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President: Mr. Juan I. COOKE (Argentina)

Present:

The representatives of the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Egypt, France, India, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Observers from the following Member States: Brazil, Colombia, Indonesia, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Uruguay.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, World Health Organization, World Meteorological Organization.

Co-ordination of the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies: (a) Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (E/2512, E/2607 and Corr.1, E/2607/Add.1)

[Agenda item 26]

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take up item 26 of its agenda: co-ordination of the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

2. Mr. HAMMARSKJÖLD (Secretary-General), introducing the fifteenth and sixteenth reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) (E/2512, E/2607 and Corr.1, E/2607/Add.1), said that some of the important issues covered by the item in question had already been dealt with in other contexts. He would confine himself to a few observations on the most urgent problem, that of the future development of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, emphasizing three outstanding aspects of ACC's work. First, there was the need, of transcendent importance, for greater and steadier financial support for the Expanded Programme; he hoped that governments would appreciate that need and give the necessary long-term backing. Secondly, he would stress ACC's appreciation of the opportunity it had had of consulting the Council on the administrative and financial reorganization of the Expanded Programme, and hoped that such consulta-

tion might continue. Lastly, although it was true that the Technical Assistance Board enjoyed full operational responsibility in its own field, the executive heads of the specialized agencies and he himself had none the less to exercise over-all supervision of programme development. That responsibility was discharged not only through the ACC, but through the medium of personal contacts. The heads of the participating organizations and he himself would, where necessary, consult privately in attempts to solve problems which had proved intractable at operational level. Such an arrangement—which, indeed, already existed, although it had not yet been formally authorized—would guarantee the smooth development of the great, concerted United Nations effort that the Expanded Programme represented.

3. The most important development in ACC's work was the increased attention being paid to co-operation and co-ordination on substantive programme matters, and the Council would note the satisfactory results of the work done on definitions of terms, roles and objectives and on questions pertaining to community organization and development (E/2512). Some useful stock-taking had also been carried out, as was evidenced by the annex to ACC's sixteenth report—"The development of co-ordination and co-operation among the United Nations and specialized agencies in economic and social programmes" (E/2607/Add.1). That survey showed that the staff resources of the various participating organizations had been mobilized over a wide field of action. On the other hand, the degree of co-ordination in the early stages of the programmes had been less satisfactory. Although the major responsibility in that respect lay with governments, ACC was looking into the matter from the standpoint of United Nations responsibility and was taking further steps to ensure full inter-secretarial co-ordination. Such consultation was equally necessary for the alignment of general policy planning at the initial stages within all the organizations concerned—a view that had found expression in ACC's comments on his consultation with it on the Secretariat's note entitled "Review of the organization and work of the Secretariat in the economic and social field" (E/2598).

4. The Council would note the arrangements for strengthening consultative procedures; in the immediate future he proposed to hold a consultation on the over-all programme of concerted action in the social field which should provide a basis for action by ACC itself to assist the Council and the specialized agencies in attaining their final objective.

5. He would recall his words at the 798th meeting to the effect that high-level relations should provide the Council with all the advantages of a closely unified system without the disadvantages of rigid centralization.

The application of the principle of unity within freedom must, however, of necessity be a slow process. The spirit that he had invoked was in fact developing, although at that level the possibilities of achievement were obviously limited. Urgent attention, however, was being given to all those matters, and he had every hope that the Council would find ACC of increasing use to it in its deliberations.

6. Mr. CAFIERO (Argentina) said that his delegation attached great importance to the efforts being made by ACC to improve co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies with the object of preventing overlapping, chaotic proliferation of activities and unnecessary expenditure.

7. The new impetus given by the Secretary-General to the work of co-ordination, particularly by his reorganization of the Secretariat to enable it to achieve still better results in its own particular field, was extremely gratifying. ACC should redouble its own efforts, in order to simplify the work of the Council and the General Assembly in that direction.

8. After quoting paragraph 4 of ACC's sixteenth report (E/2607 and Corr.1) and Article 58 of the Charter, he said that there should be more consultation between the various organizations with a view to eliminating activities of minor importance and ensuring the most economical use of resources. The Council itself, under the guidance of the General Assembly, had of course the authority to decide the lines along which economic and social activities should proceed, and how they should be allocated.

9. It was, perhaps, too early to consider ACC's reports in detail, since the Council had made other arrangements for studying the organization of its activities and the relevant reports submitted to it by the Secretariat. For instance, questions closely related to the subject under discussion had been referred to the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC) and the Co-ordination Committee, and the Council should take no further action until it knew the outcome of the discussions in those two bodies.

10. It could, however, be said forthwith that, since no unilateral decision could be taken on the working programmes of the various specialized agencies, the United Nations should endeavour to achieve the best possible results in co-ordination. ACC's reports showed that in certain sectors—for example statistics, technical assistance, full employment and industrialization—the work could be more centralized. Accordingly, when the time was ripe, the Council would be able to avail itself of the data contained in ACC's reports, some of which data, particularly those relating to the activities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and industrialization, should be more detailed.

11. The Argentine delegation also welcomed the more frequent contacts which had been established between ACC and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. It hoped that those consultations would lead to fruitful discussions on various administrative and financial matters and, in particular, on the budgets of the specialized agencies. His delegation would also welcome fuller information on the question of the common compensation fund referred to in paragraph 36 of ACC's sixteenth report.

12. Lastly, in regard to information services, the Argentine delegation remained convinced that by far the best propaganda for the United Nations was results. Since, however, the Secretary-General was engaged in reorganizing the Secretariat, it would be inadvisable for the time being to go into that question in detail.

13. Mr. HSIA (China) had been greatly impressed by the Secretary-General's statesmanlike approach to the co-ordination of the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, which was symbolized in his affirmation of the idea of unity within freedom. He was sure that, given good will and determination, that task would be successfully achieved.

14. With regard to ACC's reports, the Chinese delegation welcomed the suggestion that the governing organs, such as the Council, should give the fullest effect to the provisions of resolution 324 B (XI) relating to prior consultation with the organizations concerned before the adoption of proposals for new activities. He hoped that representatives of the United Nations Secretariat and the specialized agencies alike would take a more active part in the discussion of new activities in the economic and social field.

15. With regard to special reports asked for by United Nations organs from the specialized agencies, he was in general agreement with the suggestion that increasing use be made of the latter's regular annual reports. He wondered, however, whether a regular biennial report might meet the Council's needs in the case of specific subjects. In any event, the suggestions made in paragraphs 25 and 26 of ACC's sixteenth report (E/2607 and Corr.1) should be put into practice.

16. With regard to ACC's reporting system, his delegation shared the doubts expressed about the usefulness of routine factual reports. In future, reports should deal primarily with existing problems and recommendations, rather than with past accomplishments, so that the Council could in turn concentrate its efforts on seeking solutions to those problems.

17. He expressed his delegation's appreciation of the annex to the sixteenth report, on the development of co-ordination and co-operation among the United Nations and the specialized agencies in economic and social programmes (E/2607/Add.1). It was a most useful document, giving as it did a comprehensive description of the joint efforts already put forth in six major fields of activity by the different organizations participating in the various programmes.

18. Mr. HOTCHKIS (United States of America) welcomed the Secretary-General's statement as evidence of a growing spirit of co-operation throughout the whole United Nations family. His delegation warmly endorsed the three points that Mr. Hammarskjöld had so lucidly expounded.

19. Turning to ACC's reports, he said that his delegation would request the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the specialized agencies, to make use of ACC machinery to undertake an immediate study of the possibility of concentrating in the United Nations Department of Public Information public information work on common programmes and activities. Such a joint arrangement

would enable the most effective use to be made both of the technical competence of the individual agencies in preparing material, and of the public information system of the United Nations in distributing it.

20. With regard to special reports, his Government did not support ACC's recommendations that the *Report on the World Social Situation* and the "International Survey of Programmes of Social Development" be prepared at less frequent intervals than once every four years. That course, if adopted, would, he feared, handicap the Council in the discharge of its important responsibilities in the social field. He further believed that steps should be taken to ensure that requests for special reports by subsidiary organs of the Council should become effective only subject to prior consultation with the executive head of the specialized agency concerned and the approval of the Council.

21. He was in general agreement with ACC's comments on community organization and development, and particularly welcomed the conclusion that the report which the Secretary-General was preparing on community welfare centres pursuant to Council resolution 390 D (XIII) should be "organized on a regional basis rather than by subject matter".

22. His delegation strongly supported the view that in the matter of programme co-ordination and co-operation there should be throughout maximum consultation between the United Nations and the specialized agencies prior to any fresh activity being undertaken.

23. He believed that ACC's reports should give special attention to concrete developments in programme co-ordination between the specialized agencies and the United Nations, and hoped that future reports would be more, rather than less, informative. That suggestion was in accordance with paragraph B.2 of the joint draft resolution on the organization and operation of the Council and its commissions submitted at the 119th meeting of the Co-ordination Committee (E/AC.24/L.95). The major debate therein proposed for the Council's summer session, which, with the participation of the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies he hoped would become an annual event, would gain in substance if the Council had before it a report on programme and administrative co-ordination, such as the one suggested, prepared by ACC.

24. His Government warmly appreciated the active part played by ACC in developing effective co-operation between the specialized agencies and the United Nations.

25. Mr. MEADE (United Kingdom) said that his delegation particularly welcomed the Secretary-General's interest in the work of ACC, which had a vital part to play in the co-ordination of the work of the various international organizations active in the economic and social fields. The general lines on which the Committee was working were sensible, and he would support the conclusion reached in paragraph 43 of ACC's sixteenth report (E/2607 and Corr.1).

26. In the matter of co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, ACC's methods were satisfactory. It was important, however, that existing arrangements for prior discussion of a project should be improved, so as to avoid duplication through

frequent consultation at operational level. In that respect, ACC's efforts should be supported by governments and by the governing bodies of the specialized agencies.

27. During the discussions on reorganization, both in the Council and in ACC, frequent reference had been made to wasteful dispersal of effort with resultant excessive documentation. In the past, the Council and its commissions had perhaps been too active in calling for studies on particular problems, and his delegation would endorse paragraphs 24 to 29 of ACC's sixteenth report, to the effect that requests for studies be made in ample time and after prior consultation. He also hoped that in future delegations would exercise the greatest care in calling for new studies.

28. His delegation was a co-sponsor of the joint draft resolution submitted at the 119th meeting of the Co-ordination Committee (E/AC.24/L.95) concerning the holding each year of a major debate on the activities of the specialized agencies; that resolution, if adopted, would considerably enhance ACC's importance.

29. Mr. AMANRICH (France) said that it was gratifying to see what importance the Secretary-General attached to co-ordination, as the various economic and social activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies formed a single whole, the coherence of which depended upon the extent to which satisfactory solutions were found for the problem of co-ordination.

30. Co-ordination had a quite considerable bearing on reorganization, and it had become essential, if energy and resources were to be conserved, to try to review from time to time the general trend of work in the economic and social field.

31. Once the reorganization had been carried out, the Council would be able to consider year by year, within the framework of co-ordination, the problems attending the implementation of programmes, and to communicate its views thereon to the Secretary-General. That was a responsibility of which the Council could not divest itself, and it was its especial duty to help the Secretary-General to combat any excessive centrifugal tendencies. For its part, the French delegation, which was not inclined to excessive centralization, knew that the efforts undertaken by a number of specialized agencies took the form of concerted action, and that each agency retained its own individuality within that framework. Similarly, when a specific problem clearly fell within the competence of one agency, there was no need to push the latter to enlist the help of other United Nations institutions. At the same time, it was essential for the Council, through ACC, to lay down general policy when a problem called for action by several agencies.

32. With that in mind, the French delegation welcomed the new lines of action laid down in ACC's sixteenth report. They would appear to consist mainly in ensuring that the meetings between the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies were devoted to the examination and orientation of programmes. That policy met the constant concern of the French delegation, which therefore fully approved the remarks in the report concerning consultation at the earliest stage in the preparation of programmes, though,

of course, if things were carried too far before the matter had been discussed by the specialized agencies concerned there might be disappointment.

33. With regard to the form and presentation of the regular reports of the specialized agencies, the French delegation entirely agreed with ACC that they would lose much of their value if they were submitted less frequently than once a year. On the other hand, it disagreed with the Committee about the special reports, some of which were very interesting and, like that on the world economic situation, should continue to be submitted every four years. The rate of technical progress and of development in the different countries justified that course.

34. The French delegation also considered that the information in the annex to ACC's sixteenth report (E/2607/Add.1) was of great value, and that the Secretariat should prepare a similar document at regular intervals, since with some slight changes in form it could replace the *Catalogue of Economic and Social Projects* which ACC suggested should be discontinued.

35. Mr. VIRA (India), welcoming the Secretary-General's lucid observations, said that the Indian Government considered that ACC's sixteenth report laid proper stress on programme co-ordination and the importance of inter-agency consultation at an early stage. ACC had already established an impressive record of achievement, particularly in the social field, and he therefore welcomed the assurance that it intended to pay even closer and more systematic attention to co-ordination in programme matters. His delegation endorsed section II of the sixteenth report relating to special reports of specialized agencies to United Nations organs; he would particularly emphasize the salient points in paragraphs 25 and 26. At the same time, he would resist any proposal that the discretion of the subordinate organs or the specialized agencies in that respect be fettered. One of the most praiseworthy characteristics of the United Nations and the specialized agencies was the flexibility of their methods. There should be no specific conditions governing collaboration in the collection of information by the subordinate organs and the specialized agencies.

36. Turning to ACC's fifteenth report (E/2512), and animadverting on section I, relating to the form of reports of specialized agencies, he would recall the historical background as described in paragraph 8 of the report. Although his delegation was all in favour of reducing the bulk of the reports, it could not countenance any reduction in the frequency of their presentation, which could only impair efficiency.

37. With regard to the suggestion that the United Nations information services be used for the dissemination of information on common programmes and activities, he would support any proposal aimed against unnecessary duplication, and would welcome any co-ordinating measures in the preparation of documents. Care would be needed, however, to ensure that excessive centralization did not hinder the smooth working of the machinery of disseminating information in individual reports, which were of considerable value.

38. While realizing the difficulties encountered by the Secretariat, such as the late submission of documentation, he wished to insist upon the importance of the timely distribution of documents to governments. Consultation and co-ordination between the various agencies concerned might help to improve the situation.

39. The Indian Government was particularly interested in the question of community organization and development, and he had read the relevant annex to ACC's fifteenth report (E/2512) with the greatest interest and admiration. The definitions of terms, roles and objectives laid down therein would be most useful to those engaged in practical work in that field. He agreed with the view expressed in paragraph 43 of the sixteenth report that it would be undesirable for ACC to lay down formulas to which its methods of work, its procedures and its reports to the Council should conform.

40. In conclusion, he wished to express his delegation's appreciation of the excellent work ACC had done.

41. Mr. HARRY (Australia) said that his Government had been particularly impressed by the evidence of a highly-developed system of co-operation at secretariat level between the various specialized agencies, and between the specialized agencies as a whole and the United Nations. The annex to ACC's sixteenth report contained a multitude of examples of practical co-operation, a single sentence in many cases summarizing consultations and preparations lasting several weeks. The co-ordination achieved between the World Health Organization and the International Labour Organisation in the field of occupational health was only one example of the outstanding achievements of the past year. It was quite impossible for the Council to examine in detail each programme and method of work, but it and ACC together had succeeded in creating an awareness of the need for co-ordination, which was reflected in every detail of the work of the specialized agencies. The fulfilment of that important function by the Council and ACC by no means diminished the responsibility of governments and the conferences and governing bodies of the specialized agencies to inform themselves at the earliest stage of other work programmes already put in hand or projected, so as to obviate the need for subsequent modifications and the co-ordination of existing programmes. Generally speaking, the Australian Government was pleased with the results already achieved.

42. He noted from section IV of its sixteenth report that ACC had again considered the question of reporting, and had made some progress. His delegation agreed with the conclusion reached by ACC that there would be a continuing need for some special reports from the specialized agencies. It was, however, impossible to lay down in advance the precise time at which such reports would be required. All that the Council could do was to draw attention to the principle and emphasize the importance of preparation and prior consultation.

43. It would probably continue to be necessary to render reports annually, although less frequent issue might be possible if the reports made by the specialized agencies to their conferences could be more closely co-ordinated with the reports they submitted direct to the Secretary-General and the Council. It might be desirable at a

later stage for the Council to look into the possibility that information requested from agencies was already substantially available in the annual reports of their executive heads. Duplication might possibly be reduced by those means and annual reports to the Council rendered unnecessary.

44. If the new proposals for the allocation of funds for the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance were approved by the Council, the closest consultation and co-ordination between participating organizations would be more necessary than ever before. The fact that governments would be playing a larger part in the formulation of programmes at national level would in no way diminish the heavy responsibility resting on the participating organizations to make the new system work.

45. The Australian Government attached importance to the co-ordination of services at various centres, reviewed in paragraphs 31 to 33 of ACC's sixteenth report. He was glad to note that progress had been made not only in co-ordination between the offices of the United Nations and the specialized agencies with regard to technical assistance, but also in the organization of the field offices in general.

46. His Government was inclined to think that there might be a case for a greater measure of co-ordination and centralization of the information services of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, but wished to have more time to examine the problem, in view of its very wide implications.

47. There was still room for the rationalization of conference programmes and calendars. He would like to insist on two important principles: meetings of the major organs of the specialized agencies should be held at their own headquarters; and wherever possible conferences on related subjects should be held in the same area and within short intervals of one another. The second principle did not, of course, apply to regional conferences. Above all, there must be detailed consultation between the United Nations and its agencies. As an example of close co-operation at operational level, he could quote a case in which a representative of one specialized agency had been able to inform him unofficially of the date at which the governing body of another agency was to meet, although a decision had not been officially reached by the latter agency at that time.

48. Mr. AZMI (Egypt) recalled that his delegation had always taken a special interest in co-ordination. Hence, it had noted ACC's fifteenth and sixteenth reports with satisfaction, and in general endorsed their conclusions. In that connexion it might be worth mentioning that the League of Arab States had decided to set up a co-ordination committee to facilitate relations between the Arab States and the secretariats of the United Nations and the specialized agencies so as to avoid overlapping.

49. At the same time he must point out that co-ordination did not imply annexation, but rather the closest possible co-operation. Some of the speeches made during the discussion rather ominously adumbrated a move to give the Secretary-General wider powers entitling him to supervise the specialized agencies and certain of their activities.

50. That was one reason why Egypt would hesitate to support the proposal that the dissemination of information on the activities of the various international organizations be centralized. Such a system would in any case run up against practical difficulties since the specialized agencies did not all have their headquarters in the same place and a good deal of time would therefore be wasted. Under the present system public opinion could be kept informed much more quickly.

51. Moreover, the past record of the United Nations Department of Public Information gave no assurance that it would perform that new task satisfactorily. Thus, General Assembly resolution 636 (VII), adopted in 1952, asking the Department to arrange through its various centres for publicity on the main decisions taken by the United Nations bodies, had produced very little result. It was to be hoped that things would be changed as a result of the reorganization the Secretary-General was undertaking, but as matters stood at present the Egyptian delegation was extremely doubtful about the advisability of the proposal.

52. He had been glad to hear the Argentine representative point out that the Co-ordination Committee, TAC and the Economic Committee were all at that moment studying questions closely connected with the subject of co-ordination. The Egyptian delegation accordingly supported the Argentine suggestion that the Council should defer a decision on the present item of its agenda until it had the reports of those three Committees before it.

53. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) also recalled that the question of co-ordination had already been raised at the present session in connexion with item 29 of the agenda; moreover, several Council committees were engaged in drafting resolutions, the adoption and implementation of which should lead to very marked improvements in the relations between the United Nations and the specialized agencies and in their respective activities.

54. The Secretary-General had stated, during the discussion on item 29, and had repeated at the present meeting, that in his opinion relations between the United Nations and the specialized agencies should be based on the principle of "unity within freedom". The Belgian delegation fully supported that principle, provided it was rightly understood. Unity was certainly possible in co-operation, but freedom was no less necessary. In that connexion, he associated himself with the reservations made by the Egyptian representative concerning the proposal for the centralization of public information services.

55. In any event, the Belgian delegation was confident that the Secretary-General could successfully carry out the work of co-ordination, which was a continuous task, calling for undivided attention.

56. Concentration of effort and resources was one of the first duties of all inter-governmental bodies, and it was clear that the specialized agencies must submit to the same disciplines as the United Nations in that respect; that was the essential condition for the freedom which the Council was prepared to allow them, and the Belgian delegation, for its part, would be most careful to observe that condition. On the other hand the

Council and the General Assembly should avoid overloading the specialized agencies when deciding to refer to them studies or work falling within their competence.

57. In the opinion of the Belgian delegation, the re-organization at present in course must necessarily lead to better results in co-ordination; it would also enhance the value of ACC's reports, the form of which was, incidentally, improving every year.

58. Mr. ISIK (Turkey) noted with satisfaction that the Secretary-General and ACC were convinced of the need for close co-ordination. As other delegations had observed, co-ordination questions were, however, linked with item 29 of the agenda and it was to be feared that discussions would tend to be repetitious.

59. The Turkish delegation was glad to note that, apart from its relations with the specialized agencies, ACC had made contact with other inter-governmental organizations outside the United Nations family; that step could not fail to be of great help in preventing overlapping.

60. Although the role of ACC should be extended, the Council's prerogatives should not be diminished. It was for ACC to establish the necessary conditions for collaboration, but apart from that the Council should be sufficiently informed to be able to give all the instructions and guidance required.

61. The Turkish delegation was therefore in favour of the submission of regular annual reports by the specialized agencies. On the other hand, special reports should be submitted at the same intervals as hitherto; if, when the time came, it was found that a detailed special report was not essential, it would always be possible to make do with a summary.

62. There was no doubt that the specialized agencies should be consulted before a decision was taken on the delegation to them of studies or other work, but it would be dangerous to draw up detailed programmes before consulting the intergovernmental organizations concerned.

63. Lastly, with regard to public information, the Turkish delegation thought that the views expressed during the discussion were not irreconcilable; duplication must of course be avoided and the specialized agencies must be in a position to disseminate the necessary information in time. Public information activities relating to questions of common interest might therefore be centralized so as to obviate the possibility of confusing public opinion, but the specialized agencies should retain their freedom of action in matters for which they were essentially competent.

64. Mr. ADIL (Pakistan) said that the Council could enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations' contribution to the economic and social development of under-developed countries by improving co-ordination between the specialized agencies. His delegation had noted with concern that the degree of co-ordination achieved in the early stages of the preparation and formulation of programmes had not been entirely satisfactory, and it welcomed the efforts that were being made to remedy that situation. His delegation had also felt some concern at the suggestion in ACC's latest reports that the Secretariat and the specialized agencies were sometimes called

upon to make reports and prepare documentation in cases where the volume of work involved was not commensurate with the benefits derived. It had also been suggested in the Council that reports should not be asked for until their desirability had been thoroughly considered. He wished to point out that the views of any particular delegation on the desirability of preparing a report could not become effective unless approved by the Council as a whole, and to submit that the Council was a responsible body made up of the representatives of responsible governments.

65. His delegation considered that annual reports were a necessity, and that the determination of their contents could be left to the specialized agencies concerned, with the request that they should take into account views expressed in the Council.

66. Although he sympathized with the Secretariat's difficulties, he would request that further efforts be made to ensure the distribution of documentation to governments well in advance of the time when the questions concerned were due to be discussed.

67. He welcomed the issue of a report on "Standards of Conduct in the International Civil Service", referred to in paragraph 34 of ACC's sixteenth report. With the best will in the world, there was always a danger of international officials called upon to give technical advice drifting into partiality. The importance of the most complete impartiality in the international civil service could not be over-emphasized.

68. He approved the Secretary-General's desire to establish a wider and more secure basis for the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. There was at present no machinery for evaluating the contribution of the various specialized agencies to the economic and social development of the countries in which they were operating, and his delegation had sponsored in TAC a draft resolution (E/TAC.L.75/Rev.2) suggesting the establishment of a working group to evaluate the results and effectiveness of the Programme. Such measures would not only help in ascertaining the effect of technical assistance on the lives of the peoples concerned, but would also bring any weaknesses to light.

69. He welcomed the various reports presented in the annex to ACC's sixteenth report (E/2607/Add.1). His delegation had already pointed out during the discussion on the world economic situation that there had been no integrated economic analysis of the area of operation of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), which stood in sharp contrast to the excellent *World Economic Report 1952-53* (E/2560).

70. He also noted with gratification the work carried out by the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the United Nations Secretariat in connexion with problems related to the financing of economic development, which, as the Council was already aware, was the key to the problem of the under-developed countries. Any efforts to put that problem in a clearer perspective would constitute an important advance.

71. He drew attention to the last sentence of paragraph 28 of the annex: "In general, productivity is a major interest of the survey missions of IBRD, in which

other specialized agencies participate". He regretted that nothing of that nature had been done in Pakistan, where the problem of productivity of manpower was a major one. He noted from paragraph 36 of the same document that the secretariat of ECAFE was to co-operate with the Food and Agriculture Organization in the study of certain aspects of agrarian reform in the prospective economic development plans of countries of the ECAFE region. Since the initial period of planning and preparation in countries of that region was already almost completed and the various schemes of economic development had reached a stage where further reviews had to be made in the light of changes in the economic situation, reports of the kind mentioned would be unlikely to serve any useful purpose unless they were made available immediately. He requested the ECAFE secretariat to concentrate on that problem.

72. Any constructive proposals which might emerge from the work on water conservation and utilization mentioned in paragraph 40 of the annex would be wel-

come to those countries, which, like Pakistan, faced particular difficulties in that field.

73. Since the majority of people in the ECAFE region lived in villages, the impact of economic development upon their lives could only be favourable if initiated at the level of the village community. With that situation in mind, the Government of Pakistan had recently initiated a village agricultural and industrial aid programme. His delegation accordingly found the annex to ACC's fifteenth report of particular interest and value. Concerted effort on the part of the various agencies was of paramount importance.

74. He noted the reference to personnel policy in paragraph 30 of the same document, and hoped that the Secretary-General would continue his efforts to further the principle of geographical representation in the United Nations Secretariat.

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.