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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)

GENERAL DEBATE (continued)

1. Miss BENNETT (Jamaica) observed that the outlook for social affairs throughout the world was coloured by the present world monetary situation. It should be remembered that the International Development Strategy accorded special importance to social development, since without social development there could be no stability and therefore no lasting peace.

2. In the field of education, attention must be directed not only to the achievement of functional literacy but also to the development of skills and social awareness among illiterate adults. Illiteracy in itself constituted a major obstacle to the dynamic movement and change essential to development. The problem was particularly acute in rural areas. Scattered communities, traditional ways and the lack of funds prevented literacy workers from obtaining optimum results. Many developing countries needed assistance in the form of incentives to farmers to send their children to school instead of keeping them home to work in the fields. The lack of trained teachers was continuing to set back the efforts of Governments to achieve the goal of universal education for children and young adults.

3. Particular attention should be paid during the Second United Nations Development Decade to health conditions in the developing countries. Poor nutrition and an unhygienic water supply, for example, affected the learning capacity of school-age children and the working capacity of adults and led to increased costs in medical services. It was therefore obvious that although attention to social welfare might seem at first to be costly and non-productive, without a stable social basis for development activities there could be no rapid progress or general growth in the economy of a country. The report under consideration also showed the inadequacy of social security coverage of the rural population and her delegation wished to stress the need to review the concept of social security with a view to making it more relevant to the particular circumstances of the non-urban and non-industrial labour force.

4. The problem of financing low-cost housing for urban and rural populations in the developing countries was of crucial importance to the International Development Strategy. In that regard, the United Nations might well turn its attention to helping the developing countries devise methods whereby individual communities could make maximum use of their local raw materials and, at the same time, improve their living conditions. In order to achieve the latter goal, it was essential to work out separate designs for each community which, while keeping costs to a minimum, would ensure the necessary adaptation to climate and other physical conditions.

5. Another pressing problem was that of the aged. A most unfortunate consequence of economic development in some societies was the breakdown in certain traditional institutions. The weakening of family ties had resulted in the neglect of the aged and acute suffering for a portion of the population that was not always able to care for itself. The economic cost borne by weak economies in providing for the aged could be reduced by efforts to ensure that, during his working life, the individual acquired technical and other skills which would be of value to him in old age and allow him to continue to be socially active and self-reliant after retirement. The United Nations system must be congratulated on the work done to relieve the present situation, but the major effort and initiative must come from individual countries themselves.

6. At the other end of the spectrum was the question of youth. Each nation must harness the resources of youth, something which would necessarily involve difficult decisions and changes of attitude on the part of the older generation. For example, youth would have to participate more widely and meaningfully in the decision-making process. Societies could not afford the spiralling social and economic costs of juvenile delinquency.

7. Conscious of those considerations, her own country had been making enormous efforts to expand and improve its community development programmes and was greatly encouraged by the degree of success so far achieved.

8. The United Nations, through its appropriate agencies, had been doing commendable work in the sphere of narcotics and psychotropic drugs. However, she felt that, while the system of drug abuse control should be strengthened, it was even more essential to take preventive measures to eliminate the social conditions which led to drug abuse.

9. In conclusion, she stressed that a unified approach to the problems of social and economic development was indispensable, for, in the final analysis, economic development was in a very real sense concerned with the improvement of the individual.

10. Miss TEDAM (Ghana) said that the report before the Committee offered a forceful presentation of the unsatisfactory social conditions prevailing in many areas of the world, particularly in the developing countries. All those concerned with human development—Governments and international civil servants alike—had failed so far to consider the social and economic elements of development in relation to each other. Too often development had been viewed in quantitative terms, and considerations of human quality had been neglected. The traditional indices of development had been *per capita* income, gross national product, a favourable trade balance and so on. But the old concept that economic development would necessarily bring social development in its wake had not been borne out. Economic progress properly directed could be a major vehicle for social progress but where the two were unrelated the former served only to promote and perpetuate social injustice. Her delegation therefore welcomed the new approach to social questions in the United Nations. The integrated treatment of social and economic questions was still only a concept, but it was to be hoped that in future years the international community would succeed in harmonizing economic and social efforts at every stage—planning, study and implementation. In her delegation's view, economic progress must be promoted as the base for social progress.

11. Chapter III of the report, dealing with the social situation in Africa (E/CN.5/456/Add.3), revealed many inadequacies. In the field of health, for instance, there was one doctor for every 25,000 to 50,000 inhabitants. Educational facilities and decent housing were the privilege of a minority. Population growth was outstripping economic development. Urbanization was breeding crimes hitherto unknown in Africa. Although major breakthroughs had been made in the fight against certain endemic diseases, more needed to be done to reduce infant mortality. In striving to overcome social and economic backwardness in developing countries the vital need, according to the report, was for well-conceived and realistic development plans to raise *per capita* income and reduce social, ethnic and geographic inequalities. Interrelated health, housing and birth control programmes should all have their part in such plans. What the report had passed over, however, were the deep-rooted causes of social inequalities in the developing countries. For instance, in Africa scant attention had been paid to the economic legacies of colonial Powers which had served to perpetuate class distinctions and educational policies fostering elitist groups. The traditional system of land tenure in some African countries militated against an equitable distribution of resources and even agricultural progress. In many countries the political system held back economic and social development. If such ills were to be remedied, they must be clearly diagnosed and she hoped that the Social Development Division would provide some answers in its future studies. It was pertinent to ask, for example, why some situations bred more criminals than others and why some countries had fewer narcotics problems than others. Valuable lessons could be learned from other countries' experiences.

12. With regard to the means by which countries should seek to realize their social aims, she said that the social aspects of the International Development Strategy required emphasis and elaboration before they could provide full

guidance for social planners. The Strategy should be supplemented by a number of sectoral substrategies dealing with the various social fields. FAO, for example, had an Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development. Why should there not be a strategy for education as well? Despite the inadequacy of its financial resources, unfavourable commodity prices and a heavy debt-servicing burden, her Government was making a determined effort to solve its social problems, which were those commonly found in developing countries. But the dimensions of those problems, as the report recognized, were vast and their solution would require international action. It was therefore to be hoped that the proper emphasis would be placed on social issues during the Second Development Decade.

13. Miss GROZA (Romania) said that the *1970 Report on the World Social Situation* was a considerable improvement on earlier reports. Since social development and economic progress were interdependent, she noted with satisfaction the indication given by the Director of the Social Development Division at the 1824th meeting that greater importance would in future be attached to the relationship between the two. Consideration should also be given to another factor which was capable of accelerating or retarding social development, namely, political systems and the role of social organization, particularly trade unions.

14. At the same time, a careful analysis should be made both of the principal social forces which channelled human endeavours towards accelerated progress and higher levels of living and of those which, because they conflicted with the trends of objective historical evolution, placed obstacles in the way of progress. Such an analysis would highlight the increasing role played in social development by the working class, i.e. the class which created material wealth and was the most progressive force in the world. Similarly, it should take into account the activities of the agricultural population and other social strata, including the intelligentsia, since they played a special role in the process of social development. The social forces of the developing countries, which were struggling against the economic dependence and social under-development caused by years of colonial domination, were of the greatest importance in the evolution of the world of today.

15. One of the merits of the report was the emphasis which it placed on the grave threat to social development brought about by the widening of the gap between the wealthy and the developing countries. Vigorous action should be taken to close that gap and eliminate the phenomenon of under-development and to support the efforts of the developing countries to achieve progress. Effective steps to reduce and ultimately put an end to the arms race would make a particularly effective contribution in that regard, for they would release enormous resources which could then be used to rectify the increasingly disturbing imbalance between the degree of development of the industrialized countries and that of the developing nations.

16. Since social development required rational utilization of all human resources, it was important to enable women and youth to realize their potential to the full. The report stated that in developing as well as in some developed countries women were employed mainly in agriculture. In

many cities in the developed capitalist countries, the percentage of women employed in the industrial and trade sectors was still very low. A more comprehensive study should therefore be made of the special social problems of women. Similarly, emphasis should be placed on the question of youth. The younger generation was now a powerful force in support of progress, democracy and peace. Millions of young people everywhere wished to take an active part in building a better society and a more just world free from the spectre of war, oppression and exploitation. The desire of young people to participate in social and political life at all levels demonstrated their growing sense of responsibility and their awareness of the increasingly important role they were called upon to play. In the future, young people would undoubtedly be faced by a succession of even more fundamental transformations in society and her delegation was convinced that it was the duty of the United Nations to pay greater attention to the education of youth in the spirit of the lofty humanitarian ideals of peace and understanding between peoples. The United Nations should explore the possibility of organizing periodic meetings devoted to youth and establishing within the Organization bodies which would deal systematically with youth questions.

17. Her delegation had been among those which had sponsored the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples adopted in 1965, (General Assembly resolution 2037 (XX)), as well as resolutions concerning the education of young people in the spirit of respect for human rights. It therefore wished to see an increase in United Nations activities concerning youth. The statement by the Director of the Social Development Division (1824th meeting) justified her hope that at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly it would be possible to engage in a debate on matters concerning youth, to consider the question of how the 1965 Declaration was being implemented, and to give the highest priority to an appropriate item on youth.

18. She was gratified to note the efforts made in the report to reflect achievements in social development in Eastern European socialist countries and the Soviet Union. The economic and social development of her own country was the result of intensive creative activity on the part of the Communist Party and the Romanian people. In the period 1966 to 1970 Romania had made remarkable advances. By the end of 1970 for example, national income had increased by 45 per cent compared with 1966 and the average rate of growth during the period had been 7.5 per cent per annum. *Per capita* income had increased by 36 per cent and the consumption fund, which was designed to provide for the material and cultural needs of the population, had increased by 30 per cent. It had thus been possible to increase real wages by 20 per cent. Special emphasis had been placed on housing and approximately 660,000 new units had been built to meet the needs of 2 million people, or almost one tenth of the population. At the same time, a larger portion of the national budget, i.e. 25 per cent, had been allocated for social and cultural needs. In that connexion, she stated that important steps had recently been taken to increase family allowances.

19. Notable improvements had also been made in education. Under laws enacted in recent years, more emphasis

was being placed on practical activities in the curricula of secondary schools and universities so that students would be able to combine their theoretical knowledge with the practical use of modern tools and equipment. Great importance was also attached to specialized technical and vocational instruction. The aim of the new laws was to adapt education to the requirements of contemporary scientific and technological advances and to introduce in 1971 a national system of further training for all workers. Moreover, young people were constantly being urged to participate in the economic, political, social and cultural life of the country. A Commission headed by the President of the Council of State and consisting of the most renowned Romanian specialists in various fields had been set up to consider future objectives. The rapid development of the Romanian economy during the new five-year plan would thus lead to a still higher level of living. The consumption fund *per capita* would increase by 36 per cent by the end of the period and real wages by 20 per cent, while more than a million jobs would be created in the modern sectors of the economy. In the same period, more than 2.5 million persons would be provided with new housing.

20. In conclusion, she said that all the matters raised in the current discussion were of exceptional importance both for the present and the future of mankind, and that more strenuous efforts to promote the social progress of all peoples were accordingly required.

21. Mrs. IDER (Mongolia) noted that the authors of the *1970 Report on the World Social Situation*, in concluding that the general situation had deteriorated and that the gap between the developed and the developing countries and between rich and poor population strata was widening, had failed to take into account the differences between existing social and economic systems. During the period under review, the socialist countries had made great strides in raising the material welfare and cultural level of their peoples by increasing real incomes, by introducing compulsory secondary education and other improvements in their educational systems, by further improving public health and maternal and child welfare services, and by equalizing the earnings of manual and non-manual workers and members of co-operatives. In the developed capitalist countries, on the other hand, that period had been characterized by increased unemployment, a decline in the standard of living of the lower and middle classes, the ruin of small and medium farmers and a general deterioration of the situation of the working masses. Even in the most developed of those countries, unemployment, poverty and uncertainty about the future were the lot of millions; capitalist exploitation of the working masses had intensified and wage increases had lagged far behind the growth of labour productivity rates and still further behind the growth of monopolistic profits.

22. A cause of profound concern to the peoples of the world was the economic, social and cultural backwardness of many countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, due to prolonged colonial and imperialist domination; despite the efforts of those countries, the gap between them and the highly developed capitalist countries was constantly widening. Thus the share of the African and Asian countries in world industrial output had remained substantially

unchanged during the 1960s and development in the industrial sector had been largely confined to mining. The economic gap was further illustrated by the fact that the share of the developing countries in the exports of the non-socialist world had declined from 33.7 per cent in 1950 to 20 per cent in 1969; imports had declined from 29.5 per cent to 19 per cent during the same period. According to a supplement to the *Far Eastern Economic Review* for 1969, the balance of payments deficit of the third world would amount to \$24,000 million by 1975 and to \$32,000 million by 1980. The relatively low foreign trade expansion rates in those countries constituted one of the main reasons for their backwardness, and their difficulties were further aggravated by the unilateral currency, trade and financial measures taken by the United States.

23. The anachronistic social and economic attitudes which persisted in most of the developing countries constituted another factor retarding their economic and social development. The imperialist monopolies were using those antiquated structures to obtain enormous profits at the cost of relatively small investments, with the result that the developing countries, despite their unlimited natural and human resources, were obliged to resort to external sources of financing. Those weak economic foundations and the low social and cultural levels inherited from the colonial past had an adverse effect on social development.

24. Although the report contained voluminous material and statistical data illustrating the deplorable situation of many developing countries in such areas as health, education, nutrition and housing, it gave no analysis of the causes of that situation or of the reasons for its deterioration. Since the causes of a situation must be known if it was to be remedied, the authors of the next report should make a detailed analysis of the causes of backwardness, with special reference to the adverse effects of the domination of foreign capital over the economy of those countries, of their unequal position in world trade and of the retention of antiquated social and economic attitudes.

25. It was also regrettable that the authors of the report had failed to analyse the experience of countries which had successfully solved or were solving their social problems, since such an analysis could serve as a basis for specific recommendations to promote social advancement. The recommendations in the report were indeed vague and indefinite, and it was to be hoped that the next report would contain clear and specific recommendations for the solution of pressing social problems, especially in the developing countries.

26. Moreover, the report was tendentious and mainly reflected the views of Western sociologists. To take only one example, instead of analysing the experience of certain countries of tropical Africa in developing the co-operative movement on communal land, for the benefit of all agricultural workers, the authors had chosen to discuss the distribution of communal land among individual owners. Accordingly, her delegation wished to propose that subsequent reports on the world social situation should be compiled by authors representing different social and economic systems, so as to reflect world social conditions more realistically. It would also be useful to organize study tours for experts in social matters from the developing

countries to countries which had successfully solved or were solving social problems and to hold seminars for an exchange of views on those topics between different countries.

27. Turning to chapter I of the report dealing with social development in Asia (E/CN.5/456/Add.1 and Corr.1), she pointed out that it did not reflect the situation in the whole continent since it failed to mention the socialist countries of Asia, which had freed themselves from colonial domination, had abolished exploitation of man by man and had set up a new order based on communal ownership of the means of production and on the power of the workers. Since those countries had achieved great success in improving the general well-being of their peoples, it would have been useful to analyse their experience in the solution of social problems, particularly with regard to land reform.

28. The authors of the report had also shown a lack of objectivity in failing to mention the war of aggression which the United States had been waging for many years against the peoples of Indo-China and the terrible effects of that war on the social development of countries which had fallen victim to imperialist aggression. On the other hand, they had seen fit to refer to the influx of foreign capital and hard currency into certain Asian countries, which allegedly promoted economic growth but in fact only enriched a small segment of the population of those countries and aggravated the situation of the overwhelming majority.

29. That chapter, like the report as a whole, contained no analysis of social and economic attitudes and no specific recommendations. The document would have been really valuable if the voluminous data it contained had been critically analysed and if recommendations had been prepared on the basis of that analysis. Thus, the authors described at length the attempts of Asian countries to solve the land problem and concluded that their efforts had been unsuccessful; yet no mention was made of the successful solution of land problems in the socialist countries of Asia.

30. With regard to her own country's social development, she pointed out that before the anti-imperialist revolution of 1921, Mongolia had been a backward feudal country, with an economy based entirely on stockbreeding and with a population of cattle-herders mercilessly exploited by feudalists and foreign traders. Only 1 per cent of the population had been literate, and the overwhelming majority had lived in wretched poverty and semi-starvation. After casting off the foreign yoke and choosing the path of non-capitalistic development, Mongolia had successfully carried out profound social and economic reforms and had radically altered the class structure of society. With the assistance of the Soviet Union, the Mongolian people had made a historic leap from feudalism to socialism, thus putting into practice Lenin's theory that formerly backward countries could by-pass the capitalist stage of development in the advance towards socialism. Mongolia was now a flourishing socialist State with a modern industry, an expanding agriculture and a dynamic culture.

31. But the road to progress had been hard, for everything had had to be created anew. In the agricultural sector, the first step had been to deprive the feudalists of their political

and economic Power by confiscating their herds and distributing them among small cattle farms. The Government had pursued a flexible policy towards the rest of the agricultural population, limiting the ownership of the rich, supporting the medium-scale breeders, and giving assistance to the hired hands and the poorest cattlemen. At the same time, State farms and mechanized cattle stations had been set up to show the cattlemen the advantages of large-scale socialist farms. Mongolia had strictly observed the principle of gradual and consistent progress from the lowest co-operative structures to the highest: the initial farm, that of consumer co-operatives grouping the vast majority of stockbreeders, had been introduced in the mid-1930s and had prevailed for over 20 years, when it had given way to large-scale co-operative farms based on communal ownership and on socialist principles of production and distribution of income.

32. Economic and cultural backwardness and feudal and religious pressures had had a most adverse effect on the development of education in Mongolia. In the early days of the revolution, the practically total absence of trained teachers, premises, equipment, text-books and curricula and the fiercely obstructive attitude of the feudalists and the priesthood had made it extremely difficult for the Government to launch a literacy campaign and to establish a school system. Nevertheless, 12 primary schools and one seven-year school had been set up in the first two post-revolutionary years. A characteristic feature of the educational programme, related to the nomadic way of life of the Mongolian people, had been the establishment of a network of boarding schools, where children had been given free food, clothing, text-books and other facilities; those schools had gradually become very popular among the stockbreeding families. In subsequent years, illiteracy had been completely eradicated, 66 per cent of the population between the ages of 12 and 49 now had over four years of schooling, compulsory limited secondary education of all school-age children had been achieved and polytechnical and vocational training had been introduced. By 1970, there had been 2,077 students for every 10,000 citizens, 1,920 of them in general schools, 89 in specialized schools and 63 in higher education.

33. Mongolia, which had formerly had no industrial enterprises, now had hundreds, 130 of them brought into service in the past decade alone. The power, mining, metal-working, animal product, light, food and other industries now accounted for 34 per cent of the gross national product and for about half of the country's exports and of its retail trade.

34. Pre-revolutionary Mongolia had not had a single medical establishment, thousands had died in plague, typhoid and smallpox epidemics and the infant mortality rate had been 50 per cent. The first State hospital had been set up immediately after the revolution, the first regional hospitals had been opened in 1929, and medical schools had been established in subsequent years. The country now had a wide network of free health services, with one doctor per 560 inhabitants and 94.3 hospital beds per 10,000. The general mortality rate had dropped sharply and infant mortality had decreased eightfold as against the pre-revolutionary figure.

35. Socialist ownership of the means of production in all economic sectors was the basic prerequisite for just distribution and for rises in the material well-being and cultural level of all the people. In the past decade in Mongolia, public funds had increased by 30 per cent, the real income of the population by 60 per cent and the earnings of manual and non-manual workers by 18.4 per cent, while the income of workers in co-operatives had doubled. A number of measures had been taken to increase the earnings of low-income workers, to reduce their income tax, to raise prices in the animal product industry and to increase allowances for mothers of large families. The funds allocated for education, health and various allowances were constantly increasing, and now represented about two fifths of the cash earnings of the population. Every citizen of the Republic was entitled to material assistance in old age and in the event of disability, sickness or loss of the breadwinner.

36. Those achievements did not mean that Mongolia had solved all its social problems. On the contrary, it was determined to find solutions in the near future for a series of problems, including the improvement of the organization and management of the economy, further improvement of the health and education systems and of the quality of teacher training and the raising of the general educational level of young people engaged in material production.

37. Mr. LAURENT (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) said that the sixteenth session of the Conference of FAO, due to open in Rome on 6 November 1971, would offer member States an excellent opportunity to consider proposals to facilitate agricultural development in the framework of the Second United Nations Development Decade. Many of the proposals which were normally made at the Conference had a considerable bearing on issues debated in the Third Committee. The World Indicative Plan was of paramount importance among FAO's initiatives in economic and social analysis and planning. Following decisions taken at the fifteenth session of the Conference, the Plan had now evolved into a Perspective Study of Agricultural Development. The methodology had been refined and an important place had been given to the social objectives of the Strategy. Co-operation with the regional economic commissions of the United Nations, the ILO and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development had been strengthened. The data in the study relating to Latin America already provided an insight into changes in the pattern of income distribution.

38. Another matter currently receiving the sustained attention of FAO and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development was the social implications of the "green revolution". It was agreed that the "second-generation" difficulties inherent in the introduction of high-yield strains of cereals threatened to jeopardize the success of the scientific breakthrough if they were not controlled. The social and institutional implications had therefore to be studied side by side with the technological and it had been deemed advisable to establish an advisory panel for international agricultural research with the assistance of IBRD, of foundations and UNDP. Moreover a number of case studies had been launched in the field of co-operation with ILO and ECLA; some of those would determine the effects of mechanization not only on

productivity but also on labour displacement. Many of the findings of such studies would be discussed at the end of 1971 during a regional symposium on the social and economic implications of the green revolution in Asia and the Far East, which would be held in India from 23 November to 3 December 1971.

39. Both FAO's two-year work programme and its six-year medium-term programme—to be discussed at the Conference—showed an increasing emphasis on an improved quality of life. A prerequisite of improvement was the need for a quantitative and qualitative balance between food production and demographic growth. Not all the endeavours undertaken in that connexion had been in vain; the results in Asia had been worth while, as the *1970 Report on the World Social Situation* attested in chapter XI (see E/CN.5/456/Add.11). One activity in that sphere which was deserving of mention was the strategy in favour of the production and consumption of edible proteins which had been prepared at the request of the Second Committee and the General Assembly by a panel of experts with the participation of the FAO/WHO/UNICEF Protein Advisory Group. Together with UNICEF and WHO, FAO would continue to offer its services to Governments in the planning and implementation of projects for applied nutrition, home economics and food technology.

40. Another report to be considered by the Conference of FAO was the report of the Special Committee on Agrarian Reform, which contained a critical analysis of the lessons of the First United Nations Development Decade and presented a plan of action for the Second. It also made specific recommendations to FAO, which had submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-sixth session its fifth report on the progress of the Reform.¹ FAO was actively involved in various field projects dealing with numerous aspects of agrarian reform. It had recently assigned experts on agrarian questions, including resettlement and nomadism, to each of its five regional offices, for

the purpose of advising Governments. The task of FAO personnel was, of course, purely advisory; the political aspects of any given question could only be decided by the Government concerned.

41. In the matter of rural education, FAO was being guided by the conclusions of the FAO/ILO/UNESCO Conference on Agricultural Education held at Copenhagen from 28 July to 8 August 1970. Training was now considered to be one of the prime elements of integrated agricultural development in rural areas. It was provided for youth and adults, both male and female, and took into account the likelihood of job-switching and changes in living conditions. The objective was an educational system that would facilitate social mobility in a changing economy.

42. The problems of unemployment and underemployment, which were expected to grow in rural areas, were closely linked with the problems of youth. But the estimated growth of the rural population and the migration to the cities in search of employment, particularly by youth, would have incalculable effects on the success of the International Development Strategy. The possible elements of a solution would seem to lie in the decentralization of industries and their location in rural communities and the establishment of a more equitable society based on truly democratic institutions. The FAO Programme of Work and Budget for 1971-1972 stressed activities linked with the themes of "Mobilization of Human Resources" and "Action for Development", which would be undertaken, as in the past, in co-operation with non-governmental organizations and the World Food Programme.

43. In co-operation with the United Nations and interested Governments, FAO had begun an effort to replace plants from which narcotics were derived by other cash crops. The success of that initiative would require economic and institutional action at the international level.

¹ For a summary of the report, see document E/4617 and Corr.1 and 2.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.