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

Present :

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

Observers for the following Member States: Argentina, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Mexico, Portugal, Romania, Turkey, United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia.

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, International Monetary Fund, World Health Organization.

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Report of the Statistical Commission (E/3375 and Add.1)
REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/3404)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Economic Committee (E/3404) on the report of the Statistical Commission and, in particular, the draft resolution recommended in paragraph 3.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 22

**Measures to be adopted in connexion with the earthquakes
in Chile (E/3402; E/L.873, E/L.874)**

2. Mr. PREBISCH, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America, said that the Secretary-General of the United Nations had appointed him his

special representative and instructed him to consult with the Government of Chile on the best use to be made of United Nations resources for immediate relief work in connexion with the disastrous earthquakes in Chile, and to consult with the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations, the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) and the specialized agencies to see what could be done to assist the Chilean Government's reconstruction work. The Chilean Development Corporation (Corporación de Fomento) had promptly taken advantage of such collaboration as had been available. As a result of the disaster the country had been cut in two and transport from south to north had been disrupted. Chile had been in particular need of help, as it had embarked on a very serious effort to solve its monetary problems by stabilization. The Chilean Government, with admirable determination, had stated its decision to proceed with the stabilization scheme. The Chilean Development Corporation had convened a meeting of all the resident representatives of United Nations bodies and agencies to draw up a programme for the subsequent three years, which had been submitted to the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA); meeting in extraordinary session (see E/3402), the Corporation had provided liaison with other international organizations willing to assist, especially the Organization of American States.

3. When the disaster had occurred, Chile had had under consideration a well-planned development programme covering the following ten years. That programme could not be carried out as originally devised, but the reconstruction plan was being integrated with it, so that the emergency rehabilitation programme might be regarded as part of the general economic development programme, taking into account the effects of the disaster.

4. The Chilean Government had negotiated financial assistance bilaterally with several countries with a view to obtaining the immediate funds to put the programme into effect; at the same time, it was maintaining its own efforts in that direction and would make every endeavour to match any assistance supplied to it.

5. Mr. LUNS (Netherlands) said that the Kingdom of the Netherlands had been deeply moved by the disaster which had overtaken Chile, all the more because two parts of the Kingdom, Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles, were themselves situated in Latin America. The Netherlands representative at ECLA had already stated that the international community should support the Chilean Government in its efforts to restore the country as quickly as possible to that condition of social and economic advance which had been producing such impressive results. Such support was both necessary and

justified. It was necessary because tens of thousands of people were suffering, and because the housing of more than a third of Chile's population, roads, bridges, facilities for land transport and for coastal shipping, ports, loading facilities, agricultural assets and industrial resources must, to a large extent, be regarded as lost. It would require an enormous effort to bring about the recovery of the provinces producing potatoes, sugar, grain and meat, and of the centres where there had been power stations and blast furnaces and where cement, textiles, wood and preserved food had been produced, and restore them to their former role of suppliers to the other areas. Help was justified because immediately after the disaster the Government and people of Chile had tackled reconstruction plans with admirable vigour. The Government had had its plans for reconstruction ready within a few weeks of the disaster. It had demanded sacrifices of its own people in the form of higher taxation and limitation of expenditure. The Chilean Development Corporation was co-operating with representatives of international organizations and had worked out an estimate of the contributions from abroad which would be needed to supplement the Chilean people's own contributions. The Netherlands Government was setting aside a considerable sum to help the work of reconstruction and part of it would be channelled through multilateral assistance. The Netherlands delegation would vote for any draft resolution providing for efficient and speedy assistance to Chile.

6. Mr. ORTIZ MARTÍN (Costa Rica) said that the technical machinery of the United Nations was naturally not equipped to deal with sudden overwhelming disasters. Certain technical difficulties had, therefore, arisen with regard to the preparation of the draft resolution which his delegation wished to submit in conjunction with the United States delegation and after consultation with representative groups which had wholeheartedly agreed with its substance. It was to be hoped that the draft resolution, which was about to be circulated,¹ would be adopted unanimously by the plenary meeting without the usual machinery of discussion in committee.

7. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America) said that the disaster in Chile had shocked the world and had stirred every humanitarian impulse. The reconstruction called for widespread and generous help. The American people, actively led by President Eisenhower, had already responded in their traditional manner. Through governmental and private resources, the United States of America had flown in to the Chilean disaster areas emergency equipment such as hospital equipment, water purification equipment, tents, blankets, clothing, medical supplies, building materials and personnel. The American Red Cross and other private relief agencies had contributed supplies and funds amounting to more than \$5 million. The United States Government had authorized a credit of \$10 million from the Export-Import Bank for reconstruction purposes and another \$20 million would be made available on passage of the 1961 mutual security appropriation. The Government would also consider assistance under Public Law 480 (surplus agricultural

commodities) if the Government of Chile requested such assistance.

8. He believed that the assistance granted by the United States would be accompanied by assistance from other governments and organizations which were taking and considering additional measures to assist Chile. The Economic and Social Council could not fail to respond promptly to Chile's tragic needs. His delegation had, therefore, been glad to associate itself with the Costa Rican delegation in sponsoring the draft resolution.

9. The adoption of that resolution would be, of course, only the beginning of joint international efforts to help Chile and should be followed by more tangible evidence of sympathy. The United Nations Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance would need more contributions if they were to assist Chile without detriment to programmes under consideration for other needy countries. The United States had committed itself to contribute an additional two dollars for every three dollars contributed to those two programmes by all other participating countries combined.

10. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the people of the Soviet Union fully sympathized with the Chilean people in their plight and the Soviet Union delegation wished to express its sympathy. His delegation had found great satisfaction in the splendid example of world-wide solidarity in face of the Chilean disaster. The Soviet Union had sent supplies and equipment immediately by air. The United Nations was in duty bound to assist the Chilean people. His delegation would, therefore, support the resolution submitted by ECLA for consideration by the Economic and Social Council (E/3402, part III).

11. Mr. TSAO (China) expressed the profound sympathy of his Government and people with the sufferings of the Chilean people. It was striking that the governments and peoples of the whole world had immediately sent relief. His own Government had provided supplies and money. Residents in Chile of Chinese origin had also raised funds. It was the Council's duty to support such world-wide assistance to Chile, and he was accordingly ready to support any resolution which would give practical effect to the universal desire to furnish practical aid.

12. Mr. MORAES SMALL (Brazil) said that his delegation would support any measure contemplated by the Council to assist Chile. The adoption of the draft resolution to be submitted would be regarded as an expression of international solidarity. He was certain that the United Nations and the specialized agencies would contribute as much as they possibly could within the limits of their resources.

13. Mr. TARRE MURZI (Venezuela) said that his delegation too would support any resolution designed to assist the Chilean Government and people. His country had been greatly moved by the disaster in Chile, and from the outset the whole population had been mobilized to collect the necessary relief. The President of Venezuela had taken the step of appealing to the other heads of state in Latin America and to the Organization of American States with a view to enlisting their support in prompt assistance to

¹ See para. 32 below.

Chile. The Venezuelan delegation had strongly supported the resolution adopted by ECLA (E/3402, part II).

14. Mr. GARCÍA de LLERA (Spain) said that his delegation had supported the proposal for the addition to the Council's agenda (1112th meeting) of an item dealing with the Chilean disaster. That had been fully justified by the magnitude of the disaster, and by the need for international aid through the United Nations. The Spanish Government had begun to send aid to Chile as soon as it had been apprised of the catastrophe, without regard for its own difficulties. Four million pesetas had been collected for emergency assistance, and the Spanish Government had opened a credit of one million dollars on behalf of Chile for the purchase of Cuban sugar covered by the Spanish-Cuban sugar agreement; in addition, the Spanish Ambassador at Santiago had raised a collection, and a committee in Spain had sent blood plasma, clothes and medicines. His delegation would warmly support any draft resolution which proposed really effective, generous and specific measures to assist in the reconstruction of Chile.

15. Mr. MELLER-CONRAD (Poland) said that the disaster which had struck Chile had happened shortly after the return to Poland of the Polish parliamentary delegation which had visited that country. The Press and public opinion in Poland had reflected the people's profound sympathy for Chile; as anyone familiar with Poland's history would know, the Polish people were particularly sensitive to the misfortunes of others. The Polish delegation would therefore support the draft resolution designed to secure help for Chile in its reconstruction efforts.

16. Mr. KAWASAKI (Japan) wished to associate himself with the expressions of deep sympathy for the people of Chile, especially as the representative of a nation which had suffered a similar calamity. He would support the draft resolution to be submitted by Costa Rica and the United States.

17. Mr. PAZHAWAK (Afghanistan) observed that the Council had been shocked at the twenty-ninth session by news of the disastrous earthquake at Agadir and at the thirtieth by the tidings of the similar disaster in Chile. The Council had responded as it should to the situation at Agadir. The only consolation at such times was the universal outpouring of sympathy for the victims. Afghanistan would do its utmost, within its extremely limited resources, to contribute to assistance for Chile, and his delegation would support any resolution designed to make such help effective.

18. Mr. SHANAHAN (New Zealand) expressed his deepest sympathy with the Chilean people, as well as those of Iran and Japan, who had suffered great loss of life and property in recent earthquake disasters. In Chile, over one-third of the country's territory had been affected and programmes of economic development had been interrupted. The international community had a duty to help in circumstances such as these and it was encouraging that it had done so so promptly. The Government and people of New Zealand, like other governments and peoples, had sent immediate aid. The major res-

ponsibility for emergency assistance had, of course, fallen on the Chilean Government, which had faced the emergency with great spirit. It was reassuring that the work of reconstruction was well advanced. His delegation had noted suggestions which would give a special place to technical assistance programmes in Chile to speed both reconstruction and economic development. It was encouraging that the technical assistance authorities had been able to respond so quickly. Every delegation would share an anxiety to do everything possible to assist. At the same time the Council must keep in mind the many pressing problems of development with which it was faced throughout the less developed areas of the world. The United Nations family would wish to do its best to assist in resolving all these problems.

19. Mr. KAMENOV (Bulgaria) said that his country had learned of the Chilean disaster with great concern. The United Nations, and in particular the Economic and Social Council, could not remain idle in the face of such a calamity, and should decide upon specific measures for relief. His delegation would give its full support to any proposals for organizing international assistance to the Chilean people.

20. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that the misfortune which had befallen Chile had deeply touched the whole world and particularly France. The French Government had already expressed the national sympathy to the Chilean people and the French delegation wished again to give expression to those sentiments. Those familiar with the ravaged area were aware that it had an important place in the Chilean Government's development programmes. The Council could not be indifferent to the catastrophe, and all delegations had realized the immediate need for assistance to permit of the reconstruction of the devastated areas. The French delegation would therefore vote for any draft resolution that was intended to bring succour to Chile.

21. Mr. DUDLEY (United Kingdom) said that he had expressed hopes early in the session (1112th meeting) that the Council would be able to take some practical action to alleviate the sufferings of the Chilean people, and he was glad to find that those hopes had been fulfilled. The discussion had revealed something of real significance; the universal response in the Council and the world at large. He had been particularly impressed by the fact that the Soviet Union and Chinese representatives alike had both expressed satisfaction at the promptitude with which all peoples had come to the aid of Chile. The United Kingdom itself had moved swiftly by way of contributions from the Government and from private organizations and by providing aircraft to carry the supplies. The United Nations must play a continuing part in the reconstruction of Chile.

22. Mr. HESSELLUND-JENSEN (Denmark) said that the Danish delegation extended its deepest sympathy to the Government and people of Chile in their sufferings. Denmark's assistance to Chile, although modest, had been immediate and spontaneous, and had included contributions from the Danish Government, the Danish Red Cross and private sources.

23. The Danish delegation would support the request to the Secretary-General and the heads of specialized agencies to bear in mind the urgent needs of Chile, and hoped that the Special Fund would take suitable action to join in the effort to help Chile.

24. It was to be hoped that the contributions which would be forthcoming would enable Chile's most urgent needs to be met without prejudice to the general programmes of technical assistance envisaged for other countries.

25. Miss BLAU (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) stated that as soon as news of the earthquake disaster in Chile had been received the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) had immediately taken steps to place all FAO staff working in Chile at the disposal of the Chilean Government, to help in assessing the damage. FAO had given special attention subsequently to the most urgent aspect — the need to house the surviving victims; and at the request of the Chilean Government had issued an appeal to European governments and the Governments of the United States of America and Canada, asking for contributions in housing materials. The immediate response had been satisfactory, and further help on those lines was expected.

26. A successful request had also been made to TAB for additional funds to be used for the purchase of sawmill equipment for Chile, and negotiations were in progress with a view to obtaining further assistance from that source.

27. The Director-General of FAO was ready to co-operate to the utmost in any further measures to overcome the effects of the disaster that might be agreed upon in consequence of the present discussion.

28. Mr. FLORES (International Labour Organisation) wished to join in the general expression of hope that the resolution to be adopted by the Council for alleviation of the situation in Chile would be of practical and immediate application.

29. By happy chance, a team of ILO building experts had been in Chile when the disaster occurred; their services had immediately been placed at the disposal of the Chilean Government and they were still at work in the devastated area.

30. The ILO would join with all the other agencies participating in technical assistance to ensure that everything possible was done to implement any resolution the Council might adopt.

31. Mr. ADEEL (Sudan) said that his country sympathized deeply with the Chilean people in their plight. His delegation had already expressed that sympathy by voting for the inclusion of the additional item concerning the earthquakes in Chile on the Council agenda (1112th meeting). While its sympathy would remain unchanged, the Sudanese delegation, because it represented not only Sudan but a very sensitive part of the world, wished, before voting on the draft resolution to be circulated, to ask the Secretariat and the Council certain questions and

to place certain points of view on record. He proposed that the Council meet in closed session for that purpose.

It was so agreed.

The Council met in closed session at 5.40 p.m. and resumed in open session at 6.20 p.m.

32. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to resume consideration of the joint draft resolution submitted by Costa Rica and the United States of America which had now been circulated (E/L.873). He invited the Executive Chairman of TAB to make a statement.

33. Mr. OWEN, Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board, said that the tremendous devastation in central Chile and its tragic consequences for the inhabitants of the area evoked the sympathy of any person of feeling and imagination. Being well acquainted with the country, he wished to express his personal sympathy with the people of Chile.

34. In the circumstances, it was hardly surprising that the governments of the Latin American countries should have taken the initiative, first in ECLA and now again in the Council, to bring the new needs of the Chilean people to the attention of the international community as a whole; nor that the Council was being urged to do something more than speak fair words.

35. Some things could and should be done on a modest scale with the help of whatever machinery and resources already existed, and indeed the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and others of the specialized agencies and United Nations bodies had already given useful assistance in Chile, as they had done in Morocco and Iran in recent times. As far as the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance was concerned, he had conceived it to be his duty, immediately upon hearing of the catastrophes in each of the three countries, to inquire what could be done to help within the limits of the Programme's resources and powers. It had been possible to do a few useful things immediately and TAB had been glad to arrange for modifications in approved country programmes to meet the new situations created by natural disasters.

36. In the case of Chile, the TAB resident representative had been immediately authorized to revise the country programme under negotiation and to give some indication of the additional needs for technical assistance that might arise as a result of the disaster. The programme had been revised within the limits of the original target funds and a supplementary programme going well beyond those limits had also been prepared in co-operation with the Chilean authorities, calling for additional projects in 1960 and the two following years.

37. The questions hard to answer were, first, how many of those supplementary technical assistance projects it would be appropriate to undertake even should larger resources be available and, secondly, how many of such projects could be undertaken in fairness, given the Expanded Programmes limited resources and world-wide responsibilities; a preliminary study of the proposals had suggested that there was a great deal which could be done within its terms of reference.

38. In the light of the general considerations he had just put forward, his understanding of the meaning of operative paragraphs 6 and 7 of the joint draft resolution was that, under operative paragraph 6, TAB was to take whatever action was possible to respond to emergency requests from the Chilean Government which could legitimately be met within the Expanded Programme's terms of reference, so long as the expenditure called for did not compromise the fulfilment of existing planned programmes or programmes contemplated for the new States of Africa and elsewhere. To be more specific, the Programme should be able during the remaining months of 1960 to finance a small emergency programme out of the 1960 programme savings, unused balances of certain currencies and allocations from the Contingency Fund of from 100,000 to 200,000 dollars. That was by no means a negligible effort and he believed it would meet most of the requests for 1960.

39. What could be done in 1961, however, would depend entirely on the extent of any increase in the resources of the Expanded Programme. In order to avoid any shadow of misunderstanding, he wished to make it plain that a programme of technical assistance had been planned for 1961-1962 which would go some way towards meeting normal requirements under the Programme and the urgent needs of the new and emerging States in Africa. That programme called for substantial cuts in the country programmes of over twenty countries, as well as an increase in contributions as compared with 1960. As he had explained to the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC), what it was hoped to do under the Expanded Programme in the next two years in the new States without cutting existing programmes further would call for an additional 5 million dollars a year in contributions for the next two years, or, in other words, an increase of 15 per cent each year (see E/TAC/L.210).

40. He personally regarded that as a minimum programme, although TAC had yet to give a decision upon it. Even as planned, it would leave the operations in many countries below the level of 1960 — which was already below the level of 1959 — and it would not bring the average level of operations in the new States up to that of the current programme in Ghana.

41. He sincerely believed that, should governments find it possible to fulfil the hopes expressed in operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, the problem would be largely solved.

42. Mr. ORTIZ MARTÍN (Costa Rica), answering a point raised by Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), said that certain technical deficiencies in the draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole of ECLA had led his delegation, in consultation with the other original sponsors of that draft, to believe that the terms of the joint draft resolution now before the Council were more appropriate to the intended purpose.

43. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) accepted the explanation and said that his delegation would be prepared to vote for the joint draft resolution, on the understanding that any assistance granted under it would not prejudice the general level

of the programmes envisaged in other countries — in particular the countries of Africa.

44. Mr. KAMENOV (Bulgaria) said he realized that the joint draft resolution constituted a plan for emergency action to help Chile. The Council's procedure in dealing with that draft resolution should however not create a precedent; normally, any proposal submitted to the Council should be studied and discussed thoroughly before being put to the vote. In the special circumstances, though, he would not object to the expeditious procedure.

45. With regard to paragraph 5, he asked whether the request should in fact be addressed to the Managing Director of the Special Fund.

46. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America), speaking as a member of the Special Fund's Governing Council, explained that the Fund's terms of reference specified that its Managing Director alone was empowered to submit proposals for projects to the Governing Council. Accordingly, the wording used in operative paragraph 5 was entirely appropriate.

47. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution submitted by Costa Rica and the United States of America (E/L.873).

The draft resolution was adopted by 17 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

48. Mr. SCHWEITZER (Chile) thanked the Council for the expression of solidarity implicit in the adoption of the resolution. The people and Government of Chile had been deeply moved by the generosity shown by all. It would take too long to enumerate the assistance received from all over the world; but those gifts, whether small or large, whether from neighbours or from distant countries, had gone straight to the hearts of Chileans. To all contributors he expressed fraternal thanks.

49. The PRESIDENT congratulated the members of the Council on their co-operative spirit and unanimity. The TAC would be taking up the item subsequently, in order to give effect to the Council's decisions in the resolution it had just adopted.

50. He invited the Council to consider the joint draft resolution on the same item submitted by the delegations of Denmark, Japan, New Zealand and the United States of America (E/L.874).

51. Mr. KAWASAKI (Japan), introducing the joint draft resolution, stressed the great need for an international system of warnings of earthquakes and seismic waves. The four-Power draft resolution might be regarded as complementary to the resolution on measures to be adopted in connexion with the earthquakes in Chile. The World Meteorological Organization was expecting to set up a panel of experts on related subjects. The United Nations itself might engage in planning specific measures to avert the worst effects of earthquakes, particularly damage from tidal waves. If a coherent system had been in existence at the time of the Chilean earthquakes, the effects of the disaster might have been greatly reduced.

52. Mr. SHANAHAN (New Zealand), expressing his gratification at New Zealand's co-sponsorship of the draft resolution, said that the recent events had underlined the need for precautionary measures against the effects of earthquakes and particularly of the tidal waves which were often associated with such convulsions. Although earthquakes themselves could neither be foreseen nor prevented, certain measures could be taken to mitigate their effects, including the development of suitable building techniques, such as those now enforced in New Zealand, of seismic maps, and warning systems. Individual countries could adopt the first, and to some extent the second, of those measures, but the warning system to be effective had to be international. Warning systems had already been developed to some extent in limited areas but none of those in existence was comprehensive or fully effective, and further effort was required to develop them on an international basis.

53. The World Meteorological Organization had recently been taking some interest in the subject, but seismology was outside its competence and it had accordingly sought the co-operation of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics which was to take up the question at a conference at Helsinki in August 1960. The International Union was linked with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization — which might also have some interest in the subject — through the International Council of Scientific Unions.

54. It would therefore appear that there was a need for co-ordination of effort in that sphere which, in the opinion of his delegation, could best be promoted by the United

Nations. He hoped the proposed study would commend itself to the support of all members of the Council.

55. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America) believed the problem dealt with in the draft resolution was one that could appropriately be taken up by the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Devastating tidal waves such as had followed the Chilean earthquake knew no boundaries; Hawaii, Japan and to some extent New Zealand had been affected. The action proposed in the draft resolution was therefore both timely and appropriate.

56. The PRESIDENT put the four-Power draft resolution (E/L.874) to the vote.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 15

Non-governmental organizations

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ON APPLICATIONS FOR HEARINGS (E/3405)

57. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the report of the Council Committee on Non-governmental Organizations concerning applications for hearings (E/3405). In the absence of comment, he would assume that the Council unanimously approved the Committee's recommendations.

It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 6.45 p.m.