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Chairman: Mrs. Mara RADIĆ (Yugoslavia).

AGENDA ITEM 49

World social situation: report of the Secretary-General (A/6703 and Corr.1, chap. VI, sect. III and chap. XI, sect. I; A/C.6826, E/4324 and Corr.1)

GENERAL DEBATE

1. Mrs. THORSSON (Secretariat)^{1/} paid a warm tribute to Miss Henderson, her predecessor in her present post of Director of the Social Development Division.
2. In its resolution 1139 (XLI) on reappraisal of the role of the Social Commission, the Economic and Social Council had expressed in very clear terms what might be called the "new look" in the work of the United Nations family of organizations in the social field. In her view, that should mainly involve a more direct and dynamic relationship, in theory and practice, between policies and action in the social sectors and over-all development problems. The interdependence of the two major aspects of development was emphasized in the redefinition of the role and mandate of the Social Commission, now the Commission for Social Development, under which it was required to give the Council pertinent advice on the whole range of social policy and, in consultation with the specialized agencies and the regional economic commissions, to promote social progress as part of a comprehensive and integrated process of development. It should not be forgotten that technological and economic progress always had social effects, some of which were regrettable and should be avoided. It was also evident that the success of technological and economic measures depended largely on the way they affected society. She thought that it was partly owing to the fact that society had not exercised adequate control over the application of technology that problems such as air and water pollution, urban congestion, slums, and so on, had arisen, problems which in turn radically influenced the psychological climate in which modern man dwelt.

3. She then turned to the main trends in the world social situation, as indicated by the most recent data. Progress was continuing in certain sectors such as health and education, but remained slow in food production, employment and housing. The reduction in infant mortality was particularly encouraging and proved the value of maternal and child health services and immunization, nutrition and hygiene programmes.

4. In education, many countries, especially developing countries, had major difficulties in recruiting and training the teaching personnel they needed, in view of the very rapid rate of increase in school enrolments, which was far greater than the rate of increase in the school-age population. The high birth rates and the decrease in infant mortality rates in those countries were reflected in an increasingly high child dependency rate. Between 1960 and 1965, the world illiteracy rate had declined from 44 to 39 per cent, but the absolute number of adult illiterates had increased by 40 million, reaching the figure of 740 million. Unemployment had generally decreased in the developed countries, but remained high and even appeared to be increasing in the majority of developing countries, especially among school-leavers and young adults.

5. Food and agricultural production in the developing regions was increasing only very slowly and the gap separating them from the developed regions in nutrition and per capita food consumption continued to widen. Housing construction lagged far behind needs; the target of ten new dwelling units per 1,000 inhabitants per year during the United Nations Development Decade had only been reached in a few industrialized countries, while only two or three dwelling units per 1,000 inhabitants had been constructed in many developing countries. The gravity of those problems was compounded in many regions by the overwhelming difficulties caused by urbanization. In Latin America, for example, the average growth rate of the population was 2.5 to 3 per cent per annum and the rate of urbanization was 4 to 6 per cent, while the shantytowns of many countries in the region were growing at a rate of 12 to 15 per cent. The situation varied, of course, from country to country, and it was to be hoped that the experience of both the industrialized countries and those developing countries which managed to advance more rapidly in certain sectors would be useful to others.

6. The 1965 Report on the World Situation^{2/} had pointed out that one of the main difficulties encountered in the implementation of national development plans was the lack of interest shown in them by the population. Active participation by the population in the

^{1/} The complete text of the statement made by the Director of the Social Development Division was circulated as document A/C.3/L.1495.

^{2/} United Nations publication, Sales No.: 66.IV.7.

development process was an indispensable condition for its success. That was the reason for the increasing emphasis on the need for full utilization of the developing countries' human resources. That was not a new idea, but it should be pointed out that Council resolution 1274 (XLIII) of the Economic and Social Council provided for concerted action by the United Nations organizations in that area.

7. The general picture of the social progress achieved during recent years was not very encouraging. Yet it was on the basis of the experience of the first United Nations Development Decade that targets and plans for a possible second Development Decade would be established. In its resolution 1260 (XLIII), the Economic and Social Council had urged the preparation of guidelines and proposals for the period after the current Decade; in its resolution 1261 (XLIII), it had proposed the organization of an international meeting on economic development, which might be of considerable value for the formulation of the "international development strategy". It was, of course, to be hoped that social factors would be fully taken into account in such an exercise.

8. It had often been observed that the limited success of the first United Nations Development Decade had been partly due to the lack of realism shown in establishing a uniform economic target. The interdependence between economic and social measures would have to be taken into account, and the question of whether economic targets deserved the privileged and even exclusive position they had hitherto been given would have to be decided. It should never be forgotten that the ultimate objective of development was to improve the lives of human beings. The Commission for Social Development was increasingly interested in questions of social policy, but it should also concern itself with the effects of various aspects of development on the lives of people and the fabric of society, as well as with the ways in which the inhabitants of the developing countries could play a more active part in promoting social progress and justice.

9. The major aspects of the work of the Commission for Social Development and of the activities of the Social Development Division during the previous year were described in detail in the various reports before the Committee. Equitable distribution of the national wealth was a problem which affected social policy and planning in developing and developed countries alike. The United Nations was currently studying the problem, and in particular its implications for social policy. At its next session, the Commission for Social Development would consider proposals, formulated with the assistance of an Expert Group which had met early in 1967, concerning the work programme in the field of income distribution. Among other things, it would attempt to analyse the major social policies which promoted an equitable distribution of income in countries with different systems and at different stages of development; that work should be of particular interest to planners and those responsible for the formulation of social policy. It was also essential to determine why social services and programmes did not always reach the groups of the population which had most need of them, since

such a situation accentuated the unequal distribution of income. The causes of the chronic poverty which prevailed among certain population groups must also be determined.

10. The Commission and the Economic and Social Council had also emphasized work on the social aspects of industrialization. Proposals for a comprehensive programme in that field had been formulated in consultation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) the specialized agencies and the regional economic commissions. The first phase of the proposed programme would concentrate on operational activities, such as advisory services to Governments on social policy and planning aspects of industrialization. Analysis of information on the social pre-conditions for, obstacles to and consequences of industrialization and their implications for social policy would also be undertaken and the third phase would focus on issues in selected regions with given branches or types of industry. That research was expected to lead to guidelines of practical significance for the developing countries in promoting industrialization and obviating its undesirable effects.

11. The research-training programme on regional development had moved into its operational phase. The programme had been started in 1965, because of concern about the effects of the rapid movement of population from rural to urban areas, the problems of unplanned cities and the consequent dislocations in housing and education. It had been felt that planned economic and social development of regions could shed light on the process and indicate possible solutions. The long-range programme would therefore be based on ten or twelve projects in selected countries and the experience gained would be used for purposes of research and for training technical specialists and administrators; it would thus be possible to arrive at an over-all approach to the problems of development. Preliminary study appeared to confirm that integrated planning could be attempted more realistically at the regional level.

12. In July 1967 preparatory teams had visited eleven development regions in the United Arab Republic, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Pakistan, Japan, Ceylon, Israel, Mexico, Chile and Brazil; similar missions were shortly to be undertaken in six European countries. The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development would play an important role in the research component of the programme. Participating Governments might receive assistance in order to strengthen existing training and research facilities for regional development and give them a more comprehensive character. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) would organize training courses and seminars; it was hoped that it would also assist in the establishment of national institutes to train national personnel and international fellows.

13. The General Assembly had unanimously adopted the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between peoples and the Committee should give every attention to the question of involving young people in the development of their countries. The success or failure of development efforts would depend greatly

on young people. Many developing countries were concerned about the complex problems arising from insufficient education, training and employment opportunities for youth in both urban and rural areas. Many Governments were organizing long-term programmes to meet those needs and they were looking to the United Nations and the specialized agencies for advice and assistance. Although the programme initiated by the Council was still in a very early stage, complete agreement had been reached between the United Nations and the specialized agencies on future practical action in that field. The programme would focus on efforts to deal with the problem of unemployed and underemployed youth in developing countries, by providing work opportunities as well as education and training and by placing the problems within the broader context of development. There was thus a need for national policies and programmes to deal with youth problems. They might include the organization of youth movements and out-of-school education and training programmes. Attention should be drawn to UNDP's interest in the inter-agency programme: it was providing assistance for various youth projects and a series of pilot schemes was currently being planned. Its activities had many economic, social and political implications but the inter-agency programme should help Governments of developing countries to solve some of the problems with which they were increasingly preoccupied.

14. The Conference of Ministers responsible for Social Welfare scheduled for 1968 would be a major development in the social welfare field: it would be the first conference at the ministerial level to be convened by the United Nations in the social field. That in itself indicated Government concern to bring social welfare policies and programmes into the mainstream of over-all development efforts. The consultations held had shown a strong interest among countries at all levels of development in ways of increasing the contribution of social welfare programmes to the raising of levels of living and the mobilization of human resources for national development. Governments were aware that they, rather than voluntary organizations, were responsible for providing effective social welfare services as part of the total development effort. She hoped that the Conference of Ministers would represent an important step forward in the development of national social welfare programmes that were fully responsive to the requirements of rapid socio-economic change and in the strengthening of international co-operation in that field.

15. One of the major points in the Secretary-General's current report on the world social situation (A/6826) concerned the implementation of Council resolution 1139 (XLI) on the reappraisal of the role of the Social Commission. The eighteenth session of the Commission—the first as the Commission for Social Development—had been a particularly fruitful one and the character of its debates and decisions showed that the new body was equipped to deal at a high level of competence with the major issues of social development policy.

16. In connexion with an important point in resolution 1139 (XLI)—the relationship between the work

of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the social field—she noted that the reports prepared by the agencies for the Commission had already proved their usefulness and gave grounds for hope that attention would thus continue to be focused on important social policy questions in the different sectors whose activities were related to general social development. The first of those reports, prepared by the World Health Organization (WHO), had analysed some of the major social questions relating to the extension of health services and had resulted in an important series of conclusions and recommendations by the Commission. The Commission had also decided to give further study to the use of health services and a follow-up report would be considered at the twentieth session. The second agency report, prepared by the International Labour Office, would be before the Commission at its nineteenth session and would be concerned with the creation of job opportunities and the training of cadres in countries undergoing rapid modernization. The Commission considered the reports by the specialized agencies in relation both to the formulation of social policy and to the implementation of practical programmes in social development. The issues thus raised and examined might provide an opportunity for the Commission and the Economic and Social Council "to submit proposals in respect of vital social problems on which the General Assembly might appropriately take action and make recommendations", as requested in General Assembly resolution 2035 (XX). Since those proposals were to be made by the Economic and Social Council in co-operation with the specialized agencies, the machinery for inter-agency consultation and co-ordination had been strengthened.

17. The need for practical assistance to Governments in social development was stressed in Council resolution 1139 (XLI). Field activities had always been of special importance in social development; in fact, they absorbed about two-thirds of the staff resources of the Social Development Division. Nevertheless, the Commission and the Council had recently expressed concern that not enough was being done to meet Governments' needs for technical assistance in their social development efforts. In the last few years, the proportion of United Nations resources devoted to general social development had declined, falling from 17 per cent in 1962 to 12 per cent in 1967. General social development represented only half of the expenditure on social activities, and that proportion might decline further in view of the increases envisaged in housing and population activities. The figures for technical co-operation were no more encouraging. In 1966, out of a total expenditure of about \$36.3 million for all the technical co-operation activities of the Organization, an amount of roughly \$2.1 million had been spent on projects of direct concern to the Commission for Social Development, and it was estimated that in 1968 the figure would decline to about \$2 million out of a total of \$42.6 million. The 1968 figure was in fact slightly lower than that for 1966, although the over-all level of the technical co-operation activities of the United Nations had increased by \$6.3 million in that time. The figures she had quoted included estimated expenditures from the regular programme, UNDP and trust funds, not

including assistance to refugees. Those figures should be considered in conjunction with the fact that the value of requests submitted by Governments in the social field in the past few years had exceeded by several million dollars the financial capabilities of the regular programme of technical assistance, and that there were many social projects which it had not been possible to implement for lack of funds. UNDP was undertaking a study on requirements for technical assistance in regard to social development.

18. On the Commission's recommendation, the Council had called for a review of technical co-operation activities in social development, carried out by five special rapporteurs to be designated by the General Assembly, to make recommendations to the Commission on the strengthening of those activities. The specialized agencies were co-operating fully in that task. She was hopeful that, as a result of the review, the operational component of the social development programme would be greatly strengthened.

19. The draft declaration on social development which the General Assembly had decided at its twenty-first session should be prepared on the initiative of the Third Committee, had been considered by the Commission at its eighteenth session: a Working Party had formulated a broad outline for the declaration and would resume work on it in January 1968, in the hope of being able to submit a preliminary draft to the Commission at its nineteenth session. The Council had generally felt that that draft would need to be examined by the Commission and the Council before being submitted to the Assembly; the Commission might therefore have to review the schedule of its work on the declaration. It had also been stressed that the interrelations between economic and social development should be borne carefully in mind in the preparation of the declaration, although no decision had yet been made to link the declaration on social development with the "charter of development" envisaged in General Assembly resolution 2218 (XXI). The specialized agencies had already been consulted regarding their contributions to the Working Party's documentation. The comments and observations of members of the Committee would also provide guidance for the Working Party.

20. The 1967 report on the world social situation was ready and would be considered by the Commission for Social Development in February 1968. The compendium of social statistics, which would provide data on trends in the social sectors during the period 1955-1965, was to appear concurrently with the report—the reports on the world social situation, which were now published every three years, furnished the analytical base for consideration of social policy by the competent bodies and were basic tools for reviewing social trends and programmes in the different sectors of social development and the different geographical regions. They were of course prepared in close collaboration with the specialized agencies concerned, the regional commissions and the competent Secretariat units.

21. The picture revealed in those reports was still a dark one. Poverty, disease and ignorance continued to exist, a certain amount of progress, notwithstanding. In view of the multitude and complexity of

the problems, the international community should try to understand the reasons for the situation and to build a better future. Realistic but optimistic, it should see things as they were and work to make them as they should be.

22. Mr. QUADRI (Argentina) recalled that it was on the Argentine delegation's initiative that the General Assembly had adopted resolution 2215 (XXI), calling upon the Commission for Social Development to prepare a draft declaration on social development, and was gratified at the priority assigned to that question by the Commission and the interest it had evoked at the Commission's eighteenth session. The declaration would further social progress not only in the developing countries but also in the developed countries by encouraging Governments to take practical measures calculated to promote social development.

23. His delegation considered that the declaration should be an instrument acceptable to all, i.e., it should take account only of the higher interests of individuals, families and communities. There were principles and objectives which were common to all peoples, whatever their social system and outlook on life. The purpose of the declaration on social development was to formulate common objectives in order to enable mankind to achieve harmonious development and avoiding conflicts. The practice, in the early fifties, had been to view the problem of economic growth from the sole standpoint of the production of material goods. It had become apparent, however, that the fundamental element was not production as such, but the productive capacity of the people. It had been borne home that neglect of the social aspects of development might paralyse economic progress or provoke social upheavals. In other words, there was now an awareness of the importance of the human factor in development and of the urgent need to utilize and develop the potential which it represented. That new concept was the mainspring of the United Nations Development Decade, whose aim was not only to satisfy man's material requirements but also to improve his social situation and enable him to fulfil his loftiest aspirations. The goal of development was no longer economic growth only but also human evolution.

24. The developing countries should compress some of the stages traversed by the developed countries, which assist them and reorganize their own present structures so as to promote a proper social balance in all fields. Every people should be the instrument of its own development, but it could not successfully do so in isolation, and the purpose of the declaration was precisely to obtain the support of the international community for forming concerted programmes. Social development transcended economic development and social progress, for it emphasized the intrinsic value of the individual and helped to bring about the full flowering of his personality; for it was based essentially on the recognition of human dignity. Only a human being with full mastery of his resources could participate actively in the task of development, but that flowering was not only a means; it was also an end in itself. Planning made it possible to mobilize existing resources and to survey the potential

of developing countries; the declaration itself would be a source of inspiration, and would make it possible to define general objectives which would be reflected in specific programmes of action, in the interest of all mankind. That was the spirit of the Encyclical "Populorum progressio", which invited peoples to participate in a peaceful and selfless joint endeavour which would enable mankind as a whole to develop in solidarity.

25. Mrs. MERCHANT (Canada) hailed the General Assembly's decision to give high priority to the question of the world social situation, which, in so far as it related to living conditions in less developed countries, continued to bristle with problems requiring urgent solution. The Committee was faced with even new problems in that respect; it had to evaluate the efforts to solve them and chart with great care the course to be followed. Considerable progress had been made in that field, but much remained to be done. She considered that the question of the world social situation was perhaps the most important one that the Committee could discuss, for to discover the means of alleviating the manifold problems of social development was the best way to contribute to the well-being of mankind.

26. The Canadian delegation endorsed the Secretary-General's report (A/6826) and noted the considerable progress made during the past year with regard to the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1139 (XLI), which defined the role of the Commission for Social Development and to the other objectives set by General Assembly resolution 2215 (XXI). Her delegation approved the course being followed by the Commission for Social Development, and especially its efforts towards co-ordination. She congratulated the Commission on the way in which it had carried out its broad mandate at its eighteenth session, and she felt that its efforts had been productive. Her delegation was happy to note the closer co-operation that was developing between the Commission, the specialized agencies and the other interested bodies within the United Nations system. Those new relationships should facilitate the essential integration of the formulation of development policy and programme execution. The apportionment of financial resources available through the United Nations should more accurately reflect the inter-relationships between all aspects of development—social, economic and cultural. She took the opportunity to pay tribute to Miss Henderson, former Director of the Bureau of Social Affairs, who, in analysing the evolution of the social development programme of the United Nations in the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in May 1967, had pointed out that each succeeding stage of that evolution had been characterized by a greater awareness that social problems could not be dealt with in isolation but must be examined and resolved in the context of the social, cultural and economic environment.

27. She endorsed the Commission's decision to examine technical co-operation activities and entrust that study to five special rapporteurs, and she accordingly supported Economic and Social Council resolution 1227 (XLII) which invited Member States, UNDP, UNICEF and the specialized agencies to co-

operate with the rapporteurs in carrying out that task. It was most important, in her view, to undertake a critical assessment of current programmes and methods and to strengthen working relationships. She noted with satisfaction that the specialized agencies were scheduled to prepare, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, a series of policy reports, the first of which, prepared by WHO had been considered at the Commissioner's eighteenth session. The reports would enable the Commission to evaluate progress in the specific fields of activity and to formulate an inter-sectoral policy.

28. Her delegation agreed with the gradual revisions which had been made in the Commission's work programme and felt that the programme proposed by the Commission and approved by the Economic and Social Council struck a satisfactory balance between the needs of broad long-range policy formulation and the more specific sectoral activities. She considered, however, that the Commission should pay more attention in future to the establishment of priorities, although it was difficult to satisfy all delegations in that regard. While some delegations had had reservations concerning the work programme, they had all recognized the importance of periodic reports on the world social situation, since accurate information on the over-all social situation was essential if the effectiveness of national and international development was to be assessed. It was self-evident, in that connexion, that the development of adequate statistical data in both the economic and social spheres was basic if the Report on the World Social Situation was to become an accurate progress report on development, and she considered that to be its essential function. The inevitable and fundamental relationships between reports on economic conditions and reports on social conditions also had to be taken into account. Accepting the thesis that economic growth should be measured in terms of social progress, there would be merit in close integration of the reports.

29. While the progress made in preparing an initial draft of the declaration on social development had been heartening, she felt that the successful preparation of a draft text should not be endangered by undue haste. She therefore questioned the desirability of having the draft submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session, as operative paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 2215 (XXI) envisaged. Time should be allowed to consult all relevant United Nations bodies and to take their comments into account in drafting. The Member States which would be participating in the preparation of the draft should also be allowed to consider how the declaration could be used to further the integration of economic and social development efforts. Her delegation attached great importance to the draft declaration, since it would give Member States an opportunity to specify clearly the social aims of all development, and the necessity of integrating policy and operational activities into a total process of development. As the end of the first United Nations Development Decade approached and the failure to reach even its most modest goals had to be faced, and as consideration began to be given to the next decade, it was vital not to jeopardize the efforts of Governments and the international community to improve the world social

situation by unnecessary fragmentation. Among the means whereby the world social situation could be improved were the forthcoming Conference of Ministers responsible for Social Welfare, the important work conducted under the programme of research and training facilities for regional development, and that conducted by the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, and by UNICEF. The question of the world social situation was crucial, and she hoped that the Committee would give it even higher priority in the future.

30. Mrs. HARRIS (United States of America) said that the events of the twentieth century showed that countries which ignored the needs and aspirations of their neighbours risked their own well-being. The United Nations Charter recognized that the maintenance of international peace and security, the extension of economic and social co-operation, and the promotion of human rights were inseparable. That was why the international community had agreed on the task of ensuring for every human being the right to live in dignity and the opportunity to achieve fulfilment.

31. Social progress was a most important aspect of over-all development, and the United Nations and many of its family of agencies had undertaken programmes in the social development field. Estimated expenditures on social programmes by the United Nations family accounted for about one-third of total expenditures. Programmes covering the development of human resources, social development, health protection, and the control and eradication of communicable diseases would involve an expenditure of approximately \$185 million in 1967. Those figures should not obscure the fact, however, that much remained to be done to eliminate hunger, illiteracy, poverty and disease and to promote social progress.

32. It was with that background in mind that the report of the Secretary-General on the world social situation (A/6826) must be considered. It was evident from that report that the social aspects of development had not been given adequate priority by the Governments of Member States or by the United Nations itself, and that assistance for housing and town-planning, population programmes, social welfare, youth programmes, and social planning and training had been particularly inadequate. Her delegation therefore welcomed the Economic and Social Council's recommendation in resolution 1227 (XLII), that Governments accord special consideration to problems of social development, and it trusted that UNDP and other appropriate organizations would deal favourably with requests for assistance in all aspects of the social field.

33. Several important steps gave promise of a more effective United Nations programme of assistance to the developing countries. The Commission for Social Development was successfully discharging the task entrusted to it by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1139 (XLI); for example, it had undertaken an assessment of technical co-operation programmes in the social field with a view to making recommendations to increase their effectiveness. That would additionally make the Commission more responsive to the rapidly changing conditions and needs

of the developing countries. Her delegation would like one of the five rapporteurs who would undertake that assessment to be an expert on urban problems, including housing, to ensure that adequate attention was paid to that vital aspect of technical co-operation in the social field. It was interesting to note that the Commission had taken steps towards closer collaboration with the specialized agencies. In 1967 it had considered a paper submitted by the World Health Organization, and in 1968 it would take up a report of the International Labour Office and the major study prepared by several specialized agencies on the development and utilization of human resources, which had been submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its forty-third session.

34. One of the most critical problems facing the world and particularly the developing countries was the rural exodus and the overcrowding of the cities. There was much that could and should be done to improve the level of living in rural areas, and when industrialization was attempted, the possibilities of development in those areas should be considered.

35. There was a distinct need for both short- and long-term programmes to improve housing in the at present congested areas of cities with all the problems which overcrowding brought—shantytowns, unemployment, etc. The research and training programme in regional development should be of assistance, and the proposal approved by the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council for pilot demonstration programmes providing for a simultaneous attack on the social, economic and physical conditions in slum areas could also help Governments to solve those problems. Several similar programmes had been in operation for several years in the United States.

36. The revised work programme of the United Nations in the social field should be commended for its responsiveness to the recommendations of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on reappraisal of the role of the Social Commission and to the requests of the General Assembly for a long-range social programme. The Secretary-General had made an effort to pay attention to all problems, giving priority to those of the developing countries and providing for close collaboration between the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the regional economic commissions. She agreed that the activities of the Social Development Division should be directed towards finding new solutions to general development problems, particularly those of the developing countries, whose priorities should be the determining factor, and the five-year programme adopted by the Commission for Social Development at its last session was a step in the right direction. She also thought that increasing attention should be focused on problems of town-planning and on the broad issues of social policy.

37. Self-help programmes in housing, health and education had to be encouraged. Semi-trained persons could participate in them and feel that they were a part of society by contributing to its development.

38. The Conference of Ministers responsible for Social Welfare, which was due to meet at United

Nations Headquarters in September 1968, would provide an opportunity to establish practical principles on the role of social welfare in national development and on requirements for trained social workers. It should lay the basis for international co-operation in that field.

39. Her delegation thought that the Commission for Social Development and the Social Development Division of the United Nations should be consulted by the Committee for Development Planning, which was to make recommendations for the period following the United Nations Development Decade. The importance of social progress to the development of the individual was too easily forgotten by Member States in their struggle for economic development. Programmes to enrich the lives of people in developing countries, most of whom lived in rural areas, should have a high priority in development plans. Neither economic development nor social development could be undertaken to the exclusion of the other. It was essential to take the necessary social measures to cope with the repercussions of economic change, and both national and international development programmes must ensure that that was done, for otherwise the individual would fail to achieve the well-being and dignity which were the goal of the United States and of the United Nations.

40. Mrs. BRUCE (Secretary of the Committee) explained, in reply to the Canadian representative, that in accordance with the usual procedure a fairly

detailed summary of the statement by the Director of the Social Development Division would be included in the summary record of the meeting, and the verbatim text of that statement would be circulated in the original language. That method, which had no financial implications, would also be followed for the statement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

41. Mr. SANON (Upper Volta) requested that despite the financial implications, the verbatim texts of the statements by the Director of the Social Development Division and by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees should be issued in at least the three working languages.

42. The CHAIRMAN said that the two statements would be circulated in the various languages.

43. She suggested that to speed up the discussion, delegations should include in their statements both general observations and comments on the draft resolutions which would be submitted. To meet the wishes of certain delegations which would like to have a larger number of meetings allocated to that item or to have consideration of it adjourned to allow them to study the written text of the statement by the Director of the Social Development Division, she would submit a new plan of work to the Committee at a later stage.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.