



CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 3:	
General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole	
(a) Appraisal of the scope, trend and costs of the programmes of the United Nations, specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency in the economic, social and human rights fields	
(b) Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency	
General debate (<i>continued</i>)	103

(b) Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (E/3332, E/3350, E/3353, E/3364 and Add.1, E/3365, E/3368, E/3377 and Add.1 and 2, E/3378 and Add.1, E/3380 and Add.1, E/3388, E/3390)

GENERAL DEBATE (*continued*)

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, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Mexico, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania, United Arab Republic.

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 Civil Aviation Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, World Health Organization, Universal Postal Union, International Telecommunication Union.

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

AGENDA ITEM 3

General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole

(a) Appraisal of the scope, trend and costs of the programmes of the United Nations, specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency in the economic, social and human rights fields (E/3260/Rev.1, E/3341, E/3342, E/3343, E/3344, E/3345, E/3346 and Corr.1, E/3347 and Corr.1)

1. Mr. SAHLOUL (Sudan) said that the consolidated report submitted by the Committee on Programme Appraisals (E/3347 and Corr.1) was based on extremely complex material, but its presentation was admirably lucid. The arrangement of grouping programmes by problem areas rather than by participating agencies was extremely helpful. The most noteworthy overall feature was the shift in emphasis towards action programmes.

2. The expansion of the activities of the United Nations and specialized agencies made it inevitable that a greater degree of concentration be sought. The authors of the report had done well to stress the gap between the more highly and the less developed countries, the need to bridge that gap, and to urge that agricultural development should be promoted only in conjunction with industrial development.

3. Industrialization called for more attention in programmes of assistance for under-developed countries, despite the obstacles in its way listed in the report. The governments of the under-developed countries, which were well aware of the obstacles, were giving increasing attention to industrialization and to the need for making greater use of their national resources for the purposes of economic and social development.

4. International action to assist economic development naturally extended over a number of agencies, the regional economic commissions, the technical assistance bodies and the Special Fund. The problems of industrialization might prove easier to solve when the newly established Committee on Industrial Development began to operate, but, even so, it was to be hoped that the specialized agencies would devote even more attention than in the past to the subject.

5. It was gratifying to note that progress had been made in developing concerted action on water resources and that more limited programmes, such as that of low-cost housing, had not been overlooked in the process. But the plans for and integration of concerted action in the field of industrialization should be developed further. In that domain there was urgent need for co-ordination, which should be adapted to the actual needs of the under-developed countries.

6. The interrelation between the specialized agencies and the regional economic commissions and that of those

bodies and the United Nations were becoming closer, but might lead to conflict unless carefully watched over by the Council and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC). The task ahead might entail a heavy burden, and constructive suggestions for effective achievement, such as those made by the Netherlands representative at the 1122nd meeting, were welcome. His delegation hoped that a real step forward would be taken at that session.

7. As several delegations had pointed out, the Council was unable to give the mass of documents before it the careful attention they deserved. His delegation was the only representative of Africa and of the Arab countries on the Council, and was fully aware that some of the new countries of Africa had features wholly their own. Those countries were emerging into independence at a rate unprecedented in modern times, and it was to be hoped that in due course they would be more adequately represented on the Council.

8. In the meantime, the trend towards decentralization and the shift of emphasis from headquarters to the field and from basic research to operational programmes were welcome. The specialized agencies were co-operating with the regional commissions in encouraging that trend, and regional offices were growing faster than headquarters. There was general recognition of the need for further co-operation, with emphasis on the role of the regional economic commissions, to ensure that the basic requirements of certain regions were not overlooked, especially in Africa, where development was generally less forward than in other regions. Moreover, the needs of the African countries differed from those of other countries. Hence, welcome though the general trend towards operations was, it should not in the case of Africa be allowed to proceed at the expense of basic research. Experience acquired in one region was not always applicable elsewhere. There were a host of problems in Africa which could be tackled only against the African background. He was not, of course, unappreciative of the importance of the specialized agencies' work in Africa, of which a striking example was provided by the action taken at the instance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and some governments to save the historic monuments in Nubia threatened by the building of the Aswan high dam.

9. The authors of the consolidated report rightly stated (para. 371) that any arbitrary stabilization of budgets at existing levels was not desirable and that additional funds were undoubtedly needed for the expansion in programmes and activities described— e.g., the case of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The estimates of the specialized agencies also included extra-budgetary funds from such sources as the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund. Regular budgets could be increased only by increasing contributions; but only the highly developed countries were in a position to do so, the others having already committed all their resources to their own economic development.

10. The substantially increased contribution to the activities of the specialized agencies of the Expanded Pro-

gramme and the Special Fund had been rendered possible by a shift to operational programmes, but it might be more practicable to augment the resources for such work through increased voluntary governmental contributions to those two organs, which were still short of their combined target of \$100 million. It had none the less been gratifying to note from the general debate that some governments intended to increase their voluntary contributions. The under-developed countries were greatly in need of the kind of help that each specialized agency could provide in its own particular field. It had to be realized that the Special Fund was not in a position to finance capital investment, but many under-developed countries were looking forward to the benefits expected to flow from the operation of the Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development (SUNFED), as his delegation had pointed out at the Council's twenty-sixth session (1038th meeting). In the meantime, concerted international action was required.

11. Mr. AUBOIN (France), in the belief that the important work being done by the specialized agencies in the economic and social fields deserved a debate of its own, expressed the hope that, when the agenda for the thirty-second session was being drawn up, sufficient time would be allotted to the subject, so that the Council could give it close consideration.

12. Emphasizing the diversity of the specialized agencies, he said that their growing number and the broadening of their fields of activity in the face of new needs reflected their great vitality but also brought out the need for co-ordination. There were two kinds of specialized agency. Some— broadly speaking the older ones, such as the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)— provided genuine international public services. They deserved a special tribute, for relations among the nations depended largely on their existence and their smooth functioning. The others, by contrast, represented a sortie into the future, responding to an ideal of an intrinsically moral or political nature rather than to material needs proper. Yet the second group were in some respects even more necessary, for they enabled the agencies in the first group constantly to broaden their horizons, although the line of demarcation between the two groups was not a rigid one and varied from time to time. But true co-ordination ought to keep a suitable balance between the two functions, both within each agency and in their mutual relations. It followed that everything that did not correspond to a real need, present or future, should be set aside and that every effort must be concentrated on essentials. For that reason, as the Under Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, taking up the suggestions put forward by the Director-General of the International Labour Office, had said (1121st meeting), the specialized agencies should devote a large part of their efforts to research. In that connexion, it was gratifying to note that a number of agencies had given prominence in their reports to problems of technical and university training, in conjunction with the cognate activities of sister organizations.

13. The appraisal by the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of their programmes for the period 1959-1964 had provided

delegations with a large amount of helpful information. The consolidated report gave a comprehensive survey of the problems and was a valuable supplement to the analytical reports of the agencies themselves. The report met the Council's requirements satisfactorily and showed that it was no longer possible to regard any activity as solely economic or social and that all were directed towards the same fundamental objectives, which were those of the United Nations.

14. His delegation was in full agreement with the Committee on Programme Appraisals when it suggested that emphasis should be placed on co-ordination of the activities of the specialized agencies in the spheres of research, technical training, the interlocking of economic surveys and statistics and development programming and planning. Those activities were precisely the chosen territory of that capital form of international co-operation — United Nations technical assistance. There could be no doubt that during the following five years the growth of those activities, whether under the Expanded Programme or under the Special Fund, would place an increasing burden on the specialized agencies and probably oblige them to modify their methods and their organization. If duplication or dispersal of effort was to be avoided, strict co-ordination at a number of specific points was clearly essential. That was why his delegation had submitted a draft resolution (E/AC.24/L.162) on the subject in the Co-ordination Committee. Clearly, governments themselves bore the primary responsibility for co-ordination because they were represented in most of the specialized agencies, and it should be their representatives' constant concern to co-ordinate their own activities in the various institutions.

15. His delegation further noted that the authors of the report had certainly been at pains to stress the contrast between the static and dynamic aspects of the problem in distinguishing between programme trends (part II) and major shifts in emphasis (part III). However, since an attempt was being made to predict future developments, would it not have been better to place greater emphasis on the dynamic aspect by shortening the description of current activities? Moreover, he gathered from the report that the authors thought that the development of international action was inescapable. It was true that a considerable increase in the activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies was to be expected, especially in the technical assistance field. But that tendency did not seem to be inevitable, or even desirable in all spheres. The burden imposed on States Members by participation in multilateral activities could not be increased indefinitely. It was therefore desirable that whenever possible the introduction of new programmes should be offset by the abandonment of old programmes which had outlived their usefulness. There, too, it was a matter of keeping a balance between the concept of public service and that of planning for the future.

16. His delegation feared that by harping on co-ordination the Council would lose sight of the real objectives of its work, which were study and action. It would be a pity if undue striving after perfection caused it to build up co-ordination into an independent enterprise with its own field of activity and its own organs.

17. In the pursuit of co-ordination, an attempt had been made at a five-year appraisal. That operation had achieved its purpose and the process had been completed up to 1964; having cost the agencies a great deal of effort and money, it should not be repeated too frequently. It would be enough for the Council to check each year the extent to which the forecasts had been confirmed or contradicted by the facts and how far they needed revision. Such continuing adjustment was all the more necessary in that the probable cost of the programmes as estimated in the note by the Secretary-General (E/3260/Rev.1) had already been exceeded.

18. Speaking of the problem of co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies within the framework of the five-year forecasts, the United Kingdom representative had rightly said at the 1123rd meeting that the quality of the work had possibly suffered from undue attention to detail at the expense of the general picture. Some representatives had expressed the opinion that, to enable it to cope with its unwieldy mass of documents, the Council should set up new machinery to carry out preparatory studies on its behalf. It would be easier, however, to cut out redundant material in advance and to reduce the Council's documents to a clear and concise minimum. Moreover, it should not be forgotten that the ACC, which was composed of the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the specialized agencies, was, when all was said and done, the body from which the Council was entitled to ask for constant technical co-operation.

19. The French delegation, like that of the United States of America, believed that co-ordination was also called for at what might be described as the political level and should then be the responsibility, not of an administrative body, but of the governmental representatives sitting on the Council. Viewed in that light, the ACC was simply the executive agency responsible for putting into effect a plan laid down by the members of the Council on behalf of the international community. If responsibilities were allocated in that way, there would be no point in setting up new bodies.

20. In that respect, his delegation had expected to find in the report of the ACC (E/3368) more definite suggestions about the action required to co-ordinate activities in a number of fields. It had hoped to learn the ACC views on the action its members contemplated for coping with the probable intensification of the activities of the Expanded Programme and the Special Fund. It had noted with satisfaction the assurance of the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs given at the 1122nd meeting that the ACC was ready to shoulder its responsibilities and provide the Council with all necessary assistance.

21. The Council's efforts to avoid dispersal of activities had borne fruit. The specialized agencies had already established real mutual co-ordination. The Council itself should turn to those fields in which United Nations aid would develop most widely — namely, those connected with the development of under-developed countries — technical assistance, vocational training, research and pre-investment activities. His delegation hoped that at the thirty-second session the general review of activities

would bear primarily on those points and that the Council would be in a position to give precise directives to all the participating organizations and to rely on the assistance of each of them.

22. Dr. CANDAU (Director-General, World Health Organization) said that the report (E/3364) of WHO bore witness to the organization's determination to make its contribution to the solution of the fundamental problem of the day: the raising of the living standards of nations which were still in the comparatively early stages of economic and technological development. The WHO programmes would have a definite bearing on the social and economic evolution of a fast-changing world; WHO would not only help to save lives, but would also continue to restore their full capacity for work to millions of workers whose will to live and produce was weakened by disease.

23. The fundamental concept that guided WHO in its work — the intimate relationship between health and economic and other social factors — was best exemplified by the programme for the eradication of malaria, the largest health campaign ever undertaken at international level. Malaria was not only the most nearly universal but also one of the most costly of all the communicable diseases, and one of the largest single obstacles to the economic and social development of the under-developed areas. The world-wide elimination of malaria would prove that disease as a public health problem could be eradicated. For those reasons, but mainly because of the resistance insects had been developing to insecticides, WHO had given priority to the rapid completion of malaria eradication.

24. Considerable progress had already been made. Of approximately 1,300 million people affected by malaria or living in malarial areas almost 280 million lived in territories from which malaria had been eliminated and hence were only indirectly threatened by the disease. Sixty-two countries or territories, with a population of nearly 700 million, were fully embarked upon eradication operations, and the public health authorities in sixteen other countries or territories, inhabited by about 130 million people, were planning eradication campaigns. Some new cases of insect resistance to insecticides had slowed down progress in some countries, but the importance of that factor should not be overemphasized, since such difficulties could eventually be overcome by new technical developments. The same consideration applied to problems of organization and administration, solutions of which were essential for the final success of the programme.

25. Unfortunately, the financial aspect of the programme was not so promising. The organization financed its eradication operations mainly from a Malaria Eradication Special Account. In the Americas the work was financed by the Special Malaria Fund of the Pan American Health Organization. Both those relied on voluntary contributions. The decision to do so had been taken because malaria eradication had to be considered as an emergency programme because of its urgency and limited duration, and it had therefore been deemed inadvisable to disturb the planned development of the

WHO over-all programme by increasing the regular budget. It had been expected that the contributions of the economically more advanced countries would make it possible to ease the financial responsibilities of the less developed countries, which were already carrying a heavy burden in financing their own malaria eradication projects, having spent about \$80 million on them in 1958 and even more in 1959. Contrary to expectation, most of the economically developed nations had so far failed adequately to support the programme. About 90 per cent of the funds raised had come from the United States of America, but Denmark had contributed very generously in 1959 and 1960 and Finland intended to make a contribution in 1960. The Fourteenth World Health Assembly, to be held in February 1961, would have to review the situation and if sufficient contributions were still not forthcoming consider appropriate measures to ensure the financing of the programme.

26. The provision of readily available drinking water was another example of a public-health programme that was bound seriously to affect economic and social conditions. In view of the expected increase in world population, the existing rate of construction of waterworks would have to be substantially raised. Successive World Health Assemblies had urged WHO to increase its efforts to improve environmental conditions, and WHO was collaborating with the Special Fund in certain large-scale projects to that end.

27. The Special Fund's readiness to give assistance to educational training and research institutions in general and to those in environmental sanitation in particular and the projects of assistance to various technical schools in a number of countries approved by it were very welcome.

28. The intensified medical research programme recently undertaken by WHO was not only a landmark in the organization's growth but also the first instance in which a global research effort in a field as broad as health was being stimulated and co-ordinated on a long-term basis under intergovernmental auspices. Although the stimulation of research had always been one of the most important functions of WHO, the organization had now become an international scientific body, with an increasing number of functions that were being defined and consolidated by the Advisory Committee on Medical Research. That Committee was helping WHO to plan the long-term research programme, which would be mainly concentrated on identifying those research problems which had to be approached on an international basis, and on bringing to light new knowledge needed for the solution of important health problems in countries whose own research capacity was limited.

29. The membership of WHO was increasing and currently comprised ninety members and eleven associate members. It was to be regretted that Hungary, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic had not yet resumed active participation, and he very much hoped that they would do so in the near future.

30. In view of the sudden increase in membership that year, the Thirteenth World Health Assembly had decided

to add \$200,000 to the 1961 budget to meet at least some of the urgent requests made by new members and associate members, mainly from Africa. Assistance given by WHO to countries and territories in that continent during a period of over ten years compared favourably with that given to other regions. In accordance with the organization's firmly established policy, further assistance to the new States would continue to be decided by the governments of the States concerned, in co-operation with the WHO regional offices. Any assistance rendered had to be carefully adapted to the local situation and prevailing conditions. The most acute problem was the lack of trained medical and paramedical personnel. It was intended to help remedy that situation through the WHO fellowship programme and through direct technical aid to medical, public health and nursing schools. In 1960 assistance to the African region out of the regular budget and the Malaria Eradication Special Account would amount to more than \$2.8 million, and would rise to \$3.7 million in 1961, to which must be added about \$750,000 as the WHO share of funds provided under the Expanded Programme. Thus, by 1961, in terms of funds allocated for assistance, the African region would be among the best placed of the six WHO regions.

31. The dynamic nature of its work, its new responsibilities and the increase in its membership made it imperative for WHO to appraise its position at regular intervals. The purpose of the appraisals must be to review working methods and the financial situation and to relate activities to physical, biological and socio-economic factors. One essential criterion was whether the work was so planned and implemented as to ensure the utmost co-ordination with all agencies operating internationally. Those appraisals were the very substance of the general programmes of work covering specific periods approved by the Health Assembly, which determined the WHO annual programmes. No difficulty had therefore been found in complying with the Council's wish that each agency should carry out detailed appraisals of its activities and WHO had enjoyed collaboration with the Council's Committee in the production of its consolidated report, which would be a most useful guide to the activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

32. The organization had constitutional responsibility for acting as a co-ordinating authority on international health work and had acquired considerable experience in attempting such co-ordination with a large number of agencies, both governmental and non-governmental. In endeavouring to avoid confusion and duplication of effort, WHO had reached the conclusion as far back as 1951 that the necessary co-ordination must be effected through direct consultation with each government. By applying that principle, it had generally succeeded in ensuring co-ordination at the country level both in planning and in executing health activities, whether financed from bilateral or from multilateral funds. It could be said that WHO had come to be recognized by governments and by intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies as the co-ordinating authority in the field of world health, not only *de jure* but also *de facto*. Co-ordination must be attempted in each field of activity before it could be extended to a number of sectors.

The Thirteenth World Health Assembly had requested the Executive Board to carry out an organizational study on co-ordination with the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the main principle being that co-ordination must not be an end in itself, but rather the means to the end of achieving economic and social development by using to the maximum all the resources available to the entire United Nations family. That belief had been based on the very principles and aspirations which guided the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council.

33. Mr. TARRE MURZI (Venezuela) said that the consolidated report took due account of the needs of countries in course of development. Industrialization demanded profound changes in the composition, training and living standards of the labour force and in social institutions and attitudes. There could be no economic development without technically trained manpower. Co-ordination was most needed in the field of technical education and vocational training. Several such programmes were already under way in Latin America, but the time had come to co-ordinate them under technical assistance in order to eliminate duplication. The International Labour Organisation (ILO), FAO and UNESCO must all join in concerted programmes of new methods of vocational training at all levels. The programmes should be adjusted to actual requirements and should be streamlined in order to break away from bureaucratic procedures incompatible with the practical action to be taken by the United Nations.

34. The Venezuelan delegation wished to pay a tribute to the ILO, which had been carrying out strictly technical work for nearly forty years. Its methods of dealing with the problems of unemployment and the need to increase productivity and of improving general working conditions ought to be taken as models by the other specialized agencies. Neither had the ILO remained inactive in the face of violations of human rights and workers' rights. Its campaigns for trade union freedom and equal opportunities for all working men were highly commendable.

35. The work programme of FAO for 1959-1964 was satisfactory, especially its very important work in promoting agrarian reform programmes currently being carried out in several Latin-American countries. Agrarian reform was not simply a matter of giving land to the peasants; it also entailed the introduction of modern production techniques. That organization might be regarded as the advisory body for countries in process of development which were trying to carry out broad agrarian reform programmes. It also had a great responsibility for giving technical advice to governments on the building up and conservation of livestock reserves.

36. The activities of IAEA had been wisely divided into two large groups, one for meeting the specific needs of a member State or group of member States, the other representing activities and services mainly for all member States together. Its participation in the programming of each member State, and in particular the less developed States, for the use of nuclear power would not lessen during the following five years. Such a reduction might occur eventually, but only over a much longer period.

The services furnished for member States as a community should continue and increase during the next five years. The lifetime of IAEA had been too short to enable its future to be accurately predicted, but it could be asserted that it had so far provided technical assistance methodically and according to information submitted by the preliminary missions which it had sent to the under-developed countries that had asked for assistance. It was to be hoped that member States would take even greater interest in its activities.

37. The statement made by the Director-General of UNESCO at the 1123rd meeting had been of great importance, especially the emphasis laid on the role of fundamental education in the economic and social development of the under-developed countries. His statement that a regional conference on the subject was to be held in Latin America in 1961 was welcome. The conference was to be prepared jointly with the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) and in co-operation with the International Labour Office, FAO, WHO and the Organization of American States. The Venezuelan Government attached the greatest importance to the conference and would make every effort to ensure its success.

38. The collaboration of UNESCO with the Special Fund was also to be welcomed. As development plans were worked out, especially those for which UNESCO assumed the main responsibility, even closer co-ordination among the organs of the international community would be required, specifically between the technical assistance programmes, the Special Fund and the agencies responsible for carrying out the programmes or co-operating in their execution. Permanent contact should be maintained between all those concerned in order to avoid waste of effort, and so make the operations more effective.

39. Mr. GROSS (Director-General, International Telecommunication Union) recalled that ITU had been established in 1865; in 1960 its membership consisted of 96 members and five associate members.

40. The most important of the Union's activities during 1959 had been the holding of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the Ordinary Administrative Radio Conference, attended by about one thousand representatives from 87 countries.

41. The Plenipotentiary Conference, the supreme organ of ITU, had been meeting after a lapse of seven years. It had examined the Union's structure in relation to the developments that had taken place since 1952 and particularly in relation to recommendations made by the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. While agreeing that the existing structure should be substantially preserved, it had put into effect provisions for ensuring better co-ordination among the permanent organs, including one for a consolidated budget for ordinary and conference expenditure. It had also agreed that ITU staff should be assimilated to the common salary and allowances scale of the United Nations and to the Joint Staff Pension Fund from 1 January 1960. Thus ITU had joined the group of international organizations which had a co-ordinated

administration in so far as personnel and other questions were concerned.

42. Other significant matters discussed exhaustively by the Plenipotentiary Conference had included ways and means of improving technical assistance to new or developing countries. Since formally joining the Technical Assistance Board (TAB), ITU had taken a steadily increasing part in furthering technical assistance in the telecommunications field and had believed for some time that it would make for more effective co-ordination if it took over the full administration of its own technical assistance programme. The Conference had agreed that that should be done and had also approved special provisions concerning agreements with the United Nations Special Fund, as well as with agencies.

43. A special tribute should be paid to the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and its successor, the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations, for the help given to ITU in tackling some of the administrative problems that had arisen in past years.

44. The Plenipotentiary Conference had also adopted measures for revising the structure of the Administrative Council in order to make it more representative of ITU membership. The Council was the Union's governing body and exercised general supervision over its work in the intervals between Plenipotentiary Conferences; its membership had been increased from eighteen to twenty-five.

45. A further decision had been that the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General should thenceforth be elected by the Conference itself, and should normally serve until the following Conference. Considerable attention had been given also to the problem of better geographical distribution among the staff—a long-felt need—and appropriate recruitment procedures for achieving that end had been established.

46. The Administrative Radio Conference, which had met after a lapse of twelve years, had revised the radio regulations in the light of the extraordinary developments which had taken place in the intervening period. In particular, it had extended the radio frequency spectrum to 40,000 Mc/s as the upper limit and had adopted revised allocation tables. It had also laid down improved procedures for the assignment of frequencies, with special emphasis on meeting the requirements of new and developing countries. Further, it had reviewed the work of the International Frequency Registration Board and given that body new tasks for the future. It had also examined plans for different types of service and brought them into line with modern practice and requirements. Special attention had been given to the question of space communications, and the need for effective co-ordination in that rapidly growing branch had been emphasized.

47. A number of other technical conferences and meetings had been held, including the Ninth Plenary Assembly of the International Consultative Radio Committee. In response to a plain need, the Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, held in London in May and June 1960, had decided that a standing interagency working group should be set up to deal with matters of safety at sea and in the air.

48. On the important question of co-ordination, he shared the view that the work of the ACC needed to be made more effective; on behalf of ITU, he was fully prepared to co-operate in exploring all possibilities to that end within the limits of the Union's constitutional structure.

49. The very extensive vistas that lay ahead in work concerning outer space, which had started with the pioneering of the Sputnik I and Vanguard I satellites some three years previously, could not be ignored. Radio provided the only possibility of controlling and communicating with such satellites, and ITU was already giving the most serious study to the need for adequate radio frequencies for the purpose and was planning a special conference on the problem to take place in 1963.

50. Mrs. WRIGHT (Denmark) remarked that, as a newcomer to the Council, her delegation, in common with older members, found itself sorely taxed by the overwhelming mass of documents relating to the various topics on the agenda; it was almost impossible to study and digest them all.

51. She therefore trusted that the Council would give favourable consideration to the suggestion that a small expert body be set up to analyse and summarize the material to be dealt with at the Council's summer sessions with a view to laying down a constructive policy. It was also important that everything possible be done to improve comparability of the data submitted to the Council.

52. At the 1122nd meeting, the Netherlands representative had spoken of the desirability of general disinterestedness among all parties concerned with action for economic and social advancement. Even if at that moment it was not possible to adopt the Netherlands suggestion that ACC decisions be taken by majority vote, the Co-ordination Committee ought to be informed of issues where a majority decision could not be taken because of the position adopted by one or more of the participating agencies.

53. Her delegation concurred in the view expressed by the Netherlands delegation that the strengthening of the ACC would require the provision of permanent staff of high calibre.

54. She joined with earlier speakers in commending the Committee on Programme Appraisals on the excellence of its consolidated report. At the same time, it was a pity that the activities of the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Finance Corporation had not been covered, for together with the work to be undertaken by the International Development Association they were an essential element in any overall appraisal of United Nations work for economic and social advancement.

55. The steadily growing emphasis in the Council, as well as in the Second Committee of the General Assembly, on increasing assistance to under-developed countries, which lay at the root of the shift to operational activities, called for the closest co-ordination among all the participating agencies. The Danish Government welcomed the Council decision to establish a standing committee on industrialization (resolution 751 (XXIX)), and confidently expected that constructive proposals would be forthcoming from that body for inclusion in future programmes.

56. The Netherlands representative had also drawn attention to the fact that the existing machinery for administrative co-operation was somewhat lacking in flexibility. Indeed, it was striking that proportionate allocations to the various participating agencies should have remained practically the same, despite the change from the percentage to the country-programming system of allocation. The Technical Assistance Committee was currently considering changes in the country-programming procedures, and the time was therefore ripe for considering whether a less rigid system could be introduced by eliminating agency sub-totals.

57. As to the role of the TAB resident representatives, her delegation shared the view of the United States delegation expressed at the 1122nd meeting; their function was to represent all the participating agencies and to act in their common interest.

58. Mr. JOLLES (International Atomic Energy Agency), submitting the second report on the Agency's work (E/3365), said that, in contrast with the first report, which had consisted largely of plans for the future, the current report was a record of the work done and the progress achieved in the first IAEA full operational year. He would endeavour to indicate the main trends that had emerged and the effect of economic and technical factors on the orientation of the IAEA work.

59. The Agency's activities related to the production of nuclear power on the one hand and to the use of isotopes and radiation sources in industry, agriculture and medicine on the other. In addition, IAEA was responsible for developing international health and safety rules and regulations to ensure that the widespread application of the new techniques did not create hazards to workers, users or the general public; it had also to devise safeguards against the diversion from peaceful to military uses of the nuclear materials it supplied.

60. The nuclear power industry was growing more slowly than had been expected, mainly for economic reasons. Nuclear power plants were being operated in only four countries and were under construction in a few others, all of them highly industrialized. Outside Europe and North America, development plans for installing nuclear power plants had been announced by only three or four countries which had achieved a substantial measure of industrial development. All the plants contemplated were relatively large; the small, economic reactor was still at the experimental, if not the drawing-board, stage.

61. With the rapid development of technology, it was unlikely that the situation would remain static for very long. Production costs of both conventional and nuclear power were falling, the latter faster but from a higher level. Barring unforeseen developments, the two cost curves were likely to intersect during the following ten years in several highly industrialized countries. The need for new sources of power was particularly acute in the less developed areas of the world because cheap and plentiful power was one of the prerequisites of industrialization.

62. The picture was rather different in the case of the use of isotopes and radiation sources. With a relatively small investment, isotopes could be turned to advantage in

almost every country, including those in the less developed areas, and were already being widely used in agriculture, industry and medicine.

62. The third main aspect of IAEA work was concerned with protection against the effects of radiation, a sphere in which international action had been shown to be especially necessary. In that connexion, the relatively slow development of nuclear energy had been a blessing in disguise for it had provided a breathing space in which to prepare international safety regulations, secure their broad acceptance and undertake other work of a legal and regulatory character designed to ensure that the widespread use of atomic energy hazarded neither man nor the natural resources on which he depended. At the same time, growing international concern about the danger of radiation had given such work greater urgency and had stimulated research.

64. Developments in those three technical domains had influenced IAEA programmes, and had led to a major shift of emphasis. The more cautious appraisal of the immediate prospects of nuclear power had had a definite effect. The Agency's role as a supplier of nuclear materials had so far developed only to a very modest extent and there had in fact been a reassessment of its work in promoting the use of nuclear power. Assistance to the less developed countries in building up the requisite technical and scientific organization had taken precedence over the supply of nuclear fuel. Although fuel had become relatively abundant, IAEA had received only a few requests for it, for comparatively small quantities. The requests had, however, enabled it to take the first steps towards developing and standardizing its procedures in the matter in preparation for an expansion of its activities. The international approach towards meeting the demand for nuclear fuel was likely to prove attractive for a number of reasons, the most important of which was that the recipient countries, through their representation on the Agency's controlling body, had their say in fixing the general terms and conditions of supply.

65. Preparatory work in the nuclear power field took many forms. Any country or region considering the establishment of an atomic energy programme had to start by assessing its needs and by comparing the potentialities of atomic energy with those of more conventional sources of power. Parallel to its work on surveying needs and resources, IAEA had undertaken a major programme for training technical and scientific personnel, and every effort was being made to promote the exchange of knowledge on both the economic and technical aspects of nuclear power with a view to speeding up research and reducing costs. The Agency was working in close co-operation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations to devise methods for estimating accurately the relative costs of nuclear and conventional power. Pilot studies, such as that being undertaken jointly by Finland and IAEA on the part that could be played by nuclear power in economic advancement, were also of great importance at that stage.

66. Unlike the applications of nuclear power, the practical use of isotopes had developed much more quickly than

had been foreseen, as was reflected by the fact that the current IAEA technical assistance programme covered some 50 countries. During 1960 IAEA would be holding seven scientific meetings dealing with various uses of isotopes or radiation sources, including a large scientific conference to be convened in co-operation with UNESCO. The first International Directory of Isotopes had been published, and the Agency had already trained a large number of operators in their use and had begun work on preliminary plans for the establishment of a regional isotope training centre in Cairo to serve the Arab countries.

67. The Agency's work on radiation protection was reflected in its training, technical assistance, supplies and research programmes. Calling upon the best scientific knowledge available, IAEA was gradually building up a system of recommendations, manuals and regulations covering all aspects of the subject. The work had started with the issue of a manual of safe practice for those working with isotopes, and further manuals on the international transport of radioactive materials, the safe operation of research reactors and a number of other subjects were in preparation. In response to recommendations made by the First United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, held in 1958, IAEA had, jointly with UNESCO and in co-operation with FAO, convened the first international meeting on technical problems connected with radioactive waste disposal at sea. The meeting's scientific work might be given proper legal form in order to secure international regulation and registration of all significant disposals. The Agency had also prepared a draft convention on problems of liability arising out of accidents in land-based nuclear plants, and work had been started in conjunction with the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization on new safety-regulation problems that would arise when nuclear-propelled vessels entered into peaceful trade. Finally, IAEA, using its own technical resources, was arranging to evaluate the hazards of individual nuclear plants, and the first project of the kind had been undertaken in Switzerland.

68. The methods used in the IAEA technical assistance programme were much the same as those used by the specialized agencies. Since its activities were new and its approach still flexible, the Agency was particularly interested in any suggestions for possible improvements and simplification of procedures that might emerge from the Council's discussions. A special objective in the atomic energy field must necessarily be to ensure that the provision of physical facilities that would enable scientists trained abroad to put their qualifications to full use on returning to their own countries. Equipment was therefore an important element of IAEA technical assistance. Research contracts were also used as a form of technical assistance in helping new laboratories in less developed countries.

69. The importance of research and development activities at that early stage of nuclear technology could not be overstressed. The Agency had therefore devoted a substantial part of its budget to such work and was fully aware of the importance of co-ordinating research programmes. The results achieved by the system of research contracts would be made known to other interested

agencies, and various other means, such as scientific meetings, were being used in an effort to co-ordinate research work in member States.

70. With regard to co-ordination in the use of United Nations resources as a whole, like the Council, IAEA fully recognized the importance of co-ordinated effort in promoting the applications of isotopes and in work on radiation protection. It would be clear from the latest report of the ACC that there had been good progress in that direction over the past year. Standard operating procedures had been devised, and were already in operation, under which each of the agencies concerned kept the others informed of all planned activities of mutual interest. Consultations were designed not only to prevent duplication, but also to bring together in the solution of specific problems the different expertise of the various agencies concerned.

71. The relationship agreements in force between IAEA and six of the specialized agencies provided a useful framework for bilateral co-ordination. Some questions, however, such as radiation protection, were of multilateral concern. The existence of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation had proved useful in that connexion as a clearing house for the exchange of scientific data. Another subject of multilateral interest was oceanography, where IAEA was closely following the plans for a programme of concerted action into which its activities on radioactive waste disposal at sea and the use of isotopes in marine studies might be integrated. It welcomed the invitation extended to it by UNESCO to participate in the work of the proposed international commission on oceanography.

72. It was plainly desirable that the effectiveness of interagency consultations should periodically be reviewed and IAEA warmly supported the arrangements to that end outlined in annex I of the ACC report. Such a review would be particularly useful in the matter of the conference programmes of the various agencies; it was important that limited international resources and the limited time of the scientists taking part should be allotted to those subjects where an international exchange of infor-

mation could yield the greatest benefit at any given time. Another essential matter was correlation of IAEA work with that of the various regional organizations active in the field of atomic energy, such as the European Nuclear Energy Agency. The Agency's relationship agreement with that body — the first agreement in that sphere — was being submitted to the IAEA General Conference for approval at its forthcoming session.

73. With regard to the five-year programme appraisals, he congratulated the Committee on Programme Appraisals on its report and expressed appreciation of its consultation with IAEA at every stage of the work. Two problems had arisen in incorporating the Agency's appraisal in the consolidated report. First, the development of nuclear technology had to be looked at against a longer perspective than the five-year period covered by the appraisals. Secondly, a functional approach had been followed in the report, separate chapters being devoted to each of the main traditional forms of social and economic activity. While fully concurring with that approach, IAEA had suggested that a special functional chapter dealing with energy and power should be included, since those factors were of equal importance with, for instance, transport or housing, in promoting economic development. The report provided an invaluable survey of the activities of the United Nations family and drew attention to unexploited possibilities and to defects in the organization and financing of international work. The Agency would therefore follow with great interest the discussion on it in the Council; in particular, it would be glad of any suggestions for putting into effect the conclusions reached in the report.

74. It had been rightly stressed that the key to co-ordination was in the hands of the governments represented on the governing bodies of the various agencies. As the Council was aware, the Board of Governors was playing a particularly important part in laying down the Agency's policy. Effective support could, however, be given to governments by making fuller and better use of the existing machinery of the ACC.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.