



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Friday, 1 November 1968,
at 3.35 p.m.

Resumed Forty-fifth Session
OFFICIAL RECORDS

NEW YORK

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President: Mr. Manuel PÉREZ GUERRERO (Venezuela).

AGENDA ITEM 1

Activities of the United Nations family of organizations in connexion with natural disasters (concluded)* (E/4544 and Add.1, E/L.1238)

1. The PRESIDENT asked the representative of Iran, on behalf of the sponsors, to introduce the amended text of the draft resolution on natural disasters (E/L.1238).
2. Mr. HOVEYDA (Iran) informed the Council that the new text incorporated suggestions made at informal discussions. The wording and arrangement of the paragraphs had been slightly revised for the sake of clarity. The draft resolution entailed no additional expenditure for the United Nations and he hoped it would be adopted unanimously.
3. Mr. JHA (India) summarized the four main features of the draft resolution: it represented a moral commitment by the United Nations on behalf of mankind, it recognized the need to harness science and technology, it provided for pre-disaster planning and it emphasized the requirements of the developing countries.
4. Mr. VARELA (Panama) pointed out that paragraph 8, as it stood, prevented the Secretary-General from utilizing any of the amount of \$100,000 for pre-disaster planning in the highly desirable event of there being no drawings on it.
5. After a discussion of drafting amendments, in which Mr. Allen (United Kingdom), Mr. DECASTIAUX (Belgium), Mr. UY (Philippines) and Mr. HOVEYDA (Iran) took part, Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden) suggested

that the beginning of paragraph 8 should be reworded to read: "Decides, if funds are left from the \$100,000 amount referred to in paragraph 7 above ...".

6. The PRESIDENT said that draft resolution E/L.1238, being devoid of self-interest and inspired by a general concern for humanity, deserved to be adopted unanimously.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

7. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had voted for the draft resolution, but while appreciating the laudable purposes of paragraph 8 and the need for financing, he considered the proposal to draw on the Working Capital Fund conflicted with the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies^{1/} and his delegation reserved its right to raise the matter in the Fifth Committee.

8. Mr. LECOURTIER (France) said that the arrangements proposed in paragraph 8 should be provisional since the \$100,000 was likely to be exhausted each year and, as a result, there would be a drain on the funds available for technical assistance.

9. Mr. ABE (Japan) said that, in view of the fact that the words "interim measure" were used in paragraph 8, his delegation had overcome its hesitation about including pre-disaster work in the three-year extension of the Secretary-General's authority and had voted in favour of the draft resolution.

10. Miss HENDERSON (Secretariat), replying to the point made by the representatives of France, Japan and the United Kingdom, said that she had discussed the matter with the Office of the Controller and confirmed that the draft resolution entailed no financial implications as far as additional staff was concerned. However, the Secretary-General would have to submit the matter to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions which was already dealing with a number of other matters connected with the Working Capital Fund. Every effort would be made to obtain the advice of the Advisory Committee before the item was considered by the Third and Fifth Committees.

11. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation was grateful for the Secretariat's explanation of the procedures for financing pre-disaster preparations. He had interpreted the last line of paragraph 8 as meaning that sources of finance other than the Working Capital Fund would ultimately be found.

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343.

*Resumed from the 1563rd meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Multilateral food aid (concluded):*

- (a) Programme of studies called for in General Assembly resolution 2096 (XX) (E/4538 and Corr.1, E/4602);
- (b) Report of the Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme (E/4541)

12. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should take note of the documents on the programme of studies (E/4538 and Corr.1 and E/4602) and, without prejudice to further discussion, transmit them to the Second Committee; he also suggested that the Council should take note of the report of the Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme transmitted to the Economic and Social Council by a vote of the Secretary-General (E/4541).

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Arrangements for the transfer of operative technology to developing countries (E/4597)

13. Mr. MBAGO (United Republic of Tanzania) said that there was an urgent need for an imaginative approach to the transfer of operative technology to developing countries. As stated in annex I to the progress report of the Secretary-General (E/4597), access to technology was among the major conditions for successful development in the developing countries and the overwhelming part of such technology must initially be imported. Because the existing machinery for the transfer of technology was inadequate, the developing countries had proposed the establishment of an intergovernmental body to examine the matter. The fear expressed by some developed countries that the creation of new machinery could lead to duplication and overlapping was unfounded, since existing bodies had not taken an over-all view of the legal, economic, commercial and financial aspects of the transfer of technology, nor had they evaluated its trade and balance-of-payments aspects.

14. The transfer of technology by itself was not enough; equally important was the capacity of the recipient country to absorb and apply the technology. Its capacity depended on a number of factors, including the availability of skilled manpower and managerial personnel. It was therefore encouraging to note that the study being carried out by UNITAR would place due emphasis on training arrangements for local personnel. International co-operation had an important role to play in complementing the developing countries' efforts to ensure the rapid growth and efficient channelling into the industrial sector of their national resources.

15. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) said that since the substantive aspects of the item under con-

sideration were to be discussed at the forty-sixth session, the Council need do no more than take note of the Secretary-General's report and approve the procedure proposed in annex I. His delegation hoped that those procedures would not remain mere theory but would form a common practical basis for future studies. The important point raised by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania would be discussed at the Council's forty-sixth session and at subsequent sessions of the Trade and Development Board.

16. Mr. TEHN MEJIA (Mexico) wondered whether the programme of field studies, one of which was being carried out in Mexico, might not be interrupted if the Council decided to postpone its consideration of the item under discussion. He supported the suggestion that the Council should take note of the report.

17. Mr. HOVEYDA (Iran) noted that the report dealt almost exclusively with economic and technological matters, whereas the transfer of operative technology to developing countries involved a great many other important social and cultural factors which should be taken fully into account in future studies.

18. Mr. DE SEYNES (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) said that the programme of field studies to which the Mexican representatives had referred would continue uninterrupted.

19. The social and cultural factors mentioned by the representative of Iran were, of course, of prime importance and the dangers of isolating the transfer of technology from the over-all aim of enabling developing countries to benefit from scientific and technological advances had often been stressed. Those factors were, however, extremely difficult to analyse and had not been given prominence in the Secretary-General's report because it was necessary, at the first stage, to limit studies to more specific areas where at least partial progress could be achieved. Nevertheless, those socio-cultural factors were referred to in the penultimate paragraph of page 10 of the annex, and it was hoped to consider them in greater detail in future reports.

20. Mr. VERCELES (Philippines) expressed his delegation's satisfaction with the comprehensive and well-conceived study contained in the annex to the progress report. The transfer of technology in heavy and medium industry could set off a chain reaction that would ultimately benefit both advanced and developing countries. Export-oriented industries, as well as the labour-intensive and smaller-scale enterprises referred to in the last paragraph of the annex, should be studied.

21. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should take note of the Secretary-General's report.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.

*Resumed from the 1565th meeting.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Tuesday, 19 November 1968,
at 3.25 p.m.

Resumed Forty-fifth Session
OFFICIAL RECORDS

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President: Mr. Manuel PEREZ GUERRERO
(Venezuela).

Organization of work

1. The PRESIDENT stated that the Secretary-General was not yet in a position to inform the Council of the financial implications of the proposals contained in the report of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (E/4599 and Add.1). He therefore suggested that consideration of item 15 should be postponed until the series of meetings to be held on 5 and 6 December 1968.

It was so agreed.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (E/4546, E/4547, E/4557 and Corr.1, E/4603)

2. The PRESIDENT recalled that, following the Council's consideration of the item under discussion at the first part of its current session, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples had requested its Chairman to continue his consultations with the President of the Council pursuant to paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 2311 (XXII). He drew the Council's attention to the Secretary-General's report^{1/} on the action taken by him in implementation of paragraph 7 of that resolution.

3. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) expressed his delegation's gratitude to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for its assistance to refugees from territories under Portuguese domination and to refugees from illegal racist régimes in

southern Africa. The efforts of the Office were a major contribution to the decolonization work of the United Nations and it was to be hoped that other agencies would redouble their efforts to promote self-determination for all peoples. The specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations should give no aid whatsoever to South Africa and Portugal until those countries ended their policies of racial discrimination and colonial domination. The Council and the General Assembly should consider taking all necessary steps to debar those countries from participation in the activities of the international community and the specialized agencies should do everything in their power to assist the United Nations to discharge its responsibilities in the matter of decolonization and, for that purpose, specify the measures which they intended to take within their terms of reference. Until those measures were taken, the specialized agencies should do more to assist victims of brutal repression by the Portuguese and South African régimes.

4. His delegation would support any proposals aimed at ensuring the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and hoped that the consultations between the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee would continue.

5. Mr. SHAHEED (International Labour Organisation) said that his agency's views on the item had been stated in the Fourth Committee,^{2/} the joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, (see E/4557 and Corr.1), and were reflected in the report of the Council.^{3/} The unanimous decisions on the subject adopted by the Governing Body of the ILO at its 173rd meeting on 15 November had been conveyed to the Secretary-General in document E/4603.

6. Mr. DE SILVA (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) said that, following decisions adopted by the Executive Board and General Conference of UNESCO, an agreement between UNESCO and the Organization of African Unity dealing with decolonization matters had recently been signed. On 15 November, two important resolutions had been adopted by the General Conference. In the first resolution, the Director-General was invited to take steps to implement relevant decisions regarding the liquidation of colonialism and racism, and UNESCO's decision to withhold assistance from the Governments of Portugal, South Africa and the illegal régime of Rhodesia until those countries abandoned their policy of colonial domination and racial discrimination was reaffirmed. The second resolution condemned Portugal's attitude towards the territories under its domination, invited member States to sus-

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda items 69 and 12, document A/7301.

^{2/} *Ibid.*, Twenty-second Session, Fourth Committee, 1744th meeting.

^{3/} *Ibid.*, Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 3.

pend all co-operation with Portugal in education and culture and requested the Director-General to grant increased assistance to African refugees from countries and territories still under Portuguese domination. The full text of those two resolutions had been communicated to the Secretary-General and would be circulated to members of the Council and the Fourth Committee.^{4/}

7. Mr. GELEV (Bulgaria) said that General Assembly resolution 2311 (XXII), paragraph 6 of which assigned specific functions to the Council, should be implemented without delay. The Council should therefore continue its efforts to determine the most appropriate means of co-ordinating the programmes and activities in question. With the goodwill and co-operation of Member States and the specialized agencies, the practical difficulties could be overcome and specific concerted action taken. His delegation therefore believed that the Council, in consultation with the Special Committee, should consider practical ways of assisting the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations in that work and of appealing to them to co-operate actively in their respective spheres of activity. The Council's recommendations might take the form of a statement by the President to the Fourth Committee, which would be considering the matter at the current session.

8. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) expressed his delegation's appreciation of the action taken by UNESCO and the ILO in implementation of General Assembly resolution 2311 (XXII). It was to be hoped that the other specialized agencies whose governing bodies had not yet considered the matter would at least indicate the type of measures they contemplated.

9. It would be regrettable if the specialized agencies were to resort to constitutional niceties as a pretext for shirking their responsibilities under General Assembly resolution 2311 (XXII). Instead, they should help the populations of southern Africa to wrest their freedom from racist usurpers in the same spirit in which they had contributed to the reconstruction of Western Europe after the Second World War.

10. The Tanzanian delegation attached particular importance to the item under discussion and would revert to it repeatedly in the General Assembly and its Committees and in the governing bodies of the specialized agencies. At an appropriate time, it would submit specific recommendations regarding the action that could be taken by the agencies and the procedures whereby the Council could fulfil the functions of co-ordination assigned to it under resolution 2311 (XXII). At the present stage, however, he wished to know what consultations had been held by the Secretary-General in pursuance of paragraph 7 of that resolution and how the Secretary-General intended to carry out his mandate in future.

11. Mr. WOODWARD (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), said that FAO was a practically oriented agency and was concerned less than other organizations, particularly UNESCO, with such activities as general education and relationships

between peoples, which formed the main subject of General Assembly resolution 2311 (XXII). The regular programme of FAO consisted largely of technical advice to Governments and FAO carried out most of its development activities as a participating and executing agency for UNDP. It had nevertheless taken some specific steps to implement the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the relevant General Assembly resolutions. For example, FAO and the World Food Programme had provided emergency food aid to refugees from the Territories under Portuguese administration and had co-operated with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in resettlement projects. The Director-General had reported to the FAO Council in October 1968 on the action taken. As South Africa was no longer a member of FAO, the question of withholding assistance from that country had not arisen; no relations were maintained with Southern Rhodesia, and Portugal had not been invited to attend the African Regional Conference or any technical meetings, nor had it been given any technical assistance. The relevant General Assembly resolutions had been brought to the attention of the FAO Council, which had endorsed the Director-General's intention to continue to respond positively to them.

12. Mr. DIALLO (Upper Volta) welcomed UNESCO's leadership in promoting social and cultural progress. He agreed with the Bulgarian representative that consultations should be held with representatives of the specialized agencies and the Chairman of the Special Committee to determine appropriate ways and means of implementing General Assembly resolution 2311 (XXII). The specialized agencies should be asked to transmit any relevant documentation to the Fourth Committee.

13. The PRESIDENT said that, in the light of the consultations already held, the Committee's discussion and the statements by the representatives of FAO, the ILO and UNESCO, there seemed to be agreement that the Council should continue to consider the matter in co-operation with the specialized agencies.

14. He believed it to be the general feeling of the Council that the specialized agencies and other relevant international institutions should be invited to submit suggestions and that he and the Chairman of the Special Committee should hold further consultations and report to the Council in accordance with paragraph 6 of resolution 2311 (XXII).

15. The Council's report on the subject would form an addendum to its report to the General Assembly. The forty-seventh session would seem to be the most appropriate time for the Council to resume consideration of the item.

16. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that account should be taken of the discussion in the Fourth Committee, and the relevant material from the Council's summer session should be transmitted to that Committee.

17. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the Council's report^{5/} contained an account of the debate on the

^{4/} Ibid., Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda items 69 and 12, document A/C.4/716.

^{5/} Ibid., Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 3.

item at its summer session. The addendum would include a summary of the debate and statements by representatives of the specialized agencies at the current session.

AGENDA ITEM 8

Question of a meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Question of a Declaration on International Economic Co-operation (E/4519)

18. The PRESIDENT, recalling that the item had been deferred on a number of occasions, asked whether the Council wished to discuss it at its current session.

19. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), supported by Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina),

proposed that discussion should be deferred until the Council's forty-sixth session.

20. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) pointed out that the Council's forty-sixth session would be mainly taken up with discussion of social matters and suggested that the item should be deferred to the forty-seventh session.

21. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) agreed.

22. The PRESIDENT, supported by Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania), suggested that the Council should decide, at its series of meetings on 18 and 19 December, on the session at which the item should be taken up.

It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 4.40 p.m.