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CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Agenda item 12:	
The sea:	
Report of the Co-ordination Committee	199
Agenda item 10:	
Problems of the human environment (<i>continued</i>)	199
Agenda item 13:	
Programmes of international action relating to youth	203

President: Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 12

The sea

REPORT OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (E/4732)

1. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the financial implications of issuing the revised report on mineral resources of the sea (E/4680) as a United Nations publication. The implications were referred to in paragraph 2 of the report of the Co-ordination Committee (E/4732).

2. He also drew attention to the decisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of that report.

3. Mr. McDONALD (United States of America) proposed that, in paragraph 3 of the report of the Co-ordination Committee, the words "of oceanography" should be replaced by the words "marine science", in order to bring the text into line with the wording of the agenda item under discussion.

4. Mr. HAMBRO (Norway) seconded the proposal.

5. The report before the Council faithfully reflected the decisions taken by the Co-ordination Committee. His delegation wished to draw attention in particular to the recommendation in paragraph 3. The adoption of the recommendation would make it quite clear that the Council intended to keep up with the advances made in marine science and technology, and would enable it to act, where appropriate, in its co-ordinating capacity.

6. The PRESIDENT put the United States amendment to paragraph 3 of the report of the Co-ordination Committee (E/4732) to the vote.

The amendment was adopted.

7. The PRESIDENT put the report of the Co-ordination Committee (E/4732), as amended, to the vote.

The report, as amended, was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 10

Problems of the human environment
(E/4667, E/4710, E/L.1725 and Add.1) (*continued*)

8. Mr. QUEGUINER (Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization) said that IMCO was interested in the problems of the human environment and that it had already taken important action in connexion with the pollution of the sea by oil and other noxious cargoes. Its action was summarized in section G of the annex to the Secretary-General's report on problems of the human environment (E/4667).

9. Following the *Torrey Canyon* disaster, technical and legal measures had been formulated to prevent the pollution of the marine environment by oil, which was so far the commonest and most dangerous form of marine pollution. The measures in question related to the design and equipment of ships and to navigation proper, as well as to chemical research and studies. With regard to the legal aspects, it had been considered necessary to enable coastal States threatened by massive accidental pollution to intervene outside their territorial waters in order to take the most appropriate action against the ships responsible.

10. It had also been considered necessary to formulate special legal rules defining the liabilities involved in the transport of oil by sea, with a view to affording possible victims, whether States or private persons, better protection against the consequences of massive accidental pollution. Those two series of measures of public and private law affecting all coastal countries, whether industrialized or developing, were to be compiled in one or two international conventions which would be drawn up at the conference to be held in Brussels in November 1969.

11. In addition to oil pollution, there was also a danger of pollution from dangerous or noxious substances. In the last few years such substances had been transported in increasing quantities, occasionally amounting to several tens of thousands of tons a year. A serious accident to ships carrying such substances would have disastrous consequences. Hence IMCO was currently preparing an inter-governmental agreement on the pollution of the sea by noxious substances. The agreement would be an extension of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, 1954.

12. The results already achieved, current efforts and future prospects reflected IMCO's special interest in the problems of the human environment. It was prepared to co-operate fully and completely with the Council in the preparations for the 1972 conference on the human environment.

13. Mr. LANGLO (World Meteorological Organization) said that the problems of the human environment were of vital concern to WMO. He congratulated the Secretary-General on his report on the subject. However, the report did not pay enough attention to the atmosphere, which should be referred to directly in the appropriate places, thereby emphasizing more clearly WMO's interest in the human environment. WMO had far-reaching responsibilities bearing on the atmosphere and part of the hydrosphere.

14. Supplementing the information on WMO's activities in section F of the annex to the Secretary-General's report, he said that the Executive Committee of WMO had decided to regroup the numerous projects and activities of its sixteen constituent bodies and 130 working groups into four major programmes, all of which were of interest from the point of view of the human environment, namely, the World Weather Watch, the WMO Programme on the Interaction of Man and his Environment, the WMO Research Programme and the WMO Technical Co-operation Programme. The new grouping of its activities was intended to promote a better understanding among outside bodies of the fields covered by WMO, and the organization hoped that its programme relating to the human environment would ultimately receive the same enthusiastic support from Governments as had the World Weather Watch.

15. Although the World Weather Watch and the Global Atmospheric Research Programme were referred to in section F of the annex to the Secretary-General's report, few examples were given of the activities of the WMO programme relating to man and his environment. WMO was concerned, for example, with such far-reaching problems as climatic changes and the possibility of modifying the climate artificially on a global scale. Man now had the necessary technology and energy resources equivalent to the natural energy resources of the atmosphere itself, and all Governments would agree that any measures designed to modify the climate on a large scale must be preceded by extensive research in order to ensure that they did not involve major risks to humanity. Global research which would contribute to a better understanding of the atmosphere had already been carried out, and that fact should be brought out more clearly in the Secretary-General's report.

16. WMO fully realized that the problems of the human environment had important inter-disciplinary aspects, but it considered that the implementation of existing programmes, in particular the four major programmes referred to, should continue to be supported and, where necessary, expanded, as vital international programmes. WMO welcomed with satisfaction the proposal that the United Nations conference on the human environment, to be held

in 1972, should be requested to evaluate and co-ordinate them.

17. He would refrain from commenting on the details of the report before the Council and on the organization of the 1972 conference, since WMO would participate in the subsequent preparations for the conference. It was to be hoped that the conference would provide a forum for frank and useful discussion of the most economic and efficient ways of carrying out and, if necessary, extending, the various international programmes dealing with the human environment, and the practical measures which should be taken at the national and international levels in the interests of mankind.

18. WMO was willing to play its full part in all activities undertaken in connexion with the human environment, and, in particular, in the preparation and work of the 1972 conference.

19. Mrs. GUTMAN de CASTAÑEDA (Mexico) said that Mexico had been interested from the outset in the move to study the problems of the human environment. With its 7 million inhabitants, 50,000 enterprises, including 5,000 large factories, and its 600,000 units of motor transport, Mexico City was one of the three most highly developed industrial areas of Latin America. Its difficulties were aggravated by the fact that it was situated in a hollow encircled by mountains in which noxious industrial gases accumulated. Certain steps had already been taken to remedy the situation at the national level, including the establishment, at different points of the city, of centres for the quantitative and qualitative analysis of air, with a view to determining which were the most seriously threatened areas, and the installation of filter plants in certain factories. But international action was urgently necessary to inform all countries of the world of the solutions already applied and of those which might be adopted in future to deal with pollution problems, which threatened every country in varying degrees.

20. Scientists and sociologists were agreed that the practical application of technology would necessitate an effort on man's part at sociological and physiological adaptation. For that reason, it was important that the 1972 conference, which would be a first step in that direction, should be successful.

21. Operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, of which Mexico was a co-sponsor, emphasized the need to enable developing countries to forestall the occurrence of problems connected with the deterioration of the human environment. For those countries, one of the important aspects of the action contemplated would be the strategy to be formulated by the conference in connexion both with stimulating public awareness and with the action to be taken by the authorities. Such action might be accompanied by other social campaigns relating, for example, to health and housing.

22. Operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution was also very important. The preparatory committee to be set

up would have to draw up a list of priorities concerning the choice of measures to be taken by Governments.

23. On the whole, the draft resolution seemed to take account of all the elements which should be considered in order to ensure the success of the 1972 conference. Her delegation hoped that the Council would adopt that text unanimously.

24. Mr. AHMED (Sudan) drew attention to the very serious danger which the degeneration of the human environment represented not only for society, but also for the very survival of the human race. Efforts to slow down that process would benefit both present and future generations. For that reason, his delegation endorsed the idea of holding a conference on problems of the human environment in 1972, and the preparations proposed for it. In that connexion, he expressed his appreciation to the Government of Sweden for its interest in the matter and for its generous invitation.

25. Nevertheless, account must be taken of the financial implications of organizing the proposed conference. In view of the present financial situation of the United Nations, any increase in expenditure would make it more difficult to undertake new ventures. His delegation assumed that the Secretary-General had borne that aspect in mind when preparing the statement of financial implications in paragraphs 139 to 143 of his report. Moreover, those estimates related to a four-year period and were provisional. They would have to be revised several times in the light of subsequent decisions taken by the preparatory committee and other United Nations bodies. His delegation considered that the financial implications should be reduced to a minimum, in particular by economizing on documentation and the recruitment of temporary staff.

26. His delegation approved of the objectives of the 1972 conference as defined by the co-sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, and endorsed the reference to developing countries, which were more prone to suffer from the degeneration of the human environment resulting from industrialization. In that connexion, ACC rightly observed that in future greater attention should be paid to the qualitative aspects of development and that development programmes and projects should be considered not only in the light of their economic value, but also in terms of their long-range human aspects (E/4710, para. 4). Those considerations were particularly pertinent in relation to preparations for the Second Development Decade, as care would have to be taken that the increased income obtained was not nullified by the losses which might result from a deterioration in health and increased human misery. In short, the 1972 conference would have to place the main emphasis on preventing a deterioration of the human environment, in the case of the developing countries, and on the steps to be taken to remedy that situation in the case of the developed countries.

27. Lastly, with reference to operative paragraph 11 of the draft resolution, he objected to participation in the

1972 conference being limited by unjustified discrimination. Conferences dealing with purely scientific, technological or administrative matters should be open to participation by all the countries of the world, irrespective of ideology or political sentiment. Moreover, it was necessary to put an end to an illogical situation, which was tending to continue indefinitely, in which certain States were disqualified from participating in conferences on the pretext that they were not officially recognized, having first been barred from holding official status. The sponsors of the draft resolution should amend their text in the light of the remarks just made.

28. Mr. MAHDAVI (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) remarked that, because of its terms of reference, UNIDO bore special responsibility in problems of the human environment. The Industrial Development Board and the secretariat of UNIDO were well aware of that fact, and the Board, at its last session, had recognized the need to take into consideration social problems and problems of the human environment related to industrialization. UNIDO realized the consequences of poor planning, particularly poor long-term planning, and the many problems to which it could give rise both for the human beings involved and by offsetting the advantages gained from industrialization.

29. UNIDO had devoted increasing attention to the location of industry in the developing countries and to problems of pollution, especially water pollution. Requests had already been approved under UNDP technical assistance programmes and the programme of Special Industrial Services for industrial pollution experts to advise Governments on the introduction of legislation in that sphere. Thus, in a recent study, soon to be published, on the administrative machinery for industrial development in the developing countries, particular emphasis had been placed on the location of industrial plant at the national and regional levels. With regard to the latter, UNIDO was confident that, with the co-operation of the regional economic commissions, the human environment would be taken into consideration in all the regional projects with which UNIDO was associated.

30. However, serious as the consequences of the deterioration in the human environment might be, UNIDO believed that it would not be in the interests of developing countries to hamper or delay the process of industrialization through excessive concern with those consequences or through the indiscriminate application of the many rules and regulations recently adopted by the advanced countries in an effort to repair the damage already done. Industrialization was a catalyst in the process of economic and social development and, given the conditions prevailing in the developing countries, any attempt to persuade them to delay their industrialization would be a disservice to them.

31. Nevertheless, the present and future results of research on the human environment should be taken into consideration to the greatest extent possible in the devel-

oping countries; in addition, the studies carried out in the advanced countries should also deal with problems which the developing countries might encounter in that sphere in pursuing the goal of industrialization. Within the limits of its resources, UNIDO would continue to assist and advise the developing countries in taking problems of the human environment into account as far as possible in the establishment and implementation of their industrialization plans.

32. Mr. GUELEV (Bulgaria) said that his Government attached great importance to problems of the human environment: as a result of accelerated industrialization and the rapid growth of urban centres during the last twenty years, it had adopted urgent administrative and legislative measures to tackle the problems deriving from air, water and soil pollution.

33. International co-operation in that sphere was essential and Bulgaria was co-operating closely with the Economic Commission for Europe; it had greatly appreciated the initiative of the Swedish Government in proposing that the problem of the human environment should be included in the agenda of the Council and in that of the General Assembly.

34. Before the submission of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, a broad exchange of views had taken place with a view to reaching a generally acceptable text, but those consultations had not led to the preparation of a draft which could be adopted without difficulty; everyone knew the reasons for that situation and where the responsibility lay. It was regrettable that some had seen fit to spoil the atmosphere of the preparatory work for a conference on the human environment. The international scientific community would find it difficult to understand the decision of the Council, which had once again endorsed a discriminatory formula excluding the co-operation of several States, including a European State—the German Democratic Republic—whose achievements in that sphere and ability to make a contribution to work of such importance were well known. His delegation believed that the Council was following a wrong “tradition” which was not likely to enhance its authority. The present situation bordered on the absurd. It was deplorable that political considerations should have been introduced in connexion with a resolution on the convening of a scientific conference where the need for broad co-operation was obvious. His delegation shared the view of other delegations, particularly those of Indonesia and Turkey, which believed that the success of the Conference was a matter of interest to all countries without exception. The active participation of all States in the preparations for the conference should be ensured without delay.

35. In those circumstances his delegation could not vote for operative paragraphs 6, 7 and 11 of draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1, and could therefore not support the draft as a whole if the text was not amended to take account of the principle of universality.

36. In addition, the original text of operative paragraph 4 had contained a provision to the effect that the preparatory committee should be constituted “with due regard for equitable geographical distribution”. Those words had been deleted from the final version of the draft resolution and his delegation would like them to be restored.

37. The PRESIDENT declared the general debate on agenda item 10 closed.

38. He asked the representative of Norway to inform the Council of the results of the consultations which he had asked him to hold with other delegations on draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1.

39. Mr. CAPPELEN (Norway) said that the sponsors of draft resolution E/L.1275 and other delegations had agreed to amend the draft by inserting the following two new paragraphs between the preambular and operative parts:

“*Reaffirming* the importance and urgency of these problems and underlining the necessity for complete preparatory arrangements for the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment to become operative as soon as possible,

“*Believing* that it is important that the following considerations be borne in mind during the further preparations for the Conference:

“(a) A small conference secretariat should be established as soon as possible, by drawing particularly, with the agreement of the specialized agencies concerned, upon regular staff of the United Nations system, specially qualified in the environmental field,

“(b) In order for the Conference to achieve its objectives it is essential that its agenda be selective, its organizational structure be simple and efficient, and that the documentation be kept reasonably limited,

“(c) All efforts should be made to reduce the costs of the Conference.”

40. Mr. GROS (France) requested deferment of the vote on draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1 since his delegation had been unable to study the French text of the amendment submitted by the Norwegian delegation.

41. Furthermore, there were some errors in the French text of the draft resolution, including those at the end of operative paragraph 5, where the reference should be to a secretary-general and not an executive secretary, and at the end of operative paragraph 8, which should read “... *aux travaux du comité préparatoire*”.

42. Mrs. GUTMAN de CASTAÑEDA (Mexico) said that the errors pointed out by the representative of France should also be rectified in the Spanish version of the draft resolution.

43. The PRESIDENT suggested that the vote on draft resolution E/L.1275 and Add.1 should be deferred and that the Council should proceed to consider agenda item 13.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 13

Programmes of international action relating to youth (E/4686 and Corr.1 and Add.1)

44. Mrs. THORSSON (Director, Social Development Division) said that agenda item 13 comprised three different aspects: programmes of international action related to youth, long-term policies and programmes for youth in national development, which had been the subject of Council resolution 1407 (XLVI), and consideration of the basic rights of youth.

45. Human rights had been discussed in detail during the last inter-agency meeting held to consider the co-ordination of youth policies and programmes. There had been agreement that human rights could not and should not be presented to young people merely as an academic topic or a subject for philosophical debate. The starting point must be the recognition that millions of young people still remained completely deprived of many of the rights which had been recognized as theirs by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In those circumstances, it was not surprising that young people branded as a hypocrite anyone who ignored those realities and imposed a set of principles which in fact had no relation to the actual living conditions of young people. Of course, those rights were accompanied by duties and responsibilities, but anyone who had had direct contact with youth in the last few years would agree that it was not so much the young rebels of today who had neglected or decried those responsibilities and the welfare of others. Indeed, it might be said that a great number of them had shown a profound sense of responsibility by indicating how they were still discriminated against and deprived of the most elementary rights and freedoms.

46. Education for human rights should start with national and international programmes aimed at ensuring that young people could enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms. Young people should be helped to find the means of changing society through the attainment of political, economic and social justice.

47. With regard to resolution 1407 (XLVI) on long-term policies and programmes for youth in national development, it should be emphasized that the thinking of international organizations was not based on the vehement student protests of certain countries. Those protests were important; they were doubtless justified in many cases, in view of the rigidity of academic systems and the students' long-standing feeling of powerlessness. Such protest, however well based, was a protest of only the minority, but it might very well articulate the feeling which a great many of their contemporaries hesitated to express. That part of the

problems of youth which came to the surface was probably only a minute part of the whole. There remained many young people, unheard and unseen, who were to a great extent the uneducated and the unemployed. The Council had therefore been right, in resolution 1407 (XLVI), to stress the need for adapting the content, structure and programmes of education; for providing for satisfactory conditions of employment, protection against unemployment and the establishment of fair and equitable working conditions; for seeking ways in which young people could freely express their suggestions about the ways in which they could best help the over-all development efforts of society; and, above all, for ensuring that they participated in the formulation and implementation of development policy at all appropriate levels.

48. It should, however, be emphasized that, in seeking ways of enlisting young people in development and national co-operation for development, care should be taken not to establish a pseudo-participation which would delude nobody. To organize well-publicized youth conferences without the firm intention of allowing problems of real significance to youth to be discussed there, or to assert that young people should concern themselves only with affairs directly and solely relating to youth, would be regarded as an attempt to keep them away from the real problems and to prevent them from taking part in decisions which directly affected them as members of society and of the international community.

49. With regard to international action, the Council had recognized, in resolution 1353 (XLV), the great contribution that young people all over the world could make to the realization of the ideals and purposes of the United Nations, and had invited international youth organizations to participate actively in the efforts of the United Nations related to economic and social development and the promotion of human rights. The response of young people to that appeal would depend on their concept of the United Nations. It was to be hoped that they would consider the United Nations not as a guardian of values of the past which were not worth preserving, but rather as a pioneer of the revolution in the attitudes of peoples and Governments. United Nations bodies had an important role to play, both in promoting among young people the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding among peoples, and in providing assistance to Governments in the establishment of policies and programmes enabling youth to participate fully in national development. To that end, the inter-agency meeting had emphasized two points: the need to launch operational programmes at the regional and country levels, and the need to find means of establishing two-way communication between United Nations bodies and young people themselves. Of course, it would be useful if Governments could, as had been proposed by the Director-General of UNESCO and the Commission for Social Development, enable young people to be represented in official delegations to the various organs of the United Nations, but informal dialogues, such as those which the United Nations was seeking at the international and national levels, should be encouraged. In that connexion, the Young World Devel-

opment Programme of the FAO Freedom from Hunger Campaign had been achieving remarkable results for several years.

50. The Secretary-General's note on programmes of international action related to youth (E/4686 and Corr.1 and Add.1) indicated the ways in which the United Nations and the specialized agencies concerned had sought to strengthen their programmes of international action for dealing with youth problems in society in developing and developed countries.

51. Those programmes were still only at the initial stage and were somewhat weak in their operational aspects. There were two reasons for that weakness. First, problems of youth should be approached from a general point of view, on an inter-disciplinary and inter-sectoral basis, and the financing of youth programmes, particularly at the preparatory stage, had encountered a number of difficulties. The problem still to be resolved was how to finance inter-agency preparatory missions to study with Governments ways of financing a youth project, or more precisely the youth component of a comprehensive development project. The second reason was the priority attached by Governments to those youth projects. At present, Governments did not appear to regard specific measures in that connexion as having priority: in some cases, they had been prepared to ask for suggestions from international institutions but had shown reluctance to follow up in practice the proposals submitted to them.

52. The efforts of United Nations bodies to intensify and strengthen youth programmes would be directly inspired by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The full development of the capabilities of young people, who constituted the majority of the world's population and would build the world of tomorrow, was clearly decisive for the success of development efforts.

53. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that any national or international action programmes in favour of persons who had not yet reached adulthood presupposed a knowledge and understanding of the attitude of young people to life and, on the part of young people, a sincere effort to help in building a new society.

54. Some young people thought, at times, that life was not worth living and were thus led to despair. Another, more turbulent group thought, on the other hand, that life was short and that all its pleasures should be savoured before the end. There were also young people who felt that they were an integral part of the community in which they lived and sincerely desired to prepare themselves for their future role: they represented the vital force of the rising generation. Desirous of participating and not of abdicating, they felt, in a confused way, that the world of today was in a state of constant flux and wanted to steer it in the direction of a society whose general outline they dimly discerned. That was the group, the most numerous and most healthy, which must not be disappointed.

55. The problem of youth could not be resolved simply by reforming schools and universities. It was, above all, a problem of education, in the wide sense of the term, which imposed duties towards young people but also imposed upon young people duties towards society. It was of primary importance to direct the energies of the young and their reserves of enthusiasm towards improving the human condition. That presupposed that human rights would be defended wherever violated and that genuine support would be forthcoming to aid the neediest countries. Economic and social progress in the world was an objective which was certain to enlist the support of youth, provided it was motivated by disinterested humanitarian considerations. General Assembly resolution 2460 (XXIII) on the volunteer corps for development was an example of the kind of action which could be taken to mobilize youth's desire to be of use.

56. A programme of action relating to youth could not be launched by multiplying international meetings but rather by associating young people with United Nations undertakings. The Secretary-General's note rightly stressed the need to develop the personality of the young and to encourage them to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms. Such a programme of civic education should, of course, be supplemented by adapting the universities to the needs of the young, who were constantly increasing in number, and by definite improvements in vocational training.

57. The anxiety of youth must be understood; it was no use hiding behind a screen of paralysing conformism. But the young, in their turn, should realize that tomorrow they would be called upon to replace those who had preceded them in the intricacies of society, and would have to assume new responsibilities: they had duties towards society but also towards the individual. The progressive force represented by their scorn of convention should not cause them to forget the principles of natural law underlying all social relationships. Once the partial surrender of freedom entailed by any form of community life was accepted, it had also to be accepted that the future of a society depended on the sense of discipline and organization of each of its members. The duties of youth towards the individual were based essentially on respect for the human person.

58. Men would not succeed in bettering their lot until the feeling of solidarity, which should unite them, was generated by mutual esteem. It was by placing confidence in the healthiest elements of youth that those elements could be helped to gird their loins for the responsibilities which lay ahead.

59. Mr. KANDEMIR (Turkey) said that the programmes of international action relating to youth affected several United Nations organizations, particularly the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, UNHCR and UNICEF.

60. As indicated in paragraph 19 of the Secretary-General's note, the various organizations concerned were

currently taking steps to co-ordinate their programmes relating to youth more closely and to make them more effective, but they should intensify their action along those lines since the time spent on improving inter-agency co-operation impeded the implementation of the programmes undertaken.

61. Efforts should also be made to reform programmes and adapt them to current requirements—the training of teachers and production of the necessary educational facilities—since, in the modern world, education had become a permanent and continuing process which should be extended beyond and outside the pattern of regular instruction. What was required was to stimulate thinking; his delegation shared the view of those who thought that the enthusiasm, energy and creativeness of youth could play a decisive role in the spiritual and material advancement of all peoples and in the economic and social development of the whole world. The expressions “youth” and “education” should not be interpreted too narrowly, for it should not be forgotten that people over 25 and even over 30 frequently took courses in higher education.

62. Young people who took part in extracurricular activities were very much alive to the contradictions that existed between high-sounding principles and the injustice of daily life and often felt that traditional human concepts and values no longer corresponded to the needs and realities of the times. His delegation considered that the organizations dealing with the problems of youth should be left to reflect on the challenge which youth levelled at modern society and should try to find an answer. There was probably reason to rejoice at the new spirit and energy which animated the youth of today and the role of the adult should be to steer young people in the right direction but without being dogmatic.

63. The debates of the International Labour Conference at its fifty-third session, particularly the discussions in the Committee on Youth Schemes, had clearly demonstrated that the problems relating to youth were highly topical, particularly in the developing countries where they were aggravated by the population explosion. Young people represented about 30 per cent of the population of the industrialized countries but constituted more than 50 per cent of the over-all population of the developing countries. The number of those reaching working age increased every year, and there were many young people in the developing countries who had received no adequate education or training to prepare them for useful and productive jobs, the number of which was increasing very slowly. Many young people were thus doomed to unemployment or to activities of very low productivity which were actually a form of concealed underemployment, while the privileged ones with a secondary or higher education were often removed from their environment without being prepared to contribute by their work to the development of their country.

64. It would be quite normal, therefore, to include special employment and training programmes for youth in national development plans, where they existed. Such programmes

should be fully co-ordinated, particularly with the plans for developing human resources and programmes for full productive employment, and with regular educational and training programmes for young people.

65. At a time when the United Nations was busy preparing for the Second Development Decade, it was appropriate that the question of enlisting the energy, idealism and enthusiasm of youth in the service of development should be dealt with in the United Nations. Those efforts, if successful, would contribute not only to the happiness of youth but also to the triumph of development in the coming decade.

66. Mr. PANIKKAR (World Federation of Trade Unions), speaking at the invitation of the President, said that WFTU and its affiliated organizations had always given high priority in their work programmes to the demands of youth, especially young workers, in the matter of education and training, employment, better working and living conditions and cultural facilities.

67. The Charter of Young Workers' Demands, adopted in 1958 by a congress organized by WFTU, demanded constitutional recognition of the right to work and its effective exercise, the right to general education and vocational training, the right to cultural pursuits and so on. The same congress had also adopted the text of an appeal to the young workers of the world to whose questions and demands no satisfactory response had been made.

68. The current high level of unemployment and underemployment in the developing countries bore witness to the extreme gravity of the problem of youth in those countries which, by 1980, would have to find employment for 226 million, most of them young people. In Ceylon, 79 per cent of the unemployed were under 25 years old. In Tanzania, it was estimated that there would be only 23,000 new jobs for the 240,000 young people reaching the age of 16 in 1969. In Pakistan, one-fifth of the available manpower was unused for lack of work. In India, the figures for unemployment and partial underemployment would rise to 60 million and 100 million, respectively, by 1978.

69. But education and training would not suffice to resolve the problem, since it was an established fact that, in some developing countries, secondary school or university graduates were unable to find work. WFTU thus wished to underline the importance it attached to the creation of employment for young people and their integration in the development process. Those were the two basic conditions and, unless they were met, no action, whether national or international, relating to youth would be of any avail. There was, therefore, every reason to reaffirm the importance of the ILO World Employment Programme as a decisive, co-ordinated, national and international undertaking for the success of the Second United Nations Development Decade.

70. The problem was aggravated by the fact that, in most developing countries, the fruits of development efforts were

being monopolized by a handful of privileged persons. Given such glaring inequalities and the irrational utilization of scarce resources, how could youth have any confidence in the advantages of economic and social development which were discussed? Nor was the problem any less grave in the developed countries.

71. The experience of trade unions showed that the best way of encouraging a sense of responsibility in the young was to make it possible for them to assume such responsibility by allowing them and their organizations to participate fully in the life of the community. Millions of young workers were taking an active part in the trade union movement throughout the world; they held responsible positions and contributed to the movement their dynamism, enthusiasm and initiative. Youth should be regarded not as a problem but as the most important segment of society, and one involved in all the problems of society.

72. Anyone tackling the question of youth as a whole should give close attention to the specific needs and requirements of young women. The first and second World Conferences of Women Workers (1956 and 1964) had laid great stress on ending all forms of discrimination practised against women and had made demands relating to their right to work, equal remuneration and equal access to vocational training.

73. One had only to recall the immense contribution made by youth in the historic campaigns which the developing countries had waged, and continued to wage, for their political and economic independence to understand the current demands of young people who wanted to see their efforts translated into rapid economic and social development so that they could be sure of good training and, above all, productive work.

74. The Council had the responsibility of initiating and co-ordinating international action for economic and social development. The Federation considered that, by adopting a declaration on the rights of youth, the Council would not only help to mobilize the attention of the world community but would also provide an important guideline for national action in that respect.

75. In the developed countries, the alienation of youth was becoming more acute and the frustration of youth in the developed and developing countries, although varying in intensity and dimensions, generated a powerful current of enthusiasm and idealism. The frustration was aggravated by man's inability to adjust to the needs and aspirations of his fellows. It was the Council's duty to give purposeful direction to the actions of the world community with a view to achieving more fruitful cohesion. That was what today's youth was yearning for; that was the meaning of its revolt. It was to be hoped that the Council could find solutions to those perplexing problems. Otherwise, at the end of the coming decade, it would be accused of having failed in its task.

76. Mr. ARCHER (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) said that FAO had always been

involved in helping young people and youth organizations, particularly rural youth organizations, to play a role in agricultural development and the improvement of living conditions in rural areas. In recent years, FAO's youth programme had been intensified and its work with and for youth had become a key factor in one of its areas of activity, the mobilization of human resources.

77. Rural youth was of critical importance in the developing countries and it was the most under-utilized of all the resources needed for agricultural development. The question was how to mobilize rural young people and how to involve them in development activities. They could not be expected to take an active part unless they were associated with the planning of those activities and felt that such action would lead to better conditions for them. FAO had discovered that the principal needs of rural youth in developing countries were training in leadership; the intensification of rural youth programmes, supplies of seeds, tools, fertilizers and loan fund capital. FAO had begun to execute a master plan for the period 1968-1980. The number of requests for rural youth projects was mounting steadily and, in the past twelve months, fifteen of them had been implemented. It was, however, obvious that work with and for rural youth could not be the responsibility solely of FAO, which welcomed the steps taken recently towards an inter-agency approach, taking into account the cross-sectoral aspects of pre-vocational training, agricultural education, health and leadership training. Governments should raise the priority which they gave to those matters and United Nations bodies, donor Governments and non-governmental organizations should endeavour to find the resources necessary to assist rural youth programme development.

78. It was also necessary to agree quickly to work directly with young people if there was to be any effective involvement of young people in development. The past few years had been a time of widespread youth revolt, one of the key issues being that of international development, even though youth called it by another name—world economic justice. Frustrated youth, which was desirous of changing the world, could be a force sufficient to tip the scales during the Second Development Decade.

79. The Young World Development Programme of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign was a youth-led programme designed to encourage young people to participate in development. Its education and information work was many-sided and varied and included the study of development problems in schools, youth clubs and young people's groups. But perhaps the most significant aspect of the Young World Development Programme was the involvement of youth in controversial issues and the decision-making councils of development. The Director General of FAO relied on a youth advisory board to provide him with the programme guidelines and policy directions for the Young World Development Programme. Young people did not see development in terms of arbitrary compartments, and the programme therefore adopted an integrated approach to development.

80. The experience of FAO in those two areas, providing programmes for rural youth in developing countries, and "turning on" activist young people in all countries on "the development bit" had led FAO to consider the youth factor as the critical new element in its plans for the 1970s.

81. Mr. GEORGESCO (Observer for Romania), speaking under rule 75 of the rules of procedure, said that Romania attached especial importance to agenda item 13 because of the connexion between training the new generation and the future of mankind.

82. With regard to the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples (General Assembly resolution 2037 (XX)), suggested by Romania, he drew attention to the desirability of concerted action for bringing to the notice of those in authority the importance of training and using the young generation in the spirit of the basic assumptions of the declaration.

83. In addition to the steps taken at the national level for the education and training of young people, Romania had taken other action at the international level as a contribution towards bringing young people together and promoting a better understanding of youth. On the initiative of Romanian youth organizations, a round table had been organized in his country in June 1969 on the role and contribution of youth with a view to creating a climate of peace and security in Europe; seventy-one national and international organizations from twenty-six European countries had participated. The fact that organizations with such different political attachments had been represented at it bore witness to the interest and the desire of youth to work for a lessening of tension and for peace, as well as for the establishment of a system of security in Europe and the world as a whole. The meeting had been successful thanks, in particular, to the objectivity of its discussions in which young people with different opinions took part to consider problems facing the young generation and world opinion as a whole. The most striking feature had, however, been the common desire of the participating organizations and of the young generation of Europeans to live in peace and in conditions of good neighbourliness and their determination to co-operate in the establishment and development of relations based on full equality of rights, on respect for independence and national sovereignty and on mutual understanding.

84. His delegation subscribed to the programme of international action relating to youth set out in the Secretary-General's note, but it thought that the issue should not be confined to economic and social matters and that international organizations should concern themselves more with activities likely to promote understanding of young people all over the world and to bring them together. Multilateral co-operation should be developed still further between youth organizations of different political per-

suasions and ideological convictions, and there should be an increase in bilateral exchanges, meetings and joint action to encourage the reduction of tension throughout the world and the creation of a climate of peace, security and understanding among peoples. Efforts should be pooled in order to promote the education of the young generation in peace and the mutual respect of men and peoples.

85. On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, it would be desirable to intensify efforts to encourage, among young people, the ideals of peace, mutual respect and international understanding.

86. Mr. HILL (Jamaica), referring to the study to be undertaken as part of the new five-year work programme of the Commission for Social Development (E/4686 and Corr.1 and Add.1, para. 5), expressed the hope that by 1973 practical measures would have been taken and the study stage ended.

87. The energies of youth could be channelled by action at the national level and it was at that same level that provision should be made for the participation of youth in carrying out the proposed measures. When that had been done, young people could combine their efforts at the regional and international levels. He wondered whether, under a programme such as that of the Social Development Division, it would be possible to devise methods which would enable needs to be met in the most satisfactory manner. He was of the opinion that the hopes of young people were better expressed by young people themselves than through United Nations documents.

88. It was true that the international community had a part to play, but the primary responsibility for action on behalf of youth lay with national administrations. In that connexion, the recommendations in operative paragraph 2 of the Council resolution 1407 (XLVI) were particularly relevant. It was essential to ensure the active participation of young people in formulating and implementing development policy.

89. In March 1969, the United Nations had appointed an interregional adviser on youth policies and programmes who had begun a programme of field missions in various regions (E/4686, para. 16). There again it was essential to stress that excessive attention should not be given to the preliminaries (studies, consultations and so on), as was normally the case before proceeding to action.

90. He concluded by stressing that efforts at the national level on behalf of youth should be based on the abilities and knowledge which could be supplied by the international community, provided that the necessary political will was forthcoming.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.