in the summary report prepared by the Rapporteur.

7. An additional phrase should be inserted at the end of the penultimate sentence of paragraph 54, reading: "which would serve as the basis for further discussion on the above-mentioned areas, subject to the extension of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee".

8. In part A of the annex, the introductory paragraph should be amended to make it clear that the text which followed was the revised text. It should therefore read: "The revised version of the consolidated text prepared by the Chairman, to which reference is made in paragraph 54 and ... reads as follows:". As a result of that amendment, the existing annex would be redrafted in the form of three annexes. The first would consist of the existing part A, amended as he had indicated. The second would consist of the original version of the consolidated text, as contained in document CRP/CH 1. The Rapporteur would also include in the second annex the substance of the introductory remarks appended to document CRP/CH 1 and issued previously as document CRP/CH 1/Add.1. The third annex would include the two basic position papers submitted by the nine EEC countries and the Group of 77 respectively. The United States delegation would be communicating to the Rapporteur its intentions regarding the position paper it had submitted.

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9. Mr. QADRUD-DIN (Pakistan) pointed out that, in the course of the informal consultations, it had also been decided to make two other amendments. First, in the fifth sentence of paragraph 54, the words "in detail" should be deleted and the words "in the consultations undertaken at its fourth session" should be inserted at the end of the sentence. Secondly, in part B of the annex, the introductory paragraph should be redrafted to read: "The three subject areas of the Chairman's original consolidated text, which were not discussed in the consultations held at the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Committee, are reproduced below: .

10. The CHAIRMAN invited general comments on the draft report.

11. Mr. QADRUD-DIN (Pakistan), speaking on the draft report as a whole, recalled that the current restructuring exercise had its origins in the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly, when it had been felt that the machinery of the United Nations should be restructured so that it could deal more effectively with problems of international economic co-operation and development and respond more fully to the requirements of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.

12. Since then, the work of restructuring had progressed with the adoption of General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII), section VII of which had established the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System. Restructuring had been seen, and continued to be seen, as part of the whole process initiated at the sixth special session of the General Assembly, and it had become a matter of practical implementation of agreements reached at the seventh special session. Thus, if the work of the Committee was to be judged in terms of its progress in implementing the resolutions adopted at the seventh special session, it had made relative progress. But there was a sad lack of concrete progress on the substantive issues which had been at the heart of the decisions and agreements adopted at the seventh special session.

13. The developing countries attached great importance to the work of the Committee, and his delegation hoped that its future work would be accompanied by substantive implementation of the decisions made at the seventh special session in all sectors. It likewise hoped that the entire economic and social machinery of the United Nations would be restructured in such a way that the aims of the new international economic order could be achieved.

14. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should consider the draft report chapter by chapter.

15. It was so decided.

Chapter I (Summary)

16. Chapter I was adopted.

Chapter II (Work of the Ad Hoc Committee)

17. Mr. MAHGOUB (Sudan) proposed that the penultimate sentence of paragraph 45, which stated that the question of the level of responsibilities within the Secretariat should also be examined, should be placed at the end of paragraph 44, in order to follow the logical sequence of ideas.

18. Mr. CHEREDNIK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation was in full agreement with the general understanding described by the Chairman, namely, that the Rapporteur would prepare a summary report reproducing the contents of paragraphs 18 to 49, provided that the final paragraph of that new document reproduced the text which the Eastern European countries had submitted to the Rapporteur and which had been circulated in the Committee.

19. Replying to a question put by Mr. BAKER (United States of America), the CHAIRMAN suggested that in the penultimate sentence of paragraph 54 the word "embodying" should be replaced by the words "which would embody", in order to make it clear that the text prepared by the Chairman did not reflect formal agreement on behalf of Governments.

20. Mr. STURKEY (Australia), Rapporteur, said that he had no objection to the amendment to paragraphs 44 and 45 proposed by the representative of the Sudan. He assured the representative of the Soviet Union that the text submitted by the Eastern European countries would be included in the summary report which he was to prepare.

21. He pointed out that, in the light of the other changes made to chapter II, paragraph 17 would have to be revised to indicate that the report would contain additional annexes.

22. Chapter II, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter III (Conclusions and recommendations)

23. The CHAIRMAN said that, subject to confirmation by the Rapporteur, paragraph 58 (a) would be redrafted to clarify the basis for the future work of the Committee. That basis would comprise, first, the Chairman's revised text on subject areas 1 to 4 and 6 and, secondly, the three remaining areas, 5, 7 and 8, of the original version of the consolidated text.

24. Mr. MAHGOUB (Sudan) suggested that, in paragraph 57, the word 'regular' should be added before the words 'sixty-third session'.

25. It was so decided.

26. Chapter III, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter IV (Organizational matters)

27. Chapter IV was adopted.

New annexes I to III

28. The CHAIRMAN said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee adopted the new annexes as described by him earlier in the meeting.

29. Annexes I to III were adopted.

30. The draft report (A/AC.179/L.10/Rev.1) as a whole, as amended, was adopted.

31. Mr. NAKAMURA (Japan) expressed his delegation's appreciation of the Rapporteur's work, and said that the report as adopted was certainly acceptable to his delegation. However, he requested that the summary record should reflect the fact that paragraphs 18 to 48, as now drafted, which were to be issued as a separate document, did not reflect the reservations and opposing views that had been expressed in the discussion of some proposals.

PLACE AND DATE OF THE NEXT SESSION

32. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Committee) said that the conference facilities available had been very carefully reviewed and the Committee would be able to meet at United Nations Headquarters from 16 February to 2 March or from 21 March to 1 April 1977. There was a third possibility of meeting from 28 March to 8 April if the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Working Group on Corrupt

(Mr. Cordovez)

Practices, due to meet from 21 March to 21 April, could be rescheduled, but there was no possibility of holding any meeting in either New York or Geneva after the spring session of the Economic and Social Council. The Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea would be in session from 23 May to 8 July and, in order to accommodate the Conference, two meetings originally scheduled for New York, those of the Executive Board of UNICLF and the Committee on Natural Resources, had been relocated to Geneva, where there was already an extremely heavy load of conference work arising from the follow-up to the fourth session of UNCTAD. An alternative arrangement whereby a contact group of the Committee would meet after the Council's spring session had also been examined, with negative results.

33. Thus, unless another location was proposed, there was no possibility of meeting after the spring session of the Council. If two sessions were needed for the Committee before the Council's session, both could be held in New York on the dates he had mentioned, in February-March and March-April respectively.

34. Mr. CZARKOWSKI (Poland) felt that the discussion was perhaps premature, since he had understood that there could be no decision on further meetings before the Committee's report was accepted by the General Assembly and its mandate was extended. If the Assembly did extend the Committee's mandate, the forthcoming sessions should involve intensive effort and lead to the early completion of the Committee's work. His delegation had no objection to a preliminary exchange of views on the number of sessions to be held, but caution must be exercised, since the final result depended on the opinions expressed by the Fifth Committee and the Committee on Conferences.

35. Mr. KINSMAN (Canada) pointed out that the United Nations Water Conference in Argentina would overlap with the second set of dates suggested. Two sessions were required, and the Committee could therefore take an informal decision that one should be held from 16 February to 2 March, leaving open the possibility of holding the other during the third period mentioned by the Secretary if the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Working Group on Corrupt Practices could be rescheduled.

36. Mr. MAHGOUB (Sudan) said that, in view of the obvious difficulties over conference facilities, the Committee should give a clear indication that it needed to hold two sessions in 1977, as the issues involved were complex and the General

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Assembly expected the Committee to fulfil its mandate. An additional effort must therefore be made to overcome the difficulties; perhaps the possibility of meeting at Vienna should be considered.

37. Mr. HASHMI (India) suggested that, as there seemed to be no consensus in the Ad Hoc Committee, the decision might be taken, after informal consultations, by the Second Committee.

38. Mr. PFANZELTER (Austria) said that he favoured the first set of dates, and would request instructions from his Government as to the possibility of holding a second session at Vienna.

39. Mr. van TOOREN (Netherlands) commended the Chairman for the wisdom with which he had guided delegations in their difficult and complicated work. The European Economic Community considered the task of the Committee extremely important, and its nine members had participated and would continue to do so in the hope of helping to produce an imaginative solution. The Committee should complete its work with all due speed.

40. Mr. CHEREDNIK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) expressed his delegation's wish that 1977 should be the final year of the Committee's work, since the document prepared by the Chairman with great tact and professional knowledge now provided a firm basis for further work.

41. Mr. GONZALEZ ARIAS (Paraguay), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that the patience and tolerance displayed by delegations had borne fruit. He congratulated the Committee on its achievements, which had been due in great part to the Chairman's wisdom, intelligence and patience. He hoped that, if the mandate was renewed, he would continue to act as Chairman with a view to completing the work of the Committee.

42. The CHAIRMAN thanked representatives for their kind remarks and said that, in his view, two further sessions would be required, given the difficulty of the outstanding subject areas and the necessity of looking over the revised text. It was true that the timing of any future sessions depended on the decisions taken by the Assembly, but the Committee must give the Secretariat some idea of what it understood by an extension of its mandate, including the financial implications, and must also provide some information on that point to the Second Committee.

(The Chairman)

43. There seemed to be a consensus that the first session in 1977 should take place from 16 February to 2 March and that the dates for the second session should be left open. On that basis, the Secretariat could make an appropriate statement of the financial implications when the Second Committee considered the report of the Committee, and the General Assembly could take the necessary decisions in connexion with the calendar of conferences. He requested that that should be duly noted in the summary record.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

44. The CHAIRMAN said that the current meeting marked the end of the current phase of the process which the Ad Hoc Committee had been asked to set in motion in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII), which had defined its mandate in terms of two purposes: first, to make the United Nations system more fully capable of dealing with problems of international economic co-operation in a comprehensive and effective manner, and, secondly, to make the system more responsive to the requirements of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order as well as of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States. That task was enormously broad and complex, covering the whole range of organizations of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies and the various organs, programmes and regional commissions of the United Nations itself.

45. The primary objective of the Committee had been to develop an agreed set of interrelated guidelines and recommendations, on the basis of which it would then prepare detailed action proposals. In the event, the Committee had been able to identify and define eight problem areas on which it would focus priority attention, and had also been able to reach a very wide measure of agreement on the main issues and orientation of the restructuring process with respect to five of those areas, namely, the General Assembly; the Economic and Social Council; other forums for negotiations, including UNCTAD and other United Nations organs and programmes, the specialized agencies and IAEA, and ad hoc world conferences; structures for regional and interregional co-operation; and planning, programming, budgeting and evaluation. It had agreed, subject to the directives the Assembly was expected to issue, to continue its work in 1977 on the basis of the revised version of the consolidated text prepared by the Chairman. Finally, it had

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agreed, with regard to the three problem areas still pending, to base its future work on the original version of the consolidated text.

46. The Committee had done important work during 1976 and had reached a large degree of consensus in respect of many of the fundamental issues covered, some of which had already been taken up in other forums. Even where agreement had yet to be reached, members of the Committee had attained a fuller appreciation both of the points of divergence and of the political and substantive constraints which must be taken into account in the search for consensus. If the Committee's achievement fell considerably short of the comprehensive package of detailed action proposals requested by the General Assembly, it must be recognized that there had been serious difficulties stemming mainly from the pressure of other commitments, and in particular from the constraints imposed on the time and resources of delegations by the conflicting claims of other United Nations meetings. Disappointment at that must be tempered by the consideration that structural change could not replace, but must proceed pari passu with, the elaboration of policies, priorities and measures aimed at the realization of the new international economic order. That had been explicitly recognized in General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII), which had envisaged an interrelationship between all the measures outlined in it.

47. In deciding to recommend that the General Assembly should extend its mandate by another year, the Committee had registered its conviction that the task entrusted to it was capable of fulfilment and its collective determination to complete that task in 1977. He hoped that the circumstances of the coming year would prove auspicious for those purposes and, above all, that the necessary political will would be manifest on the part of all delegations.

48. After an expression of gratitude to the other officers and members of the Committee and the co-ordinators of various groups, he declared the session closed.

The meeting rose at 10.40 p.m.

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