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**THIRTY-NINTH SESSION**

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SECOND COMMITTEE  
38th meeting  
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Friday, 9 November 1984  
at 10.30 a.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 38th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. HARLAND (New Zealand)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.45 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.18/Rev.1

1. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan), introducing the draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.18/Rev.1 entitled "Economic development projects in the occupied Palestinian territories", said that the main changes made, following comments made during the informal consultations, consisted in the deletion of paragraph 5 in the earlier text and the amendment of paragraphs 3 and 4. Paragraph 3 of the revised draft called upon "all concerned" to facilitate the establishment of a seaport in the occupied Gaza Strip; the term "all concerned" included Governments and the United Nations system. The collaboration requested of the United Nations did not refer to the physical construction but to the preparation of the necessary technical and feasibility studies. Paragraph 4 contained a similar amendment and was addressed to all concerned.

Draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.25

2. Mr. DE ROJAS (Venezuela), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.25 entitled "Protection against products harmful to health and the environment", said that its purpose was to increase the usefulness of the consolidated list of such products, inter alia by providing for annual updated lists in at least four languages and including detailed information concerning the nature of the regulatory measures, the regulatory context in which they had been taken and the health or environmental reasons for taking such measures. Users must know the limits of the jurisdiction of the regulatory bodies and whether any economic or other factors had been taken into consideration in addition to the purely health and environmental ones. As had been suggested in the Secretary-General's report (A/39/452), from the technical point of view a better evaluation was needed of the context of the regulatory measures, particularly the question of risk. From the legal point of view it was necessary to pay greater attention to the framework of the measures which, clearly, varied from one country to another and from the commercial point of view it was necessary to study the issue of trademarks in greater depth. The draft resolution also called for the strengthening of the existing organizational arrangements and for technical assistance for the establishment or strengthening of national systems in that area.

Draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.19

3. Mr. SANGARE (Mali) said that his country was joining the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.19, entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

AGENDA ITEM 82: TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued)

(a) UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued) (A/39/14, A/39/148)

(b) UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (continued) (A/39/3 (Part II), A/39/31))

4. Mr. SOEDJATMOKO (Director, United Nations University) said that, as had been pointed out in the report of the Council of the University (A/39/31) the University had moved into the third year of work under its medium-term perspective, 1982-1987, and that the objectives continued to be (a) to develop a University programme focused on the five themes of the medium-term perspective; (b) to pursue a new phase of institutional development emphasizing the exploration and establishment of the University's own research and training centres, and (c) to obtain supplementary programme support in addition to the University's Endowment Fund.

5. The United Nations University had co-operated with UNESCO on a wide range of activities, ranging from the publication of Abstracts of Selected Solar Energy Technology (ASSET), a workshop on effective communication regarding nutrition in primary health care and the subproject on information overload and information under-use; with FAO in the area of traditional food technologies; with UNDP, UNICEF and UNESCO in work on nutrition; with the Outer Space Affairs Division on a symposium on maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes organized by the University and other organizations; with the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on work in the project on household, gender and age and with the preparatory committee for the International Year of Peace in connection with the preparation of a series of meetings on regional peace and security. Other activities had been carried out with the international academic community.

6. In 1984, the University had published over 40 scholarly publications, most of them books produced with commercial publishers. As of 1 June 1984, a total of 402 fellows of the University had completed their training and more and more of them were becoming involved in ongoing research projects of the University.

7. With regard to the establishment of University research and training centres, the Board of the World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER) had been appointed and the Institute would soon have a Director. The generous pledge from the Government of Finland to the Institute would enable the University to expand its development economics activities. In addition, the Government of the Ivory Coast had made a pledge to the Institute for Natural Resources in Africa and the Government of France, together with other Governments and international organizations, had also shown great interest in the establishment of that Institute. Attention should also be drawn to the support given by the Government and people of Japan. Following the decision by the Council of the University that the research and training centre to be established in Japan would be an institute of advanced studies, a group of prominent Japanese figures had organized a foundation to broaden the project's financial base and to support the United Nations University in general. Plans by the Government of Japan to complete the permanent headquarters of the University had also progressed considerably.

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(Mr. Soedjatmoko)

8. As an institution of higher education, the University contributed to other efforts within the United Nations system, in order to involve disciplines ranging from the natural to the social sciences, in the practical solution of global problems. One example of that was the subproject on the management of complexity. While that subject might seem too abstract, given the complexity of the natural world and of human society in an interdependent and pluralistic world, which was undergoing radical change, the main task of the United Nations University was to find ways for mankind to survive and manage its affairs and to develop deeper insights into the problems of the management of change in development. The project would be a step forward in the evolution of science and would offer insights that would have an important potential for practical application regarding how to reconcile the need for self-management and freedom with the need for the most rational allocation of resources at the national and international level, specifically in relation to the question of what level of disorder could be accommodated without having recourse to oppression and violence. The French media had given considerable coverage to the symposium on the management of complexity which had been held at Montpellier, from 9 to 11 May 1984. The symposium had been sponsored by the University and had brought together eminent scientists representing all the areas involved in work on the behaviour of complex systems.

9. In co-operation with the Free University of Brussels and the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Canada consideration was being given to the possibility of focusing on a number of comparative cases in both industrialized and developing countries - using the situation in the northeast Atlantic as a first case - using the complexity approach to provide new insights into resource assessment, allocation and use and into policies which had led to the overfishing and disappearance of certain species, the collapse of some ecosystems and the closure of fisheries.

10. The United Nations University was a young institution which was beginning to achieve results. Despite the difficulties stemming from the world economic situation new resources might be obtained as activities were developed and as the new research and training centres began to attract potential donors. As indicated in the report of the Council the primary objective at the present time was to complete the work set out in the meeting-term perspective in the time that remained.

11. Mr. DOO KINGUE (Executive Director, United Nations Institute for Training and Research) said that during the previous year the Institute's situation had improved significantly, although some problems still remained because a large number of Member States were not co-operative.

12. There was a general lack of awareness of the unique role and value of UNITAR within the United Nations system, and there was therefore frequent misunderstanding concerning, for example, the difference between UNITAR and the United Nations University. As stated in article I of its statute, UNITAR was established to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations in the maintenance of peace and security and the promotion of economic and social development. Owing to the central role of UNITAR within the United Nations system, its Board of Trustees was the only such body which included among its members the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the

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(Mr. Doo Kingue)

Economic and Social Council. UNITAR was the only organization in the system whose mandate was to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations through training and research. There could not, therefore, be any duplication between the mandate of UNITAR and that of any other institution. The sphere of competence and procedures of the Joint Inspection Unit were not identical to those of UNITAR, even though their end results converged.

13. The training and research activities of UNITAR covered, firstly, research on how to improve the effectiveness of the United Nations system, which was a fundamental aspect of its mandate that would be mutilated if that activity were eliminated, as the Institute had been forced to do in 1984 because of its financial difficulties; secondly, research on the specific issues of interest to the United Nations system commissioned by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations or the heads of other organizations of the United Nations system; thirdly, research on the future of the main third world regions in terms of challenges faced by those regions and the need to overcome them through appropriate national and regional policies; and fourthly, research on energy and natural resources issues, in which UNITAR had been involved since the mid-1970s and which had led to new assistance activities to help the developing countries to achieve energy self-sufficiency and make better use of their natural resources. For example, in July 1984 at the University of Oklahoma, UNITAR had organized a conference on shallow energy sources, which had enabled the participants to realize that effective and inexpensive technology existed to develop those resources, in particular for the benefit of rural populations.

14. Clearly, an organization conceived to make the United Nations system more effective could not be involved in activities duplicating those of other organizations. On the contrary, UNITAR was and must remain, first and foremost, a source of innovations. The history of UNITAR abounded in examples of activities begun by the Institute which were later developed further by other institutions, which either existed or were set up for that purpose. Some examples were the problems of the transfer of technology, the "brain drain", women's issues and disarmament.

15. It was also important to dispel any misunderstanding about the manner in which UNITAR resources were utilized. On the one hand, UNITAR had a General Fund to which all Member States were invited to contribute and which at present received contributions from about a third of them. On the other hand, it had extra-budgetary resources in the form of grants from individual Governments and foundations for specific purposes, generally assistance to third world countries. The major concern at the current time was the level of the General Fund, which should have reached \$US 3 million in 1984 but would amount to only \$2 million, under the most optimistic assumptions. Those resources were used exclusively for expenditures relating to the UNITAR headquarters building in New York and its secretariat's operating costs, salaries of staff involved in activities funded by the General Fund and other related costs, funding of operational costs of the programme implemented under the General Fund - essentially research on the United Nations and training for international co-operation and multilateral diplomacy, which was not for the benefit of one particular country - fund-raising missions, and the provision of seed money for new activities to be funded by extra-budgetary

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(Mr. Doo Kingue)

resources. In that connection, the establishment of co-operation with other institutions required a minimum of seed money, which could be provided only by the General Fund. In the light of such considerations, it was clear that if General Fund resources were insufficient, UNITAR could not function normally, since its operating costs could not be reduced below certain limits. The only other alternative was to reduce the volume of research and training activities, which were the basic activities of UNITAR. The General Fund resources were therefore indispensable to the very existence of UNITAR and should increase every year, at least to keep pace with inflation.

16. UNITAR could not solve its financial problems through co-operation with such other institutions as the United Nations University - of whose Council he was a member - because the research that UNITAR was to conduct was of a different type. In addition, such collaboration would not provide UNITAR with the funds that it required. If UNITAR had succeeded in raising the \$3 million needed for its regular budget in 1984, about \$1 million would have been allocated to research on the United Nations. Owing to limited staff and resources, UNITAR could not undertake basic research and was therefore restricted to making evaluations, organizing research seminars and conducting research on research, by using the results of work undertaken by institutions with many more resources within and outside the United Nations. For example, UNITAR was co-operating closely with two bodies of international standing in the United States of America in their research work on United Nations problems, the Stanley Foundation and the Aspen Institute. UNITAR would be able to co-operate with the United Nations University and other institutions if it had the necessary staff and funds.

17. At present, Member States and private companies provided UNITAR with financial resources for research activities that did not directly concern the United Nations but essentially dealt with energy problems and the future of the major third world regions; those activities were not financed from the General Fund. The Institute was therefore successful in mobilizing funds for assistance activities, but had hardly any funds for its research on the United Nations, which was one of its raison d'être. It was urgent to bring that impossible situation to an end. As he had said before the Fifth Committee, there was no other institution within the United Nations system whose activities enjoyed such a favourable cost-benefit ratio. If UNITAR had to pay for every input made available to it free of charge for its programmes, its expenditures would be three to four times higher and the General Fund would need more than twice the \$3 million that was hoped for in 1984. A \$3-million yearly budget in 1984 and 1985 was therefore very reasonable, and there was no other organization in the United Nations system that could carry out a comparable volume of activity with such a budget.

18. Chapter III of the annual report (A/39/14) referred to the measures adopted to solve the management problems of UNITAR, as a result of which UNITAR management was currently fairly satisfactory. In the coming months, it was hoped that the remaining problems would be brought under control. Some donors still believed that UNITAR was badly managed, which was not true; it was necessary to look at UNITAR, not complacently but objectively, as it was today.

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(Mr. Doo Kingue)

19. With regard to the long-term financial arrangements for UNITAR, the Board of Trustees, which had carefully examined that problem, felt that, in keeping with the UNITAR statute approved by the General Assembly, it was preferable not to charge the UNITAR programme to the regular budget of the United Nations. In 1983, he had pointed out to the Committee that if the voluntary contribution system were continued, it should be accompanied by a reserve fund enabling the Institute to be self-financing in case of difficulties, instead of having to seek assistance from the General Assembly. The least that could be done to revitalize the system of voluntary contributions was to establish a reserve fund like those of other United Nations funds and programmes. Considering that the General Assembly in its resolution 37/142 had requested that the long-term financing of UNITAR should be placed on "a more predictable, assured and continuous basis", the Board of Trustees of UNITAR felt that the best solution would be to establish an endowment fund of at least \$50 million to enable the Institute to continue its activities for several years at the desired level. However, the Board of Trustees had concluded that Member States should be encouraged to ensure long-term financing through one of three possible methods, namely the establishment of a reserve fund of \$15 million, the adoption of a replenishment system or the establishment of an endowment fund of at least \$50 million.

20. The Board of Trustees realized that it might take some time before the proposed solutions bore fruit, and therefore felt it was essential that Member States should in the meantime substantially increase their voluntary contributions. To avoid UNITAR again encountering the same difficulties it had met in 1984, each Member State's contribution for 1985 should have been increased by at least one third, preferably by a half. Regrettably, that had not been the outcome of the pledging conference held over the past two days. Several important contributors had not yet announced their contributions and those who had, with the exception of Finland, had not increased them. It was true that some countries would be contributing to UNITAR for the first time in 1985, but their contributions were small ones. At the same time, other Member States which had previously been contributing had not pledged for 1985. There was an urgent need to adopt corrective measures to prevent UNITAR stagnating and to turn it into an instrument which operated at full capacity to the benefit of all Member States.

21. Mr. MANN (Canada) said that UNITAR had constantly lurched from one financial or managerial crisis to another, and the General Assembly had repeatedly been forced to take remedial action. Finally, thanks to the dedication of its Executive Director and Board of Trustees, its management difficulties had been overcome, but its financial situation remained such that it had been obliged to curtail its activities drastically.

22. Canada had long been a supporter of UNITAR, and in recent years had hosted two of its conferences and collaborated in several of its research projects. It had been a major client of the UNITAR training programme as well as a major contributor to the Institute. In addition to its regular voluntary contribution of 90,000 Canadian dollars to the General Fund, his country had made a number of special-purpose contributions to UNITAR through the Canadian International Development Agency; the most recent of them had consisted of \$240,000 contributed

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(Mr. Mann, Canada)

in 1984 to fund a regional symposium on public administration in Africa, which was a joint project of UNITAR and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration Publique du Québec. Canada's interest in UNITAR sprang from the conviction that it could contribute to the achievement of a major objective, the strengthening of the United Nations system; but before UNITAR could take on greater responsibilities its resources must be placed on a firmer foundation.

23. Hitherto, UNITAR had been fully dependent on voluntary contributions for the funding of its activities. However, fewer than half of all Member States had made any contributions at all to the Institute and the majority of such voluntary contributions had only been token ones. According to the Board of Trustees, the minimum budgetary level required for a viable programme of training and research for the Institute was \$US 3 million per year. The total of voluntary contributions meant, however, that there would be a shortfall of at least \$1 million in the current year.

24. The options proposed for solving the financial difficulties of the Institute included that of UNITAR tailoring its activities to match the available resources. His delegation could not support that option because, ironically, UNITAR had particular difficulty in attracting adequate contributions to its General Fund, from which those research activities which were conducted for the benefit of all Member States were financed. Another option which deserved careful consideration was the adoption of long-term financing arrangements for UNITAR, but it seemed that none of the alternatives proposed was acceptable to potential significant donors. A third option had been advocated by the Joint Inspection Unit in 1980 and subsequently endorsed by the Board of Trustees. It would entail providing UNITAR through the United Nations regular budget with core funding to maintain the basic infrastructure of the Institute, while its substantive programmes would continue to be supported by voluntary contributions. His delegation was prepared to support that approach to solving the problem of the long-term financing of UNITAR.

25. However, Canada believed that steps must be taken to solve the immediate problem, namely, the paucity of voluntary contributions to the Institute's General Fund. His delegation therefore urged other traditional donors to consider the possibility of making extraordinary voluntary contributions, and other Member States which had not yet contributed to do so as generously as possible on an emergency basis. Once other Member States had shown willingness to accept their responsibilities to UNITAR, Canada would decide what additional measures it could take to guarantee the Institute's viability and effectiveness. His Government trusted that that could be achieved and that a situation would not be reached in which, as the report of the Secretary-General (A/39/148, para. 11) concluded, there remained no alternative but to close the Institute down after 20 years of existence.

26. Mr. AHMED (Pakistan) said that, since the functioning and usefulness of UNITAR were no longer in question, it was ironic that it could not be given the necessary financial support. His country welcomed the Executive Director's efforts to balance the Institute's budget, even though they had meant the suspension of research activities during 1984, and regretted that they had not yielded the anticipated results.

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(Mr. Ahmed, Pakistan)

27. with regard to the report of the Secretary-General on the question of long-term financing arrangements for the Institute (A/39/148), Pakistan had formerly supported the idea of examining the possibility of providing core funding for UNITAR through the regular budget of the United Nations. However, taking into account the concern of other delegations about the implications of that proposal, his delegation had later supported General Assembly resolution 38/177, in which it was decided to postpone consideration of long-term financing arrangements for the Institute. Later still, it had looked at the three possible methods of funding recommended by the Board of Trustees: a reserve fund, a replenishment system or an endowment fund. If the major donors to UNITAR were not inclined to support any of the three solutions, it would appear that there remained no viable option for keeping the Institute operating.

28. His delegation believed that the time had come to accept responsibility for the future of the Institute. In its judgement, the best solution for long-term financing was the establishment of a reserve fund; ideally, Member States should make generous contributions. However, the results of the recent pledging conference were not encouraging: in fact, the expected resources were less than the amounts available for 1984. His delegation intended to work closely with other friends of the Institute to prepare a project creating a reserve fund for the Institute, because it could neither let the Institute down nor allow future generations to accuse Member States of not taking timely action.

29. Ms. GOETSCH (Austria) said that the United Nations University was not one of those organizations which was constantly and intensively discussed at Headquarters because, fortunately, it had no fundamental problems and crises but, on the contrary, enjoyed broad support among the international community. There had been a trend in all forums to emphasize the importance of human resources when discussing the question of development. Her delegation believed that as the limitations inherent in older theories and practices became better understood, the value of research and scientific training for promoting development was becoming more obvious. It was therefore surprising that only two paragraphs were devoted to the subject of training in the report of the Council of the United Nations University (A/39/31). The question therefore arose whether the emphasis on research, almost to the exclusion of training activities, was not too strong. Traditionally, a university was not only a place of science and scholarship but also a place of learning, and the United Nations University should not depart completely from that pattern.

30. The main achievement of 1984 for the United Nations University had been, without doubt, the establishment in Helsinki of the World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER), the first of a series of such institutes. Her Government was awaiting with interest the outcome of the negotiations on the establishment of an Institute for Natural Resources in Africa.

31. The report of the Secretary-General about the budgetary difficulties of UNITAR (A/39/148) was brief and gloomy. Her Government had co-operated closely with the Institute for many years. It was worth recalling that the last seminar of UNITAR

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(Ms. Goetsch, Austria)

for young diplomats from developing countries on Multilateral Diplomacy and the New International Economic Order had been held in Vienna. It was yet another sign of the Institute's difficult situation that no such seminar had been held since. Her delegation found it strange that an organization such as UNITAR, whose activities benefited all Member States, should receive so little support. Perhaps that was due to the fact that, in the current period of budgetary restraint, the more spectacular and mainly humanitarian organizations were given priority over those which were merely useful. Her delegation earnestly hoped that a solution would be found for the difficulties of UNITAR other than closing it down for good.

32. Mr. EKANEY (Cameroon) said he was convinced that UNITAR played a unique role in the United Nations system: first of all, it utilized its training and research capabilities to enhance international co-operation in the maintenance of peace and security and the promotion of economic and social development; secondly, it focused not only on the theoretical aspects but also on the practical application of issues relating to peace, security and development. In addition, UNITAR was increasingly concentrating its activities on issues affecting the developing countries.

33. In the view of his delegation, Member States who questioned the Institute's utility and effectiveness were not really taking into account its achievements or the positive impact of its programmes. The Institute's work must be objectively evaluated on the basis of its mandate, the fulfilment of which was of vital importance not only to the developing countries, but to the United Nations system itself. The Executive Director's report confirmed the position which his delegation had stated during the previous session, which was that the revitalization of UNITAR must be aimed at attaining maximum efficiency in programme management and implementation. Consequently, ways of improving its programmes and adapting them to political, social and economic realities must be sought. The Institute's work programme for the biennium 1984-1985 clearly stated that the Executive Director and the Board of Trustees were determined to focus on the most pressing problems of the developing countries. In that connection, he commended the decision of UNITAR to strengthen existing training institutions in developing countries and promote technical co-operation among developing countries in that field (A/39/14, para. 40).

34. In view of the special problems affecting Africa, priority should be given to the training of African nationals so that they might become involved in the modernization of public administration, the management of public enterprises and financial management and be equipped to participate fully in the process of multilateral and bilateral negotiations. He expressed his satisfaction at the continued implementation by UNITAR of the programme on strategies for the future of Africa; he looked forward to the results of the evaluation that would be carried out during the biennium 1984-1985. In addition, it was his hope that the conclusions of the meeting held at Dakar in 1984 would be taken into consideration in planning the rest of the programme.

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(Mr. Ekaney, Cameroon)

35. Given the limited resources at the Institute's disposal, his delegation supported the measures taken to improve the management of finance and personnel. Nevertheless, he wished to reiterate that the quality of training and research should not be diminished by an excessive reduction in personnel expenditures. Despite the efforts deployed by the Secretary-General, the Executive Director and the Board of Trustees, the financial picture of the Institute was grimmer than ever, since not even two thirds of the minimum budgetary requirements, estimated at \$3 million per year - a figure which had remained constant in recent years despite the introduction of new programmes - had been secured. It was extremely urgent that the Institute's financial problems should be resolved, and he shared the Secretary-General's view that the current system of annual voluntary contributions was not likely to meet the minimum requirements for the fulfilment of the Institute's mandate. He also agreed with the assertion in the Executive Director's report that a sound development of the Institute's programme and activities could not be achieved through the mutilation of its mandate and functions to which the Executive Director had had to resort temporarily in order to balance the UNITAR budget (A/39/14, para. 169). The only realistic approach to resolving the financial difficulties of UNITAR in the long term was to accept one of the Executive Director's three proposals, namely the setting up of a reserve fund of \$15 million, the adoption of a replenishment system or the establishment of an endowment fund of at least \$50 million (A/39/148, para. 8). His delegation hoped that it would be possible to avoid paralysing UNITAR activities, which would be a fatal blow for the United Nations.

36. Mr. SAVIC (Yugoslavia) said that, in his report, the Executive Director had successfully clarified the mandate and functions of UNITAR, thus providing a better understanding of its uniqueness and the importance of its activities.

37. Yugoslavia supported the idea that the Institute's training and research capabilities should be used to enhance the effectiveness of international co-operation for the maintenance of peace and security and the promotion of economic and social development.

38. He expressed his appreciation to the Executive Director for his efforts to improve the financial situation of UNITAR, and said he hoped Member States would respond by increasing their voluntary contributions. Of the three methods proposed for the long-term financing of UNITAR, Yugoslavia supported the establishment of an endowment fund and thought it would be preferable to avoid the inclusion of UNITAR in the regular budget of the United Nations.

AGENDA ITEM 80: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)

(i) ENVIRONMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/39/L.12, A/C.2/39/L.20, A/C.2/39/L.23 and A/C.2/39/L.24

39. The CHAIRMAN announced that Burkina Faso, Djibouti and Mongolia had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.12, entitled "Remnants of war"; Togo had become a sponsor of draft resolutions A/C.2/39/L.20, entitled "Implementation of

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(The Chairman)

the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification", and A/C.2/39/L.23, entitled "Implementation, in the Sudano-Sahelian region, of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification"; and Oman had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.24, entitled "International co-operation in the field of the environment".

40. Mr. SANGARE (Mali) said that his country had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.12.

(j) HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (continued)

Draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.11

41. Mr. SANGARE (Mali) said that his country had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.11, entitled "Living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories".

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.