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President: Mr. Manuel PÉREZ GUERRERO
(Venezuela).

AGENDA ITEM 12

Basic programme of work of the Council in 1969 and consideration of the provisional agenda for the forty-sixth session (E/L.1241 and Add.1 and 2, E/L.1243 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1)

1. The PRESIDENT introduced the draft programme of work of the Council in 1969 set out in document E/L.1241 in the form of lists of agenda items for the forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions. In document E/L.1241/Add.1, the Secretary-General had made some suggestions regarding the selection of a limited number of specific issues on the agenda for the forty-seventh session for consideration in depth during the current session and also regarding the participation of inter-governmental organizations in the Council's debates. In document E/L.1241/Add.2, he had provided information regarding the anticipated date of issue of Secretariat reports to the forty-sixth session and had also made a suggestion regarding the procedure governing elections to the functional commissions. Finally, in document E/L.1243 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1, the Secretary-General had called the attention of the Council to resolutions adopted or recommended for adoption by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session which had a bearing on the Council's work. The draft programme contained in document E/L.1241 should be considered first and then documents E/L.1243 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1 should be examined to see what additions or modifications were required in the programme as the result of actions taken by the General Assembly. After that, the Council should consider the proposals made by the Secretary-General in document E/L.1241/Add.1.

2. With regard to document E/L.1241 he suggested in particular that consideration of the items mentioned in paragraphs 5, 6 and 8 should be postponed and should not be included in the agenda of the forthcoming sessions, on the understanding that any member could request their reinclusion.

It was so decided.

3. Mr. VIAUD (France) said he had not yet had time to form an opinion on the list of items for the next two sessions. However, the Secretary-General wished members of the Council to make suggestions regarding the major topics and had made some himself. In his delegation's opinion, priority should be given at the next two sessions to consideration of the preparations for the second United Nations Development Decade. Secondly, the Council should devote more attention to questions relating to science and technology. One more topic should be added to those in document E/L.1241/Add.1, namely, the question of protein, since, in view of what had been decided in the Council and what had been said in the Second Committee, it was of some urgency. The application of science and technology and the questions of protection and conservation of natural resources were connected with the human environment. Account should be taken of what had been said in the Second and Third Committees concerning the repercussions which those problems might have on individual rights and freedoms. The suggestions he had put forward would in no way alter the proposals made by the Secretary-General.

4. The President invited the Council to approve the various paragraphs of the draft programme prepared by the Secretary-General. With regard to the question of road traffic referred to in paragraph 6 of document E/L.1241, the Secretary-General proposed to prepare a report which would be circulated to the Council but did not propose to include the question in the agenda. The question of protein mentioned in paragraph 7 would not have to be considered by the Council until 1970, following the General Assembly. He invited the Council to approve the work programme set out in documents E/L.1241 and Add.1 and 2.

5. In reply to questions put by Mr. FIGUEREDO PLANCHART (Venezuela) and Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden), the PRESIDENT stated that the Council's approval was understood to be subject to subsequent modifications arising out of the proposals contained in documents E/L.1243 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1.

6. Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (United States of America) said that his delegation would like to make some comments, but only after studying the documents, which had been circulated very recently. It hoped to be able to make its comments at the next meeting. The Council should emphasize certain agenda items and put its programme of work into proper perspective, so as to avoid the problems which arose when sessions were resumed.

7. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) also requested time to study the complex documentation which had just been circulated. The French representative's suggestion that another topic should be added to those proposed by the Secretary-General would appear to

prejudge the decision of the General Assembly, which had requested a report on the question for 1970.

8. The PRESIDENT agreed that the matter should be discussed further at the next meeting.

9. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that he had simply wished to make a general remark, since it was customary for the Council to begin with an over-all consideration of the major topics to be discussed the following year. His remark did not alter the agenda in any way, and his delegation might wish to speak again on the subject. Probably the Council need not include the question of protein in its agenda, since there would be nothing specific to deal with until 1970.

10. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) explained that the Secretary-General, when preparing the draft programme in the form of a list of agenda items for the forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions of the Council, had made, in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the introduction, some comments on certain questions which would not be included in the programme for 1969 unless the Council so requested: the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Conference on Road Traffic did not appear to require an item, and the report on edible protein would not be submitted until 1970.

11. A decision on the draft programme did not prejudice anything that might be decided with regard to documents E/L.1243 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1.

12. Mr. VARELA (Panama) proposed that consideration of the programme of work should be deferred until the next meeting.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 10

Elections (E/4605, E/L.1242 and Corr.1)

13. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to appoint the eighteen members of the Committee for Development Planning who had been nominated by the Secretary-General and whose names appeared in paragraph 5 of the note by the Secretary-General (E/4605) for a period of three years beginning on 1 January 1969.

14. Mr. ZAKHAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation could approve that list of names only if he was assured by the Secretariat that, in the event of Mr. A. N. Efimov's being unable to serve as a member of the Committee for another three years and having to resign, he would be replaced by a representative of the USSR, whose candidature would be submitted and accepted.

15. Mr. MOSAK (Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General in charge of Economic Planning, Projections and Policies) assured the representative of the Soviet Union that, in the event of Mr. Efimov's having to resign, the Secretary-General would nominate a new candidate from the USSR.

The nominations for the Committee for Development Planning contained in the note by the Secretary-General (E/4605) were approved.

16. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect four members of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme for a term of office of three years beginning on 1 January 1969 to replace the following four members, whose term of office would expire on 31 December 1968: Brazil, Denmark, Ghana and Turkey.

17. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the Niger was a candidate for the seat allocated to the African States, in place of Ghana.

18. Mr. LOPEZ URZUA (Guatemala) said that Argentina was a candidate for the seat allocated to the Latin American States.

19. The PRESIDENT said that the following five States were therefore the candidates: Argentina, Brazil, Denmark, the Niger and Turkey.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Ikeda (Japan) and Mr. Soto (Venezuela) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	25
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	25
<i>Required majority:</i>	13

Number of votes obtained:

Niger	25
Turkey	25
Denmark	24
Argentina	21
Brazil	3

Having obtained the required majority, Argentina, Denmark, the Niger and Turkey were elected members of the United Nations/FAO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Programme.

20. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect a member of the Population Commission from among the Western European and other States for a period of four years beginning on 1 January 1969.

21. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) stated that the group comprising the Western European and other States had not yet been able to find a candidate for the seat which was to be filled. One Government appeared to be willing to let its candidature go forward, but had not yet given a firm answer. Consequently, his delegation wondered whether the Council would agree to take up the matter on the following day.

In the absence of any objection, the election of the member of the Population Commission was deferred until Thursday 19 December.

22. The PRESIDENT invited the Council, in accordance with rule 82 of the rules of procedure, to elect the thirteen members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, to be nominated from among the members of the Council, including the newly elected members but excluding the outgoing members. The term of office was one year. Five members were to be elected from among the Afro-Asian States, four from among the Western European and other States, two from among the Latin American States and two from among the socialist States of Eastern Europe.

23. Mr. VARELA (Panama) said that Jamaica and Uruguay, which were to become members of the Council on 1 January 1969, were the candidates for the Latin American seats.

24. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the candidates of the African group were Libya, Sierra Leone and the United Republic of Tanzania.

25. Mr. MUŽÍK (Czechoslovakia) said that, in the group of socialist States of Eastern Europe, Bulgaria was the candidate for the seat previously held by Czechoslovakia.

26. Mr. UY (Philippines) said that India and Indonesia were the two candidates for the seats allocated to the Asian States.

27. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that, in the view of his delegation, the election of members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations could have been left undecided by the Council at its resumed forty-fifth session. The Council was in a contradictory position; in its resolution, establishing the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on a new basis, it had decided that the election would normally take place at the spring session (see 1296 (XLIV), para. 39), but in its programme of conferences for 1969 it had scheduled the Committee to meet early in the year to review its list of members. The two decisions appeared to conflict. His delegation wondered whether it would not be better, instead of proceeding with the election immediately when members of the Council were unprepared, to postpone it until May 1969 and, by way of exception, extend the term of office of the present members of the Committee. Some members of the Council, particularly those that had just been elected by the General Assembly, were apparently not adequately informed about the elections at the present time, and there did not seem to be enough candidates from all the groups, if the principle of geographical representation and the traditional rule of publicity in advance of any election were to be respected.

28. Nevertheless, his delegation would concur in the opinion of the majority and would not object to the Council's proceeding immediately, if it so desired, to elect the members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. In that case, France would be a candidate for re-election.

29. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) said he thought that the new members of the Council had been given due notice of the vacancies in the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. The African group, for its part, would have no difficulty in proceeding to the election of the new members of the Committee in accordance with the rules of procedure.

30. Mr. COX (Sierra Leone), expressing agreement with the Tanzanian representative, observed that the Council was the master of its own procedure.

31. The PRESIDENT observed that the representative of France had merely suggested various possibilities without formally proposing that the Council should postpone the election. In any case, there was still one

candidate to be nominated for the Western European and other States.

32. Mr. VIAUD (France) said he had reason to believe that Norway would be the candidate for the vacant seat.

33. Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden) said it was his understanding that Norway was not willing for the moment to present its candidature for the vacant seat.

34. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) wondered whether it would not be possible to proceed immediately to the election of those members who had officially presented their candidatures and to postpone the elections to fill the remaining seats until a later meeting.

35. The PRESIDENT considered that a very useful suggestion which would expedite the Council's work. Since the number of candidates for each group of States was the same as the number of places to be filled, he proposed that the Council should dispense with election by secret ballot.

36. Mr. CUHRUK (Turkey) asked whether the procedure proposed by the President was not contrary to the rules of procedure.

37. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) said that, when the number of candidates was greater than the number of places to be filled, the Council was obliged to vote by secret ballot. However, in certain situations similar to the present one, the Council had dispensed with that procedure.

38. The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of any objection, he would take it that the Council was suspending the application of the rules of procedure for the election of the members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

It was so decided.

The following States were elected to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations:

From the Afro-Asian States:

India
Indonesia
Libya
Sierra Leone
United Republic of Tanzania

From the Western European and other States:

France
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America

From the Latin American States:

Jamaica
Uruguay

From the socialist States of Eastern Europe:

Bulgaria
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The election of the thirteenth member of the Committee was postponed.

39. The PRESIDENT THANKED Mr. Forshell, the outgoing Chairman of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, for the valuable as-

sistance he had given to the Economic and Social Council.

40. Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden) thanked the President for his kind words, which were in fact addressed to all members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. He hoped that the new members of the Committee would continue to co-operate with the Council, thus bringing benefit to the entire United Nations.

AGENDA ITEM 11

Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council (E/4601)

41. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to confirm the appointment of the members of the functional commissions of the Council whose names were listed in the note by the Secretary-General (E/4601).

42. Mr. ZAKHAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he was surprised not to see the name of the USSR representative listed as a member of the Commission on Human Rights.

43. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) also expressed surprise that the representative of Argentina was not included among the members of the Commission for Social Development.

44. Mr. UY (Philippines) observed that the Council only had to confirm the appointment of the representatives of the various countries belonging to the functional commissions the first year of their term. The Commission on Human Rights, for example, was composed of thirty-two members the appointments of one-fourth of whom were confirmed each year. The absence of certain names from the members of the functional commissions listed in the note by the Secretary-General could therefore be explained by the fact that their appointments had already been confirmed by the Council at an earlier date.

45. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) pointed out that the appointment of the USSR representative to the Commission on Human Rights had been confirmed by the Council at its forty-fourth session. The appointment of the representative of Argentina to the Commission for Social Development had been confirmed by the Council in 1967. Accordingly, the names of those representatives did not appear in the document under consideration, since the confirmation was valid for the duration of their term.

46. Generally speaking, whenever a Member State was elected to a functional commission of the Council it designated a candidate whose appointment was subject to confirmation by the Council. However, any Member State could at any time nominate another representative whose appointment also had to be confirmed by the Council.

47. Mr. VIAUD (France) observed that the practice of confirming appointments had been very widespread in the early days of the Organization but had now fallen into disuse. It did not permit Governments to change their representation during a session without confirmation by the Economic and Social Council. He was not certain that the procedure was completely

justified in the case of some bodies, such as the Commission on Human Rights.

48. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) observed that it was States that were elected to the functional commissions of the Council. If the Council refused to confirm the appointment of a representative designated by a Member State, would the latter cease to be a member of the functional commission in question?

49. Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden) recalled that the functional commissions of the Council had originally been less numerous and their membership smaller. Before designating their representatives, the Governments of Member States had discussed the nomination with the Secretary-General, who endeavoured to balance the membership of functional bodies by ensuring the greatest possible breadth and variety of competence. With the proliferation of functional bodies and the enlargement of their membership, the confirmation of appointments had become a mere formality.

50. Mr. VIAUD (France), replying to the representative of Upper Volta, said that if the Council did not confirm a representative's appointment the Member State in question would have to designate another representative. Of course, that was a purely theoretical situation, which had never actually arisen. Nevertheless, it might be asked, in a general way, whether it was proper for the representative of France on the Commission of Human Rights to be appointed for three years while French representation on the Trade and Development Board could be changed at any time. The existing procedure seemed to present more advantages for Governments, for it allowed them greater freedom of choice. Nevertheless, it would not be difficult for the Council, merely by taking a decision, to amend the procedure which continued to apply. His delegation, for its part, would have no objection.

51. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that the Council would do well to consider amending its existing procedures at an appropriate time. If a country could not be represented on a functional body of the Council when its representative's appointment was not confirmed, was a Government to be deprived of the right to make itself heard in a functional body in cases where its representative suddenly and temporarily became physically incapacitated?

52. The PRESIDENT, replying to the United Kingdom representative's question read out rules 12 and 13 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

53. Mr. COX (Sierra Leone) said he felt that, owing to lack of time, the Council was unable to consider in detail the nominations submitted by each country. It was therefore up to the Secretary-General to consider the nominations and attempt to ensure the broadest possible range of competence. He would be able to do that in an appropriate manner, and the Council should have no difficulty in confirming the appointment.

54. Mr. TARABANOV (Bulgaria) said he felt that the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council read out by the President were not sufficiently explicit. He would like a more complete explanation from the Secretariat of the reasons for that confirmation procedure.

55. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) recalled that all the resolutions setting up functional commissions of the Council provided for a confirmation procedure for representatives designated by Governments. The rules of procedure adopted for functional commissions were based on those resolutions. Times had changed since then and so had the membership of those bodies, but it was for the Council itself to decide whether it wished to amend the rules of procedure.

56. Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (United States of America) said that while the discussion had been very interesting, he thought the Council should proceed to the confirmation of the appointment of the members of functional commissions.

57. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that he shared the view of the United States representative; however, in view of the apparent interest of some delegations in amending the confirmation procedure, he wondered

whether it would not be advisable for the Council to place the matter on the agenda of its summer session.

58. Mr. TARABANOV (Bulgaria) said he felt that, instead of debating the question of whether the rules of procedure should be amended, it would be preferable for the President to make a statement explaining the various aspects of the problem.

59. Mr. VARELA (Panama) said he thought that the provisions of the rules of procedure were clear. The Council would do well to proceed without delay to the confirmation of the appointment of the members of functional commissions.

60. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council confirmed the appointment of the members of functional commissions whose names were listed in the note by the Secretary-General (E/4601).

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 6.35 p.m.