ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL Forty-first session OFFICIAL RECORDS

Agenda items 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10 and 17:

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PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

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President: Mr. T. BOUATTOURA (Algeria)

Present:

Representatives of the following States: Algeria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Ecuador, France, Gabon, India, Iran, Iraq, Luxembourg, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela.

Observers for the following Member States: Bulgaria, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Tunisia.

Observers for the following non-member States: Federal Republic of Germany, Holy See, Switzerland.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, World Health Organization. International Telecommunication Union, World Meteorological Organization.

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

AGENDA ITEMS 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10 AND 17

World economic trends (E/4053 and addenda, E/4152 and Corr.1, E/4187 and addenda, E/4221, E/4224 and Add. 1; E/ECE/613; E/CN.12/752 and Add. 1 and 2, E/CN.12/754; E/CN.14/345)

General review of the development, co-ordination and concentration of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency as a whole (E/4182 and Add.1, E/4183, E/4185/ Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1, E/4188 and Add.1, E/4190, E/4191 and Corr.1 and 2, E/4193, E/4195 and Add.1, E/4197 and Add.1 and 2, E/4198 and Add.1, E/4199 and Add.1, E/4202, E/4205, E/4209, E/4215 and Corr.1)

Review and reappraisal of the Council's role and functions (E/4216)

United Nations Development Decade (E/4196 and Add.3)

Economic planning and projections (E/4046/Rev.1, E/4207 and Add.1; E/ECE/493/Add.1)

Financing of economic development

- (a) International flow of capital and assistance (E/4170 E/4171 and Corr.1)
- (b) Promotion of the international flow of private capital (E/4189 and Corr.1 and 2)

Industrial development activities (E/4192 and Add. 1, E/4203, E/4229 and Add. 1, E/4230)

Social development

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- (a) Report of the Social Commission (E/4206 and Add.1; E/CN.5/401)
- (b) Report on the World Social Situation (E/CN.5/402 and Add.1 and 2; E/L.1125)
- (c) Report on a programme of research and training in connexion with regional development projects (E/4228; E/CN.5/403)

GENERAL DEBATE (continued)

1. Mr. DAVIES (Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization), introducing the report of WMO (E/4182 and Add. 1), said that he would comment on two activities of that organization which demonstrated important aspects of its work and were good examples of collaboration and co-ordination between WMO on the one hand and the United Nations and other specialized agencies on the other. The first was the World Weather Watch, an activity which had been initiated by the United Nations itself. Resolutions 1721 (XVI) and 1802 (XVII) adopted by the General Assembly in 1961 and 1962 under the title "International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space" had recognized that the use of the earth-orbiting satellites as meteorological observation platforms presented unprecedented opportunities for progress in the atmospheric sciences and the application of meteorological knowledge for the benefit of all countries of the world, and WMO had been requested to study the matter and take appropriate action. The World Weather Watch was a complete reappraisal of the existing world weather system and the preparation of a plan for a new system in which meteorological satellites would play a very important part. Important scientific developments, notably the use of high speed electronic computers, were being incorporated into the plan. A document containing the main features of the plan had been approved by the WMO Executive Committee and would be presented to the WMO Congress in April 1967. Some countries had already taken steps to implement essential elements of the plan. For example, the World Meteorological Centres in Moscow and at Washington were already in operation and the third World Centre, at Melbourne, was in the process of development. The final decision on the location of regional meteorological centres would be taken by the Congress in 1967 but some countries had already taken steps to provide the services and installations required. An international meteorological satellite programme, with the participation of the United States, the USSR and, possibly, other groups of countries, was contemplated. The United States had already established an operational weather-satellite system composed of two satellites circling the earth on an approximate north-south orbit. One of the satellites was taking pictures of the weather and cloud systems and recording other scientific data, which were transmitted to a main read-out station. The other was equipped with a new development known as Automatic Picture Transmission. In that system, the satellite was constantly photographing the weather and cloud systems as it circled the earth and was constantly transmitting data, so that at any place on the earth's surface the information could be received directly as the satellite passed over. That was a development which would undoubtedly be of great value to many countries, especially the developing countries, in many of which the conventional network of meteorological stations was relatively sparse due to uninhabited neighbouring regions or to the proximity of areas of ocean. The value of such a system for observing and tracking hurricanes, typhoons and tropical storms was obvious. It was important that the meteorologists or other scientists using the photographs should be fully trained in their interpretation. To that end, WMO had arranged a regional training seminar at Tokyo in 1965 and would hold another one in Moscow in 1966 on the interpretation of meteorological satellite information. The organization would shortly be publishing for world distribution a special technical note on the subject prepared by United States scientists.

2. The second WMO activity to which he wished to refer was water resources development. More attention would have to be given to the efficient utilization of the world's natural water resources, not only in arid and semi-arid regions but also in those regions hitherto regarded as having ample water supplies. The work of the ACC Sub-Committee on Water Resources Development had been extremely valuable from a technical point of view and the current meeting of the Sub-Committee provided a good example of fruitful co-ordination between a number of specialized agencies and the United Nations in an increasingly important field. Much of the current activity was being undertaken within the framework of the International Hydrological Decade launched by UNESCO. Apart from the preparation of technical guidance material and other activities in connexion with the Decade, WMO was giving direct practical assistance to many countries under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Three important and highly successful Special Fund projects in Chile, Peru and Ecuador had been terminated since the previous session of the Council. Similar projects were currently in progress in Burma and Thailand, while a new project for a survey of the water resources of Lake Victoria in Africa, for which WMO would act as executing agency, had recently been approved by UNDP. Very good co-operation had been established between WMO and the regional economic commissions in water resources development. A series of training seminars on hydrological subjects held by ECAFE and WMO in recent years had become a traditional feature of the joint efforts of those bodies to help the developing countries in that region.

3. He hoped that his comments on those two activities would demonstrate that WMO was responding promptly and effectively to the request of the General Assembly and was co-ordinating its activities with those of the United Nations and other specialized agencies.

Mr. Murgescu (Romania), First Vice-President, took the chair.

4. Dr. CANDAU (Director-General, World Health Organization), introducing the report on the work of WHO (E/4197 and Add. 1 and 2), said that, in health, though there had been some remarkable achievements, the gap between the developed and developing parts of the world continued to widen. In general, health levels in the developing countries were falling in so far as certain of the communicable diseases were concerned. The retrogression was due to set-backs in the development of health services and to threats of resurgence of certain diseases previously considered to be well under control. The progress made in malaria eradication represented an extraordinary effort on the part of the Governments concerned and the international community, and had resulted in an enormous saving of lives, a reduction in illness and a consequent increase in manpower and the opening up of new areas for economic development. There had, however, been reverses in several parts of the world due to a number of factors, and new and imaginative efforts would still be required if the peculiar problem of malaria in Africa south of the Sahara was to be tackled. Smallpox, which was endemic in Asia, in Africa and, to a lesser extent, in Latin America, continued to be a major threat to the world as a whole. To meet that menace, the Nineteenth World Health Assembly had approved an accelerated smallpox eradication programme based on a ten-year co-operative plan. The cholera situation was disturbing. In 1965 the disease had spread to twenty-three countries and had reappeared after many decades at the very doors of Europe and Africa. Every effort was being made to stop its spread, and continued vigilance would be needed if countries with low immunity were not to fall new victims to it. In the Third Report on the World Health Situation attention was drawn to the return of plague, the pertinacity of the Aedes aegypti mosquito, and the dissemination of rabies, bilharziasis and trypanosomiasis. The incidence of syphilis and, to some extent, gonorrhoea was still increasing, while the problems of diarrhoea and malnutrition continued to be of very real concern.

- 5. The major factors contributing to that serious health situation in the developing countries was the acute lack of trained personnel and training institutions, inadequate financial resources and an inversion of priorities leading to failure to give adequate support to health work both at the national and international levels. By far the greatest of those problems was the lack of trained manpower physicians as well as middle level and paramedical personnel. WHO had been assisting Governments to develop health plans which included among their objectives the expansion of education and training facilities and the strengthening of health services. But slow progress had been made in health planning in the context of economic and social development, while basic health services had been only moderately reinforced as trained personnel were still painfully scarce. While the world average physician-population ratio—a fairly reliable indicator of the general health manpower of a given country—was 1 to 3,000, the average ratio in Africa, excluding two more advanced countries, was 1 to 20,000. The dearth of training facilities in that area was also disquieting. For a population of more than 200 million there were only six well-established and fully functioning medical schools. and in fourteen countries with populations of over 3 million there were no medical schools at all, a situation paralleled in only two other countries in the world. The data available to WHO indicated that the average physician-population ratios of the other regions were: 1 to 4,500 in the eastern Mediterranean: 1 to 3,500 in the Americas (excluding the northern part); 1 to 2,500 in the western Pacific; and, at least 1 to 1,000 in Europe. For the five South-east Asian countries on which information was available, the ratio varied from 1 to 4,600 to 1 to 41,000. WHO had been taking all possible steps to assist countries to overcome the gross deficiency of trained personnel but the support obtained from countries providing bilateral assistance, private foundations and international and regional banks had been far from adequate. The Council would perform an extremely valuable and lasting service to mankind if it were to invite financial institutions, inside and outside the United Nations family, to provide the necessary resources for the development of the much needed training institutes, both on a national and a regional basis.
- 6. Another factor inhibiting health progress was the decreasing support being given to health development, particularly in the low-income countries. There had been a failure to recognize the importance of investment in health as a safeguard of, and, in some cases, an impetus to, economic development.
- 7. It was natural that public health action should increase the expectation of life as well as prevent disease and suffering, and it was well known that the countries with the highest population growth rate were among those which had not yet received the full benefits of progress in medicine and public health. It was essential to devise methods for measuring the effect of health services on population dynamics and to relate them to other factors such as educational, agricultural, and economic influence

- as a whole. It should be remembered, however, that no programme designed to implement any population policy could be accomplished without the development of adequate minimum basic health services. That fact had been fully recognized by the Nineteenth World Health Assembly following its consideration of a report on the health aspects of population. That report contained a detailed description of the work carried out by WHO during the preceding twelve months in research in human reproduction. During that period scientific groups had been convened to consider and report on a number of subjects including the clinical aspects of oral gestogens and the basic and clinical aspects of intra-uterine devices. Both those important subjects would be kept under annual review. Another scientific group had met recently to consider the important subject of the ovulation cycle as it related directly to the rhythm method of fretility control.
- 8. During the same twelve-month period WHO had established collections of human pituitaries, a documentary centre and an inventory of research institutions and research scientists working on human reproduction. It had also completed a bibliography of ethnic and geographical variations in human reproduction, while work on the critical review of the bibliography was proceeding rapidly. The Organization was investigating the introduction of new animals into laboratory research with the object of using various species of carnivores showing delayed implantation and delayed fertilization, and was carrying out studies on immuno-pathological mechanisms. It had provided grants for research in human reproduction, for studies in population dynamics and for the training of research workers in the subject. Comparatively little was really known about the biology of human reproduction, and it was believed that the research programme would help not only in the establishment of the scientific truth but also in the philosophical or ideological interpretation of the different means of fertility control available.
- 9. The Nineteenth World Health Assembly had decided that WHO could advise Governments, upon request, on the development of family planning activities as part of the over-all functions of local health services, particularly of their maternal and child health services, but had emphasized that WHO should accept no responsibility for endorsing or promoting any particular population policy and that any such policy must be decided upon by the Government concerned. It has re-emphasized its belief that the problems of human reproduction involved the family unit as well as the society as a whole and that the size of the family was the free choice of each individual family. The importance of basing any programme aimed at population control on at least a minimum health service could not be over-emphasized, both from the medical point of view and from the point of view of its final objective. In ensuring that such services were available, special care should be given to the preservation of their normal preventive and curative activities—still perilously rudimentary in many large areas of the world in order to avoid an increase in morbidity and mortality.
- 10. WHO continued to pay special attention to the

question of the co-ordination of its activities with those of other organizations in the United Nations family and of bilateral and other agencies engaged in health work. Evaluation was another question to which WHO paid attention. The Organization had recently taken steps to systematize its evaluation procedures and was more thoroughly applying in its operational programmes the lessons gained from its experience. In so far as evaluation of an over-all programme was concerned, however, he believed that evaluation and assessment had to be functionally oriented and had to take the technical as well as the economic aspects of programmes into account. He hoped that in any future attempts to assess the over-all impact of programmes of the United Nations family, more use would be made of the technical resources of the specialized agencies.

- 11. Mr. SARWATE (Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union), introducing the annual report of ITU (E/4188 and Add. 1) said that, to mark its centenary, ITU had held its Plenipotentiary Conference in Montreux during the latter part of 1965. In keeping with the theme of International Co-operation Year, the Conference had devoted particular attention to the question of means of bringing the benefit of modern telecommunications to countries in general and to new and developing countries in particular, and had adopted a series of resolutions aimed at reinforcing ITU activities in technical co-operation.
- 12. Technical co-operation in telecommunications bore on three main aspects, namely, planning, training and financing. In so far as planning was concerned, the Conference had placed particular emphasis on the role of the World Plan Committee and the various regional plan committees in the preparation of a general plan for the international telecommunication network.
- 13. The Conference had also recognized the increasing emphasis being placed by member countries on the training of telecommunication personnel, and had adopted a resolution providing for greater activity by the Head-quarters staff in the area of training. The Union's field training projects formed an ever-increasing proportion of its participation in UNDP.
- 14. The question of the availability of capital was particularly important in so far as the expansion of telecommunication networks in developing countries was concerned. The Conference had renewed the resolution, originally adopted in 1959, requiring the Union's Headquarters to assist members of the Union in exploring sources of financing. Continuing efforts had been made to interest financing institutions in telecommunication matters and close co-operation was maintained with IBRD, which had augmented its staff of telecommunication specialists. The interest shown by the regional development banks in providing loans for well-planned telecommunication expansion had been noted with appreciation. ITU was ready to provide assistance to those banks and to their customers in promoting fruitful cooperation in the field of telecommunication development.
- 15. The reason why financing had become a matter of major concern for ITU was that, whereas telecommuni-

cation services had originally been developed on commercial lines and had been expected not only to be self-supporting but to be able to finance their development and modernization, their diversified applications in economic development had not necessarily been revenue producing. That was particularly true in the new and developing countries, in which telecommunications had had to take a comparatively low place in the order of economic priorities. Although recent experience had shown that neglect of basic requirements retarded the progress of the economy as a whole, the importance of telecommunications in that process was being realized only slowly. Consequently, the developing countries were tending to lag behind.

- 16. With regard to the general problem of the application of science and technology to telecommunication development, it was perhaps not sufficiently well known that ITU was an efficient mechanism for the transfer of scientific and technological knowledge to the developing countries, and the Plenipotentiary Conference had instructed the Administrative Council and the Secretary-General of ITU to make the necessary arrangements for a fruitful association of ITU with the work of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development.
- 17. Another matter to which the Plenipotentiary Conference had devoted considerable attention was telecommunication and the peaceful uses of outer space. The Conference had adopted a resolution instructing the Administrative Council and the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to keep the United Nations and the specialized agencies informed of the progress made in space telecommunication, and to offer the co-operation of the Union, within its field of competence, to the United Nations and the specialized agencies interested in space telecommunication, and in particular to the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
- 18. The Conference had also called upon the members of the Union to join in ensuring that all countries should have equal opportunities to use space telecommunication facilities.
- 19. Among the striking achievements in space applications in recent years he wished particularly to refer to communication satellites. The United States Early Bird satellite and the USSR satellite Molnya I were each able to carry one television channel or the equivalent in telephone channels. They were to be followed in 1967 and 1968 by communication satellites of much greater potentialities. In addition to their application to point-to-point links, experiments had shown that communication satellites would be able to provide a mobile service, for example for aircraft crossing the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Direct broadcasting to home receivers was already technically feasible, and direct television broadcasting would no doubt be possible in the not-too-distant future. The question naturally arose how communication satellites, which were now capable of performing a number of services that could have an important impact on political, economic and social life, could be of benefit to developing countries.

- 20. Direct broadcasting from communication satellites could be put to excellent use in providing mass communications and education through television. A pilot project on those lines was at present under study by UNESCO in close co-operation with the United Nations and ITU. It should also be feasible, from the technical as well as the economic point of view, to bring long-distance telecommunications to areas which did not readily lend themselves to conventional forms of communication. He therefore suggested that the use of communication satellites for the benefit of developing countries should receive the earnest consideration of the Council. As in the case of the conventional means of telecommunication to which he had already referred, the chief obstacle to allround progress was financing. The new developments would have direct impacts on the fields of activity of the United Nations and nearly all the specialized agencies.
- 21. With regard to the main aspects of ITU's programmes for the coming years considered with reference to the aims of the Development Decade, he said that expansion and modernization required, first of all, detailed planning of international telecommunication net-works. A world plan based on detailed regional plans had been put into force in 1963 and would cover the period up to 1968. It was designed to assist national administrations in the conclusion of agreements for the organizational improvement of international services, and it was being supplemented by the provision of technical assistance under UNDP and bilateral arrangements. It was not possible to give an accurate estimate of the cost of implementing the world plan, but it was thought to be of the order of several thousand million dollars.
- 22. An important aspect of telecommunication development was the planning of radio frequency allocations and assignments for various telecommunication services undertaken by ITU through regional or world-wide conferences. ITU had already in hand the preparation of a plan for long- and medium-wave broadcasting in Africa; it had just completed the revision of the world Aeronautical Mobile Service (R) Plan and would embark in the coming year on the revision of the plan for the Maritime Mobile Service. It had also scheduled meetings of the Asian and African Plan Committees in preparation for the World Plan Committee, which was to meet at Mexico City in 1967. Through periodic meetings of the plenary assemblies of the International Consultative Committees, ITU was carrying out studies for the development and application of telecommunications.
- 23. A programme of activities could influence economic progress only if it was based on sound international co-operation and co-ordination. ITU maintained excellent relations with organizations of the United Nations family and had special arrangements with many of them. He wished particularly to emphasize the importance of the co-operation and co-ordination achieved within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
- 24. In view of the great impact which telecommunications could have in shaping the modern world, it was vital that the progress made should be available to the whole world without discrimination and in as equitable a manner as possible.

- 25. Mr. MAHEU (Director-General, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), introducing the report of UNESCO (E/4190), said he hoped that it would be found to give an objective picture of the vitality of UNESCO and its concern to perform its own function without losing sight of the imperative need for over-all co-ordination.
- 26. At a time when a tendency was emerging to establish autonomous organizations within the United Nations family and to set up permanent committees of experts and consultants, which might enter into competition in certain respects with the statutory activities performed by the technical personnel and consultants of the specialized agencies, it was essential that the Council, with the assistance of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) in the preparation of its work, should remain, under the authority of the General Assembly, the sole centre for the direction and co-ordination of the activities of all United Nations organs in the economic, social and human rights fields.
- 27. The Secretary-General had called in 1965 for a general review of the effectiveness of all United Nations efforts in the only kind of war which should be known to mankind—the war against hunger, disease and ignorance. In 1966 UNESCO would be celebrating its twentieth anniversary and was undertaking on its own account, for that occasion, a general review of its operations and its brief history. Extensive consultations would be organized by member Governments, the national commissions and the UNESCO secretariat in preparation for an evaluation of the role of UNESCO as an instrument of international technical co-operation, and an evaluation of its contribution to the activities of the United Nations family on behalf of peace. That review would take into account the profound changes in political, economic, social, technical and cultural conditions throughout the world since 1946 and the hopes and fears to which they had given rise. The review would culminate in the fourteenth session of the General Conference, and its results would be before the Council in 1967.
- 28. In the meantime, he wished to give his personal view of UNESCO as an instrument of international technical co-operation. Its activities had long been exclusively intellectual in character but had now become both intellectual and operational. Intellectual co-operation implied the stimulation and organization throughout the world of the gathering and analysis of knowledge, the confrontation of experience and ideas, and a co-operative search for explanations and interpretations. Such specialized work, which did not usually attract the interest of the general public, was aimed essentially at promoting intellectual progress. Its effect on the condition of human societies was usually indirect and long-term in character, and it was rarely assessable in quantitative terms. It was necessarily contingent in its impact since the efficacy of the human mind in history was by its nature unforeseeable. However, the scientists, scholars, artists and thinkers that UNESCO sought to assist and unite were the salt of the earth. It was thanks to their creativity and inventiveness that the adventure of the human race in the universe was progressively ceasing to be a destiny passively

suffered and was becoming more and more the manifestation of a triumphant and responsible freedom. More simply and immediately, the system of intellectual cooperation, which was daily becoming more generalized, more diversified and more profound, constituted the technical basis of the first truly universal civilization.

- 29. UNESCO felt honoured to assist to the best of its ability the architects of that great future by a diversity of means—specialized tasks such as those of documentation and translation, studies carried out by committees of experts, the training of specialists, and more spectacular undertakings such as the History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind, or major programmes of scientific co-operation and symposia attended by distinguished thinkers, scientists and scholars.
- 30. He would confine his comments, however, to a few recent examples of such intellectual co-operation. In the field of science there had been the remarkable work carried out by the International Oceanographic Commission and the excellent beginning made by the International Hydrological Decade, in which more than eighty countries were actively participating. In the field of information, two committees of experts had in recent months worked out a very promising programme, in close co-operation with the secretariats of the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), for the utilization of telecommunication satellites for educational and cultural purposes. He had included in the draft programme and budget for the coming year proposals for initiating a vast co-operative undertaking to organize rationally and on a world-wide basis the collection, analysis, dissemination and utilization of documentation, more particularly of a scientific and technological character. The disorder prevailing in that field was the source of an incalculable waste of money, time and energy, and a frequent cause of intellectual paralysis. The intellectual unity of mankind depended on an organized common memory, and the international institutions alone could undertake such a major organizational effort objectively and in the interests of all. UNESCO, in his view, should help to establish the general conditions for its success through development of techniques and basic structures.
- 31. Those examples would suffice to show the nature and extent of intellectual co-operation. Operational action was of quite a different nature: it bore upon particular problems peculiar to certain concrete situations obtaining in various member States, and aimed at directly modifying those situations by action which must, and should, be taken only at the request, and with the co-operation, of the States concerned. Those activities, which were at once international and national, were a new departure, and represented a most typical and effective contribution to development by the specialized agencies of a technical type, such as UNESCO. They had not been envisaged by the founders of UNESCO, and when UNESCO had adopted them as a regular and essential method of work, that had been rather a result of its membership in the United Nations family than an independent development. The major role in that development had been played by the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, and subsequently by the Special Fund, and he wished once

- again to pay tribute to those who had conceived and guided those two great institutions, which had recently been combined.
- 32. That experience served to demonstrate how receptive UNESCO was to the formative ideas which constantly manifested themselves within the United Nations family and its readiness to participate in all constructive undertakings which might result from them. That was only natural since UNESCO, by virtue of its functions, was in particularly close contact with its sister organizations and it therefore attached particular importance to the question of co-ordination.
- 33. The expansion of operational activities had coincided with the admission to UNESCO of a large number of new States, which had led to profound modifications in its programme and organization. A conversion to development had taken place the sincerity of which was matched only by the zeal shown in passing from principles to useful action. Although that process was still going on, the mutation had been essentially effected in 1964 with the unanimous adoption by the General Conference of certain fundamental principles concerning the general conception and orientation of the programme, not only for the current operational year but also for the immediate future. Approximately two-thirds of UNESCO's resources were at present devoted to operational activities for development. Furthermore, whereas in 1950 the proportion of external postings to headquarters postings had been 1 to 10 it had risen by 1 April 1966 to 5 to 3 and the number of external postings, required for operational activities, had more than doubled between 1960 and the end of 1965.
- 34. The greater part of the funds for those activities were drawn from the extra-budgetary resources of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); UNESCO had been made executing agency for no less than ninetyeight projects of the Special Fund alone. However, operational activities were also being carried out under UNESCO's regular programme. They included not only joint service activities in fields not benefiting from UNDP aid but also pilot projects and the operation of demonstration and training centres. Such operational activities under the regular programme were of particular interest and utility since they provided an organic link between the work of intellectual co-operation depending exclusively on UNESCO's own resources and development activities financed primarily from extra-budgetary sources. They represented a concrete example of the programme unification through integration of resources which the General Conference had placed in the first rank of the principles which should guide UNESCO's general policy.
- 35. Those operational activities related primarily to education and science. Among the most important advances made in recent years in the theory and practice of development was the realization, by those responsible for its planning and financing, of the fundamental importance of education and science in providing the means for and ensuring a truly endogenous developmental process. UNESCO was proud to have contributed to that realization and was endeavouring by increasingly rigorous objective studies to render it more profound and precise.

- 36. UNESCO had set up in its secretariat a unit for economic analysis of the educational and scientific factors in development. It had also established an international institute for educational planning and a network of similar regional institutes at Santiago de Chile, New Delhi, Beirut and Dakar. Working on different lines but inspired by the same conceptions, the secretariat services responsible for advising Governments, as well as other UNESCO research organs, were pursuing the same goal of methodical integration of educational and scientific planning into general development planning.
- 37. An agreement concluded in 1964 for co-operation between UNESCO and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) had already resulted in loans by IBRD and the International Development Association (IDA) to nine countries of a total of more than \$73 million for the expansion and improvement of educational services, particularly secondary, general and technical education. Both the wishes expressed by member States and the statements made by the President of IBRD suggested that that was only a beginning. With the authorization of the Executive Board of UNESCO, he was at present negotiating a similar agreement with the Inter-American Development Bank and was anxious to conclude agreements also with the Asian and African Development Banks.
- 38. Education and science were the fields in which UNESCO could most directly contribute to development, but those two terms had to be taken in a wide sense. For example, information media—the Press, the cinema, radio and television—were part of modern education. Not only were they the core of mass education for adults but they represented what a French sociologist had called a "parallel education" to formal school and university studies and often went beyond the latter, at least in volume and intensity. He did not think that the institutions responsible for the financing of development, in particular UNDP, as yet took sufficient account of that situation. The campaign for the development of human resources should include important components aiming at reinforcement and better utilization of the information media for broadly educational purposes. A similar attitude should be adopted towards such infrastructures of cultural life as public libraries and the publication of low-priced books which played a major role in raising the intellectual level of a nation. The criteria at present applied in deciding which projects qualified for international financial assistance were in a number of respects too narrow and conventional.
- 39. It was the values a nation respected which finally determined what was possible and desirable for it to do in furthering its development, as technocrats preoccupied with the importation of impersonal techniques often discovered to their own cost and the cost of those they hoped to benefit without knowing or understanding them. The role that the social sciences could play in that regard was all too frequently overlooked. An under-developed community was basically one that had not genuinely acceded to scientific and technological civilization, which was at the present time the driving force behind human progress. It was only when science and technology had

- ceased to be an imported witchcraft and had become an integral part of a nation's culture that it could be said to have become a developed country. In that sense development could be described as science which had become culture.
- 40. Among general trends which were becoming apparent in the fields of intellectual co-operation and operational action, there was an increasingly manifest desire to concentrate on key sectors in which stimulation or assistance could yield maximum results with a minimum of resources. A few examples of such sectors were the planning of education and the organization of science, the training of teachers, scholars, scientists, technologists and technicians, and experiments with new teaching and information techniques particularly by audio-visual means. They clearly called for thorough work of a high standard that would establish the basis and framework for large-scale activities which, for the present at least, appeared to lie outside the scope of international co-operation.
- 41. Such co-operation must have at its disposal a minimum of resources to enable it to demonstrate in practice the correctness of its solutions and the efficacy of its methods, and he wished to associate himself with previous speakers in decrying what was sometimes called the crisis of assistance but what he preferred to call an inadequacy in co-operation. Although the resources placed at the disposal of the international organizations had considerably increased, they were still below the minimum level desirable. The World Congress of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy and the regional conferences of ministers of education and ministers responsible for economic planning held at Bangkok, Tripoli and Buenos Aires had furnished dramatic proof of that fact.
- 42. However considerable the differences might be between what was and what should be, he considered that, in striving after quality and the training of highly qualified personnel, UNESCO was moving in the right direction. With goodwill from all parties concerned and respect for the decisive role which the Governments of recipient countries must play, it should be possible to achieve a much needed harmonization of bilateral and multilateral assistance.
- 43. The second trend he wished to mention was towards medium-term programming. Limited and immediate objectives were giving place progressively to relatively systematic groupings of undertakings destined to be carried on over a fairly long stated period—five or ten years—with a view to achieving defined objectives. Examples were the experimental world literacy programme, the International Hydrological Decade, both decided on by the General Conference in 1964, and the proposals he was submitting to the forthcoming session of the General Conference for the advancement of women through education, for the education of youths, and others, to some of which he had already referred. All those programmes were, or would be, on a ten-year basis. Medium-term planning was particularly well suited to an organization like UNESCO which was concerned with intellectual life where results could be obtained only after a certain time and in response to a sustained and methodical effort. Such planning would also facilitate the

projections of budgetary expansion to which some member States rightly attached great importance, and it presented advantages for administrators in permitting smooth preparation and execution of necessary changes in administration and organization. Medium-term programming also had effects outside UNESCO itself: it enabled the ministerial conferences convened by UNESCO in various regions to draw up regional plans in sufficient detail not only to permit measurement of the progress achieved and, where necessary, modification of priorities and approaches, but also to harmonize UNESCO's own programmes and the plans of member States, thus reducing to a minimum the dangers of arbitrary technocracy.

- 44. The third trend in UNESCO's general policy was towards an increasing emphasis on evaluation, particularly of the Organization's operational activities. Two major projects, to be completed in December 1966, on the improvement of primary education in Latin America and on mutual appreciation of Eastern and Western cultural values, had been the subject of a detailed investigation by outside committees of experts as regards the methods used and the results achieved. The reports on the subject, which were highly encouraging, would be submitted to the General Conference. Furthermore, a comprehensive evaluation of the institutes and regional centres that UNESCO had established or helped to set up in Asia had been made in 1965 by a special committee consisting of senior officials of the UNESCO secretariat and of the member States concerned. Owing to the increasing need for control over UNESCO's operational activities, he had submitted proposals to the General Conference that would in future make evaluation an integral part of such activities. Evaluation would no longer be a retrospective operation, but would begin before any project was embarked upon and would continue throughout its execution. He believed that his proposals would allay some of the concern expressed by member States which wished to determine the real effectiveness of international action.
- 45. He drew attention to UNESCO's ethical and moral objectives, and pointed out that the promotion of education, science and culture was simply the means by which the objective of peace, sought by UNESCO in common with the entire United Nations family, could be achieved. It was UNESCO's task to use those means to foster within individuals and entire peoples the feelings of justice and tolerance which were the basis of freedom. UNESCO was therefore carrying out the important function of promoting international understanding, stimulating scientific research and studies of the complex problems raised by the definition and application of human rights, and drafting international conventions or recommendations designed to provide a minimum degree of protection in various fields. Yet in general the ethical aspects of UNESCO's activities transcended their practical content so that, for example, its operational assistance in the field of development was not merely designed to combat misery, but rather to eliminate the injustice inherent in under-development. In that context, UNESCO's technical and ethical activities were inseparably linked.

- 46. Mr. WAGNER de REYNA (Peru) said he would deal specifically with UNESCO's efforts to assist those parts of the world in which development was a task of great urgency. In its activities, UNESCO had emphasized the spiritual aspect of development, and had concentrated on the development of man himself as the goal of economic and social welfare. Such emphasis was clear from the statement just made by the Director-General of UNESCO and the report of that Organization, which indeed represented a ray of light and hope in an otherwise gloomy atmosphere created by forebodings about the future of the Development Decade. UNESCO's valuable activities, undertaken with very limited financial resources, nevertheless drew upon the intellectual and moral capital of the entire world.
- 47. He noted that since 1960 UNESCO had accorded top priority to education and particularly to its campaign against illiteracy. In illiterate societies, economic progress, good health standards, democracy and human rights were impossible. It was in such areas that UNESCO was concentrating its efforts, and had created the concept of functional literacy which had been generally accepted by the developing countries.
- 48. The problem of raising levels of living entailed a large number of activities in many fields, and its solution should permit the full utilization of human resources which were the corner-stone of economic and social development. UNESCO had therefore accorded second priority to the task of assisting member States in the preparation of a scientific policy, strengthening economic co-operation and promoting the application of science to development.
- 49. He noted that a new idea, namely, that of cultural tourism had been espoused a few weeks previously by UNESCO's Executive Board at its Budapest meeting. Implementation of that idea would permit the conservation of historical monuments and sites in various countries, promote understanding between peoples, and raise educational levels and economic and social levels in areas poor in material resources but rich in works of art or historical monuments. Cultural tourism would be an important aspect of activities during 1967, which the Council had recommended should be proclaimed International Tourism Year (resolution 1108 (XL)).
- 50. Mr. HILL (International Chamber of Commerce), speaking at the invitation of the President, referred to the fourteenth session of ICC's Commission on Asian and Far Eastern Affairs which had met in Tokyo in May 1966 as an example of his Organization's varied activities. The theme of the session had been "Asian economic development through international co-operation", and a highly realistic statement of conclusions had been drawn up. The first of those conclusions had concerned the need for vigorous efforts to harmonize national development programmes, bearing in mind the essential role of the private sector and the practical value of the consultation of business interests by Governments at every stage of the process. Secondly, the Commission had called for practical means of increasing private savings in the region and of channelling them towards the private sector in the interest of the national economies and peoples concerned.

In that connexion ICC intended to investigate practical methods of fostering the operation of capital markets in the developing areas. The third conclusion concerned the Asian Development Bank which, it had been urged, should be able to use its funds, among other things, for the direct financing of investment projects in the private sector. Furthermore, stress had been laid on the importance of international joint business ventures and on the need for government action in both capital-importing and capital-exporting countries with a view to removing fiscal and other obstacles to such ventures. The statement of conclusions had been set out in full in document E/C.2/642.

- 51. The main emphasis in ICC's activities in the field of international trade during 1965 had been on the Kennedy Round, and in that connexion ICC had submitted suggestions to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for a realistic and effective codification of the existing somewhat chaotic anti-dumping regulations and measures. ICC, which had made specific recommendations for dealing with fluctuations in commodity prices and export earnings, considered that short-term fluctuations could be handled through the International Monetary Fund's machinery, possibly on a more flexible basis. It insisted, however, that no action should be taken to remedy long-term disequilibria that would prevent or hamper structural readjustment or foster uneconomic production. It had suggested some simple and effective rules for ensuring the operation of supplementary financing machinery (TD/B/C.3/NGO/1 and 4) and was at present engaged in a thorough study of the problem of trade in manufactures of the developing countries on the basis of the report of the Committee of Experts set up by UNCTAD.
- 52. ICC was following with close attention recent discussions concerning international monetary and financial policies, and in January 1966 it had prepared, for consideration by Governments and the international bodies concerned, a set of six recommendations on the subject (TD/B/NGO/2). Those recommendations reflected an

- effort to find common ground between divergent views and to set out in realistic terms the basic rules which must, from the businessman's point of view, govern international monetary relations.
- 53. ICC had also followed up its extensive past inquiries into the possibility of establishing a multilateral system of guarantees for private international investment by a statement (E/C.2/640), based on a study of OECD proposals, reaffirming its conviction that such a system would help substantially to improve the investment climate and therefore stimulate the flow of capital to the developing areas. It had also recently issued a study of the promotion of economic growth through fiscal methods (TD/B/C.3/NGO/5).
- 54. Part I, chapter II of the World Economic Survey, 1965 (E/4187/Add. 2 and Corr. 1) was of exceptional interest, since it summarized in an admirably concise manner the information accumulated by the United Nations concerning the flow of resources from the developed market economies. The picture it painted was by and large encouraging, although it revealed the persistence of attitudes that could not but act as a brake on the growth of private investment. At one point, the document drew attention to the existence of a conflict of interest between the foreign investor searching for profit and the Government of the capital-importing country searching for capital at the lowest possible cost; in his view such conflicts were more apparent than real. However there did appear to be a very real contradiction between the universal recognition of the urgent need for foreign capital and technical assistance and the reluctance with which the inflow of private capital from abroad still appeared to be regarded in certain quarters. Perhaps the key lay in the attitude not so much to private foreign investment as to private enterprise as such, whether foreign or domestic.
- 55. The theme of ICC's twenty-first Congress in May 1967 would be "Private enterprise in a changing world", and he hoped to report to the Council's 1967 summer session on the conclusions reached on that subject.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.