### UNITED NATIONS



# **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Saturday, 31 July 1965 at 10.40 a.m.

1396th (adjourning) meeting

# Thirty-ninth session

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

OFFICIAL RECORDS

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President: Mr. A. 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: Ireland, Israel, Italy, Philippines, Sweden.

Observer for the following non-member State: Federal Republic of Germany.

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

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 2**

## United Nations Development Decade

(resumed from the 1378th meeting and concluded)

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (E/4118)

- 1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the Co-ordination Committee's report on agenda item 2 (E/4118), and to vote on the draft resolution in paragraph 5 thereof.
- 2. Mr. VIAUD (France) recalled that in the Co-ordination Committee (298th meeting) his delegation had usked for a separate vote on the words " and to attain the target for " in operative paragraph 1(e) of the draft resolution and had abstained in the vote for the reasons given in the summary record. The French delegation attached great importance to food aid in principle, and its voting on the subject had been due to differences of opinion regarding the methods of applying food aid programmes.
- 3. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that his delegation had voted for the draft resolution in the Co-ordination Committee, making appropriate reservations on the points mentioned there by the representative of France, as recorded in the summary record.
- 4. Sir Keith UNWIN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution, as it had done in the Co-ordination Committee. It was unfortunate, however, that in operative paragraph 1(e) the Council urged Member States and United Nations agencies to attain the target for the World Food Programme for the years 1966-1968, when that target had not yet been set by the General Assembly.
- 5. Mr. RAE (Canada) said that, according to bis delegation's interpretation, operative paragraph 1 required the developed and the developing countries alike to try to ensure that the purposes of the United Nations Development Decade were achieved. The Canadian representative had already referred, at the 1372nd meeting, to a statement by the President of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to the effect that the developing countries bore the main responsibility for their economic and social progress. He had further said that the Decade represented a clear challenge to

all countries, whether developed or not, that only a concerted effort by all would enable that challenge to be met, and that it was to be hoped that the developing countries would be encouraged and assisted by the substantial assistance which the United Nations family of organizations was prepared to offer them.

- 6. In the view of the Canadian delegation, the reference in operative paragraph 1(a) to the "level indicated in the recommendation A.IV.2 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development" should be interpreted in the light of the full text of paragraph 5 of that recommendation; in other words it was not intended to represent either a ceiling or a suitable method for comparing the appropriate quantitative or qualitative development assistance efforts as between different economically advanced countries.
- 7. Mr. MORA BOWEN (Ecuador) said he was still concerned about the passage in the third preambular paragraph, stating that "agricultural output in the developing countries has been disappointing in the light of the objectives pursued". Ecuador had made considerable efforts to increase its agricultural output and it had already achieved satisfactory results. The passage in question should therefore be replaced by the following: "the increase in agricultural output is not keeping pace with the growth in population".
- 8. Mr. FERNANDINI (Peru) recalled that the passage to which the representative of Ecuador took exception had been inserted on the proposal of his delegation. He pointed out in the first place that a parallel increase in agricultural output and in population was only one of the "objectives pursued"; and in the second place, that even if Peru and Ecuador had greatly improved their agricultural output, many developing countries had not had the same success. It should be acknowledged that, by and large, the results had been disappointing.
- 9. Mr. AKBAR ADIL (Pakistan) said that, since Pakistan had considerably increased its agricultural output, his delegation would like to see some additional words inserted in the passage under consideration so that it would not apply to all developing countries.
- 10. Mr. FERNANDINI (Peru) proposed that the words "most of" should be inserted between "agricultural output in" and "the developing countries" in the passage in question.
- 11. Mr. MORA BOWEN (Ecuador) said that that amendment would not entirely meet his objection. It was still stated that agricultural output "had been disappointing", without specifying in relation to what. It was obvious that wherever there had been an increase in output and reforms in the legal framework—as was the case in Ecuador, where an agrarian reform law had been adopted—there had been a corresponding growth in wealth, but the results had not been positive in relation to the purchasing power of the population. It would therefore be logical to add a passage to the paragraph in order to explain that fact.
- 12. The PRESIDENT pointed out to the representative of Ecuador that mention was made in the seventh pre-

ambular paragraph of the question of rapid growth in population in relation to the growth of national income.

- 13. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) said that his delegation appreciated the problems raised by the representatives of Ecuador and Pakistan and, as one of the sponsors of the draft resolution, would have no objection to the Peruvian amendment.
- 14. Mr. LUKOSE (India) thought that the draft resolution should correspond to the facts. There actually were countries in which agricultural output had increased at the same rate as the population. He therefore hoped that the representative of Ecuador would not press his proposal and would accept the Peruvian amendment.
- 15. Mr. MORA BOWEN (Ecuador) said he would accept the Peruvian amendment.

The Peruvian amendment was adopted.

The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

- 16. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs), comparing the text of operative paragraph 2 of the resolution, which set forth the obligations of the Secretary-General and the heads of the specialized agencies and of IAEA, with the corresponding passage of the original draft resolution (E/AC.24/L.270 and Corr.1), remarked that the Secretariat's task had hardly been made easier by the changes introduced in the text. The Secretariat naturally preferred a resolution it had to apply to have been adopted unanimously; however, the outlines of a controversial text tended to become blurred in the course of the process leading to a compromise. The original draft resolution had contained some clear and constructive directives for the guidance of international organizations, but the outlines had become vague and the details lost sight of in the present operative paragraph 2. In contrast with the directives previously given by the Council, the paragraph in question would confront the Secretariat with a number of difficulties.
- 17. In order to interpret the paragraph, reference should be had to the statements on the subject made in the Co-ordination Committee (289th meeting), among others by the Indian representative in introducing the draft resolution; he had stated, in particular, that it was important to make up for the inadequate efforts made during the first five years of the United Nations Development Decade, because the deficiencies affected the policies of the developing and the developed countries and the activities of the international organizations. He had added, in agreement with the Secretary-General, that the second half of the Decade would have to be more than a vast catalogue of non-integrated projects in the regular programmes of the various agencies. It was therefore legitimate to construe operative paragraph 2 in the light of those statements and to consider that, even though it was less specific than the provision it replaced, it was not necessarily narrower. It called for a resumption of efforts, which was a task for international organizations and governments alike.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4**

General review of the development, co-ordination and concentration of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency as a whole (resumed from the 1378th meeting and concluded)

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (E/4119)

- 18. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the Co-ordination Committee's report on agenda item 4 (E/4119), and to vote on the eight draft resolutions in paragraph 14 thereof. He also drew attention to the recommendations in paragraphs 3, 4 and 13.
- A. DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

  Draft resolution A was adopted unanimously.
- B. Co-ordination at the country level: the role of resident representatives

Draft resolution B was adopted unanimously.

- C. Assistance in cases of natural disaster Draft resolution C was adopted unanimously.
- D. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF AGENCY BUDGETS
- 19. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that his delegation would gladly vote for the draft resolution, which im fact it had co-sponsored in the Co-ordination Committee along with other delegations. It awaited with interest the report referred to in part I, operative paragraph 2, of the draft resolution. In the course of the discussion on that paragraph in the Co-ordination Committee, no attempt had been made to define what was meant exactly by "the activities of the United Nations". In his delegation's view, they should also include the activities of UNICEF and of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, which were United Nations activities financed from extra-budgetary funds, and as such were covered by the final phrase of the paragraph.

Draft resolution D was adopted by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

- E. DOCUMENTATION
  - Draft resolution E was adopted unanimously.
- F. REPORTS OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Draft resolution F was adopted unanimously.

- G. Reports of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and Special Committee on Co-ordination
- 20. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that, although the draft resolution was well-intentioned and expressed the opinions of a number of delegations, its value would depend on the use made of it, on the way in which the Special Committee on Co-ordination would be constituted upon its reorganization, and on the means placed at its disposal. The Committee would achieve success only if it received wholehearted assistance from the Secretariat and if it

went to the heart of the matters submitted to it without becoming bogged down in details.

Draft resolution G was adopted unanimously.

- H. SECRETARIAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION
- 21. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that hitherto his delegation had always been satisfied with the work of the ACC and with the service provided for it by the Secretariat.
- 22. The text of the draft resolution seemed to embody a vague idea that there should be a joint secretariat for all the agencies represented on the ACC. Either the staff appointed by the specialized agencies and IAEA would perform the same duties as the liaison officers of those agencies at Headquarters, in which case the sole result would be a further increase in expenditure, or else there was in fact to be a joint secretariat, a matter which had not yet reached the decision stage; the question of the duties to be performed and of the expenditure involved had still to be settled. Any possible suggestion that, by adopting the draft resolution, the Council had given some sort of blessing to the idea of a joint secretariat should therefore be avoided. His delegation was accordingly bound to make reservations about the use that might be made later of an idea that had not yet been properly discussed.
- 23. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) said that his delegation had the same misgivings and wished to make the same reservations as the French delegation concerning the concept underlying the draft resolution. His delegation considered that two changes should be made in the text of the operative paragraph, which was rather ambiguous, so that it would read as follows: "Requests the Secretary-General to consider, in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, means of rearranging his existing staff dispositions so as to strengthen the secretariat arrangements related to the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, and to take appropriate action".
- 24. His delegation was not convinced that the staff of the Department on Economic and Social Affairs had to be increased because it was given additional work to do. His delegation understood that the Department was engaged in redistributing its staff and that it was possibly contemplating releasing certain of its officials. It was therefore hard to see how it was possible at the same time for it to consider the recruitment of further staff.
- 25. If his delegation had been a full member of the Council, it would certainly not have voted for the draft resolution as it stood.
- 26. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that, in view of the fact that Tanzania, as a member of the sessional committees, was not in a position to submit amendments, the French delegation would propose the amendment just read out by the Tanzanian representative.
- 27. Mr. RAE (Canada) considered the draft resolution submitted to the Council satisfactory. As the responsi-

bilities of the ACC were increasing, it was desirable to provide for a small increase in the means at the Secretariat's disposal to deal with the Committee's work. The draft resolution did not oblige the Secretary-General to adopt any special procedure.

- 28. His delegation supported the draft resolution and could not accept the French amendment. It objected to the first change which the amendment implied because, the executive heads of the specialized agencies and of IAEA being members of the ACC, the secretariat arrangements could not be altered without consulting them. The second change was pointless since, if the course suggested in the amendment had been possible, it would already have been adopted.
- 29. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) observed that his delegation had made known its views on the draft resolution in the Co-ordination Committee (289th meeting). It considered that the draft resolution was not acceptable as it stood. To adopt it would be premature, to say the least, since such a course would prejudge the results of the general reappraisal. The problem would in no way be solved by setting up a new secretariat and increasing the staff, with a resultant rise in expenditure. Furthermore, the Secretary-General had at his disposal the necessary means to increase the efficiency of the existing secretariat arrangements. There seemed to be no point in a draft resolution which cited three previous resolutions. His delegation would, however, be able to vote for it if the French amendment was adopted. It therefore appealed to the Canadian delegation not to oppose the amendment.
- 30. Mr. DJOUDI (Algeria) also urged the Canadian delegation to accept the French amendment and thus to make it possible for Algeria to support the draft resolution.
- 31. Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that he fully agreed with the Canadian representative. The draft resolution did not request the Secretary-General to increase the staff but to consider whether it was necessary to do so. Obviously the heads of the specialized agencies and of IAEA would have to be consulted, but he could find nothing in the text which suggested the setting up of a joint secretariat for the various agencies. His delegation noted that although the Secretariat was constantly being asked to assume new duties it was denied the means to perform them. The Secretariat had a difficult task; its staff was too small and it was no longer able even to produce the required documentation in time. His delegation would regretfully be obliged to vote against the French amendment.
- 32. Sir Keith UNWIN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation would vote against the French amendment and in favour of the draft resolution. The draft resolution did not ask the Secretary-General to do anything more than he had been requested to do in the resolutions adopted at previous sessions.
- 33. Mr. AKBAR ADIL (Pakistan) said that the question was what the ACC was expected to do. His delegation was disturbed to see that that Committee was undertaking an increasing number of duties of a political nature,

whereas its sole responsibility should be to try to ensure that there was no duplication of work between the various specialized agencies.

34. Mr. STAHL (Czechoslovakia) said that his delegation would support the draft resolution provided the French amendment was adopted.

The French amendment was rejected by 9 votes to 8, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution H was adopted by 10 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions.

- 35. Mr. de SEYNES (Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs) said that, although he had refrained from speaking before the vote, he wished to inform the Tanzanian representative that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs was releasing some of its staff solely in order to provide competent personnel for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. The present tendency was to increase rather than to reduce the staff; the Secretariat did not have any surplus personnel.
- 36. Mr. VIAUD (France) found it most unfortunate that the Council should have adopted the resolution. Representatives had had to vote without adequate information; it was difficult to see on what evidence the United States or Canadian representatives had based their statements that the financial implications of the draft resolution would be slight.
- 37. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) associated himself with the French representative's statement. His delegation would have liked to know what the Secretary-General's intentions were and not to have to base its decision on mere rumour. It had prepared a draft resolution in which the Secretary-General had been invited to report on the actual position within the Secretariat, but it had been precluded from submitting that draft resolution to the Council, a fact which demonstrated the unsatisfactory way in which the Council was at present organized.
- 38. Mr. AKBAR ADIL (Pakistan) said that the Council should have been given a statement regarding the financial implications of the resolution before being asked to vote on it. The second preambular paragraph referred to the increasing number of tasks directly related to the work of the Council; but those tasks were known and it would not have been difficult to state how much the new development would cost.
- 39. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) entirely agreed with the statements made by the representatives of France, Tanzania and Pakistan. It was regrettable that the Council should not have been in full possession of the facts before reaching a decision. The question had not been settled in a satisfactory manner, and his delegation would raise it again in the General Assembly.
- 40. Sir Keith UNWIN (United Kingdom) asked the representative of the Secretary-General to give the Council the figure he had mentioned in the Co-ordination Committee.

- 41. Mr. HILL (Secretariat) said that he had not quoted a figure for the direct financial implications; according to the Secretary-General, the expenditure involved would in no case exceed \$47,000.
- 42. Mr. VIAUD (France) maintained that the information provided to the Co-ordination Committee (287th meeting) had been incomplete; it had been stated in effect that figures for the additional expenditure involved could not be given for the time being. Indeed, that had been the reason given for not circulating, as usual, a document on the financial implications of the draft resolution.
- 43. The PRESIDENT assumed that the Council was ready to approve the recommendations contained in paragraphs 3, 4 and 13 of the Co-ordination Committee's report.

It was so decided.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5**

Review and reappraisal of the Council's role and functions

(resumed from the 1378th meeting and concluded)

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (E/4120)

44. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the Co-ordination Committee's report on agenda item 5 (E/4120), and to vote on the draft resolution in paragraph 5 thereof.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 35**

Work programme of the United Nations in the economic, social and human rights fields (resumed from the 1378th meeting and concluded)

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (E/4121)

- 45. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the Co-ordination Committee's report on agenda item 35 (E/4121), and to vote on the draft resolution in paragraph 7 thereof.
- 46. Sir Keith UNWIN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution, but regarded the arrangement referred to in operative paragraph 5 as provisional and reserved the right to propose other arrangements subsequently.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

# AGENDA ITEM 15

# Programmes of technical co-operation

(c) Evaluation of programmes (resumed from the 1380th meeting and concluded)

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (E/4123)

47. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the Co-ordination Committee's report on agenda item

15(c) (E/4123), and to vote on the draft resolution in paragraph 4 thereof.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

# Adjournment of the session

- 48. The PRESIDENT recalled that the thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions of the Council had taken place during International Co-operation year, at the midpoint of the United Nations Development Decade and at the time of the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. Those special circumstances had given the Council's members a more vivid awareness of their responsibilities. The commemorative meeting held at San Francisco at the end of June 1965 had revived the feeling of fidelity to the spirit of the United Nations Charter among the Members of the Organization and had brought new encouragement to all those who were devoting their efforts to universal peace and justice.
- 49. The current session had, at the very outset, noted that the results obtained up to the mid-point of the Development Decade had been disappointing, that the gap between rich and poor countries had steadily widened, that the highest rates of population growth were to be found in the poor countries and that the assistance provided by the developed countries and the multilateral financing institutions was insufficient to support the efforts made by the "Third World" to achieve development. The Secretary-General had, however, pointed out that the present situation had certain encouraging aspects. Stimulated by the Secretary-General's reflections, the members of the Council appeared to have accepted from the start the idea that a bold and imaginative resumption of efforts might, despite the delays which had occurred, lead towards the goals set at the beginning of the Decade. That explained why the Council had been able to present a balance sheet of action which seemed remarkably positive.
- 50. First and foremost as items on the credit side of the current session came the inspiration and guidance which the Council provided in a multitude of spheres for the consideration of governments desiring to have national policies in tune with the requirements of the modern world.
- 51. In the field of human rights, resolutions had been adopted which were bound to have far-reaching consequences. The Council in resolution 1076 (XXXIX), had welcomed the decision of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to undertake a special study of racial discrimination in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres; it had adopted important decisions, such as the one prolonging the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Slavery (resolution 1077 (XXXIX)) and that on the status of women (resolution 1068 (XXXIX)).
- 52. The importance of land reform as a fundamental factor in economic development and social progress was now taken into account by planners and recognized by legislatures, as was clear from the legislative measures which had been adopted in several countries during the

- past years. Governments were now turning their attention to the implementation of such measures and to the appraisal of results achieved so far. It was on those aspects of the matter that the Council had concentrated its discussions; resolution 1078 (XXXIX) indicated very clearly the problems which should be of major concern.
- 53. In its efforts to provide inspiration and guidance to those responsible for formulating and implementing national policies, the Council had not confined itself to adopting recommendations. It had also been concerned with the organization of activities to determine the main lines for an assessment of the knowledge and experience of each country. A world programme of international co-operation was now taking shape in the field of science and technology.
- 54. In the complex sphere of industrial development, the Council had devoted a large part of its discussions to questions such as the establishment of exporting industries in the countries of the "Third World", industrialization integrated on a regional or sub-regional basis, and the multiplication of industrial development bodies; and it had given particular attention to the organization of an international symposium on industrial development, to be preceded by regional symposia.
- 55. With regard to the financing of economic development, the Council had learned with satisfaction of the increase in the contributions of the members of IMF and in the activities of IBRD. It had recommended governments to increase the volume of financial means placed at the disposal of the "Third World" and to grant more favourable rates of interest and loan conditions (resolution 1088 (XXXIX)).
- 56. With regard to international trade, the Council had refrained from discussing problems which were on the agenda of the Trade and Development Board; nevertheless, many references had been made to the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the Council would certainly examine the Board's report with great interest.
- 57. In social as in economic affairs, the decisions of the Council combined the desire to guide governments with the desire to encourage programmes intended to assist their action. The Social Committee had studied the problems caused by population growth and by the population shift from the country to the town. The Council had adopted a long-term programme of studies and activities in the various sectors of that vast subject (resolution 1084 (XXXIX)). It had submitted to governments recommendations, originating in the Social Committee, on family, child and youth welfare and the training of social service staff; and had stressed the place and role of the young in national development and sketched a programme of action in that field (resolution 1086 (XXXIX)).
- 58. In order to assist all those having responsibility for the formulation and execution of the development policy in their particular country, the Council had asked the Secretary-General to undertake studies and research designed to chart the ground for action by the leaders

- responsible for national development, and determine the obstacles which they must expect to meet and the means whereby they might overcome them.
- 59. During the current session, the Council had devoted much effort to promoting international co-operation and the machinery by which it could be reinforced. It had eloquently reaffirmed the objectives of the Development Decade and had endorsed a new target of \$200 million for the Special Fund and EPTA. The current year was the fifteenth anniversary of EPTA, and in the light of the results achieved, the Council had every reason to congratulate itself on the movement it had initiated in 1949 and on the establishment of the Special Fund in 1958, which had brought a new dimension into the operations of the United Nations. By its resolution 1020 (XXXVII), the Council had recommended merging the Special Fund and EPTA in a single United Nations development programme. It was now for the General Assembly to endorse that proposal, which was aimed at providing the Organization with a structure enabling it to discharge more effectively the major role it had to play in the development of multilateral aid.
- 60. With regard to the World Food Programme, the Council had recommended to the General Assembly its continuation on a permanent basis and a target of \$275 million for voluntary contributions over the period 1966-1968, one-third of the contributions to be made in currency and services and two-thirds in foodstuffs (resolution 1080 (XXXIX)).
- 61. The Council had also stressed the need for sustained and generous international co-operation to maintain such activities as those of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and UNICEF. It had expressed the view that budgetary resources allocated to those activities should be increased and had welcomed a proposal for additional financing on a voluntary basis.
- 62. The Council had further made recommendations reflecting its firm resolve to improve the efficiency of international co-operation machinery and it had given much time and attention to questions of structure, method and organization. Resolution 1093 (XXXIX) was of particular importance in that regard; it provided that in May 1966 the Council's enlarged Special Committee on Co-ordination should examine the United Nations work programme in the light of the budget estimates for 1967 and that the Chairman of the General Assembly's Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions should be invited to take part in that study.
- 63. With regard to the organization of work, the Council's most remarkable efforts at the current session were undeniably those relating to the need to combine the activities of the various agencies of the United Nations system more and more closely in a common strategy.
- 64. The Council's officers and the ACC had met together on 7 July 1965 (see E/4090). The Secretary-General had given an assurance that the ACC was ready to work towards a strengthening of the role and prestige of the Council. Certain suggestions had been made for speed-

ing up the Council's work and for bringing it into closer relationship with the ACC.

- 65. The Council had also taken steps to improve coordination in various fields, particularly in science and technology (resolution 1083 (XXXIX)), and to provide assistance in the case of natural disasters (resolution 1090 (XXXIX)). It desired to see the modest and limited resources at the disposal of the United Nations system utilized in the most rational and effective manner, through a continuous striving for greater efficiency. The Council had also taken an interest in the activities of the regional economic commissions, whose dynamism was one of the essential elements of the Organization's vitality in the economic and social fields.
- 66. The members of the Council and of the sessional committees had shown renewed interest in the Council's
- work. Once the amendments to the Charter had been ratified, it was to be hoped that the Council, with a more equitable geographical representation, would experience a renewal of vigorous activity, the beginnings of which were already discernible in the results of the current session. Thus, in pursuing the essential and gigantic task of promoting man's advancement, members would perhaps display an even greater degree of energy, inspired by the knowledge that without fruitful co-operation towards a common ideal of social justice it would be vain to expect true prosperity and lasting peace.
- 67. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the PRESIDENT declared the thirty-ninth session of the Council adjourned.

The meeting rose at 1.45 p.m.