

the sixth special session of the General Assembly had resulted in positive solutions and had, he hoped, finally convinced the developed countries that their fate was intimately linked with that of the developing countries. Political détente must be accompanied by economic détente; all countries should work together along the lines decided on at the special session to produce a new world based on justice and equity.

58. Another problem of great concern was the persistent drought in several Member States, including Mali. His country was profoundly grateful to the many organizations and individuals that had responded to the Secretary-General's appeal for assistance to the drought-stricken countries. However, the loss of human lives, livestock and arable land was so great that even that demonstration of solidarity had been insufficient. His delegation hoped that the forthcoming World Food Conference would accord the highest priority to the problems of famine.

59. Mr. JARPA (Chile), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the continuing attacks against his Government by Soviet satellite States were hampering the Committee's work and constituted a clear violation of the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States.

60. Taking issue with comments made concerning the economic situation in Chile, he said that the companies which had been nationalized in Chile under the Allende régime had come under the control of political leaders and

had not been transferred to the people. Serious financial losses had been incurred.

61. The limited resources of the public sector in Chile were now being used to meet needs in various fields, including health, housing, nutrition, technical education and agricultural development. Chile did not wish to remain dependent on imported food-stuffs. Land was being returned to the farmers, who were also being helped to establish an agricultural infrastructure and were receiving assistance with respect to fertilizers and seeds, as well as technical advice. Chile reserved its assistance in the public sector for basic activities; it did not spend precious resources on investments in factories producing soft drinks or other luxury items. The industries controlled by the public sector included copper, iron and steel, coal, electric power and railways.

62. Special laws had been enacted to prevent private companies, including foreign enterprises, from acting against Chile's national interests. Some agreements concluded in the past with foreign companies, including Soviet enterprises, had proved harmful to Chile's interests. For example, the very important "Calvo clause" had not been included in fishing agreements with the USSR.

63. He rejected all accusations concerning investments in Chile and reiterated that his country could handle its own affairs.

*The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.*

## 1599th meeting

Monday, 7 October 1974, at 10.40 a.m.

*Chairman:* Mr. Jihad KARAM (Iraq).

A/C.2/SR.1599

### AGENDA ITEM 44

#### United Nations Institute for Training and Research: report of the Executive Director (A/9614, A/C.2/L.1344 and 1345)

1. Mr. NICOL (Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research), introducing his report (A/9614), said that he intended in his statement to highlight some of the main activities undertaken by UNITAR during the past year. The Board of Trustees and the staff of UNITAR were very grateful to the Secretary-General for his constant interest in the work of the Institute. The most recent and important event for the Institute had been the thirteenth session of the Board of Trustees (24-27 September 1974), which had adopted decisions concerning the policies and priorities for the Institute's work in various spheres.

2. The Institute had given increased attention to programmes and possibilities for training at different levels. At the beginning of 1974, he had appointed a special consultant in training, and UNITAR had embarked on some experimental programmes and on an expansion of the range and effectiveness of its training. Most of the training programmes had been centred on national officials of both developing and developed countries attached to permanent missions. In addition, the Institute had branched out into new areas, particularly on such subjects as science and technology. Some of the new types of training activity were necessarily experimental programmes. A careful assessment of such pilot projects was being made and it was hoped that, with the co-operation of Governments of Member States, more time and financial resources would be devoted to new and useful programmes. The Institute was also interested in the training of national officials who were not necessarily diplomats but were concerned with develop-

ment and international activities. An example of work in that field, which it was intended to strengthen, was UNITAR participation during 1974 in courses run by national Governments for their high officials.

3. UNITAR was also entitled under its mandate to organize training for the staff of international organizations within the United Nations system. The Second Committee had already expressed its views on such training functions. It had been decided, in consultation with the Fifth Committee and the Secretary-General, that, instead of organizing such training activities through a centralized United Nations staff college, it was more appropriate to undertake training programmes in a practical and pragmatic manner with the co-operation of the training establishments of the United Nations and other related organizations. In the light of that decision, responsible UNITAR officials had been in touch with the appropriate officials of other organizations and an important meeting on the matter was to be held in Geneva during the week of 7-12 October. It was to be hoped that, beginning in 1975, UNITAR would be given the opportunity of organizing pilot courses which would provide the whole United Nations system with a basis for proceeding more effectively with other training programmes designed to strengthen the management and development functions of officials in the system.

4. A programme of fellowships and refresher training courses in the field of international law had been organized and would be continued in the future. It was also hoped to expand some of the specialized training programmes for national officials along the lines of the regional seminars on the problem of international procurement. That series had been completed in 1973, and a very useful manual had been compiled by the Institute and published in 1974. Both the seminars and the manual had been made possible by a special purpose grant of over \$300,000 made available by the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA). He thanked SIDA and hoped that other Governments would support similar specialized training programmes. The holding of courses for key officials, followed by a compilation of the courses as a training manual, was exceedingly effective and represented a valuable form of investment. He drew attention to the training courses for permanent missions referred to in chapter III, section A, of the report (A/9614).

5. As in previous years, UNITAR research activities on selected subjects of special interest to the international community had progressed satisfactorily. The number of publications issued by the Institute had increased, as had their intrinsic value and the number of languages in which they were published. With the help of the Government of Mexico more UNITAR studies and publications were being brought out in Spanish, and publications in French were increasing annually. The Soviet Union assisted the Institute in translating from and into Russian, and the Statutes, which already existed in English, French, Russian and Spanish versions had now been published in Arabic and Chinese. His continuing preoccupation was to make all UNITAR publications available in as many languages as possible, and he had contacted various Governments to that end. The Institute would be very grateful for advice and assistance in that regard.

6. Among the studies to be published in 1975, he referred to the study on the brain drain, which covered 11 countries, both developing and developed. *UNITAR News* dealt with topics of current interest to those concerned with the United Nations. Favourable comments had been made on the "UN and the Sea" issue, which had been used by some delegations both for preparatory work and during the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea held at Caracas in August 1974. Efforts had been made to integrate research and training as mutually reinforcing activities. The Institute's research studies and *UNITAR News* had been used as training material, and ideas generated in discussions in UNITAR seminars and training programmes had been used to fertilize its research studies.

7. The Institute had worked hard to bring studies and reports concerning problems of the future within the context of the United Nations system. The distinctive role of UNITAR in that field had been to give its Project on the Future a systematic approach based on the needs and expectations of the United Nations system as a whole. The work carried out thus far was referred to in chapter II, section A, of the report (A/9614). At the invitation of the Institute of World Economics and International Relations in Moscow, an international conference had been organized in June 1974 to discuss future problems in the United Nations with special regard to scientific and technological advances. More than 40 experts from many countries had attended the conference, and the report and a volume of essays would be published very soon. UNITAR was also building up a co-operative network with institutes all over the world and had contacts with over 100 research centres.

8. At the thirteenth session of the Board of Trustees, the Secretary-General had referred to the close connexion between problems of energy, food, resources and population and the co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations system and had urged the Institute to devote some of its own resources to the elucidation and dissemination of the implications of those complex yet connected issues in a global setting. The Institute intended to continue in an expanded form its interrelated approach to the many problems facing the United Nations. It had organized a colloquium, the Schloss Hermstein Seminar, held in Austria from 19 to 21 June 1974, for senior officials of the United Nations, on some of the problems and programmes discussed at the sixth special session of the General Assembly, including priorities for global action on energy problems. He thanked the Austrian Government for its hospitality, which had made the Seminar possible.

9. The Institute had also endeavoured to ensure that its studies and training programmes were of practical help to the organs of the United Nations and the Secretary-General. He cited the example of the study entitled "Towards Greater Order, Coherence and Co-ordination in the United Nations System", which had been issued as a document for the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-seventh session,<sup>1</sup> to complement the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the agreements between the United Nations and the specialized agencies and IAEA. Work had also been begun in a small but fundamental way to assist United Nations efforts for the long-term solution

<sup>1</sup> E/5491.

of the Sudano-Sahelian crisis. UNITAR work in the area of *ad hoc* international conferences on environment, population and food and their follow-up arrangements had been undertaken with a view to being of practical help to the organizations concerned.

10. Thus, the Institute had tried to deal with specific yet relevant issues of the United Nations system, concentrating on a few well-chosen topics and fields, as advised by many members of the Committee at the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly. After examining the Institute's resources and capabilities, the Board of Trustees at its latest session had drawn up a plan of priorities for the work of the Institute in future years.

11. The plan was as follows: First, training should be undertaken not only for diplomats but also increasingly for national and international officials in areas of current concern. The training programmes should enable participants to understand such subjects as the resources of the sea, developments in science and technology and new aspects of multilateral diplomacy in trade and development. By co-operating with other international organizations in the United Nations system, the Institute should develop and organize a few programmes of staff training.

12. Secondly, while carrying out research activities on selected problems and topics, the Institute should devote a significant portion of its staff and financial resources to the Project on the Future. The Project was to be carried out with a small task force headed by an experienced and eminent international official and scholar, who would be selected on the basis of his keen interest in the problems of the future, his ability to assess the trends and implementation of various world developments and his capacity for analysing and presenting alternative solutions to such problems to the international community. The Institute's work would be carried out in co-operation with other institutes, under the guidance of the Board of Trustees and eventually the Commission on the Future.

13. The staffing of the Institute had, in general, been directed towards young people of many nations. The expenditure of the Institute had increased mainly as a result of inflation and currency problems. The Institute had been using its income carefully, but he was sure that, if members wished to renew their confidence in its work, they would also be inclined to ask their Governments to increase their contributions to the Institute. He expressed appreciation to the Governments of Australia, Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates, which had contributed to UNITAR for the first time during the current year; to the Governments of Argentina, Italy, Japan and Norway, which had increased their contributions; and again to the Government of Italy, which had paid the first three instalments of a new pledge.

14. He wished at the current stage simply to bring to the Committee's attention UNITAR views on the United Nations University, which would be considered later. Members of the Board of Trustees welcomed the creation of the University as a sister organization to UNITAR, which would be established and built up on a co-operative basis without duplication of effort and with the continued financial and other support of Member States. In adopting the Charter of the United Nations University, the General

Assembly had made him (Mr. Nicol) an *ex officio* member of the University Council. That was a sure indication of the confidence of Member States in the development of UNITAR and the University as two institutions within the United Nations system devoted to mutual complementary functions and activities.

15. He wished to thank the many members of the Second Committee and other diplomats and international officials who had functioned as lecturers and seminar leaders in UNITAR programmes. The Institute's activities had been world-wide; there had been over 500 participants from most Member States in its courses, seminars and lectures during the past 12 months. The Institute's staff travelled to regional centres everywhere to expand the work of UNITAR, and senior staff members had participated in seminars in many countries throughout the world. It was hoped that the proposed courses in international law in Zaire and Sierra Leone would be held; he was in the process of signing the protocol agreements. Thus, although many of its activities were based in New York, the Institute had carried the flag of the United Nations to distant parts of the world. Although limited by lack of money, there was no limit to the Institute's goodwill and its desire to be effective in the field of training and research.

16. In conclusion, he paid a personal tribute to the staff of the Institute, mentioning in particular several outgoing staff members who had, by their dedication, loyalty and hard work, contributed to the achievements of UNITAR.

17. He would be glad to answer any questions or try to clarify any points raised by members of the Committee.

18. Mr. KOH (Singapore), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/L.1344 on behalf of its sponsors, which now included Iran and the Philippines, said that it contained three concise and non-controversial operative paragraphs.

19. Speaking as the representative of Singapore, he wished to comment on the current and future research and training programmes of UNITAR. In the research field, he welcomed the fact that the Institute had published 14 new publications, some of which were outstanding in quality. He drew particular attention to the document entitled "Towards Greater Order, Coherence and Co-ordination in the United Nations System", which he commended to all members in the hope that they could help to fulfil its aims; the report entitled *The Situation of Women in the United Nations*,<sup>2</sup> which members should consider before 1975, International Women's Year; and the study kit containing UNITAR papers on the law of the sea, which had been very useful to representatives at the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea at Caracas.

20. The task of UNITAR in the training field was twofold. First, it must assist in the training of diplomats in permanent missions in New York and Geneva to enable them to operate more effectively in the United Nations system and in multilateral diplomacy. Secondly, it must assist in training international civil servants in the United Nations and the specialized agencies. In the past, UNITAR had encountered difficulties in discharging its second

<sup>2</sup> Alexander Szalai, UNITAR RR/18 (1973).

training objective, partly owing to lack of staff and financing and partly because the other agencies had their own training programmes and felt that expansion of the UNITAR training programme might encroach on their territory. He wished to commend the Executive Director and his staff for having found an appropriate formula, namely, that the thrust of the UNITAR objective in the training field was to seek areas in which interagency collaboration would be both feasible and beneficial.

21. With regard to the future work of the Institute, he said that UNITAR had embarked on various important research projects, the most important of which was the Project on the Future, which was conceived by the Board of Trustees in 1971. The Board's idea had been that the United Nations system needed a "look-out tower" to warn it of approaching global problems and alert it to new opportunities so as to enable it to respond appropriately. It was encouraging to note that the Project on the Future was under way, that a useful meeting had been held in Moscow during the summer and that the Executive Director intended to recruit high-level staff for the Project.

22. The UNITAR training programme would be continued in accordance with the two objectives he had referred to earlier and with a suggestion recently accepted by the Board of Trustees that, subject to its mandate, the Institute should explore the feasibility of assisting the less developed countries in training their young diplomats for the future.

23. Noting that UNITAR would shortly be celebrating its tenth anniversary, he warned against sentimentality and expressed the hope that members would approach the anniversary with constructive criticism and support for the Institute and its work.

24. Mrs. THORSSON (Sweden) said that her Government would continue to lend its support to UNITAR and to co-operate with the Executive Director in every possible way. During the Second United Nations Development Decade, the United Nations was arranging a series of international conferences on world-wide problems. Those efforts had been and, she hoped, would be instrumental in bringing a clearer understanding that the problems in question could not be adequately solved without long-range action at the national and international levels. Obviously, the complexity and the dimensions of the tasks before the international community were such that, in many cases, traditional ways of thinking and of tackling the problems could no longer be fruitfully applied. Therefore, it was her delegation's view that UNITAR should be one of the important focal points where contributions to the international community's joint efforts could be worked out. She welcomed the fact that the Executive Director was aware of that point.

25. One area where UNITAR had convincingly demonstrated that it had a role to fill as a "look-out tower" for the United Nations was studies on the future. Her Government was convinced of the need for such studies within the United Nations system to provide Member States, on a continuing basis, with the necessary awareness and knowledge of the long-term aspects of and interrelations between present world-wide problems. Her delegation was pleased to learn that, as a result of a series of meetings on the

elaboration of the Project on the Future, decisive progress had been made towards implementation of the Project. It was gratifying to know that high priority would be given to establishing a small unit for future studies under the leadership of a person of world-wide stature and with close knowledge of the United Nations, to the operation of a network for exchange of information and co-operation between research institutions in that field and to the holding of symposia and seminars related to the Project on the Future. The Swedish Government had made a special contribution of 200,000 Swedish kronor to the Project.

26. Sweden generally approved of UNITAR's efforts to concentrate its research on measures to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations. A good example was the study entitled "Towards Greater Order, Coherence and Co-ordination in the United Nations System". Her delegation agreed with the emphasis given by the Executive Director to serving the Secretary-General's needs for specific research which he might request UNITAR to undertake. It noted the considerable progress made regarding dissemination of UNITAR research reports and considered it important that such efforts should be continued to ensure that UNITAR publications reached members of the United Nations family and the wider public. Only thus could the work of UNITAR achieve its intended result in terms of improved effectiveness of the United Nations and improved support for the Organization.

27. It would not be possible for some years to evaluate the results of the regional seminars on procurement, which were partly financed by SIDA. The report clearly demonstrated (A/9614, chap. III, sect. C) that they continued to be useful to the developing countries and that they were necessary. The seminars would help developing countries and that they were necessary. The seminars would help developing countries to give officials a better knowledge of problems and techniques related to the international procurement of goods and services, which was important in reducing the cost of imports. Her delegation welcomed the fact that UNITAR would soon be publishing a detailed manual in English, French and Spanish on international procurement.

28. In conclusion, she was pleased to announce that the Swedish Government had decided to make a contribution to UNITAR for the Swedish fiscal year 1974/75 of 400,000 Swedish kronor, equivalent to about \$US 89,000. Her delegation hoped that UNITAR would be financially supported by an increasingly wide range of donors.

29. Mr. TREVIÑO (Mexico) said that UNITAR studies, programmes and seminars were of great value in promoting a better understanding of international relations. In connexion with the Project on the Future, he noted with satisfaction the continuing work on building up the network of information and expertise. His Government intended to co-operate in that effort at the regional level.

30. On the subject of co-ordination and interorganizational co-operation, UNITAR had made a valuable contribution in its study entitled "Towards Greater Order, Coherence and Co-ordination in the United Nations System". After identifying the main obstacles to order and coherence in the system, the study showed that current

shortcomings were due not so much to a failure of co-ordination and co-operation as to a trend towards the fragmentation of authority and the changed contexts in which the system had to operate. He supported the emphasis placed in the study on the need for a more effective role of leadership and co-ordination by the Economic and Social Council, under the authority of the General Assembly. To that end, continuing efforts should be made to rationalize and strengthen the structure and functions of the Council. The Council should study whatever structural changes might be necessary and make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly.

31. With regard to the UNITAR project on the role of the United Nations in promoting co-operation between countries having different economic and social systems, he pointed out that détente should not be viewed as an end in itself but rather as a means for consolidating international peace so as to ensure justice and equity for all, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Détente should be used to further the establishment of a new international economic order within the framework of an instrument specifying the economic rights and duties of States.

32. UNITAR was making a commendable contribution in regard to the status of women, in particular by its report entitled *The Situation of Women in the United Nations*, which had served as a basis for the drafting of resolutions on that subject. The participation of UNITAR in International Women's Year, in 1975, would be of great value. His country was participating in seminars on that topic and preparing programmes of action to enhance the status of women. The Mexican Congress was currently considering a constitutional amendment which would specify that men and women were equal before the law.

33. He also welcomed the progress being made on the topic of international youth organizations and the United Nations. The Institute's study<sup>3</sup> on that subject was very informative. His country recognized the importance of international youth organizations and the contribution they could make to the work of the United Nations. Representatives of the Mexican National Youth Institute had participated in various international meetings with a view to exchanging information on current problems.

34. He welcomed the UNITAR contribution to the study of the brain drain, an problem which the developing countries were particularly eager to solve so as to stem the loss of human resources which were so necessary for economic progress. Through its National Council of Science and Technology, Mexico was attempting to find solutions to that problem. It was collaborating with other countries of the third world in exploring the possibilities of exchanging technical and professional personnel for mutual benefit.

35. Studies relating to the prices of raw materials should take into account the overriding needs of the developing countries, and the question of oil prices in particular should

be seen in the context of commodity prices as a whole. Efforts were being made to link the prices of the raw materials exported by developing countries to those of the manufactured and capital goods which they imported. Such linkage was desirable, in that it could improve the terms of trade of developing countries and lead to a general increase in international production, since those countries would receive a fairer price for their raw materials and would be able to import more of the goods they needed from developed countries.

36. UNITAR should continue its studies on scientific and technological problems relating to development and on the assessment of the impact of development problems on the environment. The Institute had contributed positively to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held at Stockholm in June 1972, and had participated in several international seminars.

37. With regard to the training function of UNITAR, his delegation was pleased to have participated in some of the seminars organized by the Institute during the period under review. It was to be hoped that future seminars and colloquia would give even greater attention to current problems of development.

38. The value of UNITAR was becoming more widely appreciated both within the United Nations system and in the academic world at large. The developing countries in particular were becoming more aware of the useful work done by the Institute. The Government of Mexico had demonstrated its interest in broader dissemination of the Institute's work through the agreement that had been reached to publish UNITAR studies in Spanish. Thus far, three studies had been translated into Spanish. In addition, the Mexican Government had made available to participants at the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea at Caracas 150 copies in Spanish of the issue of *UNITAR News* entitled "UN and the Sea". Mexico was pleased to co-operate with UNITAR in making its studies available to a wider audience.

39. Mr. SADEGHI-YARANDY (Iran) expressed his delegation's pleasure at UNITAR accomplishments during the past year, as reflected comprehensively in the report of the Executive Director (A/9614). Every effort should be made to increase the effectiveness of future UNITAR activities. In that connexion, he welcomed the decision of the Board of Trustees to undertake a comprehensive review of the priorities in the Institute's programme.

40. It was encouraging to note that during the period under review UNITAR had issued 14 new publications, bringing the total to 54, as shown in annex II of the report. His delegation attached particular importance to the publications in the series of studies in the field of international organization and welcomed the publication of the study on co-ordination in the United Nations system. It also welcomed the UNITAR decision to conduct a study of the effect of *ad hoc* conferences on the administration of United Nations economic and social activities and fully supported the idea that the study should focus on the organization of international administrative machinery to co-ordinate and implement the results of such conferences. UNITAR studies related to peace and security were also of undeniable value.

<sup>3</sup> Berhanykun Andemicael and Anthony J. Murdoch, eds., *International Youth Organizations and the United Nations*, UNITAR RR/17 (1973).

41. In the development field, he was pleased to note that the Institute was in the process of publishing its study on the brain drain. That subject was of great importance to developing countries, and he hoped that the study would be useful to the various organs of the United Nations dealing with that topic. He took note of the papers prepared on special problems relevant to development and hoped that UNITAR would be able to provide copies of those papers to permanent missions for their information.

42. He welcomed the new orientation given to UNITAR training activities, which his delegation had always wholeheartedly supported. During the period under review several members of the Iranian mission had benefited from various training programmes carried out by UNITAR. He welcomed the intention of UNITAR to adopt a two-year or three-year cycle of activity in order to repeat programmes of interest, and he took note of the Executive Director's assurances that the programmes would be completely updated in the light of the latest developments and that the adoption of such a procedure would not be at the expense of initiating new programmes.

43. In conclusion, he pointed out that his delegation had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1344, which he hoped would be unanimously adopted by the Committee.

44. Mr. AL-KHUDHAIRY (Iraq) noted with satisfaction that UNITAR had contacted his delegation regarding comments and suggestions it had made at the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly.<sup>4</sup> At that session, his delegation had expressed the hope that certain UNITAR publications of importance to the Arab world would be reproduced in Arabic. Contacts on that subject had been made between representatives of various Arab States and UNITAR. He was pleased to announce that his Government had decided to pledge a token contribution of \$3,300 to be used for making UNITAR publications available in Arabic. That contribution, however, was conditional on contributions from other Arab countries. In the same context, he hoped that the regrettable under-representation of the Arab States on the staff of UNITAR would be corrected.

45. With regard to the research side of the Institute's work, he was encouraged to note that 14 new studies had been published during the year under review. However, it was disappointing that very few of them dealt with subjects that were of direct concern to the developing countries, such as the brain drain and the transfer of technology. It was to be hoped that subjects of importance to the developing countries would be given top priority.

46. He looked forward to the conclusion of the study on the role of the United Nations in promoting co-operation between countries having different economic and social systems.

47. While he had not yet seen the UNITAR study on the energy crisis<sup>5</sup> referred to in the Executive Director's report,

he regretted to note that, according to the description of the study given in the report (A/9614, para. 65), the whole problem of energy was approached from the point of view of rising oil prices, without taking other factors into account. In that connexion, he wondered why a study had not been done on "the inflation crisis of industrialized countries and its effects on economic, monetary and commercial and trade conditions in the world, in particular its effects on the economies of the developing world". That crisis was the mother of all other crises. UNITAR should urgently undertake such a study. Another study which UNITAR could undertake and which would be of considerable value to the United Nations would be one on the political, economic and social consequences of foreign occupation and domination of territories and peoples.

48. On the training side, he had nothing but praise for the work of UNITAR. He had been glad to note the increase in seminars and training courses of interest to the members of permanent missions. In particular, the seminar on "The Making of a Resolution" held in New York in May 1974 had been most useful and should be repeated in a few years' time. Another welcome development had been the increase in regional seminars, and it was to be hoped that in future more of them would be held in the Middle East, particularly now that the Economic Commission for Western Asia had been established. In his delegation's view, training had proved to be the Institute's most useful field, and its training functions should be further strengthened and given priority.

49. Mr. POERWANTO (Indonesia) said that his delegation had studied the report of the Executive Director with interest and noted with satisfaction that UNITAR had increased its effectiveness in discharging its responsibilities.

50. UNITAR had shown a commendable awareness of the interdependence of nations and the interrelationship of major problems in the political, economic and social fields. Important discussions had been initiated on the Project on the Future with a view to stimulating the interest of scholars and scientific institutions around the world and facilitating a dialogue within the United Nations system. The work done by UNITAR on the Project should be given the widest possible dissemination in order to elicit responses from the international community. In implementing the Project, efforts should be made to avoid any overlapping with work being undertaken by the specialized agencies and other bodies within the United Nations system. More financial resources were needed in order to bring the Project to completion, and his delegation hoped that Governments would respond generously to the Executive Director's appeal for more funds.

51. During the period under review, UNITAR had continued to concentrate its research efforts on the functioning of the United Nations and means for enhancing its effectiveness. An important contribution in that regard had been the study entitled "Towards Greater Order, Coherence and Co-ordination in the United Nations System", which had been used as a basis for discussion in a seminar recently organized by UNITAR. The seminar had proved to be useful in providing a forum for a preliminary exchange of views among participants and in clarifying the problems of co-ordination within the United Nations system.

<sup>4</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Second Committee*, 1536th meeting, para. 20.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Barnea, *The energy crisis: its effect on industrial and developing countries and medium and long-term measures to assure energy supplies*, UNITAR CPF/BP.2 (1974).



52. With regard to training, it was to be hoped that UNITAR would continue to organize courses for members of permanent missions, as well as the other programmes mentioned in the Executive Director's report. Careful consideration should be given to including problems of urgent relevance to the majority of countries as subjects for discussion in the training courses. His delegation was pleased with the courses in international law organized under the auspices of UNITAR and hoped that more adequate fellowships would be provided for trainees from the developing countries. It would be most helpful if the proposed Asian Regional Symposium on the Law of the Sea, which had originally been scheduled for 1974, could be organized in the coming year, in view of the urgent importance of the problems involved for the developing countries of the region.

53. In all its activities, UNITAR had demonstrated its ability to anticipate problems of global interest and contribute to the efforts of the international community to find meaningful solutions. His delegation was pleased to support draft resolution A/C.2/L.1344 and hoped that it would be adopted unanimously.

54. Mr. GORITZA (Romania) noted with satisfaction the work done by UNITAR during the past year and the Institute's ability to keep abreast of the rapidly growing number of problems of concern to the international community. His delegation was particularly pleased at the progress made on studies relating to the role of the United Nations in promoting co-operation between countries having different economic and social systems. In view of the importance of science and technology for the process of economic and social development, particularly in the developing countries, his delegation welcomed the initiative taken by UNITAR in organizing, in New York in February 1974, a seminar on science and technology for development. It was to be hoped that that initiative would be followed by further action, studies and seminars, involving specialists on the staff of the Institute as well as substantive experts from the secretariat of other international organizations and from Member States. Such follow-up action could make a useful contribution to the proposed United Nations conference on science and technology. In its future work, UNITAR should give priority to problems of economic and social development, taking into account the emphasis placed on economic matters by the General Assembly at its sixth special session.

55. Mr. PETRONE (Italy) said that his country had always taken a keen interest in UNITAR and had been a major contributor to the Institute's budget. He was pleased to note that the Board of Trustees had drawn up a programme of priorities to guide the Institute's work and avoid dispersal of efforts. The Project on the Future, which had been accorded high priority, was a far-sighted and imaginative undertaking that would give UNITAR an opportunity to play an important part in orienting research in that field and in devising ways of making the structure of the United Nations more effective.

56. His delegation supported the idea of providing in-house training for staff at the initial and middle echelons in the United Nations system and was pleased to note that UNITAR was fulfilling that task with increasing effective-

ness. The Institute's continued and increasing co-operation with the various organizations of the United Nations system and with the academic world was appreciated. As for co-operation between UNITAR and the United Nations University, his delegation expected the Institute to make a valuable contribution to the University from its inception. Both institutions would benefit from mutual and close co-operation.

57. While appreciating the efforts made by the Executive Director to limit administrative expenditure, his delegation could not help noting that management and general expenses in 1973 accounted for a higher percentage of the total expenditure. The percentage devoted to programme activities had declined from 52 per cent in 1972 to 48.9 per cent in 1973. It was to be hoped that further progress could be made in reducing administrative expenses.

58. His delegation took a positive view of the work of UNITAR and was a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/L.1344, which it hoped would be adopted unanimously.

59. Mr. CARMICHAEL (United States of America) welcomed the new emphasis which was being placed on improving the training activities of UNITAR. High-quality training programmes were one means whereby UNITAR could demonstrate its capacity and ability and thereby stimulate support for the increased use of its training facilities. That ability had been demonstrated principally in the training of persons employed by their national services. His delegation looked forward to reviewing the study by UNITAR of how a pragmatic training programme for employees of the United Nations system might best be designed and established, which was to be submitted to the nineteenth session of the Governing Council of UNDP. He reiterated his Government's position that UNITAR should become involved as soon as possible in real staff training in such areas as administration, modern management techniques and the development process. Such training would enable the United Nations family more effectively to meet the challenges and demands of Governments.

60. His delegation would welcome information concerning the pilot project involving UNITAR, UNDP, the World Bank and the Government of Indonesia, announced in the Executive Director's report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session,<sup>6</sup> the aim of which had been to study how experts appointed by international organizations could be oriented to the country to which they were appointed in order to enable them to transfer their expertise more effectively and in the most appropriate way possible for the country as well as to train local counterpart personnel more efficiently. His delegation wished to know whether that was considered a valid approach to the problem of country orientation, which was of great importance to UNDP programme support on a world-wide basis.

61. UNITAR research activities should concentrate on issues of current concern to the international community. Given the limited financial resources of the Institute, duplication of work being performed elsewhere should be avoided.

<sup>6</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 14, para. 65.*

62. With regard to the reformulation of priorities, undertaken at the thirteenth session of the Board of Trustees, his delegation considered that research undertaken by UNITAR on "the Future" should be closely tailored to the needs of the United Nations as an international organization; it should not become involved in projecting the magnitude of future global developments.

63. His delegation supported draft resolution A/C.2/L.1344. Although all countries benefited from UNITAR activities, fewer than 40 had contributed to its General Fund. Wider financial support would render UNITAR more effective and improve its contribution to the work of the United Nations system.

64. Mr. BRITO (Brazil) said that Brazil viewed UNITAR as a source for potentially very useful contributions to the strengthening of international understanding and co-operation. The constructive criticism which his delegation had expressed in the past and wished to offer again was based on its belief that the unique position of UNITAR as the sole research and training institution within the United Nations system entitled it to a pivotal role in the promotion of peace and economic development.

65. He reiterated the disappointment of his delegation, expressed at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly, that greater emphasis was being placed on UNITAR training activities, at a time when increasing costs were undermining the Institute's capacity to sustain its programmes. If the present trend away from research continued unchecked, UNITAR would become little more than an extension of the public information and hospitality services of the United Nations. While his delegation did not wish to belittle the importance of UNITAR training activities, which should indeed be improved and expanded, it considered that research and training must be linked in a pattern of mutually supportive and mutually stimulating feedbacks. The problem was not one of choosing between two exclusive options; it was one of defining a comprehensive and integrated set of guidelines and priorities permitting progress in both areas. Research activities deserved priority, however, because research was the field in which UNITAR, as a non-specialized institution, could truly add to existing knowledge in matters related to peace and development.

66. UNITAR also appeared to be pursuing its activities without a sufficient sense of purpose, for it was tackling extremely diverse subjects. Issues of the utmost importance to the objectives of international co-operation were placed on a par with matters of a purely marginal or topical interest. UNITAR could not be judged simply by what and how much it was doing, but rather by what it was accomplishing. The fragmentation of its efforts into a number of activities scattered over a wide range of disparate, inconsistent areas would seriously hamper its efficiency and ultimately lead it astray from its desired course. He hoped that in the future the Board of Trustees and the Executive Director would—where feasible, with the advice of interested Governments—establish more specific criteria to guide the choice of the Institute's research and training activities. Those criteria must clearly reflect the overriding importance that must be attributed to issues

pertaining to the economic development of developing countries.

67. The Project on the Future was the kind of study that was often based on a static conception of the economic system and helped to support the conservative ideology of those interested in preserving the international *status quo*. Research activities in that area, although useful in certain respects, did not deserve priority in the allocation of resources. If they were undertaken, careful consideration should be given to the study of aspects relevant to the interests of developing countries. The investigation of trends in population growth, resource depletion and energy requirements should be accompanied, for instance, by research on the consequences of the perpetuation of the gap between rich and poor nations or of the persistence of the present distortions in world trade and finance. UNITAR could, for example, conduct action-oriented research into the concept of collective economic security for development on the basis of Economic and Social Council resolution 1911 (LVII). The Institute could further refine the concept and identify its potential applications so as to maximize the contribution of the concept to the fulfilment of the objectives of the International Development Strategy (General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV)) and of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order (resolution 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI)).

68. In order to ensure that the interests of developing countries were duly taken into account, UNITAR should increase the participation of representatives of those countries in all its activities. For example, only 8 of the 22 appointed members of the Board of Trustees were from developing countries, and the influence of universities in and individuals from the industrialized world appeared to be prevalent within the Institute. The Executive Director should bear in mind the need for substantially increased contacts with representatives of developing countries when carrying out his intention to expand the circle of researchers with whom UNITAR would be in contact.

69. In order to become relevant and useful, UNITAR activities would have to be much more selective, much deeper and, in many cases, more pioneering. The Institute could not cover so many areas of human concern without duplicating the efforts of other organizations in the United Nations system with specific fields of competence. Moreover, with its resources spread so thinly, UNITAR's research efforts could hardly produce a substantial contribution in any specific sector. For example, it was doubtful whether, given UNITAR's current level of resources, the Institute's studies regarding the environmental impact of development projects (see A/9614, paras. 69-71) could provide a useful contribution to the further understanding of the problems involved, considering the availability of abundant technical literature on the subject and the fact that UNEP had specific competence in the field. The ultimate test of the relevance of UNITAR programmes must be their contribution to the implementation of the new international economic order.

70. Mr. BERG (Norway) said that his Government had welcomed the opportunity to consult with the Executive Director of UNITAR during his visit to Oslo earlier in the



year. His delegation was satisfied that the Institute's attention had been increasingly focused on issues of current concern to the international community. In particular, it noted with keen interest the work now completed on co-ordination within the United Nations system. With regard to the conclusions and suggestions contained in the second part of the introductory study entitled "Towards Greater Order, Coherence and Co-ordination in the United Nations System", emphasizing the need for a more effective role of leadership and co-ordination by the Economic and Social Council, his delegation agreed that changes in attitude, practice and policy were needed, rather than new machinery.

71. His delegation also wished to compliment UNITAR on its studies on peaceful settlement and on conflict resolution. It looked forward with particular interest to the outcome of the studies on the settlement of disputes in regard to ocean resources and environmental matters which were to be completed in 1975.

72. He was pleased to announce that, subject to parliamentary approval, Norway's contribution to UNITAR in 1975 would amount to 300,000 Norwegian kroner, or approximately \$US 53,500.

73. Mr. DOMINGUEZ (Venezuela) said that his delegation had supported the activities of UNITAR from its inception. It welcomed the holding in Moscow, in June 1974, of the UNITAR Conference on the Future, which had facilitated contacts between experts from around the world to explore alternatives for the future, in the light of economic, social and technological factors which might affect the United Nations.

74. The fact that the Executive Director was an *ex officio* member of the United Nations University Council would ensure that the close co-ordination between the two organizations which the Executive Director had been seeking would avoid duplication and that their activities would be complementary.

75. His delegation supported the courses and seminars conducted by UNITAR and believed that in future they should focus more directly on an analysis of the problems of economic and social development in the context of the new international economic order, the outlines of which had been adopted at the sixth special session of the General Assembly.

76. Lastly, his delegation was pleased to note from paragraph 11 of the Executive Director's report that efforts were being made to arrange for the production of UNITAR studies in all the official languages of the United Nations. The arrangements made with the Mexican Government for production in Spanish would ensure wider distribution of UNITAR publications in Spanish-speaking countries.

77. Mr. WOLF (Austria) said that in recent years Austria's co-operation with UNITAR had developed in such a way that it considered their contacts a model of relationship with an international agency. Three colloquia for senior officials in the United Nations system had already been held in Austria. The most recent one, at which the question of the United Nations and the energy crisis had been

considered, had provided a useful opportunity for discussion in the light of the results of the sixth special session of the General Assembly and the efforts of other international organizations on the subject. His delegation looked forward to making the necessary arrangements shortly with UNITAR for a further colloquium in Austria in 1975.

78. A leading Austrian expert in the field of administrative science had participated in a UNITAR colloquium in New York which had been attended, *inter alia*, by senior officials of the United Nations system. His lectures on the establishment in Austria of a Federal Public Service Academy and on the rules of civil service employment and pay in Austria had contributed to UNITAR's continuing efforts in the training of a highly qualified international staff.

79. His delegation would be pleased to support draft resolution A/C.2/L.1344; with regard to paragraph 3, he wished to announce that his Government was considering, subject to parliamentary approval, a further increase in the Austrian contribution to UNITAR for 1975.

80. Mr. BROAD (United Kingdom) said that his delegation, which in its comments at the twenty-eighth session on the report of the Executive Director of UNITAR for 1973, had pointed out that the agreement to establish a United Nations University provided an opportunity to revitalize the Institute, was pleased to note from paragraph 121 of the report (A/9614) that the Executive Director had actively promoted contact with the University by attending its Council as an *ex officio* member and presenting two papers covering proposals for relationships between the University and UNITAR and between the University and the academic public. He trusted that, once the University's Rector had been appointed, the Executive Director would place UNITAR experience at his disposal and provide a full range of suggestions for associating UNITAR with the University. Eventually—not least in order to avoid a wasteful duplication of funds and fund-raising efforts—a merger between the two bodies would seem logical.

81. With regard to UNITAR research work, the papers being prepared in connexion with the Project on the Future, as referred to in paragraphs 16 and 25 of the report, constituted a somewhat disappointing output for a project which had begun in September 1971 and was to have been the centre-piece of UNITAR research activities. More tangible results by which the contributors to UNITAR could measure the value of the work being undertaken were required to justify the Project's continued existence.

82. With regard to training, his delegation had noted the expansion of and improvement in UNITAR courses following the appointment of a special consultant. Such courses, provided they were organized with care, could provide an informal meeting-ground for those engaged in the day-to-day business of multilateral diplomacy, enabling them to exchange views with each other and with others engaged in relevant fields on issues which filtered through to the United Nations in a frequently distorted fashion.

83. Lastly, while his delegation agreed that the Executive Director's efforts to secure wider publicity for UNITAR publications should be sustained—since in the last resort the

value of UNITAR, with regard to research at least, depended on the quality of its publications and the interest they aroused among the readers—high expenditure should not be incurred for translation and publication where there was no clear demand for the product.

84. Mr. STIEPEL (Federal Republic of Germany) said that, although progress had been achieved in some areas of UNITAR activities, his delegation was not fully satisfied with the Institute's performance as a whole. His remarks should be interpreted as a constructive attempt to focus attention on ways to improve the work of UNITAR. As a major contributor to the Institute's budget, his country had the duty to look closely at its activities and offer constructive criticism.

85. UNITAR could and should play an important role in enhancing understanding of global problems requiring action at the international level. Few practical results had been achieved thus far in that respect. The contributions of Member States had been stagnating. The relationship between the UNITAR training programme and its research programmes was not properly balanced, efforts being heavily concentrated on research. Its training programmes were not sufficiently oriented towards actual demands, which had led to declining attendance, and hopes to improve the training programme with the establishment of a United Nations staff college had been frustrated.

86. With regard to research, there were insufficient financial and personnel resources available to ensure results competitive with other scientific institutions. Genuine interdisciplinary co-operation within UNITAR which made full use of available talents and scientific capacity had not yet been developed. Furthermore, it had not yet been determined how to co-ordinate UNITAR research activities with those of the United Nations University. Lastly, the Project on the Future, one of the most ambitious undertakings of UNITAR, lacked a clear scientific concept and therefore had not attracted sufficient financial resources.

87. Nevertheless, there were prospects for improvement. It was planned to restore the balance between research and training by means of internal reorganization, and two highly qualified consultants had been engaged to prepare attractive training and research programmes. Further progress had been made at the thirteenth session of the Board of Trustees with regard to improving the training and research programmes, in particular the Project on the Future. His delegation welcomed those developments and believed that, by virtue of its relative independence and the fact that it enjoyed direct access to information available within the United Nations system, UNITAR had specific advantages as a scientific institute. His Government had therefore increased its contribution to UNITAR by DM 100,000—equivalent to about \$US 40,000—to

DM 600,000—equivalent to about \$US 240,000—for 1974. In so doing, his Government expected that UNITAR would arrive at a reasonable division of its activities with respect to those of the United Nations University and that its training programme, based on a thorough analysis of the demands, would become more attractive. The remarks of the Executive Director were encouraging in that regard. His country also expected that training and research activities would be better balanced, that UNITAR would take its limited financial and personnel resources into account more than it had in the past when planning its future research programmes, and that the Project on the Future would be based on realistic targets and would be directed by a highly qualified project manager.

88. Mr. MADEY (Yugoslavia) said his delegation was pleased to note that the Institute had undertaken to propose an impressive number of studies covering a large spectrum of problems and to ensure that they reached as many people as possible by providing them in other languages in addition to English. Given the limited financial resources at its disposal, UNITAR could not be expected to cover all areas of concern to the international community. Careful planning and selection were therefore essential. His delegation hoped that the further elaboration of the Project on the Future would impartially reflect the basic pre-occupations of the international community as defined in the resolutions of the United Nations.

89. The profound and objective analysis of the world economic situation carried out at the sixth special session of the General Assembly should provide UNITAR with inspiration for undertaking studies which would point further to the need for basic changes in the structure of the existing international economic system. Accordingly, UNITAR should not study only the possibilities in the United Nations for greater international co-operation for long-range agricultural development and for a more efficient and equitable usage of world raw material resources and the solution of environmental problems, but the energy crisis, its effect on industrial and developing countries and medium-term and long-term measures to assure energy supplies.

90. His delegation hoped that the future work of UNITAR would reflect changed circumstances in the economic and political spheres.

91. The draft resolution on UNITAR should reflect some of the concerns expressed in the debate, as well as the events of the past year. He accordingly introduced on behalf of the sponsors the amendment contained in document A/C.2/L.1345.

*The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.*