



Chairman: Mrs. Helvi SIPILÄ (Finland).

AGENDA ITEM 53

World social situation: report of the Secretary-General (continued) (A/8380, A/8403, chap. XV, sect. A; A/C.3/XXVI/CRP.1, E/CN.5/456, E/CN.5/456/Add.1 and Corr.1, Add.2 to 4, Add.5 and Corr.1, Add.6 and 7, Add.8 and Corr.1, Add.9 to 16, A/C.3/L.1853/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.1855)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS
(continued)

1. Mr. ČALOVSKI (Yugoslavia), introducing the revised draft resolution A/C.3/L.1853/Rev.1 on behalf of the sponsors, drew attention to two corrections which should be made to the text. In operative paragraph 8, the word "over-all" should be inserted before "review and appraisal", and in operative paragraph 10 (iii), in the English text the word "reform" before the words "aimed at securing just distribution" should be in the plural.
2. The revised text had been drafted following an informal meeting between the sponsors of the draft resolution and the delegations which wished to amend the text. The sponsors had done their best to incorporate all the suggestions made to them, in order to produce a text which would be acceptable to all.
3. As far as the first preambular paragraph was concerned, the delegations of Poland and Mongolia would have liked the General Assembly to recall also resolution 2543 (XXIV), concerning the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, but the sponsors had thought that, in order not to overburden the text, only basic resolutions should be recalled.
4. The second and third preambular paragraphs had remained unchanged.
5. With regard to the fourth preambular paragraph, as several delegations had pointed out that progress had been made in some areas of social development, the sponsors had endeavoured to take account of the fact by replacing the words "the causes" by the words "many causes". At the beginning of the paragraph, too, it had been made clear that the reference was to the "world" social situation. The suggestion made by the delegation of Hungary had been taken into account, not in the preamble as that delegation had wished, but in operative paragraph 10 (iii), where the phrase "reforms aimed at securing just distribution of national wealth and income" had been added.
6. Several delegations had proposed the addition of another paragraph to the preamble. The sponsors had preferred to incorporate the ideas in that paragraph in the operative part of the draft resolution.
7. Some delegations had expressed reservations concerning operative paragraph 1 and had pointed out that they had been unable to endorse certain provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1581 B (L). That resolution gave instructions concerning the International Development Strategy which should be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Moreover, it had been adopted without opposition, by both the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council. It would therefore seem difficult not to agree that the Assembly should endorse the provisions of that resolution. The sponsors had thought it best not to refer to part A or part C of the resolution, because part A provided for a study to be made for the fifty-second session of the Council and it would therefore be premature to mention it; part C added nothing to part B and had in any case been adopted by a very small majority in the Commission for Social Development. Lastly, despite the suggestions by some delegations, that resolution had not been added to those which were recalled in the first preambular paragraph because they were not at the same level.
8. The delegations of Australia, Mongolia and Poland had submitted suggestions for operative paragraph 2 but had withdrawn them after hearing the arguments adduced by the sponsors.
9. With regard to operative paragraph 3, on the suggestion of a number of delegations the phrase "and within countries to accelerate economic and social reforms" had been added after the words "developed and developing countries". In the English text the term "levels of living" had been retained in preference to "standards of living", to conform to the usual practice.
10. In operative paragraph 4, the words "other" and "principal" had given rise to some difficulties. The reference was to policies of oppression and exploitation which were contrary to the Charter and to United Nations resolutions, and which were detrimental to social development. It was for that reason that they were the principal obstacles to development efforts.
11. Operative paragraph 6 was of crucial importance. A great number of informal consultations had been held before the original text had been prepared and the Group of 77 had unanimously approved the final text. Some developed countries had had the impression that, in the interpretation of the sponsors, the "obligation" mentioned

in the paragraph was compulsory. It was obvious to the sponsors, however, that the obligation was not of a legal nature. It came from the will of the States themselves and, in that sense, it was an obligation of principle, or a moral obligation. The countries which were unable to attain the objectives set forth in the Strategy had only to explain their situation. For other countries, there should be no problems. Two amendments had been made in the revised text of that paragraph. The words “the provisions for” had been inserted before the phrase “the transfer of science”, since no specific objective had been set in that field. Secondly, the phrase “and, where possible, to exceed those targets” had been added after the words “embodied in the Strategy”. The English text might seem ambiguous, because it might be understood that what was essential was to exceed the targets. The sponsors, however, intended the phrase “which is essential” to apply to all that preceded it, as in the previous text.

12. Some amendments had been made to operative paragraphs 7 and 8. The sponsors hoped that they would satisfy the delegations which had submitted suggestions.

13. With regard to operative paragraph 10 (i), the sponsors had thought it out of the question to delete the last sentence, since the truth it expressed was so obvious as to be beyond all doubt. In paragraph 10 (ii), the word “liberal” which had appeared in the previous text had been replaced by “positive”. On the suggestions of a large number of delegations, some important additions had been made to the text. In paragraph 10 (iii), the word “generally” had been inserted before “been accompanied” and the phrase “reforms aimed at securing just distribution of national wealth and income” had been inserted after “agrarian reforms”. Paragraph 10 (iv) was unchanged. In the English text of paragraph 10 (v) the word “standard” had been replaced by “level”, in the interest of uniform terminology. Paragraph 10 (vi) now had an additional sentence concerning the part which could be played by the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development. Paragraph 10 (vii) was still being discussed. The sponsors of the draft resolution would inform the Committee when a final text had been drawn up. Paragraph 10 (viii) was new, it had been added in the light of suggestions made by the delegation of Uruguay. The last four subparagraphs of operative paragraph 10 remained unchanged.

14. The CHAIRMAN invited members to submit forthwith any formal amendments they might wish to present, in order to speed up the Committee’s work.

15. Mr. YAÑEZ-BARNUEVO (Spain) said that his delegation was not yet in a position to express an opinion on the draft resolution as a whole, since a number of corrections had only just been made to it. It would like, however, to draw the Committee’s attention to operative paragraph 8, in which the Secretary-General was requested “to submit the next *Report on the World Social Situation* to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session . . . bearing in mind the provisions of this resolution, the deliberations on this item at the present General Assembly session and the fiftieth session of the Economic and Social Council”. The Spanish delegation had made an informal proposal to

the sponsors that they should add to that paragraph a phrase indicating that the deliberations on the item not only at the present General Assembly session but also at the twenty-second session of the Commission for Social Development would be borne in mind. Its suggestion had apparently not been accepted, since reference was made to the Economic and Social Council in the revised version and not to the Commission for Social Development. Spain was a member of the Commission for Social Development but not of the Economic and Social Council, and it was in the Commission that it had been able to express its views. The Spanish delegation would therefore be glad if the sponsors would consider the possibility of including a reference to the twenty-second session of the Commission for Social Development at the end of operative paragraph 8.

16. Moreover, a grammatical correction should be made to the Spanish text of that paragraph. The words “*que tengan lugar*” should be deleted or replaced by a more neutral expression such as “*celebradas*” or “*mantenidas*”.

17. Mr. DE LATAILLADE (France) pointed out that, in operative paragraph 10 (ii), reference was made to “developed countries” in the English text and “*pays riches*” in the French text. The two texts should be brought into line and “*pays riches*” should be replaced by “*pays développés*” in the French text.

18. Mrs. DAES (Greece) said that she would like the words “and recommendations” to be added after the word “conclusions” in the first part of operative paragraph 10; that would more accurately describe the contents of subparagraphs (i) to (xii).

19. Mr. FASSOU (Guinea) pointed out that, during the discussions of the working group, his delegation had made a substantive proposal that the draft resolution should include a reference to the effects of the present monetary and financial crisis on the social development of countries, particularly the developing countries. The purpose of the amendment was to draw the attention of the Economic and Social Council to the gravity of the situation. His delegation had subsequently modified its amendment, in the light of a suggestion made by the representative of Turkey, and now proposed the following text:

“*Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council in its consideration of the monetary and financial situation pay special attention to the influence of the current crisis on social progress in different countries, particularly in developing countries, and report to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session on the results of the above-mentioned consideration.”

The paragraph would be inserted after operative paragraph 9; it would become paragraph 10 and the present paragraph 10 would become paragraph 11.

20. Mrs. MIRONOVA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed a small amendment to operative paragraph 4. Wars of aggression should be included among the obstacles to social progress and development. She would therefore like the words “aggressive wars” to be added before “colonialism” at the beginning of operative paragraph 4.

21. Mr. ESCOREL (Brazil) said that his delegation would be prepared to support the draft resolution if two amendments were made. It would be grateful if the sponsors would consider the possibility of replacing the word "several" by the word "certain" in the fourth preambular paragraph.
22. Furthermore, his delegation proposed that the words "in overpopulated countries" at the end of operative paragraph 10 (iii) should be replaced by the words "in countries that considered themselves overpopulated".
23. If those amendments were accepted, his delegation would be able to vote in favour of the draft resolution.
24. Mrs. CABALLERO (Mexico) supported the amendments proposed by the Brazilian delegation.
25. Mrs. GERÉB (Hungary) said that the revised text of the draft resolution was a considerable improvement on the original text. She would like, however, to propose two amendments. Firstly, in operative paragraph 10 (ii), the clause beginning "achieved, among other means, through a drastic reduction" and ending with the word "proportions" should be deleted and replaced by "increased by a general and complete disarmament". Indeed, the resources necessary for social development already existed, but they should be increased. With her delegation's amendment the text would have a much wider scope, since it would not refer exclusively to the rich countries. All countries could reduce their military expenditure and increase their development resources.
26. Secondly, the Hungarian delegation would like the word "generally" in the first sentence of operative paragraph 10 (iii) to be deleted and the words "in a certain number of countries" to be added after the word "accompanied".
27. Mr. PALZA (Bolivia) said that, in its present form, operative paragraph 10 (viii) merely drew attention to the fact that the outflow of qualified personnel from developing countries seriously hampered social and economic development in those countries. He therefore suggested that a phrase should be added to the paragraph stating that the developed countries should take the necessary steps to prevent such an outflow.
28. Mr. ARNAUD (Argentina) supported the amendments proposed by the representative of Brazil. He too wished to submit two amendments: in operative paragraph 3 the word "progressive" in the phrase "progressive and well co-ordinated policies" should be deleted in order to broaden the scope of that phrase. Secondly, in operative paragraph 10 (ii) the words "rational and co-ordinated" should be added before the word "exploitation".
29. Mr. SHLEPAKOV (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that it was regrettable that operative paragraph 10 (vii) did not establish a clearer connexion between the international monetary crisis and the social situation. The subparagraph should be improved, account being taken, in particular, of the amendment proposed by the representative of Guinea.
30. Moreover, it would be logical to transfer operative paragraphs 8 and 9 to the end of the text, to make it quite clear that the next *Report of the World Social Situation* should take into account the provisions, recommendations and conclusions expressed in operative paragraph 10.
31. Mr. AL-SHAWI (Iraq) thanked the sponsors for accepting the amendments proposed by his delegation. He further proposed that the first sentence of operative paragraph 7 should be replaced by the words "Reaffirms the inalienable rights of all peoples and the permanent sovereignty of all countries . . .".
32. The CHAIRMAN asked all the delegations which had proposed amendments to hand the written text to the Secretariat.
33. Mrs. WARZAZI (Morocco) asked whether the amendments in document A/C.3/L.1855 were still valid.
34. Mr. SHLEPAKOV (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) explained that, if the sponsors of the draft resolution agreed to place operative paragraphs 8 and 9 at the end of the draft resolution, as he had proposed, the Ukrainian delegation would withdraw the amendments in document A/C.3/L.1855, since they would no longer be strictly necessary.

The meeting rose at 12.25 p.m.