

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

THIRTIETH SESSION

Official Records



**2432nd
PLENARY MEETING**

Tuesday, 9 December 1975,
at 11.05 a.m.

NEW YORK

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President: Mr. Gaston THORN
(Luxembourg).

AGENDA ITEM 59

- United Nations Environment Programme:**
- (a) Report of the Governing Council;
 - (b) Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements: report of the Secretary-General;
 - (c) Criteria governing multilateral financing of housing and human settlements: report of the Secretary-General

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(A/10412)

- United Nations University:**
- (a) Report of the Council of the United Nations University;
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(A/10400)

AGENDA ITEM 63

Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator: report of the Secretary-General

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(A/10387)

AGENDA ITEM 66

Economic co-operation among developing countries: report of the Secretary-General

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(A/10415)

1. Mr. KARIM (Bangladesh), Rapporteur of the Second Committee: I have the honour to present to the General Assembly the reports of the Second Committee on agenda items 59, 62, 63 and 66, contained in documents A/10412, A/10400, A/10387 and A/10415, respectively.
2. In connexion with item 59, in paragraph 27 of document A/10412 the Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of five draft resolutions and in paragraph 28 of the same document the Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft decision. Draft resolutions I, III, IV and V and the draft decision were adopted by the Committee without a vote. Draft resolution II was adopted by 70 votes to none, with 22 abstentions.
3. In connexion with item 62, in paragraph 9 of document A/10400 the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution which the Committee adopted without a vote.
4. In connexion with item 63, in paragraph 10 of document A/10387 the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of two draft resolutions which the Committee adopted without a vote.
5. In connexion with item 66, in paragraph 8 of document A/10415 the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution which the Committee adopted without a vote.

Pursuant to rule 66 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the reports of the Second Committee.

6. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The positions of delegations were made clear in the Second Committee itself in respect of the various draft resolutions and the draft decision recommended by the Committee to the Assembly and those positions are reflected in the relevant summary records of the Second Committee.

7. I invite members of the Assembly to turn first to the report on agenda item 59. I shall now call on those representatives who wish to explain their votes before the vote on any or all five draft resolutions and on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee. Representatives will also have an opportunity to explain their votes after all the votes have been taken.

8. Mr. GONZÁLEZ ARIAS (Paraguay) (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Paraguayan delegation would like to place on record that we shall vote in favour of draft resolution IV, concerning the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme.

9. However, as mention is made in the draft resolution of the need for the United Nations Environment Programme to be in line, *inter alia*, with the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States [resolution 3281 (XXIX)], and since in article 3 of that Charter special mention is made of natural resources shared by two or more countries, my delegation wishes to place on record that it maintains the same objections that it has already stated on several occasions with regard to the implementation and application of that article.

10. Mr. HILLEL (Israel): I should like to put on record that my delegation did not participate in the consensus on draft resolution V. Our position is motivated by the fact that, according to operative paragraphs 1 (b) and 3 of the draft resolution, the Palestine Liberation Organization is authorized to take part in the Vancouver Conference.

11. The position of my delegation was put on record during the debate on the subject in the Second Committee. Let me only say that it is a sad sign for the United Nations, and in particular for the Conference on Human Settlements, that a group which has acquired a world-wide reputation by its actions of indiscriminate terror should be invited to participate in an international gathering dealing with aspects of human settlements and constructive actions for the betterment of our existence.

12. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now take decisions on the five draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 27 of its report [A/10412].

13. Draft resolution I relates to "Dissemination of information and mobilization of public opinion regarding the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation". The Second Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I consider that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3434 (XXX)).

14. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Draft resolution II refers to the "United Nations Environment Programme". I put it to the vote.

The draft resolution was adopted by 100 votes to none, with 21 abstentions (resolution 3435 (XXX)).

15. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Draft resolution III is entitled "Conventions and protocols in the field of environment". The Second Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3436 (XXX)).

16. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Draft resolution IV relates to the "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme". The Second Committee adopted that draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly also adopts it without a vote?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3437 (XXX)).

17. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Draft resolution V is entitled "Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements". The report of the Fifth Committee on the administrative and financial implications of that draft resolution is contained in document A/10449. Draft resolution V was adopted without a vote by the Second Committee. May I consider that it is also adopted without a vote by the Assembly?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3438 (XXX)).

18. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now invite members to turn to the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 28 of its report. The Second Committee adopted that draft decision without a vote. May I consider that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted.

19. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I shall now call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of vote after the voting.

20. Mr. MYERSON (United States of America): With regard to draft resolution V, my delegation put its views on record in the Second Committee. I shall not repeat them at length here. I simply wish to recall and reaffirm them.

21. Mr. ROSSI (Italy): The Italian delegation, on behalf of the nine member States of the European Economic Community, wishes to make the following remark concerning operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution V, just adopted by the Assembly.

22. Recalling the statement we previously made in the Second Committee, I should like to repeat that audio-visual material financed by the United Nations should be utilized within a strict technical framework by States which are in a position to exhibit films or slides containing original ideas in the field of human settlements, for the benefit of the Habitat Conference and the international community.

23. Mr. RODRIGUES VALLE (Brazil): With regard to draft resolution IV, my delegation would like to state for the record that it reaffirms its views—expressed on previous occasions—on resolution 3129 (XXVIII), on article 3 of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and on decision 44 (III) of the Gov-

erning Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) [see A/10025, annex I].

24. Mr. OLIVERI LÓPEZ (Argentina) (*interpretation from Spanish*): In view of the great importance that my delegation attaches to the problem of the environment and the work of UNEP and taking into account some of the explanations of vote made this morning, my delegation would like to take this opportunity to express again, in plenary meeting, its full support for the decisions just taken by the General Assembly and to explain the basis for its position in each specific case.

25. We believe that draft resolution II merely seeks a solution to a regrettable vestige of the last world conflagration. As time has passed it has become evident that very little can be expected from bilateral action. That makes action by UNEP all the more advisable. UNEP's resources are indeed well used in this great humanitarian cause.

26. Argentina, which is a member of the Preparatory Committee for the Vancouver Conference, has given its enthusiastic support to the international community's efforts to find appropriate solutions to the problem of human settlements. We are convinced that the man-made environment is as important to human well-being as the natural environment. Hence we support the proposal contained in draft resolution V—a proposal originally submitted by the host country of the Conference—as well as the call for the mobilization of public opinion made in draft resolution I.

27. My country, which will contribute three exhibits to the Habitat Conference, hopes that the audio-visual material will cover as broad a spectrum as possible of national experience, both from the developed world and from the third world. Hence, we fully support giving financial assistance to ensure the participation of the national liberation movements in the forthcoming event, as is requested in operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution V.

28. Argentina plays an active part in the Governing Council of UNEP. We therefore wish to express our consideration at the consensus reached with regard to the decisions adopted at the third session of that Council. This is referred to in operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution IV.

29. Without wishing in the least to underestimate the importance of all those draft decisions, we must express the overriding importance that the Argentine Government attaches to decision 44 (III) of the Governing Council of UNEP, concerning co-operation in the environmental domain in relation to the natural resources shared by two or more States. We believe that the Governing Council took a very positive step in agreeing to convene an intergovernmental group of experts to draw up a draft code of conduct to guide States in the conservation and harmonious exploitation of the aforementioned resources. That will provide a sound basis for progress towards a system of information and prior consultation on the matter, which is the fundamental goal of co-operation which the General Assembly enshrined at its twenty-eighth session and which was subsequently confirmed in article 3 of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States.

30. It has been argued that before progress can be made in that direction a definition must be found for

“shared natural resources”. We do not believe that that is advisable either in theory or in practice. Indeed, in ancient times, the founders of Roman law pointed out the danger of trying to draw up definitions, because they might have a limiting effect on the development of concepts in the future. The United Nations is aware of the time and effort that can be wasted in such exercises. The Programme has shown that we were right, and the correct path has been taken. The excellent report drawn up by the Executive Director—a report of which the resolution on which we are commenting takes note—contains information that is very relevant to the subject. The study by the group of experts to which I have already referred and the contributions made—and to be continued—by the specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, will do the rest. In that respect I should like to note with interest the study undertaken by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research referred to in its report [A/10014].

31. Thus, we can approach seriously the determination of a specific procedure for co-operation between States with the same natural eco-systems. Argentina does not share the Voltairian principle that “one country can win only if another loses”. Argentina firmly believes that through co-operation it is possible for everyone to win, without anyone being harmed. That, at least, is the aim of our action.

32. On the same lines, we wish to say that because decision 44 (III) refers to the same preventive principles as are at the basis of draft resolution III which the Assembly has just adopted, we unreservedly support the goals and strategies of UNEP in the sphere of national and international environmental law, mentioned in that draft resolution.

33. Finally, the Argentine delegation, which attaches the proper importance to the drawing up of criteria for the multilateral financing of housing and human settlements, particularly in the developing countries, regrets that this subject was not given sufficient attention at the current session, and we endorse the decision adopted in this connexion.

34. Mr. VALDÉS (Bolivia) (*interpretation from Spanish*): My delegation wishes to take this opportunity to repeat its reservation, already expressed in the Second Committee, with regard to operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution IV.

35. Mr. GONZÁLEZ de COSSÍO (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*): My delegation wishes to associate itself with the statement just made by the representative of Argentina regarding the various parts of decision 44 (III) adopted by the Governing Council of UNEP in respect of shared natural resources. That decision is embodied in operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of draft resolution IV.

36. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I now invite members to turn to the note by the Secretary-General [A/10376], dealing with the election of the Executive Director of UNEP.

37. In that note the Secretary-General informs the Assembly that owing to Mr. Maurice F. Strong's resignation effective 31 December 1975, he has decided to nominate Mr. Mostafa Kamal Tolba, at present Deputy Executive Director of UNEP, to serve as Executive Director of the Programme for the unexpired

portion of Mr. Strong's term—that is, from 1 January to 31 December 1976.

38. Unless a vote by secret ballot is requested, I would suggest that the Assembly elect Mr. Tolba as Executive Director by acclamation.

It was so decided.

39. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): In accordance with the decision taken by the General Assembly, I declare Mr. Mostafa Kamal Tolba elected Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for a term of one year, beginning on 1 January 1976.

40. I congratulate Mr. Tolba on the confidence which the Assembly has placed in him, and wish him every success in his particularly valuable work.

41. On behalf of the Assembly I should also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Maurice Strong for the able and dedicated manner in which he discharged his responsibilities as Executive Director of the Programme. The United Nations will remember him for his untiring efforts on behalf of "Only One Earth" to protect and enhance our planet's environment. We extend to him our best wishes for continued success in his future endeavours.

42. We turn now to the report of the Second Committee on agenda item 62. I invite the Assembly to take a decision on the draft resolution recommended in paragraph 9 of the report [A/10400]. The Second Committee adopted this draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3439 (XXX)).

43. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now consider the report of the Second Committee on agenda item 63, and take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended in paragraph 10 of the report [A/10387].

44. Draft resolution I is entitled "Assistance in cases of natural disaster and other disaster situations". The Second Committee adopted this draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3440 (XXX)).

45. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): Draft resolution II is entitled "Assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Ethiopia". The Second Committee adopted this draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3441 (XXX)).

46. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The Assembly will now consider the report of the Second Committee on agenda item 66. The draft resolution recommended in paragraph 8 of the report [A/10415] was adopted without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3442 (XXX)).

AGENDA ITEM 19

Election of twenty members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

47. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The General Assembly will now proceed to the election of 20 members of the Governing Council of UNEP to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1975.

48. The 20 outgoing members are: Australia, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chile, German Democratic Republic, Iraq, Jordan, Madagascar, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Republic of Tanzania. Those members are eligible for immediate re-election.

49. I should like to remind members that after 1 January 1976 the following States will still be members of the Governing Council: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Republic, Malaysia, Morocco, Philippines, Romania, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire.

50. Under rule 92 of the rules of procedure, all elections must be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations. However, I have been informed that with the agreement of all groups it has been suggested that to save time we should not resort to that particular procedure at the present election and that the vote by secret ballot should be dispensed with whenever the number of candidates endorsed by a particular regional group corresponds to the number of seats to be filled in that group. In such cases, those candidates would simply be declared elected. If I hear no objection, may I take it that the Assembly agrees to proceed to the election on that basis?

It was so decided.

51. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I should like to announce that the Chairmen of the regional groups have informed me of the following candidatures: 6 from African States: the Central African Republic, Liberia, Rwanda, Somalia, Togo and Uganda; 4 from Asian States: Cyprus, Iraq, Kuwait and Thailand; 2 from Eastern European States: Hungary and Poland; 4 from Latin American States: Grenada, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay; 4 from Western European and other States: Belgium, Greece, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

52. Since the number of candidates endorsed by each group corresponds to the number of seats to be filled in that group, I declare those candidates elected members of the Governing Council of UNEP.

AGENDA ITEM 18

Election of fifteen members of the Industrial Development Board

AGENDA ITEM 56

United Nations Industrial Development Organization
(concluded):*

- (a) Report of the Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;
- (b) Report of the Industrial Development Board

REPORT OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(A/10455)

53. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now proceed to the election of 15 members of the Industrial Development Board to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1975. In this connexion, I should like to draw the attention of the Assembly to the note by the Secretary-General [A/10455], relating to the revision of the lists of States eligible for election to the Industrial Development Board. May I take it that the General Assembly decides to adopt the draft resolution in paragraph 2 of document A/10455?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3401 B (XXX)).¹

54. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The 15 outgoing members are: China, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iran, Liberia, Mexico, Nigeria, Romania, Rwanda, Spain, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela. Those members are eligible for immediate re-election.

55. I should like to remind members that the following States will still be members of the Industrial Development Board after 1 January 1976: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Zambia. Therefore those States are not eligible for election.

56. Under rule 92 of the rules of procedure, all elections must be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations. However, it has been suggested that that requirement should be waived, to save the time of the General Assembly, and that the vote by secret ballot be dispensed with if the number of candidates endorsed by a particular regional group corresponds to the number of seats to be filled by that group. In such cases those candidates would be automatically declared elected. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Assembly agrees to proceed to the election on that basis.

It was so decided.

57. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I should like to announce that the Chairmen of the

regional groups have informed me of the following candidatures: 6 from list A: China, Iran, Iraq, Nigeria, United Republic of Cameroon and Upper Volta; 5 from list B: Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; 3 from list C: Grenada, Mexico and Venezuela; and 1 from list D: Romania.

58. Since the number of candidates endorsed by each group corresponds to the number of seats to be filled in that group, I declare those candidates elected members of the Industrial Development Board for a three-year period beginning on 1 January 1976.

AGENDA ITEM 21

Election of twelve members of the Board of Governors of the United Nations Special Fund

59. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): We shall now proceed to the election of 12 members of the Board of Governors of the United Nations Special Fund to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1975.

60. The 12 outgoing members are: Costa Rica, France, Guyana, Japan, Nepal, Norway, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Upper Volta and Venezuela. Those members are eligible for immediate re-election.

61. I should like to remind Members that after 1 January 1976 the following States will still be members of the Board of Governors: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chad, Czechoslovakia, India, Iran, Kuwait, Madagascar, Netherlands, Nigeria, Paraguay, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yugoslavia and Zaire.

62. Under rule 92 of the rules of procedure, all elections must be held by secret ballot and there shall be no nominations. However, it has been suggested that for the present election that requirement should be waived, to save the time of the General Assembly, and that the vote by secret ballot be dispensed with if the number of candidates proposed by a particular regional group corresponds to the number of seats to be filled by that group. In such cases, those candidates would be declared elected. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that, as in the preceding cases, the Assembly agrees to proceed to the election on that basis.

It was so decided.

63. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I should like to announce that the Chairmen of the regional groups have informed me of the following candidatures: 3 from African States: Somalia, Sudan and Upper Volta; 2 from Asian States: Nepal and Pakistan; 1 from Eastern European States: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; and 3 from Latin American States: Costa Rica, Guyana and Venezuela.

64. Since the number of candidates endorsed by those groups corresponds to the number of seats to be filled, I declare those candidates elected members of the Board of Governors of the United Nations Special Fund.

* Resumed from the 2420th meeting.

65. With regard to the group of Western European and other States, there are 2 candidates for the 3 vacancies to be filled: France and Norway. I declare those two candidates elected, on the understanding that the third candidacy from that group will be communicated subsequently.

66. Mr. MAKEEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*interpretation from Russian*): Mr. President, the delegation of the USSR did not object to your proposal to waive the secret ballot for the election of the Governing Council of UNEP, or the Board of Governors of the United Nations Special Fund, or the Industrial Development Board, but we feel that this should not create a precedent for the future.

67. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): The General Assembly takes note of your comments. I have tried to avoid setting a precedent, and that is why I consulted the Assembly in each case as to whether it would agree to this procedure on each item of the agenda, thus avoiding the risk in question.

The meeting rose at 11.50 a.m.

NOTE

¹ Resolution 3401 A (XXX) was adopted at the 2420th meeting, held on 28 November 1975.