



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Forty-eighth Session
OFFICIAL RECORDS

Friday, 3 April 1970,
at 3.20 p.m.

NEW YORK

President: Mr. J. B. P. MARAMIS (Indonesia).

AGENDA ITEM 4

Report of the Population Commission (E/4813 and Corr.1)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote on the five draft resolutions which appeared in paragraph 16 of document E/4813 and Corr.1 and which the Economic Committee had recommended for adoption.

Draft resolution I on population policies and the Second United Nations Development Decade was adopted by 11 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

2. Mrs. CHITTY (United Kingdom) said that she would like formally to introduce an amendment to draft resolution II on the third world population conference which her delegation had submitted orally in the Economic Committee.

3. Mr. SEN (India) said that at that stage of the proceedings only drafting amendments could be submitted. In his opinion, amendments which dealt with the substance of the matter were not admissible.

4. Mrs. CHITTY (United Kingdom) said that her delegation's amendment consisted in the addition of the following new operative paragraph:

"Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Population Commission and to the Economic and Social Council at regular intervals on the progress made in the arrangements for the conference".

5. Mr. CALOVSKI (Yugoslavia) and Mr. SEN (India) said they thought that that amendment was unnecessary since in any event the Secretariat would keep the Commission and the Council informed regarding the preparations for the conference.

6. Mr. MACURA (Director, Population Division) confirmed that the Secretary-General would keep the Population Commission informed of the progress made.

7. The PRESIDENT said that in that case the amendment proposed by the representative of the United Kingdom was unnecessary and he put to the vote the draft resolution as it appeared in document E/4813.

Draft resolution II on the third world population conference was adopted by 19 votes to 3, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution III on the world population year was adopted by 17 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution IV on work programmes and priorities in the fields of population was adopted by 18 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution V on the report of the Population Commission was adopted without objection.

AGENDA ITEM 8

Elections (concluded)* (E/4777, E/4803; E/L.1299/Rev.1 and Add.1-4, E/L.1301 and Add.1-3)

8. The PRESIDENT reminded members that at its 1670th meeting the Council had decided to postpone the elections to the Governing Council of UNDP until the resumed session. It was now faced with the following alternatives: either to postpone the other elections too, or to proceed forthwith to elect new members to the Executive Board of UNICEF.

9. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) said he did not see why the appointment of a member of the Committee for Development Planning should give rise to any difficulties for the Asian group. It was not a question of submitting the names of candidates but simply of approving the nomination proposed by the Secretary-General. The Council could therefore take an immediate decision on the appointment of a member of the Committee for Development Planning.

10. Mr. FRANZI (Italy) said he understood the difficulties encountered by the regional groups in nominating candidates for the elections. The Council had, moreover, shown its understanding by postponing the elections to the Governing Council of UNDP until its resumed session. As the representative of the United States had pointed out, however, that problem did not arise in connexion with the appointment of a member of the Committee for Development Planning. He would like the representative of UNICEF to explain once again why UNICEF wished to know the results of the elections to its Executive Board as soon as possible.

11. Mr. CHARNOW (United Nations Children's Fund) said that the Executive Board of UNICEF was to meet immediately after its annual session (20 April to 1 May) to elect officers and committees for the year beginning 1 August 1970. It had chosen that time to enable the usual representatives to UNICEF to participate in the elections. The representatives of Governments to be elected to the Executive Board by the Economic and Social Council would have to participate in those elections. Accordingly, if the Council postponed the elections of the new members of the Executive Board until May, UNICEF would have to

* Resumed from the 1671st meeting.

postpone its own elections until after that date, which would mean that most of the usual representatives to UNICEF would not be in a position to participate in the elections and the key officers to be elected would have to make a special trip to New York.

12. Furthermore, the Executive Board had for some years followed the practice of inviting the members newly elected by the Economic and Social Council to attend the annual session of the Executive Board, before the commencement of their term, so that they could become familiar with the Board's work.

13. Mr. KARIM (Pakistan) said that when his delegation had asked that all elections should be postponed until May, it had not been aware of the difficulties which might be entailed for UNICEF. He therefore proposed that all the elections should be postponed except those to the Executive Board of UNICEF.

14. Mr. ZAKHAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that in previous years the Economic and Social Council had elected the members of the Executive Board of UNICEF after the session of the Executive Board. He would therefore like to know if some new development had occurred to justify the request of the representative of UNICEF.

15. Mr. CHARNOW (United Nations Children's Fund) confirmed that the results of the elections had not been known at the end of the Executive Board's session in 1969, since the Board had met earlier in Santiago. This had given rise to a number of practical difficulties which the Board had hoped could be avoided in the future.

16. Mr. ZAKHAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he hoped that UNICEF would not insist on altering a procedure which had been followed for several years.

17. Mr. SEN (India) said that the Council could not go back on the decision which it had taken with respect to the Governing Council of UNDP. With regard to the other elections, the Asian group felt that they should either all be postponed or all held at the present meeting. As the representative of the USSR had observed, the difficulties which would arise for UNICEF if the elections were postponed were not insurmountable. Moreover, he did not see why the representatives to UNICEF should have to make a special journey to New York for the elections. Other members of their delegations could receive instructions from them and replace them for the occasion.

18. Mr. FRANZI (Italy) said he still thought that the elections of members of the Executive Board of UNICEF and of the Committee for Development Planning could be held at the present meeting, since they did not necessitate the selection of candidates.

19. Mr. AKWEI (Ghana), referring to the comments made by the representative of India, said that it could be a mistake to rely too much on logical reasoning. In fact, before even knowing of the decision taken by the Asian group, the Council had decided to postpone the elections to the Governing Council of UNDP. He supported the repre-

sentatives of the United States and Pakistan and thought that the elections of members of the Executive Board of UNICEF and of the Committee for Development Planning could be held forthwith.

20. Mr. FRANZI (Italy) observed that there were differences of opinion within the Asian group itself. He formally proposed that the Council should proceed, at its present meeting, to elect the members of the Executive Board of UNICEF and to appoint a member of the Committee for Development Planning.

21. Mr. VIAUD (France) said he would support the majority view. However, he considered that the Italian representative had been right to point out that the difficulties which the regional groups had in nominating candidates did not arise in the case of UNICEF. The Executive Board could therefore be elected forthwith. His delegation hoped that the preferences or objections of certain delegations were not a reflection of ulterior motives. Such an attitude would be out of place inasmuch as the nomination of candidates did not present any problem.

22. Mr. TARABANOV (Bulgaria) asked if the postponement of the elections to the Executive Board of UNICEF would unduly hinder that body's work. His delegation had no strong preferences with regard to the date on which the elections should be held.

23. Mr. NAITO (Japan) said that, having heard the comments of the representative of UNICEF, he felt it would be wise to proceed immediately to elect the members of the Executive Board of UNICEF, and to hold all other elections as well.

24. Mr. CHARNOW (United Nations Children's Fund), replying to the question asked by the representative of Bulgaria, said that the election of the members of the Executive Board of UNICEF could quite well be postponed. In speaking earlier he had merely wished to bring to the notice of the Economic and Social Council the desire of the Executive Board of UNICEF to follow a procedure that would facilitate its work.

25. Mr. SEN (India) pointed out that although the regional groups were entitled to present a joint list of candidates, they were not obliged to do so. In any case the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should not have to wait for the groups to reach agreement. Even if the question of geographic distribution did not arise in connexion with the elections to the Executive Board of UNICEF, it would nevertheless be preferable to hold all elections simultaneously in order to allow the groups greater freedom of action during the negotiations. That was the main reason why his delegation wished all the elections to be postponed.

26. Mr. FRANZI (Italy) said he could agree to the holding of elections forthwith of members of the functional commissions, of the Executive Board of UNICEF and of the Committee for Development Planning, on the understanding that the Council had unanimously decided to postpone the elections to the Governing Council of UNDP until the resumed session in May. On the other hand, he would have no objection to postponing the elections to the

functional commissions until the resumed session, if certain regional groups had difficulties in reaching agreement. At all events, he would like the Council to take a formal decision with regard to the elections of members of the Executive Board of UNICEF and of the Committee for Development Planning.

27. Mr. KARIM (Pakistan) said that the Asian group had taken a decision on the elections of members of the functional commissions and the Governing Council of UNDP. He was therefore able to vote in favour of the proposal by the Italian representative without violating the decisions of the Asian group.

28. Mr. SEN (India) said he was ready to support the French and Italian position and to proceed with the elections, except that of the members of the Governing Council of UNDP.

29. The PRESIDENT, following a request by Mr. HAMBRO (Norway), asked the Economic and Social Council to take a decision with regard to the Italian proposal concerning elections to the Executive Board of UNICEF and the appointment of a member of the Committee for Development Planning.

The proposal of the representative of Italy was adopted by 12 votes to 2, with 13 abstentions.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

30. The PRESIDENT recalled that the African group had recommended the addition of Malawi to the list of countries standing for election to the Executive Board of UNICEF. The candidates were China, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, France, Gabon, Italy, Malawi, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Arab Republic, and the United States of America. The members would be elected for a term of three years, beginning on 1 August 1970.

At the invitation of the President, Miss Vega (Peru) and Mr. Hall (United Kingdom) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	27
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	27
<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	27
<i>Required majority:</i>	14
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
United Arab Republic	27
France	26
Gabon	26

Poland	26
USSR	26
Costa Rica	24
United States	24
Italy	23
Malawi	21
China	13
Dominican Republic	11
Iraq	3
Indonesia	1
United Kingdom	1

Having obtained the required majority, the United Arab Republic, France, Gabon, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Costa Rica, the United States of America, Italy and Malawi were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund.

31. A second ballot was taken to fill the tenth vacant seat, China and the Dominican Republic being the only candidates, in accordance with the rules of procedure.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	26
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	2
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	24
<i>Abstentions:</i>	1
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	23

<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
China	13
Dominican Republic	10

Having obtained the majority of votes, China was elected a member of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund.

APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

32. The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of any objections, he would take it that Mr. John P. Lewis was appointed by the Council, upon the nomination of the Secretary-General, to the Committee for Development Planning for the period beginning on 3 April 1970 and ending on 31 December 1971.

It was so decided.

Adjournment of the forty-eighth session

33. The PRESIDENT, after paying a tribute to Mr. Kassum, the Secretary of the Economic and Social Council, who was leaving the United Nations, declared the forty-eighth session of the Council adjourned.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.