# **UNITED NATIONS**

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

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Thursday, 21 April 1960, at 3.20 p.m.



Twenty-ninth Session OFFICIAL RECORDS

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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, NEW YORK

1111th (closing) meeting

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: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Czechoslovakia, El Salvador, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Pakistan, Philippines, Romania, United Arab Republic, Uruguay, 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.

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

### AGENDA ITEMS 16 AND 20

Urganization and operation of the Council (concluded)

Consideration of the provisional agenda for the thirtieth session and establishment of dates for opening debate on items (concluded)

(E/3331, E/3355, E/L.853, E/L.861, E/L.868)

PROPOSAL FOR THE INCLUSION IN THE PROVI-SIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE QUESTION OF A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF GENERAL AND COM-PLETE DISARMAMENT (E/L.861, E/L.868) (<u>con-</u> cluded)

1. The PRESIDENT announced that the sponsors of the two draft resolutions (E/L.861 and E/L.868) had reached an agreement not to press either of them to a vote. However, they wished the Secretary-General to take note of the Council's debates on the question of a study of the economic and social aspects of disarmament during the current session.

APPROVAL OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTIETH SESSION (E/3331)

2. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should approve the provisional agenda for the thirtieth session (E/3331), as amended by the addition, under item 4, of the Secretary-General's report on opportunities for international co-operation on behalf of the former Trust Territories and other newly independent States, and the inclusion under item 19 of the election of a member of the Permanent Central Opium Board.

It was so decided.

### ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS PROPOSED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (E/L.853)

3. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the Secretary-General's proposals for the arrangement of

business at the thirtieth session (E/L.853). Paragraphs 6 to 11, dealing with meetings at the ministerial level, paragraph 13, concerning the manner in which the reports of the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance should be considered, and paragraph 14, containing a suggested programme for the Co-ordination Committee, which it was proposed should be convened on 29 June, were of particular importance and the Council should take decisions on each of those points separately. With regard to the rest of the document, the Council need probably do no more than give its general approval to it. Provision would also have to be made in the time-table for the additions to the agenda. Such aspects of the Secretary-General's report on opportunities for international co-operation on behalf of the former Trust Territories and other newly independent States as came within the competence of the Technical Assistance Committee might be referred to it after the consideration of the report in plenary meeting. The election of the member of the Permanent Central Opium Board might take place in plenary meeting during the fourth week of the session.

4. Mr. SOBOLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to the question of meetings at the ministerial level, said that in his view the participation of Ministers in the Council's deliberations would result in an improvement of its work and make it an even more active and influential organ. All States Members of the United Nations interested in expanding economic co-operation should support the Secretary-General's most apposite views on the question by taking concrete measures to make the Council a really authoritative and effective organ of the United Nations, At the Council's resumed twenty-eighth, session his delegation had supported the decision to call a meeting at the ministerial level but had maintained that Ministers of all States Members of the United Nations should participate and not only those of States members of the Council. He was convinced that that would be in the interests of expanded international co-operation. There were a great many topics dealt with by the Council which were of interest to all States Members of the United Nations. The Council, guided by Article 69 of the United Nations Charter and rule 75 of its rules of procedure, should support his proposal that an invitation be extended to all interested States Members of the United Nations to participate in the meetings at the ministerial level at the summer session of the Council.

5. With regard to the topics to be dealt with by the Ministers, he had no objection to the Secretary-General's proposal that they should consider fundamental questions of economic policy with particular reference to matters pertinent to economic assistance to the less developed countries under item 2 (World economic situation) and item 4 (Economic development of underdeveloped countries). There were a host of important questions which called for consideration; in his view among the most important were the question of expanding international trade, the problem of raw materials and primary commodities, the terms of trade and supplies of equipment to the under-developed countries. He trusted the Secretary-General would take his comments into account in preparing for the meetings at the ministerial level.

6. Mr. DUDLEY (United Kingdom) expressed his full support for the Secretary-General's proposals in connexion with meetings at the ministerial level. He did not think they required any elaboration, since the Council had taken the necessary action at its twenty-eighth session. No further action was called for unless the Council wished to reverse the decisions already taken. He should perhaps reiterate that in the view of his delegation the forthcoming meeting at the ministerial level would be a meeting of the Council itself. It was an experiment only in the sense that the level of representation at it would be raised a little higher than usual. There was no need for any special action in regard to invitations.

7. With regard to the question of the consideration of the Secretary-General's report on opportunities for international co-operation on behalf of the former Trust Territories and other newly independent States under agenda item 4, he drew attention to the fact that there were at present no sub-items under that item. Items 2 and 4 as a whole were the items which were to be discussed at the ministerial level but the Secretary-General's report would probably require detailed examination when the Ministers were not present.

8. Mr. MATSUDAIRA (Japan) said that his delegation would have no objections if the meetings at the ministerial level were to constitute a part of the ordinary Council meetings. He approved of the proposed duration of the meetings. He was in favour of limiting the scope of the topics to be discussed at the ministerial level and thought it would be unwise to add in any way to what the Secretary-General had proposed.

9. As regards the question of inviting States nonmembers of the Council to send Ministers to attend the session, he recalled that any State Member of the United Nations could if it so desired send observers. It would in his view be wrong for the Council to issue special invitations to individual Governments.

10. Turning to paragraph 13 of the Secretary-General's note (E/L.853), he did not think that the Council should set up a committee on questions relating to the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

11. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America) said that the question of participation in the Council's meetings at the ministerial level had been thoroughly discussed at the twenty-eighth session. The Secretary-General's note on the arrangement of business incorporated the decisions taken then and formed the basis on which the meetings were to be held.

12. Items 2 and 4 of the agenda were to be the basis of the discussions at the ministerial level and he assumed that all the representatives would confine themselves to those topics although they might emphasize different points.

13. Mr. PAZHWAK (Afghanistan) observed that he would always support any proposal designed to add to the prestige of the Council, since the latter's work was of vital importance to the under-developed countries. He would accordingly support the Secretary-General's proposal. He felt bound to observe that the Council had so far shown a disturbing lack of a sense of urgency in dealing with the problems of the under-developed countries. The practical results of the Council's work in that field were still not satisfactory and new measures were necessary. The Secretary-General's proposal for meetings at the ministerial level could be regarded as only one such measure. When the proposal had first been discussed, although his delegation had supported the idea in principle, it had had certain misgivings since it had not been certain that such meetings would serve any useful purpose. He still wondered whether they would not merely duplicate the work which the Council was doing.

14. If the basic idea of the meetings at the ministerial level was to add to the prestige of the Council then they should be held within the Council. On the other hand, if it was to bring about a greater realization of the urgency of the need to deal with the problems of the under-developed countries, the best way to achieve that purpose might be to arrange the agenda differently. All the members of the Council were representatives of their Governments and the policy of a Government was the same whether it was put forward by a Minister or someone else.

15. The Secretary-General's note did not make it clear how frequently meetings at the ministerial level were to be held. If they proved useful to the work of the Council he would favour holding such meetings at intervals, but careful consideration would have to be given to the procedure to be followed at future meetings because it affected the very organization of the Council.

16. Mr. SHANAHAN (New Zealand) observed that the question of ministerial meetings came up in the context of measures to increase the efficiency of the Council's work. He regarded such meetings as being essentially an integral part of the functioning of the Council. The Ministers attending would be the chief representatives of their countries.

17. He had certain misgivings about the timeliness of the first meeting, since the examination of the report of the Committee on Programme Appraisals would undoubtedly lead to clearer definition of the work of the Council.

18. Four days was a very brief period in which to cover the vast field included in items 2 and 4 of the agenda, but he appreciated that many Ministers could not spare a longer time. In the circumstances a fairly careful definition of the topics falling under those agenda items would be required. It would be helpful if the paper referred to in paragraph 10 of the Secretary-General's note were drafted in terms which would assist in avoiding a diffuse discussion.

19. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that he supported in principle the Secretary-General's proposals concerning the meetings at the ministerial level, which should be similar to regular meetings of the Council. He believed they would prove invaluable. They would rightly take place within the framework of the Council itself, which was the proper forum for exchanges of views between industrialized and under-developed countries. It would be a mistake to make any changes in the normal rules governing the procedure of the Council for the first meeting at the ministerial level.

20. Items 2 and 4 were the most important items on the agenda and it was fitting that they should provide the subject-matter for the debates at the ministerial level. Although the field was very wide, he did not think the debates should be confined to a list of items decided on in advance. Each Minister should have a certain freedom to choose the subjects that were of most interest to his country. 21. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should approve the contents of paragraphs 6 to 11 of the Secretary-General's note (E/L.853).

#### It was so decided.

22. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America), referring to paragraph 13, recalled that provision was made in Economic and Social Council resolution 692 C (XXVI) for the establishment of the proposed committee on questions relating to the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. The Council had decided at its twenty-eighth session not to convene the committee at that time because it had felt that the Special Fund had not been in existence sufficiently long to warrant a joint examination of its activities with those of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. That was no longer the case and he thought that the committee should now be convened. One or two meetings might prove sufficient. They would have to take place after the Technical Assistance Committee had concluded its work. Perhaps if the Managing Director of the Special Fund and the Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board found it inconvenient to remain in Geneva for its meetings they could designate suitably qualified people to represent them. He hoped the Council would approve of the establishment of the committee.

23. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should approve the recommendation made in paragraph 13 of the Secretary-General's note.

# It was so decided.

24. In reply to a question put by Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America), the PRESIDENT said that by taking that decision the Council had not established the committee. The matter would be decided at the Council's thirtieth session.

25. He recalled that paragraph 14 concerned the questions to be referred to the Co-ordination Committee and the date on which it should be convened.

26. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America) said that he would like to discuss the question in the context of the work of the Technical Assistance Committee to which it was closely related. He proposed that the first meeting of the Technical Assistance Committee should take place on 27 June and the first meeting of the Coordination Committee on 28 June. Thereafter, meetings would be held alternately in the morning and afternoon. He thought that the Co-ordination Committee should try to complete as much of its work as possible before the report of the Committee on Programme Appraisals was discussed in plenary meeting. Therefore, in addition to the four sub-items of item 3 mentioned in paragraph 14, he suggested that the Co-ordination Committee should take up the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination during the first week of its meetings. The Administrative Committee's comments on the report of the Committee on Programme Appraisals would not be considered until after the debate on item 3 in plenary meeting.

27. Mr. VIAUD (France) hoped that if the Technical Assistance Committee met earlier, namely on 27 June, it would also conclude its work earlier, so that the experts serving on it would not be compelled to prolong their stay in Geneva. His delegation was prepared to agree to a meeting of the Co-ordination Committee on Tuesday, 28 June, one week in advance of the opening of the Council's session, but hoped that the documents relating to the two important items it would have before it—concentration of activities, and the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination—would be in the hands of Governments long enough in advance of the meeting for them to be able to give their representatives adequate instructions.

28. The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat would take note of that request.

29. He took it that the Council was agreed that the Co-ordination Committee should begin its work on Tuesday, 28 June, and that the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination should be added to the subjects mentioned in paragraph 14 of the Secretary-General's note.

#### It was so decided.

30. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America), referring to paragraph 5, suggested that it was unrealistic to hope that at the next session the Council would be able to complete its work one week earlier than usual. The Secretariat ought, therefore, to be fully prepared for the Council to continue working up to 6 August. His delegation was prepared to agree, as an exceptional measure, in view of the meetings to be held at the ministerial level, that the reports of the regional economic commissions should be discussed in plenary session as a separate item. It would not, however, regard that as a precedent to be followed in the future.

31. Mr. DUDLEY (United Kingdom) noted that meetings were scheduled for the Technical Assistance Committee during the third and fourth weeks of the session. It was likely that that Committee would have finished its work before then; both members of delegations and members of the Secretariat would thus be released for other work.

32. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should approve the suggestions made in the Secretary-General's note ( $E/L_{*}853$ ), as amended.

It was so decided.

### AGENDA ITEM 17

Elections (E/3330 and Add. 1-2, E/L.852 and Add. 1)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Natorf (Poland) and Mr. Kakitsubo (Japan) acted as the first team of tellers and Mr. Harland (New Zealand) and Mr. Boeg (Denmark) acted as the second team of tellers.

#### FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS (E/3330 AND ADD,1-2)

33. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to proceed to the election of one-third of the membership of the Statistical Commission, the Population Commission and the Social Commission for a period of four years beginning 1 January 1961, and of the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on International Commodity Trade for a period of three years beginning 1 January 1961. He drew attention to the Secretary-General's note (E/3330 and Add.1-2) and observed that, in accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure, those elections would be decided by secret ballot.

### Statistical Commission

Number of ballot papers:	18
Number of valid ballots:	18
Required majority:	10

Number	of	votes	obtained:
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France	17
United Kingdom of Great Britain and	
Northern Ireland	16
Norway	14
Cuba	12
Romania,	11
Japan	10
Italy	6
	1
United States of America	1

Having obtained the required majority, Cuba, France, Norway, Romania and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were elected.

#### **Population** Commission

Number of ballot papers: Number of valid ballots: Required majority:	18 18 10
Number of votes obtained:	
Belgium	18
Ceylon	18
Mexico	18
United Arab Republic	18
Uruguay	18

Having obtained the required majority, Belgium, Ceylon, Mexico, the United Arab Republic and Uruguay were elected.

#### Social Commission

<i>Number of ballot papers: Number of valid ballots: Required majority:</i>	18 18 10
Number of votes obtained:	
Canada	17
Ecuador	17
Albania	14
China	13
Israel	13
Sudan	12
Greece	10
Belgium	2
Ghana,	1
Panama	1

Having obtained the required majority, Albania, Canada, China, Ecuador, Israel and the Sudan were elected.

#### Commission on Human Rights

Number of ballot papers: Number of valid ballots:	18 18 10
Required majority:	10
Number of votes obtained: United Kingdom of Great Britain and	
Northern Ireland	17
Panama	16
Netherlands	15
Poland	13
China	12
Afghanistan,,,	11
Italy	9
Lebanon	9

Japan.		•	•	•			•	•		•		•		•		•	1
Sweden				•		•		•	•	•	,	•	•	,	•		1

Having obtained the required majority, Afghanistan, China, the Netherlands, Panama, Poland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were elected.

Commission on the Status of Women

Number of ballot papers: Number of valid ballots: Required majority:	18 18 10
Number of votes obtained: Argentina	18 18 17 17 13 2
Pakistan	1

Having obtained the required majority, Argentina, Australia, China, Czechoslovakia, Japan and the Philippines were elected.

Commission on International Commodity Trade

Number of ballot papers:	18
Number of valid ballots:	18
Required majority:	10
Number of votes obtained:   United States of America.   Ceylon   New Zealand   Bulgaria   Sweden   Federation of Malaya   Indonesia   Guinea	18 17 16 13 12 10 1

Having obtained the required majority, Bulgaria, Ceylon, the Federation of Malaya, New Zealand, Sweden and the United States of America were elected.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (E/L.852 AND ADD.1)

34. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to proceed to the election of ten members of the UNICEF Executive Board for a period of three years beginning 1 January 1961. A note (E/L.852 and Add.1) had been submitted by the Secretary-General.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i> <i>Number of valid ballots:</i> <i>Required majority:</i>	18 18 10
Number of votes obtained:	
United States of America	18
Poland	17
Brazil	16
France	16
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	16
Afghanistan	14
Japan	13
China	<b>12</b>
El Salvador	11
Tunisia	11
United Arab Republic	11

Philippines	9
Cuba	7

Having obtained the required majority, Afghanistan, Brazil, China, France, Japan, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America were elected.

35. The PRESIDENT stated that eight of the ten vacant seats on the UNICEF Executive Board had been filled. Since three members had obtained an equal number of votes exceeding the required majority, the two remaining seats would be filled by means of a restricted ballot in accordance with the terms of rule 69 of the rules of procedure.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballots cast:	18
Number of valid ballots:	18
Required majority:	10
Number of votes obtained:   Tunisia.   El Salvador   United Arab Republic   Philippines	11 10 8 7

Having obtained the required majority, El Salvador and Tunisia were elected.

### COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

36. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect six members of the Committee for Industrial Development in accordance with the decision taken at its 1109th meeting. He recalled that those members were to be elected from among States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency with due consideration to the principle of geographical distribution and to the adequate representation of under-developed countries.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballots cast: Number of valid ballots: Required majority:	18 18 10
Number of votes cast:	
Peru	18
Pakistan	17
India	16
United Arab Republic	15
Yugoslavia	14
Mexico	12
Austria	9
Ghana	2
Ceylon	1
Greece	1
Indonesia	1

Having obtained the required majority, India, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, the United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia were elected.

It was then decided, by the drawing of lits by the President, that, in order to establish a proper rotation of membership, the six members so elected should serve for the following terms: Pakistan and Yugoslavia, three years; India and Peru, two years; Mexico and the United Arab Republic, one year.

37. Mr. ABDALLA (Sudan) expressed the hope that, in future elections to the Committee for Industrial Development, due attention would be paid to the geographical distribution of the membership and to the representation of African and Asian countries, particularly those of Africa. An increasing number of African countries were becoming independent and entering the United Nations. As they were all underdeveloped, the Committee was of particular interest to them.

# AGENDA ITEM 18

Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council (E/3348 and Add. 1)

38. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should confirm the nominations for membership in the functional commissions of the Council as set forth in the note by the Secretary-General (E/3348 and Add.1).

It was so decided.

# AGENDA ITEM 11

Question of a declaration on freedom of information (E/3323 and Add.1-4) (concluded)

### REPORT OF THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE (E/3359)

39. Mr. SOBOLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for a separate vote on the draft declaration on freedom of information annexed to the draft resolution in the report of the Social Committee (E/3359).

The draft declaration on freedom of information was adopted by 15 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

40. Mr. SOBOLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he had abstained in the vote on the draft declaration because it was incomplete and unsatisfactory. It did not stipulate that the information exchanged should be accurate and undistorted, did not provide that information should promote international understanding and world peace, nor that Governments should take steps to prevent war propaganda and incitement to national, religious and racial hatred under the guise of information. The draft declaration was therefore not only weaker than the draft convention but even in conflict with it.

41. In spite of his misgivings regarding the draft declaration, he had voted for the draft resolution because it expressly stated that nothing should be allowed to interrupt, hinder or prejudice General Assembly action on the draft convention on freedom of information. He was anxious to promote freedom of information in every possible way and, although the draft declaration was unsatisfactory, he saw no objection to its being transmitted to the General Assembly for consideration, provided that it was not intended to be a substitute for the draft convention.

42. Mr. SOSA RODRIGUEZ (Venezuela) said that he had voted for the draft declaration, although his delegation had abstained on article III in the Social Committee, because he was infavour of any measure which would promote freedom of information and hasten the drafting of the convention. 43. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America) said that he had voted for both the draft resolution and the draft declaration because they represented a step forward in the United Nations work on freedom of information. He felt that the draft declaration, which his delegation had helped to draft, was a considerable achievement.

44. Mr. MICHALOWSKI (Poland) said that he had abstained in the vote on the draft declaration because he felt that it did nothing to promote freedom of information.

# AGENDA ITEM 6

Economic development of under-developed countries:

- (a) Industrialization;
- (b) Water resources;
- (c) Petroleum resources;
- (d) Co-operatives

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/3356)

45. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote on the four draft resolutions in the report of the Economic Committee (E/3356).

Draft resolution I was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 15 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution IV was adopted unanimously.

# AGENDA ITEM 8

International co-operation on cartography

**REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/3358)** 

46. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the report of the Economic Committee (E/3358) and pointed out that draft resolution I submitted by the Committee had financial implications. According to the note by the Secretary-General (E/AC.6/L.253/Rev.1/Add.1), the cost of the proposed conference, namely, \$12,700, would be included in the budget for the Council's programme of work.

47. The President put to the vote the three draft resolutions submitted by the Economic Committee (E/3358).

Draft resolution I was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 15 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted unanimously.

# AGENDA ITEM 5

International flow of private capital

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/3357)

48. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote on the draft resolution contained in the report of the Economic Committee (E/3357).

The draft resolution was adopted by 14 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

# AGENDA ITEM 19

Financial implications of actions of the Council (E/AC.6/ L.253/Rev.1/Add.1)

49. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the Council had already considered the statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General (E/AC.6/L. 253/Rev.1/Add.1) in connexion with agenda item 8 (International co-operation on cartography).

50. Mr. DUDLEY (United Kingdom) regretted that, although document E/AC.6/L.253/Rev.1/Add.1 adequately covered the ground, no Secretariat document had been submitted to the Council in connexion with the present item. In accordance with section A, V, of the annex to resolution 664 (XXIV), the Council should receive a statement of the financial implications of its actions as a Council document.

### Closure of the session

51. The PRESIDENT, speaking on his own behalf and that of the two Vice-Presidents, thanked the Council

for its co-operation. He also thanked the Secretariat on behalf of the Council.

52. The twenty-ninth session had been fruitful and the Council could congratulate itself on three outstanding decisions. First, the Council's decision with regard to aid to the newly independent countries would tend to increase the flow of assistance to those countries and to convince them that they could find understanding of their difficulties and support within the United Nations. Secondly, the establishment of the Committee for Industrial Development was an encouraging step. With a membership of experts and its wide terms of reference, it could be expected to do work of considerable interest to the under-developed countries. Thirdly, the unanimous adoption of the draft declaration on freedom of information was most heartening. It had obviously been adopted in the hope that it would prove helpful in the drafting of the Convention on Freedom of Information.

The meeting rose at 6.5 p.m.