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President: Mr. C. W. A. SCHURMANN
(Netherlands).

Present:

Representatives of the following States: Afghanistan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Spain, Sudan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela.

Observers for the following Member States: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, El Salvador, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia.

The observer for the following non-member State: Federal Republic of Germany.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization.

AGENDA ITEM 10

Study of opportunities for international co-operation on behalf of the former Trust Territories which have become independent (E/3327, E/3338, E/L.864 and Add.1)

1. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the two documents submitted by the Secretary-General (E/3327, E/3338) and to the draft resolution submitted by Denmark, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Sudan and the United States of America (E/L.864 and Add.1). He was sure that all members of the Council were conscious of the great responsibilities placed on it by General Assembly resolution 1414 (XIV), which should be coupled with resolution 1415 (XIV). The frequent references to Africa made in the various discussions showed how much that subject was already in the minds of members at the present time. The importance attached to it was further demonstrated by the presence of the Secretary-General himself to introduce the item.

2. The SECRETARY-GENERAL was glad to be able to address the Council on a subject which the Secretariat considered an important one. The memorandum he had submitted to the Council (E/3338) represented

a first response to General Assembly resolutions 1414 (XIV) and 1415 (XIV), resolutions which had shown a great awareness of the problems and a desire for positive and speedy action. What was proposed in the memorandum was not basically new, either in its approach or in the matter of administrative arrangements: the Council was familiar both with the nature and with the degree of urgency of the needs arising when a country became independent. What was new was the extent of the problem as it existed at the present time. By the end of 1960 the former Trust Territories of the Cameroons under French administration, Togoland under French administration and Somaliland under Italian administration would have gained their independence and in all probability Nigeria, Mali, Madagascar and the Belgian Congo would also have attained independence and become Members of the Organization—for it had to be remembered that, while the General Assembly had talked especially about former Trust Territories, in its resolutions it referred also to "newly independent States". It was natural for the General Assembly to refer especially to the former Trust Territories, but that was not to be regarded, in his view, as indicating that any priority should be given them. The problems of newly independent States were, economically, basically the same, whatever their constitutional background or the road they had followed to independence; they all had the same rights. Nor was he interpreting the expression "newly independent" limitatively, as referring to countries becoming independent in 1960 or 1961; other countries which had become independent in recent years were facing the same problems. Again, it was purely accidental that all the countries emerging to independence in the current year were in Africa: there was no special African programme, and he was sure it had not been the intention of the General Assembly that a territorial or regional approach should be adopted; problems of the same type arose wherever a similar situation occurred. It should also be stated that it was not the Secretariat's approach to the matter to place the different countries arriving at independence in a special category of under-development; the problem should not be given a political twist by the introduction of different classifications. The problems of under-development were identical, and there was in fact no reason for according priority economically to newly independent countries over other under-developed countries, or for establishing priorities within the group of newly independent countries.

3. Nevertheless it must be recognized that countries just attaining their independence faced certain specific difficulties during what might be called the transitional period. The time element was thus extremely important, and those responsible for economic growth and development in the newly independent, under-developed countries were keenly aware of it. Just at the time when the Governments of those countries were facing great demands from their people who looked to them for the opening up of the future of their country, they

found themselves hampered both by the reduction of their administrative facilities—for as was perfectly natural, many of the administrators appointed by the former colonial Powers would, for purely personal reasons, decide to withdraw from their posts—and by the reduction of the means available to them, since the financial assistance of the metropolitan Power would no longer be given automatically and investors would prove shy, for a time at any rate. Such difficulties were by their nature temporary and it was reasonable to expect that they should be overcome fairly soon. Nevertheless it was not easy to overcome them without assistance and that, surely, was where the United Nations had a very special responsibility. The new country would be a Member of the United Nations, therefore the United Nations could and should provide just the assistance needed at just the moment when it was needed, so as to give the Government in question the time to find its feet, so to speak. As he had pointed out in his memorandum, it was precisely at that time that the Government of a newly independent country was required to take serious and, very often, irrevocable decisions: it was only right that the international Organization to which it belonged should be able to give it such help as would enable it to take its decisions calmly and without hurry. What was required, then, was not so much money or people but the capacity to give the assistance needed—its own of a familiar and conventional kind—with the necessary speed at the right moment. If there were administrative and budgetary obstacles which caused the provision of that assistance to be delayed, then a great deal of its potential value would be lost, and the Organization would largely have failed in the crucial part it could play.

4. As far as the kind of assistance went, no real innovations were called for; it was simply a question of using the existing machinery and methods already approved in such a way that the assistance required could be given at the right moment on the limited scale necessary. It would, of course, be unrealistic not to admit the need for more funds. But that was a general need arising out of the broader situation of the increased membership of the United Nations as more and more countries became independent. The need for added funds had been implicitly recognized by the General Assembly itself when it asked for special attention to be given to the needs of the former Trust Territories and the newly independent countries, but without prejudice to the assistance already being given to other countries also in need. That broader question had nothing, however, to do with the specific needs to which he was drawing the Council's attention—those temporary needs arising immediately upon the attainment of independence, which would not in themselves necessitate the expenditure of more money. Thus, his proposals in no way increased the already existing need for additional resources.

5. The question was really one of the allocation of such additional resources as between the various programmes of the United Nations and, in particular, between the regular programme of technical assistance and the Expanded Programme. The two programmes were, of course, closely linked, but they reflected two somewhat different lines of approach. The allocation of means for the present purpose under the regular programme would be in harmony with the specific character of the needs in question, a character which the United Nations felt brought those needs specifically

within the orbit of its own responsibilities. The criteria to be applied, too, while not novel in themselves, were more appropriate to the United Nations than to the specialized agencies, with their more technical approach. At the same time, in view of the importance of speed, the fewer the individuals and organizations involved, the better it was for the job in hand. That remark should not be interpreted as in any way reflecting on the arrangements for co-operation with and among the specialized agencies under the Technical Assistance Board, which worked perfectly well for normal activities. As to the criteria to which he had referred, they were in no wise political; they were, as they should be, economic, and there was no question of diverting technical assistance for use for political ends. What could be hoped for from following up the suggestions in his memorandum was that the greatest possible amount of value would be derived from the assistance given and from the funds used. The yield from such investments would, of course, not be the kind susceptible of immediate assessment in money terms.

6. It would be for Governments to decide what action was required and where it was to be applied, but the role to be envisaged for the United Nations should not be concerned with marginal projects, but should be of a consultative nature as early as at the planning stage.

7. Reverting to the subject of the former Trust Territories, he acknowledged that while no special or privileged position in relation to other newly independent countries was indicated in their case, they would be likely to expect the United Nations, for years responsible for them under the Trusteeship System, to continue to show an interest in their progress for a certain period after they had become independent. They should not be led to feel that the United Nations had abandoned them. How such an attitude on their part could best be met was a delicate psychological question falling outside the scope of the present topic and it could be dealt with, he thought, through traditional forms and means.

8. Mr. ADEEL (Sudan) expressed his delegation's appreciation of the great efforts exerted by the Secretary-General to carry out the mandate of the United Nations. His preliminary observations (E/3338) and the further studies he intended to carry out would provide a useful basis for the further consideration of the matter at the thirtieth session.

9. The Sudan, as a newly independent State which had lived through its crucial formative period, had learned that political independence was only a part of true independence. The need of the newly independent countries for assistance, regardless of their status prior to independence, could not be too greatly emphasized. They needed not merely financial assistance but also trained personnel, technical services, educational facilities, information about their natural and human resources, consultative services and so on. They could legitimately expect the international community to help smooth their road from dependence to independence, and to assist them in taking those basic decisions which, as the Secretary-General had said, were likely to determine the pattern of their national life for many years to come. Those countries would become Members of the United Nations and would thus be entitled to technical assistance under the regular programme, the Expanded Programme, the Special

Fund and the programme for the provision of operational, executive and administrative personnel (OPEX). Although General Assembly resolution 1414 (XIV) stressed the fact that the assistance provided should be made available within the existing resources, he agreed with the Secretary-General that a certain time-priority should be given to certain countries, and that would inevitably necessitate some adjustments. It was to be hoped, therefore, that the General Assembly would authorize a certain increase in budgetary funds so as to minimize the effects of those adjustments.

10. His delegation appreciated the expressed intentions of the metropolitan countries to grant the former Trust Territories financial and other assistance. Such assistance would supplement that given by the United Nations and thus reduce the burden on smaller Member States. The role of the specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and inter-governmental organizations in that connexion was of immense importance; they should co-operate effectively to help the newly independent countries. His delegation looked forward to the consultations the Secretary-General was to conduct to that end and to the help they would give the newly independent countries in the social, health and educational fields.

11. Referring to a resolution adopted by the Economic Commission for Africa at its second session,^{1/} he noted the genuine desire of that Commission to co-operate to the full with the United Nations in giving the maximum possible help to the newly independent countries, and expressed the hope that the United Nations would take advantage of the special position of the Commission in relation to African countries.

12. The Sudan was happy to be a sponsor of the draft resolution (E/L.864 and Add.1), which represented a modest attempt to move in the right direction; he commended it to the sympathetic consideration of the Council.

13. Mr. DUDLEY (United Kingdom), noting with appreciation the statement of the Secretary-General, pointed out that the United Kingdom Government's interest and association in the development and welfare of the newly independent countries and those emerging from trusteeship were of long standing; their attainment of stability and independence marked the fulfilment of a cardinal principle of British policy. Consequently, the United Kingdom welcomed the initiatives taken by the Secretary-General in connexion with the study of opportunities for international assistance to them, and it applauded his decision to explore such possibilities in a preparatory way with the Council. The Secretary-General had rightly decided to consult the specialized agencies concerned with the implementation of technical assistance programmes as well as the Governments most directly involved in those problems.

14. The ideas developed by the Secretary-General sprang in part from the decisions taken by the General Assembly in its resolutions 1414 (XIV) and 1415 (XIV), and he had, quite properly, discussed them together. The new element which characterized those resolutions and the Secretary-General's approach was that they dealt particularly with the technical assistance and similar needs of countries which had newly become independent. In so doing he was following a familiar

line of United Nations thought and practice. In the course of the years the United Nations had developed flexible machinery, varied in scope and methods, for dealing with that problem and had acquired considerable experience in organizing technical aid in its widest form. The role of the United Nations in assisting countries to secure technical aid had been gradually expanded, and beneficiary countries had developed with the Organization a firm relationship of confidence. Resident Representatives of the Technical Assistance Board were now called upon to advise on the formulation of projects and their most effective selection in relation to over-all development plans. That relationship indicated that the recipient countries were satisfied with United Nations assistance and that the experts provided were of a high calibre. Therefore, in considering action to be taken in response to the Assembly's resolutions, the Council should take into account the distinction drawn by the Secretary-General between problems associated with the transition to independence and the measures they rendered desirable from the United Nations and, on the other hand, the longer-range problems of economic and social development with which the United Nations and the specialized agencies were attempting to deal. Indeed, the immediate question before the Council was that of ensuring flexibility in handling particular problems at a particular time.

15. As always, in the provision of technical assistance, the request for aid should come from the country concerned. When the needs were known, prompt action should be taken to meet them, without, however, undertaking in any way to alter the general priorities of United Nations technical assistance programmes or to make any substantive changes in their basic organization. Rather it was a question of ensuring that the existing machinery functioned efficiently. Moreover, it was important that the attention paid to the special problems of countries just achieving independence should not prejudice the interests of those underdeveloped countries which had already become independent or those for whom independence was still some way ahead. The existing machinery was suitable for the purpose in hand. Technical Assistance Board Resident Representatives could be appointed and paid for in the usual way. If they were called on to give advice in a wider sphere than usual, they must be of a very high calibre.

16. With regard to financing assistance, it was the preliminary impression of the United Kingdom that the Technical Assistance Board was capable of moving swiftly when required and that what might be most essential was suitable flexibility in the handling of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund of the Expanded Programme.

17. Much of the capital aid which would be needed for the newly independent countries would either have to flow through new multilateral agencies such as the International Development Association or continue to be provided bilaterally. For its part, the United Kingdom was already providing large sums in the form of bilateral loans and grants as well as through a variety of international agencies. A very large part of those grants and loans had been made to territories under the administration or protection of the United Kingdom, many of which were in Africa. Nigeria, for example, had recently been promised a loan of £12 million for use after independence. The total figures

^{1/}Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 10, part III, resolution 10 (II).

of United Kingdom bilateral and multilateral contributions had increased steadily and substantially in recent years, and it was in recognition of the growing needs of the under-developed parts of the world, including Africa, that the United Kingdom had decided to raise its 1960 contributions to the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance to two and a half times the amount provided in the previous year.

18. The United Kingdom Government would have to consider the financial implications of any plans to assist the newly independent countries in the light of its own economic and financial circumstances, and could make no financial commitments at the present stage. Moreover, such commitments would be premature: until the countries concerned had been consulted and made their needs known, it would be impossible to tell what action was called for under the Expanded Programme and what under the regular technical assistance programmes.

19. The United Nations, by assisting the economic, social and educational development of the newly independent countries and those emerging from trust status, could make a signal contribution to their political stability and to international peace. Many of those countries had stable traditions and close economic and political connexions not only with the former Administering Powers but with other countries. Those traditions and connexions should be maintained and strengthened to ensure their future prosperity. The United Nations was a new element in the situation, but its role must be to supplement and not to replace existing forces working for stability.

20. Mr. VIAUD (France) thanked the Secretary-General for his statement on the opportunities for international co-operation on behalf of States attaining their independence, and for the efforts he was making to secure action by the United Nations in that sphere. As the Administering Authority for Togoland and the Cameroons, France was particularly interested in any endeavour to guarantee to the States emerging from trusteeship status that they would be provided with the assistance they might need. It was to be expected that the United Nations should feel particularly responsible for the former Trust Territories but it was natural that it should take an interest, too, in the fate of other countries attaining their independence, for both groups had similar problems to solve. There was a tendency to confine the possible intervention of the United Nations to the continent of Africa, but the Council should not forget that those problems would arise in other parts of the world where there were still territories which would one day become independent.

21. France considered it desirable that the United Nations should assist the newly independent nations and was ready to co-operate in studying ways of providing such assistance. For many years those countries had been receiving aid from the metropolitan Powers and other countries which far surpassed in volume what the United Nations could offer them. Such bilateral aid should be maintained, and France was ready to continue on as generous a scale as possible its policy of assisting the countries which had been or were still associated with it. The methods and machinery evolved by the United Nations could provide a valuable complement to the bilateral assistance that the newly independent countries were already

receiving and would continue to receive. It was, moreover, for the beneficiary countries themselves to combine the various forms of assistance offered them in the most appropriate way.

22. Although the special problems of newly independent countries urgently required solution, their complexity was such that they deserved close study before specific steps were taken. The Secretariat should begin by ascertaining from the States concerned the nature and extent of their needs. As concerned the former Trust Territories, its task was facilitated by the abundant documentation it already possessed on their economies and their requirements. Furthermore, Togoland and the Cameroons had already solicited aid under the United Nations assistance programmes. The task became much more complex, however, when it came to extending such aid to the other newly independent countries. To ensure that the fairly meagre resources at the Organization's disposal were used in the most rational way, the Secretariat should consult all the countries likely to benefit from the assistance provided for under General Assembly resolutions 1414 (XIV) and 1415 (XIV), draw up an inventory of the assistance they were already receiving and decide how it could best be supplemented. The French delegation was confident that the various Governments, the specialized agencies and private and inter-governmental bodies would give the Secretariat every assistance in that undertaking.

23. The assistance contemplated would require additional funds, irrespective of whether they came from regular budgetary contributions or from voluntary contributions. Without in any way weakening its support in principle of the Secretary-General's initiative, the French delegation wished to reserve its position with respect to the volume and nature of the resources which Member countries might be called upon to supply within the framework of United Nations programmes.

24. His delegation hoped that the study requested of the Secretary-General would lead to the adoption of carefully weighed practical measures. The French Government would do its best to help the Secretary-General in his task.

25. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America) observed that the problems of the new States were many but they were also one. The difficulties and needs which confronted them were practically all related to the same problem of economic development. Such a simplification of the definition of the scope of the problem, however, did not simplify the problem itself.

26. He would confine his statement to the situation in Africa since that was the area which the General Assembly had had primarily in mind when it had adopted resolutions 1414 (XIV) and 1415 (XIV). The problem of the economic development of Africa was of immense proportions. Some 200 million people were determined to shake off the weight of ignorance and disease and to enjoy a better life. It was the kind of force which every American understood since it was similar to the impetus which had driven the early American pioneers into the wilderness looking for a better life; the United States had every sympathy with the African desire to advance not only politically but also economically and socially and was anxious to help the new States in Africa to achieve their goals.

27. His delegation recognized that the countries of Africa when they became independent would need both moral support and material help from the United Nations organizations. While much was being and could be done by the former Administering Powers and other countries, including the United States, to assist them, the United Nations had a special responsibility towards them and its contribution to their development might well be of crucial importance. The Africans themselves attached the greatest value to United Nations assistance. The United Nations had to act at once; it could not allow such an impetus with its great constructive potential to be lost or to turn into something with an equal potential for destruction.

28. He did not intend to describe the aid which the United States had provided in Africa or the measures which were being taken to increase its assistance to tropical Africa; rather he wanted to urge a greater international effort towards the solution of Africa's development problem. The United States would of course continue to provide aid to Africa on a bilateral basis and to co-ordinate its programmes with corresponding multilateral programmes but he felt strongly that the United Nations could and should provide increased assistance. In that context he welcomed the Secretary-General's memorandum. The Secretary-General had very properly pointed to tried and proven United Nations programmes which, if properly used, could make a real contribution to the social and economic development of African States. In addition to the regular programme of technical assistance, the Expanded Programme, the Special Fund and the OPEX programme, he thought that the programme of advisory social welfare services should also be mentioned because it might be of special significance in a continent which required many adjustments in its social patterns and institutions. Those programmes would be able to meet some of the most urgent needs of the emerging States. Through them studies and surveys could be initiated which would give the new leaders of Africa and the United Nations itself a better understanding of their problems and how best to deal with them. They could assist the African countries to develop constructive plans in the economic and social fields since they provided for a transfer of technical knowledge and experience and the adjustment of such knowledge and experience to local conditions, for the employment of experts and the training of local personnel at all levels. They also offered facilities for improvements in administration. Those were all basic needs which had to be met in order to attract and make possible the most effective use of sorely needed capital.

29. There was clearly no need for new programmes or institutions. What was needed was a strengthening of the existing programmes, a concentration of efforts and additional money to enable them to operate on the required scale. The United Nations could not curtail programmes in other parts of the world in order to build up the programmes in Africa. The programmes in other parts of the world should be fully maintained or even increased. He hoped that special efforts could be made to have Governments increase their pledges to the Expanded Programme and the Special Fund, so that the figure of \$100 million would be reached in 1961. That would permit a substantial increase in operations in Africa without a reduction in assistance under the Expanded Programme and through the Special Fund in other less developed countries. In

addition, he believed that the time had come to contemplate possible increases in the funds available under the regular budgets of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Even relatively small increases in those funds would make it possible to step up assistance to Africa when it was most needed. He hoped that by the thirtieth session of the Council the Secretary-General would be in a position to indicate what additional funds would be needed.

30. The draft resolution, of which the United States was a sponsor, was along the lines he had just indicated. He hoped that on the basis of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General the Council would be able at its thirtieth session to work out a set of precise recommendations which would enable the General Assembly to act promptly to provide technical and related assistance on a scale commensurate with the need.

31. Mr. MATSUDAIRA (Japan) said that his Government believed it would serve the purposes of the United Nations to give special attention to the urgent needs of the newly independent countries of Africa and commended the initiatives taken by the Secretary-General towards that end.

32. With regard to financing special assistance to that group of countries, his delegation felt that in view of the limited resources available under existing United Nations programmes, some shift of priority might be necessary, at least on a temporary basis. As a dynamic organism, the United Nations should logically adapt its policies and programmes to the realities in which it operated. A periodic reappraisal of its activities would be beneficial. In the view of the Japanese delegation, as much assistance as possible should be provided through the Expanded Programme, the Special Fund, the OPEX programme and other technical assistance machinery. In that connexion, he drew attention to the problem of defining the countries which should benefit by the special assistance envisaged: groups of under-developed countries other than newly independent ones or those just emerging from trusteeship would have to be considered. The problem warranted careful study.

33. The question of finding resources in the United Nations budget for the purposes set forth in General Assembly resolutions 1414 (XIV) and 1415 (XIV) would also require close study by the Fifth Committee of the Assembly, on the basis of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General. In that connexion, he drew attention to the resolution adopted by the Economic Commission for Africa¹ recommending that the Secretary-General should make full use of the Commission secretariat in implementing General Assembly resolution 1414 (XIV). Japan endorsed that recommendation, favoured the strengthening of the Commission and hoped that the Secretary-General would study the budgetary problems relating to its expansion.

34. His delegation agreed with the Secretary-General that it might be premature at that stage to consider the possibility of securing additional funds by requesting an increase in voluntary contributions from Member States.

35. The problem of financial and technical assistance to the newly independent countries, notwithstanding its urgency, required further study and might more usefully be discussed at a later session of the Council.

In any case, it was neither practical nor desirable at that juncture to create a new separate fund or new machinery to aid a particular group of countries. Rather, full use should be made of existing machinery.

36. It was on the basis of those considerations that Japan had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution before the Council.

37. Mr. SHANAHAN (New Zealand) observed that New Zealand, as a country which had played an active part in the work of the United Nations in the field of trusteeship, was deeply interested in the subject of international co-operation on behalf of former Trust Territories and other newly independent States. He recalled that Western Samoa, which New Zealand had administered under a League of Nations mandate and then under its Trusteeship Agreement with the United Nations, would attain independence in 1961. New Zealand's interest in trusteeship matters had however never been confined to matters directly affecting its own obligations. It had followed closely the development of other Trust Territories and recognized that when they attained independence they would still be confronted by many problems. He believed it was only right and proper that the United Nations should continue to concern itself with their problems.

38. He expressed his appreciation of the Secretary-General's elaboration of the ideas contained in the document before the Council and felt that he deserved the commendation of the Council for the initiative he had taken in that important matter.

39. In its resolution 1414 (XIV) the General Assembly had made specific reference in the preamble to those African territories which would attain independence in 1960 and also to other Trust Territories which would become independent during the following years. The study which the Council was called upon to make would of course have to take into account the interests of all Trust Territories which were due to become independent in the near future. It was however quite desirable and proper that at the present juncture special attention should be given to those territories in Africa which had already attained independence or would do so in the near future. A similar situation would, however, exist in the case of Trust Territories elsewhere which would achieve self-government or independence later, and he assumed that the same consideration would be shown for their needs.

40. The Council was not called upon directly by the Assembly to consider the case of other newly independent countries whether in Africa or elsewhere. Their special interests were however linked with those of the former Trust Territories in General Assembly resolution 1415 (XIV) and for that and other reasons it was clearly desirable that their positions should be taken into account in the study requested by the Assembly. The needs of countries in the two categories were in many respects similar; indeed they were to a large extent common to all the countries of Africa. They were summarized concisely in the introduction to the Economic Survey of Africa since 1950.^{2/} The Survey also pointed out that measures to increase the supply of suitably trained administrators both at high and at intermediate levels were of critical importance and he felt that in its consideration of the question the Council would do well to emphasize that point. In

addition to the common problems, there were others which, as the Secretary-General had pointed out, were peculiar to countries which had only recently attained independence. They were the problems involved in the basic decisions which those countries had to take, decisions which affected the pattern of national life as well as relationships with other countries. It was therefore not surprising that all newly independent countries were especially interested in opportunities for international co-operation.

41. An obvious and most fruitful form of international co-operation for a newly independent country was continued co-operation with the former Administering Power. The mutual knowledge and understanding which existed between them placed the former Administering Power in a particularly good position to continue its efforts to assist the newly independent country. In some instances the metropolitan Power could introduce the new State into an international fraternity such as the Commonwealth.

42. Another form of international co-operation which could be of great benefit to newly independent States was that open to countries which were immediate neighbours. It was particularly valuable in cases where national boundaries cut across economic and social groupings in such a way as to impede development within the individual countries. A good example of the benefits of such co-operation was the scheme for the development of the Lower Mekong Basin in South-East Asia. The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East had played a very important part in the genesis and implementation of the project, to which many other countries, among them New Zealand, had lent their support. He believed that regional co-operation of that kind could be useful elsewhere. The importance which the African States attached to the recently created Economic Commission for Africa was fully justified. Their support would help to ensure that full advantage was taken of the many services it could provide.

43. While there were many opportunities open to newly independent States for international co-operation on a limited basis, there was no doubt that they were looking specially to the United Nations for help in overcoming their problems. Co-operation through the United Nations was perhaps primarily important as a means of stimulating other forms of co-operation but it could also be useful in supplementing such endeavours. It had an important role to play as a symbol of the interest of the international community in the well-being of the recipient countries and was also valuable in meeting needs which could not readily be met by other forms of aid. Of the different types of assistance provided by the regular technical assistance programme perhaps the most important in relation to the needs of the newly independent States was the OPEX programme, but the technical assistance provided by the United Nations in the fields of economic development, social welfare and public administration and that made available under their regular programmes by the ILO, UNESCO and WHO was also of great value. Then too there were the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund, while UNICEF also gave valuable support to many programmes.

44. He believed that the needs of the newly independent countries could be met within the framework and by the development of existing programmes. The resources at present available for them were however

^{2/}United Nations publication, Sales No.: 59.II.K.1.

too limited in relation to their needs. It was therefore particularly important that the various programmes should be fully co-ordinated. He was glad to note that the Secretary-General intended to consult the executive heads of the specialized agencies as well as the Governments concerned in considering the opportunities for co-operation on behalf of newly independent States, and he was confident that the heads of the agencies would extend their full and effective co-operation.

45. The Secretary-General in his memorandum had expressed the view that the immediate needs of newly independent countries could be met with only a temporary and relatively modest increase in total United Nations resources. It was important to remember however that most of the countries concerned were attaining independence at an early stage in their economic and social development and that their over-all needs were likely to be neither small nor temporary. It had to be remembered too that other countries, both in Africa and elsewhere, had needs which were no less pressing.

46. He believed that the draft resolution before the Council, of which New Zealand was a sponsor, would pave the way for rapid and vigorous action to increase the opportunities for international co-operation of practical benefit to newly independent States and other less developed countries as well.

47. Mr. KAUFMANN (Netherlands) observed that the Council in its study of all opportunities for international co-operation which could be of interest to the former Trust Territories which had become independent would also have to take into account General Assembly resolution 1415 (XIV), since assistance to newly independent States, irrespective of their former status, had always been considered by it to be a matter to which it should devote special attention. It was clear that action was urgently required and that the time factor was of vital importance.

48. There were a number of points which had to be taken into consideration. Firstly, several countries which would undoubtedly face serious problems in the fields of administration and economic development would become independent almost simultaneously.

Secondly, the needs of newly independent countries in Africa were so great that it would be hard to meet them and maintain at the same time an adequate flow of assistance to other countries. Thirdly, the existing machinery for the provision of assistance was adequate to meet the special transitional needs of the newly independent countries but the amount of funds available was not.

49. The Netherlands was one of the sponsors of the draft resolution before the Council which it believed paved the way for specific action at the Council's thirtieth session. It had always advocated making the maximum use of multilateral channels of assistance. United Nations assistance was not intended to fill a vacuum but to supplement the large amount of assistance which would be rendered by the metropolitan Powers formerly responsible for the administration of the territories. They had all given assurances of their intention to continue their assistance after independence had been attained by those territories. All of them had a large reservoir of experts and administrators. In expressing the hope that additional funds would be made available to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund in 1961 the sponsors had had in mind General Assembly resolution 1219 (XII). Many Governments were now taking decisions regarding their 1961 budgets and he hoped they would bear in mind how important it was that the funds available for the Expanded Programme and the Special Fund in 1961 should reach the figure of \$100 million which the General Assembly had set as the target in 1957. Unless beneficiary countries knew what funds would be available it would be difficult for them to know how much assistance they could ask for.

50. Mr. DUDLEY (United Kingdom) asked that the Secretary-General's statement should be circulated as a Council document.

51. The PRESIDENT said that the request would be complied with.^{3/}

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

^{3/}The complete text of the statement made by the Secretary-General was subsequently circulated as document E/L.866.