

United Nations  
**GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**

**EIGHTEENTH SESSION**

*Official Records*



**THIRD COMMITTEE, 1253rd  
MEETING**

*Tuesday, 5 November 1963,  
at 10.45 a.m.*

**NEW YORK**

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*Chairman:* Mr. Humberto DIAZ CASANUEVA  
(Chile).

**AGENDA ITEM 12**

Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/5503, chapter IX, except section III; chapter X; and chapter XIII, section VII; A/C.3/L.1121/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1132/Rev.2, A/C.3/L.1134/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1135/Rev.2, A/C.3/L.1139, A/C.3/L.1140/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1141 and Add.1, A/C.3/L.1143/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1146-1147 and Add.1, A/C.3/L.1152, A/C.3/L.1154/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1156 and Corr.1, A/C.3/L.1157-1164) (continued)

**CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (continued)**

1. Mr. REYMOND (International Labour Organisation), speaking on behalf of the ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO, said that he wished to state the position of those agencies with regard to the second revised text of the draft resolution on the world social situation (A/C.3/L.1132/Rev.2), which invited the co-operation of the specialized agencies concerned in achieving the objectives it set forth.

2. The agencies in question had, of course, participated fully in the drafting and implementation of the programme outlined in the Secretary-General's report entitled The United Nations Development Decade: Proposals for Action,<sup>1/</sup> which had been approved by the governing bodies of the agencies as well as by the General Assembly. The activities of the agencies had also been covered by the Secretary-General's report<sup>2/</sup> under Council resolution 916 (XXXIV), and they would be discussed in the consolidated report to be prepared under the terms of Council resolution 984 (XXXVI); the latter resolution also requested the Secretary-General and the agencies, when planning and implementing their programmes, to take account of the priorities suggested by the Special Committee on Co-ordination.

3. It was worth recalling that The United Nations Development Decade: Proposals for Action drew attention to the increasing recognition of the fact that social reform and economic strategy were two

sides of the same coin—the single strategy of development—and that development was growth plus change, the latter being social and cultural as well as economic, and qualitative as well as quantitative.

4. Since the specialized agencies had collaborated in the preparation of the Report on the World Social Situation, 1963 (E/CN.5/375 and Add.1 and 2), it was natural that the problems mentioned in that report should be those towards which their efforts in connexion with the Development Decade were directed. He hoped, therefore, that it would be made quite clear in the draft resolution that the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies were not being asked to prepare a new programme of social development—since such a programme already existed and had been approved only recently—or even to prepare a report for the second half of the Development Decade—since the existing programme covered the whole period—but rather to give particular attention to those social problems which appeared from the 1963 report to be so urgent. Such was no doubt the intention of the sponsors of the draft resolution, for it seemed unlikely that they wanted the Secretary-General and the agencies to prepare a new programme in place of that already adopted or that they meant to recommend the agencies to adopt other priorities than those established and periodically reviewed by their governing bodies, which represented substantially the same Governments as were Members of the United Nations.

5. On that understanding, he could pledge the complete co-operation of the agencies for which he spoke, and he hoped that the sponsors of the draft resolution and the Committee would take account of his comments, which were intended solely as a positive contribution to the debate.

6. Mr. JERNSTROM (Finland) thanked the ILO and the other specialized agencies concerned for the interest they had shown in draft resolution A/C.3/L.1132/Rev.2, of which his delegation was a sponsor; he could not, however, comment on their interpretation of the text until he had consulted the other sponsors.

7. He hoped that the changes introduced as a result of informal discussions would help to accelerate the Committee's work. The sponsors had considered it appropriate, in operative paragraph 1, to request the Council to review its resolution 496 (XVI), which had already been superseded in part by a number of decisions, particularly those taken in connexion with the Development Decade. Paragraph 2 should be read in conjunction with paragraph 4, but it had been left in a general form in the hope that the Council, besides considering the Secretary-General's draft programme under the terms of paragraph 4, would find other ways of providing leadership for United Nations action in the social field. Paragraph 3, as revised, omitted any specific reference to the resources that could be provided domestically, lest it should appear that Governments were being asked

<sup>1/</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No.: 62.II.B.2.

<sup>2/</sup> Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-sixth Session, Annexes, agenda items 4 and 6, document E/3776.

to justify their decisions concerning the use of their own domestic resources; the paragraph still implied, of course, that the Governments concerned must make careful plans for the use of domestically available resources before submitting requests for external assistance. With regard to paragraph 4, it was assumed that the Social Commission would have the opportunity to consider the proposed draft programme before it was submitted to the Council. Paragraph 6 would make it possible for the Secretary-General, in addition to submitting the progress report to the Council, to make a further report, if he so desired, direct to the General Assembly on any significant developments which took place after the Council's session. With regard to paragraph 7, the sponsors hoped that the established practice of discussing world social developments annually in the Assembly would continue and be extended to cover, for instance, progress reports and other documents prepared in connexion with the Development Decade.

8. While his delegation was entirely in sympathy with the main purpose of the revised Tunisian amendments (A/C.3/L.1134/Rev.1), it noted that the study on motivation for development to be carried out by the Secretariat for the next report on the world social situation would be specifically concerned with practical methods of enlisting co-operation and of motivating the population to adopt the new attitudes, habits and practices essential for economic and social development. It also appeared from the Council's report (see A/5503, para. 371) that the whole question had been given high priority in the programme of work. The United Nations would be able to make more positive recommendations to Governments when the 1965 report had been submitted, and it would be better to retain the present character of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1132/Rev.2, which related specifically to a social programme for the second half of the Development Decade. His delegation shared the doubts expressed by the representative of India (1252nd meeting) concerning the wording of the Tunisian amendments.

9. His delegation welcomed the Peruvian draft resolution on community action (A/C.3/L.1121/Rev.1). He would point out in that connexion that one of the many favourable results of successful community development programmes was precisely the conscious acceptance of new attitudes which the Tunisian delegation sought to promote. The Ugandan amendments (A/C.3/L.1139), some of which had been incorporated in the revised draft resolution, would improve the text.

10. Mr. SOLODOVNIKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), commenting on the Peruvian draft resolution on community action and on the Danish representative's remarks (1252nd meeting), observed that an overwhelming number of delegations had spoken in favour of land reform and of strengthening United Nations activities in the social field. In his view, the United Nations, and especially the Secretariat, had devoted an undue amount of time to community development to the detriment of other social programmes; during the past ten years, seventy-five studies on community development, and only three on land reform, had been published. The true reason for that over-emphasis on community development was a desire to lessen the impact of the changes which had occurred in the world and to slow down social development; it was no mere coincidence that the Economic and Social Council, at its thirty-sixth session, had

reduced the schedule of meetings for organs concerned with work in the social field.

11. A drastic change in the Organization's approach to social problems and to the consideration of pre-requisites for speedy social and economic development was urgently necessary if its work was to be of any value. Community development had been tried in his own country in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and had proved wrong and ineffective. The Secretariat's present approach was now leading the developing countries in the wrong direction, not in the direction of speedy development. Of the first fifteen headings in the programme of work for 1963-1965 (see E/3769, annex I), ten were entirely or largely devoted to community development, and even under the heading "Training" there was no provision for anything but the training of community development workers. He saw no reason to adopt a resolution which would divert the United Nations even further from land reform and other important social measures and reforms. He wondered why no statement of financial implications had been presented in connexion with the Peruvian draft resolution; it was interesting to note that, when a draft resolution on land reform (A/C.2/L.734/Rev.2) had been introduced in the Second Committee, the Secretariat had hastened to produce a statement of financial implications (A/C.2/L.741) indicating that its implementation would cost some \$20,000. Thus the Secretariat tried to prevent the consideration and study of the most important questions in the social field.

12. The Peruvian draft resolution, as it stood, was not acceptable to his delegation, but it would support the Bulgarian-Cuban amendments (A/C.3/L.1158) and the Hungarian amendments (A/C.3/L.1160), which would increase the effectiveness of United Nations activities in the social field and would really help to mobilize the rural population for speedy social and economic development.

13. With regard to the revised draft resolution on the world social situation (A/C.3/L.1132/Rev.2), he would again emphasize that all United Nations efforts should be concentrated on the study and solution of basic social problems. The USSR delegation therefore put forward, for the consideration of the Third Committee, the question of far-reaching measures and reforms, necessary for speedy social and economic development. During the general debate, many representatives of developing countries had spoken of the necessity of changing feudalistic and colonialist régimes and institutions and redistributing the national income and wealth. The President of Bolivia, while addressing the General Assembly (1252nd plenary meeting), had told how the national wealth of his country had formerly been concentrated in the hands of three large mining firms and some 200 families, and how the national revolution had begun by nationalizing the mining enterprises and handing over the land to those who worked it. It was urgently necessary to take action of the kind mentioned in the draft resolution, and in particular to place the consideration of practical and far-reaching measures on the agenda of the nineteenth session as a special item. His delegation would vote in favour of draft resolution A/C.3/L.1132/Rev.2 and in favour of the amendments in documents A/C.3/L.1134/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1159 and A/C.3/L.1163, but it would oppose the Australian sub-amendments (A/C.3/L.1162).

14. He would support the revised text of the draft resolution on capital punishment (A/C.3/L.1143/Rev.1). At the same time he would point out that a study should be made, not only of formal legislation but of the de facto situation, especially with regard to the régime of mass terror and genocide in colonial territories and the mass murder of fighters against fascism and dictatorship in Spain. Despite the fact that capital punishment was formally prohibited in Portugal, no one could hide the facts concerning mass killings and terror in the Portuguese colonies which should be brought to light and condemned. The United Nations could not but focus its attention on those cases of terror, mass murders and genocide. The whole world strongly condemned and protested atrocities and merciless killings by Portuguese colonizers and "Franco's fascists".

15. His delegation would also support draft resolutions A/C.3/L.1135/Rev.2, A/C.3/L.1140/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1141 and Add.1, A/C.3/L.1147 and Add.1 and A/C.3/L.1152.

16. Mrs. DADDAH (Mauritania) said she would not repeat the arguments which had been advanced in support of the draft resolution calling for equitable African representation in the Commission on Human Rights (A/C.3/L.1152), of which her delegation was a sponsor.

17. The revised Peruvian draft resolution rightly stressed the importance of community action in promoting social solidarity, national integration and cultural development in the developing countries. With regard to the Ugandan amendments, she felt it would be desirable to make the meaning of the word "services" in the amendment to the third preambular paragraph quite clear. As far as the amendment to the sixth preambular paragraph was concerned, it seemed a pity to delete the passage beginning with the words "on the execution of works", which stressed the value of community action in specific terms and demonstrated the need to organize such action on a rational and efficient basis. As for the amendment to the eighth preambular paragraph, it was difficult to see any reason for proposing the deletion of words which had the advantage of summarizing in one succinct paragraph the beneficial effects of community action.

18. Her delegation supported the draft resolution on the world social situation, but it would have liked the preamble to state more clearly that social progress was unsatisfactory and that disparities in income persisted and were even increasing. She welcomed the Tunisian amendments, which would serve to make the draft resolution more effective. Her delegation was among the sponsors of amendment A/C.3/L.1163, which emphasized the need for the promotion and encouragement of local training. Much time was sometimes lost because fellowship-holders who had been sent abroad had to adapt foreign techniques to local conditions.

19. She strongly endorsed the revised draft resolution on the participation of women in national social and economic development (A/C.3/L.1135/Rev.2) and commended the amendments co-sponsored by her delegation (A/C.3/L.1156) to the attention of all delegations. It would be vain to speak of progress in the developing countries while half the population of those countries were not able to make their contribution. The centres for which the amendment asked

would be under national direction and would impart some elementary training designed to enable women to adapt themselves to contemporary conditions. The transfer of women from the African bush to modern cities had often resulted in tragedy owing to inadequate preparation.

20. She welcomed the draft resolution on the preparation of a draft declaration on the elimination of discrimination against women (A/C.3/L.1141 and Add.1) and the draft resolution on UNICEF (A/C.3/L.1147 and Add.1).

21. Mr. ENCINAS (Peru) said that the revised text of his delegation's draft resolution on community action (A/C.3/L.1121/Rev.1) incorporated many of the amendments which had been submitted. The new fourth preambular paragraph placed that emphasis on the link between community development and land reform which appeared to underlie the amendments submitted by Bulgaria and Cuba (A/C.3/L.1158) and by Hungary (A/C.3/L.1160). His delegation accepted the general idea of that link but could not fully share the views of the USSR and other delegations which appeared to regard land reform as the sole purpose of community action. If it was found that the ideas expressed in the debate were not fully reflected in the revised text, he would be prepared to make further adjustments in the interest of achieving a universally acceptable draft.

22. Mrs. LEFLEROVA (Czechoslovakia), referring to the Peruvian draft resolution, observed that community development was sometimes over-emphasized. It would be wrong merely to promote initiative without setting any specific development targets in the interests of which initiative was to be mobilized. Community action could achieve no substantial results in an area where the basic prerequisite for development did not exist. The first essential was land reform on democratic principles. Experience had shown that community development alone did not result in higher levels of living. Her delegation would accordingly be able to support the Peruvian draft resolution, only if the amendments submitted by Bulgaria and Cuba and by Hungary were incorporated.

23. She welcomed the revised draft resolution on the world social situation, which would inter alia draw the Secretariat's attention to the need to study social development in relation to economic development. She fully shared the view expressed in the Tunisian amendments that social advancement was impossible without a major change in outlook and a profound alteration of social structures. The amendments in documents A/C.3/L.1159 and A/C.3/L.1163, too, would improve the text.

24. She welcomed the draft resolutions on the participation of women in national social and economic development, and on housing, building and planning (A/C.3/L.1140/Rev.1). With regard to the latter, it should be noted that the State would have a major role to play in the provision of high-quality, cheap housing. The draft resolution concerning a proposed declaration on the elimination of discrimination against women merited full support. Despite the efforts of the United Nations, women were still not playing their full part in the national life of many countries and discrimination in law and in fact still existed. The declaration should deal with the legal status of women, with the role of women in a changing world, and with the economic, social and educational aspects of the

problem. She was opposed to the Netherlands amendment (A/C.3/L.1164), which would weaken the text.

25. Her delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution on capital punishment. In Czechoslovakia that form of punishment was applied only in exceptional cases. She did not think that the drafting of a convention on racial discrimination would prevent the Commission on Human Rights from giving due attention to the report on capital punishment.

26. Her delegation endorsed the draft resolution on UNICEF (A/C.3/L.1147 and Add.1), and that calling for African representation in the Commission on Human Rights (A/C.3/L.1152). With regard to the latter proposal, she recalled that, as far back as the eleventh session of the General Assembly, Czechoslovakia had pointed out that the Council's composition no longer reflected the structure of membership in the United Nations.

27. Mr. GOODHART (United Kingdom) stated that his delegation would support the two draft resolutions on the advancement of women (A/C.3/L.1141 and Add.1 and A/C.3/L.1135/Rev.2). Women had an essential role to play in balanced economic and social development. It had some doubts, however, about the wisdom of preparing a multitude of declarations, each setting forth a particular aspect of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and it therefore endorsed the Netherlands amendment, under which a draft declaration on discrimination against women would be prepared only if the Commission on the Status of Women agreed that it was desirable.

28. His delegation, which had already expressed its admiration for the work of UNICEF in the general debate, would support draft resolution A/C.3/L.1147 and Add.1. The draft resolution on housing, building and planning also merited support. His delegation regarded the draft resolution on the world social situation as a well-balanced call for action but it could not support the Tunisian amendments. There was a great variety of attitudes and social structures in the developing countries and it was hardly appropriate to call for "a major change in outlook and a profound alteration of social structures" in a text intended to be applicable to most diverse conditions. Above all, the criticism implied in the amendments might well give offence. He welcomed the Australian sub-amendments (A/C.3/L.1162), which were couched in more acceptable terms.

29. His delegation welcomed the Peruvian draft resolution on community action but could not accept the amendments submitted by Bulgaria and Cuba and by Hungary. The three delegations in question were hardly qualified to advocate the benefits of land reform and agricultural planning. Bulgaria's agricultural production had declined sharply in recent years, despite a plan adopted in 1958 calling for a three-fold increase in output, and it had been found necessary to enact a law under which it was a criminal offence to feed bread to livestock. Cuba's production of sugar was the lowest since 1940 and prices had therefore risen steeply. Hungary, which had exported 500,000 tons of grain before the Second World War, was now trying to buy 800,000 tons of that product from the United States.

30. His Government favoured an increase in the membership of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the provision of seats for new Member States. He would accordingly

vote in favour of the draft resolution advocating increased African membership in the Commission on Human Rights (A/C.3/L.1152).

31. Mr. KULARATNE (Ceylon) supported the Peruvian draft resolution on community action. In his country, community action was a traditional method of solving social and economic problems. A number of societies and co-operatives were bringing together men and women to work in various ways for their own betterment and for the improvement of their villages and towns. He was not entirely happy about the wording of the last preambular paragraph of the draft resolution, and would point out that, in operative paragraph 1, the word "community" should be inserted before the word "action".

32. His delegation would vote in favour of the two draft resolutions dealing with the status of women (A/C.3/L.1135/Rev.2 and A/C.3/L.1141 and Add.1). In Ceylon women enjoyed complete equality with men and were widely represented in the professions. Moreover, Ceylon was the only country in the world with a woman Prime Minister. He would point out, however, that the complete emancipation of women had caused certain problems. In some families, both husband and wife were working, while in others both might be unemployed. Women teachers sometimes required extensive periods of maternity leave and their absence was a serious factor in lowering the standards of education. It had also been found that very young children suffered in their home life when both parents were employed.

33. His delegation would give its enthusiastic support to the revised draft resolution on housing, building and planning. Two of the major problems which the Ceylonese Government was endeavouring to solve were landlessness and homelessness. He had been glad to learn that the United Nations was prepared to support a pilot project for housing in his country and he was confident that his Government would make the necessary land available and give the project its full support. As for landlessness, Ceylon's peasants had suffered exploitation at the hands both of colonial rulers and of its own capitalist classes, and a systematic agrarian reform was an urgent necessity. His Government would try to solve the problem by reorganizing land holdings in the villages, and perhaps by adopting a policy of distribution similar to the Indian system under which ownership of land was restricted to fifty acres per head. His delegation would appeal to the Ceylonese Government to send a team to study the agrarian reforms carried out in various socialist countries to which reference had been made in the course of the debate.

34. His delegation had co-sponsored the draft resolution on capital punishment (A/C.3/L.1143/Rev.1). Ceylon had at one time abolished the death penalty and had only reinstituted it after the assassination of its Prime Minister. The death penalty was enforced, however, only in rare instances. His country would always be glad to accept the advice of experts on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders.

35. He attached particular importance to the revised draft resolution on the world social situation (A/C.3/L.1132/Rev.2), which his delegation was co-sponsoring. Its aim was to provide remedies for the ills analysed so ably in the Report on the World Social Situation, 1963. He hoped that the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development would do much to study the social problems of the developing

countries. Those countries, however, needed not only advice and guidance but financial aid. Bilateral aid was precarious; not only could it be withdrawn at short notice but it placed the recipient in a position of dependence. He therefore looked forward to the establishment of a United Nations capital development fund, through which the United Nations would finance development. He hoped that, with the aid of the United Nations and the advanced countries, Ceylon and all the other developing countries would be able to solve their problems, so that their people might live the full life which was the heritage of all human beings.

36. Mrs. NGAPETH (Cameroon) explained that the amendment in document A/C.3/L.1163 to the revised draft resolution on the world social situation was intended to strengthen the text of that resolution, which was of great importance to the developing countries. United Nations assistance had been inadequate and ill-adapted to local conditions; hence there was a need for the local training of cadres. At the same time the amendment was not intended to prejudice the continuance of United Nations fellowships for study abroad. The argument that the amendment should have been submitted in a different Committee, because it dealt with an economic question, was not valid; economic and social aspects were closely interdependent and there could be no viable social development without economic development.

37. Mr. BOURCHIER (Australia) said that his delegation's sub-amendments (A/C.3/L.1162) to the Tunisian amendments involved merely drafting. His delegation was in agreement with the idea underlying the Tunisian amendments but thought that in their present form they were capable of being misunderstood; it could give the impression that major changes were necessary in all cases. The Australian sub-amendments were designed to prevent any such undesirable impression. Furthermore, the expression "new awareness" might be interpreted as implying that the peoples of developing countries lacked awareness, which was certainly not what was intended. He would like to change the wording of point 2 of the Australian sub-amendments, which should now read: "Take all necessary steps to promote a public awareness of the need for the social progress and economic development by which social justice may be achieved."

38. The Tunisian amendments were important, for social and economic development in some developing countries had been hindered by failure on the part of the population to understand the possibilities of social betterment.

39. Mrs. HEROMA (Netherlands), presenting her delegation's amendment (A/C.3/L.1164) to the draft resolution concerning a draft declaration on the elimination of discrimination against women, observed that there were two schools of thought about the value of such a resolution. There were countries where discrimination against women still existed, and there a general resolution could be useful to women's organizations and the like. At the same time, it could be said that the United Nations was already fighting discrimination and that there was a risk of overloading the agenda, which already included several items on discrimination against women. The Netherlands amendment sought to provide a compromise solution by leaving it to the Commission on the Status of Women to decide whether the preparation of such a draft declaration was desirable at the present stage. She hoped that, with the

Netherlands' amendment, the draft resolution would be acceptable.

40. Turning to the revised draft resolution on community action, she said that the Netherlands Government considered community development valuable and the resolution useful as motivation for community development. She would vote in favour of the draft resolution, although she had some reservations concerning the text. She wondered why the expressions "community development" and "community action" were used without the difference, if any, being made clear. Again, the Economic Projections and Programming Centre, referred to in operative paragraph 3, had already been established and she wondered whether the Peruvian delegation's intention was a strengthening of the Centre.

41. The USSR attack on community development had astonished her. The USSR position implied a narrowing of the social field, everything being tied to agrarian reform. Community development embraced land reform as well as industrialization and was a valuable method of achieving social progress.

42. The Netherlands delegation would vote in favour of the revised draft resolution on the world social situation but it could not support the Tunisian amendments. It was not the function of the General Assembly to recommend the alteration of social structures in the developing countries. Moreover the Governments of the under-developed countries already possessed the awareness referred to in point 2 of the Tunisian amendments. The United Kingdom representative had aptly expressed the feelings of the Netherlands delegation on that point. She welcomed the Australian amendment as removing some of the objections to the Tunisian amendment.

43. Her delegation would vote in favour of the revised draft resolution on the participation of women in national social and economic development and of the draft resolution on UNICEF. Support for UNICEF was a matter of faith and she hoped that the Committee would approve the draft resolution unanimously.

44. Mr. SOLODOVNIKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, observed that the United Kingdom representative had said nothing of substance about the amendments proposed by Bulgaria and Cuba and by Hungary to the revised draft resolution on community action. All the fire of his eloquence had been directed against those countries because of their bad harvest. Yet the purchase of wheat showed that the populations of those countries would not starve. The English colonialists were responsible for economic backwardness and hence for the United Nations having to discuss it. There was nothing in the United Nations Charter to say that the United Kingdom could submit amendments and the socialist countries could not. The United Nations was a universal organization and all delegations had a right to express their points of view. The reaction of the United Kingdom representative was not surprising; the United Kingdom did not like the colossal success of the socialist countries, where a bad harvest would not slow down development. The significant point about Cuba was not the price of sugar but the fact that Cuba had thrown out foreign capital. He appealed to the United Kingdom delegation to adopt a more constructive attitude.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.