



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 14th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MAYCOCK (Barbados)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions: Mr. MSELLE

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The meeting was called to order at 10.50 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 114: PATTERN OF CONFERENCES: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES
(continued) (A/39/32)

1. Mr. DE SILVA (Sri Lanka) welcomed the realistic approach of the Committee on Conferences in giving due recognition to informal meetings and consultations. The current statistical data referred to in draft resolution B, were, however, an unsatisfactory means of judging whether an organ had used conference resources efficiently, since they were based on formal meeting time. His delegation therefore objected to the assumption in paragraph 1 of the draft resolution concerning underutilization of resources.
2. With regard to draft resolution D, the Secretariat's explanation that the late issue of summary records was largely the result of priority being given to pre-session documentation was hardly a reason to abandon the present format in favour of an abbreviated record. The experimental summary records which his delegation had examined were an inadequate reflection of proceedings and were generally unacceptable. It was necessary to find a way of issuing summary records of sufficient substance with speed, and to ensure that pre-session documentation, while important, did not delay their production.
3. As to pre-session documentation itself, his delegation suggested that in order to avoid overprinting it would be useful to conduct a survey of missions' requirements. The Secretariat might also consider preparing lists of titles to help missions in their selection and thus limit the number of copies ordered. He requested clarification as to the basis on which the size of print runs was decided.
4. His delegation noted the importance that had been attached to measures for shortening sessions and limiting the documentation of subsidiary organs. While supporting the objectives of maximum efficiency and cost-effectiveness, he was concerned that such measures should not be carried to an extreme, sacrificing substance for brevity and restricting the opportunities for intergovernmental bodies to participate fully in United Nations activities. If dialogue and negotiations were stifled through excessive restrictions on conference facilities, he wondered whether the weak, the oppressed and the victims of injustice referred to in the Secretary-General's report on the work of the Organization might not get a hearing or have a platform. He urged the Fifth Committee to be mindful of that danger and not to overreact.
5. Mr. FORBES (Ireland), speaking on behalf of the ten States members of the European Community, supported the four draft resolutions contained in the report of the Committee on Conferences. The proposal for a single conference-servicing operation in Vienna had considerable potential. However, he wondered whether the idea, advanced at an earlier meeting, of permitting New York-based United Nations bodies to meet in Vienna as well as Geneva was really in keeping with maximum efficiency and cost-effectiveness. He also wished to recall the principle underlying General Assembly resolution 31/140 that, subject to certain exceptions, United Nations bodies should meet at their established headquarters.

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(Mr. Forbes, Ireland)

6. Draft resolution B would be helpful in improving the utilization of conference-servicing resources. In particular, paragraph 6 might be more effective than earlier attempts to contend with the perennial problem of underutilization of facilities.

7. With regard to draft resolution C, the Ten recognized both the difficulties and the importance of updating and rationalizing existing provisions relating to the pattern of conferences. They therefore welcomed the Committee's recommendation for an in-depth study of the matter and looked forward to its report on developments at the next session.

8. On the question of control and limitation of documentation, the Ten recognized that, while all were in favour of brevity, it was very difficult to reach agreement on what actually constituted a fair and accurate summary record. The results of the proposed experiments and studies would provide the Committee with an opportunity for further discussion.

9. It was unacceptable that, in spite of repeated discussions and resolutions, the problem of late issuance of documents seemed as acute as ever. The second part of draft resolution D made an appreciable contribution to dealing with that matter. In addition, the Ten welcomed the initiative of the Under-Secretary-General for Conference Services and Special Assignments to issue appropriate instructions to ensure an improved and more co-ordinated approach. Document authors must be prevailed upon to meet their deadlines; any failure to do so should be accompanied by an explanation.

10. Finally, on the question of organization and working arrangements, the Ten were concerned that the Committee on Conferences might not be performing as effectively as it ought. It was not clear that the holding of annual sessions in two parts was in any way advantageous. A well-prepared session in one part might be more beneficial. There was also some disquiet about the support services provided to that Committee. In particular, it had been suggested that information necessary for approving extra meetings of various special committees had not always been made available, and that requests for such approval had often been made at very short notice and on questionable grounds. There was a case for tightening up the rules in that area.

11. Mr. WEDICK (Canada) said it was time that all United Nations organs abandoned rigid, unproductive schedules, arranged to meet only when there was a justifiable need, considered meeting less rather than more frequently and, when meetings were convened, saw to it that proceedings commenced and adjourned on time.

12. His delegation believed that the question of the shortening of sessions should be more carefully examined. Certain committees could operate effectively within reduced time-frames, and while organizations should meet regularly, the advantages of a biennial programme of work and shorter sessions were not limited to a reduction in conference-servicing costs. Adopting such measures would allow delegations more time to focus on the issues.

13. Greater effort should be spent on rationalizing requests for scarce conference

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(Mr. Wedick, Canada)

resources, which should not be viewed as an automatic entitlement without regard to the costs; total requirements must be closely evaluated before requests were made. In that regard, his delegation supported paragraphs 4 and 6 of draft resolution B. Moreover, once agendas were formalized, more advance notification should be given of any cancellations or changes that could affect conference services.

14. As to conference planning, more emphasis should be placed on new issues and developments, and on specific themes. Similarly, once an item had been exhaustively reviewed with no apparent decision in sight, it could be removed from the agenda at least until further developments warranted renewed discussion. Moreover, it was important that the mandates of committees should be strictly observed so as to avoid any overlapping, and that issues should be discussed in the proper context and forum.

15. His delegation supported an appropriate reduction in the number of formal meetings to allow the balance of time to be used for informal meetings or consultations, where significant work was often accomplished at less cost. He supported the establishment of an informal calendar as an alternative to the more costly, formal scheduling, provided that the character of informal meetings remained unchanged. He also supported a single conference-servicing operation in Vienna, provided that the move could be accomplished within existing resources.

16. Finally, it was very easy when consensus appeared distant or when a problem arose to call for a new report. To assist in the control and limitation of documentation, his delegation urged all United Nations organs to ensure that such requests for reports and in-depth studies were fully justified.

17. Mr. PANESSO (Colombia) asked whether the principle alluded to in paragraph 4 of draft resolution A would henceforth preclude the possibility for regional commissions to organize conferences and meetings, even if the Secretary-General was prepared to assign that task to them. At present, it was up to the Secretary-General to decide who would service meetings held away from Headquarters.

18. He questioned the logic of the proposal in paragraph 4 of draft resolution B. Chairmen were responsible for ensuring that the bodies over which they presided made rational use of conference-servicing resources.

19. His delegation agreed that there were already enough rules on conference servicing and that the Committee on Conferences must now work to ensure their implementation.

20. Mr. MARYADI (Indonesia) said it was regrettable that some subsidiary bodies had failed to explain their reasons for using less than 75 per cent of the conference resources allocated to them. No action should be taken solely on that account, but if efficiency was to be improved it was necessary to overcome the continuing tendency to equate the importance of an organ with the length and frequency of its sessions.

21. With regard to the control and limitation of documentation, his delegation was encouraged to note the new trend towards conciseness and the reduction of volume,

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(Mr. Maryadi, Indonesia)

which should enable the Secretariat to speed up document reproduction. It was regrettable, however, that delays in receiving both pre-session and post-session documentation still persisted. The Committee on Conferences had, as reflected in paragraphs 46 to 54 of its report, examined the various causes of late issuance and had considered possible solutions. His delegation hoped that its recommendations would be adopted by the Fifth Committee and that Secretariat units would fully implement them. Finally, his delegation was in favour of the proposed in-depth study of all existing provisions relating to the pattern of conferences.

22. Mr. GITSOV (Bulgaria) said that, in the interests of maximum efficiency and cost-effectiveness, his delegation supported the proposal in draft resolution A for a single conference-servicing operation at the Vienna International Centre. The proposed shortening of sessions or a biennial cycle of sessions reflected the continuing concern of Member States over the failure of United Nations organs to utilize fully the conference resources made available to them. The respective organs should progressively implement the recommendations contained in draft resolution B with flexibility, taking due account of specific circumstances.

23. He agreed in principle with the proposal in draft resolution C for an in-depth study of all existing provisions relating to the pattern of conferences. In addition, he agreed with the Under-Secretary-General for Conference Services and Special Assignments on the need for a co-ordinated approach to conference servicing.

24. The control and limitation of documentation had a crucial role to play in reducing costs. General Assembly resolution 38/32 E contained detailed and very useful recommendations on that matter which had not all been included in draft resolution D. The draft dealt only with the feasibility of an abbreviated summary record and the timely processing and issuance of documents. His delegation noted the slow pace of progress on the study for instituting shorter summary records, but nevertheless supported the experiment as well as the detailed proposals for expediting the processing of documentation.

25. Finally, the Secretariat's publication policies and practices were in need of improvement. It was especially regrettable that the Yearbook of the United Nations, a major sales item, was still being issued with considerable delay. His delegation hoped that all such backlogs could be eliminated as soon as possible.

26. Mr. FONTAINE-ORTIZ (Cuba), referring to draft resolution A, said that there was some uncertainty as to the division of administrative and substantive responsibilities among different Secretariat units in the organization of conferences and meetings, in particular between Headquarters and the regional commissions. In the past, such uncertainties had undermined the effectiveness of some meetings held in Member States and he hoped that the Secretariat would take appropriate action or implement existing rules in order to resolve those uncertainties. He requested the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences to explain precisely what was meant by paragraph 4 of the draft resolution A. In addition, when resources for a meeting of a regional commission were included in the budget for Headquarters, what unit was responsible for providing substantive and conference servicing for such a meeting?

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(Mr. Fontaine-Ortiz, Cuba)

27. With regard to draft resolution B, he shared the concerns voiced by other delegations, particularly Sri Lanka, regarding the approach to the use of conference services for formal and informal meetings. Further consultations were needed to close any loopholes in the formulation of that draft resolution. His delegation was especially concerned at paragraph 2. Did the reference to "current statistical data" mean the figures given in paragraph 1? He would also welcome clarification of paragraph 3, since informal consultations often required interpretation services.

AGENDA ITEM 116: PERSONNEL QUESTIONS (A/39/453, A/39/483 and Add.1; A/C.5/39/2, A/C.5/39/4 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/C.5/39/6, 9, 11 and 17)

28. Mr. NEGRE (Assistant Secretary-General for Personnel Services) recalled that the new personnel policy which the Office of Personnel Services was gradually introducing was focused on three main areas: the implementation of a medium-term recruitment plan for the period 1983-1985 which would, inter alia, bring all unrepresented or under-represented countries within their desirable range; the gradual organization of a coherent career development system providing equal opportunity for promotion and reasonable career prospects for all staff members; and the development of a new relationship between the Administration and staff, in which staff representatives would be consulted regularly on all matters of mutual interest. Those three areas of activity were the underlying theme of the six reports on personnel questions which the Secretary-General was submitting to the Fifth Committee at the current session.

29. With regard to the efforts being made to ensure improved distribution of staff in the Professional category both geographically and by sex, the report on the composition of the Secretariat (A/39/453) showed that the results thus far had been rather disappointing. In the reporting period, nationals of under-represented countries had accounted for only 20.5 per cent of total appointments, while the corresponding figure for over-represented countries had been 17.8 per cent. The number of under-represented countries had declined from 25 to 24, but the number of unrepresented countries had increased from 14 to 15 and that of over-represented countries from 31 to 32. What was even more disturbing was that the proportion of women in Professional posts had remained virtually static at 22.6 per cent.

30. The report on personnel policies (A/C.5/39/9) mentioned the various objective difficulties which had prevented any marked improvement in the distribution of Professional posts. However, one must look beyond those short-term difficulties to find the underlying causes of the problem. First of all, the medium-term recruitment plan had not been implemented consistently and strictly because the concept of human resources planning had not yet been genuinely accepted within the Secretariat. In most departments, in fact, the recruitment plan was seen as a coercive and arbitrary measure. Furthermore, the plan's implementation was complicated by the fact that personnel administration was extremely decentralized. Finally, the Office of Personnel Services did not have sufficient resources to plan human resources effectively. For instance, it lacked a reliable statistical mechanism for evaluating personnel needs and identifying and projecting vacancies.

31. Those objective constraints showed that more realism would be required in the

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(Mr. Negre)

preparation of the next recruitment plan. The situation was not irreversible, however. On the contrary, some improvements had already taken place since January 1984, following the adoption of a number of drastic measures. The report on personnel policies gave an exhaustive list of the measures taken to speed up the process of ensuring a more equitable distribution of staff geographically and by sex. He wished to draw attention, in particular, to the recommendation to extend up to the P-3 level the procedure of recruitment by competitive examination, a procedure which had already proved its worth, particularly for improving geographical distribution. That recommendation would also correct the anomaly whereby an increasing number of P-3 posts were being occupied by young staff members who had been recruited at the P-2 level without taking the competitive examination, a practice which also gave them an unfair advantage over their colleagues in P-2 posts. As a result of the measures in effect since January 1984, it was already possible to predict that, by the end of the year, the list of under-represented countries would have been reduced to 14 and the proportion of over-represented countries to 11 per cent. Those projections were based on the latest appointment recommendations made by the Appointment and Promotion Board.

32. Delegations might wonder whether those measures were going to be genuinely effective in view of the temporary suspension of recruitment. In his statement at the Committee's 13th meeting, the Secretary-General had explained that the measure was strictly limited in time and did allow for exceptions in special circumstances. Furthermore, he wished to stress that it did not apply to nationals of unrepresented countries; successful candidates from the 1983 external examinations, all of whom were from unrepresented or under-represented countries; and candidates selected on the recruitment missions held in spring 1984 in a number of under-represented countries. Finally, the selection process for candidates from under-represented countries would continue, with the result that their appointments would be given priority when the temporary suspension was lifted.

33. Another vital area of personnel policy was the organization of an effective system of career development for Secretariat staff. The Secretary-General's proposals in that regard were to be found in document A/C.5/39/9, which traced the broad outlines of a coherent career development policy, defined its guiding principles, set forth its objectives and described the action to be taken to implement the proposed system within a period of two years. It was not the aim of the proposed policy to dictate the course of each staff member's career but rather to drastically overhaul the current system of promotion which no longer responded to the needs of the Organization or to the legitimate aspirations of the staff. Incidentally, there was no conflict between the proposed policy and the need to ensure equitable distribution geographically and by sex at all levels in the Secretariat.

34. The career development plan was designed not only to offer more equitable promotion opportunities to all the staff but also to enable individual staff members to develop their own potential and thus enhance their career prospects. The absence of an effective career development system had prevented the Organization from making maximum use of its human resources and had caused frustration and discouragement among the staff. Ongoing staff training would be a major component of the system and would help maximize the Organization's

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(Mr. Negre)

effectiveness. Redeployment and the optimum utilization of human resources were possible only with a staff that was highly qualified and adaptable and the traditional training programme would have to be completely overhauled to meet those needs.

35. In that connection, the language training programme referred to in document A/C.5/39/6 enhanced the linguistic balance and increased the efficiency of the Secretariat. Secretariat staff were showing an increasing interest in acquiring other languages and that trend must be encouraged.

36. The main characteristic of the Secretariat was that its functioning depended essentially on the quantity and, still more so, the quality of its staff. As a result, relations between the staff and the Administration were extremely important. The Secretary-General had frequently stressed the importance of improving that relationship, for instance through regular consultations between the staff and the Administration at all levels and on all questions of mutual interest relating to conditions of work and staff welfare. Improvements were made in that system from time to time and it was in that light that the Fifth Committee should view the amendments to the Staff Rules set forth in document A/C.5/39/4/Add.1. Since the staff of the Organization had increased considerably, existing conciliation and appeals procedures now took an inordinate length of time and must be reviewed. That was also why consideration was being given to the possibility of appointing an ombudsman.

37. Mr. BERTRAND (Joint Inspection Unit), introducing the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on competitive examinations in the United Nations (A/39/483), said that the Assistant Secretary-General for Personnel Services had made his own task easier by identifying the structural cause of the difficulties encountered in introducing the system of competitive examinations, namely the fact that the concept of human resources planning was not yet truly accepted within the Secretariat. The report of JIU described in detail the bureaucratic resistance that existed to the correct implementation of the General Assembly's decisions. It also sought to explain how it could be overcome. The Assembly itself, however, could help considerably in that respect by defining the policy it wished to have applied as clearly and explicitly as possible. He hoped that the Committee's efforts in that direction would be facilitated by the Secretary-General's general agreement with the recommendations made by JIU, as evidenced by his comments in document (A/39/483/Add.1).

38. The report noted that the system of competitive examinations instituted by the General Assembly through its resolutions 34/143 and 35/210 had been working well and had considerably facilitated the efforts of the Office of Personnel Services to bring about a more equitable geographical distribution of posts in the Secretariat. The system could therefore be regarded as having gone beyond the experimental stage and become fully operational.

39. Unfortunately, the number of posts that had been filled by external examination was five times less than it ought to have been according to the rules adopted by the General Assembly. Between 1974 and 1983, only 118 Professional staff had been recruited through competitive examination, whereas over a shorter

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(Mr. Bertrand)

period, from 1979 to 1983, the examination for promotion from the General Service to the Professional category had resulted in the appointment of 134 Professionals. General Assembly resolution 35/210 had specified that 70 per cent of appointments to the P-1/P-2 level should be through external examination and 30 per cent from internal sources. The Assembly's decision was clearly not being put into effect. While, as pointed out by the Secretary-General, 1982 and 1983 had been a time of transition, the figures were nevertheless unacceptable.

40. The causes for the unsatisfactory state of affairs were analysed in paragraphs 14 to 25 of the report, chief among which was the refusal to change ingrained habits.

41. The adoption of objective methods of recruitment, the introduction of a career development system and efforts to ensure equitable geographical distribution, ought to be integral parts of an overall policy for raising the quality of the staff and improving its morale, and thus making the Organization more effective. A great deal remained to be done in that respect. For instance, the inordinate time being taken by the Career Development and Placement Unit to identify and define occupational groups was a further illustration of the lack of understanding of the whole concept of human resources planning.

42. The report made six major recommendations. First, the General Assembly should be asked to reaffirm that all recruitment at the P-1/P-2 level should be by competitive examination, apart from a few very specific exceptions. Other recommendations were that the list of successful candidates should be prepared as described in paragraphs 31 to 34, and that a plan should be drawn up covering a minimum of three years so that examinations could be organized in more countries. Steps should also be taken to ensure that P-1/P-2 posts did not gradually disappear from the manning table. It was also time to extend the examination system to the P-3 level through the procedure described in the report, which would have the advantage of increasing the number of posts filled by competitive examination, of extending objective recruitment to another level, and of making it easier to achieve equitable geographical distribution. He hoped that the Secretary-General's agreement with those proposals would make it easier for the General Assembly to endorse the recommendations in a resolution that would be as specifically worded as possible and would supplement the provisions already adopted in the annex to resolution 35/210.

43. The second part of the report concerned the competitive examination for movement from the General Service to the Professional category. JIU agreed with the Secretary-General that that examination had become a generally accepted institution and was no longer subject to question. The only disagreement remaining between JIU and the Secretariat was in regard to the urgency of developing a career development system for the General Service category, as outlined in paragraph 50 of its report. That problem had been under study in the Secretariat for many years without any satisfactory outcome. Consequently, recommendation 7 in the JIU report merited the Committee's serious consideration.

44. The CHAIRMAN said that he had received a communication from the President of the Staff Committee at Headquarters transmitting the request of the staff unions

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(The Chairman)

and associations of the United Nations Secretariat to be given an opportunity to make an oral presentation of the report in document A/C.5/39/23, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 (a) of General Assembly resolution 35/213. In view of the practice adopted by the Committee at previous sessions of the General Assembly, he took it that there was no objection to granting the request.

45. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 108: FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, AND REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS (continued) (A/C.5/39/L.3, L.4, L.5 and L.6)

AGENDA ITEM 109: PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985 (continued) (A/C.5/39/L.6)

46. Mr. MICHALSKI (United States of America), introducing his delegation's draft resolution on agenda items 108 and 109 (A/C.5/39/L.6), said that the draft resolution proposed by the Chairman (A/C.5/39/L.3) dealt with the financial reports and statements in rather general terms. His delegation felt that because of its magnitude one item - he deficit incurred by the catering operation - deserved special attention. The Secretary-General had already taken the position that the operation should not be run at the expense of Member States. For nearly 30 years, it had operated on a break-even basis, with corrective action being taken when any deficit threatened. In the last two bienniums, however, a considerable loss had been incurred, amounting to more than \$2 million since 1979. The United States delegation had asked a number of questions in that connection during the discussion of the budget estimates at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly: for example, why the management fee for the current operation was more than four times higher than for the previous contractor, and why a 20 per cent rise in costs was forecast over the period. The Committee had already been informed that a consultant had been hired to study the matter, and that steps would be taken to correct any problems identified by him, including, if necessary, the replacement of the caterer. The details of any such action were of course the province of the Secretary-General, but it was important for the General Assembly to record its concern and to ask the Secretary-General to see to it that the matter was dealt with. That was the purpose of his delegation's draft resolution. After consultation with another delegation, however, he would like to revise operative paragraph 2 to read: "Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps to prevent further losses in the catering operation".

47. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the draft resolution proposed by him (A/C.5/39/L.3), and the amendments to it put forward by the delegations of the Philippines (A/C.5/39/L.4) and Ireland (A/C.5/39/L.5).

48. Ms. CONWAY (Ireland) said that the first word of the new operative paragraph 5 proposed by her delegation, "Invites", should be replaced by "Renews its invitation to".

49. The amendment in document A/C.5/39/L.5, as orally revised, was adopted.

50. The amendment in document A/C.5/39/L.4 was adopted.

51. The draft resolution proposed by the Chairman in document A/C.5/39/L.3, as amended, was adopted.

52. Mr. GARRIDO (Philippines) said he would like further clarification from the Secretariat before any action was taken on the draft resolution proposed by the United States.

53. Mr. FORAN (Controller) said that the United States proposal stemmed from the report of the Board of Auditors in which attention was drawn to the deficit incurred by the catering services (A/39/5, vol. I). During the discussion of that report, he had explained that the Secretary-General would be taking steps to bring the operation into balance. Any specific steps would first have to be reviewed by the Office of General Services and the Office of Financial Services, but the undertaking had been given. There would undoubtedly have to be adjustments in the pricing structure, but how and when they would be made had not yet been decided.

54. Mr. EL-SAFETY (Egypt) and Mr. MOHAMED FALL (Mauritania) proposed that action on the matter should be deferred to allow delegations further time to consider it.

55. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 115: SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS (continued)

56. Mr. ALAGHANY (Saudi Arabia), speaking in exercise of the right of reply to the statement made by the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions at the preceding meeting, drew the Committee's attention to a number of facts that clearly demonstrated the inequity and unfairness of the increases in Saudi Arabia's assessed contributions over the years. First, it should be noted that, in absolute terms, Saudi Arabia's actual gross assessed contributions had increased by 2,562 per cent, from \$221,401 in 1976 to \$5,893,710 in 1983. During the same period, its rate of assessment had increased by 1,333 per cent. Both increases were clearly excessive by any reasonable standard and grossly disproportionate to the modest 164 per cent increase in actual per capita income in the country over the same period.

57. Secondly, the current assessment methodology had resulted in unfair increases in Saudi Arabia's rate of assessment between successive scales. Thus, for example, its rate of assessment had increased successively by 300 per cent between 1976 and 1979, by 152 per cent between 1979 and 1982, and by 65 per cent between 1982 and 1985, resulting in a cumulative increase of 517 per cent. That had been in direct contravention of paragraph 4 (c) of General Assembly resolution 36/231 A. No other Member State had been subjected to such an excessive rate of increase, which had also been grossly disproportionate in relation to other countries in the same per capita income group.

58. As a founding Member of the United Nations, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had fulfilled and would continue to fulfil its financial obligations in support of the Organization. The strength of that commitment was reflected in the fact that Saudi Arabia's total voluntary contributions far exceeded its total assessed contributions to the entire United Nations system.

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(Mr. Alaghany, Saudi Arabia)

59. There was a clear need for a thorough reform of the current assessment methodology with the aim of ensuring that the assessments of all Member States were fair, equitable and realistic, and his delegation would shortly be submitting a draft resolution designed to promote that goal.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.