



CONTENTS

Agenda item 2:	<i>Page</i>
General discussion of international economic and social policy (<i>continued</i>)	
Speakers:	
Mr. Hill (International Chamber of Commerce) . . .	41
Mr. Labouisse (UNICEF)	42
Mr. Zakharov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) .	43
Dr. Dorolle (WHO)	44
Mr. Goldschmidt (United States of America)	46

President: Mr. PÉREZ GUERRERO (Venezuela).

AGENDA ITEM 2

General discussion of international economic and social policy (E/4454, E/4467/Rev.1, E/4486/Add.1, E/4488 and Add.1-5, E/4496, E/4511 (Summary), E/4515, E/4525, E/4551; E/CN.5/417 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.2 and Summary; E/CN.11/825; E/CN.12/806, E/CN.12/808 and Add.1; E/CN.14/409; E/ECE/703) (*continued*)

1. Mr. HILL (International Chamber of Commerce), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that during the previous year the ICC had decided to establish a consultative committee to work regularly and closely with the United Nations. The committee would be composed of businessmen of international repute drawn from every continent; it would have the backing of ICC and its twenty-five specialized commissions whenever a specialized study or consultation proved necessary.

2. A high proportion of ICC's work was already geared to the activities of the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations bodies such as UNCTAD, UNIDO and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. Thus ICC had been represented at the second session of UNCTAD, at New Delhi, where it had set forth, in a brochure containing a series of statements,¹ the views of world business on some of the major problems before the Conference: tariff preferences for the exports of developing countries, international commodity trade, the financial aspects of economic development, industrial property, etc. That co-operation with UNCTAD would be intensified in the coming months. Since the establishment of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, fruitful relations had been established between ICC and the Commission. At the Commission's first session it had become obvious that it would rely to a great extent on the work carried out by ICC on international trade law, over the past

thirty or forty years, in such matters as trade terms and international arbitration.

3. Turning to the major problems of economic policy covered by item 2 of the agenda, he said that, so far as commercial policy was concerned, the Kennedy Round of tariff negotiations had ended in a substantial success. It would perhaps be premature to think in terms of immediate negotiations for further tariff reductions. ICC considered that it would be better to launch an attack on some particularly harmful non-tariff obstacles: protectionist measures taken in certain countries, special exporting problems of the developing countries, and the practical obstacles to trade between the socialist countries of eastern Europe and market-economy countries.

4. The cycle of protectionist measures applied to certain products and of counter-measures taken by producing countries had caused disquiet in the forty-two National Committees of ICC. In that connexion ICC could play a significant part in promoting the liberalization of trade. In the United States, for example, the President of ICC, Mr. A. K. Watson, had established an Emergency Committee for International Trade on which United States businessmen who favoured a liberal policy could combat the powerful forces of protectionism by warning public opinion and putting the case to Congress.

5. In order to foster trade with the countries of Eastern Europe, ICC had for some years been organizing regular exchanges of views between its members and the chambers of commerce of five socialist countries: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and the Soviet Union. At a recent meeting it had been decided that a working party of experts from market-economy countries and socialist countries should be established to draw up proposals for eliminating forms of discrimination affecting trade between the two groups of countries.

6. With regard to the exports of developing countries, ICC had submitted to the UNCTAD Committee on Commodities specific proposals for the diversification and specialization of primary production in those countries through the introduction of new food crops, a more rational use of forests and pasture land, the prospecting, working and processing of mineral resources, etc. In ICC's view, primary production would for some time to come be the main field for action designed to help most of the developing countries.

7. In the matter of international financing, ICC had consistently advocated that the flow of capital resources, public and private, to developing countries, should be increased. It welcomed the interest shown by the United Nations in private investment, as demonstrated by the report prepared by Mr. D. U. Stikker for the New Delhi Conference² and by the Secretary-General's report

¹ Transmitted to the Conference by a note of the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/NGO/1).

² *The role of private enterprise in investment and promotion of exports in developing countries*, United Nations publication, Sales No. : E.68.II.D.9 (TD/35/Rev.1).

Foreign investment in developing countries (E/4446). ICC awaited the results of the study undertaken by IBRD on the feasibility of an international investment insurance agency. The insurance schemes introduced by the Governments of some industrialized countries had proved valuable, but an international scheme appeared to be needed.

8. With regard to taxation problems, ICC had submitted to the Council for examination at the present session a document entitled "Principles for taxation of company profits and dividends" (E/C.2/665). In its opinion, ill-considered and discriminatory tax policies had harmful effects which should be put right, even at the expense of short-term considerations of increasing the revenue.

9. In May 1968 the ICC Commission on Asian and Far-Eastern Affairs had met at Manila and had adopted conclusions emphasizing that priority should be given to agriculture and allied small-scale industries in developing countries. The text would be examined by the secretariat of ECAFE, which had taken an active part in the meeting; it was now available to members of the Council.

10. ICC had instructed a special Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. W. Baumgartner to study the problems created by the rapid growth in number and economic power of international corporations. At New Delhi, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs had emphasized the vital role that such corporations could play in the developing countries. The study would thus be of great significance; it would be discussed in detail at the XXIInd ICC Congress, to be held at Istanbul in June 1969.

11. Mr. LABOUISSÉ (Executive Director, United Nations Children's Fund) pointed out that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, at his Press conference on 10 July 1968, had reported on the work being done by UNICEF for the millions of children and mothers in Nigeria who had been placed in a desperate situation by the hostilities raging in that country. He (Mr. Labouisse) was now engaged in discussions with the Red Cross and other international institutions to find ways of increasing that assistance, which was already absorbing a sizeable fraction of UNICEF's resources. The Government of Nigeria had just announced that it would permit relief supplies for the Central Eastern region to be flown over the areas under its control, but the authorities of that region had not yet given their consent. UNICEF had already accumulated large stocks of additional supplies in the hope that, when they reached Nigeria, they could be distributed through the International Committee of the Red Cross.

12. Apart from that emergency action, which followed recent work of a similar nature in India, the Middle East and Viet-Nam, the bulk of UNICEF aid was devoted, by direction of the Council and the General Assembly, to long-term programmes designed to protect young people and equip them to live constructive lives. Since UNICEF's work would be discussed in detail under agenda item 20, he would for the moment confine himself to giving some information about those long-term programmes.

13. The development of human resources, whose importance was now widely recognized, required that children

and adolescents in the developing countries—where 40 per cent of the population were under fifteen years of age—should be fed, looked after, and educated so that, by the end of their adolescence, they were ready to participate actively and intelligently in the life of their community. The better to achieve that aim, UNICEF had applied substantial resources to the training of staff who, in each country, could be of direct help to the children: teachers, nurses, midwives, health workers, laboratory assistants, nutritionists, child-care workers, etc. A total of 325,000 such staff were now being trained with UNICEF stipends in their own countries.

14. Education was at present absorbing 28 per cent of allocations under UNICEF's aid programme. Aside from UNESCO, UNICEF was providing more direct aid than any other international agency to primary education. The aid consisted mainly of stipends and equipment for teacher training institutions and their satellite demonstration schools. However, large the scale of its efforts, it was clear that UNICEF would have to do even more, for there were more illiterates today than there had been ten years previously.

15. In the health field UNICEF was working with WHO to build up the basic health services in the developing countries, particularly in equipping maternal and child health centres. So far 37,500 such centres had been assisted, but there again it was clear that more would have to be done; otherwise only a minority of children and mothers would be reached in the foreseeable future.

16. UNICEF was giving close attention to child nutrition and, particularly, to the inclusion of adequate protein in the diet of young children. In rural areas where families had enough milk, vegetables and meat, the main need was to impart information. In urban areas, by contrast, it was necessary to create industries for the manufacture and distribution of protein-rich foods, particularly for children at the weaning stage. Working through the WHO/FAO/UNICEF Protein Advisory Group, UNICEF was planning to distribute experimental quantities of such foods and to develop commercial markets with a view to their wider consumption.

17. Family planning was another question of direct concern to UNICEF. By its resolution 1258 (XLIII) of 2 August 1967, the Council had endorsed UNICEF's participation in family planning programmes, provided that they were requested by Governments and received the technical approval of WHO. UNICEF was now participating in such programmes in four countries, and in 1968 had received a special contribution of \$600,000 from Sweden, which it was using for a special effort in India and Pakistan.

18. After a brief review of other areas of UNICEF activity, he took up the basic question of the priorities to be established by developing countries and aid-giving institutions. Without calling into question the priority rightfully due to certain sectors of development outside UNICEF's field of competence, he emphasized the vital need for participation by young people, on which the Director-General of UNESCO had spoken eloquently. UNICEF hoped to work out, with interested countries, ways for young people to participate in UNICEF-

assisted projects. It had already sponsored a series of meetings at the regional and national level, at which planners and those professionally concerned with children had tried to devise ways of directing more resources to the needs of young people; the response had been enthusiastic, and the efforts made were bearing fruit.

19. In its work UNICEF sought to establish the closest possible co-operation with those other organs of the United Nations whose technical advice it required. It would like, in particular, to make whatever contribution it could to such studies as the UNDP study of the capacity of the United Nations system, the general review undertaken by the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, and the preparatory work for the second Development Decade.

20. He was glad the Council and the General Assembly had endorsed a target of \$50 million for the annual income of UNICEF—which depended, of course, entirely on voluntary contributions—by the end of 1969. Obviously that figure was not a measure of the developing countries' demand; moreover, most of the existing resources were committed to long-term projects, a situation which limited UNICEF's capacity for action in emergencies.

21. The fact was that, as the Secretary-General had suggested in his opening statement (1531st meeting), there was a danger that emergencies would become the rule. However, he thought the world possessed the intellectual and material capacity to avoid that situation; objectivity and imagination must be brought to bear in drawing up the development programme for the 1970s, and the Economic and Social Council had a decisive role to play in that connexion.

22. Mr. ZAKHAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that international life today abounded in events which showed that the forces struggling for peace, national freedom and social progress were fighting harder and that the process of disintegration of the society based on exploitation and oppression was gaining momentum. However, in order to assess the world economic and social situation correctly, account must also be taken of factors which, by envenoming the general atmosphere, militated against co-operation; he referred to the war waged by the United States in Viet-Nam; the aggressive attitude of Israel, which continued to flout the resolutions of the Security Council concerning the termination of its aggression against the Arab countries; and the revanchist state of mind of Western Germany, which refused to recognize the present frontiers, claimed to represent the whole of Germany, tolerated the resurgence of fascism and ignored the German Democratic Republic. It was hardly surprising, in those circumstances, that the social protest movements which were occurring throughout the world should adopt anti-militarist slogans. It was desirable that at its present session the Council, as the principal United Nations organ concerned with economic and social development, should use its prestige to support peace movements and to assist peoples that sought to cast off the colonialist yoke. The documents on the world economic and social situation prepared for the Council by the United Nations Secretariat showed that the

capitalist countries, after the longest post-war period of high economic activity, were undergoing an economic recession, and that the crisis was particularly serious in those countries which had the highest military expenditure and which, in their pursuit of an imperialist or revanchist policy, were constantly increasing their military outlay at the expense of social objectives. That situation, which seemed likely to get worse before it got better, was accompanied by a monetary and financial crisis which had led to the devaluation of sterling, threatened the dollar, upset the gold market and caused balance-of-payments difficulties in countries such as the United States and the United Kingdom. It had also resulted in an intensified class struggle inasmuch as the Governments of those countries could not meet the expenditure they were incurring for imperialist or colonialist ends and at the same time raise the level of living of their peoples. The outcome lay in such movements as the poor people's march at Washington, mass movements in Western Germany against the emergency laws, and the social unrest in France, which were laid at the door of one generation. The plain fact was that those demonstrations were not made by young people alone, but that all generations of workers were demanding better living conditions in keeping with the advances made possible by modern technology.

23. The information given in the documents before the Council on the situation in the socialist countries showed that in those countries, particularly the Soviet Union, industry, agriculture and stock-breeding were booming, *per capita* income was rising, and living conditions were improving accordingly. In the case of the USSR, the reason was that it organized its economy to suit its own capacities and took steps to mobilize savings. Furthermore the economic development of the socialist countries stemmed largely from the fact that they collaborated with one another, in particular through the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. Moreover the Soviet Union maintained excellent relations with a large number of developing countries and was endeavouring to strengthen its ties with others. In its economic relations with those countries, the Soviet Union scrupulously applied the progressive principles formulated by UNCTAD, with those countries' interests solely and steadily in view. The technical and economic assistance provided by the Soviet Union to the developing countries was determined, not by an *a priori* ceiling on expenditure, but by its own resources and the countries' requirements. He denied the validity of the statement made by the United Kingdom representative (1532nd meeting), who held the socialist countries partly responsible for the economic difficulties of the former colonies; the Western countries were solely to blame. He also refuted as unfounded the Western concept of dividing the world into the rich north and the poor south.

24. The Soviet Union maintained good relations with certain Western countries, particularly France, and was endeavouring to strengthen its ties with others; but it was quite clear that the general prospects for international co-operation would be much better if the Western Powers would take the path of international relaxation. The information available showed that the slow-down in

the economic growth of the Western countries over the past year had had harmful effects on the economy of the developing countries, whose exports were selling at lower and lower prices. He stressed the fact that the armaments race did not give rise to a constant demand for the products of developing countries. It was easy to understand the aspiration of those countries to a fairer international division of labour, to the establishment of a diversified national economy and to the stabilization of commodity markets. UNCTAD, which at its second session had advocated the conclusion of a general agreement on commodity arrangements (resolution 17 (II)), could play a very important part in that connexion. At that session the socialist countries had supported the demand of the developing countries for free access to the markets of the former metropolitan Powers and other developed capitalist countries, finding it inadmissible that the latter, having forced the developing countries into single-crop agriculture, should raise tariff barriers against their products. The Soviet Union would have preferred the Conference to decide that the developing countries' products should enjoy preferences without discrimination or reciprocity, but the negative attitude adopted by the Western countries had thwarted that aim. It would nevertheless continue making every effort to ensure that the rightful demands of the developing countries were met and that their economy ceased to be at the mercy of Western market fluctuations.

25. The appropriate lessons should be learned from the failure of the first Development Decade and should be taken into account in drawing up the development plans for the 1970s. In particular the developing countries should be encouraged to make drastic changes in their economic and social structures, to base their national development programmes on the mobilization of domestic savings, to do away with obsolete methods of production and to create an efficient public sector. It would also be necessary to contemplate measures of protection for the developing countries' interests, such as the sovereignty of States over their natural resources and State control over the profits and dividends of foreign companies; to make full use of each country's resources of manpower; to train skilled personnel; and to endeavour to halt the brain drain by such means as a system of compensation payable by the country to which the trained personnel emigrated. There were some who claimed that the solution to the developing countries' economic and social problems lay in slowing down population growth. That was not the view of the Soviet Union, which was more inclined to blame the slowness of economic growth and the inadequacy of economic and social structures. At all events, any population policy should be based first and foremost on respect for human dignity and on humanitarian considerations.

26. The Soviet Union had always been in favour of general and complete disarmament. It was not difficult to conceive the advantages which mankind stood to gain if the vast sums earmarked for military expenditure could be used for peaceful purposes. It was inadmissible that the report of ECAFE (E/4498) should state that the Viet-Nameese war was a factor favourable to the economic development of certain Asian countries. It was not enough to consider

disarmament from the economic and social angle; it was also necessary to analyse the factors obstructing it, as well as the influence of aggressive activities and military conflicts on the social and economic situation in various countries and on international economic relations. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons recently adopted by the General Assembly would have favourable effects on the economic and social development of States, on international co-operation, and on the peaceful uses of atomic energy. In conclusion, he stressed the importance of the Economic and Social Council's role in co-ordinating all economic and social activities of the United Nations.

27. Dr. DOROLLE (Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization), presenting the report on the activities of the World Health Organization in 1967 (E/4507), said that WHO's activities ranged from the control of those traditional scourges the communicable diseases in the developing regions to preventive action against the novel and increasing hazards with which certain features of modern civilization threatened human life and health in all countries. He proposed to describe only certain aspects of those activities, which could serve as examples and which were particularly relevant to the Council's concerns.

28. WHO continued to attach great importance to the eradication of malaria, an undertaking which had demanded unprecedented efforts from Governments and the organizations assisting them, in terms both of funds invested and of the human resources which had been required. Although impressive results had been achieved in some countries, for example in India, the same did not apply to other countries where the success of the plan had been thwarted by technical, administrative or financial obstacles or by the under-developed state of the health services. The World Health Assembly had therefore decided to tackle the whole matter afresh and to devise a better strategy in the light of the experience gained, the advances made in scientific and technical knowledge, the social and economic impact of the disease and the likely consequences of its eradication so far as development was concerned. A team of malariologists, public health administrators and economists had already undertaken an initial on-the-spot study in three Asian countries, with the full co-operation of those countries' Governments. Progress had also been made in the campaign against tuberculosis, yaws and certain parasitic diseases. The world-wide campaign against smallpox was yielding encouraging results. Nevertheless, however beneficial and—in many cases—spectacular the results achieved in the control of communicable diseases, they would not be lasting in the absence of a permanent health structure, a firm and organized network of curative and preventive medical services, particularly in rural areas. Hence the establishment of national health infrastructures would remain a major concern of WHO in the next decade. Moreover, the creation of such infrastructures depended on national health planning linked with economic and social planning, as was recognized by an ever-increasing number of Governments. Such planning was essential to the rational development of curative and

preventive medical and sanitation services, to the optimum use of the available human resources, and to the choice of the right time for launching concerted action against a given communicable disease with the assurance of carrying it through to a successful and lasting conclusion. Furthermore, such planning gave the health authorities more confidence and left them better equipped to make a choice of priorities; in health matters, that choice was always a difficult and often a cruel one, since in most cases the wisest course lay along a line of action whose advantages were not immediately obvious but whose full effect would become apparent in the long run. For example, the studies carried out on tuberculosis and leprosy over the past ten years had shown clearly that the most effective and economical results were obtained by the detection and systematic treatment of the diseases within the community in which the patients lived. Consequently a division of research in epidemiology had recently been set up at WHO Headquarters; it would engage, *inter alia*, in developing models according to modern methods of mathematical analysis, quantification and simulation, which would provide national administrations with rational selection criteria and assist them in their planning. The economic and social planners would thus be better placed to appreciate the utility and necessity of investments in health.

29. National health planning problems were linked with the population problem, for they had to be considered in terms of population dynamics. It was necessary to analyse the health service requirements created by population development and, conversely, to determine how population changes affected the achievement of health aims. The main aim was to raise the level of health by laying an infrastructure of health services. In particular, high-mortality and high-fertility situations must be replaced by more positive situations in which mortality was low and the birth rate adjusted as required. Health measures which guaranteed the best chances of survival at birth were bound to have far-reaching effects on pregnancy rates by prompting families to wish to fix the number of their children for themselves. The implications of family planning as a factor in the health of the individual, of the family and of the community required no further demonstration. Hence many countries considered it an important factor in the medical care of mother and child and in the improvement of family health, irrespective of the part it might play in the solution of population problems.

30. Activities connected with family planning must encompass a whole range of problems connected with reproduction which called for the personnel, skills and techniques of general health services. WHO was actively engaged in meeting the requests it received for aid in that field. The advisory services which it supplied covered a wide variety of subjects: organization and administration of the necessary health services; their co-ordination, integration and evaluation; nursing care; training of different categories of personnel, etc. WHO was also concerned with the medical aspects of birth control, while giving due weight to the psychological, social and cultural factors which, for better or for worse, affected health. Particular importance attached to the problems

involved in training auxiliary health personnel, who had vital tasks to perform in that connexion; pilot and demonstration projects were extremely useful for that purpose. Research on the health aspects of population dynamics was still far from adequate, although it had undeniably been stepped up over the past ten years. WHO had organized epidemiological surveys on the indices of the reproduction function. Moreover, the problem of the harmlessness of fertility-regulating agents and their secondary effects was highly important, for they were often used without much medical supervision. For that reason it was important that long-range studies of women using modern fertility-regulating agents should be launched without delay. WHO had for some years been employing scientific groups to study many aspects of human reproduction. Their reports had been widely circulated at both national and international level. In the course of those studies, consultations were held between various bodies in the United Nations family, and under the auspices of ACC, with a view to arriving at an optimum division of labour, defining the responsibilities of the various United Nations agencies in the field of population and family planning, and identifying the right machinery to facilitate the exchange of information and to make co-operation most effective.

31. Research, on human reproduction as in other fields, remained a central concern of WHO. The scientific progress and technological achievements of the past twenty years had left the Organization much better equipped to propose effective solutions to the health problems, but efforts should not be slackened on that account. Obstacles were constantly arising and so were new problems, for example those connected with the increasing use of additives to foods intended for human consumption, or—particularly in agriculture—of the so-called “pesticides”; other problems could arise from the use of certain pharmaceutical products for preventive or therapeutic purposes, or from the abuse of depressants or stimulants, with the serious physical and mental consequences which that entailed. Research remained a vital necessity in the vast fields of immunology and the physiology of reproduction. However, the results of research could not be applied in practice without skilled staff equipped with all necessary assistance at every level. For that reason WHO had consistently given the highest priority to education and the training of health personnel in all categories. In particular it was busily engaged at the present time in reviewing and adapting its training systems. The time had come to make innovations in that field, for the results achieved by the methods employed to date left something to be desired. In the developing countries, where the problem was particularly acute, it would not be enough simply to take over the methods used in the advanced countries: the problem must be thought out anew in each case in the light of local conditions. The main concern of WHO at the present time was to build up training establishments in the developing countries. The needs were immense, particularly in Africa, where there was only one doctor for every 20,000 inhabitants. Furthermore, reference had frequently been made to the problem of the steady “brain drain” of health personnel. WHO considered that it was essential to train all

members of the health staff in the environment in which they were to serve, or at least at the nearest regional centre.

32. If the second Development Decade was to bear fruit, health development—a vital factor in the development of human resources—must be given its rightful place. WHO, for its part, was ready to co-operate fully in drawing up a far-reaching and realistic plan calculated to create a favourable climate for the achievement of the great aims in view. With twenty years of experience behind it, WHO was confident of making a useful contribution to the common effort in full co-operation with the other organizations with which it had often worked in harness.

33. Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (United States of America) said that there was reason for optimism about the future, for the political climate, which vitally affected international co-operation, had improved since the Council's forty-third session. Talks had started in Paris on Viet-Nam, a Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons had been signed, and representatives of the USSR and the United States were about to meet in order to discuss the possibility of limiting offensive and defensive nuclear weapons systems. In view of those developments and particularly the fact that talks were being held on Viet-Nam, he would have thought that those who traditionally made propaganda statements in the Council would have refrained from doing so at its present session. Propaganda of the type voiced by the Soviet Union representative would not advance the efforts in Paris to move toward peace in Viet-Nam. Nor would such propaganda change the fact that the allegations made were false: the basic issue of the war in Viet-Nam arose from the attempt of the North, through armed aggression, to take over the South and prevent the people of the South from exercising their right of self-determination. The war could end quickly if the North would cease its aggression; unfortunately, the North's response to United States proposals for mutual military restraint had thus far been further military build-up and infiltration not only in Viet-Nam but elsewhere in South-East Asia. Furthermore the gloomy picture which the USSR representative had painted of the United States and world economy seemed to indicate a new interpretation which history would prove wrong. The steps which the United States had to take in order to ensure the stability of its own economy did not prevent it from making a very substantial contribution to the development of the world economy. Appropriations for development were constantly increasing, and had totalled \$5,500 million in 1967. References to the Federal Republic of Germany were unfair and out of place in the Council, and would not advance international understanding.

34. In his opinion the work of the Council would have a lasting effect, for it could help to create the economic and social climate of the next decade. Among the young people who were now demonstrating their concern were those who, by the end of the second Development Decade, would be taking over in the Council. The Council must take an interest in young people, as the Directors-General

of the ILO and UNESCO had eloquently said (1532nd and 1534th meetings).

35. The right course was to concentrate on those achievements which provided a foundation for further progress. There was no room for discouragement at the end of the first Development Decade, for it was always necessary to aim higher. When the efforts made during the first Decade were assessed, three conclusions stood out. Firstly, Governments and international agencies had learned several important lessons, one of which was well brought out by the *World Economic Survey*: i.e., that the development process was much more complex than had been realized ten years earlier, and that the development of the basic skills, abilities and aspirations of people was just as essential to the process as the application of capital and technology. The false dilemma between industrialization and agriculture had gone. It was now recognized that agriculture and industry supported each other in the development effort. The planners for the next decade must heed those lessons. Secondly, an increasing number of developing countries had recognized that solving the food and population equation was vital to their development; and lastly, United Nations agencies were engaged in a crucial self-analysis. This process might be one of the most important results of the current Development Decade. Furthermore, the concept of shared resources was gaining ground among States. The Development Decade had given focus and direction to the efforts of the United Nations family and had provided them with a framework. It had made for the release of the latent energy and resources needed for effective development in the territories inhabited by two-thirds of the world's population; it had helped to bring home to the Governments and peoples of the developing world the rightful place of development in their national plans and programmes. Since 1960 the institutional machinery of the United Nations in the development field had been strengthened. In 1960 IDA had just begun operations; UNCTAD, UNIDO, WFP and UNDP were creations of the current Decade. Co-operation between the various elements of the United Nations system had increased, and for that reason Governments had increased their contributions to UNDP. In view of the expansion of United Nations programme in the development field, the Council and the United Nations generally had sought to improve co-ordination in the interests of more orderly management. To that end the role of UNDP had been extended. The Committee for Development Planning, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development and, more recently, the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit had been set up in order to make the operation of the United Nations and its agencies more efficient. Much remained to be done, but the new organizational developments had shifted the emphasis to the national and regional approach and had brought the elements of the system closer together. Those developments had been complemented by the work of almost every United Nations agency on long-range projections. In other words, one of the main achievements of the current Decade was that

the United Nations system was now equipped to advise, guide, assist and in some cases lead the countries of the developing world towards the goals which had been set in the early 1960's.

36. Concern with solving the food and population equation was also one of the results of the current Decade. Twenty-five Governments had now adopted national family planning policies and another ten contemplated launching family planning programmes in the very near future. Moreover there was now greater assurance about the possible results of such efforts. Admittedly the United States Government had not taken the lead in that movement. It had only recently come officially to recognize the threat of uncontrolled population growth to economic development; since then, however, it had moved quickly to carry out progressive family planning policies both at home and abroad. It had been guided by four principles: first, rapid population growth imposed severe limits on the pace and success of economic and social development; secondly, knowledge of and facilities for family planning on a basis of personal choice were the proper starting point for population growth limitation; thirdly, the sovereignty and sensibilities of nations and individuals receiving help in that matter must be respected; and fourthly, no family planning programme would receive support unless it assured voluntary decision by parents. In keeping with those principles, the United States had increased both its national and its bilateral programmes. It had also provided active support for multilateral efforts in the population field. A contribution of \$500,000 had been paid into the United Nations Trust Fund for Population Activities; a further sum of \$235,000 was being contributed to that Fund to assist ECAFE in expanding its regional population activities; and lastly, Congress had been asked for additional funds to support United Nations population projects.

37. The concern with population problems in the United Nations and in the developing world had been matched only by the emphasis on food production. Earlier priorities had tended to overlook the importance of agriculture to the development process. Technology had done much to change that attitude. The development of new seeds and their introduction in several countries of the developing world had been likened to the industrial revolution of the nineteenth century. He was naturally proud of the part played by the United States foundations and

individual United States nationals who, in co-operation with others, had made such progress possible. The new varieties of wheat and rice had given excellent results, especially the variety of rice developed by the International Rice Research Institute at Los Baños in the Philippines. It was often said that the tradition-bound peasant was a hindrance to development, but the results achieved showed that farmers wanted to produce more if they were given the opportunity and the proper incentives. Governments today were aware of their responsibilities in that respect and were making strenuous efforts to bring about the necessary economic changes. According to the latest figures, world agricultural production had set a new record in 1967, and according to the Director-General of FAO (1532nd meeting) the less developed countries had accounted for most of the increase. That surge forward would, in the first place, make it possible to meet immediate food needs and, in the second place, give the world's economists and planners time to bring world population growth into perspective.

38. The world was fortunate to have that respite. It must be used to ensure that the planning for the next Decade was more sophisticated than that for the first. His delegation welcomed the painstaking thoroughness with which the Committee for Development Planning was approaching that difficult and technical subject. Too aggregative an approach was likely to conceal important and crucial factors; it was encouraging to note that the Committee was considering sub-regional and even country-by-country formulations of development strategy, and that it was also taking into account the population measures which determined the rate of social and economic advance of the developing countries. However, it was not solely a question of setting targets; specific programmes throughout the United Nations system were also needed to make an effective contribution to the attainment of those targets. Planning programmes should concentrate on upgrading the skills and abilities of the people, and consequently his delegation supported the idea of initiating the next Development Decade with an International Education Year, and supported the Swedish delegation's proposal for a study of problems of the human environment (see E/4466/Add.1).

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.