



## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Resumed Fifty-third Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

Tuesday, 12 September 1972  
at 11.20 a.m.

NEW YORK

*President:* Mr. Károly SZARKA (Hungary).

*Consideration of the agenda for the resumed fifty-third session of the Council (E/5210)*

1. The PRESIDENT informed the members of the Council that he had received a letter from the Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction stating that the Committee had decided to inform the Council that it had not had time to consider the question of the creation of an intergovernmental sea service at its session in July-August 1972 and that it would consider it as soon as possible. He suggested therefore that item 4 of the agenda (E/5210) should be omitted and that the Council should inform the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session that it would take up the item at a later session after it had been considered by the Committee.

*It was so decided.*

2. The PRESIDENT said that he had discussed with the other officers of the Council the organization of the work of the first part of the resumed fifty-third session and consequently wished to suggest that agenda item 1 (Question of the establishment of an international university) should be taken up by the Co-ordination Committee and item 2 (Question of the establishment of a United Nations revolving fund for natural resources exploration) by the Economic Committee. The officers of the Council had also agreed that since delegations were very busy preparing for the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly there should not be more than one meeting a day during that week so that members would also be able to have informal talks on the two questions which were to be taken up during the week.

*It was so decided.*

3. Mr. VERCELES (Philippines), referring to agenda item 2, recalled that in its resolution 1711 (LIII) the Economic and Social Council had requested him, as Chairman of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, to undertake consultations with members of the Working Group with a view to arriving at an agreed draft statute for the revolving fund. On 11

August 1972 he had sent a letter to members of the Economic and Social Council and the Committee on Natural Resources, from whom the members of the Intergovernmental Working Group were selected. The consultations were very difficult and he was not yet in a position to report on them. He wondered therefore whether it might not be desirable to postpone consideration of the item until the second part of the resumed fifty-third session, in October. He hoped to have completed his consultations by then and to be able to report to the Council.

4. Mr. ODERO-JOWI (Kenya) said that he would be very grateful if the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Working Group could give some definite indication of the likely outcome of the consultations which he had undertaken with a view to submitting to the Council an agreed statute for the revolving fund. Resolution 1711 (LIII) was very clear in that respect: it stated that the Council would make recommendations to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session. He reminded members that during the next few days work in connexion with the coming General Assembly would leave very little time for agreement to be reached on the text of a draft statute; that was why he was asking the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Working Group when he thought the text might be ready.

5. Mr. VERCELES (Philippines) replied that he was fully aware of the provisions of Council resolution 1711 (LIII), but that as things stood he could only hope that the consultations would be speedily concluded. The group of representatives from developing countries had said they intended to meet during the week to try to reach agreement on the text of a draft statute. He reiterated the hope that the consultations would enable the Economic Committee of the Council to consider the item during the second part of the resumed session.

6. The PRESIDENT said that in view of the remarks made by the representative of the Philippines, he would like to alter the suggestions which he had made at the beginning of the meeting concerning the organization of the Council's work at the resumed fifty-third session. Agenda item 1 should be considered by the Co-ordination Committee in the afternoon. Item 2 should be taken up during the second part of the resumed session.

*It was so decided.*

*The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.*