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President: Mr. Juan I. COOKE (Argentina).

Present:

The representatives of the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Egypt, France, India, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Observers from the following Member States: Brazil, Colombia, Indonesia, Israel, Mexico.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization.

United Nations Children's Fund: (a) Reports of the Executive Board (E/2518, E/2572); (b) Report by the Secretary-General under General Assembly resolution 802 (VIII) (E/2601, E/L.610)

[Agenda item 9]

1. The PRESIDENT invited Mr. Heyward, Deputy Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), to introduce the discussion of the reports of the Executive Board of UNICEF (E/2518, E/2572) and the report by the Secretary-General under General Assembly resolution 802 (VIII) (E/2601).

2. Mr. HEYWARD (Deputy Director of UNICEF) observed that the present occasion was the first on which the Economic and Social Council had considered the reports of the Executive Board of UNICEF since the General Assembly had passed a resolution on 6 October 1953 (802 (VIII)) prolonging UNICEF indefinitely, and deleting the words "International" and "Emergency" from its title. That resolution asked the Council to review the work of UNICEF and to submit appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly. Although UNICEF's new status had given greater prominence to the question of long-term planning, work on long-term projects had already been in progress for some considerable time. A start had been made in 1948, and confirmed in 1950 by the General Assembly, which had then

asked UNICEF to give priority to work in underdeveloped countries, especially on a long-term basis.

3. He proposed to give two examples of long-term programmes. The first was a nine-year programme designed, in co-operation with the World Health Organization (WHO), to give coverage with BCG vaccination against tuberculosis in India. Work had been begun in 1949, and, by the end of 1954, 42 million children would have received tests and 13 million vaccinations would have been carried out. The present rate of testing was 1,400,000 per month; 125 million children were to be covered in the mass phase of that work, which would be completed in 1958. One hundred teams consisting of nine people each had been put in the field by the Indian Government at a cost of 2,800,000 rupees. The cost was 3 United States cents per test and 9 cents per vaccination. The second long-term programme was a fifteen-year campaign against yaws which had been started in Indonesia in 1950 and was expected to end in 1965. Up to the present time, 9 million examinations had been carried out and treatment given to 900,000 people at a cost of 1 United States dollar per treatment, which included ten examinations, and 373 full-time workers and 209 part-time workers had been put into the field. Each project was supported by successive allocations by UNICEF.

4. Another aspect of long-term planning was that some projects had already reached a stage at which governments were able to take over responsibility and provide funds out of their national budgets. In Central America, four out of the five countries receiving aid had now taken that course, although all the problems connected with school feeding, which was one of the activities aided by UNICEF in that area, were by no means solved.

5. In the period covered by the two reports before the meeting, 82 per cent of the aid voted by UNICEF had been for long-range projects and 18 per cent for emergencies; 70 per cent of the first sum was being spent on the continuation or expansion of projects already in operation. It would thus be seen that a large measure of stability had been achieved.

6. There were two significant changes recorded in paragraphs 55-80 of Part I of document E/2572: the drawing up in advance of long-term programmes, and payment for certain local expenses in connexion with training. The reason for the latter decision was that a number of projects were reaching the village level, and it was important that local people should be trained to carry them on.

7. The year's work might be summarized as follows. The total aid allocated amounted to 14 million dollars. Emergency aid had been voted at the two sessions of the

Executive Board of UNICEF to Korea, Japan, the Philippines, India, Pakistan, the Hashemite Kingdom of the Jordan, and Greece. It had been possible to supply large quantities of milk, thanks to the provision of 70 million pounds of dried milk by the United States of America at a nominal price. Contributions received during the period in question had totalled 15 million dollars, or 1 million more than had been allocated. After a low point had been reached in 1950, there had been an upward trend in the provision of funds. Thirty governments had contributed in 1950, thirty-five in 1951, thirty-nine in 1952 and fifty-five in 1953. As would be seen from Annex I to document E/2518, the Executive Board had estimated the minimum target programme at 20 million dollars, whereas only 15 million had been received.

8. A summary of programme trends was to be found in document E/2518, paragraphs 11-60, and E/2572, Part I, paragraphs 8-38. A general trend was for aid to be more concerned with initiating continuing activity at the village level. Mass health campaigns had reached their maximum rate in some countries, and the period of consolidation and the setting up of rural health centres to maintain control in the villages had now been reached; 5,500 maternal and child health centres had already received aid. The first allocation had been made to a programme of rural environmental sanitation in Burma, and the first to a rural school services project, covering a school meal, gardens and school health in Honduras.

9. One quarter of the programme allocations were for nutrition, as against three-quarters for health. Nutritional aid took the form primarily of the processing of milk, and that type of assistance had been extended to Asia for the first time. In Indonesia, a first project was being aided for the use of a soya bean product as an infant food, and it was hoped this might be one of the ways to help countries which for geographical reasons had no prospect of expanding their milk supplies. However, because of the cost of industrial processing, other solutions were also needed by which the villages could be helped to feed their children better.

10. In spite of all that had been achieved, the list of children's unsatisfied needs was still a formidable one. Aid had recently been extended for the first time to the tropical belt of Africa, twenty-one projects for the control of malaria and yaws and for maternal and child health having been started, but that was only a beginning for the region. Throughout the world the number of persons in need of protection against malaria was estimated to be 250 million, whereas only 17 million were receiving help from UNICEF in 1954. Although many more were receiving bilateral aid, a large number were still without help of any kind. Malnutrition was a much more costly problem to deal with than health, and less had been achieved in that field.

11. Mr. HOTCHKIS (United States of America) expressed his deep interest in the Deputy Director's remarks on the work of UNICEF, and recalled with pride that the United States of America had been one of the initiators of that agency, and had assisted in its establishment. The role of UNICEF was of the greatest

importance, since children were the hope of the world of tomorrow.

12. Since the last discussion on UNICEF by the Council, the General Assembly had by unanimous decision given the former a new lease of life, and, by deleting the word "emergency" from its title, had increased the Fund's ability to help children, because of the longer-term objectives which could now be pursued.

13. His delegation was pleased to note that the two reports of the Executive Board described some very satisfactory achievements during 1953, not the least of which was the firmly established trend towards aid projects promoting the development of permanent services for children, particularly in economically underdeveloped countries. Aid for maternal and child health services had reached a volume comparable with the big mass health campaigns. That programme had great potential value, because the centres assisted provided a basis for the development of health and community services in rural areas, and thus helped to consolidate the results of large-scale health campaigns once the mass phase had ended. Particularly satisfactory were the successes reported in the control of malaria and yaws with the help of UNICEF and WHO and with bilateral and private assistance. A special progress report considered by the Executive Board the previous year had pointed out that, given modern methods, there was no reason why millions of people throughout the world should be afflicted by yaws. Progress had been achieved in many areas, but there was scope for much more in Africa and South America. The trend to extend aid for the control of trachoma, when methods of mass control reached a satisfactory stage, was also noteworthy. In the field of child nutrition, his delegation was pleased to note the continued effort to aid projects for the economical processing of local foods of high nutritive value.

14. The examples of governments taking over activities aided by UNICEF and continuing them on their own account were most encouraging, and his delegation hoped to see the number increase. That was the real test of UNICEF, since it ensured the permanent results called for in the successive resolutions adopted by the General Assembly concerning that agency. One of the new policies adopted by the Executive Board of UNICEF at its session in March 1954 was that of allocating funds for periods of up to five years. Although his delegation appreciated that such allocations would be made only in exceptional cases, it considered that action of that kind would needlessly tie up UNICEF funds and reduce the flexibility which had been such an important influence in the success previously achieved. The United States Government would watch very closely the application of that policy.

15. The Executive Board of UNICEF had also adopted in principle a policy which would allow the payment of local costs for training local professional personnel within the country and of travel and subsistence allowances for local supervisory personnel. That was a new policy for United Nations organizations (except in so far as UNICEF had itself already established the precedent of paying for the training of local midwives) which might

have a far-reaching effect on the activities of other organizations. The United States representative on the Executive Board of UNICEF had requested a thorough study of the question, the results of which the United States Government was awaiting with great interest.

16. The Executive Board had given favourable consideration to the extension of aid to rural primary school health, nutrition, and other related services. That was a type of aid which, in the view of his delegation, should be embarked upon cautiously and with great reserve, since its priority did not appear to be equal to that of established types of UNICEF aid.

17. His delegation welcomed the first report of the Secretary-General on programme co-ordination (E/2601), issued in accordance with General Assembly resolution 802 (VIII), which appeared to be a comprehensive descriptive summary of the mechanisms of co-ordination at all levels, from particular projects to over-all agency planning. It deserved the closest study by all governments. The co-ordination machinery appeared to be extensive, but all would agree that there was room for improvement. The report contained no evaluation of the co-ordination procedures, indicating where improvement might be desirable and where adjustments might be recommended. Some difficulties had been experienced in the planning and implementation of joint projects, particularly between UNICEF and WHO. Requests from governments for aid on joint projects reached the two agencies independently, with the result that they were acted on occasionally by them at different times, thus creating budgetary and planning difficulties. His delegation was well aware that many of those problems had been solved at country level, and that the World Health Assembly and the Executive Board of UNICEF were aware of the problem. The Executive Board of WHO, meeting after the Seventh World Health Assembly in May 1954, had established a committee to work with the Director-General of WHO in the intervals between sessions of the Board to supply guidance, by means of correspondence or meetings, on ways of adjusting the 1955 programme to ensure a proper balance within the limits of the resources available. Part II of the UNICEF Executive Board's report for March 1954 (E/2572) too was devoted to a discussion of budgetary and planning difficulties. His delegation hoped that both agencies would work towards a regularization of the situation, and that the Secretary-General would be kept informed of developments. Some three-quarters of UNICEF aid was given in the field of health, which fact made clear the importance of the continued development of co-operation between UNICEF and WHO.

18. Similarly, if, subject to the Council's approval, UNICEF planned projects involving printed material for use in schools, co-ordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) would be essential.

19. Twenty per cent of UNICEF aid was given in the field of child nutrition, and the United States delegation believed that the development of joint projects between UNICEF and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on the pattern of joint UNICEF/WHO projects should be emphasized to a greater extent than hitherto.

20. In view of those problems, it would seem desirable for the Secretary-General to issue a second report in the coming year, paying particular attention to evaluating the co-ordination devices and recommending improvements in specific situations. For that reason the United States had introduced a draft resolution (E/L.610).

21. In conclusion, he wished to urge governments to continue to support UNICEF with financial contributions, the steady rise in the number and amounts of which gave satisfaction to his own Government. The United States of America intended to continue to support UNICEF but, now that the emergency character of the programme had been minimized, it would gradually reduce the proportion of its contributions. It was his delegation's hope that other sources of funds would be found, so that UNICEF activities could be maintained at about the same effective level as in 1953.

22. Mr. MEADE (United Kingdom) took the opportunity of saying once again that the United Kingdom placed the highest value on the work done by UNICEF, which it considered to be one of the most useful agencies of the United Nations, and his Government had accordingly decided that its contribution for 1954 should be double that for 1953. He wished to pay an especial tribute to the excellent work which UNICEF was continuing to do in British Non-Self-Governing Territories. The continuance of UNICEF on its new basis had inevitably led to an expansion and consolidation of long-term policies, which was welcomed by the United Kingdom Government, which considered, however, that, in fixing periods for which approval in principle of projects could be granted by the UNICEF Executive Board, flexibility should be maintained and care taken not to deprive new projects of a due proportion of the available funds. A certain proportion of the total resources should also be set on one side for emergencies, as the United Kingdom delegation had advocated at the last session of the General Assembly. The wisdom of that policy had been proved by the speed with which UNICEF had been able to render emergency assistance in the past year to India, Japan, Greece and Iraq. Paragraph 68 of Part I of document E/2572 stated that the Executive Director would continue to be guided by the general policies of the Board concerning matching by governments, and that the total value of UNICEF aid on a given project, including supplies and payments for local training and services, would not exceed 50 per cent of the total cost of the project. He wished to stress the importance of maintaining the principle of matching, and to express the hope that governments receiving aid would continue to make the maximum possible contribution to individual projects out of their own resources.

23. He paid a tribute to the clarity and conciseness of the two reports of the UNICEF Executive Board (E/2518, E/2572) and the report of the Secretary-General (E/2601). It was his delegation's opinion that the key to the question of co-ordinating the over-all policy of UNICEF and the planning of individual country projects was to be found in paragraph 4 of the Secretary-General's report, to the effect that UNICEF aid was primarily given in the form of imported supplies, whereas the aid of other agencies mainly took the form of technical assistance.

The United Kingdom Government wished to see that distinction generally maintained, especially with regard to the relationship between WHO and UNICEF.

24. His Government was convinced that UNICEF was an organization of which the United Nations and the world could justly be proud.

25. Mr. OZGUREL (Turkey) joined in the tributes paid by the United States and United Kingdom representatives to the valuable work done by UNICEF and to the activity displayed by those responsible for its administration. The reports before the Council, together with the additional explanations just given by the Deputy Director, afforded a very heartening picture of the situation. The second report of the Executive Board (E/2572) showed that at its last session it had approved allocations amounting to \$4,212,500 to combat malaria, typhus, trachoma and tuberculosis, as part of a vast campaign against children's diseases.

26. Turkey had herself benefited from UNICEF aid, and had drawn up, in collaboration with the agency, an extensive programme for a number of years to come. As an earnest of its keen interest in its work, the Turkish Government had increased its contribution to UNICEF's budget from £T50,000 to 75,000.

27. Mr. LEDOUX (France) said that his delegation would like to add a further word of praise to the many tributes paid to UNICEF at several previous sessions of the Council for its efficient and practical endeavours. The Board's reports before the Council made it clear that UNICEF's activities had developed along lines acceptable to France which were reviewed periodically by the Executive Board. That system of policy development enabled UNICEF to take account of technical improvements and to adapt itself to the changing needs of maternal and child welfare. He took the opportunity of congratulating the administration of UNICEF on the vigour, devotion and efficiency with which it contributed to the policy-making process under the direction of the Executive Director, assisted by his Deputy.

28. In that connexion, attention might also be drawn to the recommendations put forward by an *ad hoc* Committee set up to consider certain policy questions, recommendations which had been adopted by the Executive Board, as described in paragraphs 55 to 80 of Part I of the latter's report (E/2572).

29. The French delegation also approved the allocation percentages for the various types of assistance, as shown in Part I, paragraph 9, of the report. It felt, for example, that the 15 per cent set aside for emergencies was a reasonable proportion in relation to long-range aid.

30. The results achieved by UNICEF, as illustrated by the figures reproduced in Part I, paragraphs 42 to 54, of document E/2572, were likewise a source of satisfaction. In 1953, nine million children had been given BCG vaccination, and a still greater number of children and mothers had been protected against malaria and typhus. The United Nations had reason to be proud of such achievements.

31. The specialized agencies, particularly WHO and FAO, were actively co-operating in UNICEF's work, and the French delegation trusted that they would

continue to do so in future on an even wider scale, though it hoped that no change would be made in the division of labour and responsibilities between UNICEF and the specialized agencies. Similarly, care should be taken to see that there was a corresponding apportionment of the financial burdens, so that UNICEF was not called upon to finance out of an already inadequate budget activities not properly within its sphere.

32. The French delegation also congratulated the Secretary-General on the report submitted by him (E/2601) in application of General Assembly resolution 802 (VIII). At the same time, it felt that such reports should not be submitted to the Council every year, but only when the Council or the Secretary-General considered it appropriate. No doubt the great progress already made towards better co-ordination would continue in the future but, as was pointed out in paragraph 42 of the report, satisfactory co-ordination was largely of an informal character and a matter of personal relationships, so that there seemed little point in producing a mass of documents about it.

33. In conclusion, the French delegation was glad to see that UNICEF now held an assured position among the programmes of international co-operation administered by the United Nations and the specialized agencies. There was every reason for satisfaction at the work accomplished so far, and with the spirit of co-operation which had allowed it to be developed so successfully. The French delegation had associated itself with the delegations of Belgium, Egypt, India and Yugoslavia in submitting a draft resolution (E/L.611) which expressed that point of view.

34. Mr. Garcia OLANO (Argentina) said that fortunately the discussion of UNICEF's reports did not give rise to any serious controversy in the Council. It could hardly be otherwise, since from the very start UNICEF had consistently been distinguished by a most gratifying spirit of co-operation.

35. The Argentine delegation would like to express its appreciation of the valuable humanitarian work accomplished by UNICEF with resources which were relatively modest compared with the money spent in other fields. The fact that the Executive Board of UNICEF included representatives of countries which were not yet members of the United Nations was an indication of the universal nature of its work.

36. The Secretary-General's report on programme co-ordination was likewise a most interesting document. Circumstances at present were certainly favourable for the use of agricultural and livestock surpluses in UNICEF's programmes.

37. Argentina had always considered that children had a privileged position in society, and would like to see that principle applied universally. For that reason, and parallel to the work of UNICEF, his country was extending its child welfare work to neighbouring countries.

38. Mr. TSAO (China) took particular pleasure in reviewing the reports of UNICEF, as it was the first time that such reports had come before the Council since UNICEF had been made a permanent body. His Government was closely associated with the work of

UNICEF, being represented on the Executive Board and also on the Programme Committee.

39. His Government was in general agreement with the policy decisions of the UNICEF Executive Board recorded in document E/2572, Part I, paragraphs 55-80. While realizing the importance of long-term planning, his delegation considered that a sizeable proportion of available funds should be placed on one side to meet emergencies. The payment for local supplies and services mentioned was a particularly happy development, and should facilitate progress in under-developed countries, where funds and materials were usually in short supply. The slight relaxation of the rule against local purchases represented, in his view, an important advance.

40. As a member of UNICEF Programme Committee, he had recently had the privilege of visiting Central America, and had been impressed by the devotion of local officials and the faith of the children and mothers in UNICEF, which was known even to people who had never heard of the United Nations itself.

41. All were aware that the existence of UNICEF depended on voluntary contributions, and his Government, in spite of its extreme financial difficulties, was considering making a further contribution in the coming year. He hoped that other countries would do likewise.

42. Mr. BRILEJ (Yugoslavia) said that, thanks to the decisions taken in 1953 by the Council and the General Assembly, the atmosphere of uncertainty about the future of UNICEF had been dispelled, and his delegation considered the Council's consequent ability thenceforward to devote itself to the study of the UNICEF programme and the furthering of that important work as a happy omen. It was difficult to appraise the contribution to the strengthening of the United Nations' significance in the world represented by the organization's relatively small investment in UNICEF. It was natural, therefore, that when political events of far-reaching import were taking place in the world, the Council should devote its energies to further strengthening a cause that so brilliantly symbolized the idea of the United Nations.

43. The problem of increasing the financial resources of UNICEF was of steadily progressive importance, and he would urge the initiation of a campaign for intensifying support, both official and unofficial, for its work. The national committees of UNICEF had already achieved much success in winning over public opinion, and the intervention of the Council, with the object of expanding the network of national committees and of ensuring the co-ordination of their work at both the national and international levels, would provide a fresh stimulus.

44. His delegation considered that the new situation called for broader, co-ordinated action for further strengthening UNICEF, particularly since, at its session in March 1954, the Executive Board had dealt with the problem, when it had taken the view that the trend towards longer-term planning should be encouraged, recognizing that a succession of project phases might be envisaged as part of an over-all plan.

45. In the past, UNICEF had never been able to plan for more than three years ahead, and the implementation of the policy of longer-term projects could have none but favourable results. It would ensure greater

certainty, both with regard to the programme itself and with regard to the governments participating in such action, and that in turn would open up new possibilities for projects requiring larger financial resources. The policy of long-term planning would be particularly welcomed by countries which, although unable to assume greater financial obligations in the initial stages, stood in the greatest need of UNICEF assistance. The Council should therefore lend its support to such a policy.

46. At its session in March 1954, the Executive Board had also submitted a proposal concerning the integrated programme of aid for rural primary school services. Such a programme was rightly regarded as a combination of a number of activities hitherto pursued with the object of further improving the nutrition and health of children. Since longer-term planning would make it possible to promote several projects without increasing expenditure, the combination of various types of UNICEF assistance should lead to more rational investigation and a wider choice of projects. At the same time, the report of the Secretary-General on programme co-ordination (E/2601) provided confirmation that other United Nations bodies would fully co-operate in that effort.

47. He would express the gratitude of the Yugoslav delegation for the help that UNICEF was extending to Yugoslav children and, at the same time, affirm that his Government would continue to afford UNICEF its full co-operation in the pursuit of its noble aims and activities.

48. The delegations of Belgium, Egypt, France, India and Yugoslavia had jointly submitted a draft resolution (E/L.611) underlining the main problems with which UNICEF was at present faced, which, he hoped, would command the Council's undivided sympathy.

49. Mr. ADIL (Pakistan) said that UNICEF admirably symbolized the spirit that ought to pervade all United Nations agencies. A sound and healthy child was the best guarantee of a good citizen of the future. He wished to express his Government's appreciation of the assistance rendered by UNICEF to Pakistan, which, together with other under-developed countries, was indeed a fruitful field for its activities, and he hoped that, on the basis of its long-term programme, UNICEF would continue to make progress in its well-integrated projects.

50. He would propose the addition of the words "with satisfaction" after "Notes" in paragraph 1 of the operative part of the United States draft resolution (E/L.610).

51. Mr. VIRA (India) wished to record his country's deep appreciation of the humanitarian work accomplished by UNICEF. He hoped that its activities would expand, and not be hampered by lack of funds. He would assure the administration of UNICEF that the principal beneficiaries were not unmindful of its help, as had been borne out by the steady rise since 1950 in their contributions to the fund, which in some cases had been increased sixfold. He was all the more concerned, therefore, that in some areas financial support had been lagging behind the needs. What was wanted was a steady increase in participation so that the field of activity could be progressively broadened.

52. With regard to the distribution of functions between UNICEF and the specialized agencies referred to in the Secretary-General's report on programme co-ordination (E/2601), he would point out that it had been generally expected that UNICEF would not be required to reimburse the specialized agencies for the cost of regional advisory staff. While appreciating the need for co-ordination, his delegation was concerned that calls should have been made on UNICEF's slender resources by the agencies and in some cases even for regional advisory staff. He hoped that that would not recur, and that the agencies would be able to continue their assistance to UNICEF without straining its inadequate funds.

53. He was happy to have seen the extension in UNICEF's activities in 1953 to new areas, in particular to Africa, and that, despite its new status as a permanent United Nations organ, UNICEF had on occasion been able to provide emergency relief. His delegation again expressed its high appreciation of the excellent work done by UNICEF in tackling the vital tasks entrusted to it.

54. Mr. JOCKEL (Australia) said that the Secretary-General's report on programme co-ordination (E/2601) was an admirably clear document, not only because of its logical presentation, but because the situation with regard to co-operation in the various fields was itself made clear. The reason had been given in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the document, where it was stated that "the problem is not one of principle, or duplication of aid, but rather of assuring the most effective relationship between the different types of aid given by the agencies", and that progress towards the objective had "developed gradually out of time, practice and a recognition of mutuality of interest". In that connexion, he shared the point of view expressed by the French representative.

55. With regard to the United States draft resolution (E/L.610), his first impression was that the text was rather formalistic. The need for UNICEF to work harmoniously with the agencies on a long-term programme should rather be stressed. A shift of emphasis could perhaps be made, to the effect that the Secretary-General's second report should pay particular attention to further development along those lines.

56. Furthermore, he doubted whether it would be necessary to issue that report in 1955; 1956 would be soon enough.

57. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) concluded that the obviously sincere tributes paid to UNICEF by Council members implied warm and unreserved commendation of its work.

58. The Belgian Government had, no doubt, its reservations about the inflation of the budgets of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the lack of co-ordination, and other shortcomings, and was expecting great things from the reorganization of the United Nations at present under way. But it made an exception in favour of UNICEF. The administration of the fund worked satisfactorily, as the UNICEF Committee on Administrative Budget had recently shown. One or two most interesting comments and suggestions had been put forward in that Committee, for example, those

concerning the necessity for a closer interlocking of the central administration of UNICEF and the regional services and for cutting down expenditure. However, the comments in question did not imply any kind of reproach. All the members of the Committee had agreed that the very nature of UNICEF's tasks made it impossible to assess its work from a narrow budgetary angle.

59. The Belgian delegation regarded UNICEF's co-operation with FAO and WHO as already noteworthy and effective. It hoped that those in charge of UNICEF, in whom it had full confidence, would see to it that that co-operation was as close as possible.

60. The Deputy Director of UNICEF had just given a striking outline of the agency's activities. The figures he had quoted spoke for themselves, and no comment was necessary. The Belgian delegation had therefore joined those of Egypt, France, India and Yugoslavia in submitting a draft resolution (E/L.611) summarizing the comments made during the debate. Although the draft was not fundamentally incompatible with the one put forward by the United States delegation (E/L.610), he hoped that the members of the Council would see their way to voting unanimously for the joint proposal.

61. Mr. TRUJILLO (Ecuador) pointed out that when, in 1953, his delegation had supported the resolution making UNICEF a permanent organ of the United Nations, it had already had occasion to pay a tribute to the work accomplished by UNICEF and to express its gratitude for the assistance given to Ecuador when that country had been devastated by a terrible earthquake.

62. The reports now before the Council showed that UNICEF was developing on a world-wide scale; it had been created to meet an urgent need arising from the upheavals of the last world war and had gradually become an organ of world assistance, whose work was extremely effective.

63. The delegation of Ecuador had carefully examined the relevant reports and had listened with interest to the supplementary statements of the Deputy Director; it wished, especially, to thank UNICEF for the assistance given to the children of Ecuador.

64. Lastly, the delegation of Ecuador hoped that the authors of the two draft resolutions (E/L.610 and E/L.611) would be able to agree on a common text taking account of the different views expressed, for it appeared that the members of the Council were unanimous in recognizing the need for co-ordination at the general, national and local levels. The delegation of Ecuador itself was particularly anxious, like that of Pakistan, that the Council should take note "with satisfaction" of the reports submitted to it.

65. The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the joint draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Belgium, Egypt, France, India and Yugoslavia had not yet been distributed, consideration of it should be deferred until the following meeting.

It was so agreed.

Transport and Communications: (a) Report by the Secretary-General on the results of the London Conference on Pollution of Sea Water (Council resolution 518 B (XVII)) (E/2609, E/L.608)

[Agenda item 6]

66. Sir Alec RANDALL (United Kingdom) said that the report by the Secretary-General on the results of the London Conference on Pollution of Sea Water (E/2609) was an admirable summary of the proceedings of the London Conference, at which the United Kingdom Government had acted as host, and which had been a marked success. There was general agreement that the question of pollution of the sea by oil was a most important one. The coasts and coastal waters were being seriously affected by oil contamination, which not only constituted a grave inconvenience to individuals seeking recreation, but also was a serious threat to the tourist industry. Even more serious was the destruction of birds and wild life, and most deleterious effects had been noted on fish and the marine organisms on which they fed. Wide concern had been aroused by a problem that was increasing in extent.

67. The London Conference had done useful work in establishing international co-operation in that field. Its approach had been realistic for, not unnaturally, it had not been possible to reach any final decisions; for example, no date had been set for a complete avoidance of the discharge of oil at sea. It was hoped, however, that all governments would co-operate in the attempt to put an end to the nuisance, and it had been decided to convene a further conference to review the matter in three years' time. The most important result of the London Conference was the Convention on the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, which he hoped would soon come into force.

68. The Council was affected in two ways by the Conference. In the first place, with reference to the last paragraph of resolution 518 B (XVII), there would, in the opinion of the Secretary-General—with which he concurred—be no further need to convene the committee of experts foreseen in resolution 468 B (XV). Secondly, there was the Conference's request for the collection and dissemination by the appropriate organ of the United Nations of technical information about oil pollution. His delegation hoped that the Council would accede to that request, and he was happy to note that the Secretariat would be able to perform that task within the bounds of its present resources. Further, he would agree that the question be examined by the Transport and Communications Commission, subject of course to any decision that might be taken by the Council under item 29 of the agenda. His delegation was happy to associate itself with the French and United States delegations in sponsoring the joint draft resolution on the subject (E/L.608).

69. Mr. KUMYKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Soviet Union delegation agreed with the view that had just been expressed by the United Kingdom representative regarding the significance of the question under discussion.

70. As everyone knew, pollution of the sea by oil made it difficult to use sea beaches and shores, as well

as coastal waters, for medical treatment and holiday purposes, did considerable damage to the natural wealth of the sea, diminished the fish population and caused widespread destruction of birds, led to the pollution of the seashore and increased the risk of fire in harbour waters. Consequently, any measures for combating such pollution were undoubtedly of great importance, and were both progressive and humanitarian.

71. In the Soviet Union the fight against oil pollution was being carried on. His Government had issued special regulations to prevent the pollution of water basins, which were producing positive results. The Soviet Union Government had appreciated the initiative taken by the United Kingdom Government in convening an international conference to deal with the problem, and had participated in that Conference.

72. The Convention drafted at the Conference provided for a series of measures which might help to a certain extent in preventing pollution of the sea by oil. The Soviet Union authorities concerned were studying the question of his country's accession to the Convention.

73. The Soviet Union delegation had no comments to make on the joint draft resolution on the subject.

74. Mr. KUEHN (France) wished to express the satisfaction of his delegation with the work of the London Conference, which had resulted in a Convention with all the flexibility required to make the system worked out an effective one. The Convention was a satisfactory compromise between the United Kingdom view that all discharge at sea should be totally prohibited and the other views favouring prohibition of discharge in certain zones only. The Convention could, moreover, be reviewed in a few years' time if the agreements reached did not prove entirely satisfactory.

75. The French Government had signed the Final Act, and would ratify the Convention in the near future. It, too, considered that it would be advisable to discontinue action on the convening of the Committee of Experts referred to in resolution 468 B (XV). Finally, his Government hoped that the Secretary-General would keep the Council informed of signatures and ratifications each year.

76. With regard to the French text of the joint draft resolution (E/L.608), he proposed that sub-paragraph (a) of the last paragraph be amended to read: "de suspendre l'exécution de toute mesure prise en vue de la réunion de ce comité; (to *suspend all action* with respect to the convening of this Committee".

77. Mr. BRILEJ (Yugoslavia) welcomed the work of the London Conference, which had made a realistic approach to a most serious problem. He thought, however, that the three-year period laid down in the Convention for the provision of port facilities for the discharge of used oil was too short, and would raise difficulties for the less developed countries. Nevertheless, the Convention was a useful instrument of international co-operation and his delegation would support the joint draft resolution.

78. Mr. ADIL (Pakistan) recalled that resolution 518 B (XVII), adopted by the Council at its 757th plenary meeting, referring to the setting up of the Intergovern-

mental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO), had used the words "if and when". The text of the joint resolution (E/L.608) seemed to anticipate that event, and he thought, therefore, that it would be better to substitute for the last phrase of paragraph (b) of the operative part the words "till such time as it is decided to establish the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization" (IMCO). Without necessarily opposing the establishment of such a body, his delegation must reserve its position in the matter.

79. Sir Alec RANDALL (United Kingdom) said that his understanding was that, although resolution 518 B (XVII) had used the words "if and when it is set up", in actual fact a decision that IMCO should be set up had been taken. He would ask the Secretariat to clarify the point.

80. Mr. LUCAČ (Secretariat) said that the previous speaker's understanding was correct. However, in view of the fact that the required number of adhesions had not yet been received, the formal establishment of IMCO had not taken place, and the original wording "if and when, etc." was therefore advisable.

81. After an exchange of views on the wording between Sir Alec RANDALL (United Kingdom) and Mr. HASAN (Pakistan), Mr. KUEHN (France) proposed that in the last paragraph of the joint draft resolution (E/L.608) the final phrase of sub-paragraph (b) be amended to read as follows: "so long as the Intergovernmental

Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) shall not have been established".

82. Sir Alec RANDALL (United Kingdom) accepted the previous speaker's proposal.

83. Mr. HASAN (Pakistan) also found the French suggestion acceptable.

84. Mr. ENGEN (Norway) shared the doubts of the Pakistan representative. His delegation would vote for the joint draft resolution, provided its support were not interpreted as a commitment with regard to the establishment of IMCO.

85. Mr. HOTCHKIS (United States of America), expressing his pleasure at being a co-sponsor of the joint draft resolution, stressed the importance of practical measures to deal with a nuisance which was harmful, not only to wild life, but also to human beings. In some coastal bathing beaches it was not uncommon for a dip in the ocean to be followed by a scrubbing with kerosene in order to remove oil which had been dumped by ships at sea.

86. The PRESIDENT called for a vote on the joint draft resolution submitted by the delegations of France, United Kingdom and United States (E/L.608), as amended by the French proposal.

The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.