



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Friday, 26 March 1965,
at 2.30 p.m.

Thirty-eighth Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

	Page
<i>Agenda item 4:</i>	
(a) Report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (<u>concluded</u>);	
(b) Report of the International Finance Corporation (<u>concluded</u>)	51
<i>Agenda item 7:</i>	
Review and reappraisal of the Council's role and functions (<u>resumed from the 1358th meeting and concluded</u>)	55
<i>Agenda item 11:</i>	
Financial implications of actions of the Council.	56
Meetings between the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the officers of the Council and the Chairman of the Council's Committee on Co-ordination.	56
Date for receipt of applications from non-governmental organizations for consultative status	56
Opening date of the thirty-ninth session.	56
Closure of the thirty-eighth session	56

President: Mr. Akira MATSUI (Japan).

Present:

Representatives of the following States, members of the Council: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Iraq, Japan, Luxembourg, Pakistan, Peru, Romania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Representatives of the following States, additional members of the sessional committees: Cameroon, Denmark, Ghana, India, Iran, Madagascar, Mexico, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania.

Observers for the following Member States: China, Cuba, Finland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, New Zealand, Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey.

Observer for the following non-member State: Switzerland.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization; International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; International Finance Corporation; International Development Association.

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

AGENDA ITEM 4

- (a) Report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (E/3992 and Add.1) (concluded);
- (b) Report of the International Finance Corporation (E/3993 and Add.1) (concluded)

1. Mr. PACHACHI (Iraq) expressed satisfaction at the increase in the activities of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and its affiliates over the past year. He particularly welcomed the replenishment by more than \$750 million of the resources of the International Development Association (IDA). There had been a gratifying diversification of the Bank's activities in agriculture and education, but insufficient emphasis was still being given to industry, although the IDA credit enabling India to import industrial components and materials was a welcome new venture.

2. The Bank and its affiliates were still committed to aiding private industries, but in many countries only the State had sufficient capital for large-scale industrial expansion, and industrial development, particularly in the developing countries, could not and should not be entirely private. He hoped that the Bank would recognize the importance of State industries in the developing countries, and in this connexion he welcomed the statement by the President of the Bank at the 1362nd meeting that he was re-examining policy in that regard.

3. The difficulty of insufficient and inadequately prepared projects was likely to continue as long as there was a shortage of trained personnel in the developing countries. He welcomed the Bank's readiness to finance pre-investment projects and to give technical assistance through regional seminars and the Economic Development Institute. The close co-operation between the Bank and its affiliates was an important contribution towards fulfilling the objectives of the United Nations Development Decade.

4. Mr. WILLIAMS (United States of America) expressed appreciation of the past achievements and future plans of the Bank and its two affiliates. He noted that, of the total record commitment last year amounting to nearly \$1,200 million, the Bank group extended \$380 million, or about 80 per cent, to developing nations. His Government was glad to see that twenty-one new members had joined those institutions and welcomed the agreements between the Bank and FAO and between the Bank and UNESCO, which were already being implemented through field missions. The Bank group's activities in education deserved particular emphasis. Their value could not be measured merely in terms of money since they

affected the whole development of the societies concerned. His delegation therefore noted with pleasure the credits for education extended by IDA to Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Tunisia and the first Bank education loan to the Philippines.

5. The Bank continued to play an important role as an executing agency for the Special Fund. No less than twenty-one Special Fund projects had been placed under its administration in the five years of the Fund's existence. The Bank's technical assistance activities were another important aspect of its operations. Assistance in the preparation of national development plans, measures to promote the establishment of regional economic bodies and technical training courses sponsored by the Economic Development Institute were all evidence of the Bank's awareness that development depended on people as well as capital.

6. The replenishment of IDA's resources by additional contributions totalling more than \$750 million and by a grant to it from the Bank would assure the continuation of its invaluable work. His Government was pleased to have subscribed \$312 million of that total. With those additional resources, IDA would be able to continue to provide credits on liberal terms. But, as the President of the Bank had stated, consideration would soon have to be given to further replenishment. It was noteworthy that the Bank itself had liberalized its terms in appropriate cases by lengthening loan maturities and grace periods. The studies on development finance undertaken by the Bank at the request of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) would provide useful information and help Governments to decide on policies.

7. He wished to draw special attention to the Bank group's increased financing of industrial undertakings. Over 20 per cent of the previous year's commitments to the developing countries—approximately \$180 million—had been made in that field, with which the Council had recently been particularly concerned. His delegation welcomed credits of the type extended to India by IDA to meet the need for foreign exchange with which to import component and spare parts for capital goods industries. It also supported the Bank's proposed augmentation of the resources of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), which would lead to further financing of industrial activities. The Bank's willingness to organize and participate in various consortia and consultative groups was a valued indication of its co-operation in assistance efforts. His delegation was glad to hear that the Bank intended to take the lead, as appropriate, in organizing additional consultative groups.

8. His Government intended to rely increasingly on those financial institutions. It was proud of its support for them and confident that they would make still greater progress in the future.

9. Mrs. WRIGHT (Denmark) said that the activities of the Bank and its affiliates had reached new record levels, and the efficient use of resources had opened up new prospects of assistance for the developing countries. She praised the excellent training programme of the Economic Development Institute, the

diversification of activities and the efficient management of the Bank.

10. She asked the President of the Bank whether he could indicate the main points of the forthcoming preliminary report concerning the United Kingdom and Swedish initiative on supplementary financing measures, and whether some further technical guidance could be given to Governments regarding development financing plans, to help them answer the many questions raised in the report of the Bank's staff entitled The Horowitz Proposal.^{1/}

11. Mr. PITHER (Gabon) said that Gabon received substantial assistance from the Bank and its institutions for vital development projects. They benefited both the rural and the urban population, and were concerned mainly with deforestation and transport, to enable food to be imported on a large scale. An efficient infra-structure of rail and port facilities was necessary for a modern integrated economy, and he therefore welcomed the joint project of the Bank and the Special Fund to build a railway to transport iron ore from the Mekambo mines to a seaport near Libreville.

12. Mr. QUAO (Ghana) expressed satisfaction that many African countries had benefited from the expanded activities of the Bank, and hoped that something might be done in the future to alleviate the increasing difficulties of many developing countries in servicing loans. Despite increasing industrialization, agriculture remained for many African countries the basis of a sound economy, and he welcomed the joint efforts of the Bank, its affiliates and FAO to promote the diversification and modernization of agriculture. He looked forward to the publication of the study of agriculture in Africa south of the Sahara.

13. It was important to encourage the flow of capital into the developing countries, and in this connexion he hoped that effective assistance would be extended to State-owned industries as well as private undertakings. Countries should not be penalized for adopting a form of government unpopular with investors, and capital investment should be based on considerations of stability and the safeguards available, rather than the political system in the country concerned. He therefore hoped that every assistance would be given by the Bank to encourage capital investment in the developing countries. He also hoped that some of the Bank's experience and funds would be made available to the new African Development Bank.

14. Mr. POLIT (Ecuador) said that, after the somewhat disturbing and depressing statement made by the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) at the 1360th meeting, it was encouraging to hear the President of IBRD. The Ecuadorian Government wished to congratulate him on the Bank's report^{2/} and on the impetus that he had given to the Bank's operations. It was clear from the report that the Bank

^{1/} Transmitted to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development by a note of the Secretary-General of the Conference (TD/B/C.3/1).

^{2/} International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; International Development Association, Annual Report, 1963-1964 (Washington, D.C.), and supplementary information for the period from 1 July 1964 to 1 March 1965. Transmitted to the Economic and Social Council by notes of the Secretary-General (E/3992 and Add.1).

was a real development institution, ready to finance any project that would contribute to the economic and social development of the requesting country. Between July 1963 and 1 March 1965, the Bank had granted 103 loans totalling \$1,945 million, an impressive record.

15. There were some points, however, such as the disbursement policy and extra charges relating to loans, which left much to be desired, for they increased the real cost of loans to the borrowing Governments. The need for economic development to be accompanied by social progress had been stressed by several delegations, but no one had yet pointed out the serious repercussions of the population explosion on development in both those fields. An annual rate of population growth of 2 per cent represented a very serious problem for the developing countries. In the case of Ecuador, it was 3 per cent, which meant that the population would double in less than one generation. Unemployment and under-employment were much greater in those countries than could be judged from the statistics, which included thousands of hawkers among the employed. Finding work for the 30,000 to 40,000 persons who entered the labour market annually in Ecuador was a serious problem. The situation of Brazil and India in that respect was even worse. How were those Governments to find work for so many people? And how were discontent, social unrest and political extremism to be avoided?

16. In view of the urgency of those problems, the developing countries were naturally anxious to start on their development programmes as soon as possible. It was therefore regrettable that they had to wait so long after a loan was approved for the actual payment to be made. In the meantime, they had to pay the commitment charge, which was really only another way of raising the rate of interest on the loan. He proposed that the Board of Governors of IBRD should give the problem its attention as a matter of priority. The report showed that only 50 per cent of the loans granted by the Bank during the year covered by the report, and only 30 per cent of the loans granted by IDA, had actually been paid. The delay placed Governments in an awkward position, also. When a loan was approved, it was announced in the local Press and the public expected work to begin forthwith. When work did not start because the money had not been disbursed, the public began to doubt the Bank's intention to grant the loan, and the Bank came in for criticism which was not always justified. It would be better for the Bank not to announce approval of a loan until payment could be made.

17. The high salaries paid to foreign technicians were a heavy burden for the developing countries, particularly as the technicians arrived before the project was due to begin in order to check calculations. That work might be done by local technicians, to be selected by the Bank, or technicians from other developing countries, who did not expect such high salaries. The additional cost of loans resulting from commitment charges and the payment of high salaries made loans from the Bank and IDA so much dearer that Governments sometimes preferred to apply to private banking institutions or investors; although the

rates of interest were higher, there were no additional charges and the money was available sooner.

18. If the waiting period was radically reduced, commitment charges could be practically eliminated; or the Bank might use some of its \$97 million income to relieve the developing countries of that burden, instead of transferring half of it to IDA. That would reduce the real rate of interest on loans and improve relations between the Bank and the debtor countries. He was sure that the President of the Bank, who was so deeply concerned to serve the interests of the developing countries, would give those comments due consideration.

19. Mr. DE GREGORIO (Chile) noted that the Bank and its affiliates had again achieved a record level of investments during the past year. His country particularly appreciated the efforts which the Bank and IDA were making to help the developing countries in education and agriculture. If Chile was to become an industrialized country, it must produce an abundance of cheap food. At the moment, agricultural costs were high and productivity low; during the last twenty years per capita agricultural production had remained at \$44 per year. To remedy that situation the Chilean Government had initiated a comprehensive programme of land reform to be financed by special additional taxes. In addition, the Bank was to provide a loan of \$19 million to the Chilean Government for the improvement of agricultural equipment, and a loan of \$5 million to the Chilean Development Corporation — Corporación de Fomento de la Producción (CORFO) — for the improvement of milk production. Those loans were an example of fruitful co-operation between the Bank and the under-developed countries in the implementation of specific projects. He hoped that trend would be continued in the future.

20. A particularly welcome development was the credits which IDA had extended to India for industrial imports. They showed that IDA was not a static institution but was responding with imagination to the real needs of the developing countries. He hoped that in the future similar credits would be extended to enable the developing countries to finance their exports of manufactures and thus be able to compete with the industrialized countries. Also encouraging was the assistance that the Bank and IDA were giving to the developing countries in technical training for they were quite unable to achieve their economic objectives without an adequate supply of skilled labour. That assistance coincided with the efforts which Chile was making to improve education at all levels, to combat illiteracy and to raise the educational standards of the workers.

21. Chile welcomed the liberalization in the terms extended by the Bank and hoped that the Bank would follow the recommendations adopted by UNCTAD. It looked forward to close co-operation between the Bank and the Trade and Development Board.

22. Mr. ARKADYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his country was not a member of the Bank or IDA but, as a member of the Council, felt entitled to criticize their operations and to determine how far they were in keeping with the United Nations Charter. In spite of the remarks made by the President of the Bank, Mr. Woods, it was clear that the Bank

and its affiliates were doing little to encourage the economic development of the developing countries, to remedy the deficit in their balance of payments, to combat their inflation or to relieve their indebtedness. The terms of the loans extended by the Bank were unsatisfactory and impeded rather than encouraged the economic growth of the poorer countries. Above all, the Bank and its affiliates were not laying sufficient emphasis on industrialization. Those institutions were advancing considerable sums for pre-investment surveys and other academic studies, but what the developing countries required was assistance in constructing and equipping factories.

23. At the same time, the Bank and its group of affiliates were much more concerned with infrastructural investment than with investment in industry proper. If the IBRD was really to live up to its name and help countries in their reconstruction efforts, it must change its traditional policy. In particular, it must abandon its bias towards private enterprise and extend credits more readily to State undertakings. Private enterprise ran counter to the real aims of the developing countries because it sought only profit rather than their advancement. There was also a tendency to apply political pressure on recipients and to shun countries with socialist forms of government.

24. Many of the developing countries had complained that the charges for loans were too high. The interest rate of 5 1/2 per cent charged by the Bank was similar to that charged elsewhere in the money market and also tended to serve as a standard for credits extended by other bodies. The profits made by the Bank were so vast that it could well consider reducing its interest. The Bank resembled a commercial bank rather than an international organization designed to serve the developing countries.

25. He noted from the Bank's report^{3/} that a preliminary draft Convention on Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States had been drawn up by the Bank and was being discussed by legal experts. However, such a convention should rather be discussed by the United Nations itself.

26. The same criticisms applied to IDA and IMF. As the representatives of Iraq and Ghana had pointed out, the former should do more to assist the State sector, while the latter had been more concerned with currency difficulties than with the real problems of development. The Fund was dominated by some ten States seeking to preserve an outmoded monetary system which benefited only themselves.

27. The Bank and its affiliates, as well as the Fund, should adhere more closely to the economic objectives of the United Nations as defined in the Charter and do more to provide real assistance to the developing countries.

28. Mr. WOODS (President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) welcomed the understanding and encouragement that had been voiced for the work being done by the Bank, IDA and IFC.

He was particularly happy that the group's efforts to improve the terms of loans to developing countries had received strong endorsement.

29. The stimulating comments made by the USSR representative were interesting. It was quite true that the Bank group had given special importance to assistance for laying an adequate infra-structure in the developing countries. He failed to see how industrialization could proceed without such an infra-structure. The group hoped to be able to expand its activities for the promotion of industrialization.

30. It would be entirely wrong to assume that there was anything in the policy of the Bank which would preclude the extension of loans to such countries as Indonesia, Ceylon and the United Arab Republic merely because of the socialistic nature of the economies. Indeed, Yugoslavia, which had the same type of economy, was one of the five or six largest borrowers from the Bank at the present time. No applications for loans from the three countries he had mentioned were under consideration at present, but during the past month a team had gone to Ceylon to advise the Government on the best way to proceed with its economic development programme. If the Bank group were to help Ceylon, it probably would be through technical assistance and the extension of credit by IDA.

31. The philosophy of the Bank with regard to the nationalization of private enterprise was very clear: the Bank felt that reasonable compensation should be negotiated, settled and paid within a reasonable length of time. The Bank's concern with state-owned industries was a concern with regard to the management of those industries. The Bank was considering that problem and hoped to be able to frame a constructive answer for it.

32. He felt proud of the figure of over \$1,000 million that the Bank had put into private industry. He himself believed in private enterprise, but, as President of the Bank, he recognized that loans should not be denied to countries that had chosen other systems.

33. Being from a private-enterprise background, he believed in competition, and believed it would be a healthy thing if the Soviet Union would go into competition with the Bank group in providing finance on more attractive terms. The Bank would be perfectly happy for any country, anywhere, to put an industrial structure on the infra-structure built with the help of the Bank group.

34. It would be difficult to beat the Bank group's effort. The \$1,600 million made available to IDA by the capital-exporting countries, which he had mentioned at the 1362nd meeting, had been in the form of donations and it was being used to extend fifty-year credits to the poorest countries. Those countries paid no amortization or interest during the first ten years and only 1 per cent amortization per year during the next ten, the remaining 90 per cent being amortized over the next thirty years. The only charge was a service fee of 3/4 of 1 per cent. He would be happy to see like terms of development assistance being extended by countries that were not members of the Bank/IDA family. That would be for the good of the

^{3/} International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; International Development Association, Annual Report, 1963-1964, p. 12.

developing countries, which was the sole concern of the Bank.

35. He welcomed the support expressed for the draft Convention on Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States. He trusted that Governments would shortly take action to bring the Convention into force, and that the amendments to the agreements between the Bank and IFC and the Bank and IDA would shortly be ratified so that the Bank could replenish the funds of the two other organizations. That would have the effect of increasing the flow of capital to the developing countries. The Bank was studying other measures also to achieve the same purpose.

36. Regarding the two points raised by the Danish representative, he regretted that he was unable to offer any detailed comment at the present time on the proposal by the United Kingdom and Sweden; that proposal was being studied by the Bank, and the Secretary-General of UNCTAD was not dissatisfied with the progress being made. As to the Horowitz proposal, the Bank would be prepared to join in discussions of it when it arose in later meetings within its competence.

37. He welcomed co-operation between the Bank group and the other members of the United Nations family and trusted that it would increase, to the greater benefit of the developing countries.

38. Mr. Saad KHALIL (United Arab Republic) said that Mr. Woods had given the impression that no compensation had been offered to the concerns that had been nationalized in the United Arab Republic. That was quite untrue, for the Government had offered fair compensation in spite of the long and unfair exploitation by those concerns.

39. Apart from that, the Bank was not entitled to act as a trustee of foreign exploitation; it went even so far as to take a stand against countries exercising their sovereign right of nationalization. However, he would like to draw attention to Mr. Woods' statement that the Bank had at present no applications for loans from the United Arab Republic, and that that implied the Bank was ready to grant loans to his country, if requested.

40. Although he had not intended to participate in the present debate, as he had the floor he wanted to make some remarks in connexion with the item under discussion.

41. The rumour, to which the representative of the United Kingdom had referred at the previous meeting, that IMF and IBRD — which had supposedly been created to help the expansion of world trade and the realization of world economic welfare — were mainly aiding the advanced countries, could be explained only by the facts that were available; while the economies of the advanced countries were flourishing and prices of their exports were rising, the exports of developing countries had a tendency to decline in volume as well as in price, as had been indicated at the 1360th meeting by the Managing Director of IMF.

42. In order to rescue the pound sterling, international efforts had been mobilized so that within eighteen or twenty-four hours over \$3,000 million had been subscribed for that purpose. On the other hand, despite

the warning given at the same meeting by the Managing Director of IMF, namely that the current year would be a difficult one for the developing countries, Mr. Khalil came to the conclusion that nothing whatsoever was being done to offset those difficulties. All that was done was to debate the problem here very nicely. But that was all.

43. While the developing countries were still suffering from a shortage of available loans to carry out their development plans, astonishingly³ enough it was stated in the report of IBRD that the Bank's liquid position was such that it had been unnecessary to raise new money during the year.⁴ It was a strange situation when the institution, which should devote itself to helping the developing countries, had the capacity to render greater assistance but did not.

44. The envisaged amendment that would enable the Bank to transfer funds to IFC was unjustifiable, as long as Governments of developing countries were in need of loans. While he had nothing against private enterprise—for every country was free to choose its economic system—he wished to point out that the jurisdiction of IFC was exclusively for aiding private enterprise. The Bank, whose main task was to help Governments, envisaged swelling the resources of IFC; that could not be regarded as the proper step. He himself had grave doubts about the way in which loans were made by IFC; he would like to know exactly what companies were receiving help. It seemed more than likely that IFC was backing privately-owned companies for the benefit of foreign investors. After all, the net income of the Bank was partially the result of guarantees given by Governments on granted loans. The priority therefore should be placed on enabling Governments to obtain the loans they needed before thinking of diverting the resources of the Bank in other directions.

45. The situation was deplorable. As had been pointed out in the debate, action to stabilize currencies was of little consequence to people who were starving, and social-economic development was not possible without financial help. It was intolerable that those poor nations should not be able to obtain something to which they were unquestionably entitled—the means of furthering their economic and social development.

46. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should adopt the following draft resolution:

"The Economic and Social Council

"Takes note of the report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association and the report of the International Finance Corporation."

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Review and reappraisal of the Council's role and functions

(resumed from the 1358th meeting and concluded)

47. The PRESIDENT said that agreement had been reached on a text for inclusion in the Council's report on item 7 of its agenda.

⁴/ Ibid., p. 17.

48. Mr. KITTANI (Secretary of the Council) read out the following text:

"A preliminary discussion was held on the item 'Review and reappraisal of the Council's role and functions' and it was agreed to continue this discussion at the thirty-ninth session of the Council. The Secretary-General was requested to invite States Members of the United Nations or the specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency to submit their views on this subject. He was further requested to transmit these views to the next session of the Council along with such documentation as would facilitate the discussion in the Council and later in the General Assembly."

49. Mr. ARCA PARRO (Peru) noted that there was no specific reference in the text to the suggestion made by the representative of Argentina and supported by others that the Secretariat should prepare a working paper on the subject for the Council.

50. Mr. RAMOS (Argentina) said that he was satisfied with the text. The Secretary-General would presumably include any relevant legal texts in the documentation he was requested to transmit to the Council.

51. Mr. KITTANI (Secretary of the Council) said that it would be for the Secretary-General to interpret his obligation to provide documentation, taking into account the discussion in the Council.

52. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) suggested that, in the last sentence, the words "and later" should be replaced by "as well as".

It was so agreed.

53. Mr. ARKADYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the words "or the specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency" should be deleted.

It was so agreed.

The text, as amended, was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 11

Financial implications of actions of the Council

54. The PRESIDENT stated that the Council's actions at its current session had no financial implications.

Meetings between the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the officers of the Council and the Chairman of the Council's Committee on Co-ordination

55. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the fact that, in resolution 1043 (XXXVII), it had decided that the next informal meeting between the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the officers of the Council and the Chairman of the Council's Committee on Co-ordination should be held in the spring of 1965. Various considerations, however, made it preferable that the next such meeting should be held during the early stages of the Council's 1965 summer session at Geneva.

It was so agreed.

Date for receipt of applications from non-governmental organizations for consultative status

56. The PRESIDENT reminded the Council that, at its thirty-seventh session, it had decided to convene the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations in the autumn, rather than during the first three months of the year as in the past. In a note submitted to the Council at its resumed thirty-seventh session (E/3997), the Secretary-General suggested that, as a consequence of such a decision, the closing date for the receipt of applications from non-governmental organizations for consultative status should in future be 1 June, instead of 1 November as stipulated in Council resolution 288 B (X). The Council might wish to adopt that suggestion.

It was so decided.

Opening date of the thirty-ninth session

57. Mr. WILLIAMS (United States of America) suggested that in order to avoid clashing with the United Nations anniversary celebrations at San Francisco and the second Asian-African Conference at Algiers, it might be advisable to postpone the opening of the thirty-ninth session from 29 to 30 June 1965.

It was so agreed.

Closure of the thirty-eighth session

58. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the PRESIDENT declared the thirty-eighth session of the Council closed.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.