



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Monday, 22 November 1965,  
at 3.30 p.m.

*Resumed Thirty-ninth Session*

OFFICIAL RECORDS

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*President:* Mr. Akira MATSUI (Japan).

*Present:*

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

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

Observers for the following Member States: Afghanistan, Australia, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Nepal, Norway, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Syria, Togo, Turkey, Yugoslavia.

Observers for the following non-member States: Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization; International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; International Monetary Fund.

Participation of the Organization of African Unity as an observer in the sessions of the Council

1. The PRESIDENT announced that he had received a letter from the Permanent Representatives of Algeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Ghana, Madagascar, The United Arab Republic and the United Republic of Tanzania, drawing attention to General Assembly resolution 2011 (XX) of 11 October 1965, which requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to invite the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to attend sessions of the General Assembly as an observer.

In pursuance of Council resolution 412 B (XIII) of 10 August 1951, he invited the OAU representative to participate as an observer in the sessions of the Council.

2. Mr. SAHNOUN (Observer for the Organization of African Unity) expressed his deep appreciation of the President's invitation and recalled that his organization had adopted a resolution similar to General Assembly resolution 2011 (XX) requesting the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU to co-operate in all fields with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The OAU, for its part, was doing everything to promote co-operation between the two organizations. At the regional level, OAU was already co-operating closely with the Economic Commission for Africa and the secretariats of the two bodies had signed a formal agreement on 15 November 1965. Similar agreements with other United Nations bodies were expected in the future. His organization was particularly gratified that the Council had been enlarged and felt that the voice of Africa would now be of decisive importance in the future work of the Council.

3. The PRESIDENT, speaking on behalf of all members of the Council, welcomed the OAU representative and expressed the hope that collaboration between the Council and that body would be fruitful.

Adoption of the agenda (E/L.1094 and Add.1 and 2)

4. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the agenda and arrangements for the resumed thirty-ninth session suggested by the Secretary-General (E/L.1094 and Add.1 and 2). He suggested that the Council should adopt the agenda and take up the following items in November:

1. Election of the members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (item 7 (b)).
2. Report of the Trade and Development Board (item 1).
3. Composition of the Committee for Industrial Development (item 2).
4. Continuation of the World Food Programme (item 3).

*It was so decided.*

Organization of work

5. Sir Keith UNWIN (United Kingdom) observed that while the question of the Calendar of Conferences could certainly be left until December, there was one meeting, that of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, for which no date had been announced but which was due to take place early in January. If that date were to be included in a calendar of conferences approved only just before Christmas it would be too late to make consequential arrangements. He did not wish to discuss that matter at present, but hoped to be able to return to it later in the meeting.

6. Mr. PACHACHI (Iraq) felt that the Council was not yet ready to discuss the World Food Programme or to elect the members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme; those matters could be put off until the following day. He proposed that the Council should begin with the report of the Trade and Development Board and that it would be useful if a representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) could make a statement indicating its salient points.

7. Mr. Amjad ALI (Pakistan) and Mr. RAMACHANDRAN (India) supported the proposal made by the representative of Iraq.

8. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should begin by taking up the report of the Trade and Development Board.

*It was so decided.*

### AGENDA ITEM 1

#### Report of the Trade and Development Board (E/4128 and Add.1-3)

9. Mr. JUDD (Director of the Commodity Division of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) said, in reply to the proposal made by Mr. Pachachi, that Mr. Prebisch was not in New York but that a general statement by the Rapporteur was attached to the report of the Trade and Development Board (E/4128/Add.3). If the Council considered it necessary, a further statement could perhaps be prepared in consultation with the President and the Rapporteur.

10. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that it would obviously be impracticable for the Council to discuss the Board's report at length not only because it lacked the time to do so but also because the many problems facing UNCTAD were still being discussed by that body. Nevertheless, the Council should express its views on the organizational problems of UNCTAD and in particular on the relationships between the latter and the Council itself. The Conference had already set up a number of permanent committees and had laid down their terms of reference. Again, it was not for the Council to discuss the details of those arrangements but it should give thought to the co-ordination that would be necessary between those committees and the Council itself. For example, when the Council discussed the world economic situation, it always had before it each year a world economic survey. For the preparation of that document there would obviously have to be close co-operation between the Secretariat of the United Nations and the secretariat of UNCTAD. Also, in its resolution 19 (II) of 15 September 1965, the Board had requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to prepare annually a report on international trade and economic development. In the preparation of that report, too, the secretariats of the two bodies would obviously have to co-operate closely in order to avoid duplication. In transmitting the Board's report to the General Assembly the Council might stress the points concerning co-ordination.

11. Mr. MAGOMBE (United Republic of Tanzania) felt that the Council should take note of the Board's report with thanks and transmit it without comment to the General Assembly, where it could be fully discussed.

12. Mr. WALDHEIM (Austria) said that as paragraph 1 of the note by the Secretary-General (E/L.1094) indicated, the council's resumed session had been convened primarily for the consideration of the report of the Trade and Development Board under General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964. Such consideration was not a mere formality; it was necessary for the effective co-ordination of United Nations technical activities. During its first year, the Board had concentrated on institutional matters and its work programme. Now that the organizational machinery and secretariat had been established, its substantive work could begin. As a member of the Board, his delegation had taken an active part in the work described in the report and realized how difficult it had been to reach agreement on such complex problems. Nevertheless, it was optimistic about the future development of UNCTAD. The Council should lay the groundwork for effective future collaboration with UNCTAD. In preparing its own programme, it must avoid duplication with UNCTAD, and at the same time examine all economic and social development programmes to ensure maximum efficiency. The Council and UNCTAD were not rivals and the division of work between them was a matter of great importance. They must co-operate at the policy level, and also at the secretariat level for the execution of programmes.

13. Mr. HASEGANU (Romania) said that the Board's report reflected a new phase in United Nations economic and social development activities leading to a new policy of international co-operation in trade and finance for the benefit of the developing countries. The report showed that progress was being made in implementing the recommendations of the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. He was glad to note that three specialized committees of the Board had held their first sessions and that chapters in the report dealt with the implementation of the recommendations of the first session of the Conference and principles governing international trade relations. The problem of implementing the recommendations was difficult and called for maximum co-operation between States. He was sure that at future sessions the Board and its subsidiary bodies would work harmoniously to find practical solutions for the expansion of world trade. His delegation gave its full support to the report.

14. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) said that his delegation had already supported the report at the Board's last session and would do the same in the Council and the General Assembly. The report was descriptive and no detailed debate was required. It was not the Council's function to change the report, but simply to take note of it, transmitting the comments of members if necessary.

15. Mr. ARKADYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Council's consideration of the Board's first report was an historical event crowning many years of effort to establish an international

trade and development organization. The report was of exceptional value and not merely a routine or formal document. Every chapter contained a concentration of ideas from many different countries and a record of the settling of controversial questions which the Board would find useful for many years. The report was a symbol of the new era in trade relations between States. It laid down programmes of work and rules of procedure for a number of bodies which would form the basis for their development. The stage of practical work had begun and its success depended on the care devoted to it. His delegation warmly supported the report.

16. Mr. Amjad ALI (Pakistan) thanked the Council for its support of the Board's work. He agreed with earlier speakers that the examination of the report in detail at the present stage would not justify the time required. Moreover, it had already been discussed in great detail by the Board itself. He agreed in part with the representative of France regarding the annual world economic survey submitted to the Council. It remained to be seen how the secretariats of the Council and UNCTAD could combine to produce a meaningful document. Co-ordination between the two bodies and the specialized agencies was essential to avoid duplication. While the work described in the Board's first report was mainly organizational, other matters, such as the programme of work and calendars of meetings, had not been excluded. At the same time, the pressing problems of commodities such as cocoa were being taken up. Now that the location of the headquarters of the UNCTAD secretariat had been decided, he trusted that the recruitment of staff would be expeditious so that work for the benefit of the developing countries would soon be in full swing.

17. Mr. FERNANDINI (Peru) said that the Board's report must be given due attention. Clearly the voluminous documents could not be dealt with in detail, since they covered the work of a whole year. Once the comments of delegations had been heard, the Council should approve the report expressing appreciation for the work of the Chairman, Rapporteur, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and his staff. He suggested that it should be forwarded to the General Assembly for approval by means of a draft resolution reflecting the importance which the Council attached to it.

18. Mr. PACHACHI (Iraq) said that he would have welcomed a statement by the representative of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD. Perhaps on future occasions the Council might hear such a statement, so that it could quickly grasp the main problems encountered and the salient points of the year's work. He agreed that the report was not a routine one, and should therefore not be disposed of in a routine way. But the lack of time prevented a useful discussion; in any case, the first two sessions had been mainly concerned with organizational and procedural matters. However, he did not believe that the Council should merely transmit the Board's report to the General Assembly; if so, its consideration of the report under General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) would be pointless. The Board had taken decisions on its programme of work, and the Council was

obliged to consider questions regarding the rate of development and growth of the developing countries. It could not do that if it ignored the influence of trade, while recognizing that the Board had primary responsibility in that respect.

19. The Council's discussion of trade matters should form part of its annual consideration of the world economic surveys, detailed examination of the Board's work being left to the General Assembly. He would have welcomed enlightenment on the question of co-ordination from the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, and he hoped that any draft resolution concerning the report would take into account the comments by members of the Council. The Council's approach to the first report of the Board would to some extent determine its approach to future reports. He therefore shared the hope that the draft resolution on the report would be more than a formality.

20. Mr. RAHNEMA (Iran) agreed that the report should not be treated by the Council as a routine document requiring only formal approval before it was transmitted to the General Assembly. Nevertheless, in view of the short time available for its consideration at the current session and of the complexity of the matters dealt with in it, his delegation supported the suggestion that the Council should adopt a resolution recommending the approval of the report by the General Assembly and stressing the importance the members of the Council attached to it.

21. Mr. RAMACHANDRAN (India) said that the adoption of the Final Act of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development had generated high hopes among the developing countries for an improvement in their share of world trade and in their export earnings and for an increased flow of development assistance. The achievements of the Conference since that time included the establishment of the institutional and administrative machinery for implementing the recommendations of the Conference and the adoption of programmes of work; little progress had been made, however, towards achieving agreed procedures for reviewing the action taken by Member States to apply those recommendations. It was regrettable that the attitude of some developed countries on reporting procedures and evaluation should have been responsible for the disappointing results so far achieved by the Board in those matters.

22. One of the most important issues to which the Board would have to turn its attention was preferences. Existing preferences would clearly remain and new preferences would continue to be created until such time as a system of general non-discriminatory preferences was established. Moreover, there could hardly be a healthy development of world trade while tariffs and other artificial barriers remained in force and the obstacles to the developing countries' exports of manufactures and semi-manufactures continued to restrict their trade.

23. His delegation hoped that the developed countries would adopt a more constructive attitude toward the recommendations of UNCTAD which were aimed at raising the living standard of all peoples.

24. Mr. RAMAHOLIMIHASO (Madagascar) observed that almost all the members of the Council had been

associated, in one way or another, with the preparation of the report under discussion and with the lengthy negotiations which preceded the decisions recorded in it. It would therefore be futile for the Council to embark on further detailed discussion of the report and his delegation considered that the Council should proceed to endorse it and transmit it to the General Assembly.

25. Mr. WILMOT (Ghana) said that there had been lengthy discussions during the thirty-ninth session of the Council on its future role and responsibilities. The general view had been that the Council should avoid detailed technical discussions and concentrate on broad issues. It might therefore be advisable for the Council to avoid exhaustive debate on the report of the Trade and Development Board. The report would, in any event, be discussed in detail by the General Assembly in the near future, as a report from one of its organs.

26. Mr. BELEOKEN (Cameroon) believed that it was desirable not to reopen discussions on certain potentially controversial chapters of the Board's report and that the Council should therefore confine itself to transmitting the report, with its comments, to the General Assembly.

27. His delegation was gratified to note that the Assembly would have before it in the report an account of the short-term remedial measures suggested for dealing with the serious plight of the world cocoa market, which was a matter of great concern to a number of developing countries.

28. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) said that it was essential that the Council should not establish an incorrect precedent in dealing with the first report of the Board. General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) provided that the Council should transmit the report to the Assembly with "such comments . . . as it may deem necessary"; the Council was not required to adopt a resolution or recommendation on the report.

29. Mr. POLIT ORTIZ (Ecuador) said that the statements made by previous speakers indicated the general desire of the Council to avoid duplication and repetition. Nevertheless, members had the right to make comments on particular aspects of the report before its transmission to the Assembly.

30. He agreed with the USSR representative that the first report of the Board was a landmark in that it recorded not only a major step towards the progress of the developing countries but the establishment of an organization in which all activities affecting development could be satisfactorily co-ordinated for the first time.

31. Mr. MAGOMBE (United Republic of Tanzania) observed that it was doubtful whether the Council was competent, under resolution 1995 (XIX), to adopt a resolution on the report. His delegation's interpretation of the resolution was that the Council should formally transmit the report, with appropriate comments, to the Assembly without exhaustive discussion, for which there would be ample opportunity in the Second Committee.

Proposal concerning the organization of a seminar  
on apartheid in 1966

32. The PRESIDENT said that a proposal<sup>1/</sup> had been submitted during the first part of the current session concerning the organization of a seminar on apartheid after the closure of the discussion on human rights items, and it had been decided that the proposal could be introduced at the resumed session. Since then, however, the proposal had been submitted to the Third Committee and he suggested that no further action should be taken by the Council.

*It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.

<sup>1/</sup> E/4055.