



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 39th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. HARLAND (New Zealand)

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FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

AGENDA ITEM 82: TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued)

- (a) UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued)
- (b) UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY: REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY (continued)

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

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (E/1984/9 and Add.1; A/C.2/39/L.17, L.18/Rev.1, L.19, L.25, L.31, L.33 and L.36)

1. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee agreed to extend the deadline for the submission of draft resolutions on the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its reconvened special session (E/1984/9 and Add.1) to 6 p.m. on Friday, 16 November 1984.

2. It was so decided.

Draft resolutions A/C.2/39/L.31 and L.33

3. Mr. EL-NASR (Egypt), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, introduced draft resolutions A/C.2/39/L.31, entitled "Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994" and A/C.2/39/L.33, entitled "Transport and Communications Decade in Africa". The Group of 77 hoped that both draft resolutions could be adopted by consensus.

Draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.36

4. Mr. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.36, entitled "International Conference on Population, 1984", on behalf of the sponsors, said that the international community had acknowledged that the International Conference on Population, held at Mexico City in 1984, had been a great success and had constituted a great step forward in the solution of the complex problems in that sphere. Particular mention should be made of the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development, which would undoubtedly serve as a useful policy guideline for everyone involved in population activities. In the third line of paragraph 13 of the draft resolution, the words "as they relate to" should be replaced by the word "concerning"; in the fourth line of the same paragraph, the word "also" should be inserted between the words "taking" and "into". Finally, he wished to add that Liberia had become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

Draft resolutions A/C.2/39/L.17, L.18/Rev.1, L.19 and L.25

5. The CHAIRMAN announced that Madagascar and Qatar had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.17, Madagascar had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.18/Rev.1, China and Madagascar had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.19 and Oman and Qatar had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.25.

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

- (d) INDUSTRIALIZATION (continued) (A/C.2/39/L.32 and L.35)
- (g) ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued)
- (i) ENVIRONMENT (continued) (A/C.2/39/L.23)
- (j) HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (continued) (A/C.2/39/L.11)

6. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Committee agreed to extend the deadline for the submission of draft resolutions on item 80 (g) to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 14 November 1984.

7. It was so decided.

Draft resolutions A/C.2/39/L.32, L.34 and L.35

8. Mr. EL-NASR (Egypt) introduced draft resolutions A/C.2/39/L.32, entitled "Conversion of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization into a specialized agency", A/C.2/39/L.34, entitled "Industrial development co-operation", and A/C.2/39/L.35, entitled "Industrial Development Decade for Africa", on behalf of the Group of 77. He reminded the Committee that the Group of 77 had repeatedly requested that the conversion of UNIDO into a specialized agency should be accelerated so that that organization could discharge its responsibilities and fulfil its mandate more effectively; most members had already ratified the UNIDO Constitution. He noted also that industrialization was a fundamental element of world economic development because of the revitalizing effect which the industrial sector had on other sectors of the economy; moreover, the developing countries attached great importance to the development of their industrial capacities as a step towards achieving a new, more equitable international economic order. Finally, the Industrial Development Decade for Africa was of particular importance because Africa was the least developed continent; the Decade might constitute a framework for promoting the industrial development of African countries and assist in implementing the Lagos Plan of Action. In draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.34, part I, paragraph 8, the word "announcement" should be replaced by the word "announcements".

Draft resolutions A/C.2/39/L.11 and L.23

9. The CHAIRMAN announced that Madagascar and Qatar had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.11 and that Egypt, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/39/L.23.

- (a) INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE
- (b) REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
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- (k) EFFECTIVE MOBILIZATION AND INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
- (n) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUBSTANTIAL NEW PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE 1980s FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

10. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Committee agreed to close the list of speakers for the second part of item 80, covering sub-items (a), (b), (c), (e), (h), (k) and (n), (A/C.2/39/L.1) at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 14 November 1984.

11. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 82: TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued) (A/39/581)

- (a) UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued) (A/39/14, 148)
- (b) UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY: REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (continued) (A/39/3 (Part II), A/39/31)

12. Mr. STEBELSKI (Poland) said that his country attached great value to the seminars traditionally sponsored by UNITAR on the structure and activities of the United Nations as well as UNITAR's work on the functioning of multilateral institutions and diplomacy. In that connection, his country fully subscribed to the Secretary-General's view that UNITAR could help to encourage understanding for the concept that structured multilateral co-operation among nations was essential for humanity's well-being (A/39/148, para. 6). UNITAR activities could well be more oriented towards increasing the effectiveness of the United Nations system as a whole, and, similarly, UNITAR could become more involved in problems relating to the promotion of co-operation among countries with different economic and social systems and the building of confidence in international economic relations.

(Mr. Stebelski, Poland)

13. It was of concern that, owing to financial constraints, the Institute was unable to expand the activities with which it was entrusted. A first step to eliminating the existing or potential duplication of work would consist in comparing mandates of the various United Nations bodies and agencies. The analysis, initiated in 1983, of the mandate of UNITAR and those of other institutions, in particular the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and the United Nations University (UNU), should therefore be continued through a study on their programmes of work and planned activities. Only thereafter would there be clear-cut evidence that there was no duplication of effort in any common area of activity.

14. With regard to the United Nations University, several Polish experts were already participating in some of its research and training activities. In June 1984, a UNU conference on human and social development in Europe within interregional and global perspectives had been held at Warsaw. Its findings might lead to a multi-disciplinary and integrated approach to European studies and to the establishment of ties between the University and European scientific institutions. It was to be hoped that the University would initiate a research project in that field, in which his country would look forward to participating. A basis had been established for co-operation between Poland and the University, and, specifically, discussions had begun on an agreement concerning association with the Central School of Planning and Statistics in Warsaw. The University was becoming an important international centre for co-ordinating research activities and, it was especially gratifying to note its growing contacts with different institutions in the socialist countries, thereby increasing the importance of the University's regional programmes.

15. Mr. CHEN Jiquang (China) said that, at the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly, his delegation had suggested that UNITAR might play a more effective role if it closely followed the outstanding issues in international political and economic relations prior to planning its training and research activities. It was therefore gratifying that, as indicated by its work programme for 1984-1985, UNITAR would be making a special effort to keep its activities more in line with the needs and challenges of the 1980s. It was expected that the two-year work programme would contribute further to the economic and social development of the developing countries.

16. There were still some difficulties encountered by UNITAR in its work, in particular concerning how to avoid a duplication and overlapping of activities with many other new United Nations organs and how to solve its financial difficulties. Duplication might be avoided through enhanced co-ordination and planning. With regard to financial shortfalls, it would be of great help if the number of Member States making voluntary contributions were to increase from the current figure of one third to two thirds of total membership. That increase would complement the long-term financing measures adopted by the Secretary-General and by the Executive Director of UNITAR. China had consistently supported UNITAR activities and, although a developing country, had decided to make a contribution of \$US 20,000 to the Institute for 1985.

(Mr. Chen Jiguang, China)

17. With regard to the United Nations University, it was gratifying that, in the past year, it had initiated a number of practical research and training activities which were beneficial to the economic development of developing countries and to the enhancement of their scientific and technological capabilities. Of special note were their ad hoc academic studies in the natural and social sciences. His country would do its utmost to maintain and strengthen its valuable ties of co-operation with UNU.

18. Miss COURSON (France) said that, in view of its limited resources, UNITAR should concentrate on those areas which directly concerned the United Nations and benefited the international community. Its activities should be primarily related to the training of trainers and questions of management, because of the large shortfall of specialists in that area in most developing countries. As indicated in 1983, her delegation considered that such activities might be carried out in conjunction with UNDP, with UNITAR acting as an executing agency, remunerated by UNDP.

19. More structured co-operation with other organizations, whether or not they were part of the United Nations system, would enable UNITAR to fulfil its mandate as effectively as possible by means of joint ventures, which would benefit all parties and help to ease the Institute's workload. In that regard, her Government welcomed the co-operation that had been established between UNITAR and various French bodies, in particular the International Institute for Public Administration.

20. It was well known that, owing to a shortage of funds, UNITAR had had to suspend its research activities. With reservations, her delegation had supported the corrective measures that the General Assembly had been obliged to adopt to solve the Institute's successive financial crises. It was commendable that, in 1984, as a result of administrative streamlining procedures introduced by the Executive Director, UNITAR had been able to submit a balanced budget. There was no question that the shortage of resources as a result of widespread austerity would necessarily have an impact on an organization like UNITAR, which depended on voluntary contributions. Given the current conditions, the Institute could not fully carry out its mandate. Her delegation therefore urged the Member States which had not yet done so to make voluntary contributions to UNITAR in order to ensure its viability and effectiveness. France's contribution for 1985 would be 300,000 francs.

21. The Board of Trustees had proposed three long-term funding options to solve the financial crisis of UNITAR, namely, a reserve fund, a replenishment system or an endowment fund. However, the major donors did not consider any of those options to be truly acceptable. Her delegation shared that view, since such unrealistic methods would merely result in an increase in the already considerable debt of UNITAR. Nor did it endorse the Canadian proposal concerning a basic budget financed under the United Nations regular budget, as an arrangement of that type would diminish the Institute's independence. Her delegation continued to believe that the Institute's activities should be financed by extrabudgetary resources. In view of current conditions, the most cautious approach would be to maintain suspension of the research programmes at least until late 1985 in order to concentrate the resources of UNITAR on training and improve its financial situation.

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(Miss Courson, France)

22. France had always followed the activities of the United Nations University with interest, and had encouraged the participation of French research workers and higher educational establishments in the University's activities, urging them to seek new forms of international co-operation. A noteworthy project of the United Nations University was the establishment of the Institute for Natural Resources in Africa, which France was prepared to support fully. In view of the progress made thus far by the University, it should be encouraged to continue to strengthen its ties with the world university community. France's contribution to the United Nations University for 1985 would be 800,000 francs.

23. Mr. BORG (Malta) said that the report of the Executive Director of UNITAR, which was a great improvement over previous years' reports analysed in detail the long-term financing arrangements necessary for the Institute to fulfil its mandate. His country regretted the financial situation of the General Fund. As a small developing country, it supported UNITAR's efforts with a modest contribution and would carefully consider the three methods of funding proposed by the Executive Director. He welcomed the special purpose grants that had made it possible to carry out training programmes for economic and social development, and hoped that other grants would enable the Executive Director to include a greater number of countries in activities in the training programme's four priority areas.

24. The effectiveness of the UNITAR training programme in the past year was commendable. In the area of international co-operation and multilateral diplomacy, several members of his country's Mission had participated in the seminar organized by the Economic Development Institute (EDI) and UNITAR on international development issues and in the practical course on the drafting of treaties, resolutions and other international instruments, which had enabled them to learn directly of the value of UNITAR training programmes for permanent missions. His delegation also noted that, plans were being made to hold the United Nations/UNITAR regional training and refresher course in international law each year in different regions of the world and hoped that developing countries of the European region would be able to participate.

25. His delegation was pleased to note that the research programme continued to attach importance to peace and security issues. As a member of the Security Council during the past two years, his country had taken active steps to promote the peace-making and peace-keeping roles of that body and, at the request of the other Council members, had prepared in 1983, and again in 1984, brief accounts of the exchange of views on that subject, which had subsequently been issued as Security Council documents (S/15971 and S/16760). His country would complete its term on the Security Council in December 1984 with the feeling that it had accomplished its task and knowing that UNITAR would continue its project for the enhancement of the Council's effectiveness.

26. With a view to celebrating the International Youth Year, his Government had established a national youth co-ordinating committee to organize activities, provide liaison with other youth organizations and set up an international camp for young people from the Mediterranean countries. It therefore welcomed UNITAR's initiative to hold a seminar in 1985 in conjunction with the International Youth Year and looked forward to mutual co-operation in that area.

(Mr. Borg, Malta)

27. His country, which was dedicated to peace, security and development in its region, welcomed the fact that the UNITAR project on strategies for the future of Africa had been expanded to cover the Mediterranean area, and was prepared to lend its assistance, through that UNITAR project, to the countries of Africa which were continuously threatened by food shortages, as it was currently doing through an FAO project. His delegation also noted with interest the establishment in Rome of the UNITAR International Centre for Small Energy Resources and would like to have additional information on that Centre.

28. UNITAR research projects tended to reflect the activities of private institutions. The Institute could perhaps embark on new initiatives, such as, an analysis of the general debate in the General Assembly, in which many heads of State or Government and ministers made known their policies, to determine the positive and negative aspects of world situations, points of convergence on certain issues and problems requiring short- or long-term solutions.

29. His delegation regretted the fact that the financial situation of the General Fund of UNITAR limited its activities, in particular in the field of research, and appealed for the strengthening of the Institute.

30. Mr. HAYFORD (Ghana) said that his delegation shared the Secretary-General's view that the mandate of UNITAR was still valid, especially at a time when multilateralism was under attack. The Institute had clearly made every effort to tackle the difficulties confronting it, and it would be regrettable if, for lack of support, its ability to perform its task were constrained. It was to be hoped that, in the course of the current session of the General Assembly, measures would be taken to solve the Institute's problems.

31. His delegation noted the progress made in all areas of the programme of the United Nations University and was pleased to see that, under the theme of peace, security, conflict resolution and global transformation, the approach continued to be to help in the recognition and understanding of problems emerging on the regional, national and local levels in order to contribute to the prevention, reduction and settlement of conflicts.

32. Under the theme entitled the global economy, it was encouraging to see that steps had been taken to establish the World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER) and that its activities were to commence in 1985. The generosity of the Government of Finland was highly commendable, and it was to be hoped that the Institute's work would promote understanding of current economic problems.

33. Activities under the theme hunger, poverty, resources and the environment were divided into four programme areas. With regard to the first, it was noteworthy that the Energy Research Group of energy analysts and policy-makers from developing countries had been established to survey the existing and potential capacity of developing countries to conduct energy research and development, and utilize the results. In the second programme area, on resource policy and management, his country was interested in the work being done on agroforestry systems as well as on

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(Mr. Hayford, Ghana)

the assessment of climatic, biotic and human interactions in the humid tropics. Under the programme area on the food-energy nexus, the work on biotechnology for food-energy systems was important, in particular the project designed to develop traditional technologies used in the conservation of nearly 80 per cent of the food in developing countries (A/39/31, para. 48). Activities related to the functional consequences of iron deficiency, the nutritional component of primary health care and the social and economic consequences of chronic dietary energy deficiency were particularly important for developing countries.

34. Many activities under the theme human and social development and the coexistence of peoples, cultures and social systems were also relevant to the developing countries. For example, under the theme of management of development, a project on economic development models for resource-rich countries was being carried out in several countries, including Ghana, which looked forward to the project's findings. The programme area on regional perspectives included a project on nation-building or transnationalization in Africa, which addressed the question whether African countries were about to succeed in completing their nation-building process or if they would be obliged to be integrated into the process of transnationalization of the world. His country also welcomed the progress made under the theme of science and technology and their social and ethical implications.

35. His delegation was pleased to see the contributions that had been made to the University between July 1983 and May 1984. Efforts to establish centres for research and other activities deserved the support of the international community.

36. Mr. FILKIMONOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, in accordance with the mandate of UNITAR, training activities and research activities should be given equal attention. Some important areas of research were fundamental to the maintenance of peace and security and the promotion of economic and social development - for example, the United Nations and the maintenance of international peace and security; the role of the public sector in the economic and social development of African countries; the prevention of nuclear war; the development of natural and energy resources; and the role of economic integration in the economic and social development of the Latin American countries. Consequently, his delegation was concerned at the fact that research activities had been cut back and that UNITAR ran the risk of becoming an organization that dealt solely with training, a role that would be contrary to the terms of its mandate.

37. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union did not underestimate the importance of the training programme. By early 1984 a total of more than 1.6 million experts from developing countries had been trained with its assistance; 130,000 specialists had been trained in 1983 alone. Some Western countries were trying to belittle that form of Soviet co-operation with developing countries. The United Kingdom, for example, had proposed, for unknown reasons, that vocational training expenditures should be subtracted from the total volume of the Soviet Union's external assistance. His delegation would suggest another formula to the United Kingdom, namely, the addition of the long-term benefits accruing to the developing countries from the use of personnel trained with Soviet assistance to the total volume of

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(Mr. Filkimonov, USSR)

Soviet foreign aid. The presence of national specialists made it possible for developing countries to save substantial financial resources and strengthen their real economic independence. Before any such proposals were made, the developing countries' own position in the matter should be ascertained, and a comparison made above all, with the amount which the industrialized capitalist countries contributed to development: it was common knowledge that the imperialist great Powers benefited from the brain drain from developing countries.

38. The Soviet Union was actively co-operating with UNITAR, but that co-operation could be more fruitful if Soviet proposals for concrete projects were taken into account. Moreover, no decision had been taken for some time regarding the acceptance of candidates submitted by the Soviet Union for the post of Deputy Director for the Division of Research. The fact that that post remained vacant confirmed his delegation's concern over the scant attention paid to research activities.

39. In order to improve the financial situation of UNITAR, efforts must be made to rationalize its activities by reducing obsolete programmes and limiting administrative expenditure, and through strict financial control and improved programme planning; resources must also be concentrated on the implementation of the most relevant projects. His delegation supported the report of the Secretary-General on the question of long-term financing arrangements for the Institute (A/39/148). UNITAR must continue to operate on the basis of voluntary contributions and should not come under the regular budget of the United Nations. Moreover, contributions received from transnational enterprises would not enable it to overcome its difficult financial situation, but would in fact make it dependent on private interests. Of course, the possibility of UNITAR receiving resources from existing international organizations and voluntary funds was not ruled out.

40. Lastly, if UNITAR's work was to be effective, the quality of research must be improved and practical recommendations must be made with a view to increasing international co-operation in all spheres and promoting the development of developing countries, in accordance with the Institute's mandate.

41. Mr. GUTTORMSSON (Iceland), speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland), said that those countries supported and would continue to support UNITAR as they had for many years. The Nordic countries viewed the precarious financial situation of UNITAR with concern and fully appreciated the efforts made by the Executive Director to come to grips with it. According to the Secretary-General's report (A/39/148), none of the three methods of financing proposed by the Board of Trustees was adequate to solve the Institute's financial problems. The possible closing down of UNITAR, to which reference was made in paragraph 11 of the report, would be a great loss to the United Nations, and everything must be done to prevent it.

42. To revitalize the Institute, the Nordic countries recommended, first of all, that the UNITAR Board of Trustees should reconsider in depth all the Institute's programmes of activities, particularly in the area of research, taking into account

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(Mr. Guttormsson, Iceland)

the availability of resources, the changing requirements of the United Nations and the work of other bodies and institutions established after UNITAR, so that the most appropriate areas for future activities could be determined. On that basis, the Board of Trustees would be able to submit a realistic programme to the General Assembly for consideration at its next session.

43. Secondly, the Finance Committee of the UNITAR Board of Trustees should study the Institute's financial and budgetary situation in order to identify the best way of utilizing the limited resources available; the Finance Committee should then recommend that the Board of Trustees request the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to consider the proposed UNITAR budget.

44. On the basis of its scrutiny of Institute programmes and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Board of Trustees would be able to submit to the General Assembly a comprehensive and practical report on the future of the Institute. Otherwise, the prospects for UNITAR admittedly looked grim. It was unlikely that UNITAR in its current form would receive sufficient voluntary contributions in the coming years. However, if its activities were reorganized, it was to be hoped that general support, resulting in an increase in contributions, could be obtained.

45. In view of the current low level of pledges, the Nordic countries recommended that the Board of Trustees should consider the possibility of a request to the General Assembly for the funding, at least in part, of the Institute under the regular budget of the United Nations. That alternative would probably be accepted if UNITAR could present its case on a viable basis.

46. In 1985, the activities of the United Nations University's first research and training centre, the World Institute for Development Economic Research (WIDER), would begin at Helsinki thanks to an initial financial contribution from the Government of Finland. He also drew attention to the establishment of a geothermal training programme at Reykjavík.

47. The Nordic countries wished to express their support for the activities of UNITAR and the United Nations University, and hoped that both institutions would be able to continue to fulfil their respective mandates in the future.

48. Mr. KITAMURA (Japan) noted with appreciation the activities of the United Nations University in fulfilment of the objectives of the medium-term perspective. The University programme must focus on priority areas; it was therefore commendable that a significant portion of the University's activities had been devoted to the study of hunger, poverty, resources and the environment, a theme of urgent concern to the United Nations. Nevertheless, it was necessary to identify other priority areas within that theme. It was also necessary to improve co-ordination between the various United Nations agencies and institutions concerned in order to minimize duplication and maximize efficiency.

(Mr. Kitamura, Japan)

49. With respect to the establishment of the University's own research and training centres, he welcomed the establishment of WIDER which had been made possible by the generous contribution from the Government of Finland, as well as the preparations to establish the Institute for Natural Resources in Africa. Care must be taken to ascertain realistically that the necessary financial resources for such centres existed, bearing in mind the fact that the University did not have sufficient resources to meet its own needs. He hoped that the activities of those centres would be carried out under the Rector's control and in a manner consistent with the overall activities of the University.

50. The University was at a crucial point in its fund-raising efforts and a substantial increase in pledges to the Endowment and Operating Funds was needed. The Government of Japan had endeavoured to bring about the earliest possible construction of permanent headquarters for the University.

51. His delegation appreciated the considerable efforts made by the Executive Director to reduce UNITAR's expenditures and to enhance its effectiveness but it did not agree with the proposals made by the Executive Director and the Board of Trustees with respect to long-term financing arrangements. UNITAR was based on the principle of voluntary contributions and his delegation was not prepared to support any formula that would result in an amendment of that principle. Concerning the possibility that the Institute might have to close down, he said that before that point was reached, Member States should be given an opportunity to examine the Institute's proposed annual budget and breakdown of expenditures. According to the report of the Executive Director special purpose grants that year amounted to between \$2.5 and \$3 million; that constituted another source of income in addition to the voluntary contributions. The Institute must continue to live within its means, however difficult that might be. Japan had supported the Institute and had increased its voluntary contribution that year and it was prepared to consider co-operation for specific projects on a case-by-case basis, as it had done in the past.

52. Mr. BRODININGRAT (Indonesia) said that his delegation agreed with the Secretary-General that there was no duplication of activities or functions between UNITAR's mandate and those of other United Nations bodies. He was optimistic regarding the role that UNITAR could play in helping to meet present and future needs and believed that UNITAR's work was more significant than ever. The Executive Director and the Board of Trustees had made commendable efforts to strengthen and redefine UNITAR's future role. With regard to the work programme for the biennium 1983-1984, he expressed concern at the suspension of all research activity owing to insufficient contributions. At the same time, he was encouraged to note that special purpose grants had increased. He was also pleased with UNITAR's efforts to carry out joint research projects with national and international institutions.

53. The three methods proposed by the Executive Director and the Board of Trustees for mobilizing funds for long-term financing deserved full support and he endorsed the appeal to the major donors to respond favourably so that the Institute's financial situation could be settled at that session.

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(Mr. Brotodiningrat, Indonesia)

54. He welcomed the steady progress made by the United Nations University in implementing its Medium-Term Perspective, 1982-1987, and its fund-raising efforts; he was pleased to see that the University's programme and training activities had begun to attract interest from other organizations, including universities and donors. His delegation supported the emphasis being placed on planning and ongoing evaluation and the policy of submitting proposed new activities to rigorous academic scrutiny before any new work was undertaken. There was a need for adequate contributions to the Endowment Fund and his delegation sincerely hoped that Member States would increase their contributions to the University.

55. He pledged his Government's full support for the efforts to strengthen UNITAR and the United Nations University.

56. Mr. ABBAS (Bahrain) said that UNITAR could not achieve its goals unless the necessary resources were mobilized. The measures taken by the Executive Director in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/177 and his proposals regarding long-term financing arrangements were positive and in line with the needs of the developing countries. The activities must be in keeping with the International Development Strategy and UNITAR's basic budget must be financed from the regular budget of the United Nations.

57. Priority should be given inter alia to training in diplomacy, increased participation of developing countries in the planning of activities and increasing the number of fellowships for such countries. The various consultative groups should be given the task of planning to ensure that the programmes covered most of the developing regions. Bahrain was particularly interested in activities relating to the development of the principles of international law relating to the new international economic order and it wished to maintain permanent relations with the Institute.

58. His delegation appreciated the efforts made by the Government of Japan to establish a permanent headquarters for the United Nations University in Tokyo. One of the University's main aims since its establishment was to train scholars and research workers to participate in the development of science and its dissemination to all nations for the benefit of mankind. Strengthening the University's goals would enable many developing countries to take advantage of the broadened scope of the University's new plans and programmes. By establishing more training centres and increasing the number of fellowships better results could be achieved.

59. The study and research centre of Bahrain was very interested in co-operating with UNITAR and with the United Nations University and its subsidiary centres, particularly the World Institute for Development Economics Research in Helsinki. Bahrain wished to achieve greater co-ordination with the University bodies so as to promote academic exchanges and to obtain fellowships for research workers from Bahrain. The Medium-Term Perspective adopted by the Council would make it possible to develop a sounder research programme and to obtain practical and varied results.

(Mr. Abbas, Bahrain)

60. Duplication between the University and other agencies of the United Nations must be avoided and the activities of the University must be defined. His delegation did not oppose the present policy, but felt that the only way to enhance its effectiveness was by intensifying efforts to integrate it with the national and international experience of all States. UNITAR and the United Nations University could play a dynamic role only if they had the necessary resources.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.